

HELP!

How Do I Quilt It?

Free-Motion Challenge Quilting Along



Week 3 Quilting Diagrams

For more information about the challenge, visit FMQchallenge.com

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How Do I Quilt It? Free-Motion Challenge Quilting Along

Week 3

Welcome to the third week of the “Help! How Do I Quilt It?” Free-motion Challenge Quilting Along! In this week’s challenge we are going to learn some design options for Log Cabin blocks.

It seems as though log cabin blocks have been around as long as quilting itself! This traditional block has a lot of variations but it usually consists of a center square with strips of fabric that wrap around it. Usually the fabrics on one side of a log cabin are lighter than the other, which allows the it to be used in so many different layouts! The fact that there are so many different ways to make a log cabin block is the reason that they can be so tricky to quilt!



In this week’s challenge, I am going to show you some different designs, while also giving you tips and suggestions for applying them to your quilts! In next week’s challenge, we will see even more design options for log cabin blocks.

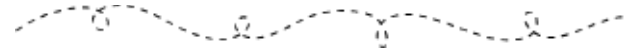
Your Challenge

Now, it’s your turn! If you’re quilting along with me on the panel I designed exclusively for this challenge, quilt the areas highlighted in red with the designs of your choice.

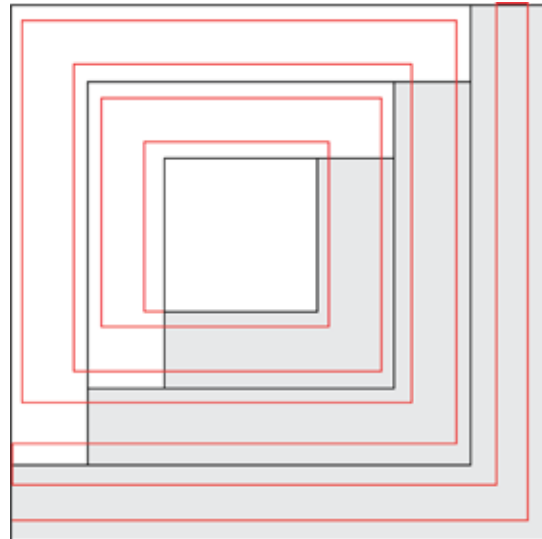




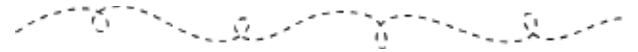
Design # 1 – Echoed Lines



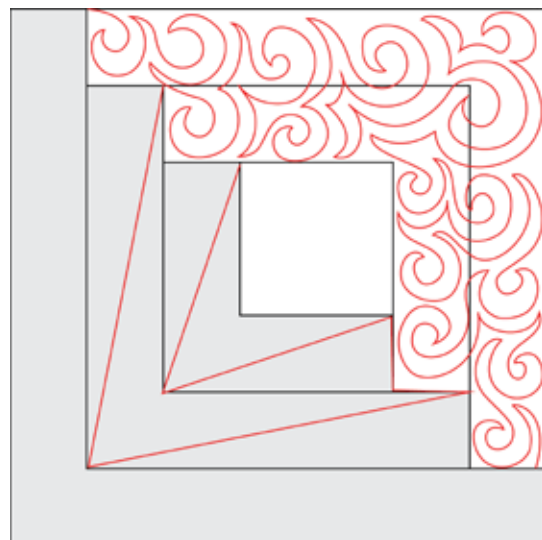
The first design uses echoing to highlight the individual pieces of a log cabin block. I love it because it sort of resembles how these blocks might have been hand quilted in the past! But instead of starting a new line of quilting for each echo line, we are quilting a large square spiral that gives the illusion of traditional echoing.



Design # 2 – Halusies

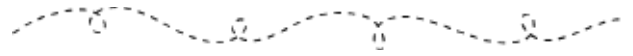


Quilting doesn't have to be difficult to be impactful! Since most log cabin blocks have one side that is lighter than the other, we can use that to our advantage by quilting designs that also have contrast. By quilting a geometric Dot to Dot design on one side and using a curvy swirly design on the other, we can use the quilting to highlight the different parts of the block.

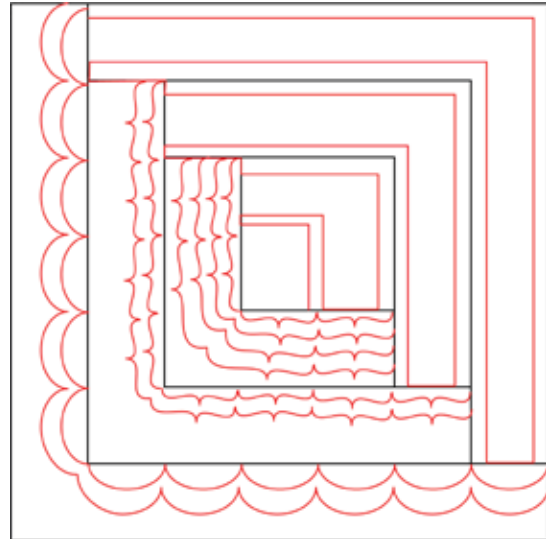




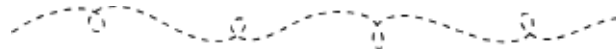
Design # 3 – Brackets



For this design, we are switching out the straight line echo with a bracket shape for a slightly different look. It adds a bit of curvy, pointy interest to the quilting. You can quilt several rows of brackets in each section of the log cabin block, or just quilt a couple rows and use a filler design, such as wishbones, in the rest. For an easier option, try quilting arcs instead of brackets.



Secondary Designs



Very rarely do you see a quilt with just one log cabin block, if there's one, there's probably more. When the blocks come together to make secondary designs, the quilting designs we use can do the same. This is amazing, because even the most basic design can look elaborate when used in consecutive blocks. So be sure to keep that in mind as you are choosing designs for your quilts.

