

Christmas Cabin Block

Created by Mary Ann Yedinak

Materials -- scraps or fat eighths:

- Light Shades of Blues or Snowy Blue Fabrics (Sky or Background)
- Dark Brown & Medium Brown (cabin walls and/or roof and trunk of tree)
- Fabrics that could be a house's exterior walls
- Light Brown or Christmas Pattern (door)
- Dark Orange-Brown (chimney)
- Light & Darker Charcoal or Shades of Brown or Shingle-Looking (for the two parts of roof)
- Light Yellow or Christmas Scene (window)
- Green tonal or Christmasy (tree & wreath, if wanted)
- Wintery or Snowy (ground)

Please read the entire pattern prior to starting it. This pattern gives you a chance to try two simple paper piecing then traditional piecing as well. If you desire more information on

Foundation Paper Piecing (FPP), see Leila Gardunia's fine tutorial at

<https://www.leilagardunia.com/blog/how-to-foundation-paper-piece> In addition to this, she asked me to let you know of these specific sites that you might find useful:

<https://www.leilagardunia.com/shop?category=Scrappy%20Triangles>

<https://www.leilagardunia.com>

Preparing/Printing Templates

- It's fun to do both the Left-Facing House and the Right-Facing House, and doing two at once is almost as easy as doing just one. 😊
- Print off the Tree Template. (If you're doing two for a bit of extra practice or to make one right facing house and one left facing house, print two Tree Templates.) Add ¼" around the outside edges with a pencil or a dotted/dashed line. Cut just at that quarter-inch or just slightly larger than your line around the template.
- Print off the Right-Facing House Roof and Left-Facing House Roof. Add ¼" around the outside edges with a pencil or a dotted/dashed line. Cut at that quarter-inch or just slightly larger around each template.

Cutting Materials

If you are the type of Quilter who prefers to cut all pieces at once, I have listed the fabrics in this section for you. For those Quilters who prefer to cut-as-you-go through each step, I also included the cutting by each section of the block, and you can simply skim this section and pick up reading again at Part I.

- For the Foundation Paper Pieced (FPP) Tree and House Roof, you can use scraps that are a bit larger than the area. Test the size of the fabric by holding the template up with the fabric covering it all over the glow of a lamp or with a task light underneath. Rough cuts of these fabrics make sense since once they are sewn in place, the close trimming occurs.

A. Blue or Snowy Sky:

- Cut a piece of blue or snowy sky into a rectangle that is 4 ½" x 11 ¼" – this piece will be used with the Tree Template.
- 2" x 3" sky or snowy fabric used with Tree Template
- 2" x 4 ½" sky or snowy fabric used with Tree Template
- 4" x 8" sky or snowy fabric (used prior with Tree Template, now for Upper Sky)

B. Green Tonal or Christmasy Green Fabric:

- Cut a piece of green that is 5 ¾" x 11 ¼". This will be used with the Tree Template.

C. Medium Brown, Medium Brick, Medium Stones, or Medium-Colored Logs Fabric:

- (2) 1 ½" x 3" Medium Brown, Brick, Stones, or Logs—choose from scraps for these side walls. (Consider trying out the wrong side of the fabric, too.)
- (1) 1 ½" x 4" Medium Brown, Brick, Stones, or Logs—choose from scraps for this top above door. . (Consider trying out the wrong side of the fabric, too.)

D. Darker Brown, Darker Brick, Darker Stones, or Darker-Colored Logs Fabric:

- (2) 1 ½" x 2" Darker Brown, Shaded Stones or Logs for the other House Wall (try out the wrong side of the fabric, too)
- (2) 1 ½" x 4" Darker Brown, Shaded Stones or Logs for the other House Wall above the Window (try out the wrong side of the fabric, too)

E. Door Fabric:

- 2" x 3" Door—this can be a holiday scene, a solid or tonal color, or a color to contrast with the Wall Fabric used

F. Window Fabric:

- 2" x 2" Window. This could be a Holiday Scene, a light-filled yellow, etc.

G. Window Fabric

- 2" x 2" Dark Orange-Red, Black, Stone, etc. (Chimney)

H. Tree Trunk Fabric

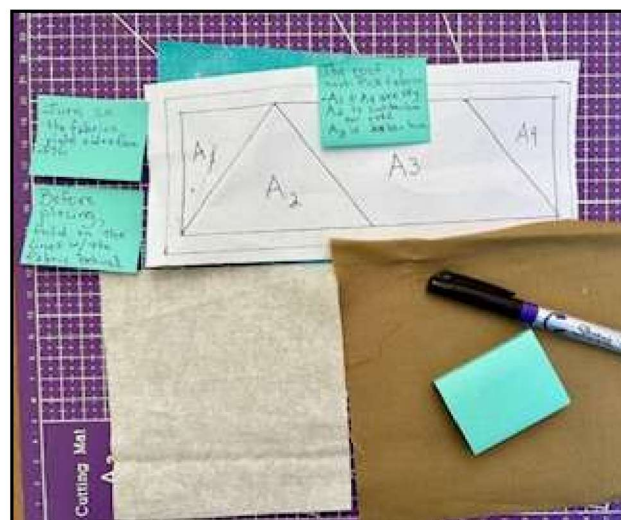
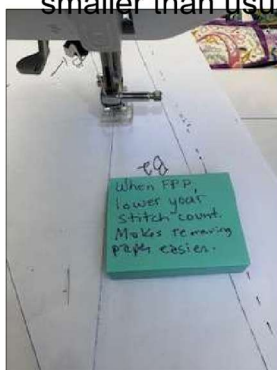
- 1 ½" x 2 ¾" Tree Trunk fabric (Darkest brown, woody print, black, etc.)

I. Ground Fabric

- 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " Ground fabric (This can be a repeat of the Blue Sky if your fabric has snowflakes or choose fabric that is snowy, darker "evening color", green with snowflakes, etc.)
- 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ " Ground fabric, same as above (This gives again a bit of leeway when putting your tree trunk in the right position.)

Part I. Paper Piecing of Roof

- 1) Decide if you want the left facing house or the right facing house. Remember that the paper piecing template is in the reverse position that your sewn fabrics will be. Your tree can go on either side of your house. Doing one or two of each house is great practice.
- 2) Cut out a printed roof piece. Check your scrap sizes by holding it up to the light with the template to see that it will cover all of that section. A little bit larger is always easier to deal with than not using a piece that will cover all of the section. You will follow the number sequences on each template.
- 3) When paper piecing, set your stitch length a bit smaller than usual. You will be pinning your fabric on the wrong side of the template then flipping it over to sew on the templates' solid lines. The other outer line is your stitch or sewing line when joining one section to another.





- 4) Sew A2 to A1. Press. Fold on crease, trim to $\frac{1}{4}$ " edge, careful that you are cutting the seam area on the right pieces.
- 5) Get your darker roof piece A3, and carefully crease the A2 A3 line. Make sure you have trimmed the seam of A2 to $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Take your Darker Roof piece and place it face down carefully into its puzzle slot, then pin in place, flip over, sew on the line. Press to set the stitches. Press to darker color. Trim to $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam.
- 6) Find your A4 sky piece. Pin to A3, flip and sew on the line. Press to set the stitches. Press to darker color. Trim to $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam. Trim the outer edges to that light/dotted/pencil line that indicates the sewing seam. Press.
- 7) Your roof looks like this one or perhaps facing the other direction like the second image.



Part II. Paper Piecing of Tree

1) Gather the Tree Template.

2) Cut a piece of green that is $5\frac{3}{4}" \times 11\frac{1}{4}"$.

4) Cut a piece of blue into a rectangle that is $4\frac{1}{2}" \times 11\frac{1}{4}"$.

5) Mark $\frac{3}{4}"$ in from the corner on the top left and $\frac{3}{4}"$ on the opposite bottom right corner. Connect with line. Cut.

6) These become the sky on each side of the tree.

Hint: If using a solid or tonal that is nondirectional, you only need to cut the one sky rectangle to go by the tree. However, if using a print or directional fabric for the sky rectangle, cut two rectangles cutting the second one diagonal $\frac{3}{4}"$ from the top right and $\frac{3}{4}"$ from the bottom left. This will keep the pattern oriented the correct way.

7) Place the green tree fabric facing up on the back of the tree template paper. Pin at top and bottom. Carefully Crease on the lines between B1 & B2 so that both the paper and the fabric are creased.

8) Next, Trim the green along the crease to $\frac{1}{4}"$.

9) Carefully place sky right side to tree right side and pin in place.

10) Flip over and sew along the line. Press the stitches to set. Flip over and press the right side.

10) Place the B3 Sky piece in the other direction along where the trimmed $\frac{1}{4}"$ seam is. Pin. Sew. Press to set the stitches. Flip over and press the right side. Trim on the lighter/pencil/dotted line.



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Part III. Cutting & Piecing the House or Cabin, the Upper Sky, and the Ground Base

House or Cabin:

1. Cut Fabrics for

- (2) 1 1/2" x 3" Medium Brown, Brick, Stones, or Logs—choose from scraps for side walls
- (1) 1 1/2" x 4" Medium Brown, Brick, Stones, or Logs—choose from scraps for top above door
- 2" x 3" Door—this can be a holiday scene, a solid or tonal color, or a color to contrast with the Wall Fabric used

A. First, sew the side walls to each side of the door. Set the stitches. Press to darker color fabric.

B. Next, place the top above the door, pin, sew, set, press. Set aside this first house part for a moment.

2. Cut Fabrics for Side of House with Window

- (2) 1 1/2" x 2" Darker Brown, Shaded Stones or Logs for the other House Wall (try out the wrong side of the fabric, too)
- (2) 1 1/2" x 4" Darker Brown, Shaded Stones or Logs for the other House Wall above the Window (try out the wrong side of the fabric, too)
- 2" x 2" Window. This could be a Holiday Scene, a light-filled yellow, etc.

A. Next, sew the shorter wall sides to the window. Set the stitches. Press to darker color fabric.

B. Take the Walls for above and below the windows, placing it. Then pinning, sewing, setting, pressing towards the darker color.

C. Sew the Door Walls to the Window Walls. Set stitches. Press towards the darker fabrics.



Entry Side of House—Walls & Door



These are three of the House Wall Sets I sewed together. I experimented with the perpendicular corner logs, but I wasn't as happy with that one. I quite like the cabin one next that has the door covered in "wrapping paper" style fabric; I may still add a bit bow. The final one uses brick fabric and that lighter side is the backside of the fabric; I still may add a wreath to the door and maybe a candy cane outside.

3. Cut Fabrics for the Sky above the House with Chimney & Upper Sky

(These are cut a smidge bigger than needed because this gives you a bit extra making it easier to square up at the end.)

- 2" x 3" sky or snowy fabric used before
- 2" x 4 ½" sky or snowy fabric used before
- 2" x 2" Dark Orange-Red, Black, Stone, etc. (Chimney)
- 4" x 8" sky or snowy fabric used prior (Upper Sky)

A. Place the shorter sky to the left, the chimney next, pinned to it, right sides together. Sew. Set. Press to darker color. (This is for Houses with the Door Facing Left; for Houses with the Door Facing Right, simply reverse the order.)

B. Place the longer side of the sky on the other side of the chimney. Pin. Sew. Set. Press to the darker color.

C. Pin the Chimney & Sky above the House Roof, checking the placement of the chimney. Sew, Set, Press towards the darker colors.

D. Place the long Upper Sky piece above the Sky & Chimney piece. Pin. Sew. Set. Press to the darker color. Now is a good time to straighten up your edges a bit with a ruler and rotary cutter.



E. Place the tree to either side of the house. Pin & Sew. Set & Press towards the tree.

4. Cut the Tree Trunk & Snowy or Rocky Ground

(This gives you a bit extra making it easier to square up at the end.)

(1) 1 ½" x 2 ¾" Tree Trunk fabric (Darkest brown, woody print, black, etc.)

(1) 2 ¾" x 3 ¼" Ground fabric (Snowy, darker "evening color", green with snowflakes, etc.)

(1) 2 ¾" x 10 ½" Ground fabric, as above to go on other side of the tree trunk



A. Measure to the center of the tree at the bottom; using a ruler and going straight down to the tree's bottom edge should give you a good center point. Mark or pin.

B. Check placement of the Tree Trunk. Put the shorter on the Left side of the Ground Piece if you are going to place the tree on the Left side of the House. (Put the shorter on the Right side of the Ground Piece if you are going to place the tree to the Right of the House.) Pin, sew, set, press towards the trunk.

C. Pin the longer Ground Piece to the other side of the Tree Trunk. Pin, sew, set, press towards the trunk.

D. Using the mark you made for the tree's bottom center point, pin the Ground and Trunk according to this point. Sew, set, press towards the darker fabrics.

E. Give your almost finished block a press and some starch. Square it up to 12 ½" x 12 ½". Sit back and admire. Then please share with an online Show & Tell of your gorgeous block on Facebook saying if FPP is new to you or what you most enjoy about Winter or the Holidays.



Above, you can see how making a few of each facing left and right and placing the tree on different sides of the house can make for a lovely neighborhood. Adding some embellishments such as cut out decorations on the tree, a star, or decorations or a scene in the window and door really allows your creativity to rise.

Right, you can see how gorgeous a Christmas House and a Quilted Tree combined quilt could be.

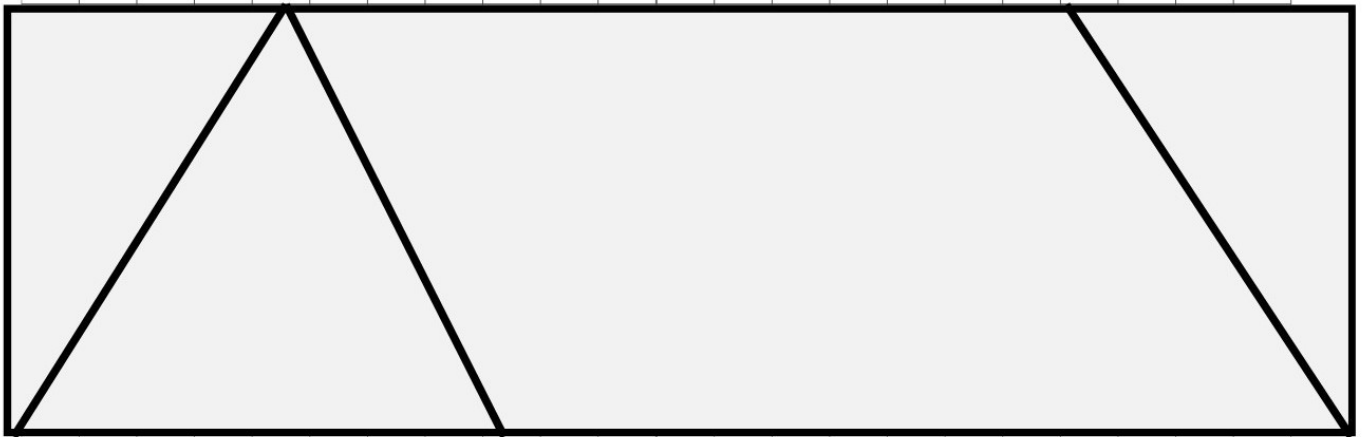
I saw a few blocks on Pinterest similar to this and in a coloring book, and then I created this pattern just for all of you Mudsock Quilters Guild Members.



Enjoy trying your hand at a quilt block that combines two small FPP portions and also traditional piecing! Can't wait to see what you create, Sewists! Happy Holidays!

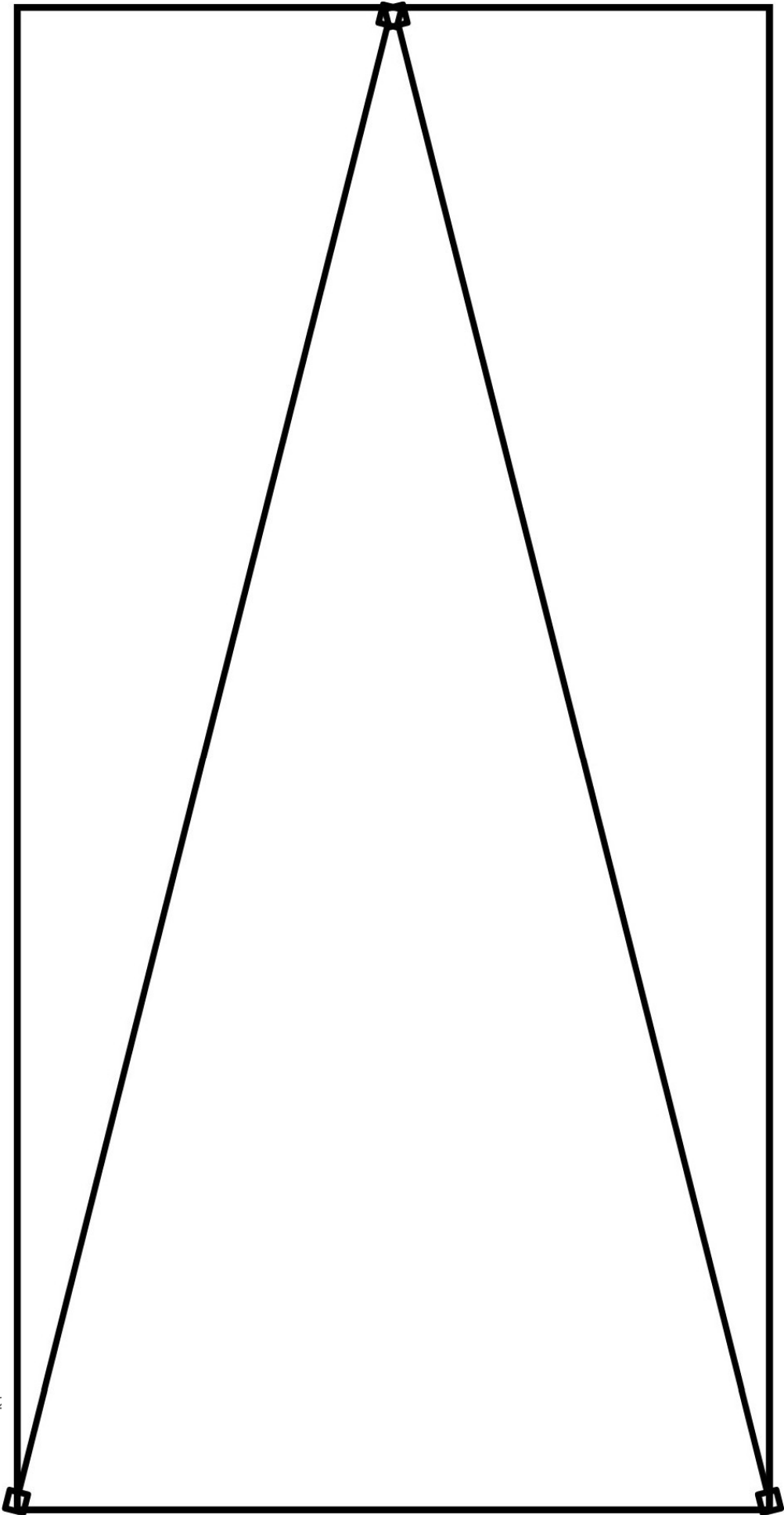
notes

**This Template builds a RIGHT facing House.
Add 1/4" on each exterior side in pencil or
dotted lines prior to cutting out.**



This Template builds a LEFT facing House. Add $\frac{1}{4}$ " on each exterior side in pencil or dotted lines prior to cutting out.





This is the Sky & Tree template. Be sure to add 1/4" on each exterior side in pencil or with dotted lines prior to cutting out.