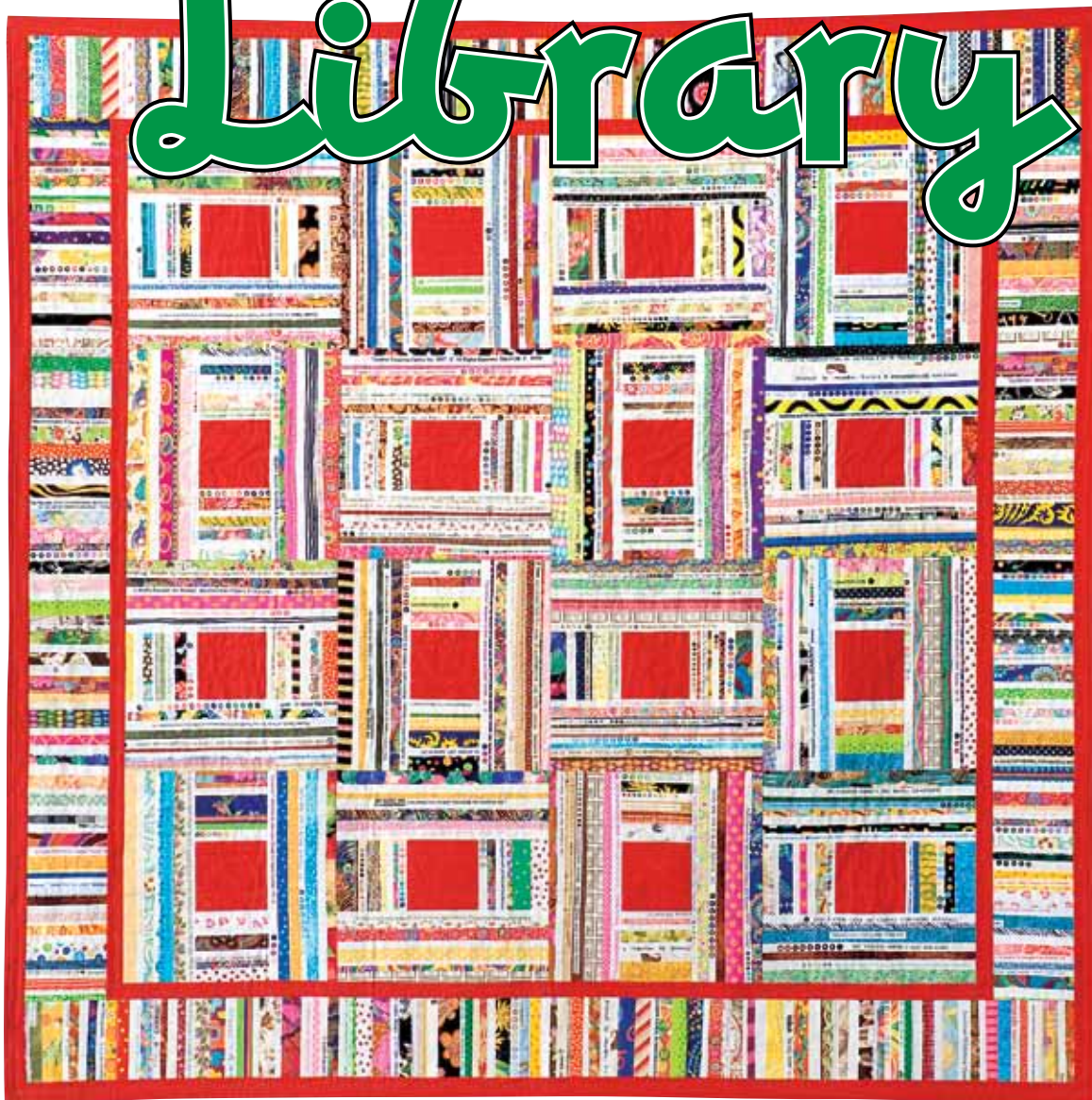


LOG CABIN

by Karen Griska

Library



LOG CABIN LIBRARY, 61" x 61", by Karen Griska

Why would anyone want to make a selvage quilt? Most quilters have miles of selvages in their stash, and selvages make dazzling wall quilts and throws. Selvage quilts are beautiful, creative, fun to read, and sturdy. If your friends don't appreciate selvage quilts, even better—ask them to give you their selvages!

This Log Cabin-style selvage quilt features the classic red center squares

representing the cabin's hearth. The selvages are arranged like bookshelves surrounding the hearth. When the blocks are assembled they create a delightful woven appearance. For more detailed information on making quilts see the AQS Quiltmaking Essentials at www.AmericanQuilter.com.

Getting started

For this quilt you will need an

assortment of precut selvages, enough to fill a gallon-size storage bag. The best way to harvest selvages for projects is to keep a basket near your cutting table and save the selvages from fabric used for other projects. Follow these simple tips to build your selvage stash:

- Use scissors or a rotary cutter to harvest selvages. Cut (don't tear) your selvage strips about 1½" wide.

- Neatness is not important at this stage; speed is better. The raw edge can be uneven because it will be covered by the bound edge of the adjoining selvage.

- If a fabric has an interesting pattern you may want to cut the selvage wider than 1½" so you can feature a fancy stripe or an eye-catching flower.

- Should you cut the shaggy selvages, or the ones without a white stripe, or the ones with no writing? Yes, they might come in handy.

Piecing the blocks

Center a red B square on a muslin A square. Cut a selvage piece about 5" long. Overlap the bound edge of the selvage, right-side up, about ¼" over one edge of the red square (photo 1). Topstitch close to the bound edge of the selvage.

Overlap the bound edge of another 5" selvage piece, right-side up, over the raw edge of selvage #1 (photo 2).

FABRIC & CUTTING REQUIREMENTS

Skill level: Easy

Quilt size: 61" x 61"

Finished block sizes:
12" x 12"

- Requirements are based on 40" fabric width.
- Strips are cut selvage to selvage unless otherwise noted.
- An extra 2" has been added to the length of the border strips to allow for adjustments.
- Border strips may need to be pieced.

Assorted selvage strips

- See "Getting started"

Muslin – ¾ yards

- border #2 side foundations, 2 strips 5" x 52½"
- border #2 top/bottom foundations, 2 strips 5" x 61½"
- 16 A

Red – 1½ yards

- border #1 sides, 2 strips 1½" x 50½"
- border #1 top/bottom, 2 strips 1½" x 52½"
- border #3 sides, 2 strips 1½" x 61½"
- border #3 top/bottom, 2 strips 1½" x 63½"
- 7 strips 2½" x 40" for 254" of continuous binding
- 16 B

Backing – 4⅞ yards

- 2 panels 35" x 69"

Batting

- 69" x 69"

ROTARY CUTTING

Rotary dimensions include seam allowances.

A A – 12½" x 12½"

B B – 4½" x 4½"



Photo 1

Topstitch close to the bound edge of selvage #2. This secures selvage #1.

Continue until the selvages reach or hang over the foundation edge. Repeat for the opposite side (photo 3).



Photo 2

Rotate the block 90°. Repeat the process using 13½" selvage strips (photo 4). Trim the block to 12½" x 12½". Make 16 blocks.

Assembling the quilt center

Referring to the quilt assembly diagram for block



Photo 3



Photo 4

orientation, arrange the blocks in 4 rows of 4 blocks. Join the blocks in rows. Press seam allowances in the direction of the arrows. Join the rows.

Adding the borders

Press the quilt center well. Measure the vertical length of the quilt through the center and cut 2 border #1 strips to this measurement. Sew them to the sides of the quilt. Press all seam allowances toward the border. Measure the width of the quilt through the center, including the side borders you just added. Cut 2 strips this length and sew them to the top and bottom of the quilt.

Starting at one edge, topstitch 6" selvage pieces to a muslin side border #2 foundation as you did for the

blocks. Trim the border strip to 5" width. Make 2. Measure the vertical length of the quilt through the center and cut these border strips to the measurement. Sew to the sides of the quilt. Press all seam allowances toward the red border.

In the same manner make the top and bottom border strips and sew to the quilt.

Add border #3 to the quilt as you did border #1.

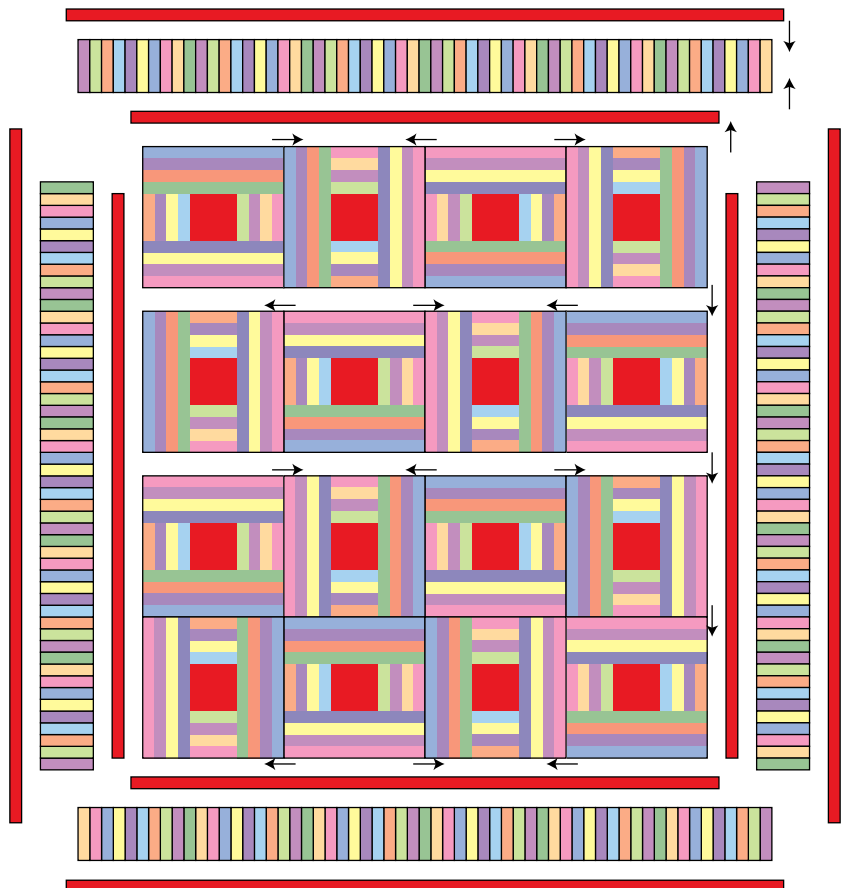
Quilting and finishing

Layer the backing, batting, and quilt top. Baste the layers together.

Quilting in the busy selvage-covered areas doesn't show up very well so keep it simple. I quilted freehand wavy lines perpendicular to the selvage strips using a walking foot. You may want to quilt a nice design in the red squares.

Sew the binding strips together to make 254" of continuous binding. Finish the edges of your quilt with double-fold binding.

Remember to add a label with your name, date, and location so that "Maker Unknown" won't someday be given all the credit for your incredible quilt! ♦



Quilt assembly