

Sea Lanterns

Top finishes at 100.5"x105"

To make the quilt pictured:



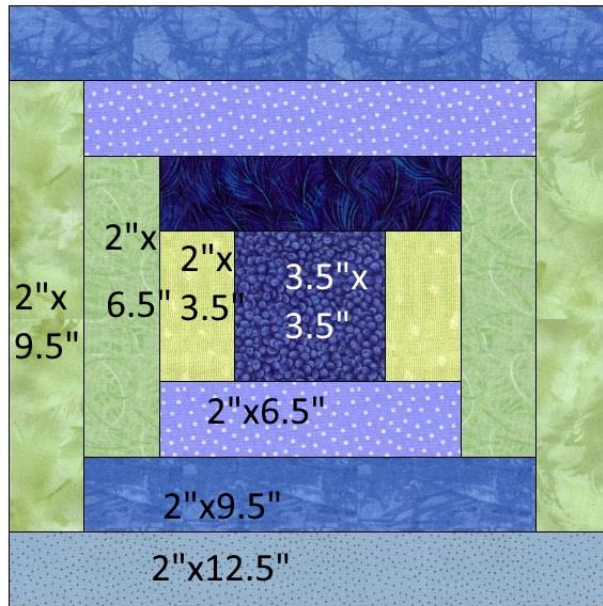
You need:

- About 10 yards of blues and green fabric 2" strips. (about 4 7/8 yards of blue and 4 7/8 yards of light greens for the inner part of the border.) For the checker board border, you need 1 5/8 yards of lights (both blues and greens) and 1 5/8 yards of dark blues and greens.
- 5/8 yard of navy blue for middle border
- About 1/2-5/8 yard of fabric for the binding. (I used scrappy 2.5" strips.)

Note: This quilt is made up of 1 block (Courthouse steps) plus the borders, of which you need 42.

Cut:

The Courthouse Steps block looks like this:



For your Courthouse steps block:

So, for every single block you will need: (If you are making the size I show, then multiply by 42.) (Number is in parenthesis.)

- 1 – blues (use darker or fully saturated blues) – 3.5" x 3.5" square (42)
- 2 – blues 2" x 6.5" (84)
- 2 – blues – 2" x 9.5" (84)
- 2 – blues – 2" x 12.5" (84)

- 2 – light greens (make sure they are quite light as you need the contrast) – 2" x 3.5" (84)
- 2 – light greens – 2" x 6.5" (84)
- 2 – light greens - 2" x 9.5" (84)

(I precut all my pieces and then just mixed and matched when I sewed. I did not cut and snip as some might do when making a log cabin type of block. I was happy with my blocks this way. I was also literally using scraps and precut 2" strips that had been thrown into bags sorted by color, so I just picked out my most appropriate strips I could find.)

For sashing:

Light green: - cut 5 - 2" x 84"

For borders:

Borders will be dealt with in the put together this quilt section.

Construct blocks:

Look at block diagram above.

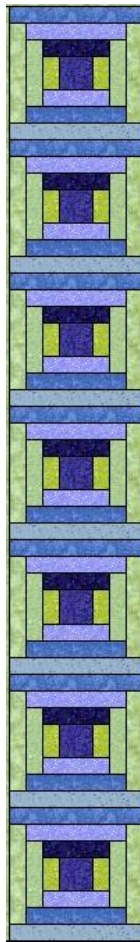
Start in the center with your 3.5" blue square and begin building your block on both sides at once. Add the 2 - 2"x3.5" light greens to either side. Work around, adding blue next, then greens, then blue, then green, and finally ending with the 2"x12.5" blue strips. Press after each step. (I know that some recommend skipping this step and only finger pressing. I almost always press with my iron after each step, before crossing the seam with another strip. There are exceptions, but it is the exception and not the rule.)

Each block will finish at 12.5"x12.5".

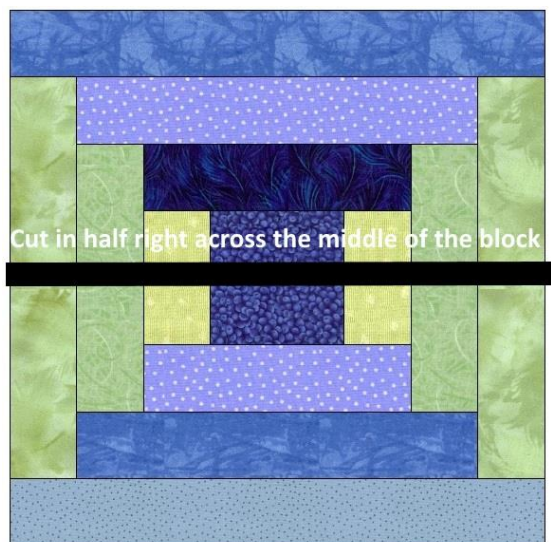
Make 42.

How to put together this quilt:

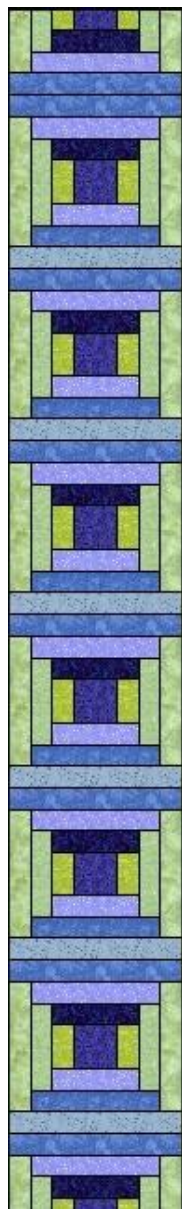
1. **Construct your blocks** as described above.
2. To make the center, using the diagram below, **lay out the blocks and sew together in rows**. Your rows will be vertical like this. Make 3 rows that are laid out like this:



3. For the next 3 rows, you need to take one of your blocks and cut it in half like this:



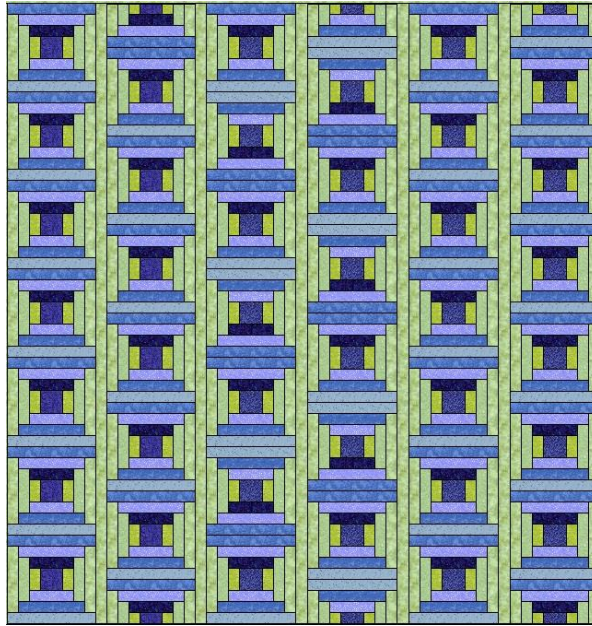
4. Sew each half to the top and bottom of set of 6 blocks sewn together. Like this:



Make three rows like this.

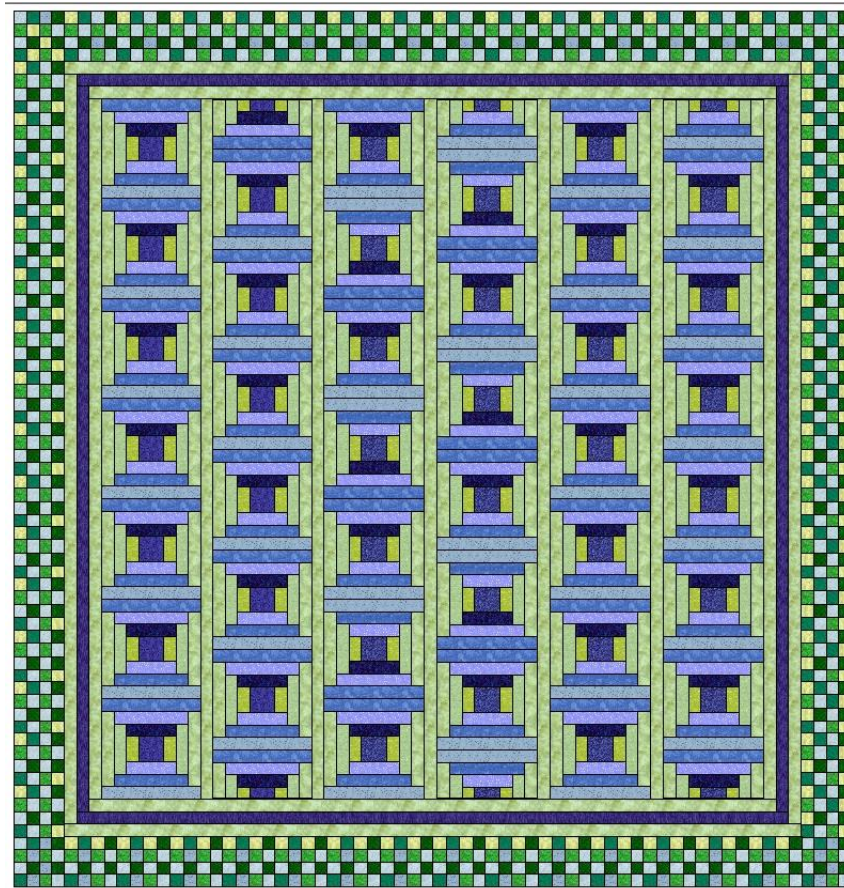
Between each vertical row, add a sashing strip which is 2"x84.5" long.

5. **Sew together each of these rows** and sashing strip until the middle of the quilt looks like this: Make sure you alternate the two types of rows you made, so that the effect is staggered.

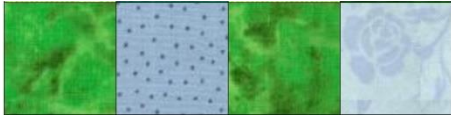


6. **Add borders: (4 borders)**

The whole layout looks like this:



- A. **Border 1 – inner light green** 2" strip cut 2 - 2"x84.5", and cut 2 - 2"x 83". Add longer to the sides and then the shorter to the top and bottom. Press.
- B. **Border 2 – navy** 2" strip Cut 2 – 2"x87.5" and 2" x 86". Add the longer to the sides and the shorter to the top and bottom. Press.
- C. **Border 3 – outer light green** 2" strip – Cut 2 – 2"x90.5" add to sides. Cut 2 – 2"x 89". Add to top and bottom. Press.
- D. **Border 4 – checkerboard border** – consists of 4 2" squares in formation of light/dark/light/dark of both blues and greens. Sew together strips of light/dark/light/dark until you make yourself groups of 4 patches like this: Make a lot! And a lot more! If you always press towards the darker squares, the seams will always nest!

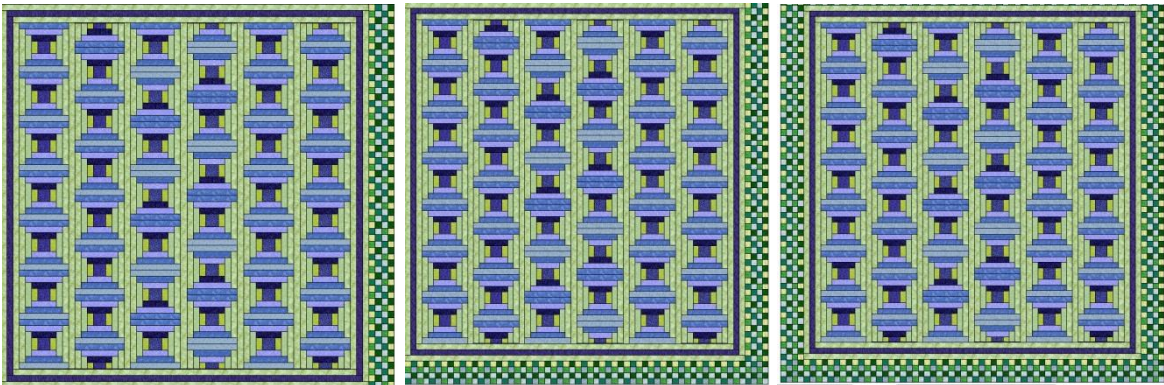


Sew multiples of these together alternating colors like a checkerboard.

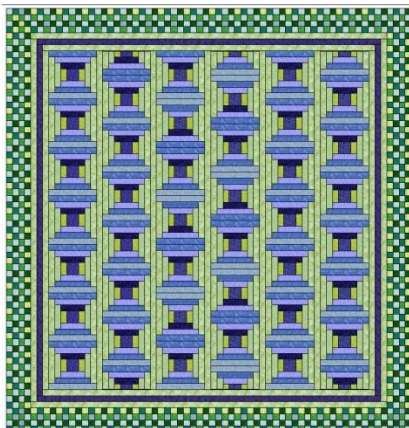
Note: When applying these borders, I start on the right. I made a strip of 62 rows of these 4 blocks. Press. Apply to the right side. Then, I worked on the bottom.

Make a strip of 64 rows of these 4 blocks. Attach to the bottom, connecting to the set of checkerboard you just put on. For the left side, you will need a set of 66 checkerboard rows. The final (top row) will call for 67 checkerboard rows.

Here are diagrams:



and then, last, put the top checkerboard border on.



It is a good idea to staystitch about 1/8" or even a skimpy ¼" just inside the outer edge to hold all those checkerboard seams in place and to make sure they don't come apart on you when you handle it when quilting.

- E. **Press well.**
- F. **Sandwich**, using whatever type of batting and backing you prefer
- G. **Quilt** as desired. I used a loop de loop all over design. Anything more would be quite lost in the scrappiness of the design. (Plus, it would probably be too hard for me!)



- H. **Bind**, using whatever method you wish.

Congratulations!

Your quilt is finished!

Enjoy!