

Courthouse Steps Community Quilts Pattern

This pattern is adapted from a pattern seen at the Annie Star Quilt Guild in Chico. The original idea is for a scrappy quilt with each maker deciding the size and number of blocks.

This page of instructions is to make a specific size of quilt top. Refer to the second page for directions how to make various size blocks / quilt tops.

It is made of 35 blocks, each measuring 8.5" by 8.5" and the finished size is approximately 40.5" by 56.5".

Should you choose to add the optional borders, the approximate finished size is 50.5" by 66.5".

If you want a totally scrappy quilt, you will need to cut individual pieces.

35 squares @ 4.5" by 4.5"

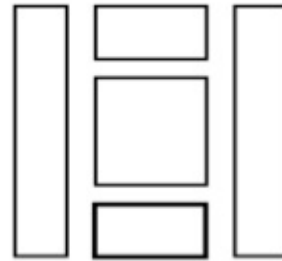
70 small rectangles @ 2.5" by 4.5"

70 large rectangles @ 2.5" by 8.5"

All seams are a scant quarter inch.

Press all seams away from the center.

They will be assembled in the following pattern:



Rotate the blocks and alternate them into seven rows with five blocks in each row.

Optional Borders

Cut the following strips and customize for your top's measurements:

5 @ 1.5" by Width of Fabric for inner border

The long sides will need to be pieced.

6 @ 4.5" by Width of Fabric for outer border

The outer border will need to be pieced on each side.

Here is a chart for different sizes of blocks:

Unfinished Block Size	Center Square	Small Rectangle	Large Rectangle
8 1/2" x 8 1/2"	4 1/2" x 4 1/2"	2 1/2" x 4 1/2"	2 1/2" x 8 1/2"
10 1/2" x 10 1/2"	5 1/2" x 5 1/2"	3" x 5 1/2"	3" x 10 1/2"
12 1/2" x 12 1/2"	6 1/2" x 6 1/2"	3 1/2" x 6 1/2"	3 1/2" x 12 1/2"

These are directions for the top that is the sample however these blocks are made from strips of fabric that are sewn together, cut into sub-assemblies, and then strip-pieced for the final block size.

Fabric Requirements: use a fabric that is at least 40.5" between selvages. If you use something narrower, you will need to cut extra strips. If you use high-contrast fabrics, you will get a stair step effect similar to a rail fence.

Focus fabric: 4 strips @ 4.5" by Width of Fabric

Fabric A (light): 4 strips @ 2.5" by Width of Fabric

Fabric B (dark): 4 strips @ 2.5" by Width of Fabric

Fabric C (different light): 9 strips @ 2.5" by Width of Fabric

Fabric D (different dark): 9 strips @ 2.5" by Width of Fabric

All seams are a scant quarter inch. Press all seams away from the center.

Sew one strip each of Fabrics A and B to either side of the Focus fabric. Use up all of the A, B, and Focus fabrics. You will end up with four sub-units that are three strips sewn together. They should measure approximately 8.5" wide. Cut these sub-assemblies cross-wise into 4.5" strips. Sew one strip each of Fabrics C and D to either side of the cross-cut sub-assemblies. Cut apart these assemblies into 8.5" by 8.5" blocks. Make 35 blocks.

They will be assembled in this pattern:

Rotate the blocks and alternate them into seven rows with five blocks in each row.

Optional borders: Cut the following strips and customize for your top's measurements.

5 @ 1.5" by Width of Fabric for inner border

The long sides will need to be pieced.

6 @ 4.5" by Width of Fabric for outer border (you might want to use more Focus fabric)

The outer border will need to be pieced on each side.

