

Claire's Lanterns

94.5"x103.5"

To make the quilt pictured:



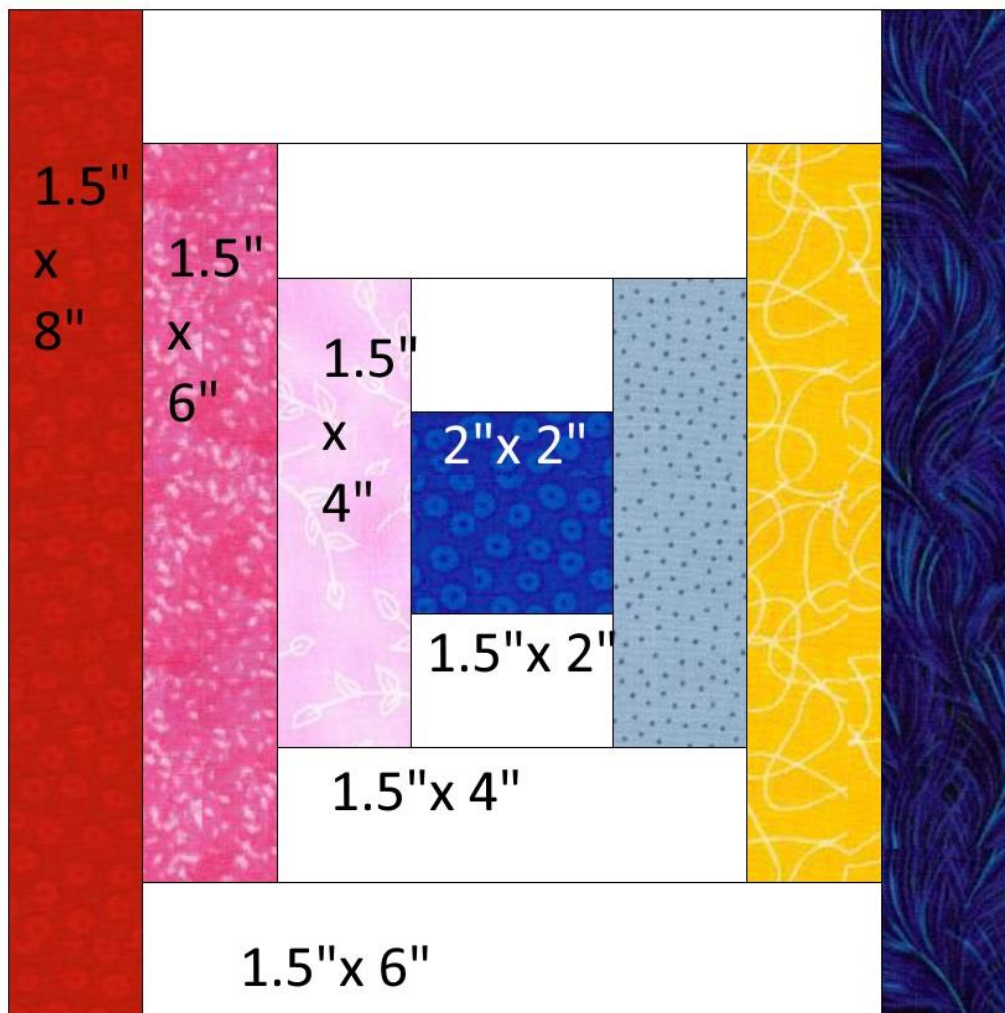
You need:

- 7 yards of colorful and brights in 1½" strips
- 6¼ yards of white
- About ½-5/8 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.

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 99.) (Number is in parenthesis.)

From bright colored strips:

- 2 – $1\frac{1}{2}'' \times 4''$ (198)
- 2 – $1\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6''$ (198)
- 2 – $1\frac{1}{2}'' \times 8''$ (198)
- 1 – $2'' \times 2''$ (99)

From white strips:

- 2 – $1\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2''$ (198)
- 2 – $1\frac{1}{2}'' \times 4''$ (198)
- 2 – $1\frac{1}{2}'' \times 6''$ (198)

(I precut all my pieces and then just mixed and matched when I sewed. I was happy with my blocks this way.)

For sashing:

From white: cut 8 - $1\frac{1}{2}$ "x83" (will need to piece unless you are using length of fabric or backing fabric)

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 2" colorful square and begin building your block on both sides at once. Add the 2 $1\frac{1}{2}$ "x2" whites to either side of the colorful square. Work around, adding whites first, then colorful, then whites, until you have the final colorful strips at $1\frac{1}{2}$ "x8". 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.)

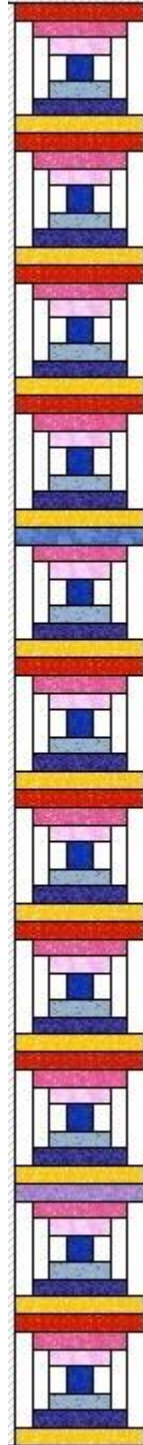
Each block will finish at $8\frac{1}{2}$ " x $8\frac{1}{2}$ ".

Make 99.

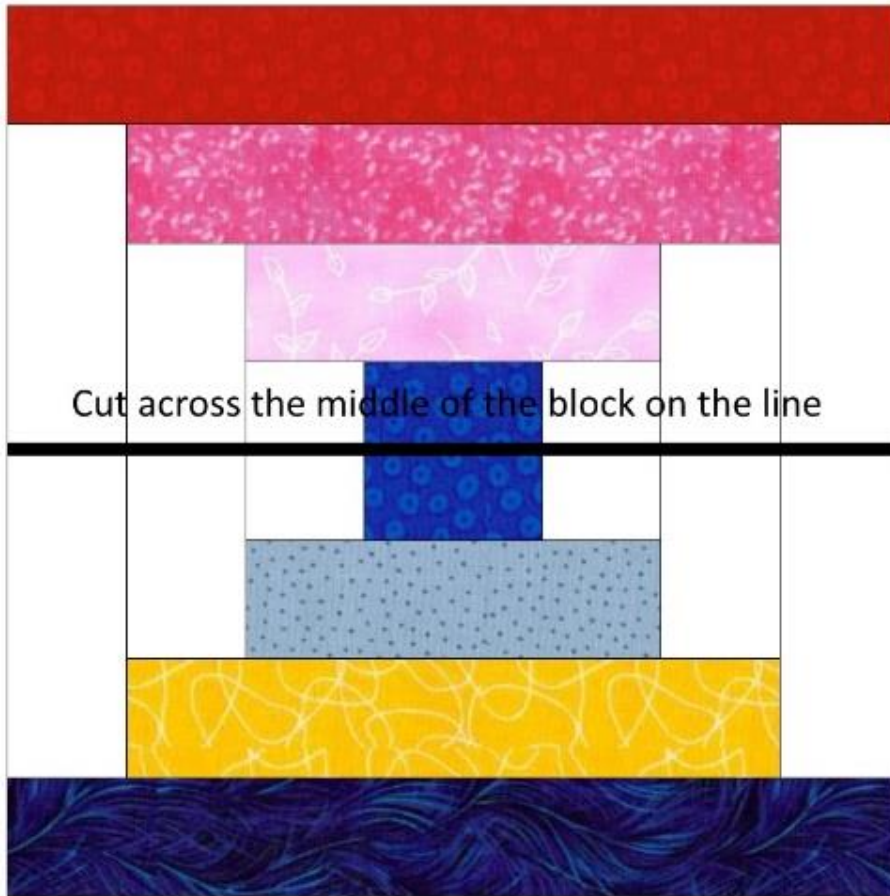
How to put together this quilt:

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 and consist of 11 blocks.

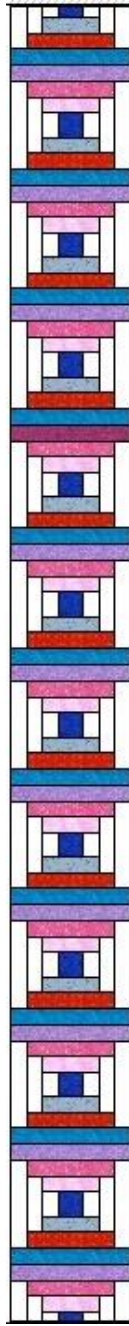
Make 5 rows that are laid out like this:



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



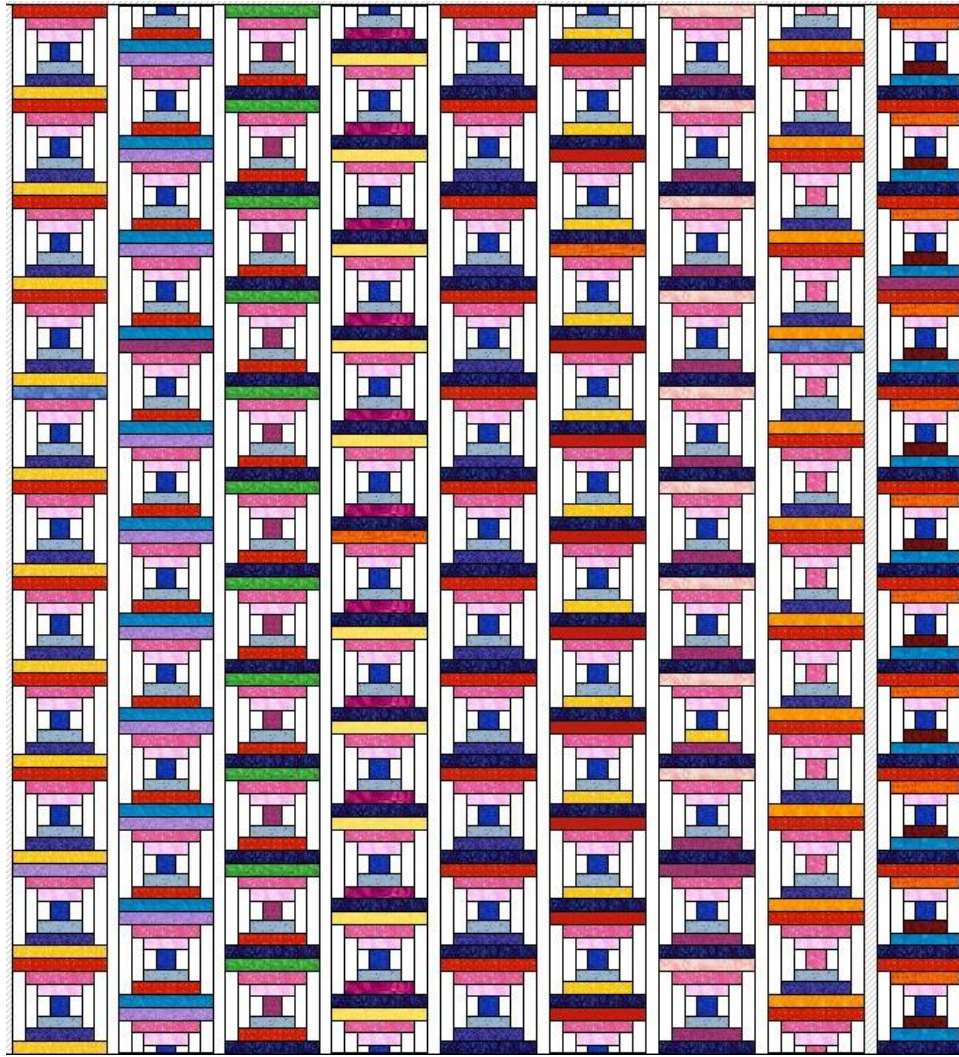
4. Sew each half to the top and bottom of a set of 10 blocks sewn together. Like this:



Make four rows like this.

Between each vertical row, add a sashing strip which is $1\frac{1}{2}$ " x 83" 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)** *In order for the last checkerboard border to fit, these borders need to be these sizes: Note: If you change the quilt to a smaller size, you will need to adjust your borders so that a checkerboard pattern will fit.*

a. First border – white:

- Cut 1½” strips and piece til you have 2 that are 83” long. Attach to the sides.
- Cut 2” strips and piece til you have 2 that are 78” long. Attach to top and bottom.

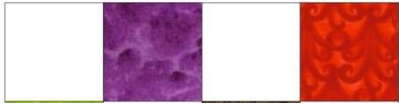
b. Second border – hot pink:

- Cut 2” strips and piece til you have 2 that measure 2”x86”. Add to sides.
- Cut 2” strips and piece til you have 2 that measure 2”x81”. Add to top and bottom.

c. Third border – white:

- Cut 1½” strips and piece til you have 2 that measure 1½”x 89”. Add to sides.
- Cut 2” strips and piece til you have 2 that measure 2”x83”. Add to top and bottom.

- d. Fourth border – checkerboard:** consists of 4- 2” squares in formation of white/dark/white/dark Sew together strips of white/dark/white/dark until you make yourself groups of 4 patches like this: Make a lot! And a lot more! Press towards the darker squares and the seams will always nest!



You will a total of 248 of these segments.

Note: When applying these borders, I start on the right.

- (1) Right side: Make a **strip of 61 rows** of these strips of 4 segments. *Please note: the diagram of the checkerboard does not actually show the correct number of blocks down – it is just a representation.*

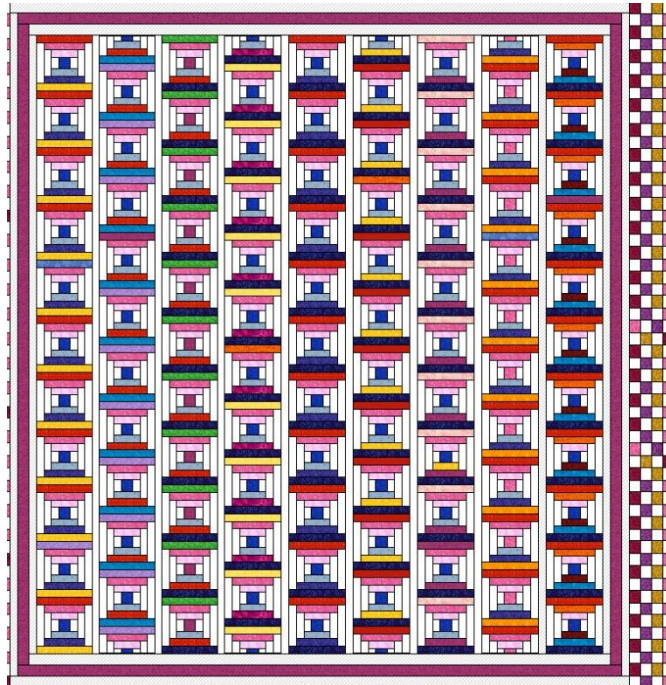
Press.

It looks like this:



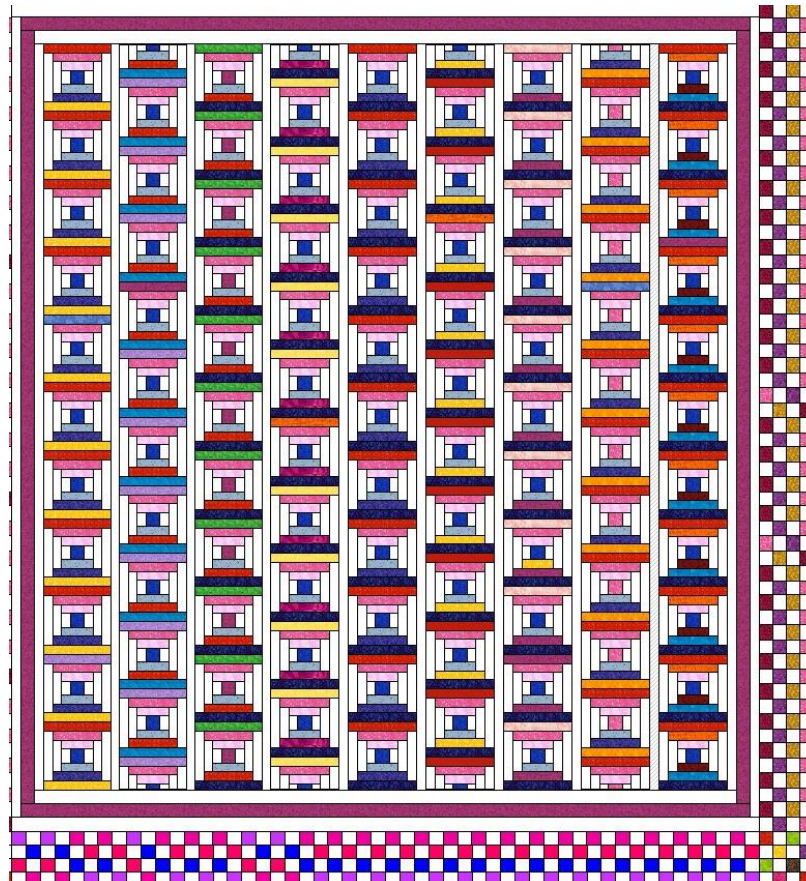
Apply to the right side.

The whole diagram with the right side added is this:



(2) Bottom: Make a **strip of 59** rows of these white/colorful/white/colorful segments. Make sure the checkerboard pattern will continue once you sew it on. Check to make sure it does.

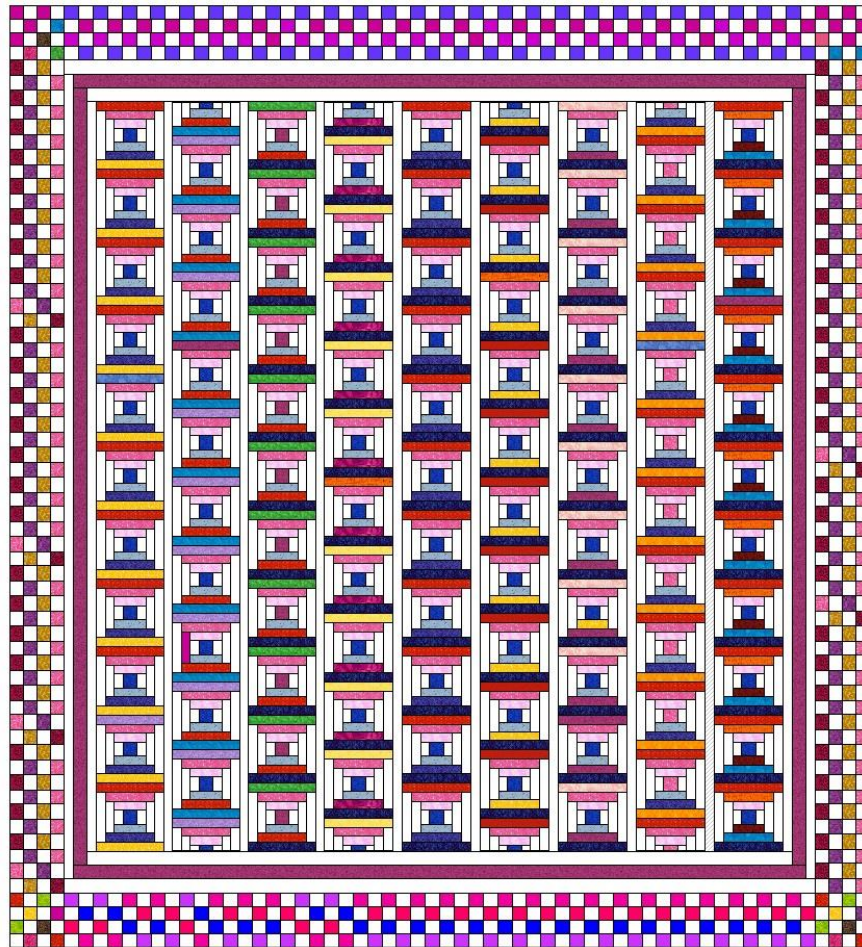
Attach to the bottom. Looks like this at the end of this stage:



- (3) Left side: Combine a **long strip of these 65 rows** of these segments of light/colorful/light/colorful and attach to the left side. It will now look like this:



- (4) Top: Now **make a long strip of 63 of these segments of light/colorful/light/colorful** and attach across the top, making sure you keep alternating the white/colorful to keep the checkerboard pattern.



When finished with the checkerboard, it is a good idea to staystitch (a straight stitch) about 1/8" or even a skimpy 1/4" 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.

7. **Press well.**
8. **Sandwich**, using whatever type of batting and backing you prefer
9. **Quilt** as desired. I used an irregularly placed straight seam using my walking foot.



10. **Bind**, using whatever method you wish.

Congratulations!
Your quilt is finished!
Enjoy!

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