

Log Cabin Temperature Quilt

Basic Details

Fabrics: 1½ - 2 yds. each of 9 different fabrics, ½ yd. solid black, gray, white or other neutral
 [Honestly, how much fabric you use of each color will depend on two major factors: the weather, and whether the temperature happens at the beginning of the month or the end of the month. Using a log cabin block, the colors of the temperatures at the end of the month will take longer strips than the colors of the temperatures at the beginning of the month. It is impossible to predict how much fabric you will use. Err on the side of having too much fabric rather than not enough.]

Finished dimensions: approx. 54”W x 72”L (with no sashing or border)

A temperature quilt is created by letting the high temperatures of a series of days (usually a calendar year, but also maybe the first year of a baby’s life or the first year of a marriage) determine the colors used. Determine how many fabrics you will use, and which fabric you will use for what temperature range. I have used 9 different fabrics in rainbow colors: purple (for the coldest temperatures) to red (for the hottest temperatures). You can use any colors and temperature ranges you’d like.

Keeping Track of Temperatures

Sample Color/Temperature Range

Purple/19°F and below	Green/60°F to 69°F
Blue-purple/20°F to 29°F	Yellow/70°F to 79°F
Navy blue/30°F to 39°F	Orange/80°F to 89°F
Blue/40°F to 49°F	Red/90°F and above
Blue-green/50°F to 59°F	

I kept track of temperatures in a Google doc so I would have access when I traveled or otherwise didn’t have my laptop, using a table for each month. I used weather.com’s Monthly page for my town to find out what the high temperatures were each day. As I added each day’s piece, I bolded it in the table to keep track of what I had completed. Here’s an example:

April

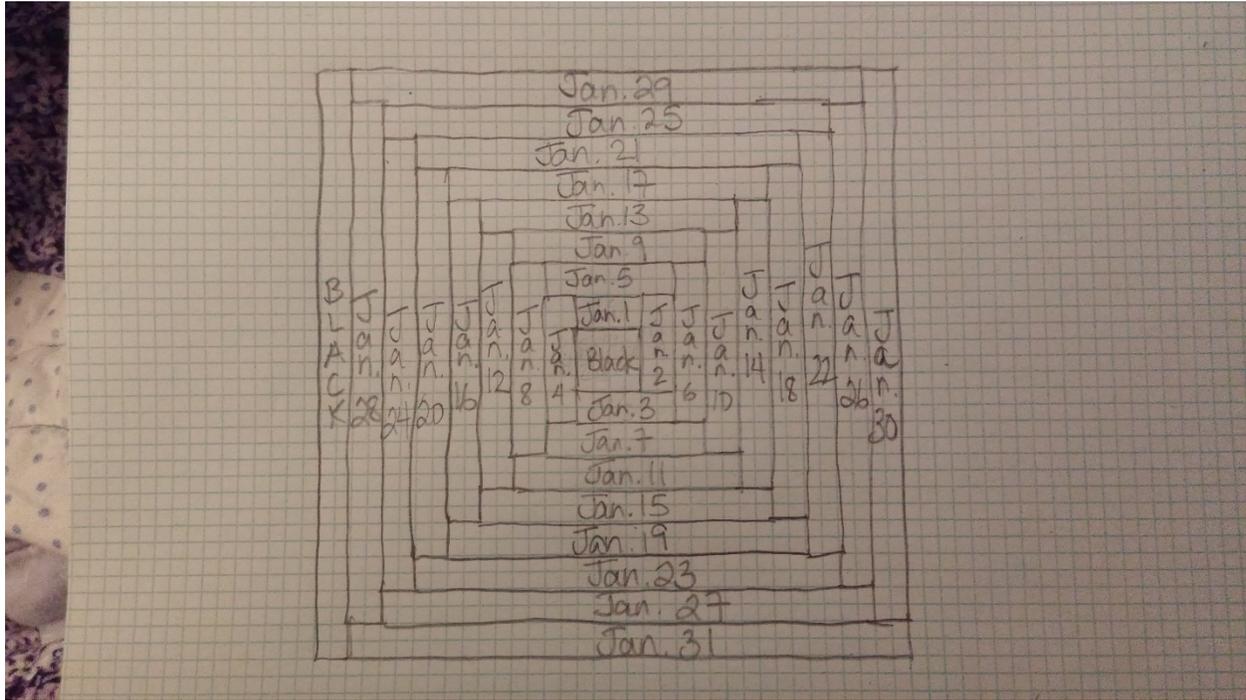
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					76 - yellow	55 - blue-green
38 - navy	26 - blue-purple	36 - navy	42 - blue	55 - blue-green	50 - blue-green	49 - blue
49 - blue	61 - green	58 - blue-green	56 - blue-green	59 - blue-green	61 - green	63 - green
72 - yellow	76 - yellow	63 - green	63 - green	78 - yellow	79 - yellow	66 - green
61 - green	62 - green	53 - blue-green	63 - green	63 - green	60 - green	66 - green

(In this example, I have sewn up to the 19th of the month.)

Each month, you will create a log cabin block using the temperatures of each day that month. Start with a 2.5”x2.5” square of black (or other neutral) fabric. On the first day of the month, add a 2.5”x1.5” strip of fabric according to that day’s temperature. On the second day, add a 3.5”x1.5” strip of fabric according to that day’s temperature. On the third day, another 3.5”x1.5” strip. And so

on. In each block, there will be 32 strips to create the final square. Once you run out of days in the month, add strips of black to finish the log cabin to 18.5" square. For example, January has 31 days, so you'll only need one strip of black, but February has only 28 days, so you'll need four strips of black.

For example, January's (and every other month with 31 days) log cabin block will be laid out like this:



Once you have a couple of blocks done, you can start sewing them together. Add sashing and/or borders as you see fit.

January	February	March
April	May	June
July	August	September
October	November	December