Kids' CORNER

No-sew Log Cabin Quilt

By Nancy J. Rhode

A log cabin quilt has never been so easy. Keep each strip lined up with the diagonal guides, and you'll have a perfectly squared pattern.

1. Choose a motif 1- to 1¼-inch square for the center of the quilt.

2. Cut muslin into a square ½ inch larger on all sides than the finished size you want the quilt to be. Fold the muslin in half on the diagonal, then fold diagonally again. Press. Open the muslin and lay the center motif on the square so that each corner of the motif touches a fold on the muslin. Lift each corner and put a small dot of glue on the muslin to secure the motif. Press the motif and muslin backing.
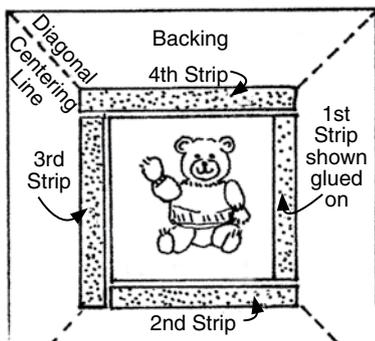
3. Cut 4-6 strips of the prints or solids into widths from ¼ inch to ½ inch, or cut strips all the same width. Rule of thumb: the smaller the design the narrower the strip should be.

4. Run a very thin bead of glue along one edge of the center motif. Lay the first strip along the glued edge, overlapping the motif edge by about $1/16$ inch. Make sure corners line up with diagonal centering line. Press down with finger. Glue should not come in contact with the backing except at the corners. In this project less glue is best, especially if you plan to quilt the piece. (Quilting is the sewing that is done to secure the quilt top, batting, and backing together to prevent the batting from shifting.) In order to keep it flexible, this little quilt has no batting, so quilting is optional.

5. Apply the next strip to the edge of the motif in the same way, overlapping the end of the first strip. Continue in order for the remaining sides. The last strip will overlap the previous strip as well as the first one.

6. Continue adding strips until the quilt is the desired size, keeping each strip a uniform distance from the previous row.

7. After completing the last row, trim the backing ¼ inch to $1/8$ inch from all four sides. With the right side of the quilt up, run a bead of glue along one edge

of the backing and fold it over the last strip. Here is an opportunity to extend the size of the
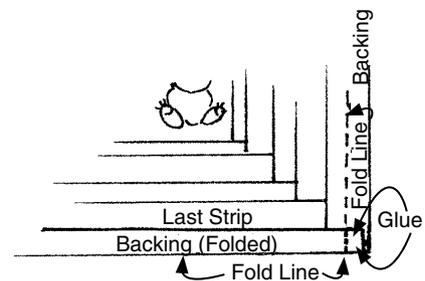
quilt if desired. Cut the backing twice the width you want to add and glue the backing edge to the edge of the last strip. At the corners, glue the backing to itself from the corner of the last strip. Continue folding and gluing the rest of the backing to each of the last strips. Press quilt with the iron.
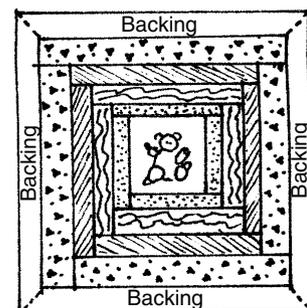
Tiny prints are available from fabric stores that sell quilting supplies, from friends who quilt or from old clothes from thrift shops.