

Valley Quilters Guild November 2026 BOM Nine-Patch Courthouse Steps Block

Fabrics:

Whites: 1 each: 6 1/2" x 1 1/2" rectangle

2 each: 3 1/2" x 2" rectangles} These can be the same white or 3 different white fabrics.

2 each: 6 1/2" x 2" rectangles}

2 each: 9 1/2" x 2" rectangles}

Red or 1 each 1 1/2" x 8" strip. (This 9-patch block can be strip pieced using a white strip and a red or blue strip each 4 3/4" x 1 1/2." (Instructions below.)

Reds or 2 each: 9 1/2" x 2" rectangles} Use either all red or blues 2 each: 6 1/2" x 2" rectangles} all blue. These should 2 each: 12 1/2" x 2" rectangles} 3 different fabrics.

Instructions:

1. Individual Squares: To piece the 9-patch, you may cut individual blocks 1 1/2" x 1 1/2". You will need 5 of the red or blue and 4 of the white. Make 2 strips each of a dark-light-dark and one strip of a light-dark-light combination.

Strip Piece: To strip piece this block, cut the red or blue rectangle into 1 each 4 3/4" x 1 1/2" and 3 1/4" x 1 1/2" pieces. Cut the white 6 1/2" x 1 1/2" rectangle into one 4 3/4" x 1 1/2" and one 1 3/4" x 1 1/2" piece. Piece a strip set using the 4 3/4" red or blue and the 4 3/4" white strip. Press to the darker fabric. Stitch the red or blue 3 1/4" strip to the white strip, matching the top edges. Press to the darker fabric. Cut two 1 1/2" strips of dark-light-dark from the strip set. Stitch the 1 3/4" white strip to the remaining strip of dark and light on the dark fabric, placing it so that you can cut a 1 1/2" light-dark-light strip after it is sewn. Press to the darker fabric. Cut your last 1 1/2" strip.

Sew the 3 1/2" strip sets together into a 9-patch block with the light-dark-light strip in between the 2 dark-light-dark strips. (**I like to press the seams open because it is easier to quilt over the seams.**)

2. Stitch the 3 1/2" X 2" white strips to opposite sides of the 9-patch. Press the seams toward the white strips.

Sew the red or blue 6 1/2" x 2" strips to the other 2 sides of the 9-patch. Working your way around the block, next sew the white 6 1/2" x 2" strips to the side of the block with the white fabric. Follow this by sewing the 9 1/2" x 2" red or blue to the colored strip, then the 9 1/2" x 2" white strip to the white side of the block. Finish the block by stitching the 12 1/2" x 2" colored strip to the dark 9 1/2". Press each seam toward the strip just stitched to the block.

