Tilda®

Creating Memories
WINTER

Christmas Calendar Quilt



Christmas Calendar Quilt

Six different festive motifs have been designed to make this adorable Christmas calendar quilt. The wintery greys and greens of the Creating Memories fabric collection are wonderfully contrasted with warm pinks and burgundies. Vertical sashing pieces separate the blocks so each one can be appreciated. The calendar quilt is made with twenty-four Christmas motifs in total, but you could easily make it into a bed-size quilt by adding more blocks along the sides and at the top and bottom. Tilda buttons have been used as a decorative and functional feature on each of the blocks and can be used to hang little gifts. If you want to display larger or heavier gifts it would be best to sew on brass or metal rings instead of buttons. The motifs are ideal for pillows and we have supplied two pillow designs, each featuring three motifs – see tildasworld.com for the instructions for the pillows.

Difficulty Rating **

Materials

- Fabric 1: 3yds (2.75m) – Chambray grey (160006) (background)
- Fabric 2: ⅜yd (40cm) – Solid dove white (120001)
- Fabric 3: 9in (23cm) square – Avery red (130144)
- Fabric 4: 9in (23cm) square – Evie green (130145)
- Fabric 5: 6in (15cm) square – Harper pink (130146)
- Fabric 6: 9in (23cm) square – Berrytangle burgundy (130147)
- Fabric 7: 6in (15cm) square – Lulu sand (130148)
- Fabric 8: 9in (23cm) square – Brie red (130149)
- Fabric 9: 12in (30cm) square – Frida red (130150)
- Fabric 10: ⅛yd (15cm) – Gracie green (130151)
- Fabric 11: ¼yd (25cm) – Carla red (130152)
- Fabric 12: 12in (30cm) square – Tiny Dot red (160081)
- Fabric 13: ⅛yd (15cm) – Stripe green (160082)
- Fabric 14: ¼yd (25cm) – Seamstripe red (160083)
- Fabric 15: 9in (23cm) square – Tiny Stripe red (160084)
- Fabric 16: ⅜yd (40cm) – Polka Dot red (160085)
- Fabric 17: 12in (30cm) square – Plaid burgundy (160086)
- Fabric 18: 9in (23cm) square – Gingham red (160087)
- Wadding (batting): 62in x 74in (157.5cm x 188cm)
- Backing fabric: 4¼yds (4m) or 3½yds (3.25m) if pattern rotated (see Fabric Notes) – Gracie green (130151)
- Binding fabric: ½yd (50cm) – Gingham red (160087)
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Black and ginger stranded cottons (floss) for eye and nose embroidery
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat
- Four packs of Creating Memories Buttons in Christmas Reds and Greens 10mm and 12mm (400065)

Finished Size

53¼in x 56½in (135.3cm x 143.5cm)

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Fabric Notes

- Where a long eighth or long quarter of a yard is given in the Materials list you could use fat eighths or fat quarters instead. A fat eighth is assumed to be approximately 10½in x 18in (26.7cm x 45.7cm) and a fat quarter approximately 21in x 18in (53.3cm x 45.7cm).
- A smaller amount of backing fabric can be used, 3½yds (3.25m), if you don't mind the pattern on the fabric appearing rotated – see Step 4.
- The Chambray and Solid fabrics can be cut in any direction for the most economical use.
- If using Gracie green for the backing fabric, there will be enough to make the blocks too.
- If you enlarge the design by adding more blocks you will need to buy additional fabric.

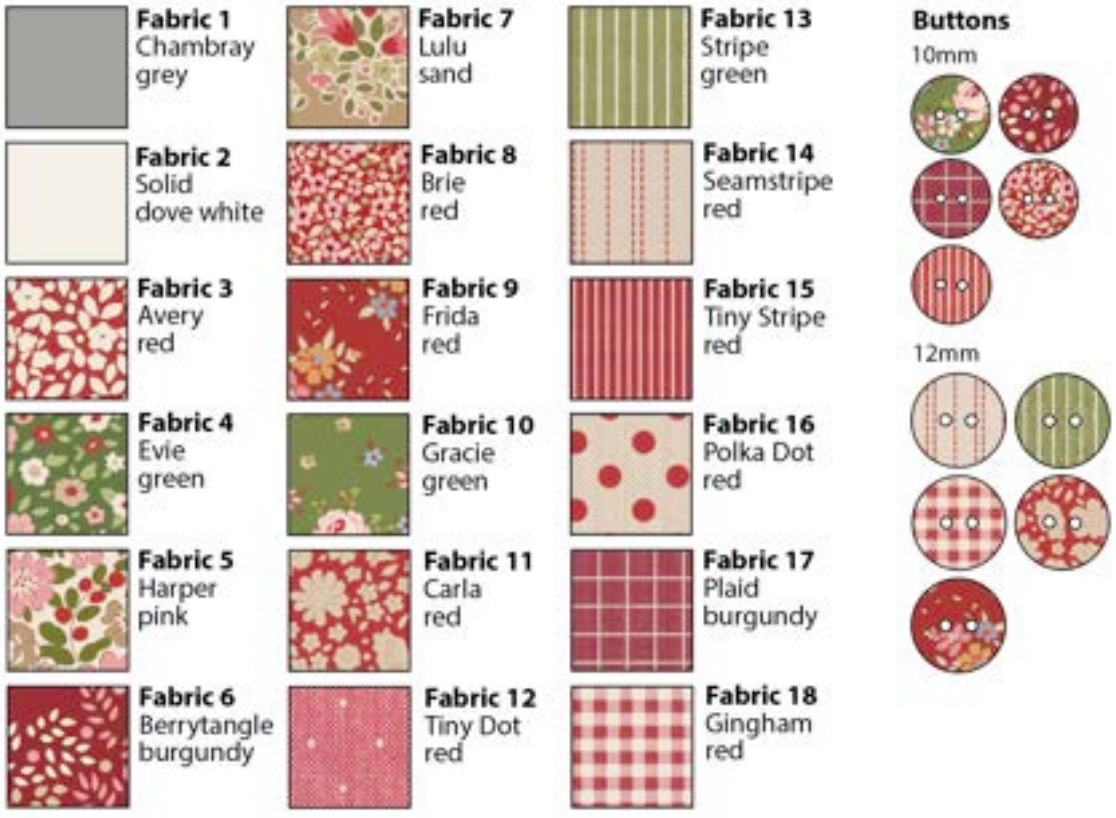
General Notes

- Fabric quantities are based on a usable width of 42in (107cm), unless otherwise stated.
- Measurements are in imperial inches with metric conversions in brackets – use only *one* system throughout (preferably inches). Width measurements are generally given first.
- Press fabric before cutting and trim as needed to square up the fabric pattern/weave, using a quilting ruler to cut the top raw edge at 90 degrees to the selvedges.
- Use ¼in (6mm) seams unless otherwise instructed.
- Read all the instructions through before you start.
- Always make one complete block as a test before going on to make the remaining blocks.

Quilt Layout

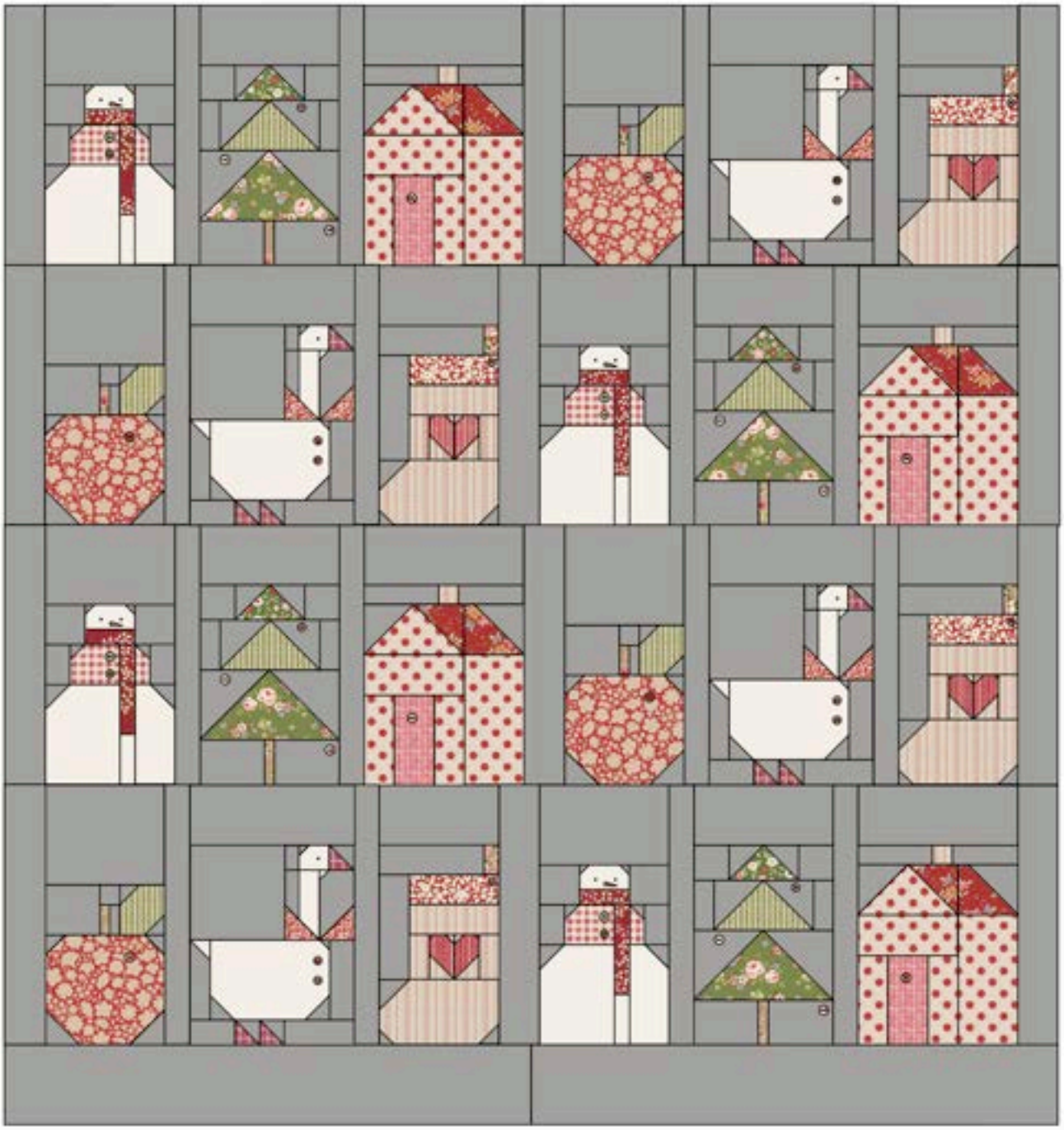
1 The quilt is made up of six blocks, each repeated four times to create twenty-four blocks in total. The blocks are separated by strips of vertical sashing in two different widths. A border is used at the bottom of the quilt. See **Fig A** for the fabrics used and **Fig B** for the quilt layout.

Fig A Fabric swatches (Christmas Calendar Quilt)



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Fig B Quilt layout (Christmas Calendar Quilt)



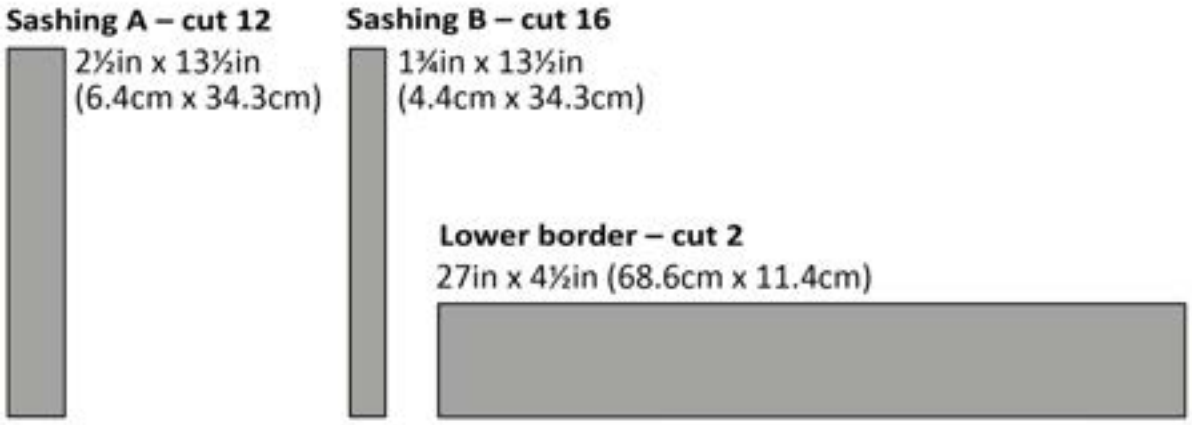
Cutting Out

2 From Fabric 1 cut the sashing and border pieces first, cutting the following pieces (see **Fig C**).

- Sashing A – twelve strips 2½in x 13½in (6.4cm x 34.3cm).
- Sashing B – sixteen strips 1¾in x 13½in (4.4cm x 34.3cm).
- Lower border – two strips 27in x 4½in (68.6cm x 11.4cm). Using a ¼in (6mm) seam, join these strips together, pressing the seam open. The strip will measure 53½in (136cm): it will need to be trimmed to 53¼in (135.3cm) later, however wait until your quilt is assembled before trimming, in case your quilt measurements differ slightly from ours.

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Fig C Cut measurements for the sashing and border pieces
Measurements include ¼in (6mm) seam allowances



3 Each of the six blocks has a diagram giving the cut measurements, as well as the positions of the exact fabrics to use, so follow the diagrams carefully to cut the fabrics. It's a good idea to keep the cut pieces for each block in separate bags, to make them easy to find later when you start piecing.

- **Fig D** for the Snowman block.
- **Fig E** for the Christmas Tree block.
- **Fig F** for the Gingerbread House block.
- **Fig G** for the Apple block.
- **Fig H** for the Goose block.
- **Fig I** for the Christmas Stocking block.

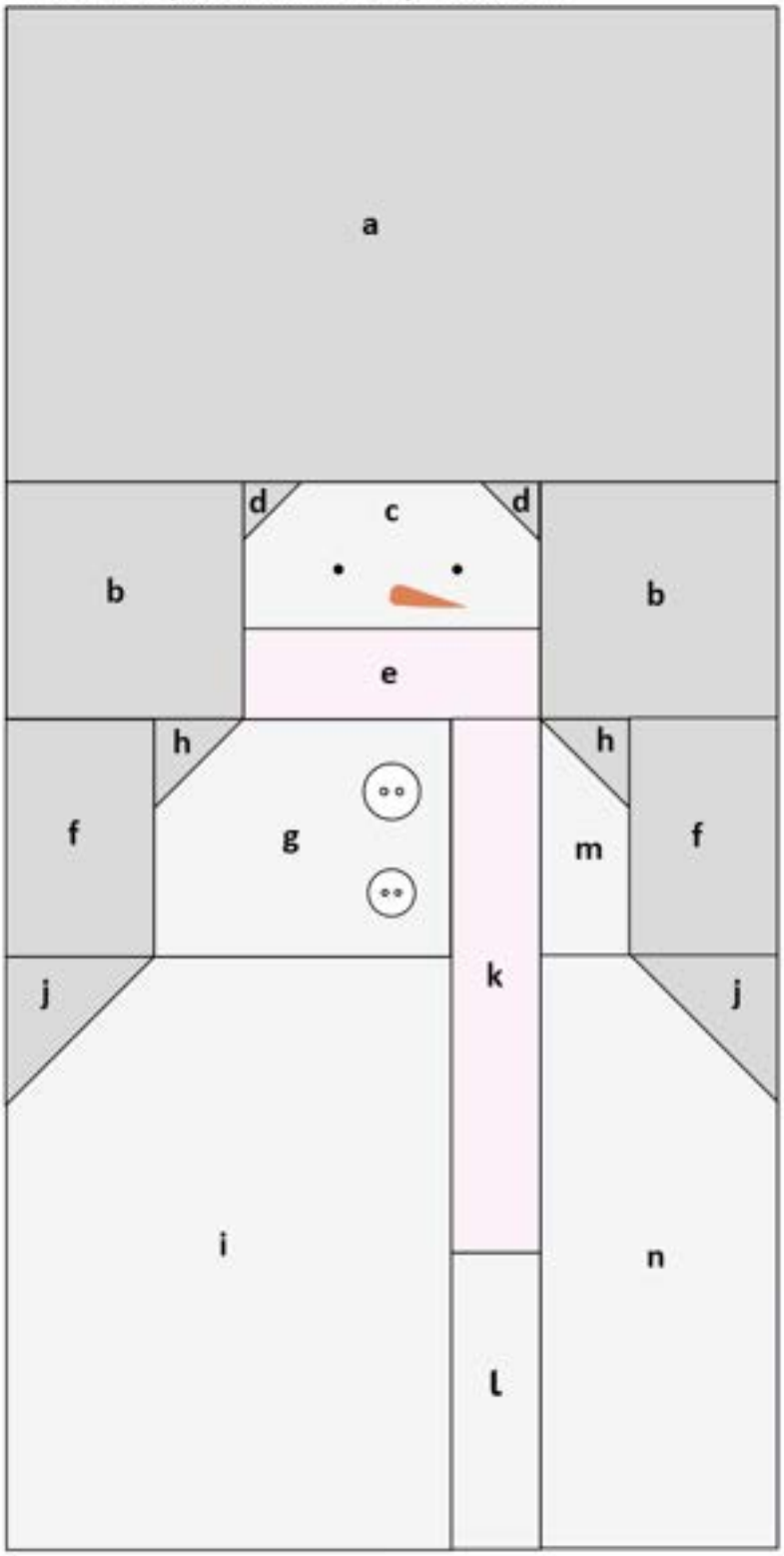
4 If using 4¼yds (4m) of backing fabric, cut the fabric across the width into two pieces. Using a ¼in (6mm) seam, sew together along the long side and press the seam open. Trim to a piece about 62in x 74in (157.5cm x 188cm). This is about 4in (10.2cm) larger all round than the quilt top, to allow for quilting and finishing.
Alternatively, if using or 3½yds (3.25m) of backing fabric, cut the fabric across the width into two pieces. Using a ¼in (6mm) seam, sew together along the long side and press the seam open. Trim to a piece about 74in x 62in (188cm x 157.5cm). Rotate the backing piece before use. Cut and sewn like this means that the pattern on the fabric will be rotated 90 degrees.

5 Cut the binding fabric into six 2½in (6.4cm) x width of fabric strips. Sew the strips together end to end and press seams open. Press the binding in half along the length, wrong sides together.

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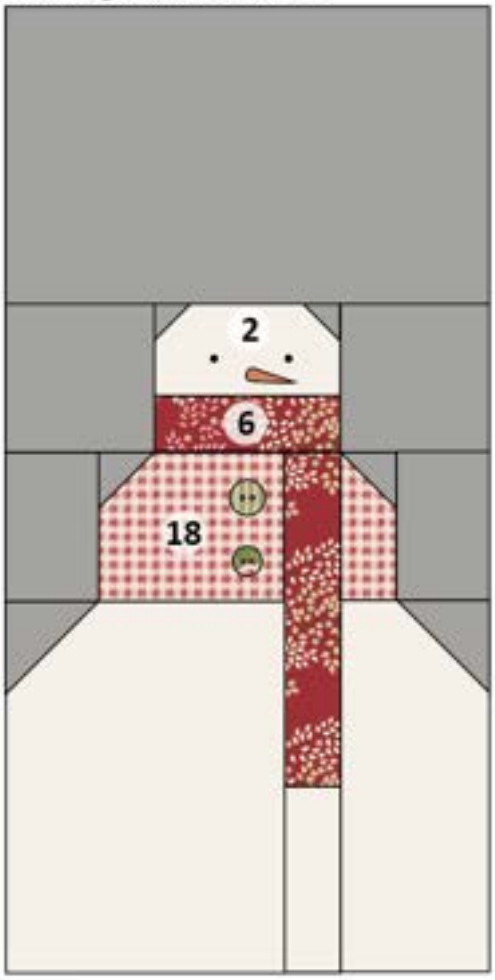
Fig D Cut measurements for the fabrics in a Snowman Block
Sizes include ¼in (6mm) seam allowances
All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles

Snowman Block:
7in x 13½in (17.8cm x 34.3cm) unfinished



a	7in x 4½in (17.8cm x 11.4cm)
b	2½in (6.4cm) square
c	3in x 1¾in (7.6cm x 4.4cm)
d	1in (2.5cm) square
e	3in x 1¾in (7.6cm x 3.2cm)
f	1¾in x 2½in (4.4cm x 6.4cm)
g	3in x 2½in (7.6cm x 6.4cm)
h	1¾in (3.2cm) square
i	4¾in x 5½in (10.8cm x 14cm)
j	1¾in (4.4cm) square
k	1¾in x 5in (3.2cm x 12.7cm)
l	1¾in x 3in (3.2cm x 7.6cm)
m	1¾in x 2½in (3.2cm x 6.4cm)
n	2½in x 5½in (6.4cm x 14cm)

Fabrics for the block
Bold circled numbers indicate fabrics as Fig A
All background is Fabric 1



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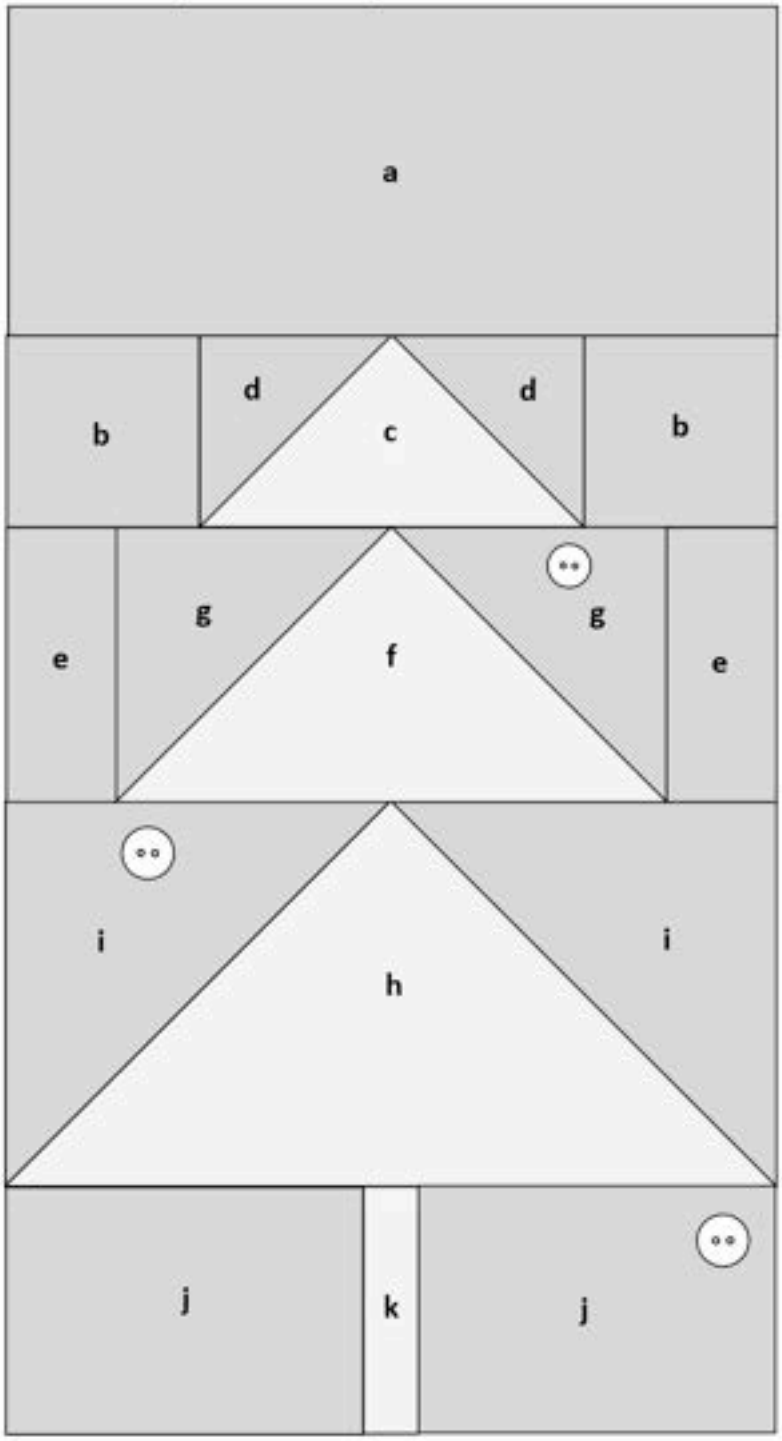
Fig E Cut measurements for the fabrics in a Christmas Tree Block

Sizes include ¼in (6mm) seam allowances

All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles

Christmas Tree Block:

7½in x 13½in (19cm x 34.3cm) unfinished

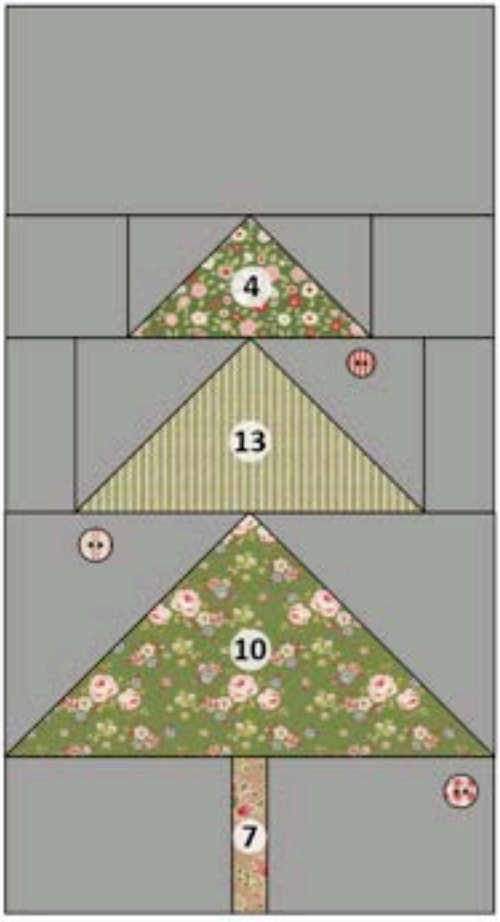


a	7½in x 3½in (19cm x 9cm)
b	2¾in (5.7cm) square
c	4in x 2¾in (10.2cm x 5.7cm)
d	2¾in (5.7cm) square
e	1½in x 3in (3.8cm x 7.6cm)
f	5½in x 3in (14cm x 7.6cm)
g	3in (7.6cm) square
h	7½in x 4in (19cm x 10.2cm)
i	4in (10.2cm) square
j	3¾in x 2¾in (9.5cm x 7cm)
k	1in x 2¾in (2.5cm x 7cm)

Fabrics for the block

Bold circled numbers indicate fabrics as Fig A

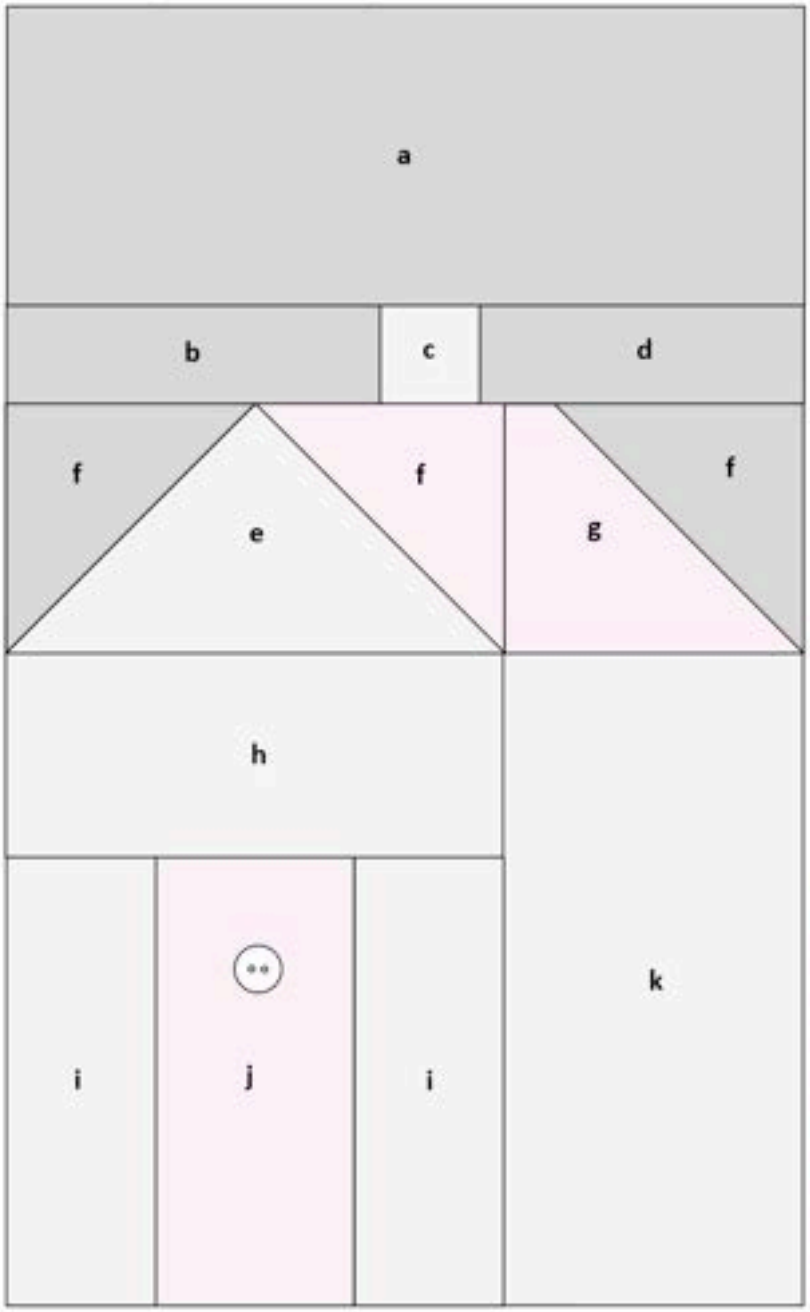
All background is Fabric 1



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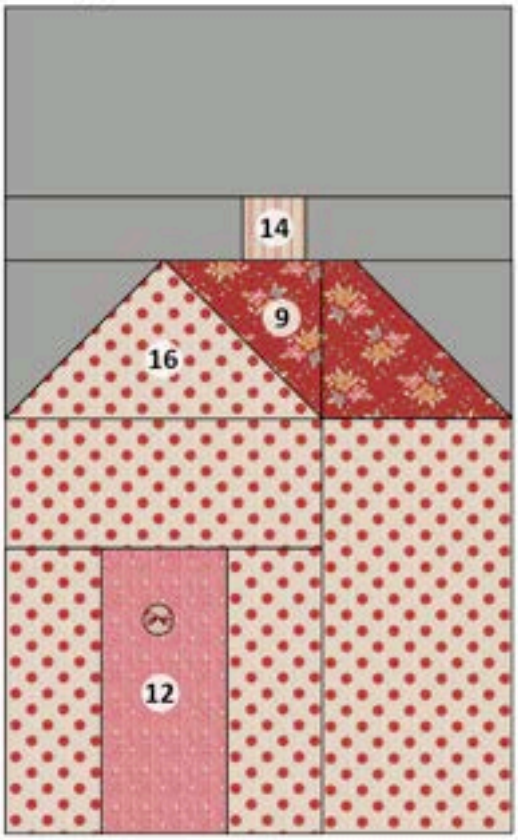
Fig F Cut measurements for the fabrics in a Gingerbread House Block
Sizes include ¼in (6mm) seam allowances
All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles

Gingerbread House Block:
8½in x 13½in (21.6cm x 34.3cm) unfinished



a 8½in x 3½in (21.6cm x 9cm)
b 4¼in x 1½in (10.8cm x 3.8cm)
c 1½in (3.8cm) square
d 3¾in x 1½in (9.5cm x 3.8cm)
e 5½in x 3in (14cm x 7.6cm)
f 3in (7.6cm) square
g 3½in x 3in (9cm x 7.6cm)
h 5½in x 2½in (14cm x 6.4cm)
i 2in x 5in (5.1cm x 12.7cm)
j 2½in x 5in (6.4cm x 12.7cm)
k 3½in x 7in (9cm x 17.8cm)

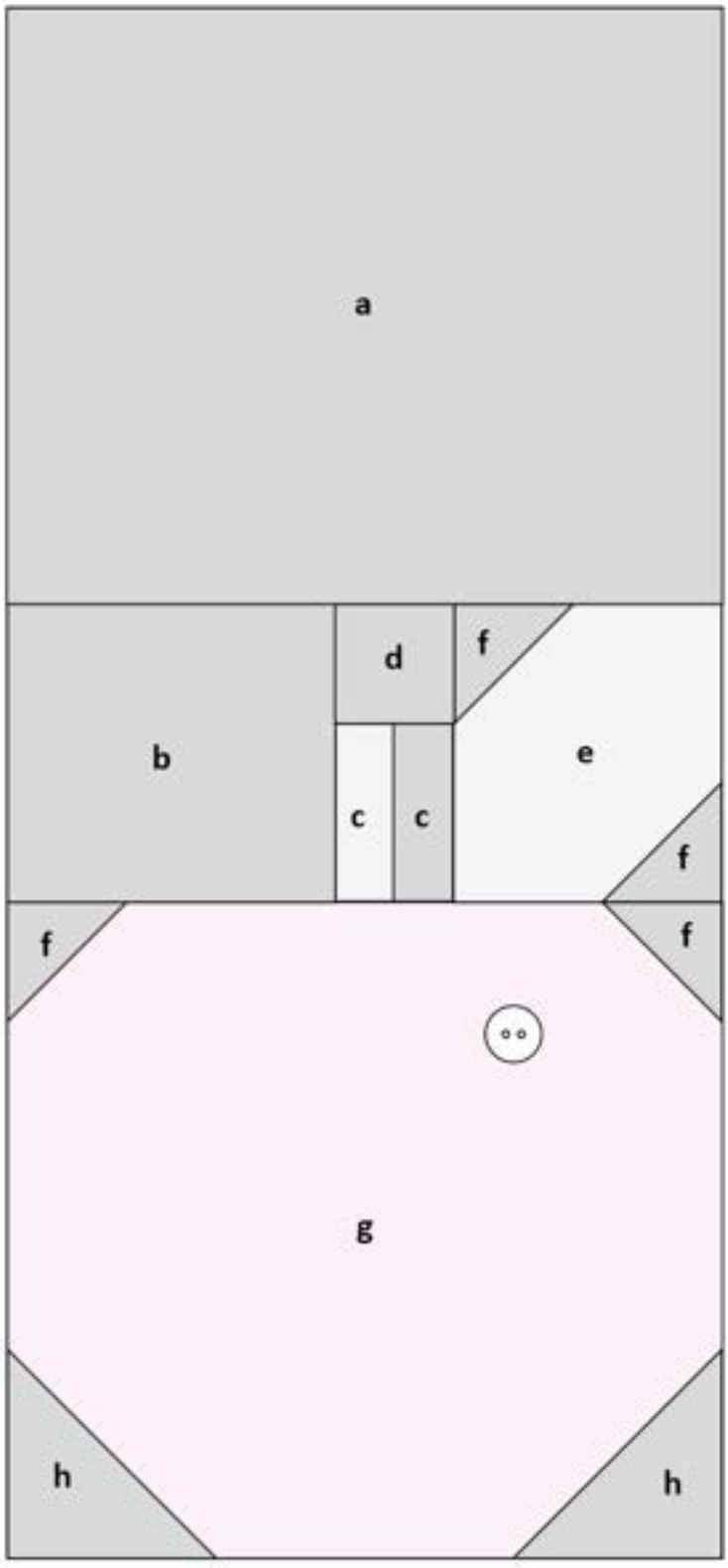
Fabrics for the block
Bold circled numbers indicate fabrics as Fig A
All background is Fabric 1



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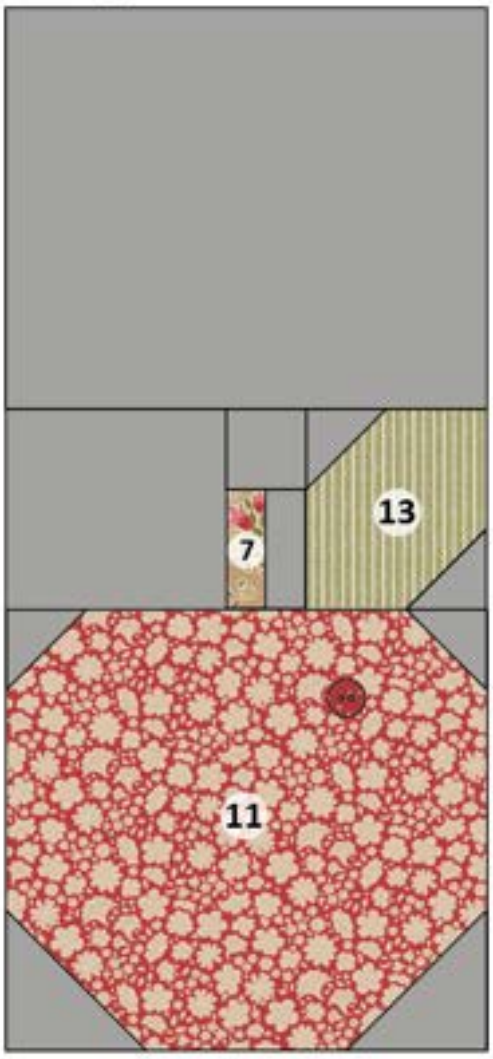
Fig G Cut measurements for the fabrics in an Apple Block
Sizes include ¼in (6mm) seam allowances
All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles

Apple Block:
6½in x 13½in (16.5cm x 34.3cm) unfinished



a	6½in x 5½in (16.5cm x 14cm)
b	3¼in x 3in (8.3cm x 7.6cm)
c	1in x 2in (2.5cm x 5.1cm)
d	1½in (3.8cm) square
e	2¾in x 3in (7cm x 7.6cm)
f	1½in (3.8cm) square
g	6½in x 6in (16.5cm x 15.2cm)
h	2¼in (5.7cm) square

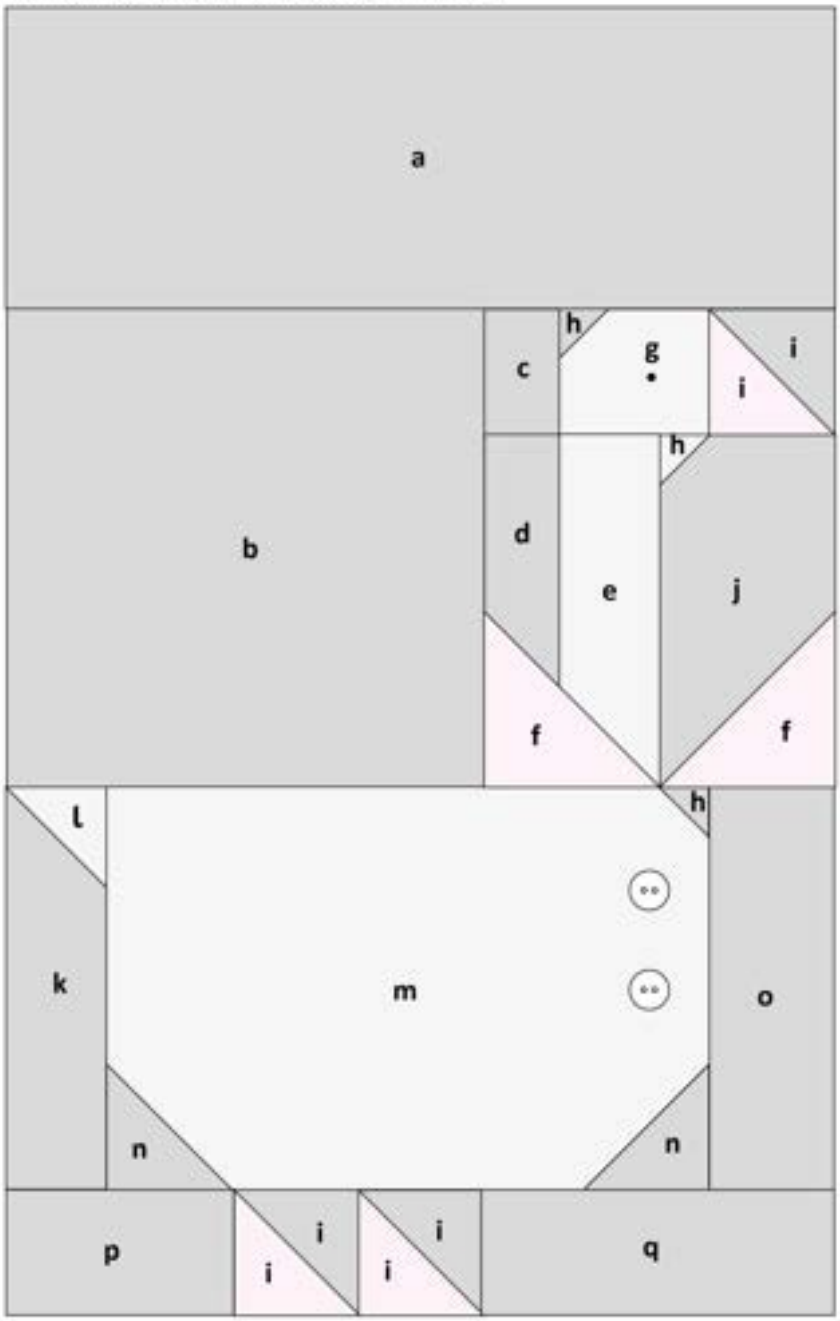
Fabrics for the block
Bold circled numbers indicate fabrics as Fig A
All background is Fabric 1



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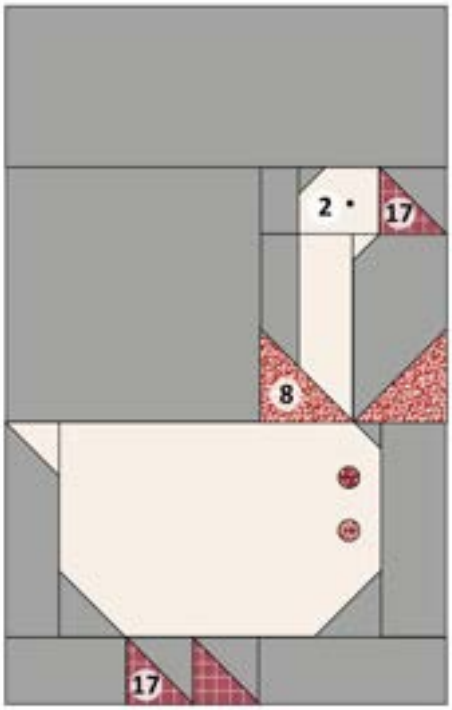
Fig H Cut measurements for the fabrics in a Goose Block
Sizes include ¼in (6mm) seam allowances
All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles

Goose Block:
8¾in x 13⅜in (22.2cm x 34.3cm) unfinished



- **a** 8¾in x 3⅜in (22.2cm x 9cm)
- **b** 5¼in (13.3cm) square
- **c** 1¼in x 1¾in (3.2cm x 4.4cm)
- **d** 1¼in x 4in (3.2cm x 10.2cm)
- **e** 1½in x 4in (3.8cm x 10.2cm)
- **f** 2¼in (5.7cm) square
- **g** 2in x 1¾in (5.1cm x 4.4cm)
- **h** 1in (2.5cm) square
- **i** 2¼in (5.7cm) square, for 1¾in (4.4cm) half-square triangle (unfinished)
- **j** 2¼in x 4in (5.7cm x 10.2cm)
- **k** 1½in x 4½in (3.8cm x 11.4cm)
- **l** 1½in (3.8cm) square
- **m** 6½in x 4½in (16.5cm x 11.4cm)
- **n** 1¾in (4.4cm) square
- **o** 1¾in x 4½in (4.4cm x 11.4cm)
- **p** 2¾in x 1¾in (7cm x 4.4cm)
- **q** 4in x 1¾in (10.2cm x 4.4cm)

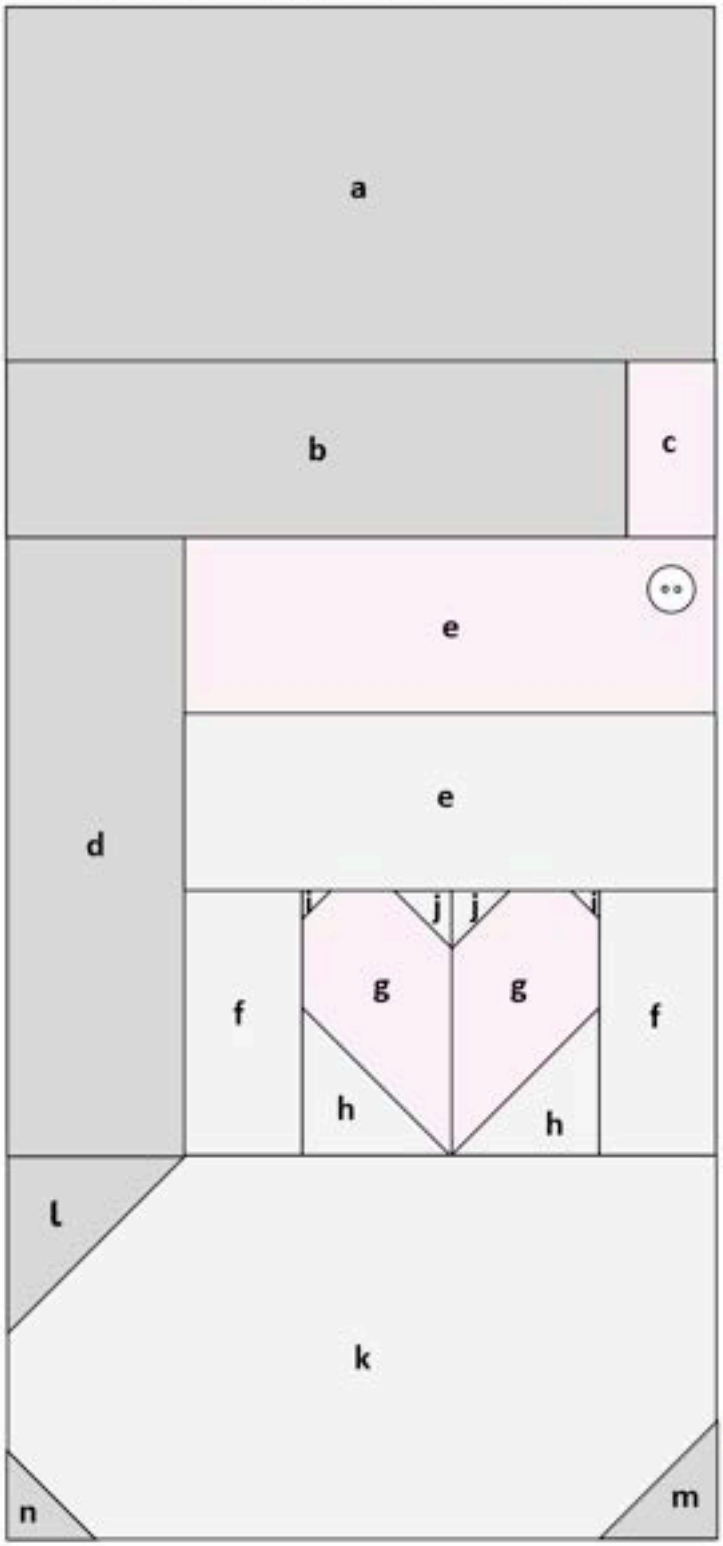
Fabrics for the block
Bold circled numbers indicate fabrics as Fig A
All background is Fabric 1



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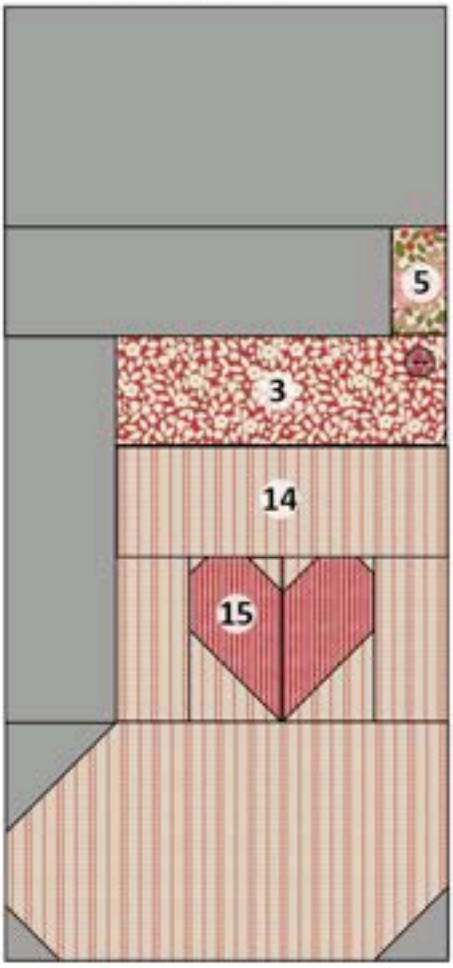
Fig I Cut measurements for the fabrics in a Christmas Stocking Block
Sizes include ¼in (6mm) seam allowances
All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles

Christmas Stocking Block:
6½in x 13½in (16.5cm x 34.3cm) unfinished



a	6½in x 3½in (16.5cm x 9cm)
b	5¾in x 2in (14.6cm x 5.1cm)
c	1¼in x 2in (3.2cm x 5.1cm)
d	2in x 5¾in (5.1cm x 14.6cm)
e	5in x 2in (12.7cm x 5.1cm)
f	1½in x 2¾in (3.8cm x 7cm)
g	1¾in x 2¾in (4.4cm x 7cm)
h	1¾in (4.4cm) square
i	¾in (2cm) square
j	1in (2.5cm) square
k	6½in x 3¾in (16.5cm x 9.5cm)
l	2in (5.1cm) square
m	1½in (3.8cm) square
n	1¼in (3.2cm) square

Fabrics for the block
Bold circled numbers indicate fabrics as Fig A
All background is Fabric 1



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Making the Blocks

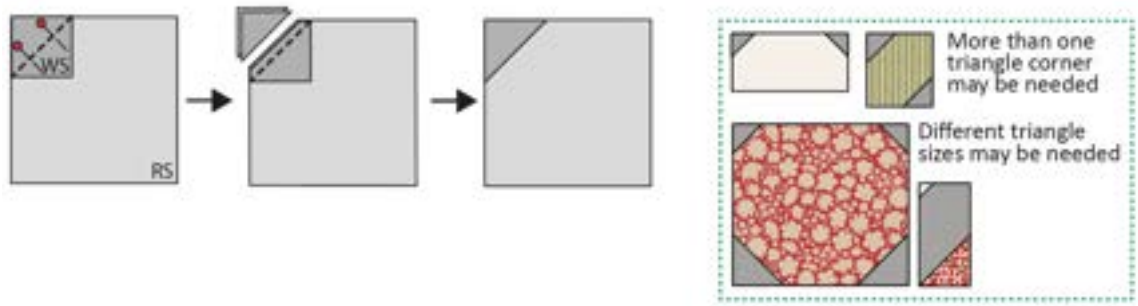
6 Each block is described and illustrated in detail, but there are some common techniques and these will be described first. Refer back to these techniques when needed.

Making corner triangle units:

7 Fig J shows the stages of creating a corner triangle. Place the larger piece of fabric right side up (RS). Take the small square and pencil mark a diagonal line on the wrong side (WS). Pin the square right sides together with the larger fabric piece, aligning the edges as shown and with the diagonal line in the direction needed. Sew along the marked line. Trim off excess fabric ¼in (6mm) outside the sewn line and press the triangle outwards. Check the unit is the same size as the original larger piece of fabric, with no distortion.

All corner triangle units are made this way, but sometimes more than one triangle corner is needed, or the triangles are different sizes – the green dotted box in **Fig J** shows four examples.

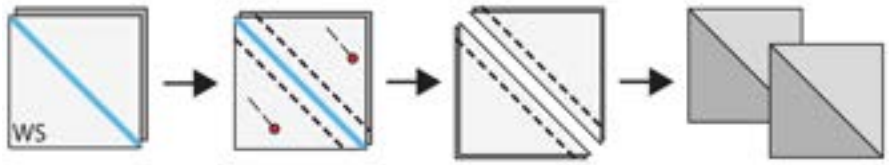
Fig J Making a corner triangle unit



Making half-square triangle units:

8 The goose block uses some half-square triangle (HST) units. **Fig K** shows the stages of making these units. This method makes two units at once. Take two different squares and on the wrong side of the lighter square, pencil mark the diagonal line. Place the two squares right sides (RS) together and sew ¼in (6mm) away from the marked line on both sides, as shown. Cut the units apart along the marked line and press the units, normally towards the darker fabric. Check each unit is 1¾in (4.4cm) square (unfinished).

Fig K Making half-square triangle units



Making a flying goose unit:

9 The Christmas tree and the gingerbread house use flying geese units. These are made using the same principle as corner square triangles, with the stages shown in **Fig L**.

Fig L Making a flying goose unit

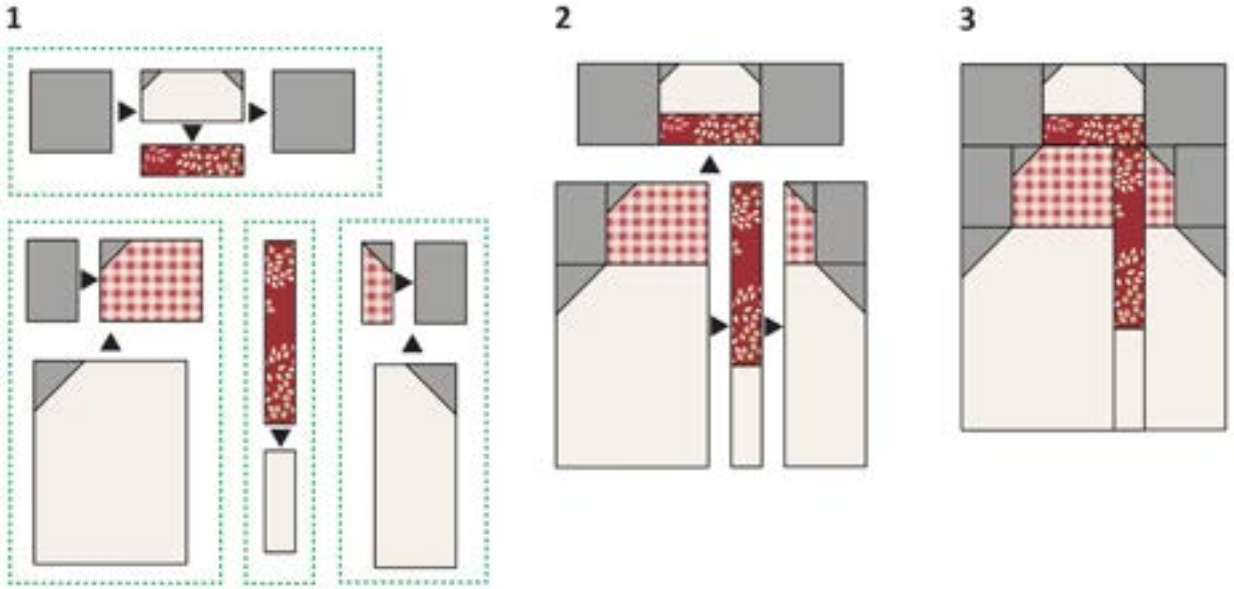


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Making the Snowman

10 The stages of sewing the snowman block together are shown in **Fig M**. The green dotted boxes show how the smaller sub-sections are sewn together (**Fig M 1**). Use ¼in (6mm) seam allowances and press the seams open or to one side. Now sew the sections together as in **Fig M 2**, to complete the block (**Fig M 3**). Once the block is pressed check it is the size it should be (as given in **Fig D**). Make four blocks like this in total.

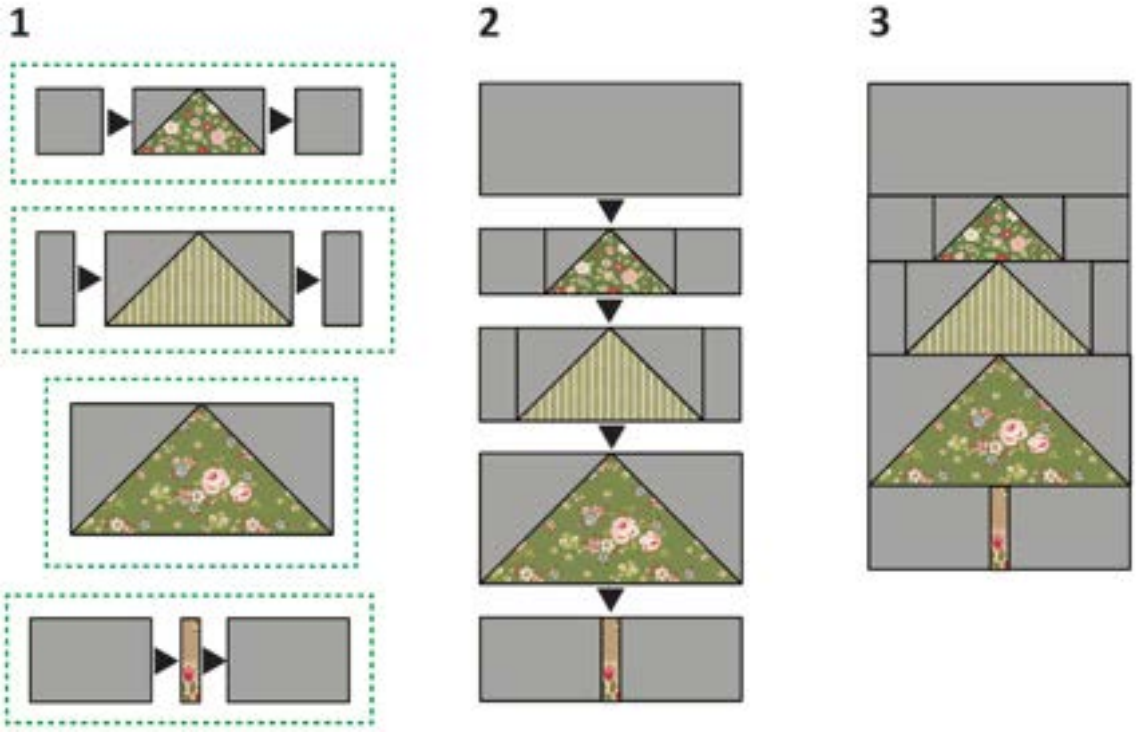
Fig M Making the snowman



Making the Christmas Tree

11 The stages of sewing the Christmas tree block together are shown in **Fig N**. Once the block is pressed check it is the size it should be (as given in **Fig E**). Make four blocks like this in total.

Fig N Making the Christmas tree

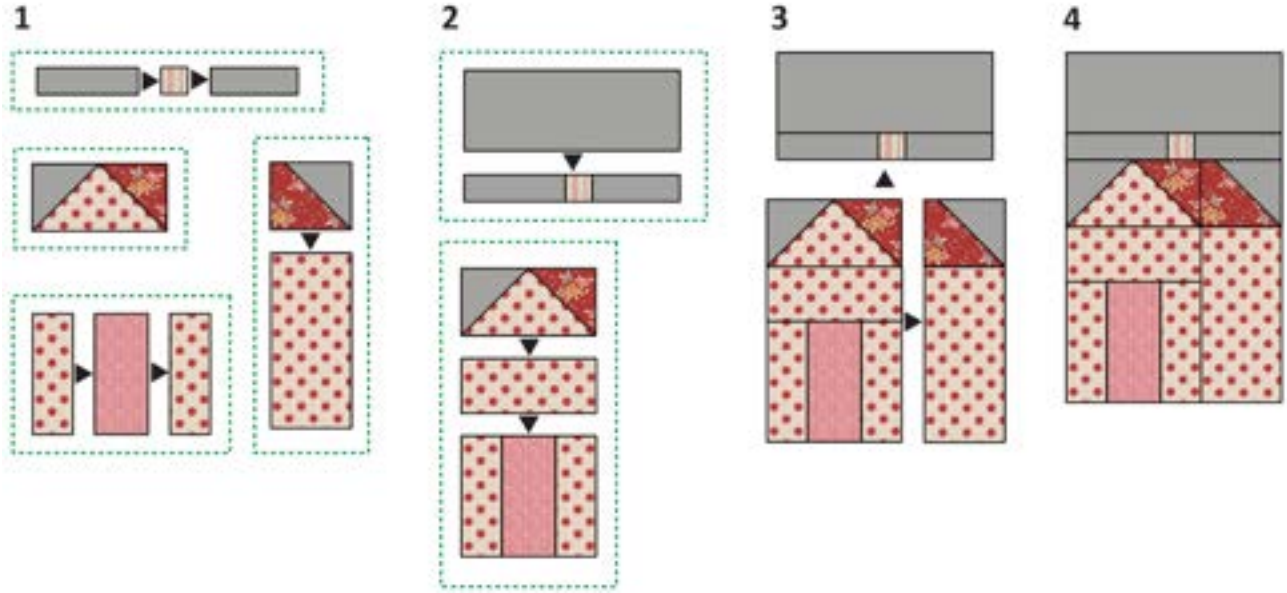


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Making the Gingerbread House

12 The stages of sewing the gingerbread house block together are shown in **Fig O**. Once the block is pressed check it is the size it should be (as given in **Fig F**). Make four blocks like this in total.

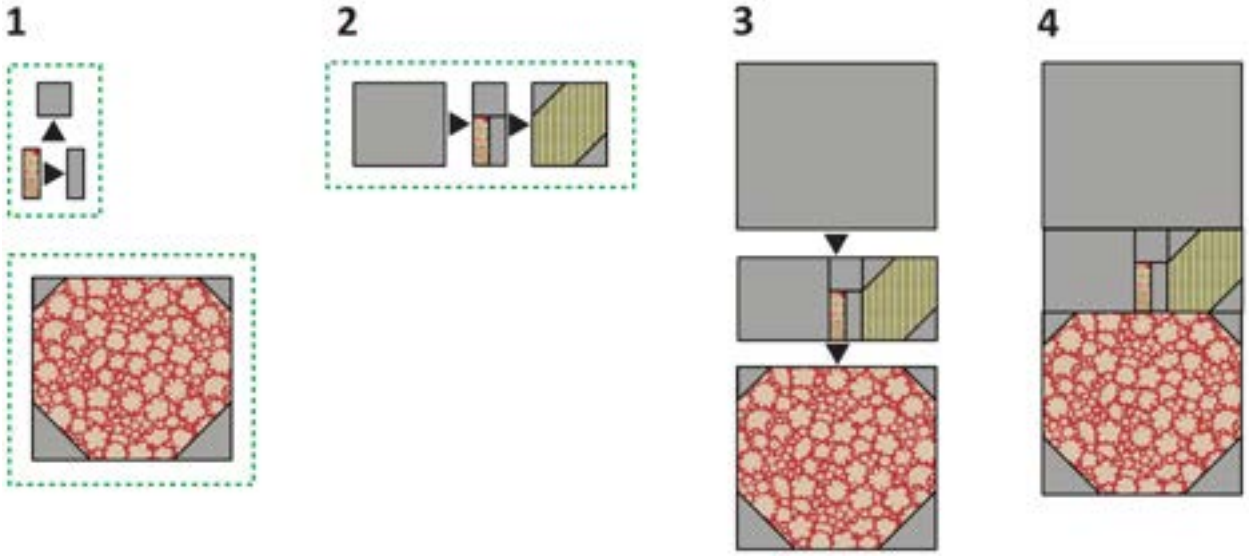
Fig O Making the gingerbread house



Making the Apple

13 The stages of sewing the apple block together are shown in **Fig P**. Once the block is pressed check it is the size it should be (as given in **Fig G**). Make four blocks like this in total.

Fig P Making the apple

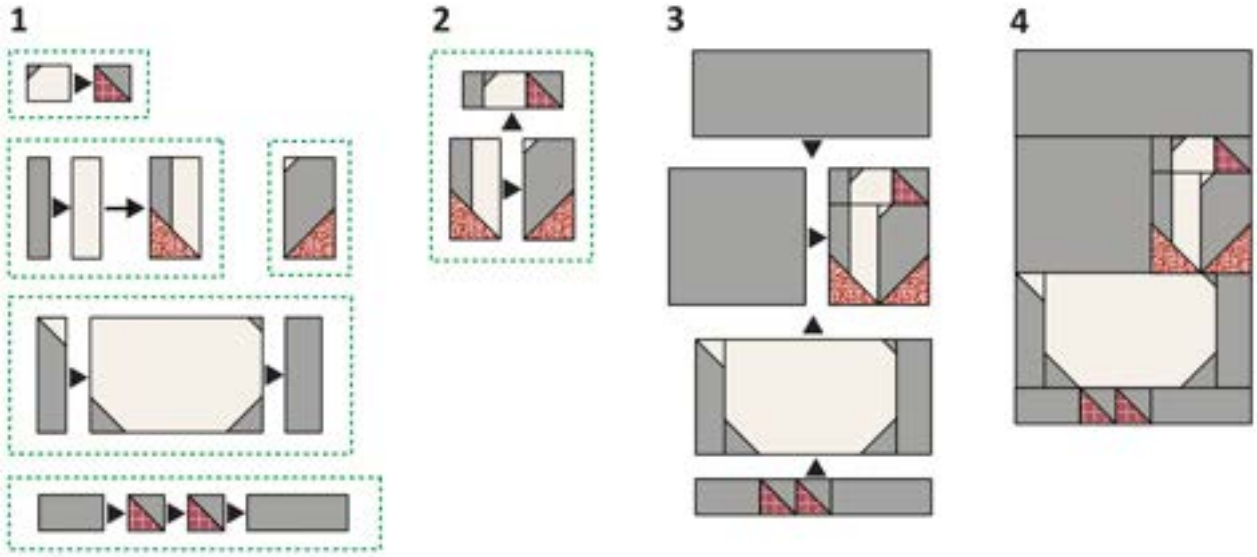


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Making the Goose

14 The stages of sewing the apple block together are shown in **Fig Q**. Once the block is pressed check it is the size it should be (as given in **Fig H**). Make four blocks like this in total.

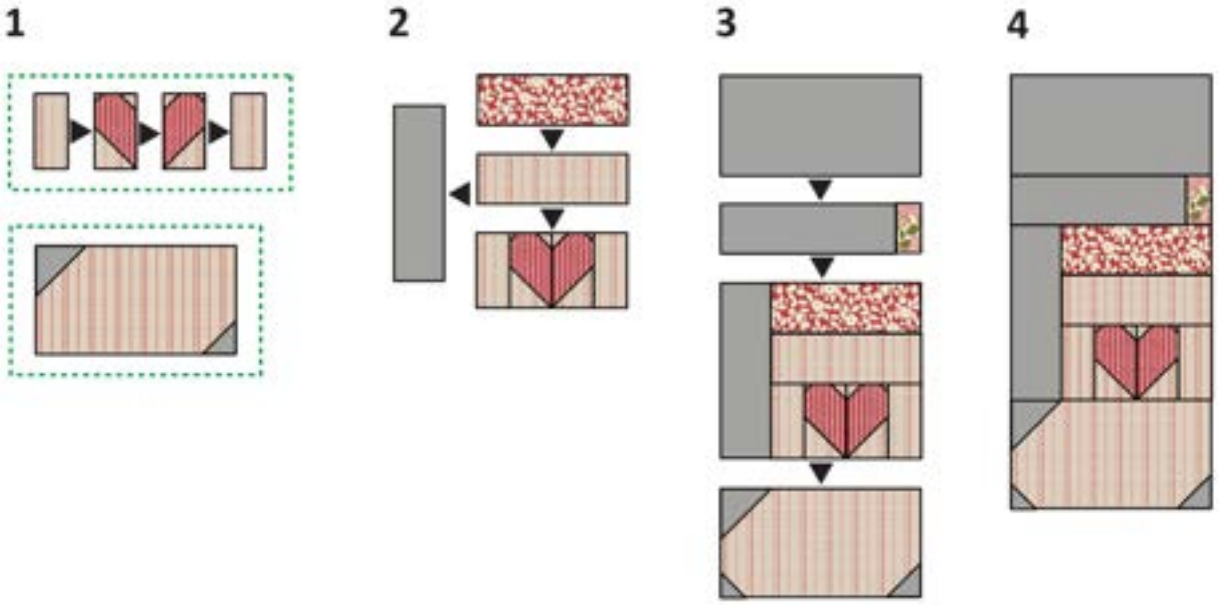
Fig Q Making the goose



Making the Christmas Stocking

15 The stages of sewing the apple block together are shown in **Fig R**. Once the block is pressed check it is the size it should be (as given in **Fig I**). Make four blocks like this in total.

Fig R Making the Christmas stocking



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Adding the Embroidery and Buttons

16 When all of the blocks have been made, the embroidery and buttons can be added – it is easier to do this before all of the blocks are sewn together.

- For the eyes on the snowman and goose, work French knots using six strands of black embroidery thread wrapped twice around the needle.
- For the nose on the snowman, use six strands of ginger embroidery thread and work two or three long stitches, tapering the stitches to a point, as shown in **Fig S**.
- For the buttons, use matching sewing thread to sew them into place in the positions shown in **Fig S**. They can be a mixture of 10mm and 12mm diameter buttons, as shown.

Fig S Adding the buttons, nose and French knots
Note, the top area of each block has been omitted to show the buttons and stitching in more detail



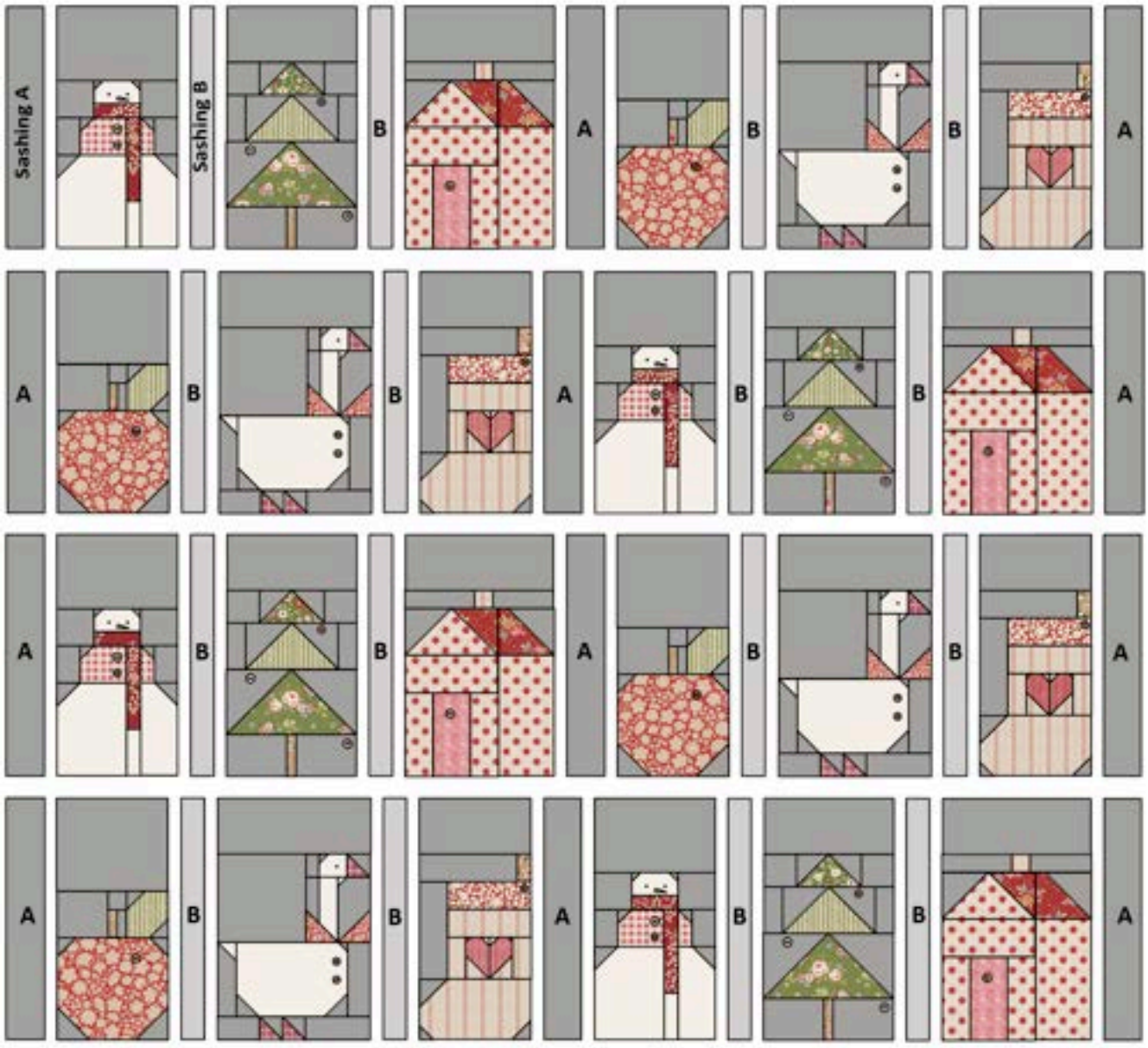
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Assembling the Quilt

17 When the embroidery and buttons have been completed, the quilt can be assembled, as follows. The quilt is assembled into four rows first, so follow **Fig T** for the positions of the blocks and the Sashing A and B pieces. The narrower Sashing B pieces are shown in a lighter grey on the diagram, to show clearly where they are placed. Sew each row together and press seams open or to one side. Each row should measure 53¼in (135.3cm) long.

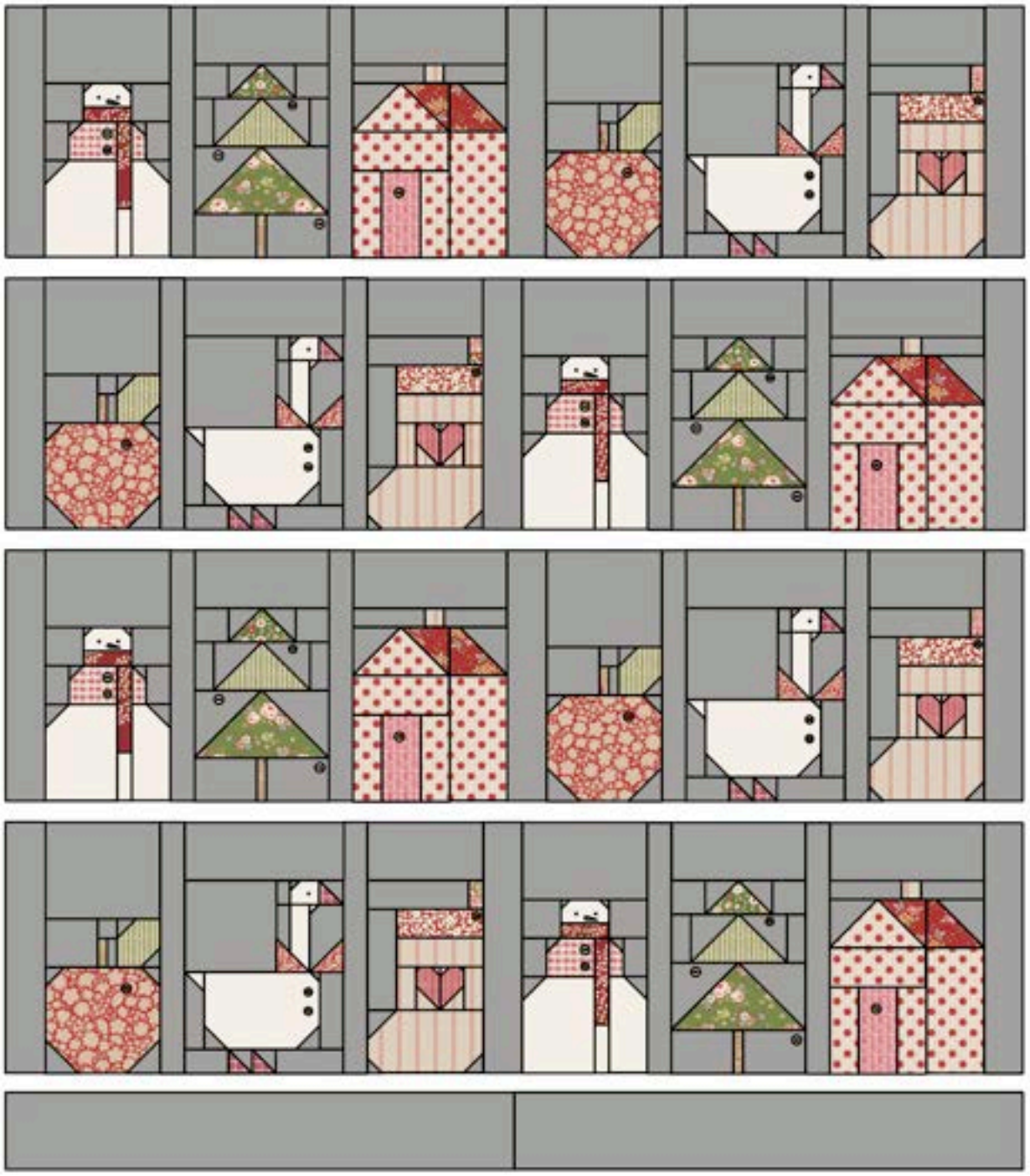
18 Now sew the quilt rows together, as in **Fig U** and add the border to the bottom of the quilt. The border strip needs to be 53¼in (135.3cm) long, ***or*** the same size as your quilt. Press the seams downwards. Your quilt top is now finished.

Fig T Adding the sashing
The Sashing B pieces are coloured lighter on the diagram to show clearly where they are positioned



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Fig U Assembling the quilt



Quilting and Finishing

19 If you are quilting the quilt yourself you now need to make a quilt sandwich – you can do this in various ways, as follows.

- Use large stitches to tack a grid through the layers of the quilt in both directions, with lines about 4in (10cm) apart.
- Use pins or safety pins to fix the layers together.
- Use fabric glue, sprayed onto the wadding to fix the layers together.

If you are sending the quilt off to be commercially long-arm quilted you won't need to make a sandwich, as this is done when the quilt is mounted on the machine. When the layers of the quilt are secured you can quilt as desired.

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20 Use the prepared double-fold binding strip to bind your quilt. Sew the binding to the quilt by pinning the raw edge of the folded binding against the raw edge of the quilt. Don't start at a corner. Using a ¼in (6mm) seam, sew the binding in place, starting at least 6in (15.2cm) away from the end of the binding. Sew to within a ¼in (6mm) of a corner and stop. Take the quilt off the machine and fold the binding upwards, creating a mitred corner. Hold this in place, fold the binding back down and pin it in place. Begin sewing the ¼in (6mm) seam again from the top of the folded binding to within ¼in (6mm) of the next corner and then repeat the folding process. Do this on all corners. Leave a 6in (15.2cm) 'tail' of unsewn binding at the end.

21 To join the two ends of the binding, open up the beginning and end of the binding tails, lay them flat and fold the ends back so the two ends touch. Mark these folds by creasing or with pins – this is where your seam needs to be. Open out the binding and sew the pieces together at these creases. Trim off excess fabric and press the seam. Re-fold the binding and finish stitching it in place on the front of the quilt.

22 With the quilt right side up, use a medium-hot iron to press the binding outwards all round. Now begin to turn the binding over to the back of the quilt, pinning it in place. Use matching sewing thread and tiny stitches to slipstitch the binding in place all round, creating neat mitres at each corner. Press the binding and your fabulously festive calendar quilt is finished.

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