

Mix and Match Blocks

Four really useful patchwork blocks have been created for you to make a wide range of lovely items. There is a flower, a leaf, a bee and a bird for you to play with. Including their borders, the motifs all create blocks of the same size, 13in x 12in (33cm x 30.5cm), so it is easy to combine them and mix and match to your heart's content. To provide ideas to get you going we have designed some quilts using these blocks – the Flower Meadow Quilt, the Flowers and Bees Quilt and the Adore You Baby Quilt. The quilts use fabrics mostly from the Happy Campers and Meadow Basics collections but you could easily use fabrics from other Tilda ranges. All of the instructions for the blocks and the quilts are available from www.tildasworld.com.

The Bee Block

In the Happy Campers quilts, the Bee block is used in four different colourways. Sometimes the block is reversed (flipped) so it faces the other way. Only one version of the block is described here. For the specific fabrics and the total fabric quantities to use, refer to the quilt instructions.

Materials

- A solid fabric for the background (see **Fig B** for sizes to cut)
- Five print fabrics
- White stranded embroidery cotton (floss) for antennae (if hand sewing)

Making a Bee Block

1 The Bee block is used in four colourways in the Flowers and Bees Quilt and in two colourways in the Adore You Baby Quilt. The layout is shown in **Fig A**. This diagram also shows fabrics but these will need to change depending on the project you are making. The block may also be used in a reversed (flipped) layout but details of this are given in the relevant quilt projects. Follow **Fig B** carefully to cut the pieces needed for a block.

Fig A Bee fabric layout

The fabrics used will need to change depending on the project you are making

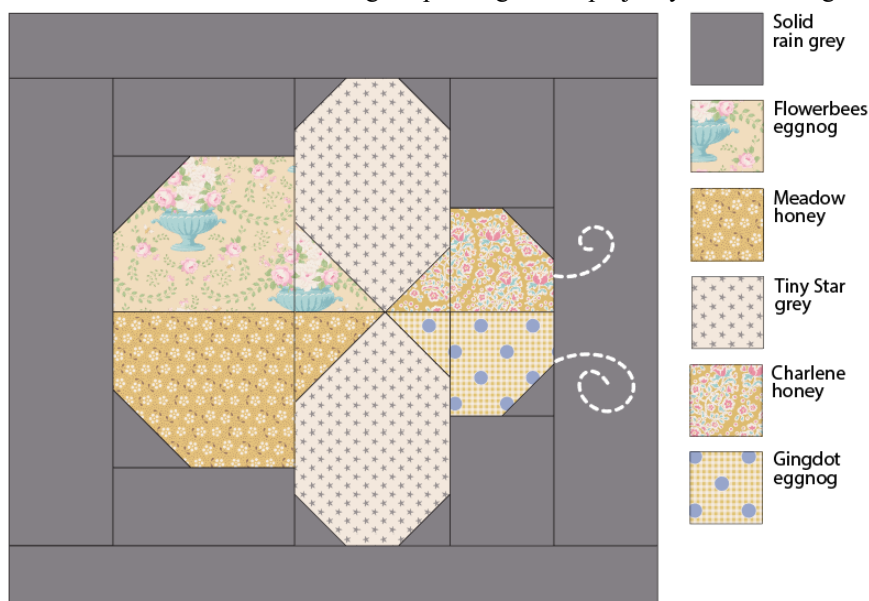
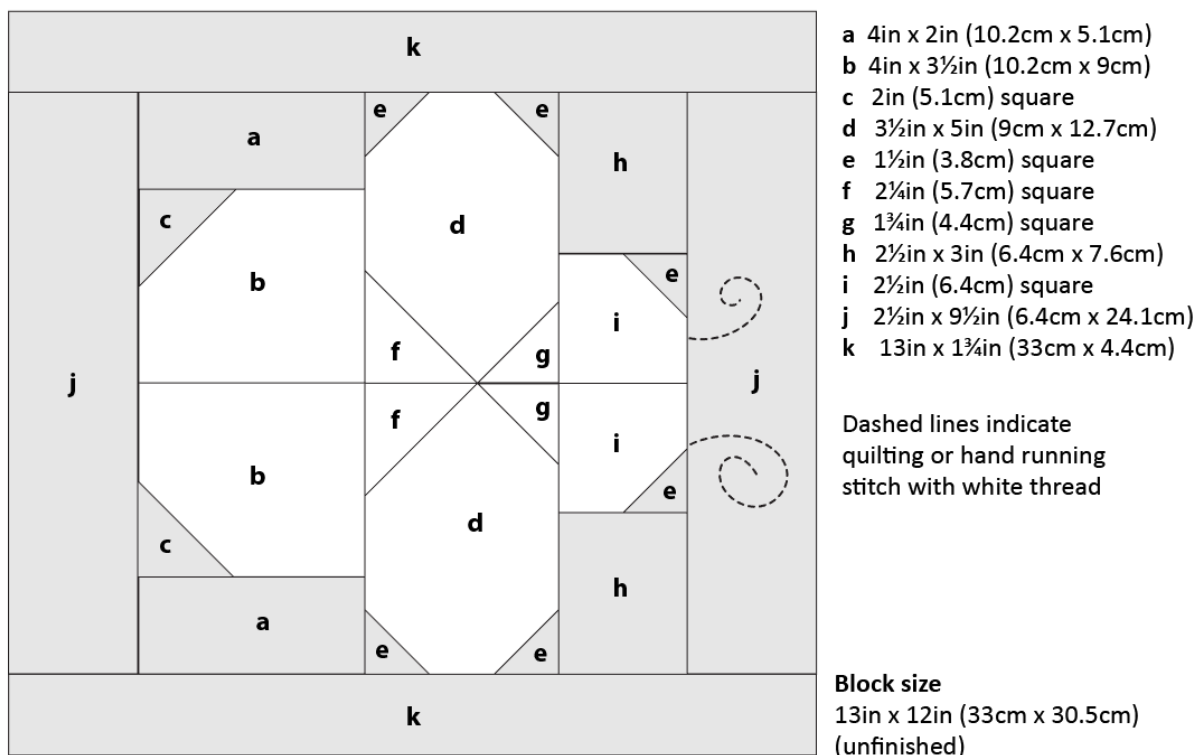


Fig B Layout and cutting for a Bee block

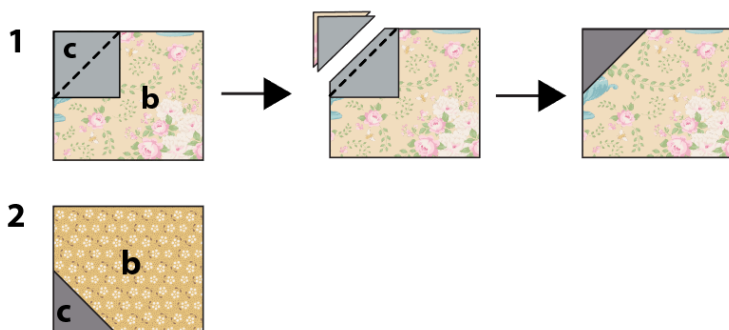
Sizes include seam allowances

All pieces to be cut as squares or rectangles

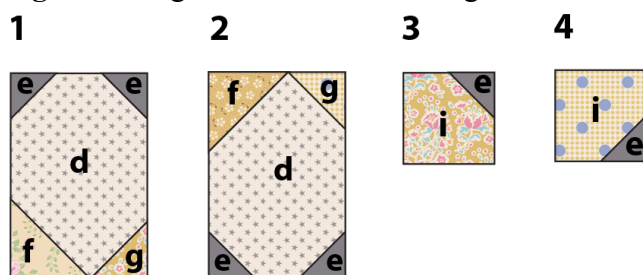


2 The block uses units that have a triangle created on a corner, so we will show this technique first. Take a **b** rectangle and one **c** square. Pencil mark a diagonal line on the wrong side of the small square and place the square right sides together with the top left corner of the rectangle, with the marked line angled as shown in **Fig C 1**. Pin if needed and then sew along the marked line and trim off excess fabric ¼in (6mm) outside the sewn lines. Press the triangle outwards.

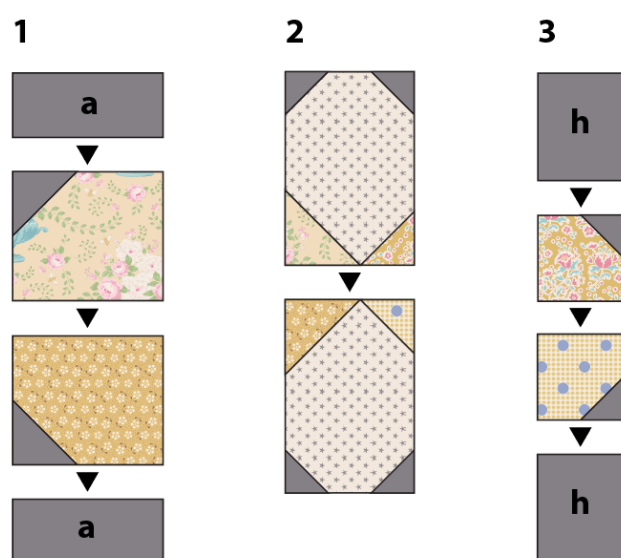
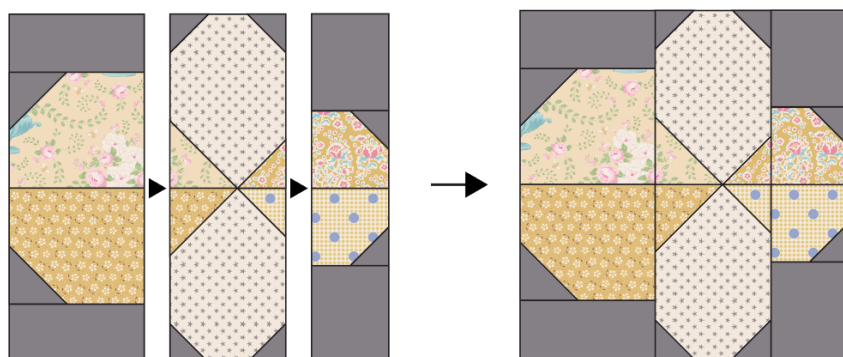
Repeat this to make a second unit like this, but changing the print fabric and placing the triangle in the bottom left corner (**Fig C 2**).

Fig C Making corner triangles

3 Four other units in the block need corner triangles using the same technique – see **Fig D** for the fabric and triangle positions.

Fig D Making the other corner triangle units

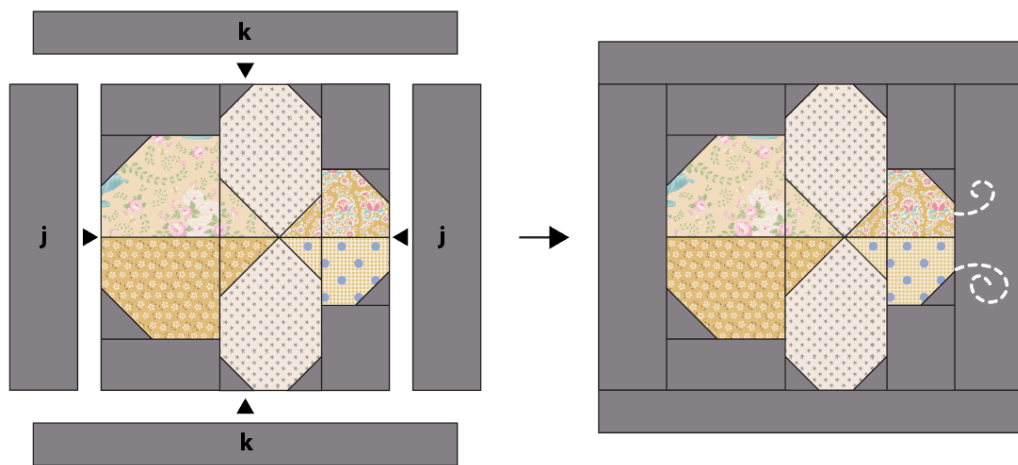
4 To assemble the block, take all of the units you have made, plus pieces **a** and **h** and arrange them into columns, as shown in **Fig E**. Sew the units together as shown, and press. Now sew the four columns together, as in **Fig F** and press.

Fig E Assembling the units into columns**Fig F** Sewing the columns together

5 To add the border, take the two **j** pieces and sew them to the sides of the block (**Fig G**) and press. Now add the **k** pieces to the top and bottom of the block and press. Check the block is 13in x 12in (33cm x 30.5cm).

Finally, add the antennae – this can be done now with hand running stitch and white thread or be added later as machine quilting when the whole project is quilted.

Fig G Adding the border



Tip

If creating your own projects using the Mix and Match blocks, you can change the outer border sizes. This will allow you to make the border deeper if you wish, or change the fabric, or even create a pieced border.