

Tilda®

Bon Voyage!

Mosaic Birds Quilt



Mosaic Birds Quilt

This unusual quilt is quite easy to make with some careful measuring and machine piecing. It uses a patchwork block with two facing birds and two similar blocks with single birds. The birds are a lovely solid blue fabric, which makes their shapes stand out from the rest of the patchwork. A pretty mixture of red and blue fabrics has been selected from the Bon Voyage and Sophie ranges. A matching pillow uses a bird block to great effect. There is also a Mosaic Butterfly quilt you could make as a companion – see www.tildasworld.com

Materials

- Fabric 1: 1¾yd (1.6m) – Solid lupine (120013)
- Fabric 2: ¾yd (40cm) – Allison red (100256)
- Fabric 3: ¾yd (40cm) – Elsie red (100259)
- Fabric 4: ¼yd (25cm) – Lilit teal (100248)
- Fabric 5: ¾yd (40cm) – Flowerleaf red (100253)
- Fabric 6: ¾yd (40cm) – Birdvine sand (100254)
- Fabric 7: ¾yd (40cm) – Hare Tile red (100255)
- Fabric 8: ½yd (15cm) – Paperflower teal (100257)
- Fabric 9: ¾yd (40cm) – Hare Tile blue (100241)
- Fabric 10: ½yd (15cm) – Sophie blue (130094)
- Fabric 11: ½yd (15cm) – Sophie teal (130093)
- Fabric 12: ¾yd (40cm) – Paperflower blue (100247)
- Fabric 13: ¼yd (25cm) – Elsie blue (100250)
- Fabric 14: ¼yd (25cm) – Ringflower red (100251)
- Fabric 15: ¾yd (40cm) – Allison blue (100249)
- Fabric 16: ¾yd (40cm) – Paperflower red (100260)
- Fabric 17: ¼yd (25cm) – Ringflower blue (100243)
- Fabric 18: ¼yd (25cm) – Lilit red (100258)
- Fabric 19: ¼yd (25cm) – Flowerleaf blue (100242)
- Fabric 20: ¼yd (25cm) – Hare Tile sand (100252)
- Fabric 21: ¼yd (25cm) – Flowerleaf sand (100245)
- Fabric 22: ¼yd (25cm) – Lilit blue (100246)
- Wadding (batting) 69in x 88in (175cm x 223cm)
- Backing fabric: 5yds (4.6m) – Shortcake Stripe red (130067)
- Binding fabric ⅝yd (60cm) – Birdvine blue (100244)
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat

Finished Size

60in x 79½in (152.4cm x 202cm) after binding

Fabric Note

Where a long eighth or long quarter of a yard is given in the Materials list you could use fat eighths and 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).

Notes

- Fabric quantities given are based on a usable width of 42in (107cm).
- Measurements are in imperial inches with metric conversions in brackets – use only *one* system throughout (preferably inches).
- Press all fabrics before cutting.
- Use ¼in (6mm) seams unless otherwise instructed.
- Read all the instructions through before you start.

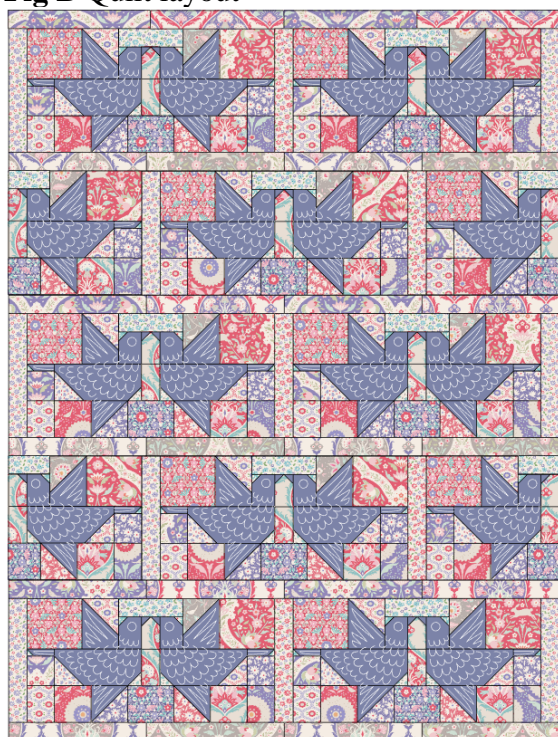
Quilt Layout

1 The quilt is made up of eight Double Bird blocks and four Single Bird blocks (two facing left and two facing right). The blocks are in rows with pieced sashing between the blocks vertically and horizontally. See **Fig A** for the fabrics used and **Fig B** for the quilt layout.

Fig A Fabric swatches



Fig B Quilt layout



Cutting Out

2 The blocks are all cut out and made the same way. **Fig C** shows the cut pieces needed for the Double Bird block. **Fig D** shows the cut pieces needed for the two Single Bird blocks. Cut the pieces according to the sizes given with the diagrams and using the fabrics shown in **Fig E** for the Double Bird block and **Fig F** for the Single Bird blocks. You might find it best to cut the pieces for one block at a time, keeping the pieces in a plastic bag until you are ready to use them.

Fig C Layout and cutting a Double Bird block

Sizes include seam allowances. All pieces to be cut initially as squares and rectangles

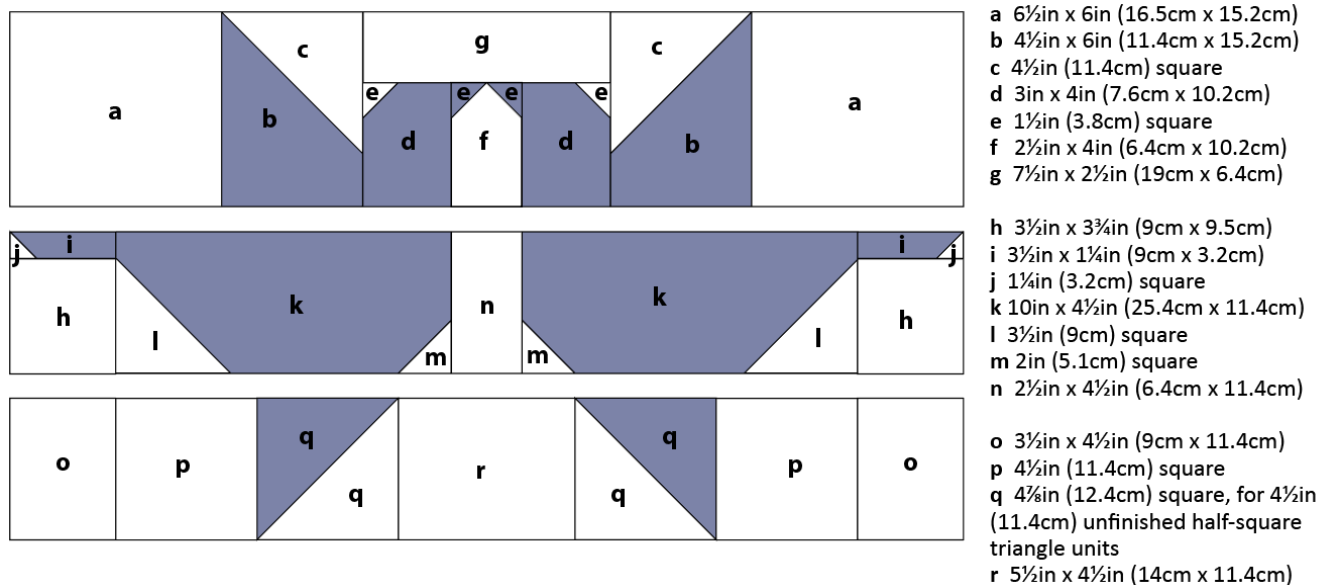
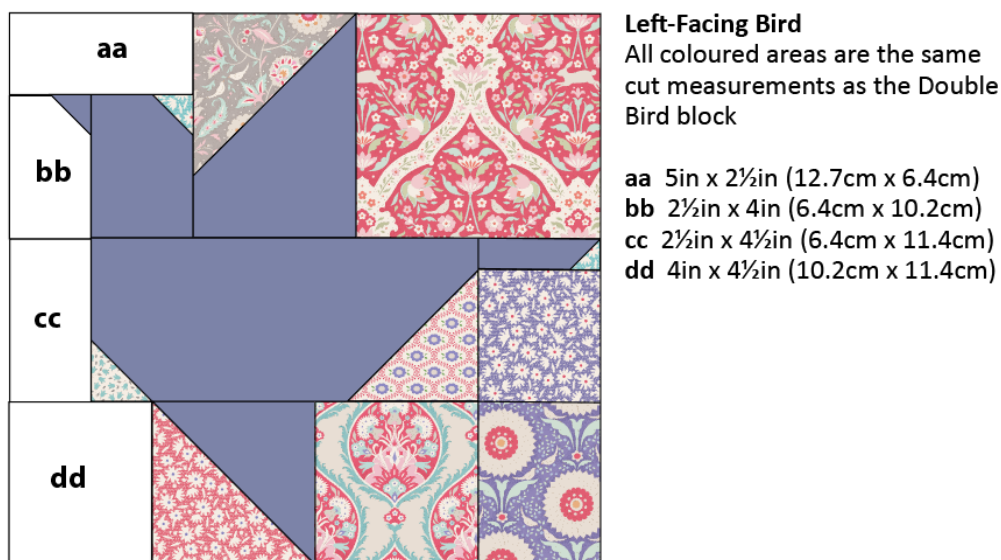
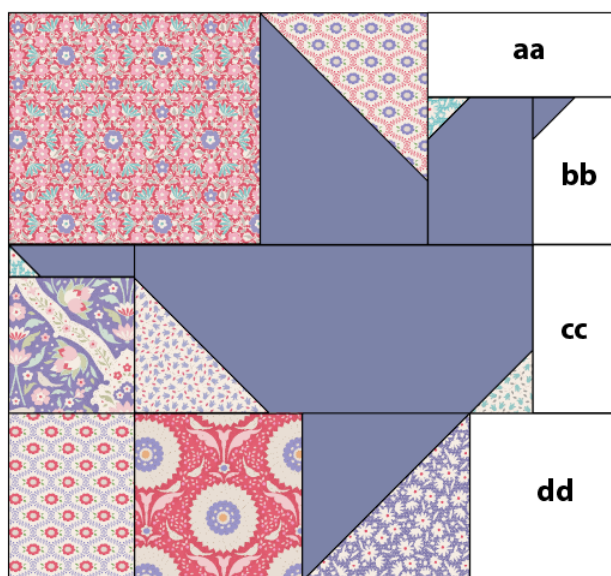


Fig D Layout and cutting Single Bird blocks

Sizes include seam allowances. All pieces to be cut initially as squares and rectangles





Right-Facing Bird

All coloured areas are the same cut measurements as the Double Bird block

- aa 5in x 2½in (12.7cm x 6.4cm)
 bb 2½in x 4in (6.4cm x 10.2cm)
 cc 2½in x 4½in (6.4cm x 11.4cm)
 dd 4in x 4½in (10.2cm x 11.4cm)

Fig E Fabrics used for a Double Bird block

Numbers indicate fabrics used (see Fig A)

Make 8 blocks

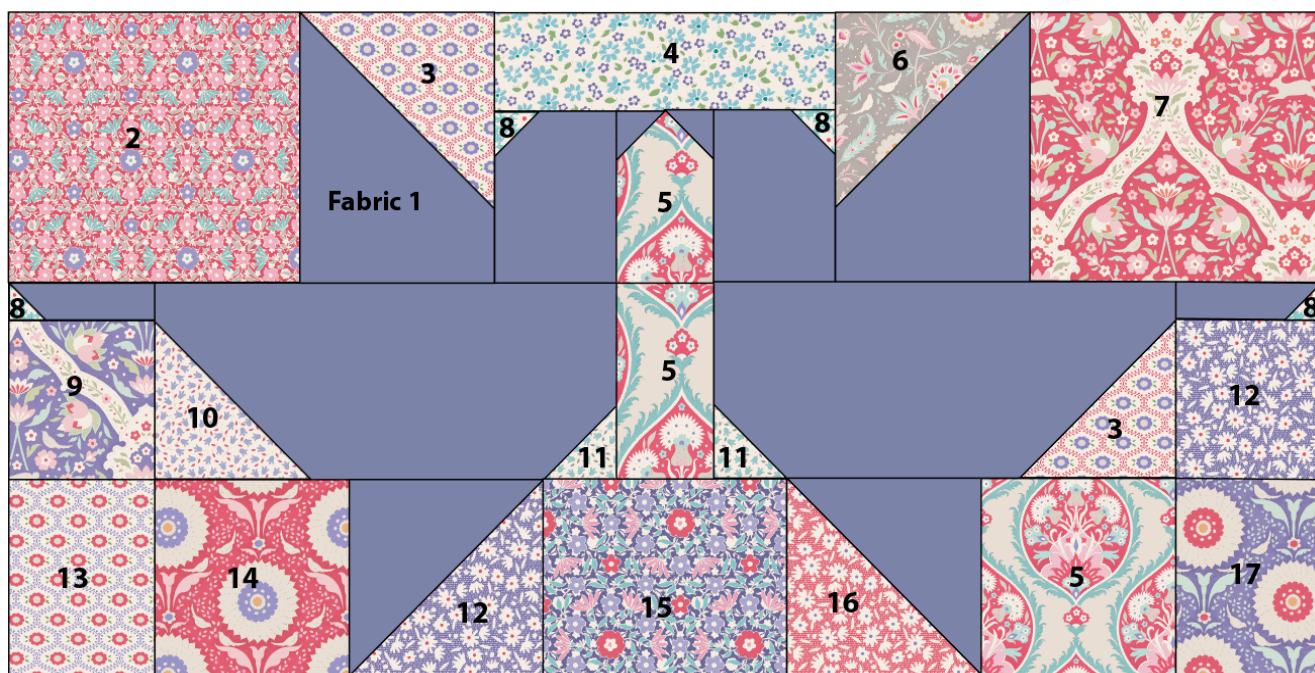
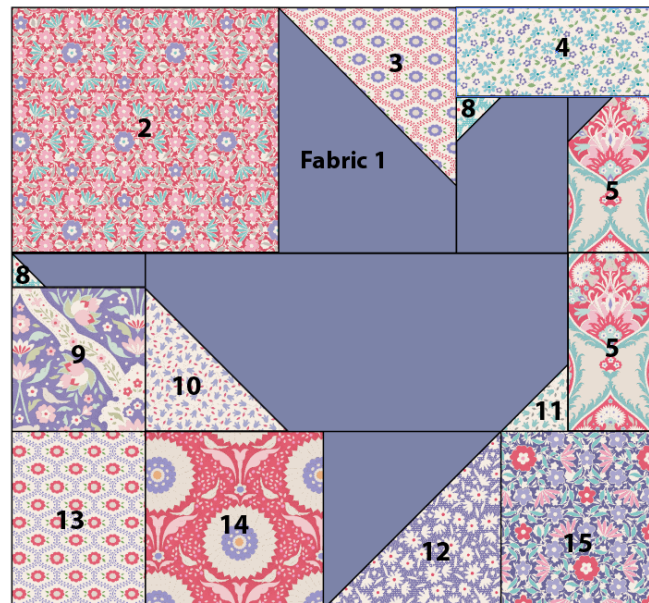
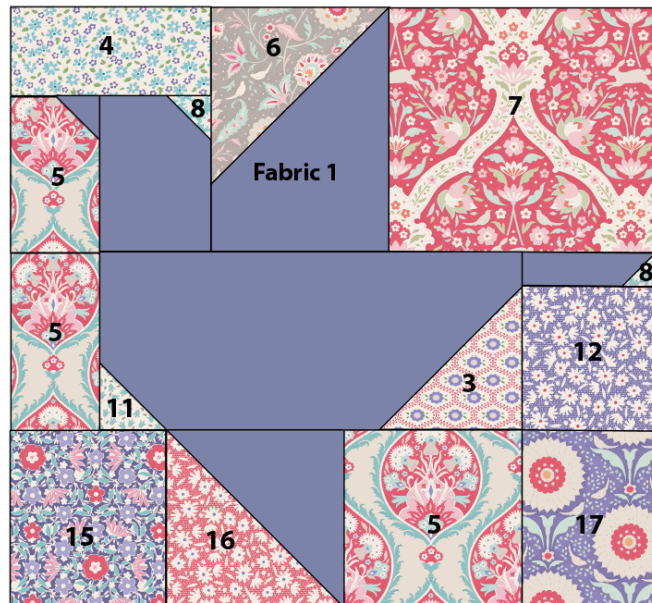


Fig F Fabrics used for Single Bird blocks

Numbers indicate fabrics used (see Fig A)

Make 2 of each block



3 For the vertical sashing cut the following pieces, each $2\frac{1}{2}$ in x 14in (6.4cm x 35.5cm).

- From Fabric 22 cut eight.
- From Fabric 18 cut five.

4 For the horizontal sashing cut the following pieces, each $2\frac{1}{2}$ in x $15\frac{1}{2}$ in (6.4cm x 39.4cm).

- From Fabric 9 cut six.
- From Fabric 19 cut six.
- From Fabric 21 cut six.
- From Fabric 20 cut six.

5 Cut the backing fabric across the width into two pieces. Using a $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam, sew the pieces together along the long side and press the seam open. Trim to a piece about 69in x 88in (175cm x 223cm).

6 Cut the binding fabric into eight strips $2\frac{1}{2}$ in (6.4cm) x width of fabric. Sew the strips together end to end and press seams open. Press the binding in half along the length, wrong sides together.

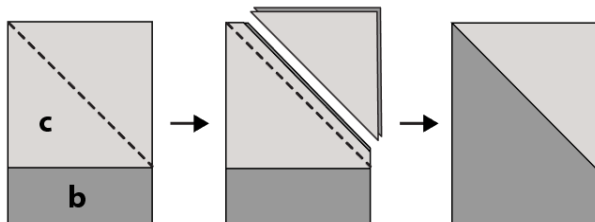
Making a Double Bird Block

7 The blocks only use two main techniques – making corner triangle units and making half-square triangle units – with both techniques described here. The rest of the piecing is straightforward.

8 To make a corner triangle unit we will describe the process using piece **b** (Fabric 1) and piece **c** (Fabric 3). The triangle in this case is quite large, but is smaller in other corner triangle units within the block. The diagram shows the pieces in greys to illustrate the basic principle. Pencil mark the diagonal line on the wrong side of the square and place the square right sides together with the top of the Fabric 1 rectangle (**Fig G**). Pin in place and then sew along the marked line. Trim off excess fabric $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) outside the sewn line. Press the triangle outwards.

9 Use this technique again to make units **d/e**, **e/f/e**, **i/j** and **k/l/m**. You will see that some units use two squares to make two corner triangles.

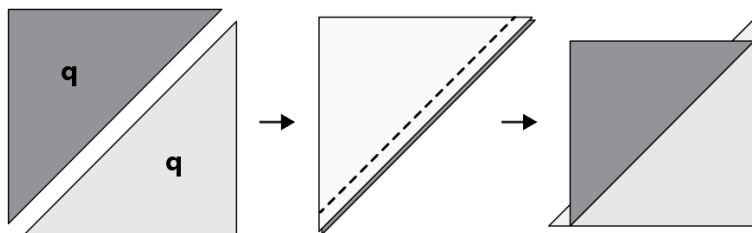
Fig G Making corner triangle units



10 To make the half-square triangle (HST) units, take a $4\frac{7}{8}$ in (12.4cm) **q** square of Fabric 1 and one of Fabric 12 and cut each square in half along one diagonal. Pair up two triangles and place them right sides together, as shown in **Fig H**. Sew a $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam along the long side. Press the seam open or to one side. Repeat this with the other pair of triangles and save this unit for another block.

11 Repeat this to make another two HSTs, but this time using a Fabric 1 and Fabric 16 square.

Fig H Making half-square triangle units



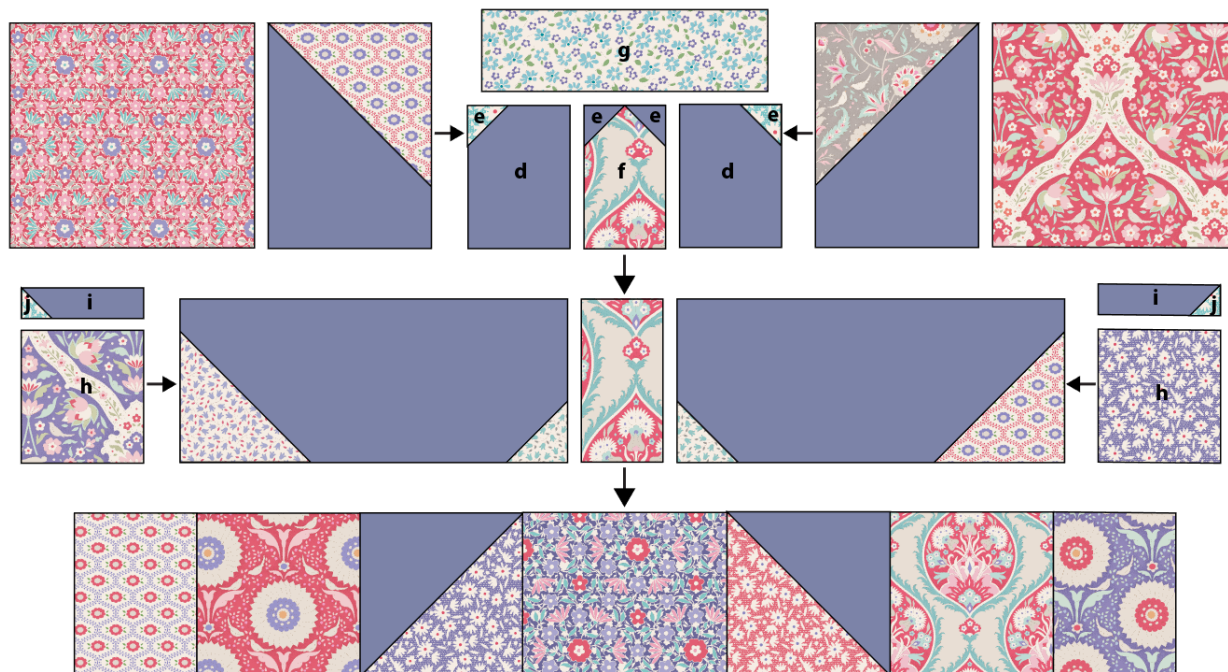
12 When all of the pieced units are made you can assemble the Double Bird block. Lay out the units, plus the plain squares and rectangles, in three rows, as shown in **Fig I**. In the top row, sew a unit **d/e** to each side of a unit **e/f/e** and press. Add piece **g** on top and press. Now add the other units to complete the row and press.

For the middle row, join unit **i/j** to piece **h** first (twice) and press. Sew the rest of the units together and press.

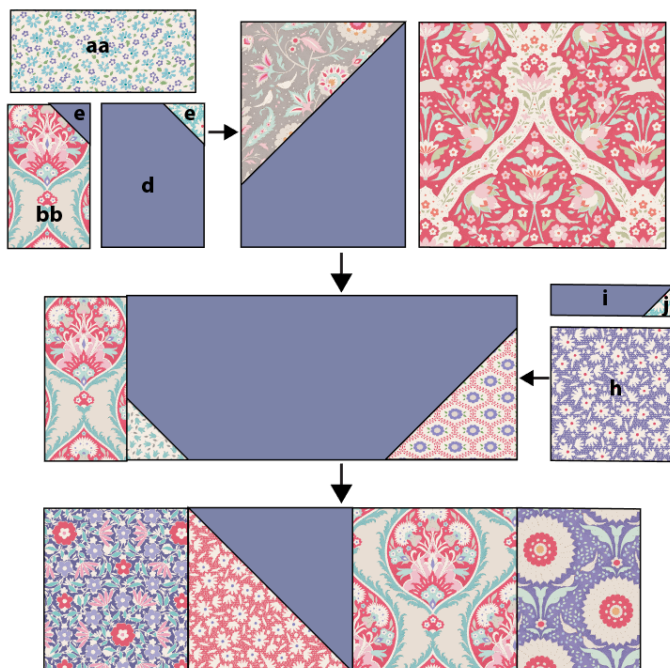
In the bottom row, sew the units together as shown and press.

Now sew the three rows together and press. Check the block is $27\frac{1}{2}$ in x 14in (69.9cm x 35.5cm).

Make eight blocks like this in total.

Fig I Assembling a Double Bird block**Making the Single Bird Blocks**

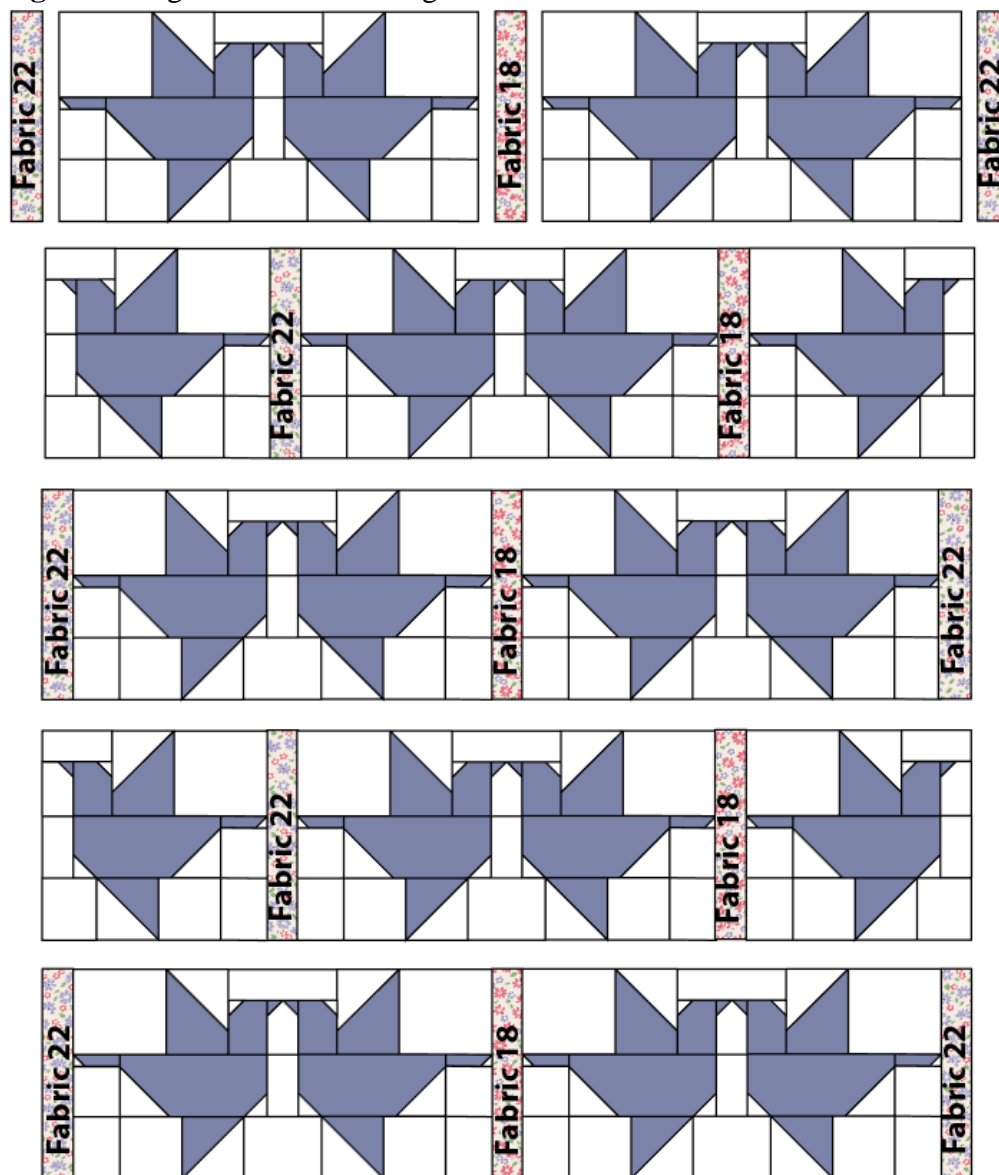
13 The single bird blocks are made in the same way as the Double Bird block but using pieces **aa**, **bb**, **cc** and **dd** (see **Fig D**). Make the corner triangle units and the HST units as you did before, using the correct fabrics for the smaller blocks. When the units are made, lay out the pieces as shown in **Fig J**. Sew the block together in three rows, as before, sewing the sub-units together first. Check the block is 15in (38.1cm) wide x 14in (35.5cm) high. Make a total of two blocks facing right and two facing left.

Fig J Assembling a Single Bird block

Assembling the Quilt

14 Follow the quilt layout in **Fig B**, arranging the double and single blocks as shown. Place the shorter vertical sashing strips in the positions shown in **Fig K**. Sew these strips to the sides of the blocks where indicated and press. (The diagram shows the birds in the blocks with the rest of the patchwork as white, in order that the sashing positions show up more clearly.)

Fig K Adding the vertical sashing

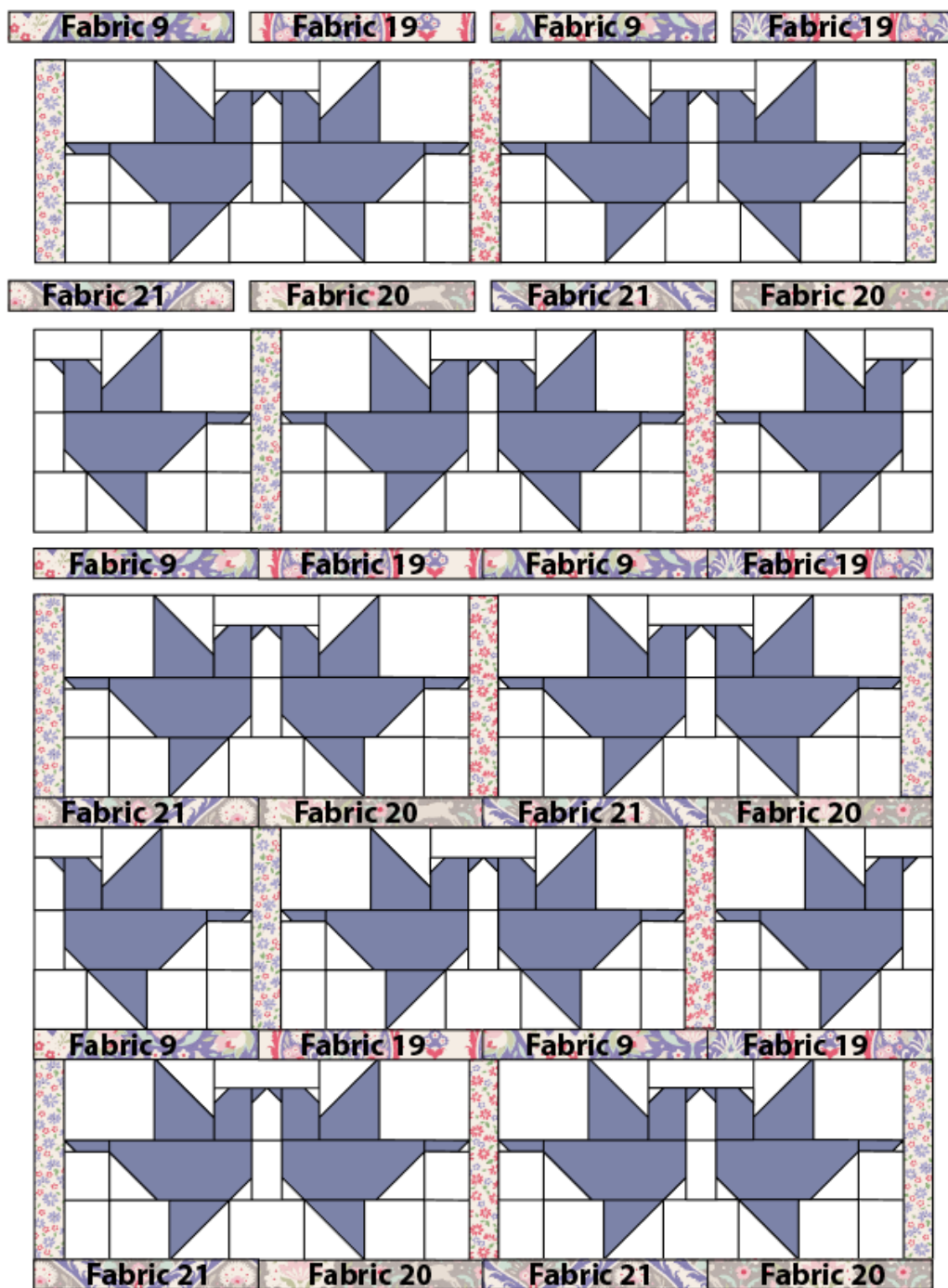


15 Take the longer horizontal sashing strips and using $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seams, sew them together end to end in groups of four, as follows.

- Fabric 9 + Fabric 19 + Fabric 9 + Fabric 19 – make three strips like this.
- Fabric 21 + Fabric 20 + Fabric 21 + Fabric 20 – make three strips like this.

Sew the pieced strips between the block rows and also at the top and bottom of the quilt, as shown in **Fig L** and press.

Fig L Adding the horizontal sashing



Quilting and Finishing

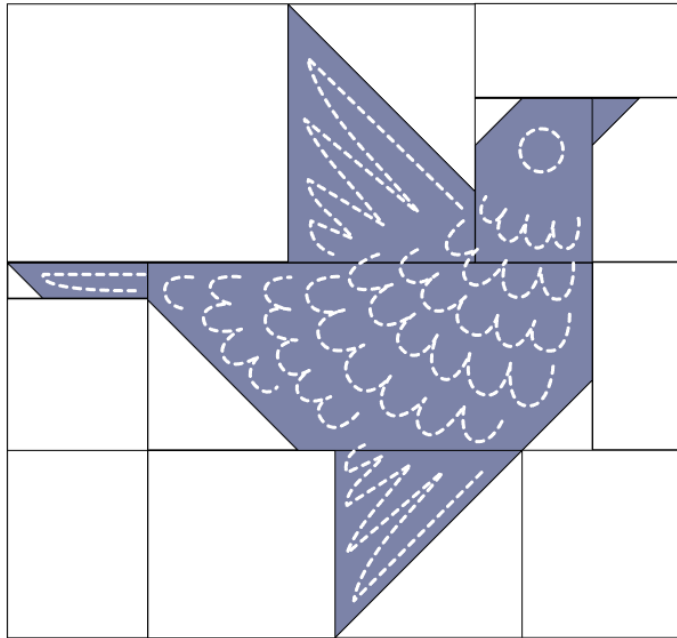
16 If you are quilting the quilt yourself you now need to make a quilt sandwich – you can do this in various ways, as follows.

- 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.

17 In our bird quilt, on each bird we quilted a feather pattern and a circle for the eye in an off-white thread, which shows up nicely against the blue birds. If you want to do this, a general guide for this is shown in **Fig M**. You can do this quilting by hand or machine. When all quilting is finished, square up the quilt ready for binding.

Fig M Quilting the eye and feather pattern



18 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 $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam, sew the binding in place, starting at least 6in (15.2cm) away from the end of the binding. Sew to within a $\frac{1}{4}$ in (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 $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam again from the top of the folded binding to within $\frac{1}{4}$ in (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.

19 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.

20 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 beautiful bird quilt is finished.