Patch Tractor Quilt

The tractor motif in this quilt is such fun to make and its realistic shape is created with just a few easy patchwork techniques. There is one basic block, made in three different colourways, using fabrics from the Tiny Farm, Meadow and Solid collections. Sashing separates the blocks, allowing each tractor its own space, while the solid background fabric showcases the blocks beautifully. The background colour is easy to change if you desire and there are lots of lovely Tilda Solids to choose from. There are also two pillows to accompany this quilt – see www.tildasworld.com

Materials

- Fabric 1: 4½yds (4.2m) – Solid aubergine (120036)
- Fabric 2: ½yd (25cm) – Farm Flowers rosehip (110009)
- Fabric 3: ½yd (15cm) – Farm Animals brown (110010)
- Fabric 4: ½yd (15cm) – Tiny Farm mist (110011)
- Fabric 5: ½yd (25cm) – Farm Flowers lavender (110012)
- Fabric 6: ½yd (15cm) – Farm Animals blue (110013)
- Fabric 7: ½yd (25cm) – Farm Animals ginger (110014)
- Fabric 8: ½yd (25cm) – Farm Tools grey (110015)
- Fabric 9: ½yd (25cm) – Farm Flowers green (110016)
- Fabric 10: ½yd (25cm) – Farm Tools pink (110017)
- Fabric 11: 9in (23cm) square – Tiny Farm blueberry (110018)
- Fabric 12: 9in (23cm) square – Tiny Farm rosehip (110019)
- Fabric 13: ½yd (25cm) – Farm Berries sand (110020)
- Fabric 14: ½yd (15cm) – Farm Tools green (110021)
- Fabric 15: ½yd (15cm) – Tiny Farm mauve (110022)
- Fabric 16: ½yd (40cm) – Farm Berries blue (110023)
- Fabric 17: ½yd (15cm) – Meadow rose (130081)
- Fabric 18: ½yd (15cm) – Meadow pink (130082)
- Fabric 19: 7in (18cm) square – Meadow honey (130083)
- Fabric 20: ½yd (25cm) – Meadow grey (130085)
- Fabric 21: ½yd (40cm) – Meadow teal (130086)
- Fabric 22: ½yd (40cm) – Meadow slate (130088)
- Fabric 23: ½yd (15cm) – Meadow blue (130089)
- Fabric 24: ½yd (40cm) – Meadow lilac (130090)
- Fabric 25: ½yd (15cm) – Meadow green (130091)
- Fabric 26: ½yd (15cm) – Meadow pine (130092)
- Fabric 27: 7in (18cm) square – Solid dusty rose (120009)
- Fabric 28: ½yd (15cm) – Solid lilac mist (120011)
- Fabric 29: ½yd (15cm) – Solid soft teal (120003)
- Fabric 30: ½yd (15cm) – Solid warm sand (120002)
- Wadding (batting) 73in x 85in (185.5cm x 216cm)
- Backing fabric: 2yds (2m) – Luna blue (150002) – 108in (274cm) wide fabric
- Binding fabric ½yd (50cm) – Meadow peach (130087)
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Quilter’s ruler, rotary cutter and mat
**Fabric Note**
Where a long eighth or long quarter of a yard is given in the Materials list you could use fat eigths 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).

**Finished Size**
64½in x 76½in (164cm x 194.5cm)

**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 all fabrics before cutting.
- Use ¼in (6mm) seams unless otherwise instructed.
- Read all the instructions through before you start.

**Quilt Layout**
The quilt is made up of Tractor blocks in three different colourways (Tractor blocks 1, 2 and 3). Tractor 1 block faces right, while Tractor 2 block and Tractor 3 block face left. The bird is in a different place on Block 2 (on top of the engine, rather than behind the steering wheel). Sashing filler pieces are used vertically and horizontally between the blocks. See Fig A for the fabrics used and Fig B for the quilt layout.

**Fig A Fabric swatches (Patch Tractor Quilt)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fabric 1</th>
<th>Solid aubergine</th>
<th>Fabric 7</th>
<th>Farm Animals ginger</th>
<th>Fabric 13</th>
<th>Farm Berries sand</th>
<th>Fabric 19</th>
<th>Meadow honey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fabric 2</td>
<td>Farm Flowers rosehip</td>
<td>Fabric 8</td>
<td>Farm Tools grey</td>
<td>Fabric 14</td>
<td>Farm Tools green</td>
<td>Fabric 20</td>
<td>Meadow grey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fabric 3</td>
<td>Farm Animals brown</td>
<td>Fabric 9</td>
<td>Farm Flowers green</td>
<td>Fabric 15</td>
<td>Tiny Farm mauve</td>
<td>Fabric 21</td>
<td>Meadow teal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fabric 4</td>
<td>Tiny Farm mist</td>
<td>Fabric 10</td>
<td>Farm Tools pink</td>
<td>Fabric 16</td>
<td>Farm Berries blue</td>
<td>Fabric 22</td>
<td>Meadow slate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fabric 5</td>
<td>Farm Flowers lavender</td>
<td>Fabric 11</td>
<td>Tiny Farm blueberry</td>
<td>Fabric 17</td>
<td>Meadow rose</td>
<td>Fabric 23</td>
<td>Meadow blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fabric 6</td>
<td>Farm Animals blue</td>
<td>Fabric 12</td>
<td>Tiny Farm rosehip</td>
<td>Fabric 18</td>
<td>Meadow pink</td>
<td>Fabric 24</td>
<td>Meadow lilac</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fabric 25</td>
<td>Meadow green</td>
<td>Fabric 26</td>
<td>Meadow pine</td>
<td>Fabric 27</td>
<td>Solid dusty rose</td>
<td>Fabric 28</td>
<td>Solid lilac mist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fabric 29</td>
<td>Solid soft teal</td>
<td>Fabric 30</td>
<td>Solid warm sand</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cutting Out

2 Cut the sashing pieces first from Fabric 1, cutting the following.

- **Sashing 1** – twenty strips each 3in x 12½in (7.6cm x 31.8cm). You can cut three from the width of the fabric. These are for the vertical sashing pieces between the blocks.
- **Sashing 2** – eight strips each 3½in x 32½in (9cm x 82.5cm). Take two strips, sew them together and press the seam open. Repeat, so you have four strips each 64½in (164cm) long. These are for the horizontal sashing between the block rows.
- **Sashing 3** – four strips each 2½in x 32½in (6.4cm x 82.5cm). Take two strips, sew them together and press the seam open. Repeat with the other two strips, so each strip is 64½in (164cm) long. These are for the top and bottom of the quilt.

3 **Fig C** shows the cut pieces needed for Tractor 1 block, **Fig D** for Tractor 2 block and **Fig E** for Tractor 3 block. Follow the diagram measurements very carefully to cut out the fabric pieces and following the fabrics shown in **Fig F**.

4 Cut the backing fabric into a single piece about 73in x 85in (185.5cm x 216cm).
Cut the binding fabric into seven strips 2½in (6.4cm) x width of fabric. Sew them together end to end and press seams open. Press in half along the length, wrong sides together.

Fig C Cutting out for a Tractor 1 block
Sizes include seam allowances
All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles

**Right-facing Tractor – Block 1**

**Tractor steering wheel and bird**
- a 1½in (3.8cm) square
- b 1¾in (4.8cm) square (HSTs)
- c 2in x 1½ (5.1cm x 2.5cm)
- d 1in (2.5cm) square
- e 1¼in x 3in (3.2cm x 7.6cm)
- f 1¼in x 3¼in (3.2cm x 7.6cm)
- g ½in x 1½in (1.4cm x 2.5cm)
- h 2½in (6.4cm) square cut into two triangles
- i 4in x ¾in (10.2cm x 2.2cm)

**Tractor engine**
- a 4¼in x 3in (11.4cm x 7.6cm)
- b 1½in x 3½in (2.5cm x 7.6cm)
- c 6½in x 3½in (15.2cm x 7.6cm)
- d 1in x 1¾in (2.5cm x 3.8cm)
- e 1¾in x 5½in (3.8cm x 12.7cm)
- f 2¼in x 3¼in (7cm x 8.3cm)
- g 1½in (3.8cm) square

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**Tractor steering wheel and bird**

**Tractor large wheel**
- a 2½in x 4¼in (6.4cm x 11.4cm)
- b 2½in (6.4cm) square
- c 4½in (11.4cm) square
- d 1½in (3.8cm) square
- e 4½in x 2½in (11.4cm x 6.4cm)
- f 8½in x 1¾in (21.6cm x 3.8cm)
- g 1½in (3.8cm) square
- h 2½in (5.1cm) square

**Tractor engine**
- a 1½in x 4¾in (3.8cm x 11.4cm)
- b 1¾in (3.8cm) square
- c 2½in (6.4cm) square
- d 1½in (2.5cm) square
- e 2½in x 1¾in (6.4cm x 3.8cm)
- f 6½in x 1½in (16.5cm x 3.2cm)
- g 6½in x 3½in (16.5cm x 9cm)
Fig D  Cutting out for a Tractor 2 block
Sizes include seam allowances
All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles

**Left-Facing Tractor – Block 2**

**Bird**
- a 1½in (3.8cm) square
- b 1¾in (4.8cm) square (HSTs)
- c 2in x 1in (5.1cm x 2.5cm)
- d 1in (2.5cm) square
- e 1¾in x 3in (3.2cm x 7.6cm)
- f 2¾in x 3in (5.7cm x 7.6cm)

**Tractor engine**
- a 4¾in x 3in (11.4cm x 7.6cm)
- b 1in x 3in (2.5cm x 7.6cm)
- c 1½in x 1½in (2.5cm x 2.5cm)
- d 1½in x 3½in (3.8cm x 12.7cm)
- e 2¼in x 3¾in (7cm x 8.3cm)
- f 1½in (3.8cm) square

**Tractor steering wheel**
- a 1½in (3.8cm) square
- b 1½in (4.8cm) square (HSTs)
- c 5½in x 3½in (14cm x 9cm)
- d 2½in (6.7cm) square cut into two triangles
- e 4in x ½in (10.2cm x 2.2cm)

**Tractor large wheel**
- a 1½in (3.8cm) square
- b 1½in (4.8cm) square (HSTs)
- c 4½in (11.4cm) square
- d 1½in (3.8cm) square
- e 4½in x 2½in (11.4cm x 6.4cm)
- f 8½in x 1½in (21.6cm x 3.2cm)
- g 1½in (3.8cm) square
- h 2in (5.1cm) square

Tractor small wheel
- a 1½in x 1½in (3.8cm x 11.4cm)
- b 1½in (3.8cm) square
- c 2½in (6.4cm) square
- d 1in (2.5cm) square
- e 2½in x 1½in (6.4cm x 3.8cm)
- f 6½in x 1½in (16.5cm x 3.8cm)
- g 6½in x 3½in (16.5cm x 9cm)
Fig E Cutting out for a Tractor 3 block
Sizes include seam allowances
All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles

**Left-Facing Tractor – Block 3**

- **Tractor engine**
  - a 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)in x 3in (11.4cm x 7.6cm)
  - b 1in x 3in (2.5cm x 7.6cm)
  - c 6in x 3in (15.2cm x 7.6cm)
  - d 1in x 1\(\frac{1}{2}\)in (2.5cm x 3.8cm)
  - e 1\(\frac{1}{4}\)in x 5in (3.8cm x 12.7cm)
  - f 2\(\frac{3}{4}\)in x 3\(\frac{1}{4}\)in (7cm x 8.3cm)
  - g 1\(\frac{1}{4}\)in (3.8cm) square

- **Tractor steering wheel and bird**
  - a 1\(\frac{3}{4}\)in (3.8cm) square
  - b 1\(\frac{1}{2}\)in (4.8cm) square
  - c 2in x 1in (5.1cm x 2.5cm)
  - d 1in (2.5cm) square
  - e 1\(\frac{1}{2}\)in x 3in (3.2cm x 7.6cm)
  - f 1\(\frac{3}{4}\)in x 3in (4.4cm x 7.6cm)
  - g 5\(\frac{1}{2}\)in x 1in (14cm x 2.5cm)
  - h 2\(\frac{1}{2}\)in (6.7cm) square cut into two triangles
  - i 4in x 3\(\frac{1}{2}\)in (10.2cm x 2.2cm)

- **Tractor large wheel**
  - a 2\(\frac{1}{2}\)in x 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)in (6.4cm x 11.4cm)
  - b 2\(\frac{1}{4}\)in (6.4cm) square
  - c 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)in (11.4cm) square
  - d 1\(\frac{1}{2}\)in (3.8cm) square
  - e 4\(\frac{3}{4}\)in x 2\(\frac{1}{2}\)in (11.4cm x 6.4cm)
  - f 8\(\frac{1}{2}\)in x 1\(\frac{1}{2}\)in (21.6cm x 3.8cm)
  - g 1\(\frac{1}{2}\)in (3.8cm) square
  - h 2in (5.1cm) square

- **Tractor small wheel**
  - a 1\(\frac{3}{4}\)in x 4\(\frac{1}{2}\)in (3.8cm x 11.4cm)
  - b 1\(\frac{1}{2}\)in (3.8cm) square
  - c 2\(\frac{3}{4}\)in (6.4cm) square
  - d 1in (2.5cm) square
  - e 2\(\frac{1}{2}\)in x 1\(\frac{1}{4}\)in (6.4cm x 3.8cm)
  - f 6\(\frac{1}{4}\)in x 1\(\frac{1}{4}\)in (16.5cm x 3.2cm)
  - g 6\(\frac{1}{2}\)in x 3\(\frac{1}{4}\)in (16.5cm x 9cm)
**Fig F** Fabrics used for blocks  
Numbers indicate fabrics used (see also **Fig A**)  
Feet and beaks use Fabric 27 dusty pink  
Make 5 of each block
**Making a Tractor Block**

6 A Tractor 1 block will be described in detail (right-facing block). There are three main techniques used in a block – half-square triangle (HST) units, corner triangle units and a diagonal strip unit. We will describe these techniques first, so refer back to these as needed.

7 **Making half-square triangle units:** The method described here makes two units at once, with an example shown in Fig G. 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 $\frac{1}{4}$in (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 the size it is meant to be – for this quilt the HSTs should be $1\frac{1}{2}$in (3.8cm) (unfinished).

Fig G Making half-square triangle units

8 **Making a corner triangle unit:** An example of this technique is shown in Fig H. Place the larger piece of fabric right side (RS) up. Take the smaller square and mark the diagonal line on the wrong side. Place the square right sides together with the larger piece of fabric, aligning corners, as shown. (The size of the pieces and the position will change depending on the unit you are making.) Sew along the marked line. Trim off excess fabric $\frac{1}{4}$in (6mm) outside the sewn line. Press the triangle outwards.

Fig H Making a corner triangle unit

9 **Making a diagonal strip unit:** There is just one of these units in each block, used for the steering wheel column. Take a Fabric 1 triangle h (this is made from a 2$\frac{1}{2}$in/6.7cm square cut in half diagonally) and a Fabric 20 strip i. Mark the centre points of each piece, as shown in Fig I 1. Place the pieces right sides (RS) together, matching up the centre points – the strip will be slightly longer at each end than the triangle. Sew a $\frac{1}{4}$in (6mm) seam and then press the triangle outwards (Fig I 2). Repeat this with the other h triangle on the other edge of the strip. Trim off excess fabric on the two corners (Fig I 3), making sure that the whole unit measures 2$\frac{1}{2}$in (6.4cm) square (Fig I 4).
10 Make all of the HSTs and corner triangle units needed for a block. Note that the wheel centres have a corner triangle in each corner. For the large tractor wheel, the corner triangle h is added after all of the other pieces for the wheel have been sewn together – this is described later. When all the pieced units have been made for a block you can begin to sew the various units together, as follows.

11 Assembling the bird and steering wheel: Lay out all of the pieces for this section and follow the stages in Fig J. When making the bird’s body be sure to rotate the HSTs where needed, so they form the pattern shown in Fig J 1. Sew the pieces into rows and then sew the rows together, matching seams neatly. Add the other units and plain rectangles as shown. To make the steering wheel, follow Fig J 2. You will have already made the h/i/h unit (described in Step 9). Now follow Fig J 3 to sew the units together. Fig J 3 also shows (in a blue box) the appearance of the unit at this stage for a Tractor 2 block and a Tractor 3 block, which will help you sew these units later on.
12 **Assembling the large wheel:** Lay out all of the pieces for this section and follow the stages in Fig K, sewing the units into columns first. Add the f/g unit to the top of the section. Finally, make a corner triangle at top right with piece h.

**Fig K** Making the large wheel

13 **Assembling the engine:** Lay out the pieces for this section and follow the stages in Fig L. Make the top of the engine first (Fig L 1). Fig L 1 also shows (in a blue box) the appearance of the unit at this stage for a Tractor 2 block. Now make the body of the engine following Fig L 2 and then sew the units together (Fig L 3).

**Fig L** Making the engine

14 **Assembling the small wheel:** Lay out all of the pieces for this section. Make the left-hand unit first (Fig M 1) and then the wheel (Fig M 2) and then sew the units together (Fig M 3).
Assembling the block: Lay out all of the pieced units for a block, as shown in Fig N. Sew the units together in vertical pairs and press. Now sew the pairs together and press. Check the block is 18½in x 12½in (47cm x 31.8cm). Repeat this whole process to make five Tractor 1 blocks in total.

Making the Other Blocks
16 Tractor 2 block and Tractor 3 block are made in the same way but the blocks face the opposite way and in block 2 the bird is in a different place. Use Fig D to cut the pieces needed for a Tractor 2 block, Fig E to cut the pieces needed for a Tractor 3 block and Fig F for the fabrics. The same assembly diagrams are used but the layout needs to be a mirror image (flipped). Close attention to the block layouts in Fig F will help you. Make five of Tractor 2 and five of Tractor 3.

Assembling the Quilt
17 The quilt is assembled in rows first. The top two rows are shown in Fig O so follow the layout there, placing the vertical Sashing 1 pieces between the blocks and at the ends of the row. (T1 = Tractor 1, T2 = Tractor 2 and T3 = Tractor 3.) Sew each row together and press the seams. Follow Fig B to sew the rest of the blocks into rows.

18 Add the horizontal sashing strips, placing a long Sashing 2 strip between each of the rows and the long Sashing 3 strips (which are narrower) at the top and bottom of the quilt (Fig P). Once sewn, press all seams. Your quilt top is now finished.
**Fig O** Assembling the block rows

Row 1

Row 2

**Fig P** Adding the horizontal sashing
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 (baste) 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 (batting) 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. When all quilting is finished, square up the quilt ready for binding.

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 fun quilt is finished.