

# **Colourplay Leaf Quilt**

This quilt is so pretty and yet refreshingly contemporary, especially when made from solid fabrics. It is made up of a single block repeated in a lovely mix of colours – perfect for you to try the exciting new additions to the Tilda Solids range. The curved seams need a little practise, but there are detailed diagrams to help you succeed. Narrow borders of mixed-colour rectangles neatly finish the top and bottom of the quilt. We've also made a pieced backing for the quilt and instructions are given for making this if you choose this option. You could also make two matching pillows – see tildasworld.com.

#### Difficulty rating \*\*

#### **Materials**

- Fabric 1: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Solid dark granite (120033)
- Fabric 2: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Solid rain grey (120032)
- Fabric 3: ¼yd (25cm) Solid grey cloud (120031)
- Fabric 4: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>yd (50cm) Solid dove white (120001)
- Fabric 5: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Solid warm sand (120002)
- Fabric 6: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Solid cappuccino (120007)
- Fabric 7: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Solid dusty rose (120009)
- Fabric 8: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>yd (50cm) Solid rosewood (120034)
- Fabric 9: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Solid terracotta (120035)
- Fabric 10: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Solid salmon (120027)
- Fabric 11: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Solid red (120021)
- Fabric 12: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>yd (50cm) Solid pink (120026)
- Fabric 13: ½yd (50cm) Solid lavender pink (120010)
- Fabric 14: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Solid lilac (120030)
- Fabric 15: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Solid aubergine (120036)
- Fabric 16: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Solid thistle (120012)
- Fabric 17: ¼yd (25cm) Solid lilac mist (120011)
- Fabric 18: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Solid lupin (120013)
- Fabric 19: ¼yd (25cm) Solid night blue (120029)
- Fabric 20: ¼yd (25cm) Solid cornflower (120024)
- Fabric 21: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Solid sky teal (120023)
- Fabric 22: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>yd (50cm) Solid soft teal (120003)
- Fabric 23: ¼yd (25cm) Solid blue sage (120008)
- Fabric 24: ¼yd (25cm) Solid petrol (120037)
- Fabric 25: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Solid fern green (120025)
- Fabric 26: ¼yd (25cm) Solid lime green (120028)
- Fabric 27: <sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>yd (40cm) Solid pale yellow (120022)
- Wadding (batting): 65in x 84in (165cm x 213.4cm)
- Backing fabric if using your choice of a single fabric: 3<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yds (3.5m) OR
  Backing fabric if making the pieced backing described: refer to Step 7 for fabrics needed
- Binding fabric: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>yd (50cm) Solid dove white (120001)
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat

#### **Fabric Notes**

The material quantities are calculated on the assumption that Pattern A and Pattern B are cut from the fabrics in a *horizontal* format (see **Fig** C); if cut vertically, more fabric may be required. Where a long quarter of a yard is given in the Materials list you could use a fat quarter instead, which is assumed to be approximately 21 in x 18 in (53.3cm x 45.7cm).

### **Finished Size**

56<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>in x 75<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>in (143.5cm x 191.8cm)

#### **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 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>in (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 uses sixty-four curved blocks in a variety of colour combinations. The blocks are arranged into four identical quarters. A narrow border at the top and bottom of the quilt is made up of rectangles in mixed colours. See **Fig A** for the fabrics used and **Fig B** for the quilt layout. It is wise to make one block first, as a test block, to check your measuring, cutting and practise the curved seam technique.





# Fig B Quilt layout



#### **Cutting Out**

**2** The fabrics for the blocks need to be cut out with Pattern A and Pattern B and these are provided full size, with seam allowances included.

**Pattern A shape:** This is symmetrical so it can be placed on the right side or wrong side of the fabric when marking. Solid fabrics often look the same on both sides, but we will still say "right side" or "wrong side" in case you are using other Tilda fabrics.

*Pattern B shapes:* These are not symmetrical and occur as two shapes – Pattern B and Pattern B Reversed (a flipped/reflected version of Pattern B). It is quicker to cut out these shapes with their straight edges together, as in **Fig C**.

**3** When cutting, be economical and keep all the fabric offcuts to cut the border rectangles. Use the patterns to cut the following shapes (referring to the next step for detailed instructions on marking and cutting the shapes).

- Fabric 1 four Pattern A.
- Fabric 2 four Pattern A.
- Fabric 3 eight Pattern B.
- Fabric 4 sixteen Pattern B.
- Fabric 5 eight Pattern B.
- Fabric 6 eight Pattern B.
- Fabric 7 eight Pattern B.
- Fabric 8 eight Pattern A.
- Fabric 9 four Pattern A.
- Fabric 10 four Pattern A.
- Fabric 11 four Pattern A.
- Fabric 12 sixteen Pattern B.
- Fabric 13 four Pattern A and eight Pattern B.
- Fabric 14 eight Pattern B.
- Fabric 15 four Pattern A.
- Fabric 16 eight Pattern B.
- Fabric 17 eight Pattern B.
- Fabric 18 four Pattern A.
- Fabric 19 four Pattern A.
- Fabric 20 four Pattern A.
- Fabric 21 eight Pattern B.
- Fabric 22 sixteen Pattern B.
- Fabric 23 four Pattern A.
- Fabric 24 four Pattern A.
- Fabric 25 four Pattern A.
- Fabric 26 four Pattern A.
- Fabric 27 eight Pattern B.

**4** To mark and cut the fabrics for the blocks, copy the patterns onto thick paper or thin card. When marking the shapes on the fabrics, use a pencil for marking pale fabrics and a light marker, such as chalk, for marking dark fabrics. For the most economical use of the fabric, draw the patterns alternately rotated, so they fit together with minimal wastage, having them in the direction shown in **Fig C**.

**Note:** this orientation is fine for solid fabrics but if making the quilt with print fabrics that have a pattern direction, then you might prefer to rotate the paper patterns to a vertical layout. In this case you would need more fabric, probably  $\frac{3}{8}$ yd (40cm) instead of a  $\frac{1}{4}$ yd (25cm). Position the paper pattern on the fabric strip and mark around the shape, ensuring it does not move as you draw around it. Use sharp scissors to cut out the shape. When you have marked and cut out a shape, always place the paper pattern back on top of the shape to check that the fabric shape is *exactly* the same as the paper. Refer to **Fig D** for the positions of the fabrics in the blocks.

Fig C Marking the patterns on the fabrics



**Fig D** Fabric positions for the blocks (one quarter of quilt shown) Numbers refer to fabrics used – see Fig A



**5** There are two borders, 1 and 2, both made up of rectangles. The end pieces on each border are cut  $5\frac{3}{\sin x} 2in (13.6 \text{ cm x } 5.1 \text{ cm})$ , while all the pieces between are cut a little shorter at  $5\frac{1}{\sin x} 2in (13 \text{ cm x } 5.1 \text{ cm})$ , shown in **Fig E**. If you cut sparingly, you should have enough fabric left over for the borders on the pieced backing, if choosing this option.

- Fabric 2 one 5<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (13.6cm x 5.1cm) and one 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (13cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 3 two 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (13cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 8 two 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (13cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 10 two 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (13cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 11 two 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (13cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 12 two 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (13cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 18 one 5<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (13.6cm x 5.1cm) and one 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (13cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 21 two 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (13cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 22 one 5<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (13.6cm x 5.1cm) and one 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (13cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 26 one 5<sup>3</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (13.6cm x 5.1cm) and one 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (13cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 27 four 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (13cm x 5.1cm).

Fig E Cutting the border rectangles

Bold numbers indicate fabrics used (see Fig A)

Border 1

	5¾in	5‰in	5‰in	5‰in	5‰in	5‰in	5‰in	5¼in	5‰in	5‰in	5¼in	5¾in	_
Zin	26	12	8	10	27	2	26	12	8	10	27	2	2ir
Border 2													
	5¾in	5¼in	5%in	5¼in	5¼in	5¼in	5%in	5¼in	5¼in	5¼in	5‰in	5¾in	_
Zin	18	27	21	3	11	22	18	27	21	3	11	22	2in[

6 *If using a single backing fabric:* Remove the selvedges from the backing fabric keeping the backing at least  $42\frac{1}{4}$  in (107.3cm) wide. Cut the fabric into two pieces each  $42\frac{1}{4}$  in x 65 in (107.3cm x 165cm). Sew them together along the long side and press the seam open to make a piece about 65 in x 84 in (165 cm x 213.4 cm).

7 *If making a pieced backing:* You will need the following fabrics – these large pieces need to be bought in *addition* to the quilt front fabrics and will produce a backing that is about 4in larger all round than the quilt front, to allow for quilting.

- One piece of Solid lime green 65in x 27½in (165cm x 70cm).
- One piece of Solid dusty rose 65in x 27<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>in (165cm x 70cm).
- One piece of Solid blue sage 65 in x  $27\frac{1}{2}$  in (165 cm x 70 cm).

For the rectangles for the borders on the backing, you should be able to cut them from fabric offcuts from the front of the quilt. Note that they are all the same size, but the length is different from those used on the quilt front. Once cut, set them aside for the moment.

- Fabric 2 two 5<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (15cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 3 two 5<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (15cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 8 two 5<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (15cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 10 two 5<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (15cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 11 two 5<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (15cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 12 two 5<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (15cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 18 two 5<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (15cm x 5.1cm).

- Fabric 21 two 5<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (15cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 22 two 5<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (15cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 26 two 5<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (15cm x 5.1cm).
- Fabric 27 four 5<sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub>in x 2in (15cm x 5.1cm).

**8** Cut the binding fabric into seven strips  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in (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.

#### **Making a Block**

**9** It's important that the block ends up  $7\frac{1}{2}$ in (19cm) wide x  $9\frac{1}{2}$ in (24.1cm) tall, so it's wise to make the block first from scrap fabric to practise the curved seam technique (use scrap fabric to avoid wasting the proper fabrics). You have sixty-four of these blocks to make, so it pays to get the technique right early on. Use a *scant*  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam throughout the sewing of these curved seams (a scant  $\frac{1}{4}$ in is about a needle's width or so smaller than a full  $\frac{1}{4}$ in seam).

10 To sew a curved seam refer to the stages in Fig F. Start by taking a fabric piece A and fold it in half so the top point touches one base corner, as shown in Fig F 1. Crease or mark this centre point (shown as blue lines on Fig F 2). Do the same with the B fabric pieces, folding *only* the curved section, as shown.

11 Place the pieces right sides (RS) together and pin at the centre points first (Fig F 3). Pin at the bottom, aligning the straight edges. Now pin at the top but this time have piece B lower, so a small triangle of piece A shows beneath B, as shown in Fig F 4. Add more pins, easing the pieces so their curved edges align neatly (Fig F 5). Now sew the seam, taking your time to sew carefully all along the curve. Before pressing the seam outwards, snip into the seam allowance at intervals, cutting only about  $\frac{1}{8}$  in (3mm) into the seam. Press piece B into position (Fig F 6). The bottom of piece B should form a straight line with piece A.

12 Repeat this process to pin the other piece B into place. This time, position the piece as shown in Fig F 7. Sew the seam and then press outwards. The bottom and top of the B pieces should form a straight line with piece A, as shown in Fig F 8. Check the block is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  in x  $9\frac{1}{2}$  in (19cm x 24.1cm).

13 Make the rest of the blocks in the same way, following Fig D for the fabric combinations.

#### Fig F Sewing a curved seam



#### Joining the Blocks

14 Once all the blocks are made, take the first two blocks and sew them together into a pair (a double block) as shown in Fig G, matching the curved seams carefully and using a normal

 $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam. Press the seam open. Check this double block is  $\frac{7}{2}$ in x  $\frac{18}{2}$ in (19cm x 47cm). Pair up all the blocks in this way.



Fig G Sewing two blocks together

15 Once all the blocks are sewn together into double blocks, lay out the eight double blocks shown in Fig H – this is one quarter of the quilt. Sew the double blocks together in rows, matching seams carefully, and press. Now sew the two rows together, matching seams, and press. Repeat this process to make the other three quilt quarters.

Fig H Sewing one quarter of the quilt together



16 Sew the four quarters of the quilt together, as in Fig I, matching seams carefully as before, and press. Check the quilt is  $56\frac{1}{2}$  in x  $72\frac{1}{2}$  in (143.5cm x 184.2cm) at this stage.

# Fig I Sewing the quilt quarters together



# Making the Borders

17 The borders are made by sewing the rectangles together end to end, as in **Fig J**. Place the slightly longer rectangles on the ends of each row and use normal  $\frac{1}{4}$  in (6mm) seams to sew them together. Press the seams open or to one side. Check that each sewn row is 56<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> in (143.5cm) long, so that it matches the quilt width.

Fig J Sewing the borders together



## Assembling the Quilt

18 Take the borders and sew them to the top and bottom of the quilt as in Fig K and press the seams.



Fig K Sewing the borders to the quilt

#### Making a Pieced Backing

**19** If you have chosen this option, take the rectangles for the backing that you cut and set aside in Step 7 and sew them together into two borders in the same way as you did for the front of the quilt – they will make longer borders than the front of the quilt.

**20** Lay out the sewn borders and the large pieces for the backing, as in **Fig L**, sew them together and press the seams. This will make a backing about 65 in x 84 in (165 cm x 213.4 cm), which will be big enough to allow for quilting.

#### Fig L Assembling a pieced backing



## **Quilting and Finishing**

**21** 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.

22 When all quilting is finished, square up the quilt ready for binding.

**23** 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.

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.

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 pretty quilt is finished.



# **Colourplay Leaf Patterns**



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