

# **Blooming Lanterns Quilt**

(Night blue colourway)

If you want drama, this is the quilt for you. The bold night blue background makes the colours of the blocks glow beautifully. The quilt is made up of four different sizes of Chinese lanterns, separated by sashing. The construction of the quilt is simple and uses fabrics from the Bloomville collection, coupled with the Abloom blenders range, plus some delicious Solids. There is also another quilt in this design with a lovely sage green background – see tildasworld.com for the instructions.

## Difficulty rating \*\*

#### **Materials**

- Fabric 1: 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (3m) Solid night blue (120029)
- Fabric 2: 3/8yd (40cm) Late Bloomer tomato (100501)
- Fabric 3: 3/8yd (40cm) Flowermarket plum (100502)
- Fabric 4: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>yd (15cm) Cottonbloom paprika (100503)
- Fabric 5: 3/8 yd (40cm) Garden Vista iris (100504)
- Fabric 6: 12in (30.5cm) square Flowertangle persimmon (100505)
- Fabric 7: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Flowermarket blueberry (100506)
- Fabric 8: 3/8yd (40cm) Garden Vista dove (100507)
- Fabric 9: 5/8 yd (60cm) Late Bloomer sapphire (100508)
- Fabric 10: one piece 9½ in x 4½ in (24.1cm x 11.4cm) Flowertangle blue (100509)
- Fabric 11: 12in (30.5cm) square Cottonbloom blueberry (100510)
- Fabric 12: 3/8yd (40cm) Late Bloomer lagoon (100511)
- Fabric 13: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Flowertangle green (100512)
- Fabric 14: 12in (30.5cm) square Cottonbloom petrol (100513)
- Fabric 15: \( \frac{1}{4} \text{yd} \) (25cm) Flowermarket pine (100514)
- Fabric 16: ½yd (50cm) Garden Vista turquoise (100515)
- Fabric 17: 12in (30.5cm) square Flowertangle mustard (100516)
- Fabric 18: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Flowermarket sky (100517)
- Fabric 19: 18in (46cm) square Garden Vista light corn (100518)
- Fabric 20: one piece 9½ in x 2½ in (24.1 cm x 6.4 cm) Cottonbloom sky (100519)
- Fabric 21: 3/8yd (40cm) Late Bloomer corn (100520)
- Fabric 22: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Abloom turquoise (110072)
- Fabric 23: ½ vd (15cm) Abloom petrol (110073)
- Fabric 24: one piece 9½ in x 2½ in (24.1cm x 6.4cm) Abloom sky (110074)
- Fabric 25: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Abloom cornflower (110075)
- Fabric 26: 12in (30.5cm) square Abloom prussian (110076) if using this fabric for the backing you will have spare to use in the blocks
- Fabric 27: 1/8 yd (15cm) Abloom iris (110077)
- Fabric 28: \( \frac{1}{8} \) yd (15cm) Abloom plum (110078)
- Fabric 29: \( \frac{1}{6} \text{yd} \) (15cm) Abloom tomato (110079)
- Fabric 30: 1/8 yd (15cm) Abloom pink (110080)
- Fabric 31: one piece 9½ in x 2½ in (24.1cm x 6.4cm) Abloom dijon (110081)
- Fabric 32: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Abloom fern (110082)
- Fabric 33: 12in (30.5cm) square Abloom mushroom (110083)

- Fabric 34: \( \frac{1}{8}\)yd (15cm) Solid cerise (120015)
- Fabric 35: four pieces 5½ in x 1½ in (14cm x 3.8cm) Solid mustard (120040)
- Fabric 36: four pieces 5½in x 1½in (14cm x 3.8cm) Solid ginger (120018)
- Fabric 37: four pieces 5½ in x 1½ in (14cm x 3.8cm) Solid salmon (120027)
- Fabric 38: four pieces 5½ in x 1½ in (14cm x 3.8cm) Solid dijon (120039)
- Fabric 39: four pieces 5½ in x 1½ in (14cm x 3.8cm) Solid moss (120038)
- Fabric 40: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>yd (15cm) Solid pine (120041)
- Fabric 41: \( \frac{1}{8} \text{yd (15cm)} \text{Solid aqua (120042)} \)
- Fabric 42: two pieces 5½in x 1½in (14cm x 3.8cm) Solid dusty teal (120043)
- Fabric 43: two pieces 5½in x 1½in (14cm x 3.8cm) Solid cornflower blue (120024)
- Fabric 44: two pieces 5½ in x 1½ in (14cm x 3.8cm) Solid petrol (120037)
- Fabric 45: 1/8 yd (15cm) Solid light blue (120044)
- Fabric 46: four pieces 5½in x 1½in (14cm x 3.8cm) Solid lupine (120013)
- Fabric 47: four pieces 5½ in x 1½ in (14cm x 3.8cm) Solid lavender pink (120010)
- Fabric 48: four pieces 5½ in x 1½ in (14cm x 3.8cm) Solid lilac (120030)
- Wadding (batting): 76in x 94in (193cm x 240cm)
- Backing fabric: 5<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yds (4.8m) Abloom prussian (110076)
- Binding fabric: 5/8yd (60cm) Abloom prussian (110076)
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat

#### **Fabric Notes**

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 (unless otherwise stated). A fat eighth is assumed to be approximately 10½ in x 18in (26.7cm x 45.7cm) and a fat quarter approximately 21in x 18in (53.3cm x 45.7cm).

#### **Finished Size**

68½ in x 86½ in (174cm x 220cm)

## **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.
- Before using your fabrics, press 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 ½in (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 four different sizes of lantern blocks, with each size in four different colourways, to make thirty-six blocks in total. For the quilt layout, the blocks are arranged in six vertical columns, with sashing pieces added to complete the columns. Vertical sashing strips separate the columns and also provide a border around the quilt. See **Fig A** for the fabrics used and **Fig B** for the quilt layout.

Fig A Fabric swatches



Fig B Quilt layout



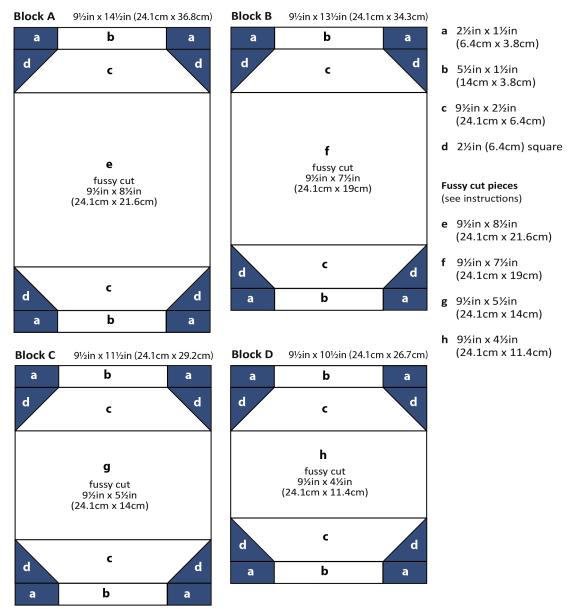
# **Cutting Out**

**2** Fabric 1 is used for all of the sashing and it's best to cut these pieces first, saving all offcuts for the blocks. Cut the following strips across the width of the fabric.

- Sashing 1 thirty strips each  $9\frac{1}{2}$  in x  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in (24.1cm x 6.4cm).
- Sashing 2 fourteen strips each  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in x  $41\frac{1}{2}$  in x (6.4cm x 105.4cm). Sew the strips together in pairs to make seven strips  $82\frac{1}{2}$  in (209.5cm) long.
- Sashing 3 four strips each 34½ in x 2½ in (87.6cm x 6.4cm). Sew the strips together in pairs to make two strips 68½ in (174cm) long.

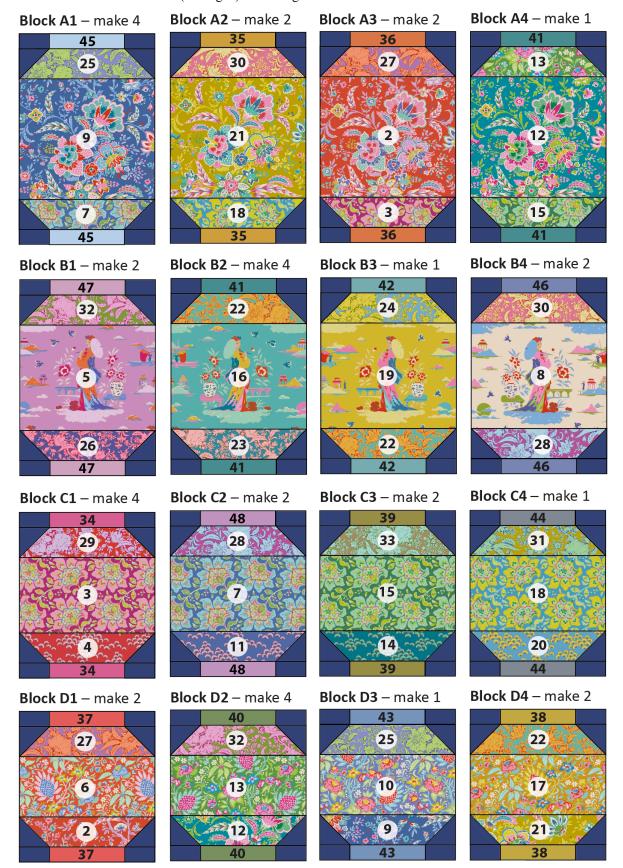
3 When cutting fabric for the blocks, refer to Fig C for the cut measurements – the blocks are all identical except for the depth of the central part of the lantern. Refer to Fig D for the fabrics and their positions. For many of the prints, the lantern centres are fussy cut, positioning a motif in the centre of the cut piece. Fig E shows examples of this.

**Fig** C Cut measurements for the blocks Sizes include seam allowances. All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles

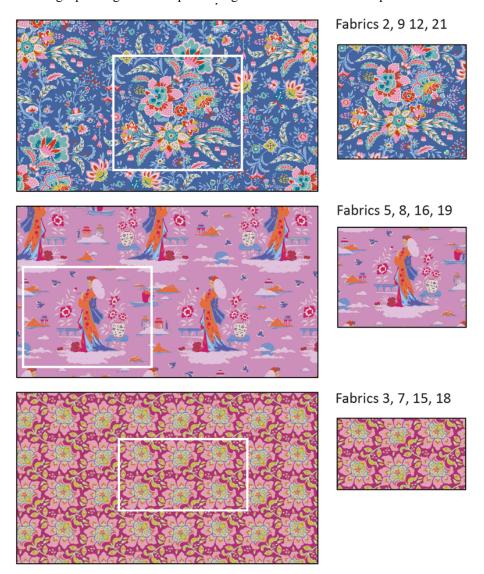


**Fig D** Block colourways

Numbers indicate fabrics used (see Fig A). All backgrounds are Fabric 1. Make the numbers of blocks indicated



**Fig E** Fussy cutting Choosing a pleasing motif and positioning it in the middle of the cut piece



**4** To cut the backing fabric, remove the selvedges and cut the fabric into two pieces each 94in (240cm) long x width of fabric. Sew them together along the long side and press the seam open. Trim to a piece about 76in x 94in (193cm x 240cm).

5 Cut the binding fabric into eight 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.

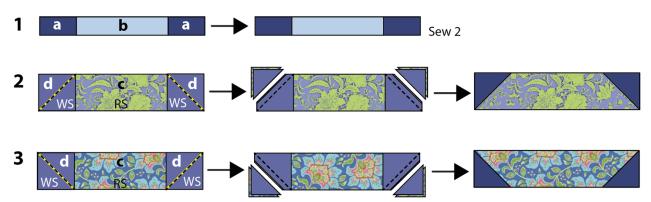
### Making a Block

6 All of the blocks have the same basic construction, using simple techniques. Block A1 will be described and illustrated. Lay out the correct pieces for Block A1 and follow **Fig F** to make the top and bottom units of the block. Using ¼in (6mm) seams, sew together pieces **a**, **b**, **a** (**Fig F 1**). Press the seams inwards. Repeat this to sew a second unit.

7 Now make the corner triangle units as in Fig F 2. Take a rectangle c and place it right side up. Take two d squares and pencil mark a diagonal line on the wrong side of each. Place the

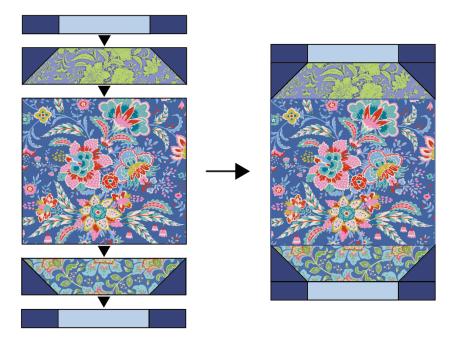
squares right sides together with the rectangle, aligning the edges and with the marked lines in the directions shown in the diagram. Sew along the marked lines. Trim off excess fabric <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>in (6mm) past the sewn lines and then press the triangles outwards. Use the same process to make the other **c/d** unit, but angling the marked and sewn line in the directions in **Fig F 3**.

Fig F Making a block



8 Take the sewn units and the centre piece of the lantern and sew them together as in **Fig G**. Check the block is the correct size – for all Block A this should be 9½ in x 14½ in (24.1cm x 36.8cm) (unfinished). Repeat the block-making process to make the rest of the Block As.

Fig G Assembling a block



## **Making the Other Blocks**

9 Repeat this process to make the B Blocks (B1, B2, B3 and B4). Check each block is the correct size – see **Fig** C. Refer to **Fig** D for the fabric positions. Label the blocks, to identify them more easily later.

10 Repeat this process to make the C Blocks (C1, C2, C3 and C4) and then the D blocks (D1, D2, D3 and D4). Check the block sizes and label them.

## **Assembling the Quilt**

- 11 Begin the quilt assembly by sewing the blocks and Sashing 1 pieces into columns, following the order shown in **Fig H**. (The blocks can be seen in colour in **Fig B**.) Use ½in (6mm) seams and press the seams open or to one side. Each column should measure 82½in (209.5cm) long.
- 12 Take the Sashing 2 strips (which have already been sewn together in pairs) and sew these between each block column and also at the sides of the quilt, as in **Fig I**. Press the seams open or towards the sashing.
- 13 Finally, add the Sashing 3 strips to the top and bottom of the quilt and press the seams. Your quilt top is now finished.

Fig H Assembling the quilt columns

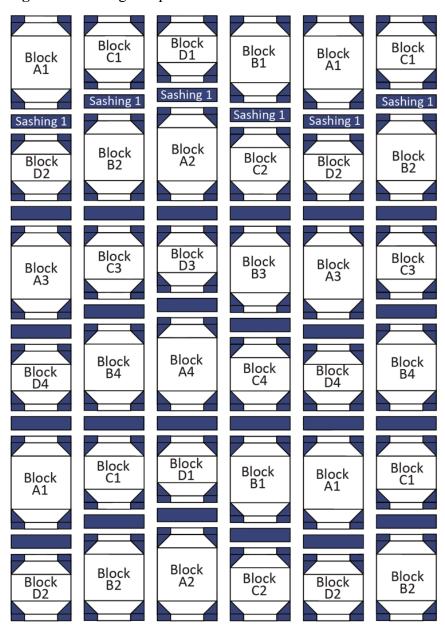
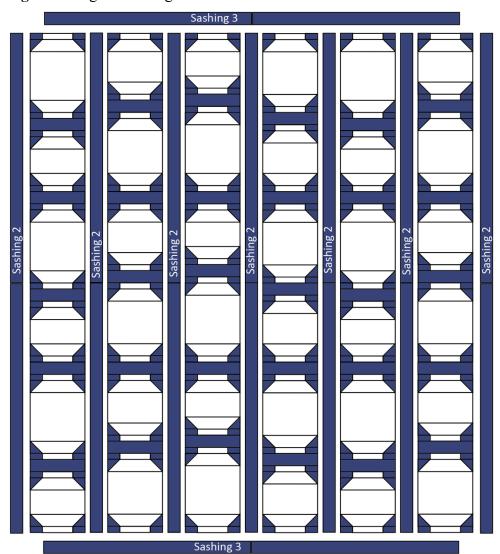


Fig H Adding the sashing



### **Quilting and Finishing**

**14** 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.

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

16 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 ½in (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.

17 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.

18 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 colourful quilt is finished.