

Mango Garden Quilt

(Dove white colourway)

This wonderful quilt with its colourful parrots enjoying ripe mangoes hanging in the tree branches is such fun and will always bring a smile. The layout is unusual and looks complicated but is actually made up of sections that fit together easily. The quilt uses fabrics from the Bloomsville collection, coupled with some Abloom blenders and a few Solids. A solid background of pale dove white makes all the colours shine. The fabrics used for the parrots' feathers have been fussy cut, so extra fabric has been allowed for this (*).

There is another quilt in this design with a striking night blue background, which is made in exactly the same way, with the same fabrics, except for the background. Refer to the end of the dove white quilt instructions for the Materials list and the fabric swatches and quilt layout diagrams for the night blue version.

Difficulty rating **

Materials (Dove white version)

- Fabric 1: 5½yds (5m) Solid dove white (120020)
- Fabric 2*: 12in x 27in (30.5cm x 68.6cm) Late Bloomer tomato (100501)
- Fabric 3*: 6in x 20in (15.2cm x 50.8cm) Flowermarket plum (100502)
- Fabric 4: 4½in x 18in (11.4cm x 45.7cm) Cottonbloom paprika (100503)
- Fabric 5*: one fat eighth (not a long 1/8 yd) Garden Vista iris (100504)
- Fabric 6*: one fat eighth (*not* a long 1/8yd) Flowertangle persimmon (100505)
- Fabric 7*: 6in x 20in (15.2cm x 50.8cm) Flowermarket blueberry (100506)
- Fabric 8*: one fat eighth (*not* a long ½vd) Garden Vista dove (100507)
- Fabric 9*: 6in x 27in (15.2cm x 68.6cm) Late Bloomer sapphire (100508)
- Fabric 10*: 9in (23cm) square Flowertangle mustard (100509)
- Fabric 11: 4½in x 18in (11.4cm x 45.7cm) Cottonbloom blueberry (100510)
- Fabric 12*: 6in x 27in (15.2cm x 68.6cm) Late Bloomer lagoon (100511)
- Fabric 13*: 3/8yd (40cm) Flowertangle green (100512)
- Fabric 14: 4½in x 18in (11.4cm x 45.7cm) Cottonbloom petrol (100513)
- Fabric 15*: 22in (56cm) square Flowermarket pine (100514)
- Fabric 16*: one fat eighth (not a long 1/8 yd) Garden Vista turquoise (100515)
- Fabric 17*: 9in (23cm) square Flowertangle mustard (100516)
- Fabric 18*: 6in x 20in (15.2cm x 50.8cm) Flowermarket sky (100517)
- Fabric 19*: one fat eighth (not a long \(\frac{1}{8} \)yd) Garden Vista light corn (100518)
- Fabric 20: 4½in x 18in (11.4cm x 45.7cm) Cottonbloom sky (100519)
- Fabric 21*: 6in x 27in (15.2cm x 68.6cm) Late Bloomer corn (100520)
- Fabric 22: 12in (30.5cm) square Abloom turquoise (110072)
- Fabric 23: 9in (23cm) square Abloom sky (110074)
- Fabric 24: 3/8yd (40cm) Abloom cornflower (110075)
- Fabric 25: ¹/₄yd (25cm) or fat quarter Abloom iris (110077)
- Fabric 26: 9in (23cm) square Abloom tomato (110079)
- Fabric 27: 12in (30.5cm) square Abloom pink (110080)
- Fabric 28: 3/8 yd (40cm) Abloom dijon (110081)
- Fabric 29: 9in (23cm) square Abloom fern (110082)
- Fabric 30: \(\frac{1}{2} \) yd (25cm) or fat quarter Abloom mushroom (110083)

- Fabric 31: 12in (30.5cm) square Solid coral (120016)
- Fabric 32: 12in (30.5cm) square Solid dijon (120039)
- Fabric 33: 12in (30.5cm) square Solid dusty teal (120043)
- Fabric 34: 12in (30.5cm) square Solid cornflower blue (120024)
- Wadding (batting): 74in x 92in (188cm x 234cm)
- Backing fabric: 5¹/₄yds (4.8m) Abloom petrol (110073)
- Binding fabric: 5/8yd (60cm) Solid dove white (120001)
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat
- Black embroidery cotton (floss) for French knot eyes

Fabric Notes

The Solid fabrics can be cut vertically or horizontally. However, many of the print fabrics have a directional pattern, so take care when cutting to preserve the direction of motifs. Fabrics marked with an asterisk (*) in the Materials list are those where fussy cutting was used to select attractive motifs, so additional material is suggested. A fat eighth is assumed to be approximately $10\frac{1}{2}$ in x 18 in (26.7cm x 45.7cm) and a fat quarter approximately 21 in x 18 in (53.3cm x 45.7cm).

Finished Size

65½ in x 83½ in (166.5cm x 212cm)

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 section as a test before going on to make the remaining blocks.

Ouilt Lavout

1 The quilt is made up of four parrot sections, two facing right and two facing left. Between these sections are fruit branch sections in five different layouts. Two further fruit branch sections complete the top and bottom of the quilt. Full instructions are given for all the sections. See Fig A for the fabrics used, Fig B for the quilt layout and Fig C for the different sections that make up the quilt.

Fig A Fabric swatches (Mango Garden – dove white version)

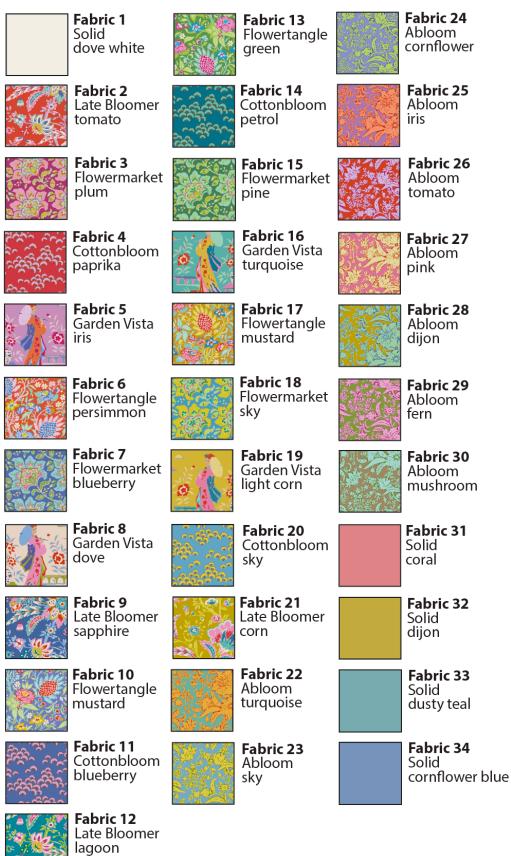


Fig B Quilt layout

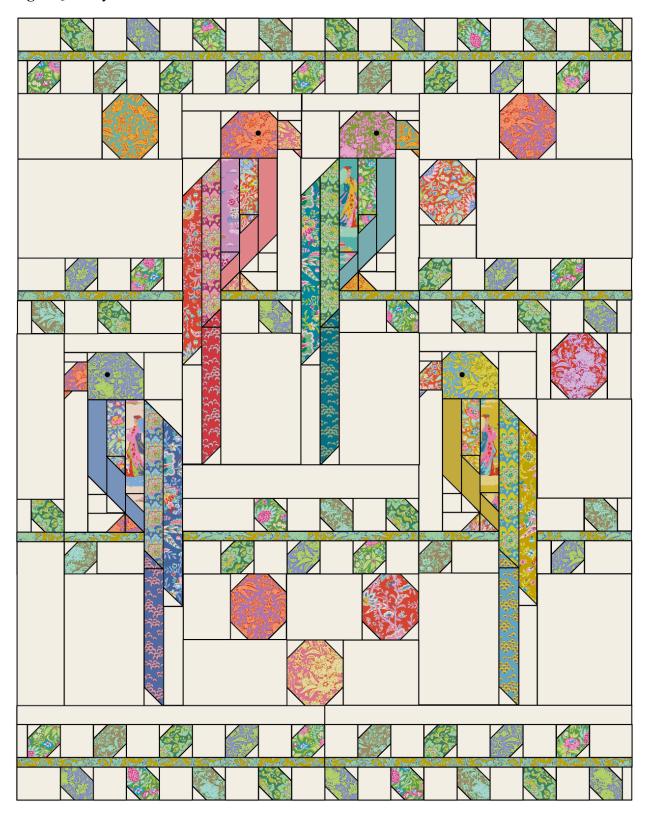


Fig C The sections of the quilt

The unfinished sizes of the units are given in blue text

Fruit Branch 6 65½in x 8½in (166.4cm x 21.6cm) Fruit Branch 4 23in x 26in (58.4cm x 66cm) Fruit Branch 1 Parrot 1 Parrot 2 13in x 40in (33cm x 101.6cm) 18in x 26in (45.7cm x 66cm) 13in x 40in (33cm x 101.6cm) Fruit Parrot 4 Fruit Branch 5 Branch 2 Parrot 3 13in x 40in (33cm x 101.6cm) 10½in x 40in (26.7cm x 101.6cm) 5½in x 40in (14cm x 101.6cm) 13in x 40in (33cm x 101.6cm) Fruit Branch 3 251/2in x 26in (64.8cm x 66cm) Fruit Branch 7 65½in x 10½in (166.4cm x 26.7cm)

Cutting Out

2 Fabric 1 is used for all of the background pieces in each section. Keep all offcuts in case you need them. When cutting the fabrics for the parrots, refer to **Fig D** for the cut measurements for these birds. Pieces with red letters indicate those where fussy cutting was used to select attractive parts of the fabric pattern (see **Fig G** as an example).

Note: In **Fig D**, Parrot 1 has a slightly different layout for pieces **w**, **x** and **t** under the parrot's feet. For Parrot 1 use the measurements given in blue (**w1** and **w2**). (The narrow piece of w2 has been added to separate the leaf from the back feather of Parrot 2.)

3 When cutting the fabrics for the fruit branches, refer to **Figs E** for Fruit Branches 1, 2, 3 and 4 and **Fig F** for Fruit Branches 5, 6 and 7. The exact positions of all of the fabrics are shown in **Fig H** (parrots) and **Fig I** (fruit branches), so follow these carefully. It is easier to keep track of all the pieces if you keep each section's pieces together in labelled plastic bags.

Fig D Cut measurements for the Parrots Sizes include seam allowances. All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles. Some pieces may be fussy cut (red letters)

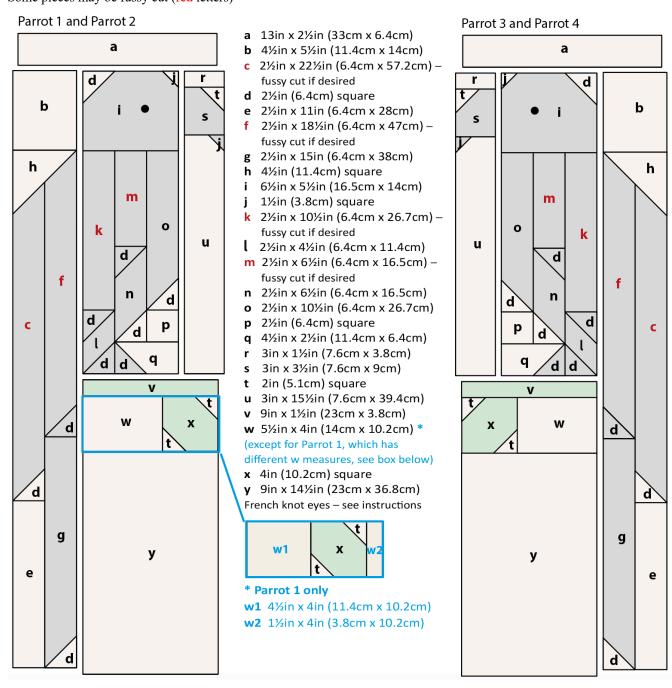


Fig E Cut measurements for Fruit Branches 1, 2, 3 and 4 Sizes include seam allowances. All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles

Fruit Branch 1 **Branch 2** Fruit Branch 3 a d a b d c d n c d g k h g g 0 ι k m Fruit Branch 4 Fruit Branches 1 and 2 n a 9½in x 7½in (24.1cm x 19cm) **b** 6½in x 7½in (16.5cm x 19cm) m k c 2½in (6.4cm) square **d** 3in x 7½in (7.6cm x 19cm) e 18in x 11in (45.7cm x 28cm) f 5½in x 4in (14cm x 10.2cm) g 4in (10.2cm) square o h 2in (5.1cm) square i 4in (10.2cm) square n j 2½in x 4in (6.4cm x 10.2cm) **k** 18in x 1½in (45.7cm x 3.8cm) d c d p 2in x 4in (5.1cm x 10.2cm) **m** 6in x 4in (15.2cm x 10.2cm) n 5½in x 18in (14cm x 45.7cm) o 6½in x 1½in (16.5cm x 3.8cm) Fruit Branches 3 and 4 a 25½in x 4in (64.8cm x 10.2cm) **b** 8in x 4in (20.3cm x 10.2cm) c 4in (10.2cm) square d 4in (10.2cm) square e 2in (5.1cm) square **f** 25½in x 1½in (64.8cm x 3.8cm) g 4½in x 4in (11.4cm x 10.2cm) h 5½in x 7½in (14cm x 19cm) 6½in x 7½in (16.5cm x 19cm) 2½in (6.4cm) square k 8½in x 7½in (21.6cm x 19cm) 11½in x 7½in (29.2cm x 19cm) m 9in x 7½in (22.9cm x 19cm) n 6½in x 4in (16.5cm x 10.2cm) o 17in x 11in (43.2cm x 28cm) p 5½in x 4in (14cm x 10.2cm)

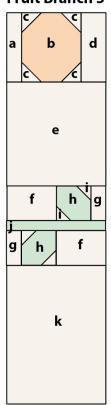
q 23in x 1½in (58.4cm x 3.8cm)r 2in x 4in (5.1cm x 10.2cm)

Fig F Cut measurements for Fruit Branches 5, 6 and 7

Sizes include seam allowances

All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles

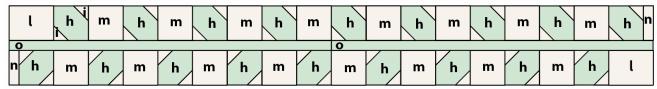
Fruit Branch 5



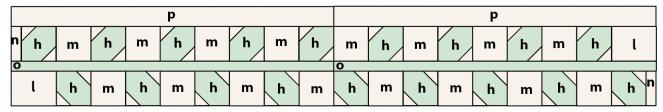
Fruit Branches 5, 6 and 7

- a 2in x 7½in (5.1cm x 19cm)
- **b** 6½in x 7½in (16.5cm x 19cm)
- c 2½in (6.4cm) square
- **d** 3in x 7½in (7.6cm x 19cm)
- e 10½in x 11in (26.7cm x 28cm)
- **f** 5½in x 4in (14cm x 10.2cm)
- g 2in x 4in (5.1cm x 10.2cm)
- h 4in (10.2cm) square
- i 2in (5.1cm) square
- j 10½in x 1½in (26.7cm x 3.8cm)
- k 10½in x 14½in (26.7cm x 36.8cm)
- l 5in x 4in (12.7cm x 10.2cm)
- m 4in (10.2cm) square
- **n** 1½in x 4in (3.8cm x 10.2cm)
- o 33in x 1½in (83.8cm x 3.8cm)
- **p** 33in x 2½in (83.8cm x 6.4cm)

Fruit Branch 6



Fruit Branch 7



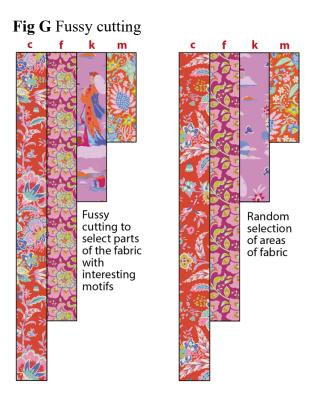


Fig H Fabric positions for the parrot units Numbers indicate fabrics used (see Fig A). All backgrounds are Fabric 1. Make one of each parrot

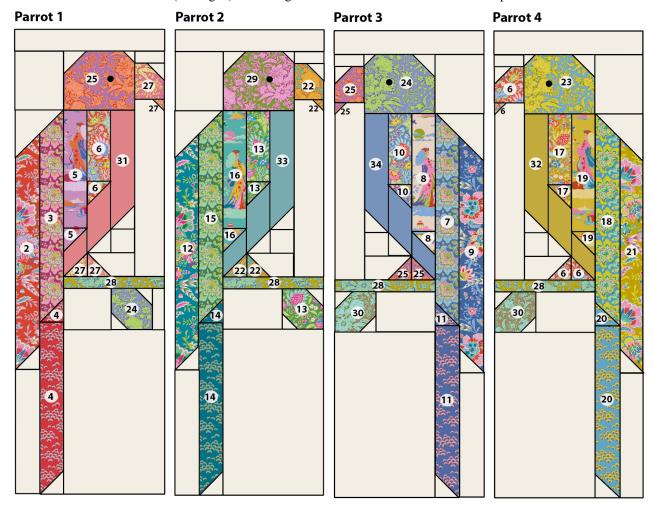
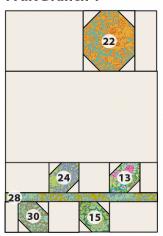


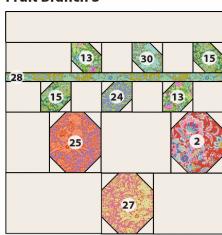
Fig I Fabric positions for the Fruit Branches

Numbers indicate fabrics used (see Fig A). All backgrounds are Fabric 1. Make one of each unit

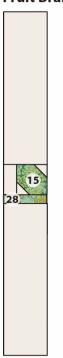
Fruit Branch 1



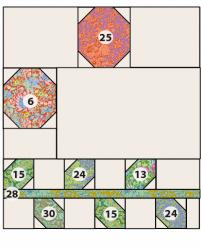
Fruit Branch 3



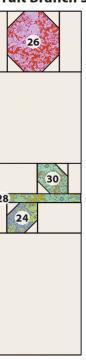
Fruit Branch 2



Fruit Branch 4



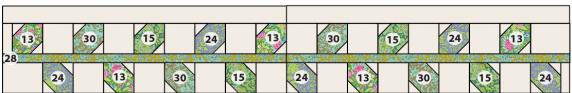
Fruit Branch 5



Fruit Branch 6



Fruit Branch 7



- **4** To cut the backing fabric, remove the selvedges and cut the fabric into two pieces each 92in (234cm) long x width of fabric. Sew them together along the long side and press the seam open. Trim to a piece about 74in x 92in (188cm x 234cm).
- 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.

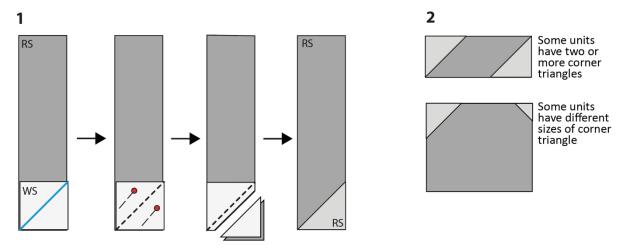
Making the Quilt Sections

6 Fig C shows the sections of the quilt, where one of each section is made. The unfinished sizes are shown, so you can check your measurements after each section is completed. We will describe the sections in full, starting with the parrots. The techniques are very simple, but there are a lot of pieces so take care when sewing them together to choose the correct pieces and sew with accurate ½in (6mm) seams. Many of the units use corner square triangles to create angles. We describe this technique first, so refer back to it if ncessary.

Making Corner Triangle Units

7 Take the relevant rectangle (or square) and place it right side up. Take a smaller square and pencil mark a diagonal line on the wrong side as in **Fig J 1**. Place the square right sides together with the larger piece, aligning the edges and with the marked line in the direction needed (this will vary depending on the unit being sewn). Sew along the marked line. Trim off excess fabric ¼in (6mm) past the sewn line and then press the triangle outwards. The quilt uses many corner triangle units: some have only one triangle, some have two, some have different sizes, as the examples shown in **Fig J 2**, but the method of making is the same.

Fig J Making corner triangle units



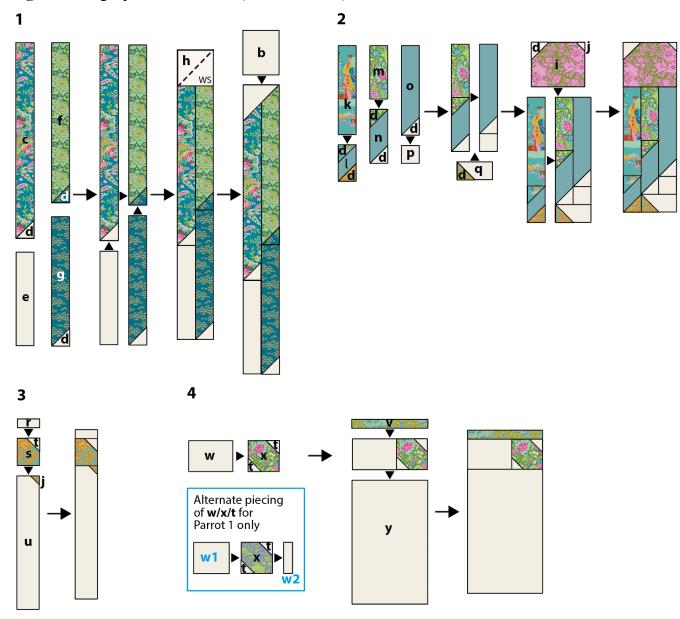
Making the Parrots

- **8** The parrots are all made the same way except that Parrots 1 and 2 face right and Parrots 3 and 4 face left. Parrot 1 also has a small change of layout, as described in Step 2. Use **Fig D** for the cut measurements and **Fig H** for the fabric positions. We will describe Parrot 2 in the following steps.
- 9 Beginning with the bird's long feathers, lay out the pieces shown in Fig~K~1 (some of which are fussy cut) and create the corner units shown. Note that triangle corner h is created

across two feather strips. Sew the long pieces together in the stages shown. Press seams after each stage.

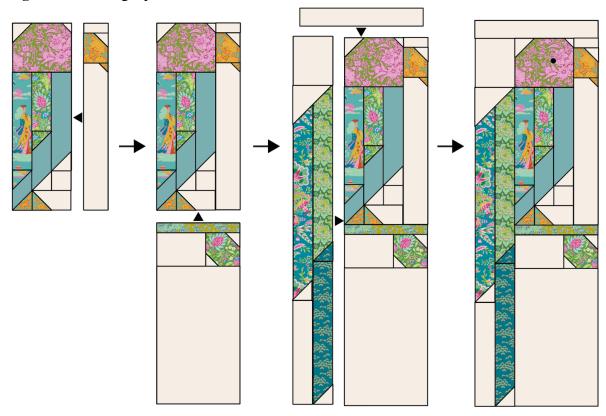
Next, sew the head and chest pieces as in **Fig K 2**, creating the corner triangle units first and then following the stages shown. Follow **Fig K 3** to sew the beak and background. To sew the leaf and background sub-unit follow **Fig K 4**. (The slight change of layout for Parrot 1 is shown in the blue box, so follow this when making that parrot.)

Fig K Making a parrot's sub-units (Parrot 2 shown)



10 When all the sub-units are made, sew them together as shown in Fig L. The parrot should be 13in x 40in (33cm x 101.6cm) at this stage. You could add the French knot eye now if you wish, or leave until all of the parrots are sewn. To sew the eye, thread all six strands of black stranded cotton into a hand-sewing needle and with the thread wrapped twice around the needle, sew the French knot. Fasten off the thread securely on the back of the work.

Fig L Assembling a parrot



11 Make the other three parrots in the same way, following Fig D for the cut measurements and Fig G for the fabric positions. Check the unfinished sizes are correct.

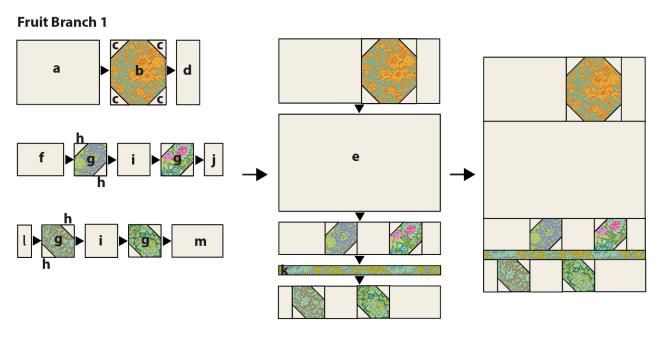
Making Fruit Branches 1 and 2

12 The fruit branches are all similar, featuring leaves and mangoes, with unpieced background pieces in between to create spaces in the units. Follow Fig E and Fig F for the cut measurements and Fig I for the fabric positions.

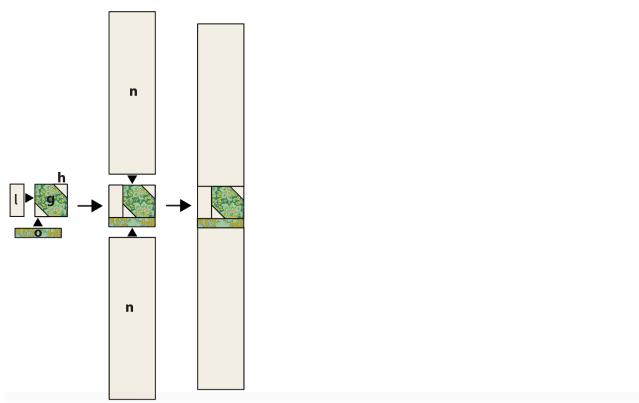
Begin with Fruit Branch 1, laying out the pieces as shown in **Fig M**. Create the corner triangles needed. Now sew the pieces together into three rows, as shown, pressing seams after each stage, and then assemble the unit. Once sewn, refer to **Fig C** to check the unit is the correct size.

Make Fruit Branch 2 as shown in the lower diagram of Fig M. Check the sewn size is correct.

Fig M Making Fruit Branches 1 and 2



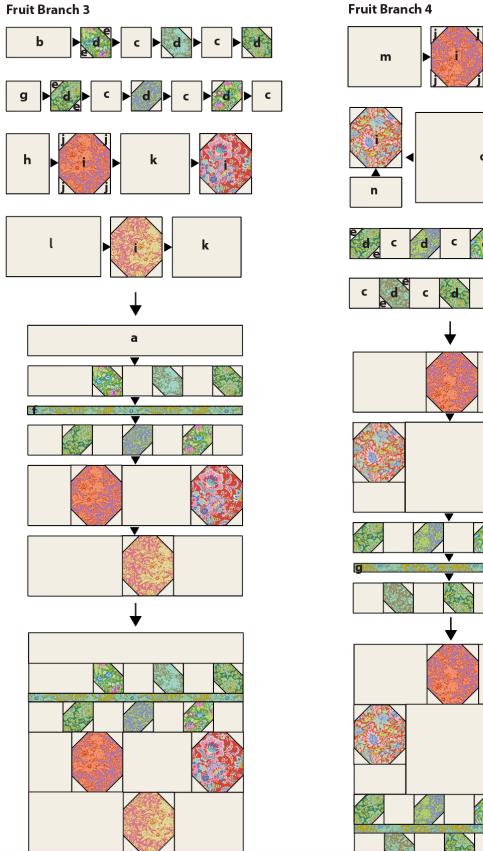
Fruit Branch 2



Making Fruit Branches 3 and 4

13 Follow the stages in Fig N to make Fruit Branch 3 and then Fruit Branch 4, pressing seams after each stage. Once sewn, refer back to Fig C to check the units are the correct size.

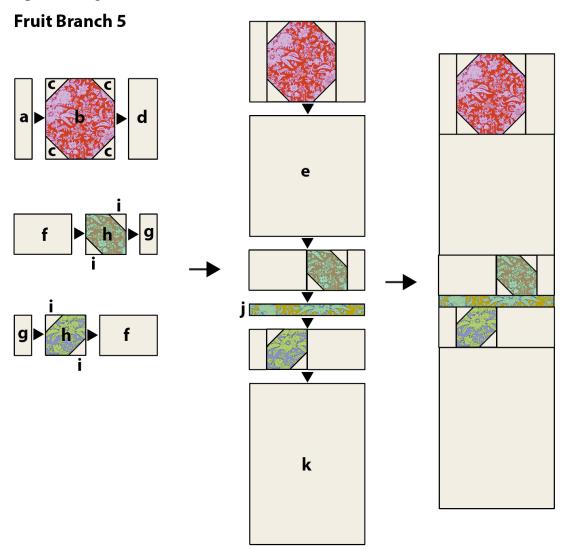
Fig N Making Fruit Branches 3 and 4 Fruit Branch 3



Making Fruit Branch 5

14 Follow Fig O to make Fruit Branch 5, pressing seams after each stage. Once sewn, refer back to Fig C to check the unit is the correct size.

Fig O Making Fruit Branch 5

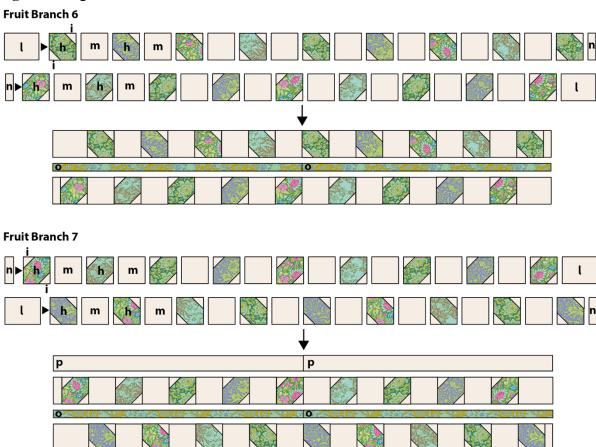


Making Fruit Branches 6 and 7

15 These fruit branches border the quilt at the top and bottom, so are the full width of the quilt. Follow **Fig P** to make Fruit Branch 6. Once the rows of leaves are sewn together, sew the two **o** pieces into a long strip before assembling the unit.

Make Fruit Branch 7 in a similar way, sewing the two **p** strips together and then the two **o** strips together before assembling the unit. Press seams after each stage. Once the units are sewn, refer back to **Fig** C to check the units are the correct size.

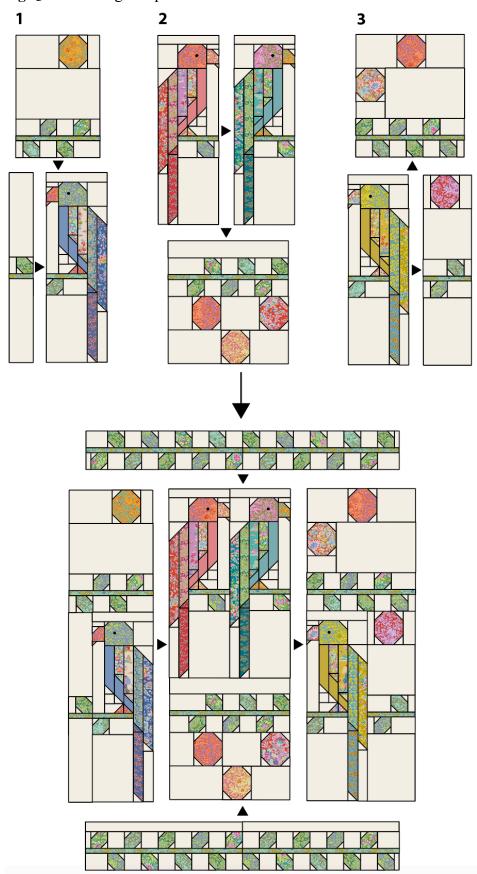
Fig P Making Fruit Branches 6 and 7



Assembling the Quilt

16 When all of the sections are sewn you can assemble the quilt. Follow Fig Q, sewing sections together as shown in stages 1, 2 and 3 of the diagram. There are a few places where seams need to be matched, so sew these neatly. Press seams after each stage. When the three vertical columns have been sewn, sew them together, matching seams where needed and then press. Finally, add the long leaf sections to the top and bottom of the quilt. Your quilt top is now finished.

Fig Q Assembling the quilt



Quilting and Finishing

17 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.

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

19 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.

20 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.

21 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.