



My Birthday Party Quilt
Aqua



My Birthday Party Quilt

(Aqua colourway)

It's birthday party time at Tilda and we are celebrating our twenty-fifth anniversary with a special Jubilee collection of fabrics using brightly coloured designs that remind us of good times in the past. The My Birthday Party Quilt is wonderfully cheerful and although the blocks are detailed, you are sure to have fun creating all the birthday children. There is another version of the quilt using a rich rust-coloured background and also four Birthday Party Pillows in four colourways and two sizes – see tildasworld.com.

Difficulty Rating ***

Materials

- Fabric 1: 4¾yds (4.3m) – Solid aqua (120042)
- Fabric 2: ¾yd (40cm) – Solid cappuccino (120007)
- Fabric 3: ¼yd (25cm) – Solid toffee (120004)
- Fabric 4: 5in (13cm) square – Solid brown (120005)
- Fabric 5: ½yd (15cm) – Solid pink (120026)
- Fabric 6: ½yd (15cm) – Solid cerise (120015)
- Fabric 7: ½yd (15cm) – Solid coral (120016)
- Fabric 8: ½yd (15cm) – Solid mustard (120040)
- Fabric 9: 9in (23cm) square – Solid rust (120017)
- Fabric 10: ½yd (15cm) – Solid salmon (120027)
- Fabric 11: 9in (23cm) square – Solid lime green (120028)
- Fabric 12: 9in (23cm) square – Solid pine (120041)
- Fabric 13: 9in (23cm) square – Solid dusty teal (120043)
- Fabric 14: ½yd (15cm) – Solid blue sage (120008)
- Fabric 15: 9in (23cm) square – Solid light blue (120044)
- Fabric 16: 9in (23cm) square – Solid night blue (120029)
- Fabric 17: ½yd (15cm) – Solid charcoal (120047)
- Fabric 18: 18in (46cm) square – Anemone red (100541) *
- Fabric 19: 12in (30cm) square – Wildgarden red (100542) *
- Fabric 20: 12in (30cm) square – Circus Life Jubilee red (100543) *
- Fabric 21: 9in (23cm) square – Bird Tree red (100544) *
- Fabric 22: 12in (30cm) square – Duck Nest red (100545) *
- Fabric 23: ½yd (15cm) – Teardrop pink (100546)
- Fabric 24: 12in (30cm) square – Circus Life Jubilee cream (100547) *
- Fabric 25: 12in (30cm) square – Autumn Bouquet mustard (100548)
- Fabric 26: 9in (23cm) square – Sue mustard (100549) (could use spare from backing)
- Fabric 27: 9in (23cm) square – Elodie mustard (100550)
- Fabric 28: ½yd (15cm) – Anemone blue (100551)
- Fabric 29: ½yd (15cm) – Wildgarden blue (100552)
- Fabric 30: 18in (46cm) square – Circus Life Jubilee blue (100553) *
- Fabric 31: ½yd (15cm) – Bird Tree blue (100554)
- Fabric 32: 9in (23cm) square – Duck Nest blue (100555)
- Fabric 33: 9in (23cm) square – Teardrop teal (100556)
- Fabric 34: 12in (30cm) square – Bird Tree cream (100557) *

- Fabric 35: 12in (30cm) square – Autumn Bouquet teal (100558)
- Fabric 36: 9in (23cm) square – Sue teal (100559)
- Fabric 37: 12in (30cm) square – Elodie blue (100560)
- Fabric 38: 12in (30cm) square – Farm Flowers red (110096)
- Fabric 39: ¼yd (25cm) – Farm Flowers pink (110097)
- Fabric 40: 18in (46cm) square – Farm Flowers mustard (110098)
- Fabric 41: 9in (23cm) square – Farm Flowers sand (110099)
- Fabric 42: 12in (30cm) square – Farm Flowers light blue (110100)
- Fabric 43: 12in (30cm) square – Farm Flowers blue (110101)
- Fabric 44: 12in (30cm) square – Farm Flowers green (110102)
- Fabric 45: 12in (30cm) square – Farm Flowers teal (110103)
- Wadding (batting): 69in x 82in (175cm x 208cm)
- Backing fabric: 4½yds (4.2m) – Sue mustard (100549)
- Binding fabric: ½yd (50cm) – Solid dijon (120039)
- Freezer paper for appliqué
- Appliqué glue pen (optional)
- Threads for piecing, appliqué and quilting
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat
- Stranded embroidery cotton (floss) in black for eye embroidery

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 10½in x 18in (26.7cm x 45.7cm) and a fat quarter approximately 21in x 18in (53.3cm x 45.7cm). Solid fabrics are not directional, so can be cut in any direction for the most economical use. For fabrics marked with an asterisk * fussy cutting is suggested, so extra fabric has been allowed for this.

Finished Size

57½in x 73¼in (146cm x 186cm)

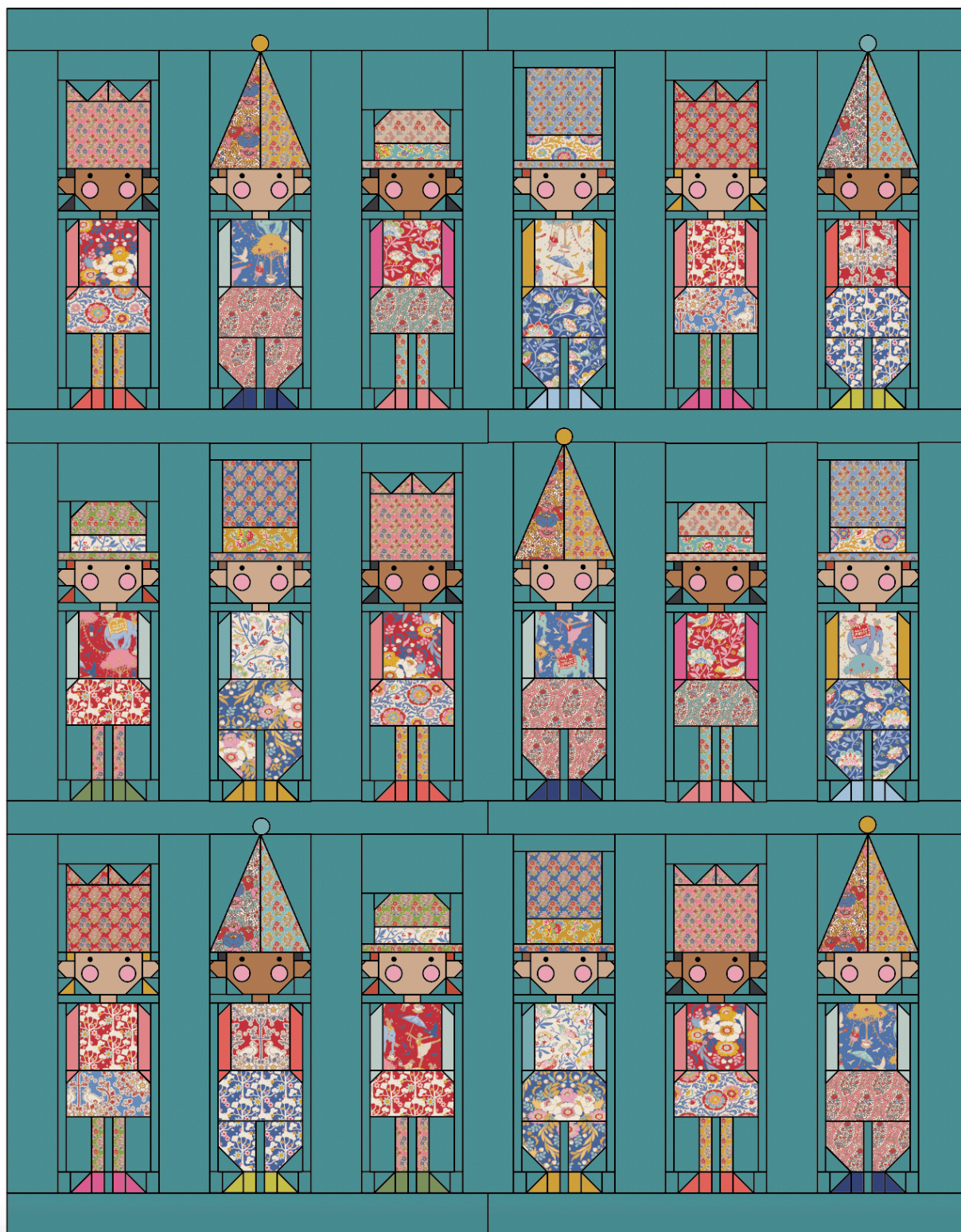
General Notes

- 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 fabric 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 selvages.
- Use ¼in (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.
- Check that any patterns being used are printed at full size (100%).

Quilt Layout

1 The quilt is made up of rows of birthday party children blocks, separated by vertical and horizontal sashing. There are four different children, each in two colourways. Their cheeks are created with turned-edge appliqué. See **Fig A** for the fabrics used and **Fig B** for the quilt layout.

Fig A Fabric swatches (aqua quilt)

Fig B Quilt layout

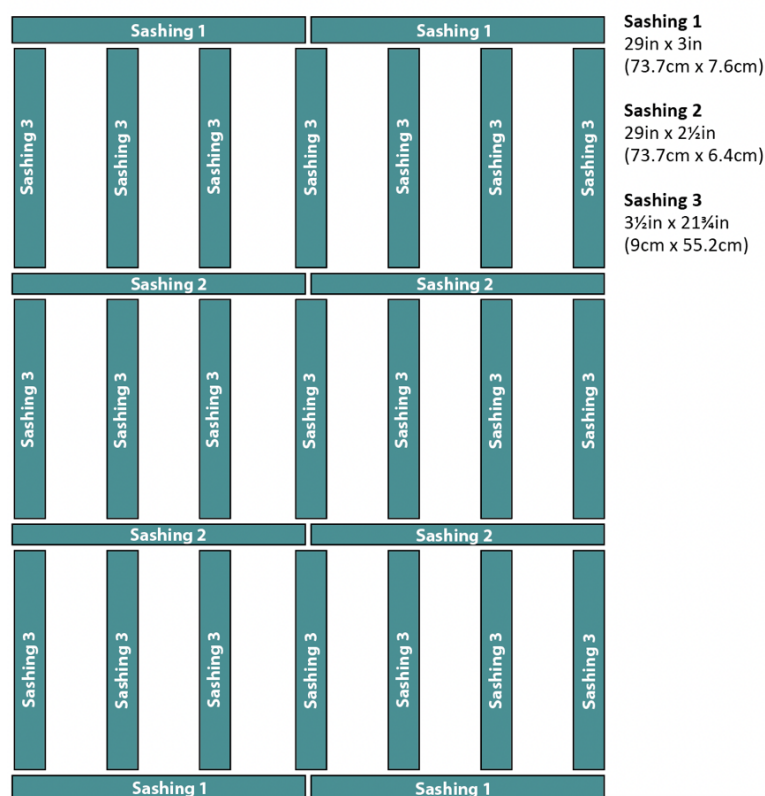
Cutting Out

2 From solid Fabric 1, cut the sashing pieces first, as follows (and shown in **Fig C**).

- Sashing 1: four strips 29in x 3in (73.7cm x 7.6cm). Sew two strips together with a $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam and press the seam open. The strip should measure $57\frac{1}{2}$ in (146cm) long. Repeat with the other two strips.
- Sashing 2: four strips 29in x $2\frac{1}{2}$ in (73.7cm x 6.4cm). Sew two strips together with a $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam and press the seam open. The strip should measure $57\frac{1}{2}$ in (146cm) long. Repeat with the other two strips.
- Sashing 3: twenty-one strips $3\frac{1}{2}$ in x $21\frac{3}{4}$ in (9cm x 52.2cm).

Fig C Cut measurements for the sashing pieces

Sizes include $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam allowances



3 From solid Fabric 1, cut the pieces for the blocks, following the measurements given in **Fig D** (hat units), **Fig E** (face units) and **Fig F** (clothes units).

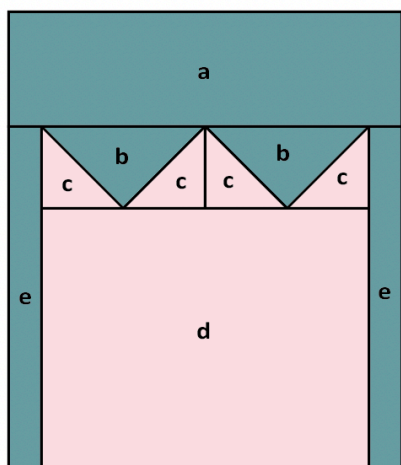
4 For the other solid and print fabrics (Fabrics 2 to 45), cut the pieces for the blocks, following the measurements given in **Fig D** (hat units), **Fig E** (face units) and **Fig F** (clothes units). Follow **Fig G** for the positions of the fabrics. If you wish, you could fussy-cut the fabric for the shirts to feature a nice motif, such as a bird, elephant or the top of a tree. **Fig H** shows the blocks used in the quilt and the number of each block to make.

5 For the appliqué circles on the cheeks and top of the clown hats, use the circle Pattern provided, cutting circles about $1\frac{1}{2}$ in (3.8cm) in diameter, which allows for a $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam all round. Cut thirty-six circles from Fabric 5, three from Fabric 8 and two from Fabric 13. Instructions for the appliqué follow later.

Fig D Cut measurements for the hat units

Sizes include seam allowances

All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles

Crown**Crown**

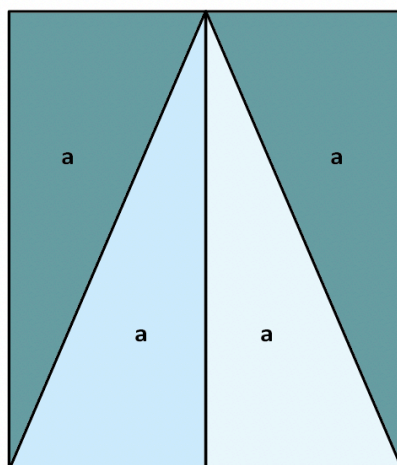
a 6½in x 2¼in (16.5cm x 5.7cm)

b 3in x 1½in (7.6cm x 4.4cm)

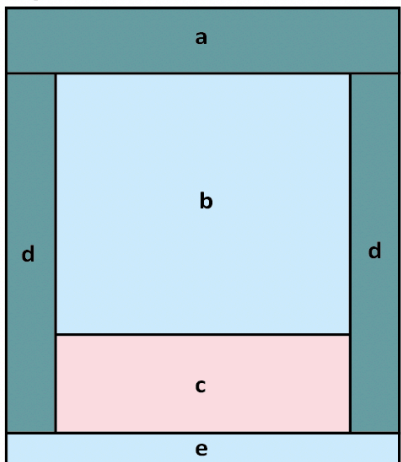
c 1½in (4.4cm) square

d 5½in x 4½in (14cm x 11.4cm)

e 1in x 5½in (2.5cm x 14.6cm)

Clown Hat**Clown Hat**

a 3½in x 7½in (9cm x 19cm)

Top Hat**Top Hat**

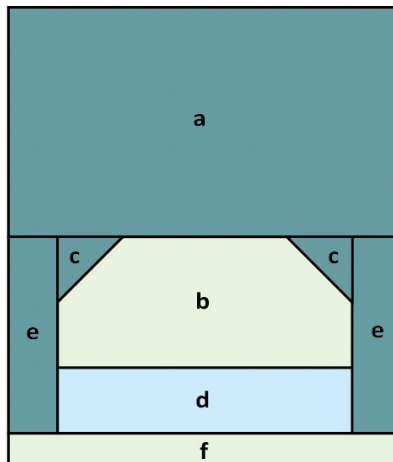
a 6½in x 1½in (16.5cm x 3.8cm)

b 5in x 4½in (12.7cm x 11.4cm)

c 5in x 2in (12.7cm x 5.1cm)

d 1½in x 6in (3.2cm x 15.2cm)

e 1in x 6½in (2.5cm x 16.5cm)

Bowler Hat**Bowler Hat**

a 6½in x 4in (16.5cm x 10.2cm)

b 5in x 2½in (12.7cm x 6.4cm)

c 1½in (3.8cm) square

d 5in x 1½in (12.7cm x 3.8cm)

e 1½in x 3½in (3.2cm x 9cm)

f 1in x 6½in (2.5cm x 16.5cm)

Fig E Cut measurements for the face units

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

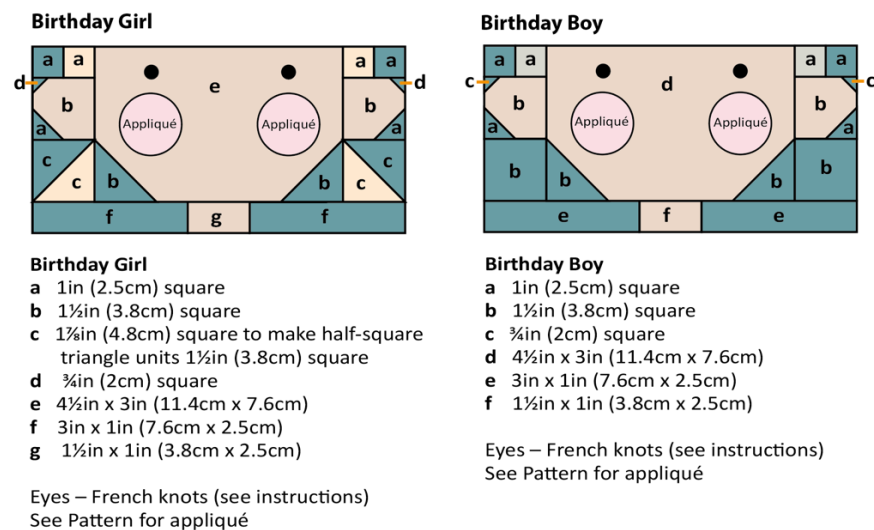


Fig F Cut measurements for the clothes units

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

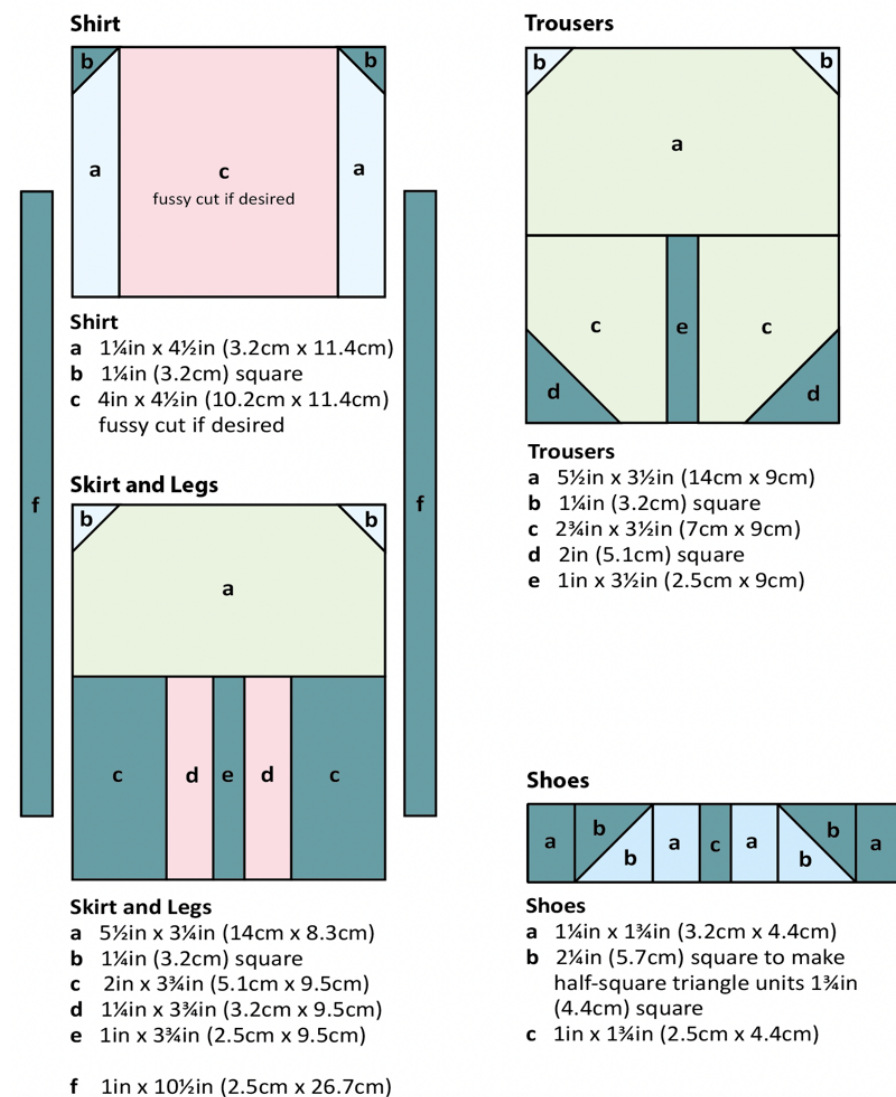


Fig G Fabric positions in the blocks

Numbers refer to fabrics (see Fig A). All background is Fabric 1. All appliqué cheeks are Fabric 5

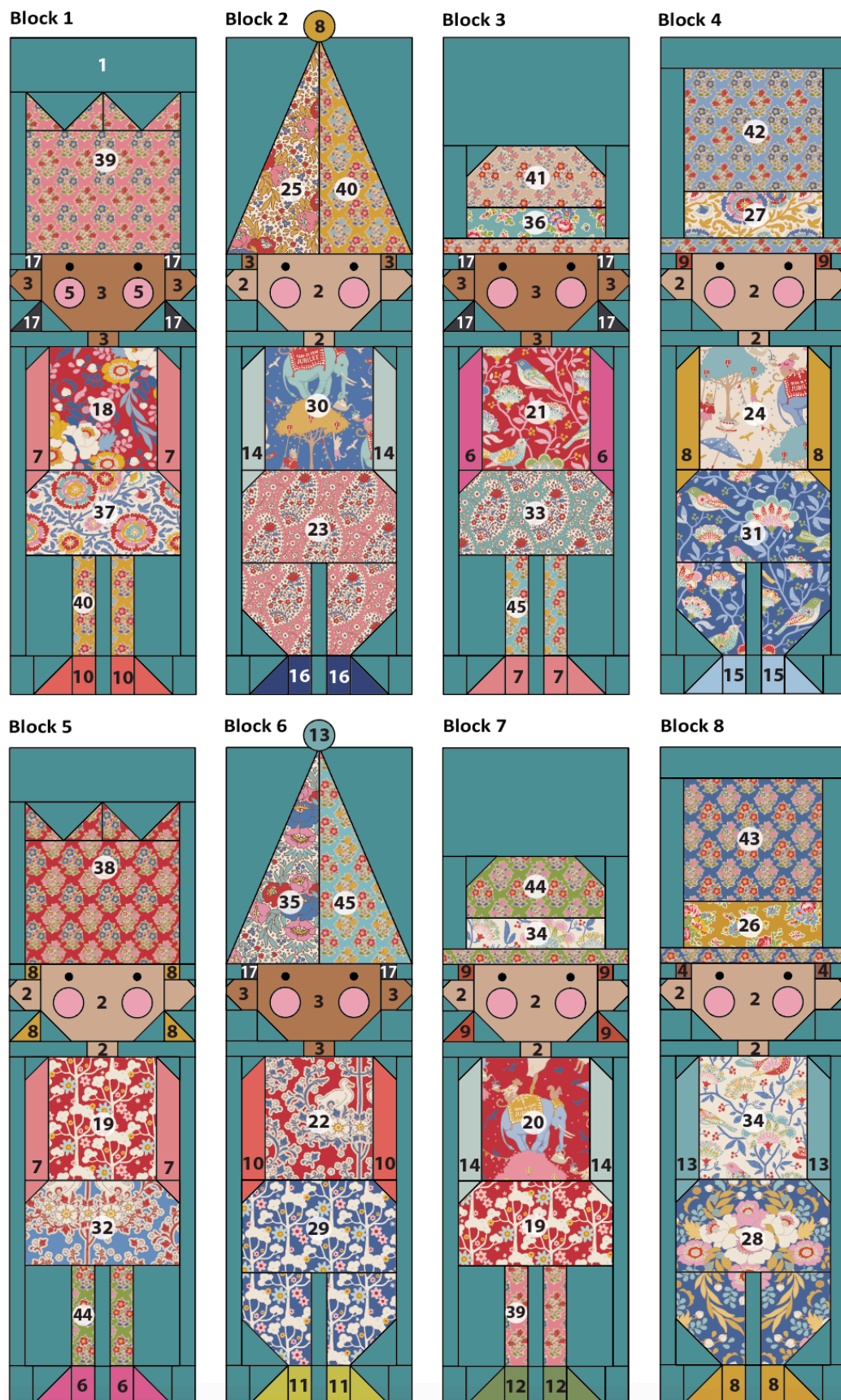
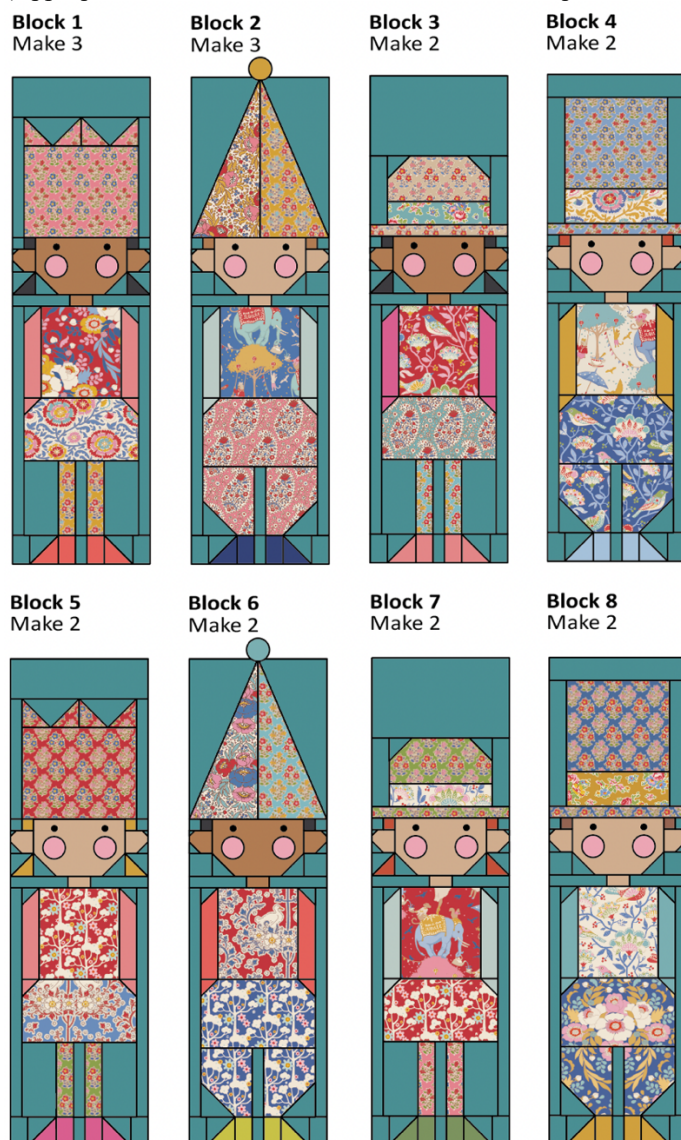


Fig H Blocks used in the quilt

Make the number of blocks indicated

(Appliqué circles on the clown hats are added after quilt assembly)



6 Remove the selvages from the backing fabric. Cut the fabric into two pieces each 33½in (85cm) wide x 81in (206cm) long. Sew them together along the long side and press the seam open to make a piece about 66½in x 81in (169cm x 206cm).

7 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.

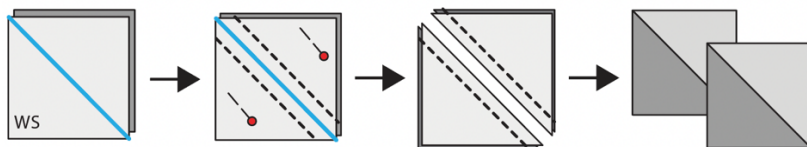
Making the Blocks

8 There are eight different blocks, some made three times and others twice. The blocks have some units in common – half-square triangle units, corner triangle units and flying geese units – and these will be described first. Refer back to these basic methods when needed.

9 *Half-Square Triangle Units:* Half-square triangle (HST) units occur in the girl's face and the shoe units. The sizes needed vary, so follow the cutting measurements carefully.

The method described here makes two units at the same time. Take two different squares and on the wrong side of the lighter square, pencil mark the diagonal line (**Fig I**). Place the two squares right sides (RS) together and sew $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) away from the marked line on both sides. Cut the units apart along the marked line and press the units, normally towards the darker fabric. Check each unit is the unfinished size it is meant to be.

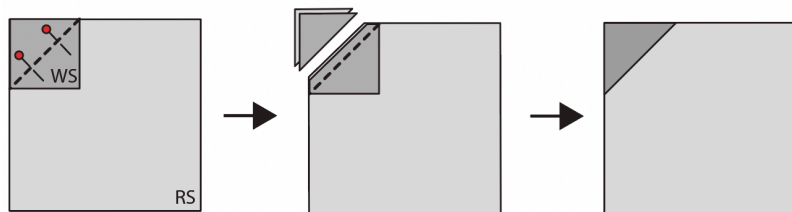
Fig I Making half-square triangle units



10 Corner Triangle Units: Corner triangle units occur in all of the blocks in various places. A triangle may only be needed on one corner or more than one. The sizes of the pieces will vary depending on the motif, so follow the cutting measurements carefully. Regardless of size, the basic method is the same.

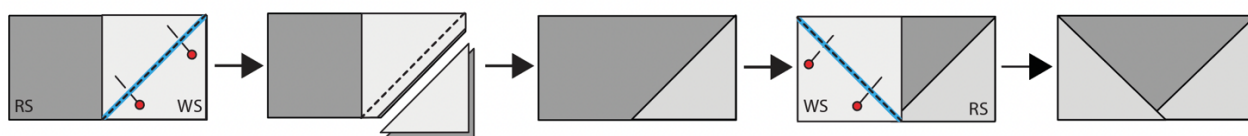
Take the larger piece of fabric and place it right side (RS) up. Take the smaller square and pencil mark the diagonal line on the wrong side. Pin the square right sides together with the larger piece, aligning the edges as shown in **Fig J**, and with the diagonal line in the direction needed. (Note: the position of the square and the direction of the marked line will vary 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 and press the triangle outwards.

Fig J Making a corner triangle unit



11 Flying Geese Units: Flying geese units occur in the crowns. Take the rectangle and place it right side up. Take two squares and pencil mark one diagonal line on the wrong side of each square. Place one of the squares right side down on the right-hand side of the rectangle, aligning the top, bottom and right side and with the diagonal line in the direction shown in **Fig K**. Sew along the marked line. Trim off excess fabric $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) outside of the sewn line and press the triangle outwards. Repeat with the other square on the other side of the rectangle, angling the marked line in the opposite direction, as shown.

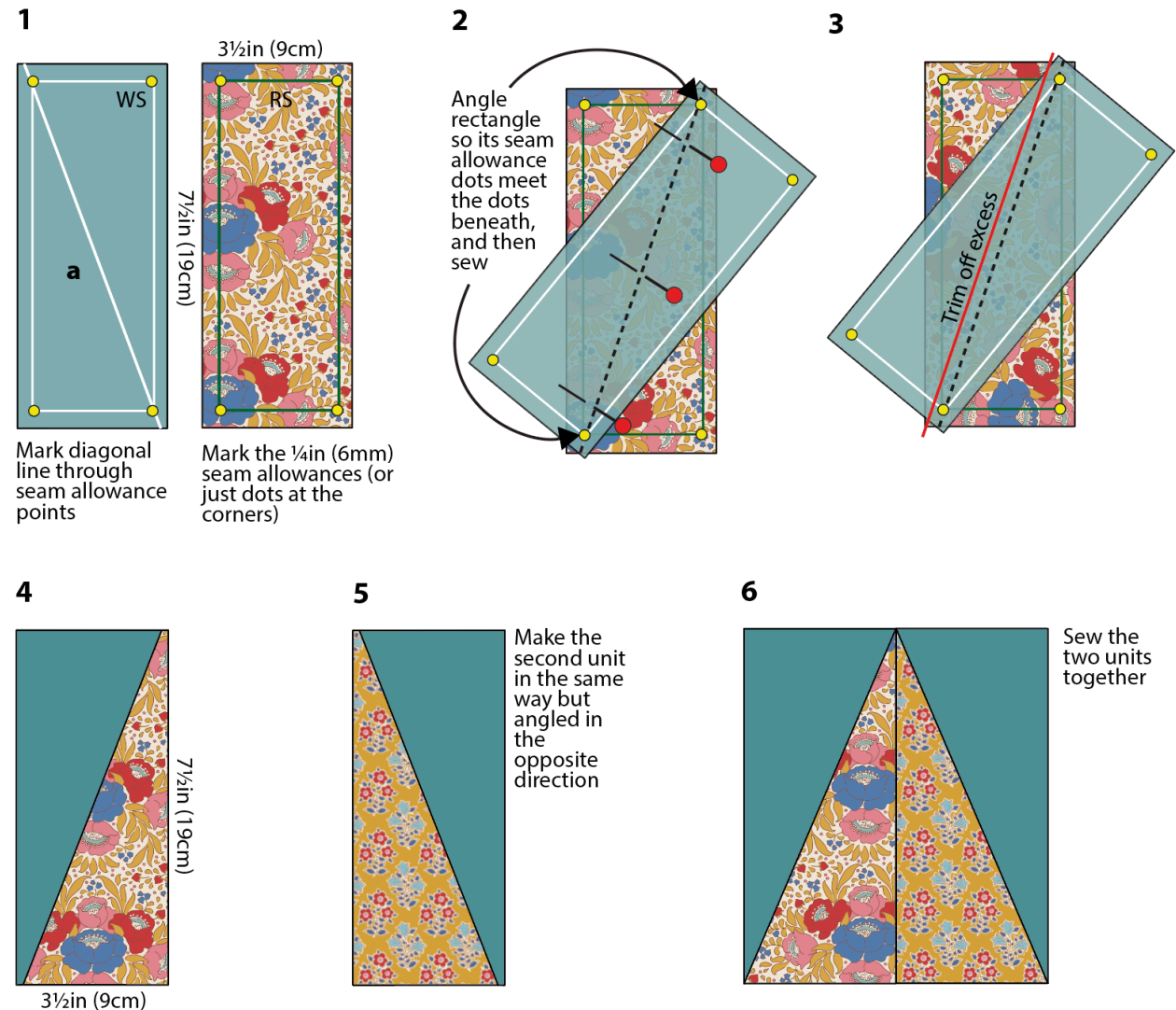
Fig K Making a flying goose unit



12 Half-Rectangle Triangle Units: For the clown hat a technique called half-rectangle triangles is needed. **Fig L** shows the process. Begin by marking the $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam allowances and dots at the corners, on the right side of the print fabric and the wrong side of

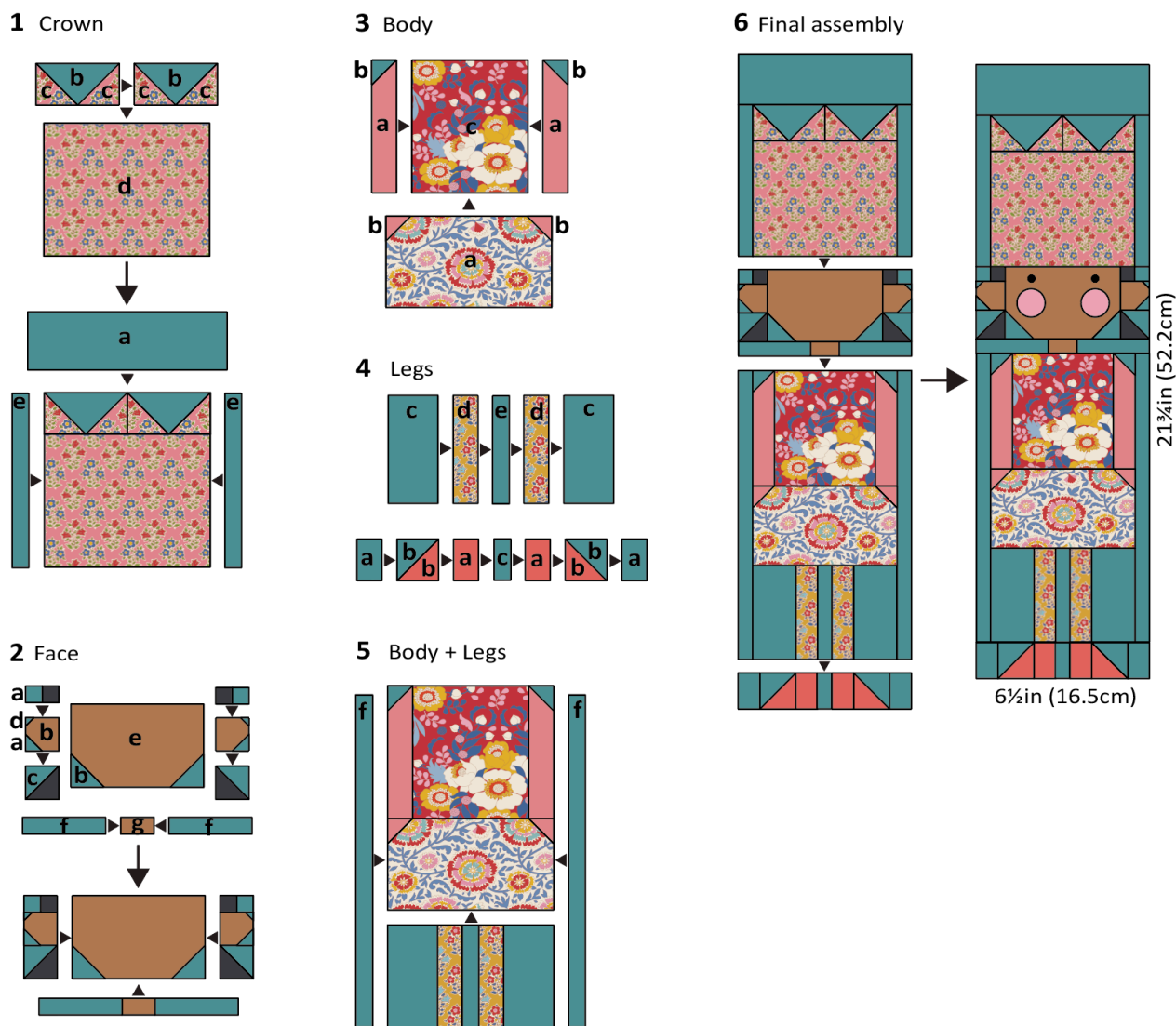
the solid fabric. On the solid fabric, mark a diagonal line from corner to corner of the seam allowance in the direction shown (**Fig L 1**). Place the fabric pieces right sides together, angling the solid fabric so the dots on the diagonal line match the dots on the fabric beneath (**Fig L 2**). Pin in place and then sew along the diagonal line. Trim excess fabric $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) from the sewn line (**Fig L 3**) and press. Check the unit is the correct size (**Fig L 4**). To make the other unit for the hat, use the same method but mark the diagonal line in the opposite direction (**Fig L 5**). Once the two units are made sew them together (**Fig L 6**).

Fig L Making the half-rectangle triangle units for a clown hat

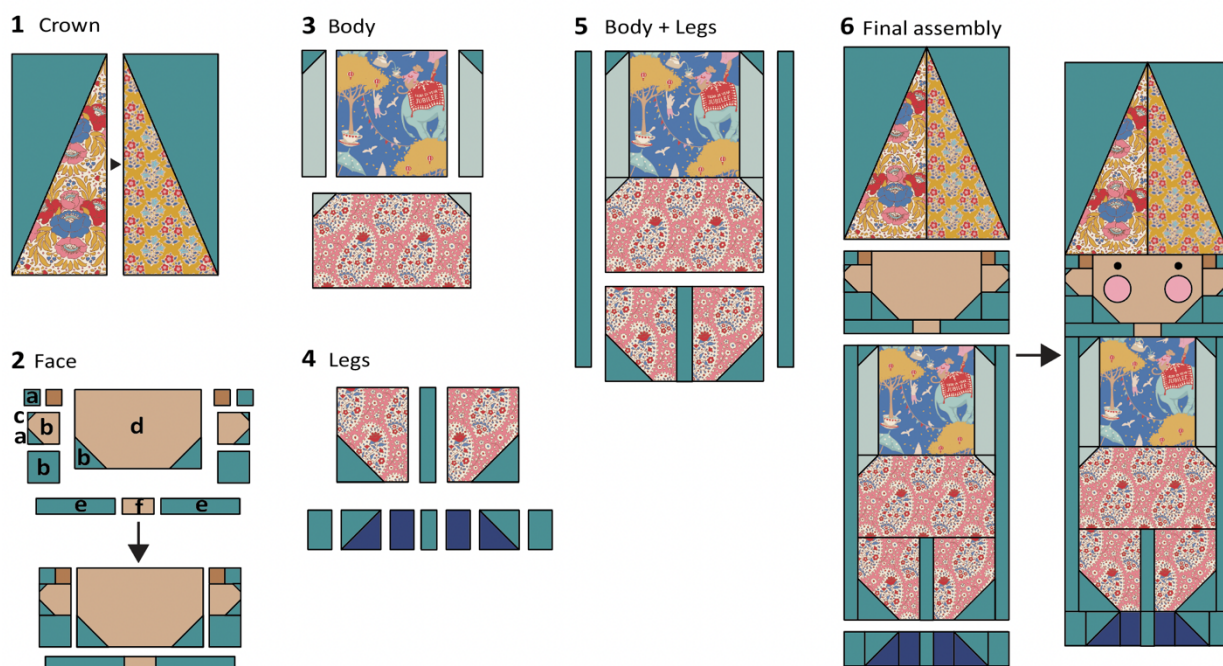


Assembling Block 1

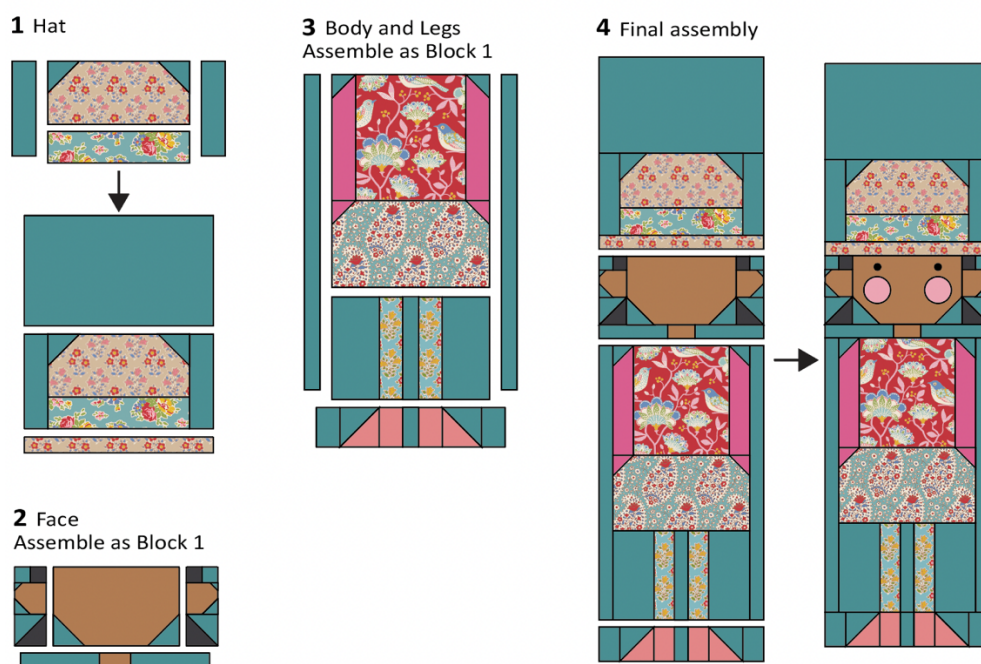
13 Make all of the units needed for Block 1, using the common techniques described above. Lay out all of the pieces as shown in **Fig M** and follow stages **M 1**, **M 2**, **M 3**, **M 4** and **M 5**, there to sew the units together – the diagram shows the parts of the block split up for easy identification (crown, face, body and legs). Press seams open or to one side. When the individual sections have been made sew them together into a long column as in **Fig M 6** and press. Check the block is $6\frac{1}{2}$ in x $21\frac{3}{4}$ in (16.5cm x 55.2cm) at this stage. You could add the appliqué cheeks now and sew the eyes or leave them until later – instructions are given later. Make three of Block 1 in total.

Fig M Assembling Block 1**Assembling Block 2**

14 Make all of the units needed for Block 2, using the common techniques described above. Lay out all of the pieces as shown in **Fig N** and follow stages **N 1**, **N 2**, **N 3**, **N 4** and **N 5**, there to sew the units together – the diagram shows the parts of the block split up for easy identification (crown, face, body and legs). Press seams open or to one side. When the individual sections have been made sew them together into a long column as in **Fig N 6** and press. Check the block is 6 1/2 in x 21 3/4 in (16.5 cm x 55.2 cm) at this stage. Make three of Block 2 in total.

Fig N Assembling Block 2**Assembling Block 3**

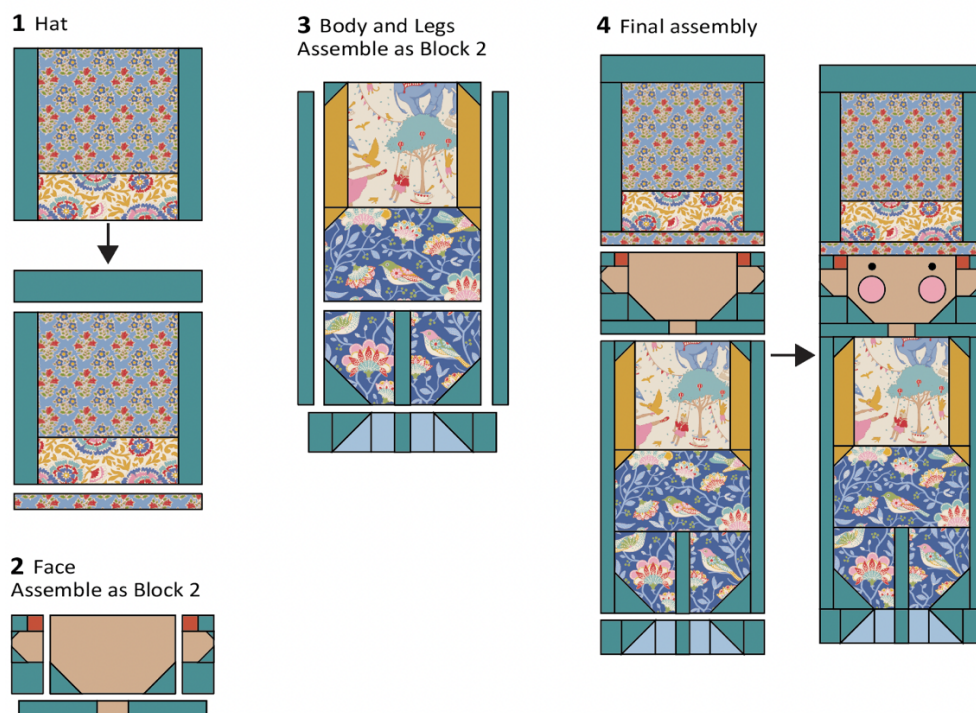
15 Blocks 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 are made in a similar way to Blocks 1 and 2, so refer back to these blocks if needed. Make all of the units needed for Block 3. Lay out all of the pieces as shown in **Fig O** and follow stages **O 1**, **O 2**, and **O 3** to sew the units together. Press seams open or to one side. When the individual sections have been made sew them together into a long column as in **Fig O 4** and press. Check the block is 6½in x 21¾in (16.5cm x 55.2cm) at this stage. Make two of Block 3 in total.

Fig O Assembling Block 3

Assembling Block 4

16 Blocks 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 are made in a similar way to Blocks 1 and 2, so refer back to these blocks if needed. Make all of the units needed for Block 3. Lay out all of the pieces as shown in **Fig P** and follow stages **P 1**, **P 2**, and **P 3** to sew the units together. Press seams open or to one side. When the individual sections have been made sew them together into a long column as in **Fig P 4** and press. Check the block is 6½in x 21¾in (16.5cm x 55.2cm) at this stage. Make two of Block 4 in total.

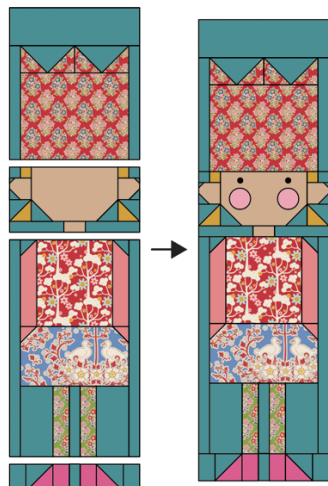
Fig P Assembling Block 4



Assembling Block 5

17 Assemble Block 5 in the same way as Block 1. **Fig Q** shows the final assembly. Check the block is 6½in x 21¾in (16.5cm x 55.2cm) at this stage. Make two of Block 5 in total.

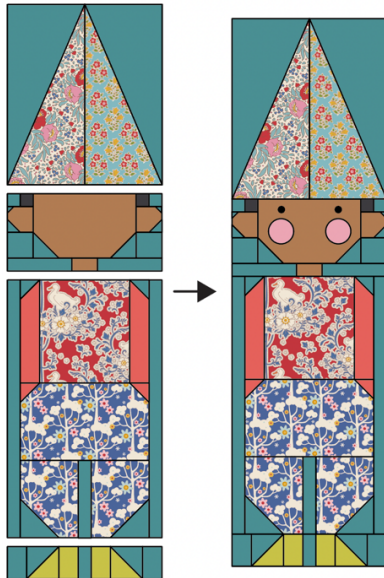
Fig Q Assembling Block 5



Assembling Block 6

18 Assemble Block 6 in the same way as Block 2. **Fig R** shows the final assembly. Check the block is 6½in x 21¾in (16.5cm x 55.2cm) at this stage. Make two of Block 6 in total.

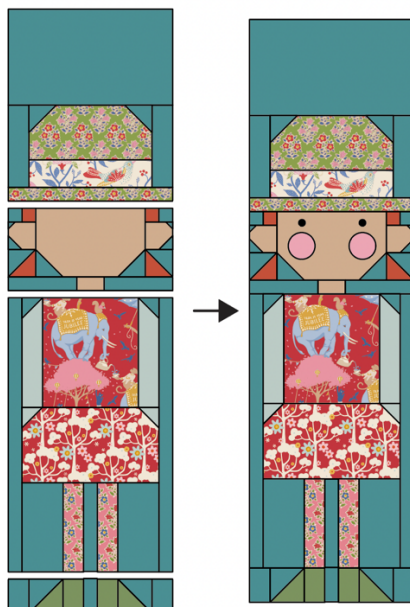
Fig R Assembling Block 6



Assembling Block 7

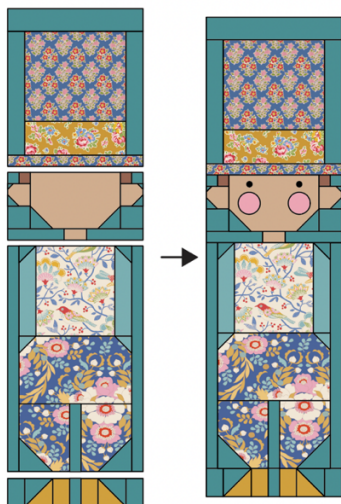
19 Assemble Block 7 in the same way as Block 3. **Fig S** shows the final assembly. Check the block is 6½in x 21¾in (16.5cm x 55.2cm) at this stage. Make two of Block 7 in total.

Fig S Assembling Block 7



Assembling Block 8

20 Assemble Block 8 in the same way as Block 4. **Fig T** shows the final assembly. Check the block is 6½in x 21¾in (16.5cm x 55.2cm) at this stage. Make two of Block 8 in total.

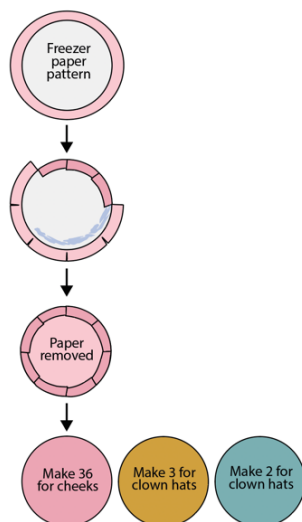
Fig T Assembling Block 8

Making the Cheeks and Eyes

21 When all of the blocks are made, you can add the appliqué cheeks and embroider the eyes. It is easier to do this on individual blocks, rather than when the whole quilt is assembled. Using the full-size pattern provided, trace the inner (smaller) circular shape onto the dull size of a piece of freezer paper and cut out the shape. Take one of the Fabric 5 circles you cut earlier and use an iron to fuse the freezer paper circle onto the wrong side of the fabric (see **Fig U**). Now apply paper piece glue to the edges of the freezer paper shape and use the point of an iron to turn the seam allowance over all round, following the curved edge neatly. Remove the paper and then press the circle again from the right side. Make thirty-six cheeks like this in total. Using a matching hand sewing thread and small slip stitches, sew the appliqué cheeks in place on the faces.

Using the same method, make three appliqué circles from Fabric 8 and two from Fabric 13. Wait until the quilt is assembled before adding these circles to the tops of the clown hats.

22 For the eyes, use six strands of black embroidery cotton (floss) and French knots with the thread wrapped twice around the needle, to sew the eyes on the faces.

Fig U Making the appliques

Assembling the Quilt

23 Lay out the blocks in three rows, each with six children, with vertical sashing pieces in between, as in **Fig V**. Sew each of the rows together and press seams towards the sashing.

24 Now sew the long horizontal sashing strips between the block rows, using the slightly wider strips at the top and bottom of the quilt (refer back to **Fig C** if needed). Press seams towards the sashing.

25 Finally, using matching thread, hand sew the appliqué circles to the top of the clown hats. Your quilt top is now finished.

Fig V Adding the vertical sashing

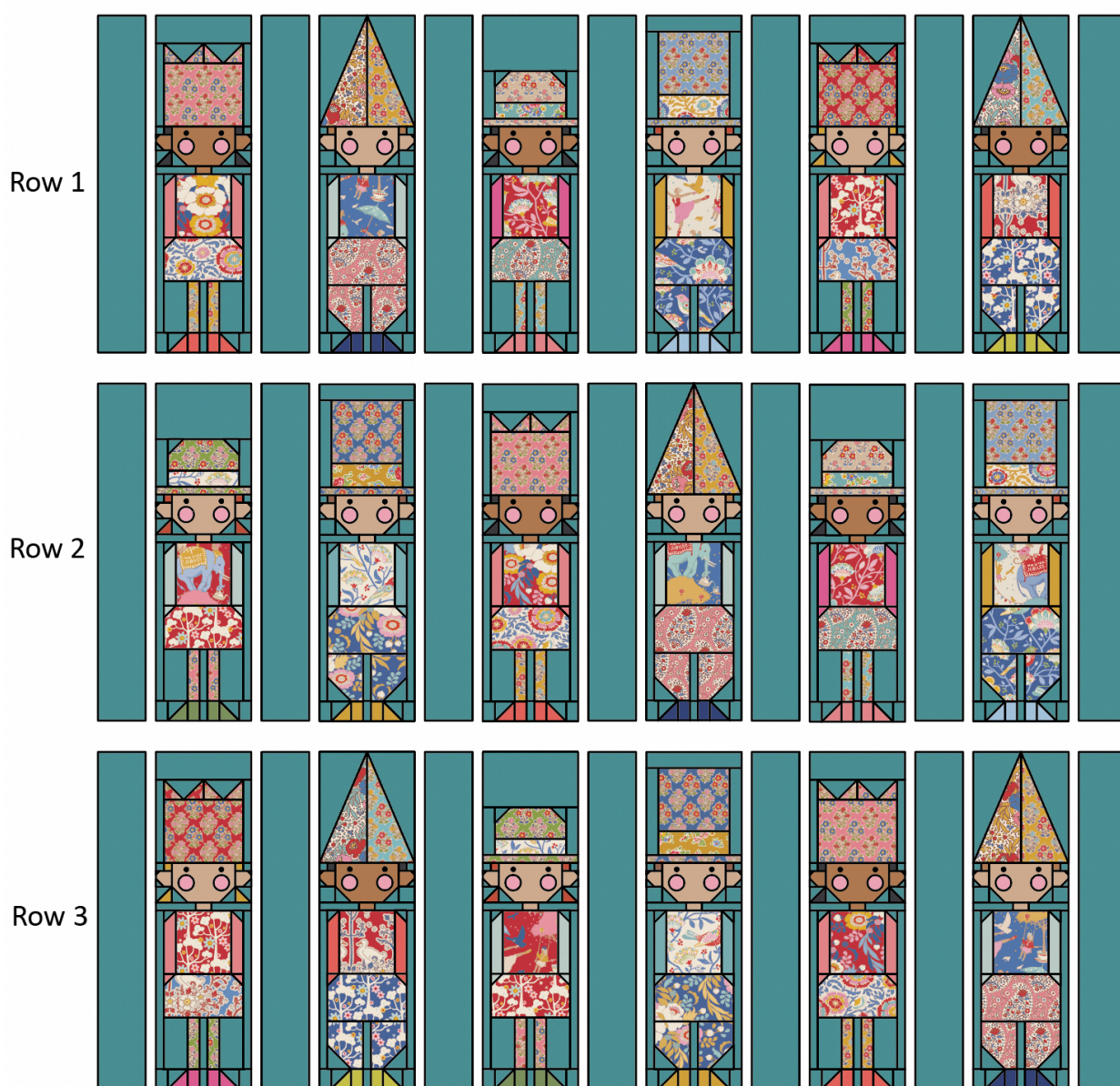
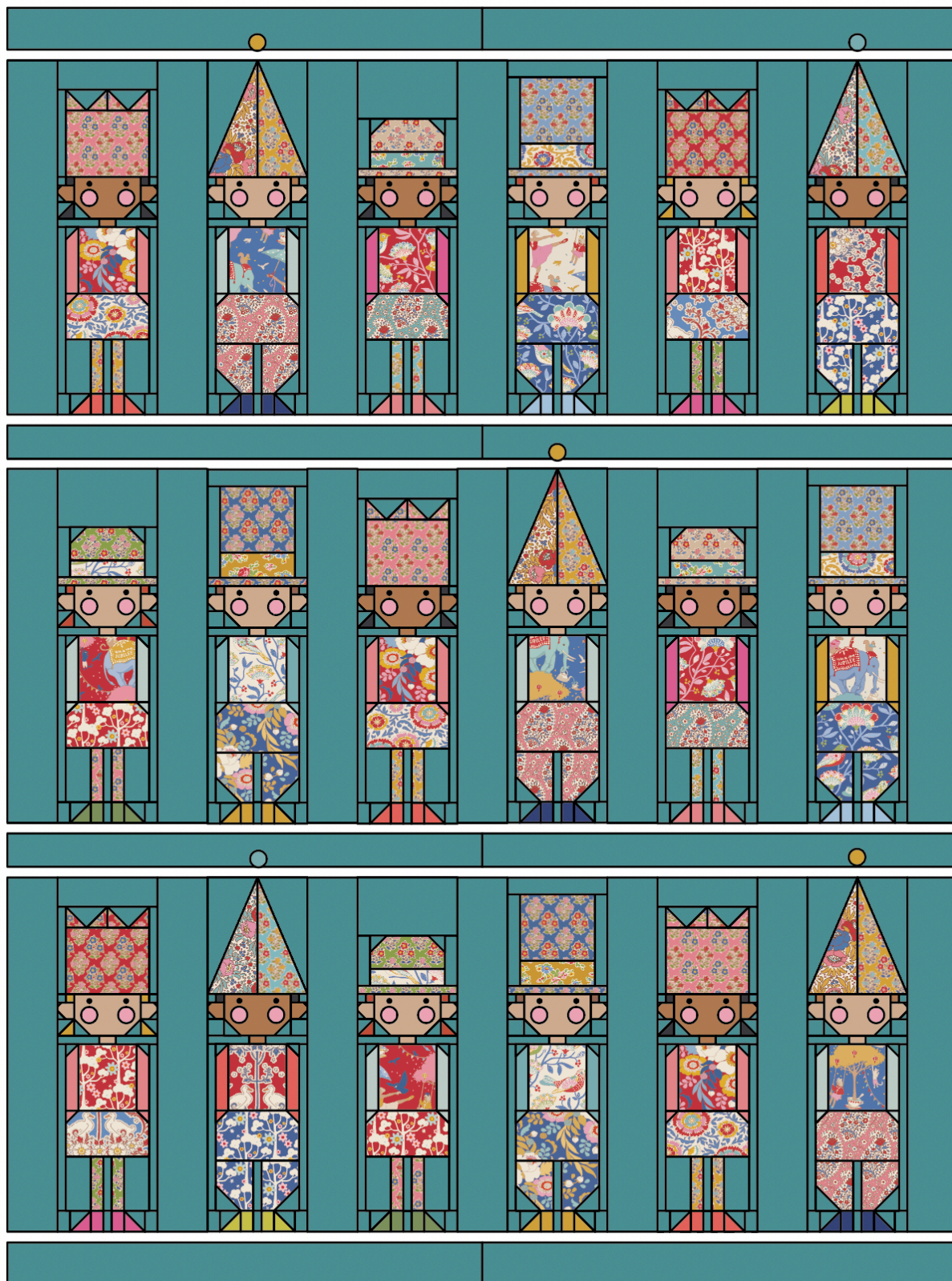


Fig W Adding the horizontal sashing and hat appliqués



Quilting and Finishing

26 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.

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

28 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.

29 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.

30 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 birthday party quilt is finished.

My Birthday Party Pattern

For appliqué on cheeks
and top of clown hat

