

Tilda®

# MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS

Christmas Star Quilt  
Red/Duckegg



# Christmas Star Quilt

(Red/duck egg colourway)

Here's a gorgeous but easy quilt for you to make to decorate your home at Christmas. The design is a simple eight-point star block, given a little extra emphasis with narrow sashing and contrasting petrol cornerstones. For this version of the quilt, we've used a red and duck egg blue colour scheme, using fabrics from the Merry Little Christmas fabric collection and its blenders, with a few fabrics from the Creating Memories collection, plus a Woven Tea Towel Basic in a fresh red and white stripe. A second quilt in this design is based on a lovely cream and green combination. On the same starry theme there are two Christmas Star Pillows. See [tildasworld.com](http://tildasworld.com) for the alternate quilt and pillow instructions.

Difficulty rating \*

## Materials

- Fabric 1:  $\frac{3}{8}$ yd (40cm) – Holly red (100621)
- Fabric 2:  $\frac{3}{4}$ yd (75cm) – Carol burgundy (100622)
- Fabric 3:  $\frac{3}{8}$ yd (40cm) – Mistletoe red (100623)
- Fabric 4:  $\frac{3}{8}$ yd (40cm) – Joy red (100624)
- Fabric 5:  $\frac{3}{4}$ yd (75cm) – Paper Scenes burgundy (100625)
- Fabric 6:  $\frac{3}{4}$ yd (75cm) – Holly duck egg (100626)
- Fabric 7:  $\frac{3}{8}$ yd (40cm) – Carol duck egg (100627)
- Fabric 8:  $\frac{3}{4}$ yd (75cm) – Joy blue (100628)
- Fabric 9:  $\frac{3}{4}$ yd (75cm) – Noel mist (110143)
- Fabric 10: 1yd (1m) – Winter Friends duck egg (100630) \*
- Fabric 11:  $\frac{1}{8}$ yd (15cm) or fat eighth – Eve petrol (110142) \*\*
- Fabric 12:  $\frac{3}{8}$ yd (40cm) – Eve burgundy (110140)
- Fabric 13:  $\frac{3}{8}$ yd (40cm) – Noel red (110139)
- Fabric 14:  $\frac{3}{8}$ yd (40cm) – Eve clay (110148)
- Fabric 15:  $\frac{3}{8}$ yd (40cm) – Paper Scenes duck egg (100629)
- Fabric 16:  $\frac{3}{8}$ yd (40cm) – Plaid stone (160079)
- Fabric 17:  $\frac{3}{8}$ yd (40cm) – Stripe toffee (160076)
- Fabric 18:  $\frac{3}{4}$ yd (75cm) – Polka Dot red (160085)
- Fabric 19:  $\frac{3}{8}$ yd (40cm) – Gingham red (160087)
- Fabric 20:  $\frac{3}{4}$ yd (75cm) – Seam Stripe red (160083)
- Fabric 21:  $\frac{3}{8}$ yd (40cm) – Apple Cake Stripe red (160112)
- Wadding (batting): 75in x 97in (190.5cm x 246.5cm)
- Backing fabric:  $5\frac{1}{2}$ yds (5m) – Waffle Plaid red (160113)
- Binding fabric:  $\frac{5}{8}$ yd (60cm) – Noel taupe (110149)
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat

## Fabric Notes

\* Fabric 10 (Winter Friends) has lots of charming motifs, so it's nice to fussy cut the squares needed for this. Extra fabric has been allowed in the Materials list. If you *don't* want to fussy cut, then only  $\frac{3}{4}$ yd (75cm) will be needed.

\*\* Fabric 11 (Eve petrol) needs a minimum depth of  $4\frac{1}{2}$ in (12cm), so make sure your fabric piece hasn't been cut wonky. If in doubt, buy  $\frac{1}{4}$ yd (25cm).

## Finished Size

67½in x 89½in (171.5cm x 227.5cm)

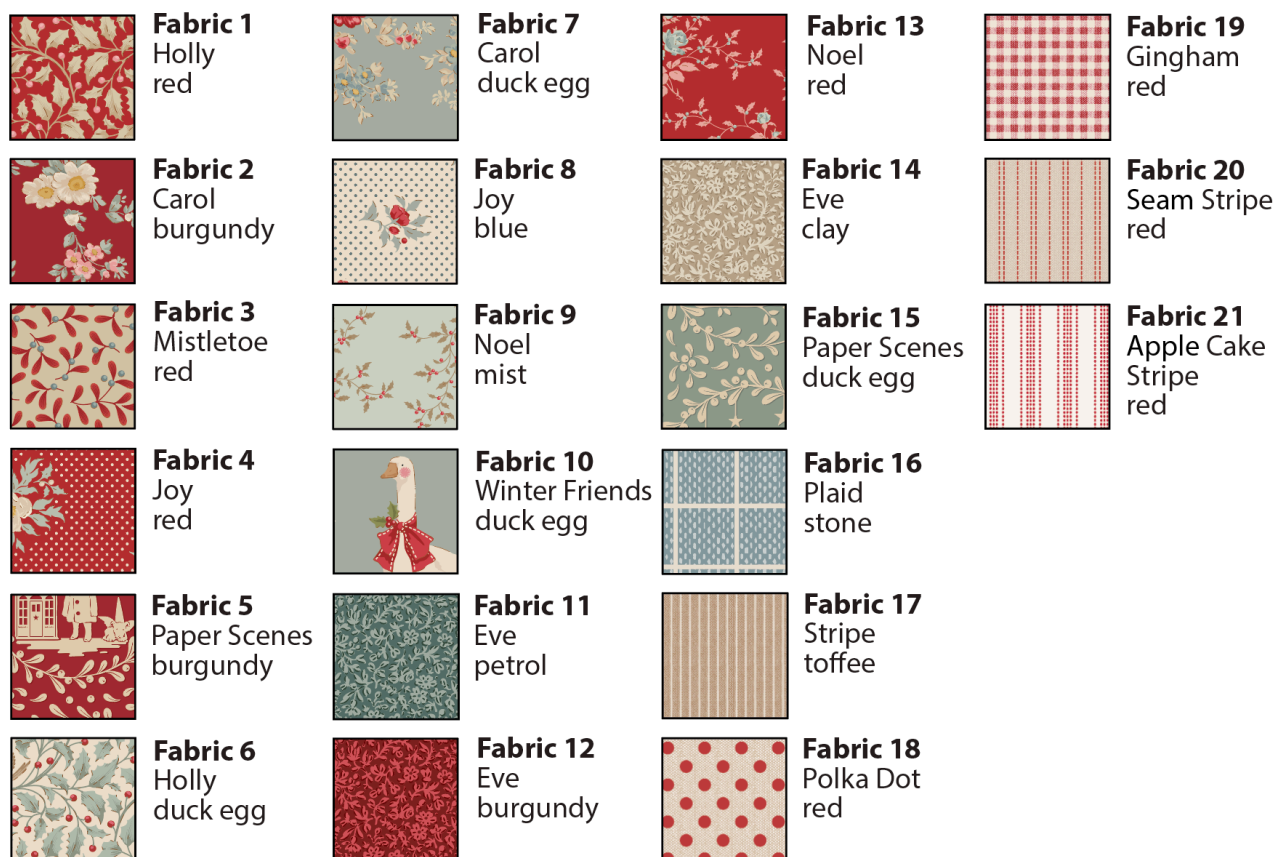
## General Notes

- 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 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.
- Abbreviations: RS = right side; WS = wrong side.

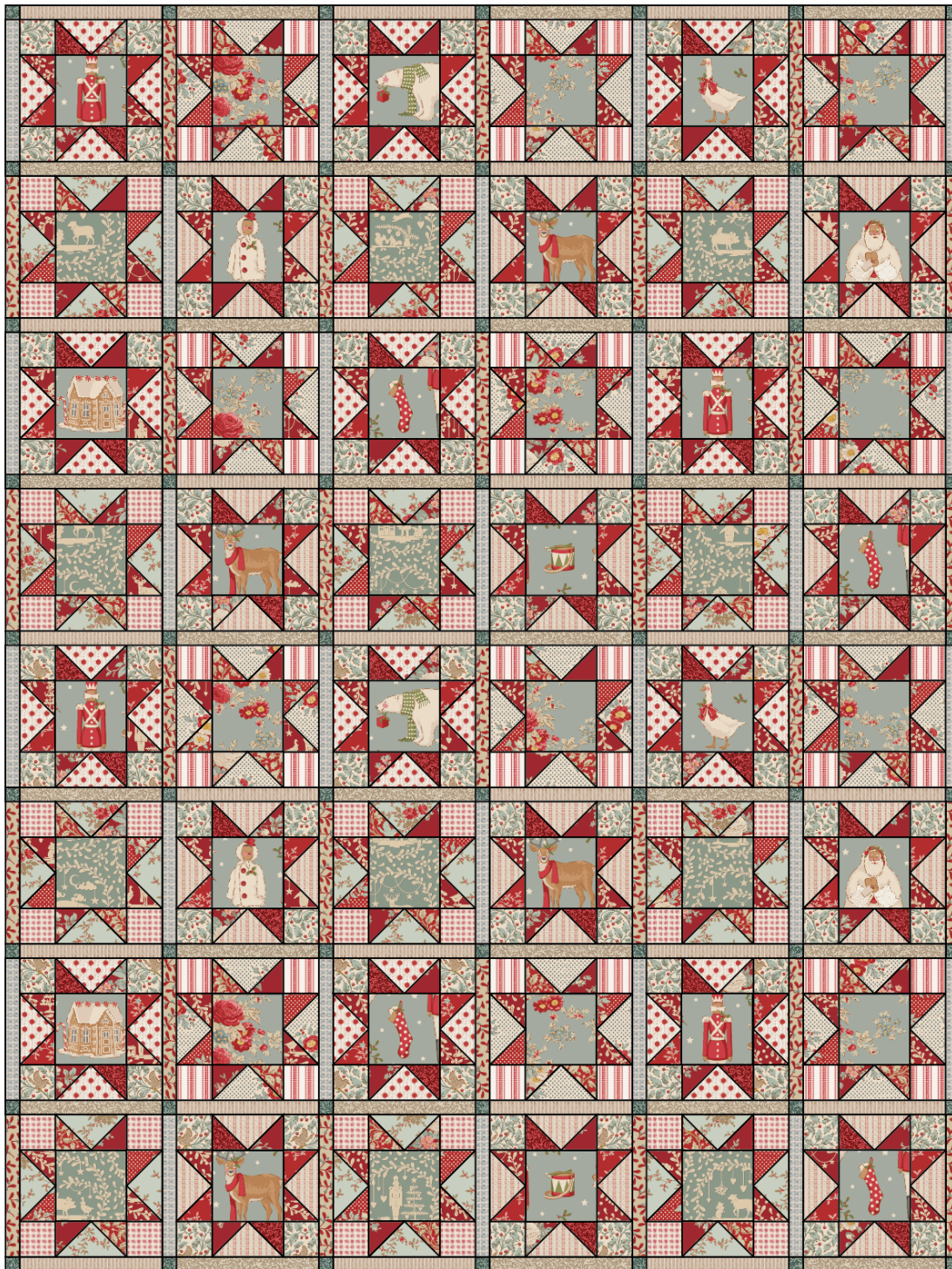
## Quilt Layout

1 The quilt has forty-eight Star blocks laid out in eight rows, each with six blocks. There are four different colourways for the block, with twelve of each colour needed. The blocks are separated by narrow sashing strips, with cornerstones in a contrasting burgundy. Refer to **Fig A** for the fabrics used and **Fig B** for the quilt layout.

**Fig A** Fabric swatches (Christmas Star Quilt – red/duck egg)



**Fig B** Quilt layout



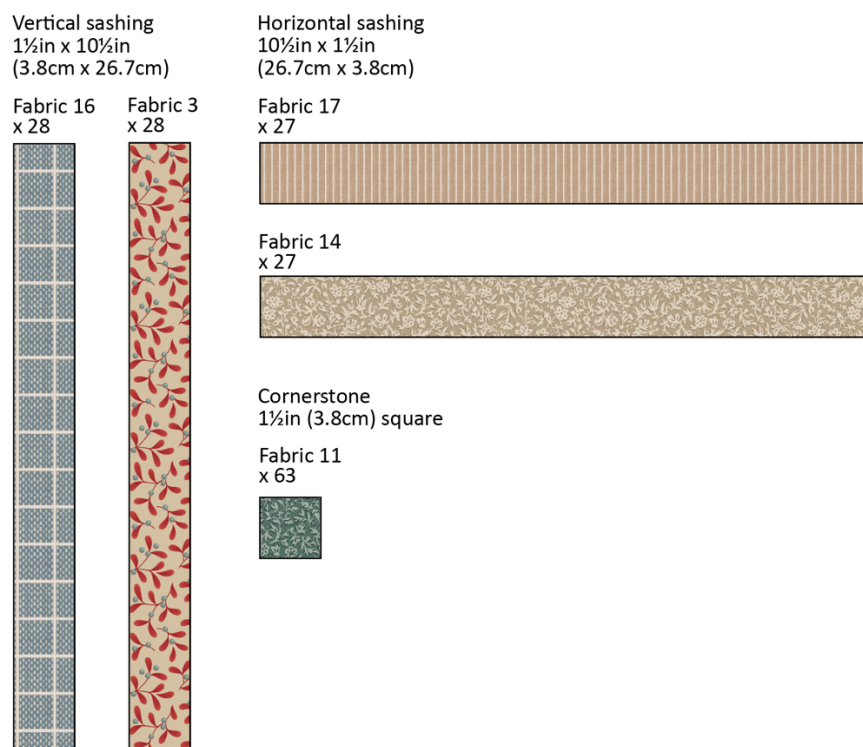
## Cutting Out

**2** Start by cutting the sashing strips and cornerstone squares. **Fig C** gives the sizes and the number to cut for each fabric. For the sashing fabrics, cut the bare minimum from the selvages, to leave a width of *at least* 42in (107cm).

- From Fabric 16 cut twenty-eight strips 1½in x 10½in (3.8cm x 26.7cm).
- From Fabric 3 cut twenty-eight strips 1½in x 10½in (3.8cm x 26.7cm).
- From Fabric 17 cut twenty-seven strips 10½in x 1½in (26.7cm x 3.8cm).
- From Fabric 14 cut twenty-seven strips 10½in x 1½in (26.7cm x 3.8cm).
- From Fabric 11 cut sixty-three squares 1½in (3.8cm).

### Fig C Cut measurements for the sashing and cornerstones

Sizes include ¼in (6mm) seam allowances



**3** For the Star blocks, use the cut sizes given in **Fig D**. For the fabric positions for each of the four blocks, follow **Fig E**. The centre 5½in (14cm) squares for Block 1 and Block 4 could be fussy cut to feature an interesting motif.

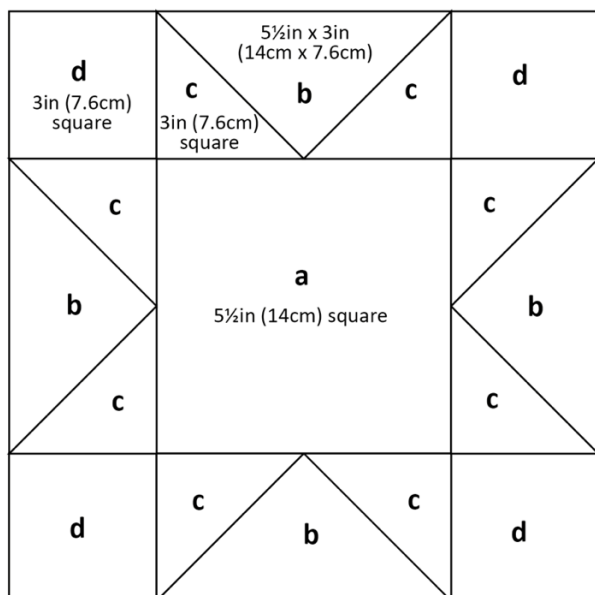
The following is a list of the number of pieces and sizes needed for each fabric, which you could use as a checklist.

- Fabric 1 – cut forty-eight 3in (7.6cm) squares.
- Fabric 2 – cut ninety-six 3in (7.6cm) squares.
- Fabric 3 – sashing, see Step 2.
- Fabric 4 – cut forty-eight 3in (7.6cm) squares.
- Fabric 5 – cut ninety-six 3in (7.6cm) squares.
- Fabric 6 – cut ninety-six 3in (7.6cm) squares.
- Fabric 7 – cut twelve 5½in (14cm) squares.
- Fabric 8 – cut forty-eight 5½in x 3in (14cm x 7.6cm) rectangles.
- Fabric 9 – cut forty-eight 5½in x 3in (14cm x 7.6cm) rectangles.
- Fabric 10 – cut twenty-four 5½in (14cm) squares (fussy cut).
- Fabric 11 – sashing, see Step 2.
- Fabric 12 – cut forty-eight 3in (7.6cm) squares.
- Fabric 13 – cut forty-eight 3in (7.6cm) squares.
- Fabric 14 – sashing, see Step 2.
- Fabric 15 – cut twelve 5½in (14cm) squares.
- Fabric 16 – sashing, see Step 2.
- Fabric 17 – sashing, see Step 2.
- Fabric 18 – cut forty-eight 5½in x 3in (14cm x 7.6cm) rectangles.
- Fabric 19 – cut forty-eight 3in (7.6cm) squares.
- Fabric 20 – cut forty-eight 5½in x 3in (14cm x 7.6cm) rectangles.
- Fabric 21 – cut forty-eight 3in (7.6cm) squares.

# Fig D Cut measurements for a Star block

Sizes include ¼in (6mm) seam allowances. All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles

**Block = 10½in (26.7cm) unfinished**



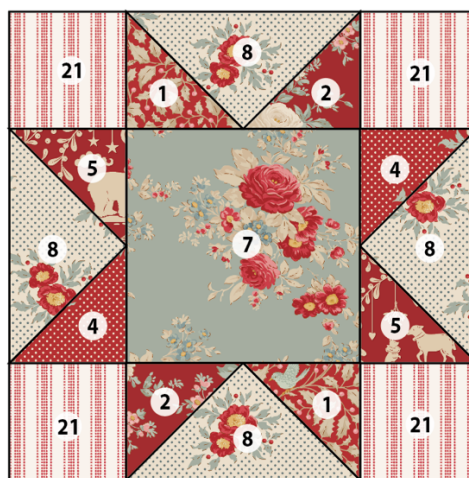
# Fig E Colourways for the Star blocks

Bold numbers indicate the fabrics used (see Fig A). Make twelve of each block

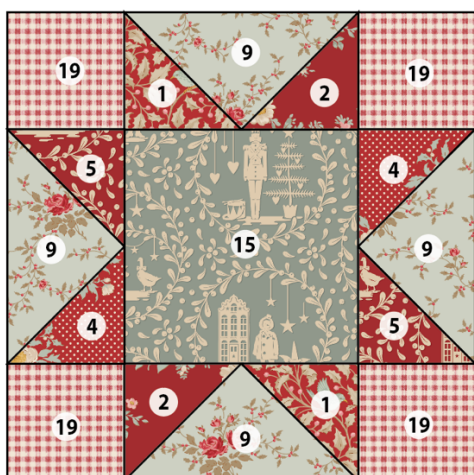
**Block 1**



**Block 2**



**Block 3**



**Block 4**



**4** Cut the backing fabric across the width into two pieces. Sew together along the long side and press the seam open. Trim to a piece about 75in x 97in (190.5cm x 246.5cm). This is about 4in (10.2cm) larger all round than the quilt top, to allow for quilting and finishing.

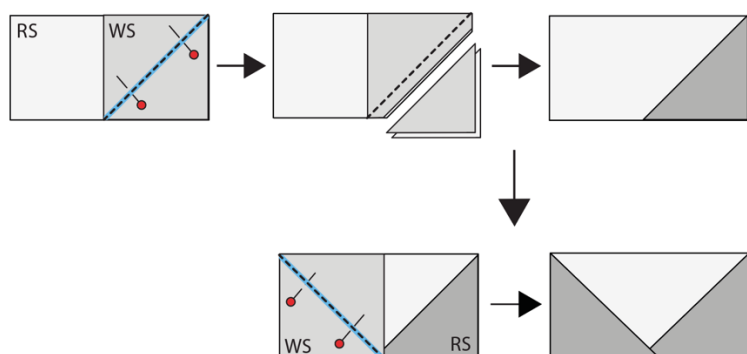
**5** Cut the binding fabric into eight 2½in (6.4cm) x width of fabric strips. Sew together end to end and press seams open. Press the binding in half along the length, wrong sides together.

## Making A Star Block

**6** The Star block is easy and begins by making Flying Geese units. Each block has four of these units, in two different fabric combinations. **Fig F** shows how to make a single flying goose unit. The diagram is shown in greys but follow the fabric colours for each block carefully. Note that each goose has two different fabrics for the smaller squares.

To make a single goose, take the rectangle of fabric and place it right side (RS) up. Take one of the smaller squares and pencil mark the diagonal line on the wrong side. Pin the square right sides together with the rectangle, aligning the edges and with the diagonal line in the direction shown. Sew along the marked line. Trim off excess fabric ¼in (6mm) outside the sewn line and press the triangle outwards. Repeat this marking, pinning and sewing with the other square. Trim off excess, as before and press the triangle outwards. Check the unit is the same size as the original rectangle.

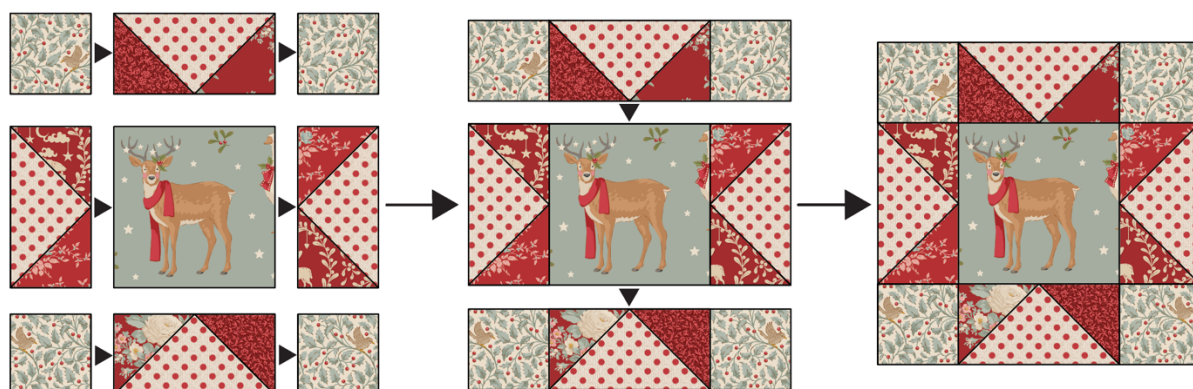
**Fig F** Making a flying goose unit



**7** When four flying geese have been made for a block, the block can be assembled. The process for Block 1 is shown in **Fig G**. Arrange these units with the other pieces for the block and sew them together into three rows. Press the seams open or to the side. If pressing to the side, press the seams of the central row in the opposite direction to the other two rows. Now sew the three rows together and press. Check the block is 10½in (26.7cm) square. Make twelve of Block 1 in total.

**Fig G** Assembling a block

Block 1 shown



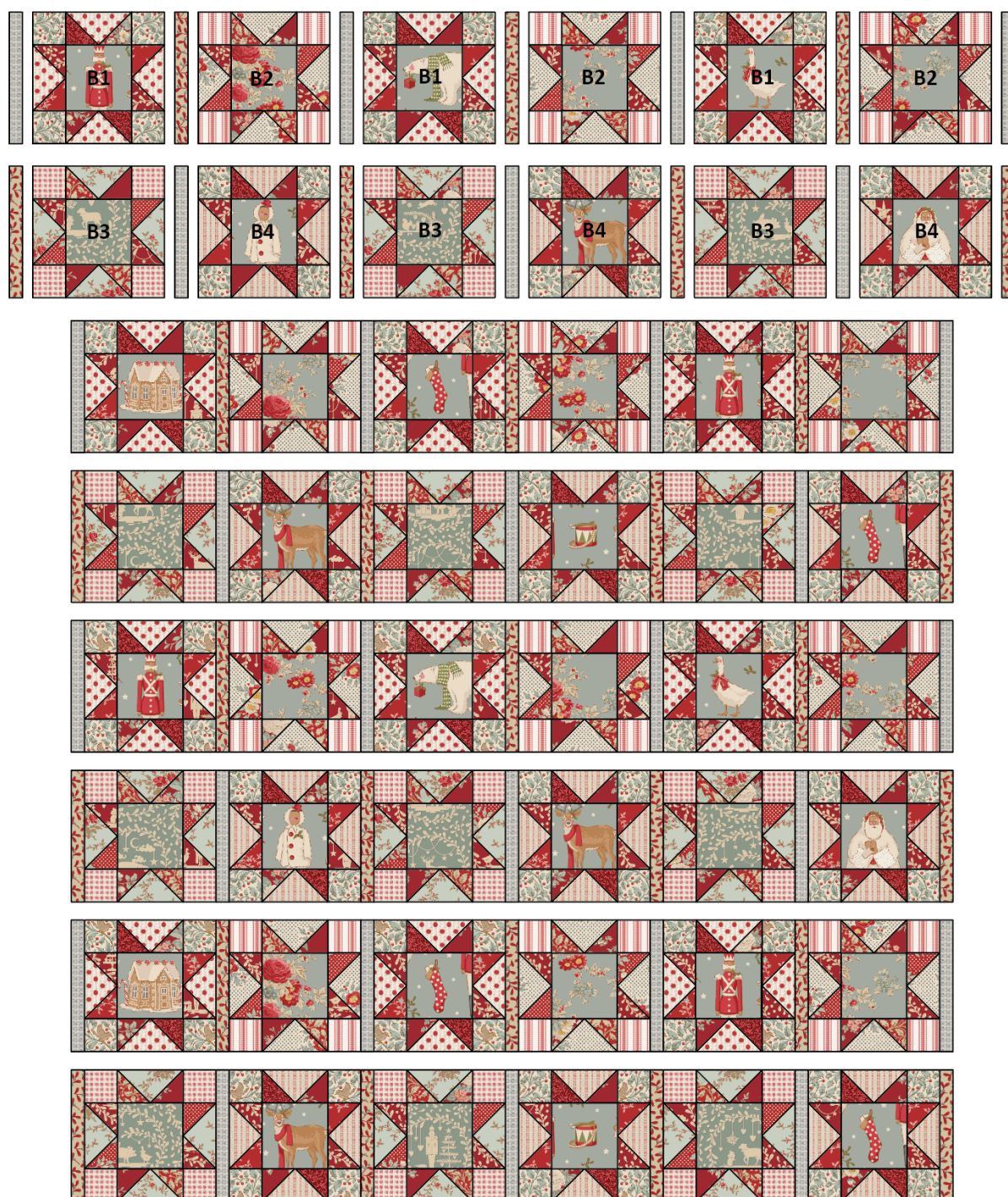
**8** Repeat the block-making process to sew twelve of Block 2, twelve of Block 3 and twelve of Block 4.

## Assembling the Quilt

**9** The quilt is assembled in rows. Follow **Fig H** carefully, laying out the block rows as shown. The first row uses Blocks 1 and 2, alternated. The second row uses Blocks 3 and 4, alternated. This pattern continues down the quilt. For the vertical sashing strips between the blocks, use Fabric 16 alternated with Fabric 3. Using  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seams, sew each row in turn and press the seams in one direction. Each sewn row should measure  $67\frac{1}{2}$ in (171.5cm) long.

**Fig H** Assembling the quilt's block rows

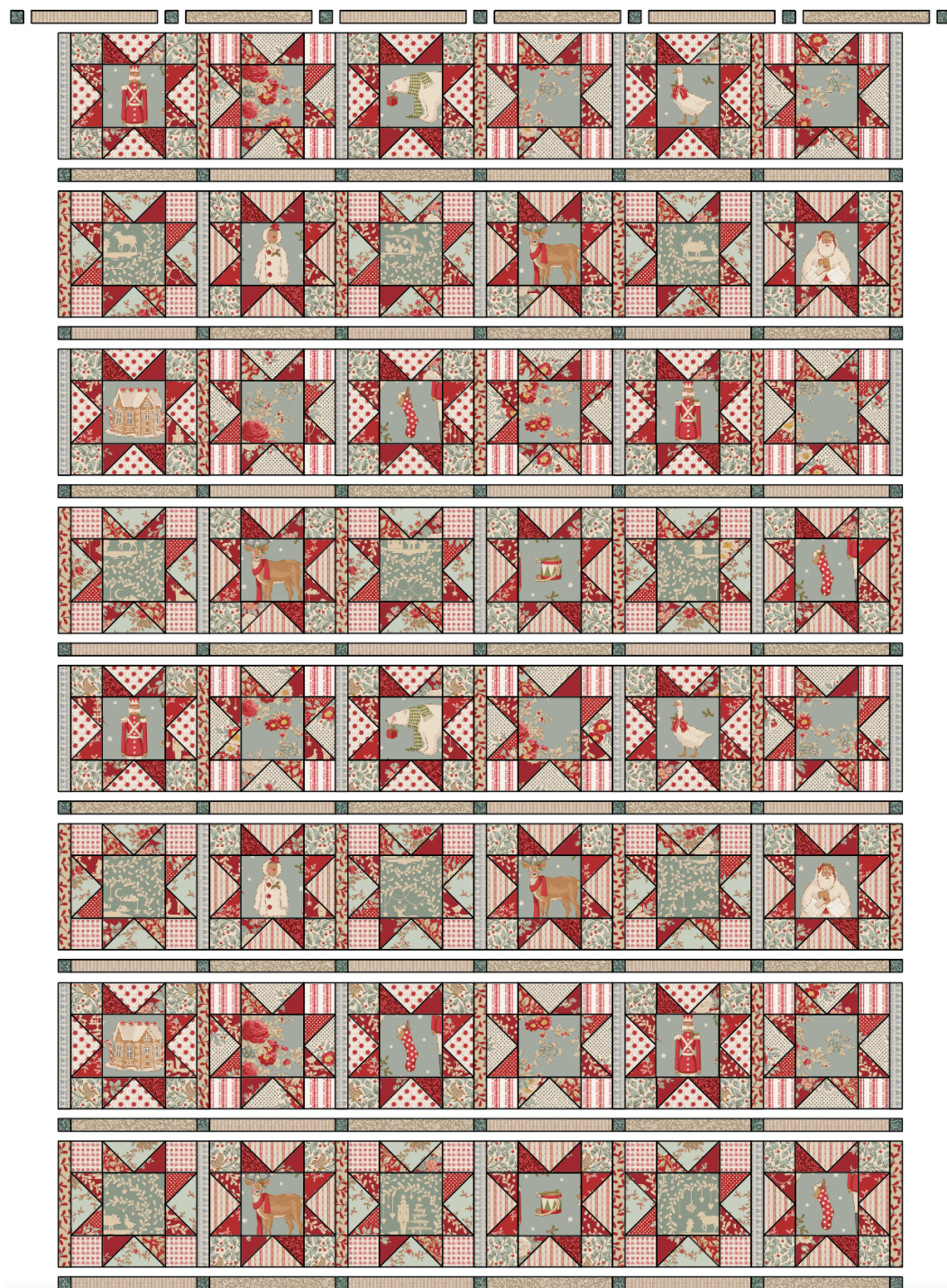
B1 = Block 1, B2 = Block 2, B3 = Block 3 and B4 = Block 4



**10** Lay out the horizontal sashing pieces with the cornerstones between them, as in **Fig I**. These horizontal strips alternate between Fabric 17 and Fabric 14. Sew the first horizontal sashing/cornerstone row together, pressing the seams in the opposite direction to the block rows. Check this first row is 67½in (171.5cm) long. If it is too long or too short, adjust your seam allowance – the row must measure the same as the sewn block row or your seams will not match up neatly. Sew the rest of the sashing/cornerstone rows.

**11** Now sew these horizontal rows into place with the block rows (**Fig I**), taking care to match seams neatly where needed. Press the seams. Your quilt top is now finished.

**Fig I** Adding the horizontal sashing



## Quilting and Finishing

**12** 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 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 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.

**13** 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.

**14** 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.

**15** 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 lovely star spangled quilt is finished.