

Tilda®

# MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS

Winter Bird Christmas  
Stockings Four colors





# Winter Bird Christmas Stocking

(Burgundy colourway)

A lovely big Christmas stocking, tailor-made to fill up with gifts – what more could anyone want? The patchwork is straightforward, showing a bird singing amid holly branches, with the addition of some appliqué berries. The festive colour scheme is easily achieved thanks to the Merry Little Christmas fabric collection and its blenders. For this version of the stocking, a putty white Chambray is used as the background, but there are three other colourways to choose from. The stocking design echoes that of the two Winter Birds quilts and the two matching pillows – see [tildasworld.com](http://tildasworld.com) for the instructions.

Difficulty rating \*\*\*

## Materials

- Fabric 1: 1yd (1m) – Eve burgundy (110140) (background and back of stocking)
- Fabric 2: about 9in (23cm) square – Joy cream (100638)
- Fabric 3: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Tiny Dot red (160081)
- Fabric 4: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Carol moss (100632)
- Fabric 5: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Noel moss (110145)
- Fabric 6: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Mistletoe pistachio (100633)
- Fabric 7: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Eve sage (110146)
- Fabric 8: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Polka Dot red (160085)
- Fabric 9: about 9in (23cm) square – Noel taupe (110149)
- Fabric 10: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Holly moss (100631)
- Fabric 11: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Noel mist (110143)
- Fabric 12: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Gingham red (160087)
- Fabric 13: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Stripe green (160082)
- Wadding (batting): two pieces 16in x 28in (40.5cm x 71cm)
- Fabric for lining:  $\frac{3}{4}$ yd (75cm) – Joy blue (100628)
- Fabric for back of stocking – use Fabric 1
- Binding and hanging loop fabric:  $\frac{3}{8}$ yd (40cm) – Gingham red (160087)
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Black stranded cotton (floss) for French knot eye on the bird
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat
- Scrap of stiff card for appliqué
- Fabric glue pen (optional)

## Fabric Notes

Only small pieces are needed for most of the fabrics. If you have made the Winter Birds Quilt, you may have some useful leftovers.

## Finished Size

Approximately 15in x 26½in (38cm x 67.5cm)

## General Notes

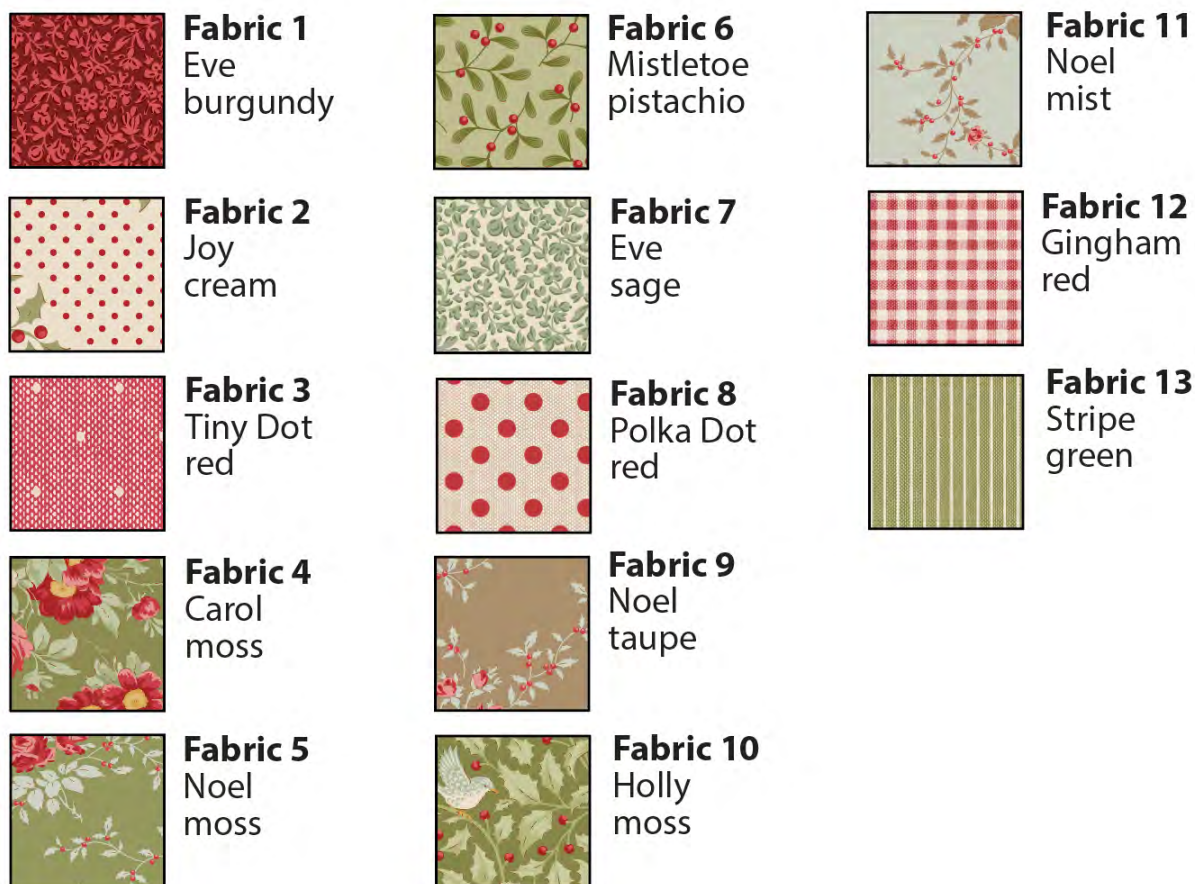
- Fabric quantities are based on a usable width of 42in (107cm), unless otherwise stated.
- Measurements are in imperial inches with metric conversions in brackets – use only *one* system throughout (preferably inches). Width measurements are generally given first.

- 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; HST = half-square triangle.
- Check that the patterns being used are printed at full size (100%).

## Stocking Layout

**1** The stocking layout consists of a rectangular section of patchwork, with additional pieces at the top, bottom and left-hand side to produce the stocking shape. Circles for ‘berries’ are made with turned-edge appliqué and a circle pattern is included if required. A full-size pattern is also included for the toe of the stocking, to assist with cutting the stocking shape. Refer to **Fig A** for the fabrics used and **Fig B** for the stocking layout.

**Fig A** Fabric swatches (Winter Bird Christmas Stocking – burgundy)



**Fig B** Stocking layout



### Cutting Out

**2** From Fabric 1 cut a piece for the back of the stocking approximately 16in x 27in (40.5cm x 68.6cm).

From Fabric 1 cut rectangles for the stocking top, bottom and toe section, as on **Fig C**.

- Stocking top – 11in x 3½in (28cm x 9cm).
- Stocking bottom – 11in x 5in (28cm x 12.7cm).
- Stocking toe – 4½in x 10¼in (11.4cm x 26cm).

**3** For the patchwork pieces, use the cut sizes given in **Fig C** and follow the fabric colours given in **Fig D**.

**4** For the appliqué circles cut the following 1½in (3.8cm) diameter circles (a pattern is provided). This size includes a ¼in (6mm) seam allowance.

- Fabric 3 – cut three circles.
- Fabric 8 – cut two circles.
- Fabric 12 – cut two circles.

**5** Cut the fabric for the lining of the stocking into two pieces, each approximately 16in x 27in (40.5cm x 68.6cm).



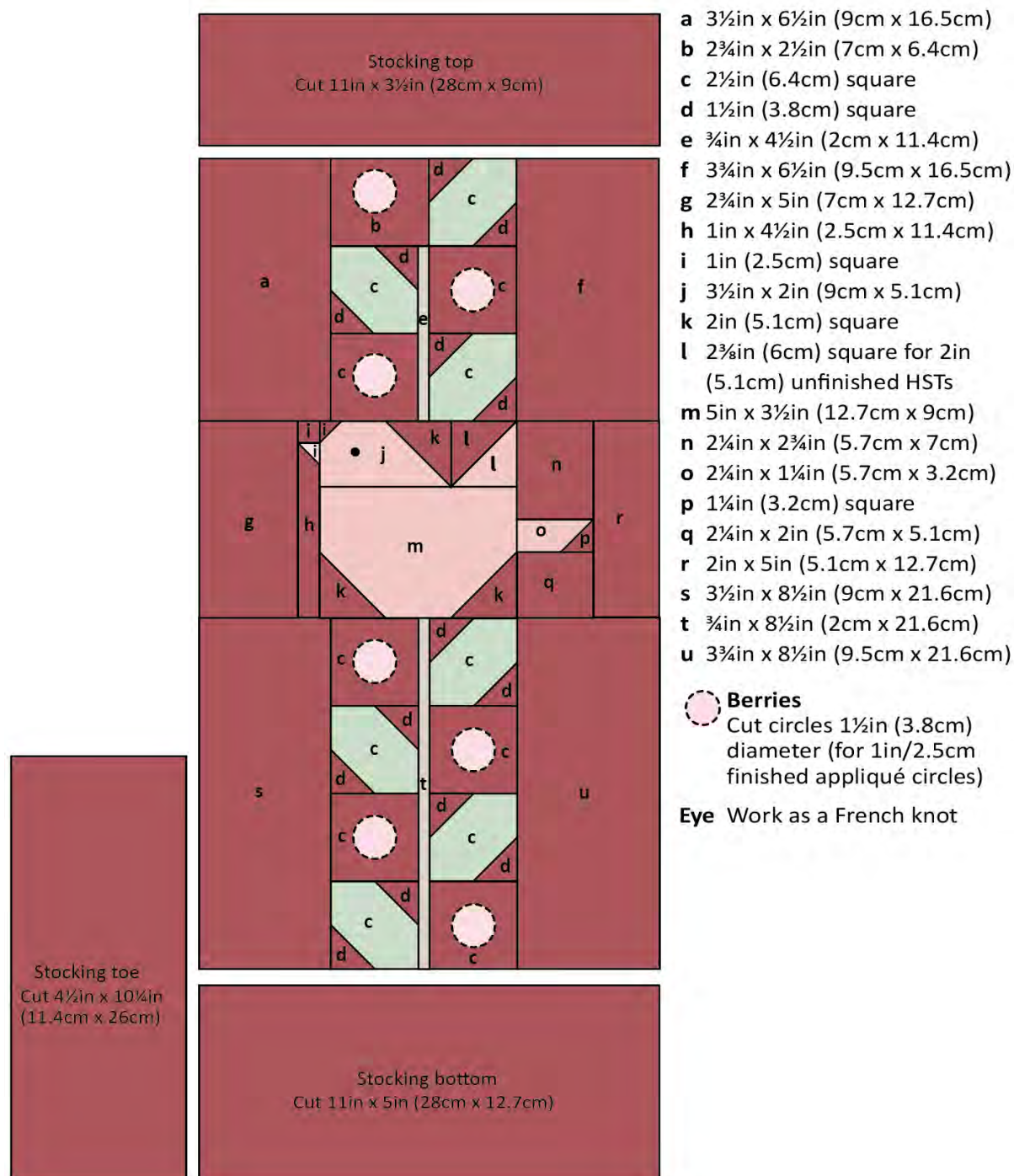
**6** Cut the binding fabric into three 2½in (6.4cm) x width of fabric strips. Sew together end to end and press seams open. Press the binding in half along the length, wrong sides together. You will need a total binding length of at least 110in (280cm) for the sides and top of the stocking. The binding has to be curved to follow the shape of the stocking but the curves are gentle, so straight-cut strips will be sufficient. If you want to cut bias strips, you will need more fabric.

**7** From the remaining binding fabric cut a 2in x 8in (5.1cm x 20.3cm) strip for a hanging loop.

### Fig C Cut measurements for the patchwork

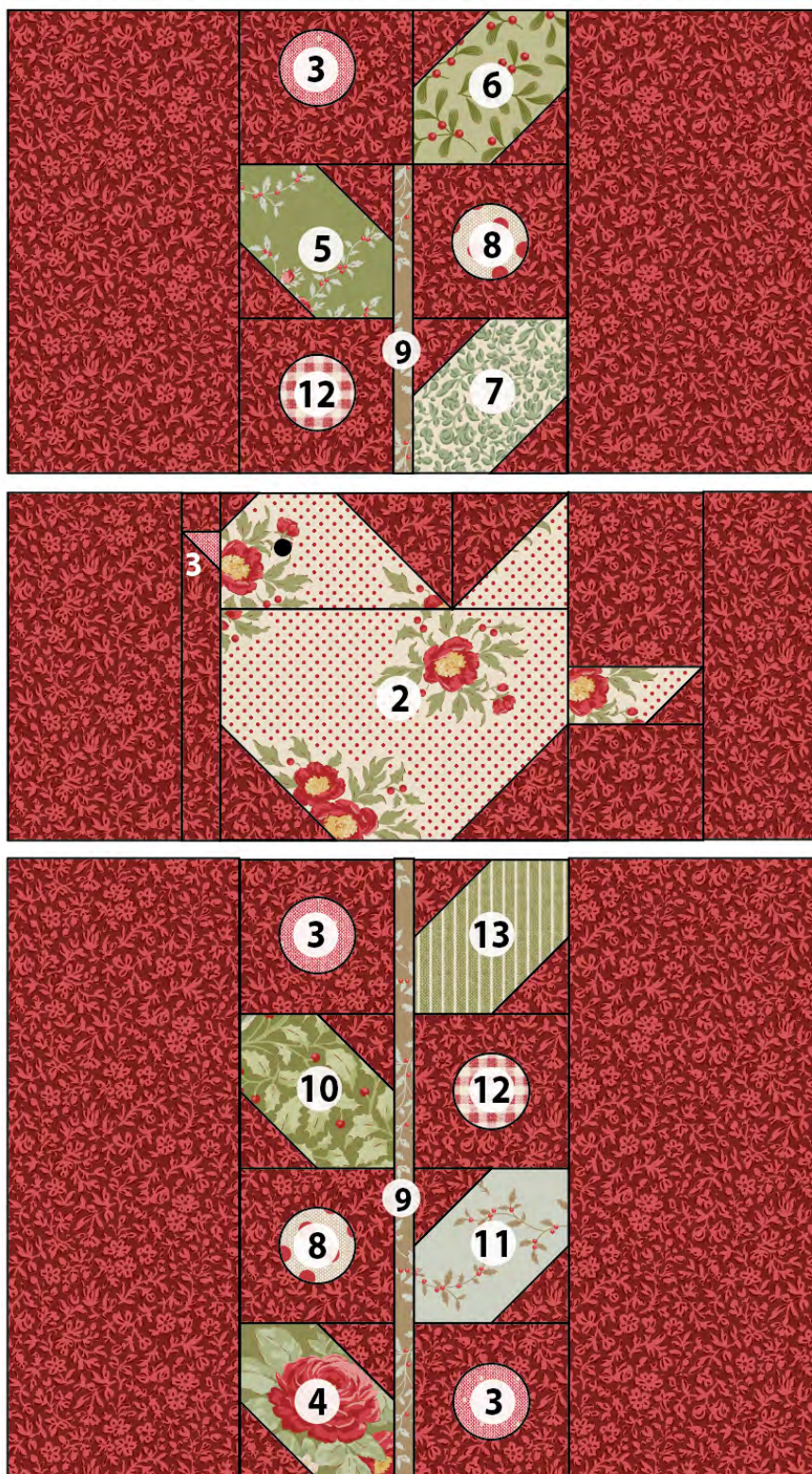
Sizes include ¼in (6mm) seam allowances

All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles, except appliqué circles





**Fig D** Fabric positions for the stocking  
 Bold numbers in circles indicate the fabrics used (see Fig A)  
 The background is Fabric 1

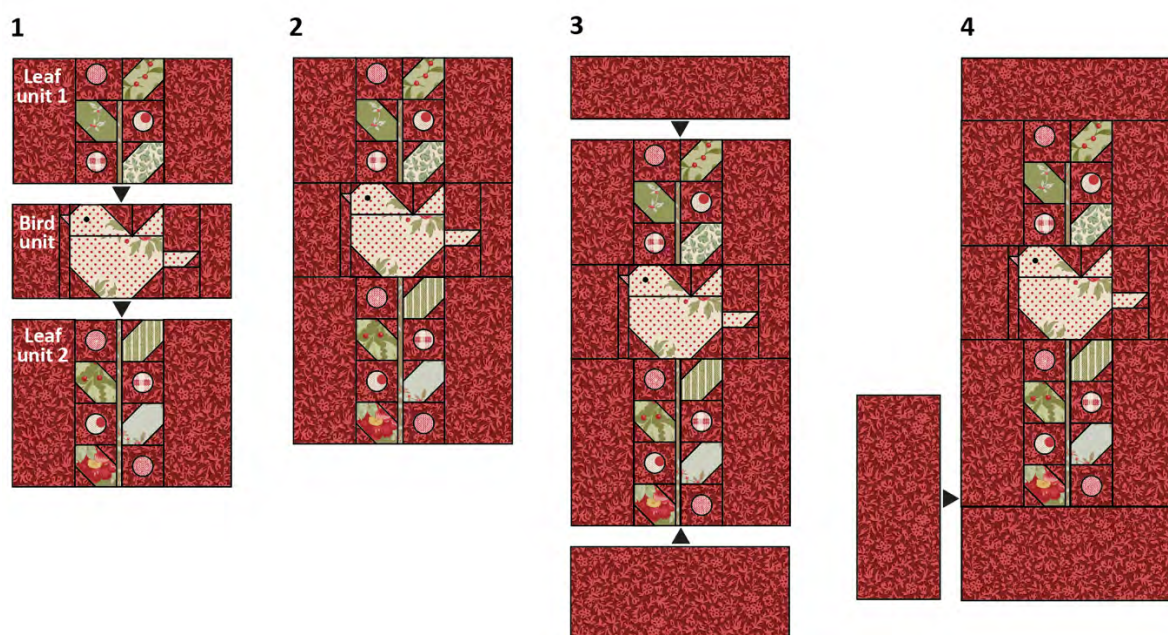


## Making the Stocking Patchwork

**8** The stages of making the stocking patchwork is shown in **Fig E** – Leaf unit 1, Bird unit and Leaf unit 2 – and we will describe each of these sections in turn.



**Fig E** Stages of piecing the patchwork

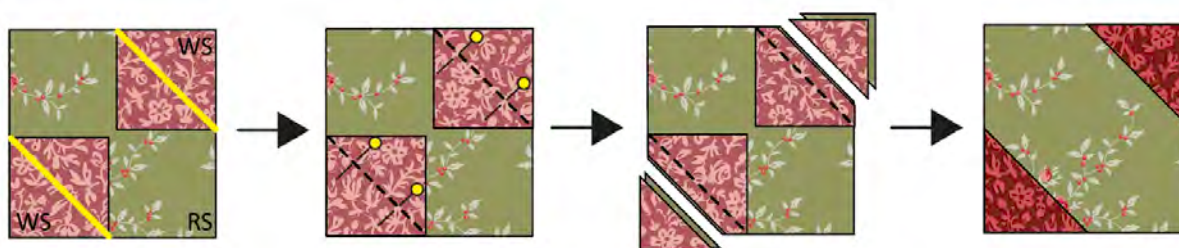


### Making Leaf Unit 1

**9** The piecing for Leaf unit 1 involves creating ‘leaves’ using a corner triangle method, as follows and shown in **Fig F**.

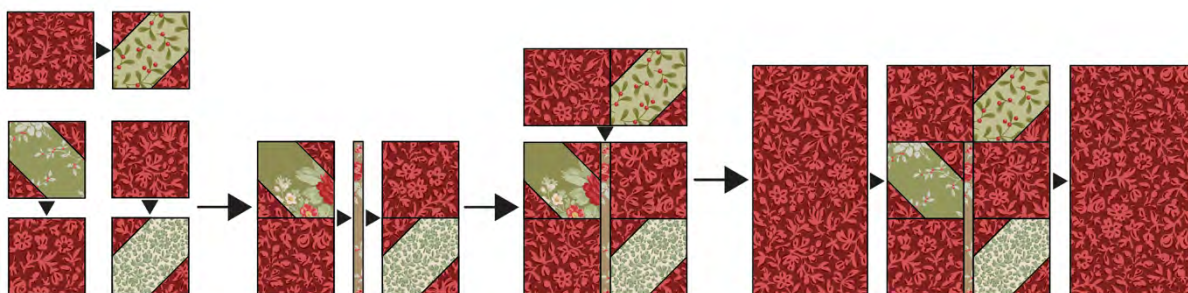
To make a corner unit, choose the correct background fabric piece and the two smaller print squares (see **Fig D** for actual colours). Place the square of print fabric right side (RS) up. Take the two smaller squares and pencil mark a diagonal line on the wrong side of each square. Position the squares right sides together with the print rectangle, in the correct positions for that particular unit and with the marked lines in the directions shown in the diagram. Pin in place and then sew along each marked line. Trim off excess fabric  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) outside the sewn lines and press each triangle outwards. Check the size of the unit, which needs to be  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in (6.4cm) square (unfinished) (for all of the leaves).

**Fig F** Making a unit with corner triangles



**10** Make the other two leaves for Leaf unit 1, taking care to place the triangles on the correct corners. When the leaves have been made, sew them together with the other pieces needed, as shown in **Fig G**. Follow the stages shown in the diagram, pressing each seam as you sew, pressing them open or to one side. Once sewn, Leaf unit 1 should be 11in x  $6\frac{1}{2}$ in (28cm x 16.5cm) (unfinished).

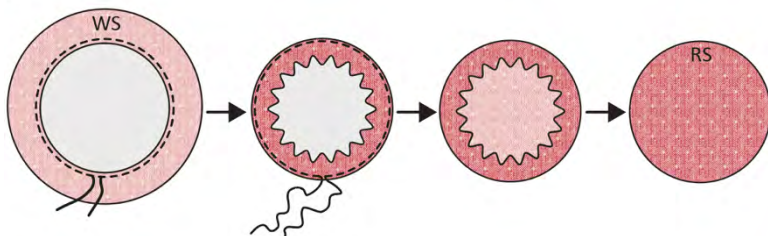
**Fig G** Assembling Leaf unit 1



**11** The appliqué circles for the berries can be added now. Make the appliqué using a card and gathering thread technique (turned-edge appliqué). You could use a different method if you prefer. Cut a 1in (2.5cm) diameter circle from a piece of stiff card. Take one of the 1½in (3.8cm) diameter circles of fabric cut earlier and place the card circle in the centre of the fabric on the wrong side. Mark the card circle (**Fig H 1**). Remove the card for the moment. Using a strong or doubled thread, hand sew a gathering stitch all around this marked inner circle, slightly *outside* of the marked line. Leave tails of thread, as in the diagram. Put the card circle back in place and pull on the gathering thread to gather it up over the edge of the card. Tie off the thread. Press well and then remove the card. Press again from the right side using a little spray starch if you wish. Make the other two circles needed for Leaf unit 1. Using a matching hand sewing thread and small slip stitches, sew the circles in place on Leaf unit 1 and press (**Fig H 2**).

**Fig H** Adding the appliqué circles

**1**



**2**



### Making the Bird Unit

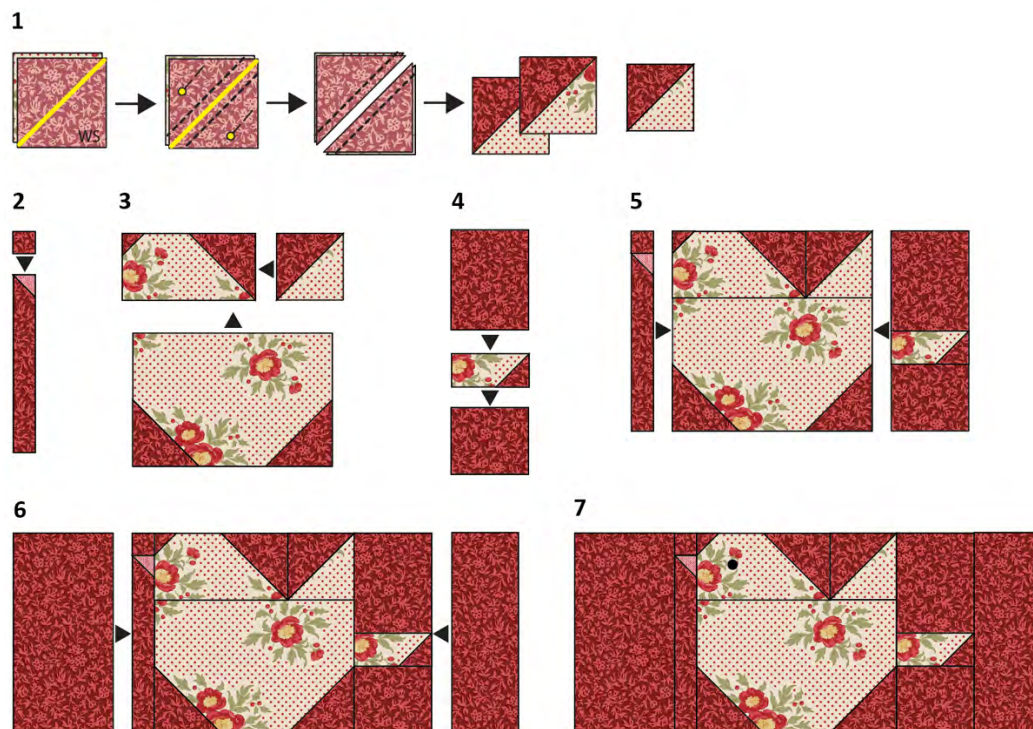
**12** The piecing for the Bird unit includes using a corner triangle method to create the angles needed. A half-square triangle (HST) unit is also needed and the process for making this is shown in **Fig I 1**. This makes two units but only one of them is needed.

Make the HSTs as follows. Take two different squares and on the wrong side of the lighter square, pencil mark the diagonal line. Place the two squares right sides (RS) together and sew ¼in (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 HST is 2in (5.1cm) square (unfinished).

**13** Use the corner triangle technique (described for the leaves) to create corners on the correct pieces, as shown in **Fig I**. Now follow the stages in the diagram to sew all the pieces together. Press each seam as you sew, pressing them open or to one side. Once sewn, the unit should be 11in x 5in (28cm x 12.7cm). Add the eye on the bird using black stranded cotton (floss) with six strands wrapped twice around the needle.



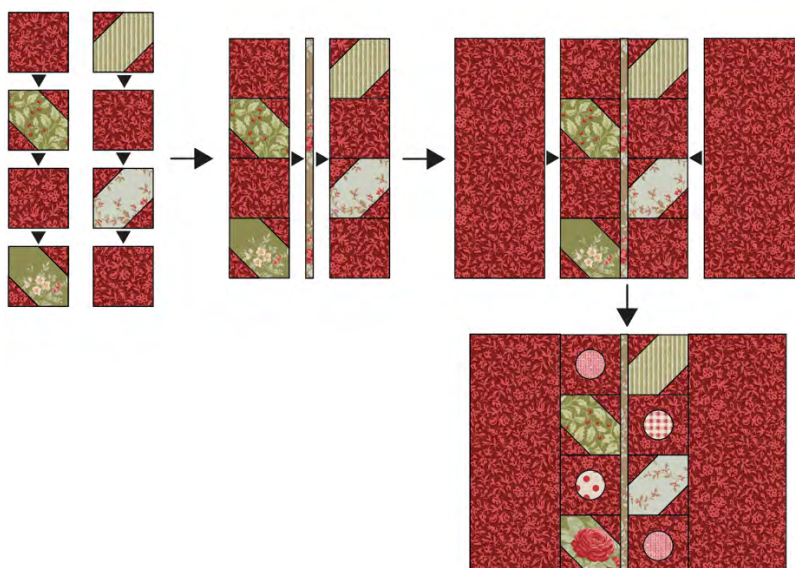
**Fig I Making the Bird unit**



### Making Leaf Unit 2

**14** The piecing for Leaf unit 2 is very similar to the previous leaf unit. Make leaves using the corner triangle technique, following the fabric colours given in **Fig D**. Now assemble the unit as shown in **Fig J**. Add the appliqué using the same technique as before. Check the sewn unit is 11in x 8½in (28cm x 21.6cm).

**Fig J Making Leaf unit 2**



### Assembling the Patchwork

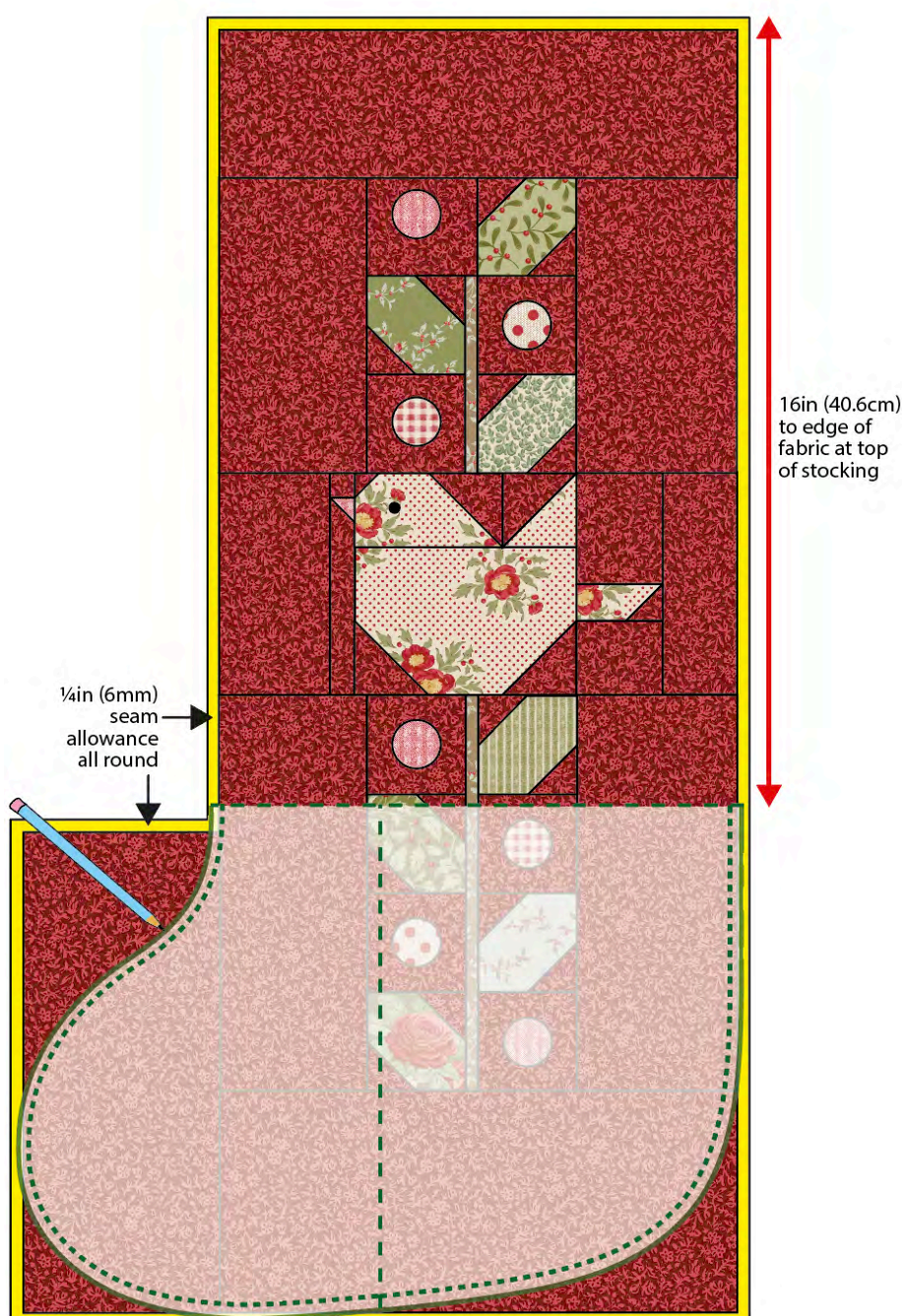
**15** When the three sections of patchwork have been made, assemble the rest of the stocking front referring back to **Fig E**. Sew the three sections together into a column and then add the unpieced pieces to the top and bottom of the patchwork. Press seams open or to one side. Add the toe piece to the left-hand side, aligning it with the base and pressing the seam.

## Preparing the Stocking Pattern

**16** When the patchwork is complete, the work can be trimmed to the stocking shape. To do this, prepare a paper pattern using the two shapes provided for the toe/foot of the stocking. Copy or print out the patterns, making sure they are 100% (full size). Cut out the shapes along the outer lines and then tape the two shapes together along the vertical dashed line (denoted by A and B). This is the stocking toe pattern with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam allowance.

**17** Place the toe pattern onto the patchwork as shown in **Fig K**. With the pattern's seam allowance included, the pattern should just fit the patchwork, as shown. The patchwork seam allowance is shown in yellow. Mark the shape of the pattern on the patchwork and trim off the excess with sharp scissors.

**Fig K** Trimming the patchwork using the toe pattern

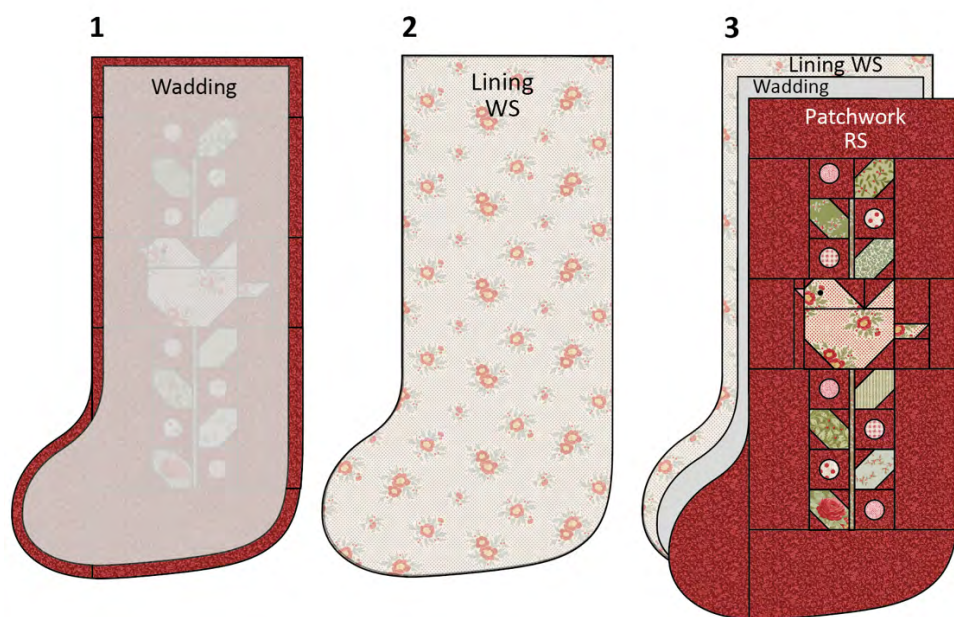




## Assembling the Stocking

**18** To assemble the stocking prepare the other shapes needed prior to quilting, that is the wadding, the lining and the backing. Take some time to get this layering right, as follows. For the stocking front, follow **Fig L**. Use the stocking patchwork shape to cut the wadding shape but trim it to *at least* ¼in (6mm) smaller all round than the patchwork shape (**Fig L 1**). (This is to reduce bulk around the edge of the stocking.) Cut the lining fabric using the whole patchwork shape as a pattern but marking the shape on the wrong side of the lining fabric, so it looks as in **Fig L 2**. Now layer the three shapes together (**Fig L 3**).

**Fig L** Preparing the front of the stocking for quilting



**19** For the stocking back, follow **Fig M**. Use the stocking patchwork shape to cut the wadding shape but trim it to *at least* ¼in (6mm) smaller all round than the patchwork shape (**Fig M 1**). Cut the lining fabric using the whole patchwork shape as a pattern but reversed, so the lining shape looks as in **Fig M 2**. Cut the backing fabric using the whole patchwork shape as a pattern but reversed so the shape looks as in **Fig M 3**. Now layer the three shapes together (**Fig M 4**).

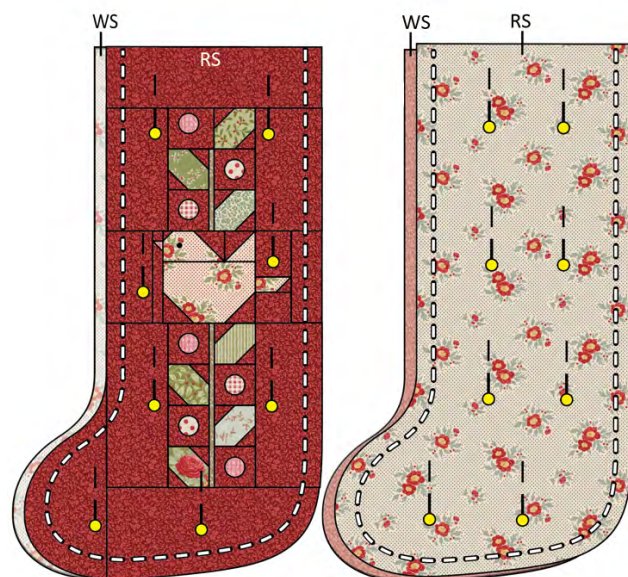
**Fig M** Preparing the back of the stocking for quilting



**20** When the front and back pieces have been layered together, sew a line of tacking stitches around the edge of each set of layers, about  $\frac{1}{2}$ in (1.3cm) in from the edge, as shown in **Fig N**. This will help to keep the layers together and also anchor the wadding shape, which has been cut smaller than the other shapes. If desired, you could use small dabs from a glue pen to secure the wadding edges in places. Secure the layers with pins or other method of your choice and then quilt as desired.

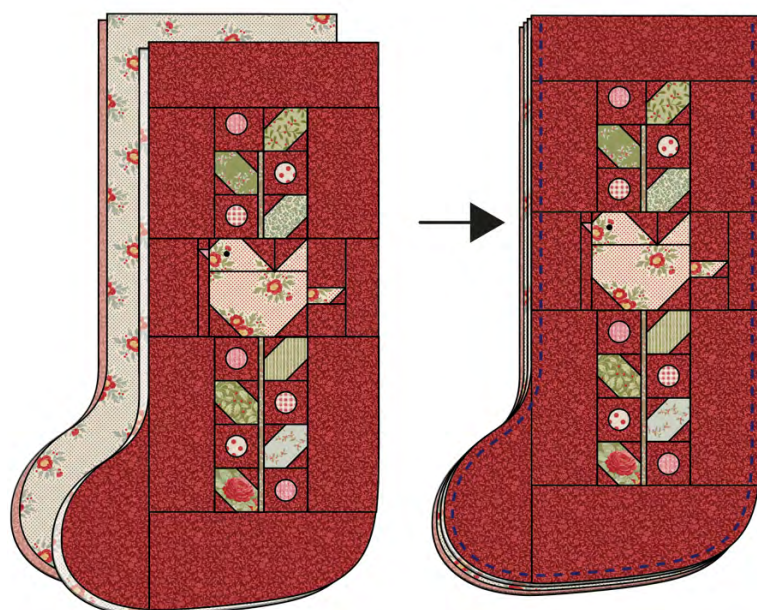
**Fig N** Preparing the stocking for quilting

White dashed lines indicate temporary tacking stitches



**21** The stocking is sewn together using the binding to seal the edges, therefore the quilted front and back need to be positioned together with *right sides facing outwards*. **Fig O** shows this (quilting not shown). When the quilted front and back sections are placed together, tack them together to secure ready for binding. This line of stitches (shown in dark blue on the diagram) can be within the  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam allowance and can be left in place when the binding is finished. Because the wadding was cut smaller and doesn't extend into the seam allowance, you will find it easier to add the binding as there are fewer layers to sew through.

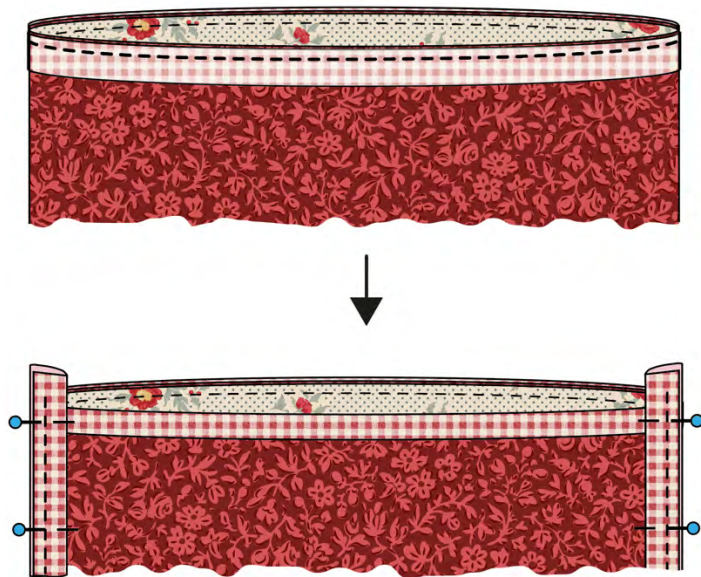
**Fig O** Preparing for binding





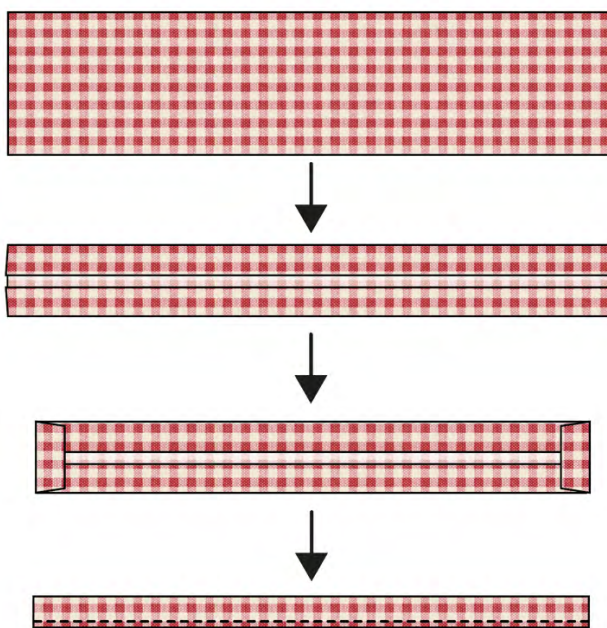
**22** Use the prepared double-fold binding strip to bind your stocking. This is done in two stages. First, bind along the top of the stocking using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam (**Fig P**). Second, bind along the sides edges of the stocking. For this side binding, leave the raw ends of the binding proud, so these can be turned under later. Pin and sew the binding in place, down one side of the stocking and then easing the binding in place to curve around the heel and then the toe and up the opposite side. Turn under the raw ends and then press the binding over to the back of the stocking and use small hand stitches to sew it in place all round.

**Fig P** Binding the stocking top and then the sides



**23** To make a hanging loop, take the 2in x 8in (5.1cm x 20.3cm) strip of binding fabric cut earlier and fold it in half along the length. Open out and fold the long edges to the centre and press (**Fig Q**). Fold the raw short ends over by about  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) and press. Now fold the strip double along the length so it's about  $\frac{1}{2}$ in (1.3cm) wide and press. Sew along the open edge.

**Fig Q** Making a hanging loop



**24** Fold the hanging loop in half and positioning it with one short edge inside the top of the stocking, as shown in **Fig R**. Sew it into place with small hand stitches. Sew the other short end in place inside the other edge of the stocking. Press the stocking to finish.

**Fig R** Adding the hanging loop





# Winter Bird Christmas Stocking Stocking Foot Pattern

Copy the two parts of the  
stocking foot shape and  
cut out. Tape the shapes  
together along the  
vertical dashed line (AB)

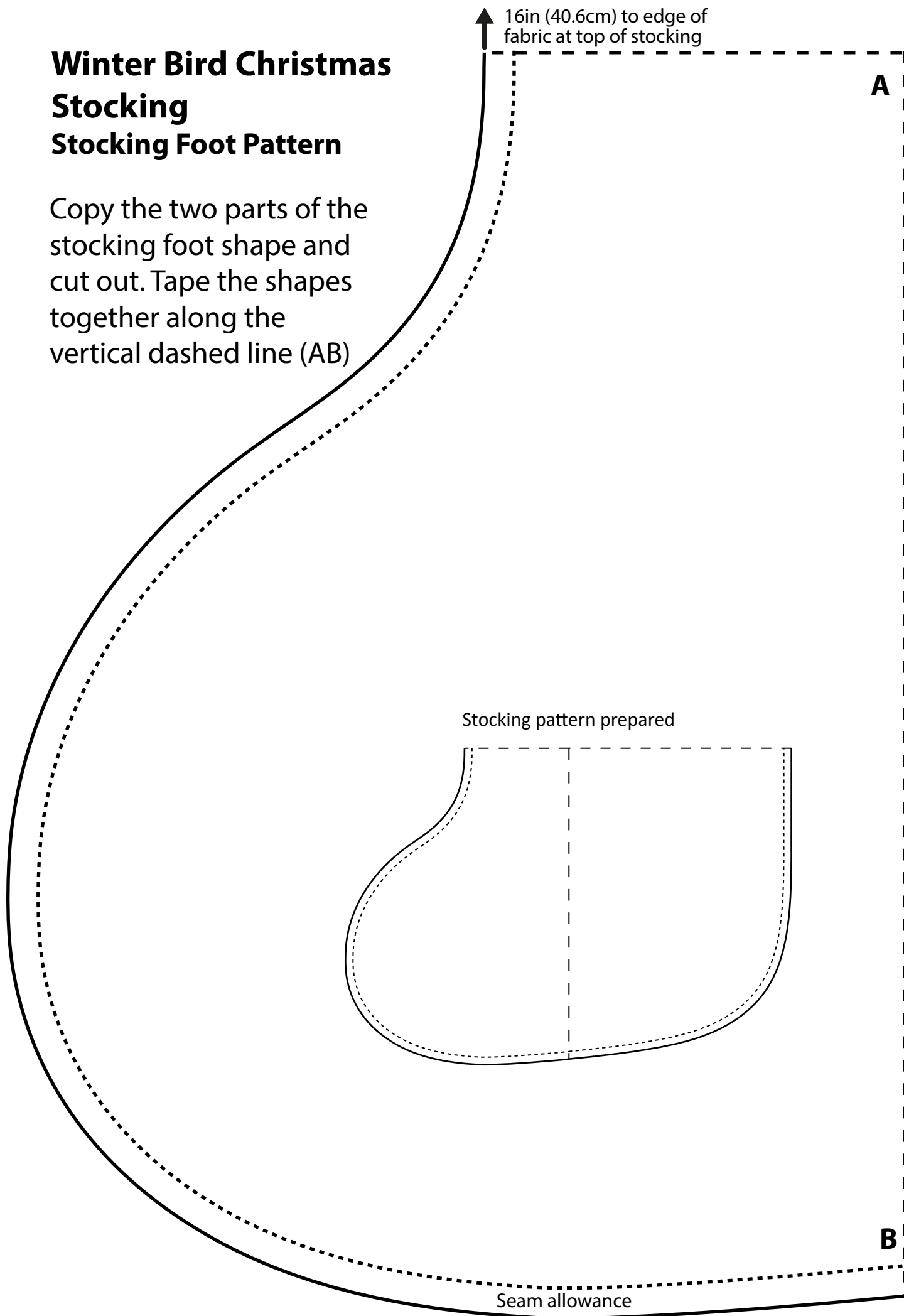
16in (40.6cm) to edge of  
fabric at top of stocking

**A**

Stocking pattern prepared

**B**

Seam allowance



16in (40.6cm) to edge of  
fabric at top of stocking



**A**

Please check this ruler to ensure that you are printing in 100%. Pages are made in A4.



**B**

Seam allowance



# Winter Bird Christmas Stocking

(Gingham colourway)

A lovely big Christmas stocking, tailor-made to fill up with gifts – what more could anyone want? The patchwork is straightforward, showing a bird singing amid holly branches, with the addition of some appliqué berries. The festive colour scheme is easily achieved thanks to the Merry Little Christmas fabric collection and its blenders. For this version of the stocking, a plaid fabric is used as the background, but there are three other colourways to choose from. The stocking design echoes that of the two Winter Birds quilts and the two matching pillows – see [tildasworld.com](http://tildasworld.com) for the instructions.

Difficulty rating \*\*\*

## Materials

- Fabric 1: 1yd (1m) – Gingham red (160087) (background and back of stocking)
- Fabric 2: about 9in (23cm) square – Eve burgundy (110140)
- Fabric 3: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Joy red (100624)
- Fabric 4: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Holly moss (100631)
- Fabric 5: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Carol moss (100632)
- Fabric 6: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Joy pine (100634)
- Fabric 7: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Paper Scenes artichoke (100635)
- Fabric 8: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Carol burgundy (100622)
- Fabric 9: about 9in (23cm) square – Noel taupe (110149)
- Fabric 10: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Eve pine (110144)
- Fabric 11: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Noel moss (110145)
- Fabric 12: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Noel red (110139)
- Fabric 13: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Stripe green (160082)
- Fabric 14: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Tiny Dot red (160081)
- Wadding (batting): two pieces 16in x 28in (40.5cm x 71cm)
- Fabric for lining:  $\frac{3}{4}$ yd (75cm) – Mistletoe red (100623)
- Fabric for back of stocking – use Fabric 1
- Binding and hanging loop fabric:  $\frac{3}{8}$ yd (40cm) – Noel duck egg (110141)
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Black stranded cotton (floss) for French knot eye on the bird
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat
- Scrap of stiff card for appliqué
- Fabric glue pen (optional)

## Fabric Notes

Only small pieces are needed for most of the fabrics. If you have made the Winter Birds Quilt, you may have some useful leftovers.

## Finished Size

Approximately 15in x 26½in (38cm x 67.5cm)

## General Notes

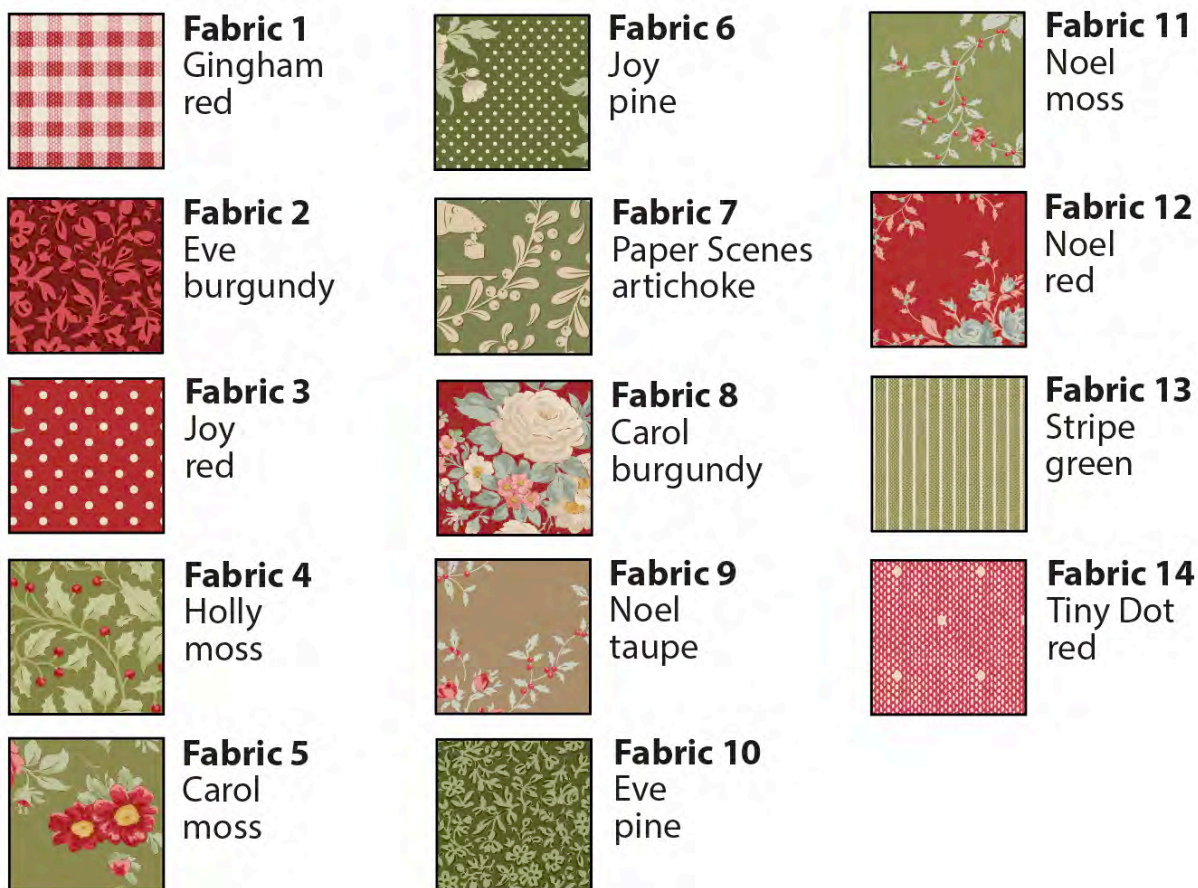
- Fabric quantities are based on a usable width of 42in (107cm), unless otherwise stated.
- Measurements are in imperial inches with metric conversions in brackets – use only *one* system throughout (preferably inches). Width measurements are generally given first.

- 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; HST = half-square triangle.
- Check that the patterns being used are printed at full size (100%).

## Stocking Layout

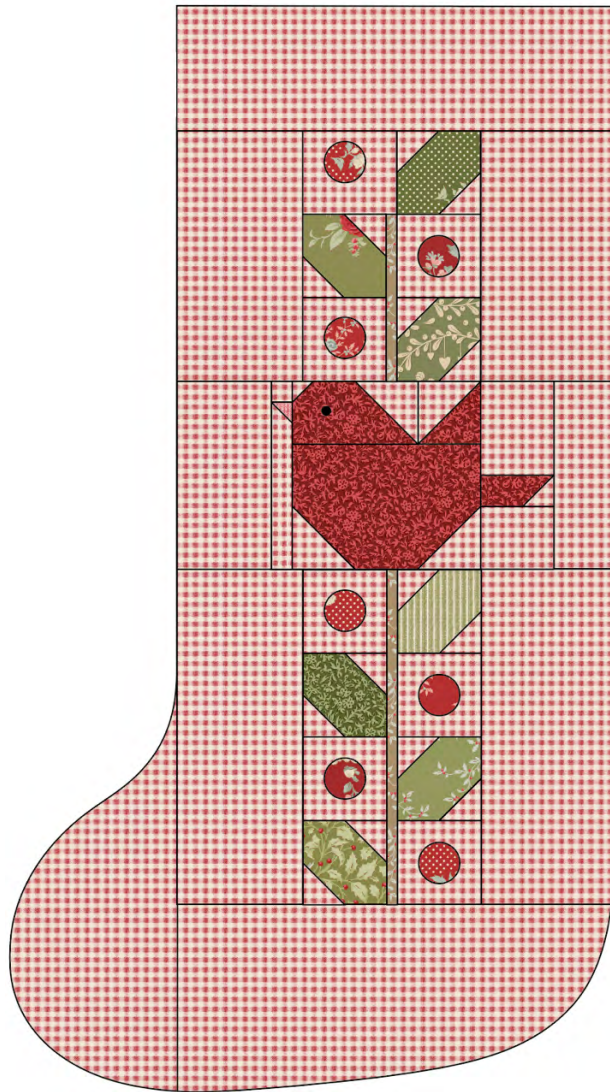
**1** The stocking layout consists of a rectangular section of patchwork, with additional pieces at the top, bottom and left-hand side to produce the stocking shape. Circles for ‘berries’ are made with turned-edge appliqué and a circle pattern is included if required. A full-size pattern is also included for the toe of the stocking, to assist with cutting the stocking shape. Refer to **Fig A** for the fabrics used and **Fig B** for the stocking layout.

**Fig A** Fabric swatches (Winter Bird Christmas Stocking – gingham)





**Fig B** Stocking layout



## Cutting Out

**2** From Fabric 1 cut a piece for the back of the stocking approximately 16in x 27in (40.5cm x 68.6cm).

From Fabric 1 cut rectangles for the stocking top, bottom and toe section, as on **Fig C**.

- Stocking top – 11in x 3½in (28cm x 9cm).
- Stocking bottom – 11in x 5in (28cm x 12.7cm).
- Stocking toe – 4½in x 10¼in (11.4cm x 26cm).

**3** For the patchwork pieces, use the cut sizes given in **Fig C** and follow the fabric colours given in **Fig D**.

**4** For the appliqué circles cut the following 1½in (3.8cm) diameter circles (a pattern is provided). This size includes a ¼in (6mm) seam allowance.

- Fabric 3 – cut three circles.
- Fabric 8 – cut two circles.
- Fabric 12 – cut two circles.

**5** Cut the fabric for the lining of the stocking into two pieces, each approximately 16in x 27in (40.5cm x 68.6cm).

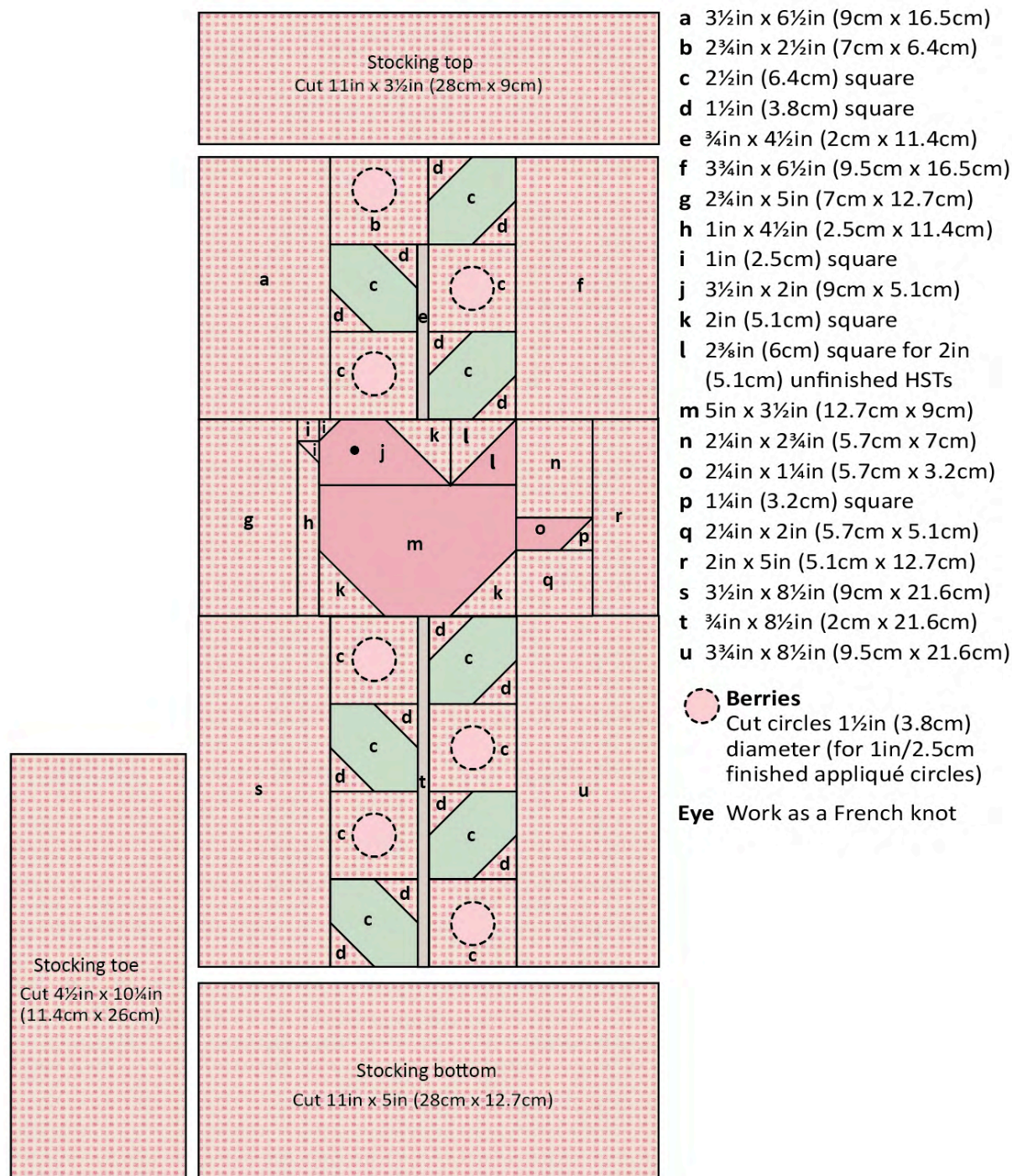
**6** Cut the binding fabric into three 2½in (6.4cm) x width of fabric strips. Sew together end to end and press seams open. Press the binding in half along the length, wrong sides together. You will need a total binding length of at least 110in (280cm) for the sides and top of the stocking. The binding has to be curved to follow the shape of the stocking but the curves are gentle, so straight-cut strips will be sufficient. If you want to cut bias strips, you will need more fabric.

**7** From the remaining binding fabric cut a 2in x 8in (5.1cm x 20.3cm) strip for a hanging loop.

### Fig C Cut measurements for the patchwork

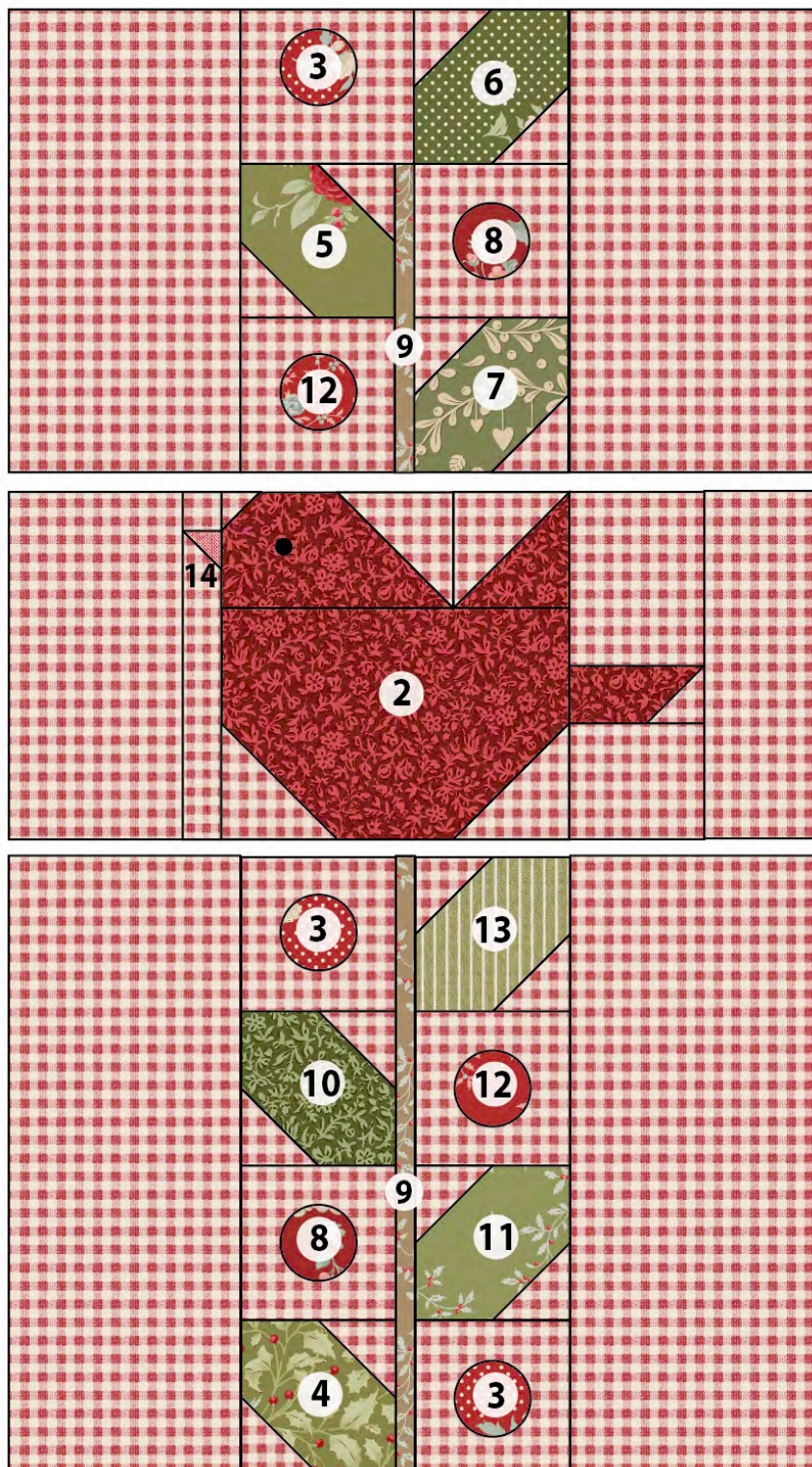
Sizes include ¼in (6mm) seam allowances

All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles, except appliqué circles





**Fig D** Fabric positions for the stocking  
 Bold numbers in circles indicate the fabrics used (see Fig A)  
 The background is Fabric 1

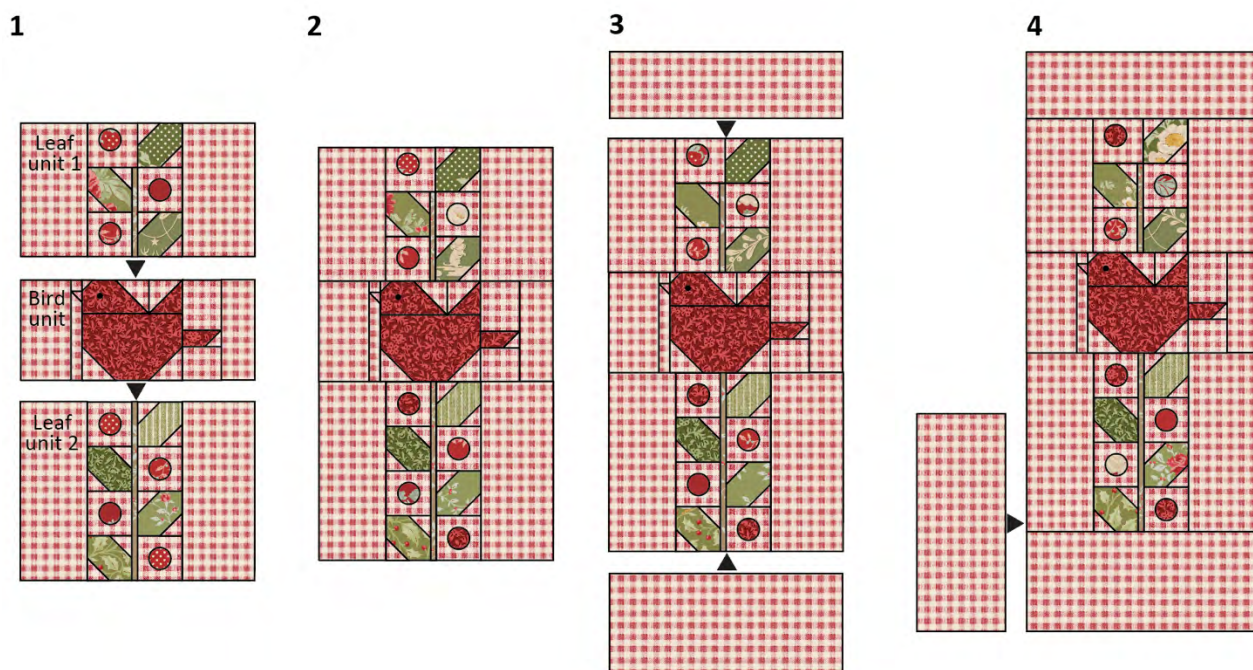


## Making the Stocking Patchwork

**8** The stages of making the stocking patchwork is shown in **Fig E** – Leaf unit 1, Bird unit and Leaf unit 2 – and we will describe each of these sections in turn.



**Fig E** Stages of piecing the patchwork

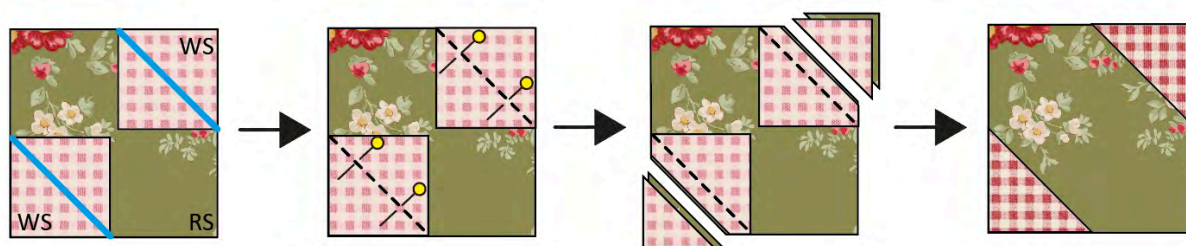


### Making Leaf Unit 1

**9** The piecing for Leaf unit 1 involves creating 'leaves' using a corner triangle method, as follows and shown in **Fig F**.

To make a corner unit, choose the correct background fabric piece and the two smaller print squares (see **Fig D** for actual colours). Place the square of print fabric right side (RS) up. Take the two smaller squares and pencil mark a diagonal line on the wrong side of each square. Position the squares right sides together with the print rectangle, in the correct positions for that particular unit and with the marked lines in the directions shown in the diagram. Pin in place and then sew along each marked line. Trim off excess fabric  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) outside the sewn lines and press each triangle outwards. Check the size of the unit, which needs to be  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in (6.4cm) square (unfinished) (for all of the leaves).

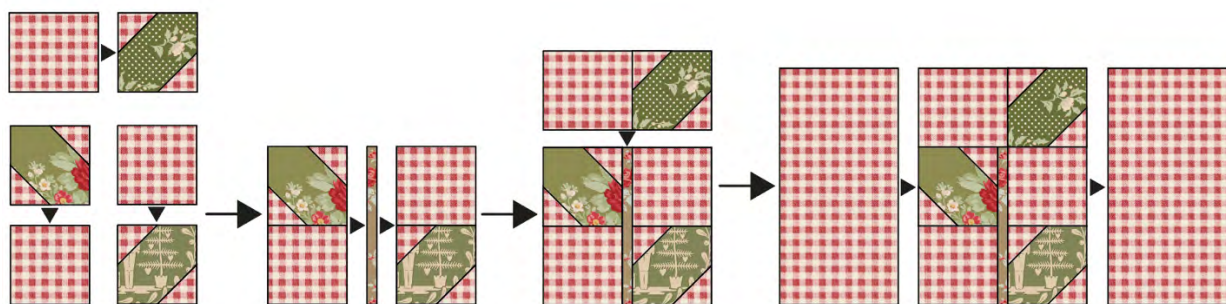
**Fig F** Making a unit with corner triangles



**10** Make the other two leaves for Leaf unit 1, taking care to place the triangles on the correct corners. When the leaves have been made, sew them together with the other pieces needed, as shown in **Fig G**. Follow the stages shown in the diagram, pressing each seam as you sew, pressing them open or to one side. Once sewn, Leaf unit 1 should be 11in x  $6\frac{1}{2}$ in (28cm x 16.5cm) (unfinished).



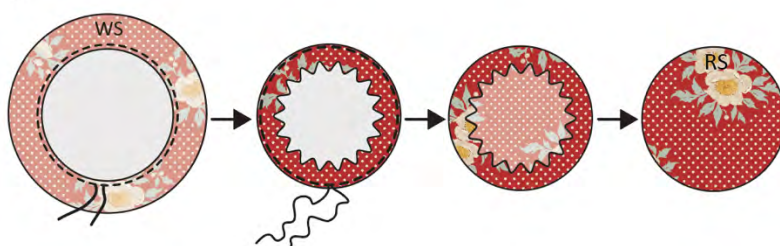
**Fig G** Assembling Leaf unit 1



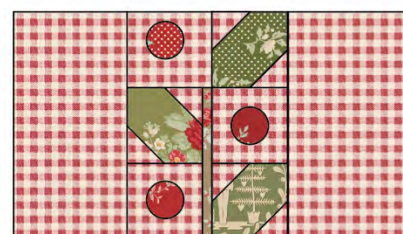
**11** The appliqué circles for the berries can be added now. Make the appliqué using a card and gathering thread technique (turned-edge appliqué). You could use a different method if you prefer. Cut a 1in (2.5cm) diameter circle from a piece of stiff card. Take one of the 1½in (3.8cm) diameter circles of fabric cut earlier and place the card circle in the centre of the fabric on the wrong side. Mark the card circle (**Fig H 1**). Remove the card for the moment. Using a strong or doubled thread, hand sew a gathering stitch all around this marked inner circle, slightly *outside* of the marked line. Leave tails of thread, as in the diagram. Put the card circle back in place and pull on the gathering thread to gather it up over the edge of the card. Tie off the thread. Press well and then remove the card. Press again from the right side using a little spray starch if you wish. Make the other two circles needed for Leaf unit 1. Using a matching hand sewing thread and small slip stitches, sew the circles in place on Leaf unit 1 and press (**Fig H 2**).

**Fig H** Adding the appliqué circles

**1**



**2**



### Making the Bird Unit

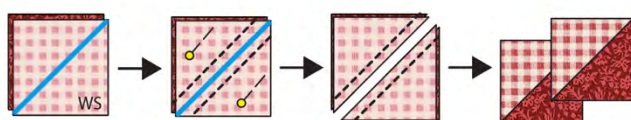
**12** The piecing for the Bird unit includes using a corner triangle method to create the angles needed. A half-square triangle (HST) unit is also needed and the process for making this is shown in **Fig I 1**. This makes two units but only one of them is needed.

Make the HSTs as follows. Take two different squares and on the wrong side of the lighter square, pencil mark the diagonal line. Place the two squares right sides (RS) together and sew ¼in (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 HST is 2in (5.1cm) square (unfinished).

**13** Use the corner triangle technique (described for the leaves) to create corners on the correct pieces, as shown in **Fig I**. Now follow the stages in the diagram to sew all the pieces together. Press each seam as you sew, pressing them open or to one side. Once sewn, the unit should be 11in x 5in (28cm x 12.7cm). Add the eye on the bird using black stranded cotton (floss) with six strands wrapped twice around the needle.

**Fig I Making the Bird unit**

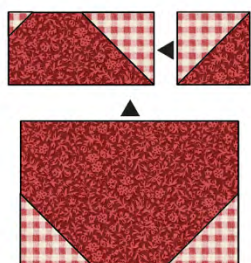
1



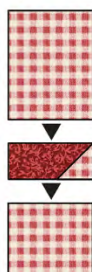
2



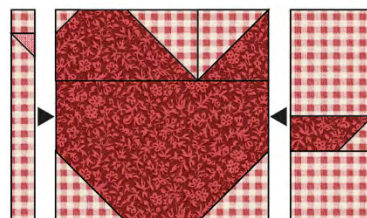
3



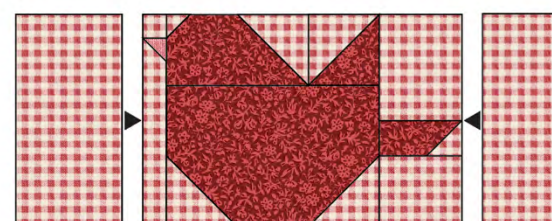
4



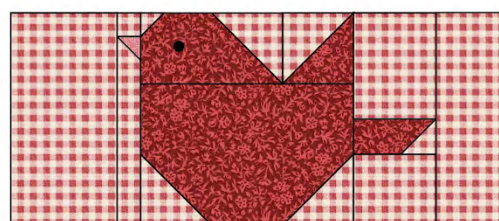
5



6



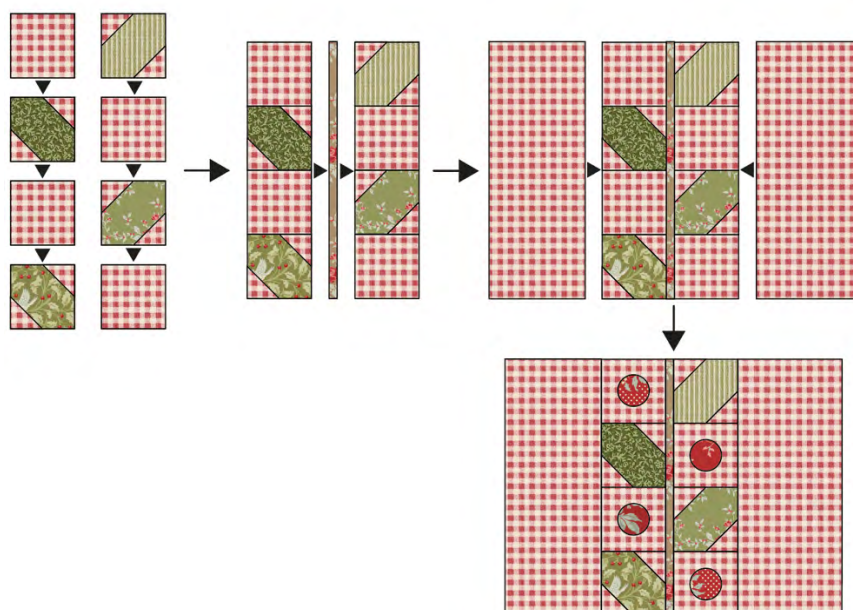
7



### Making Leaf Unit 2

**14** The piecing for Leaf unit 2 is very similar to the previous leaf unit. Make leaves using the corner triangle technique, following the fabric colours given in **Fig D**. Now assemble the unit as shown in **Fig J**. Add the appliqué using the same technique as before. Check the sewn unit is 11in x 8½in (28cm x 21.6cm).

**Fig J Making Leaf unit 2**



### Assembling the Patchwork

**15** When the three sections of patchwork have been made, assemble the rest of the stocking front referring back to **Fig E**. Sew the three sections together into a column and then add the



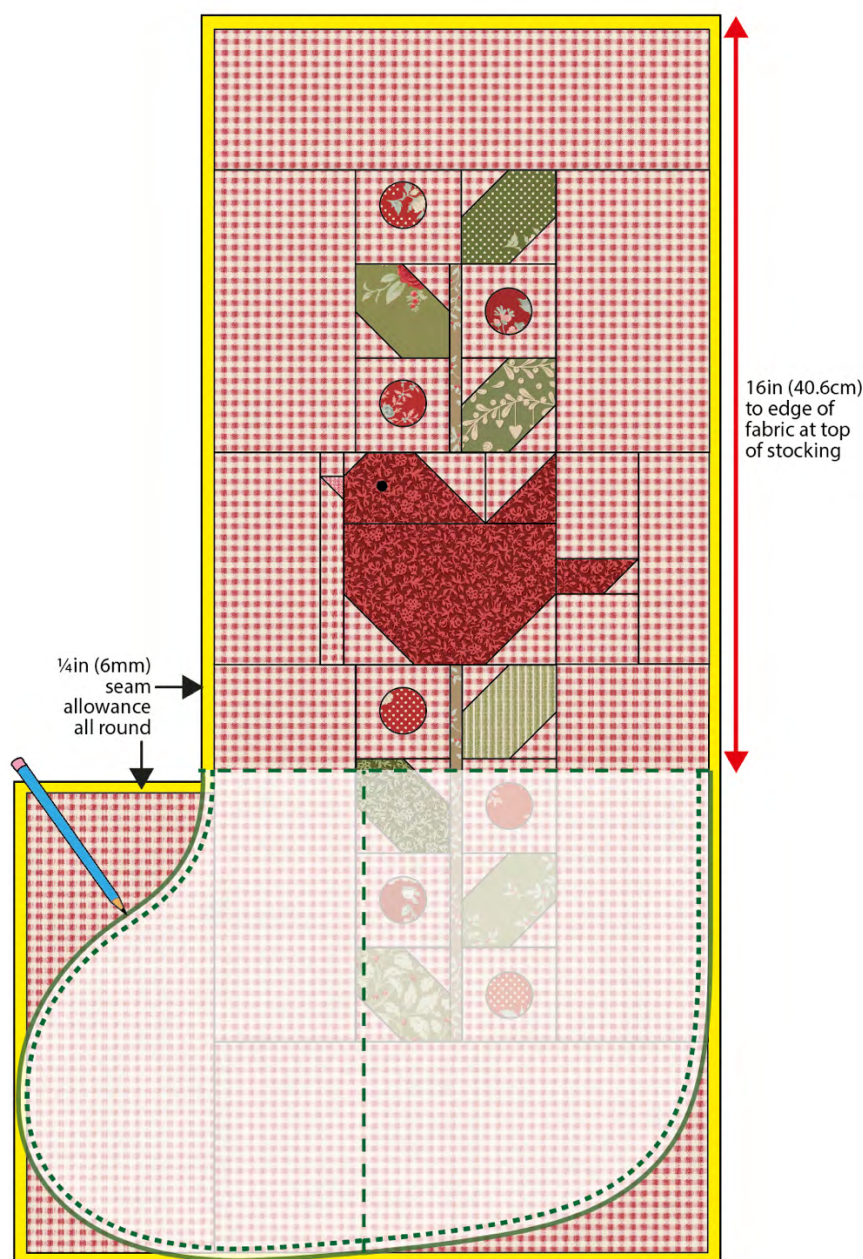
unpieced pieces to the top and bottom of the patchwork. Press seams open or to one side. Add the toe piece to the left-hand side, aligning it with the base and pressing the seam.

## Preparing the Stocking Pattern

**16** When the patchwork is complete, the work can be trimmed to the stocking shape. To do this, prepare a paper pattern using the two shapes provided for the toe/foot of the stocking. Copy or print out the patterns, making sure they are 100% (full size). Cut out the shapes along the outer lines and then tape the two shapes together along the vertical dashed line (denoted by A and B). This is the stocking toe pattern with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam allowance.

**17** Place the toe pattern onto the patchwork as shown in **Fig K**. With the pattern's seam allowance included, the pattern should just fit the patchwork, as shown. The patchwork seam allowance is shown in yellow. Mark the shape of the pattern on the patchwork and trim off the excess with sharp scissors.

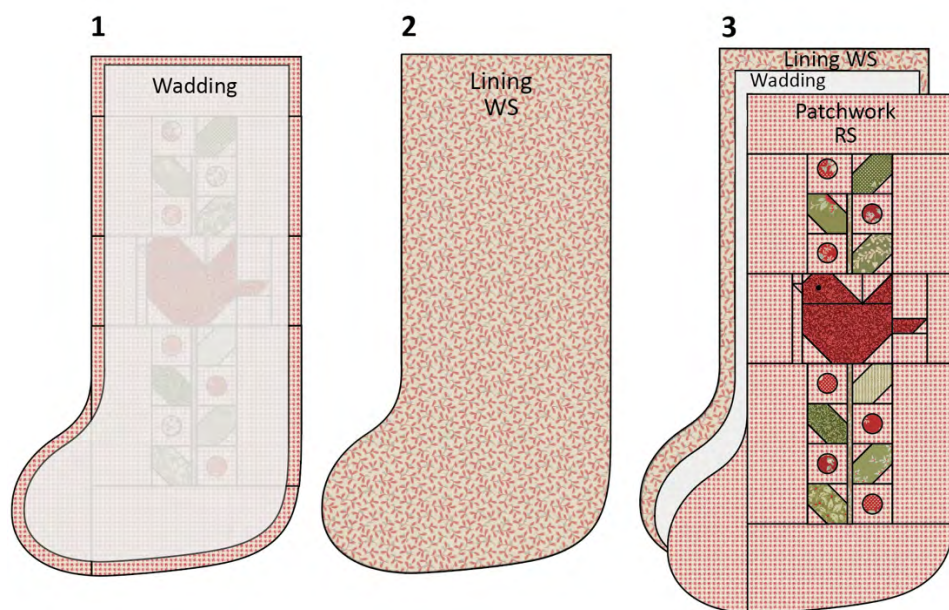
**Fig K** Trimming the patchwork using the toe pattern



## Assembling the Stocking

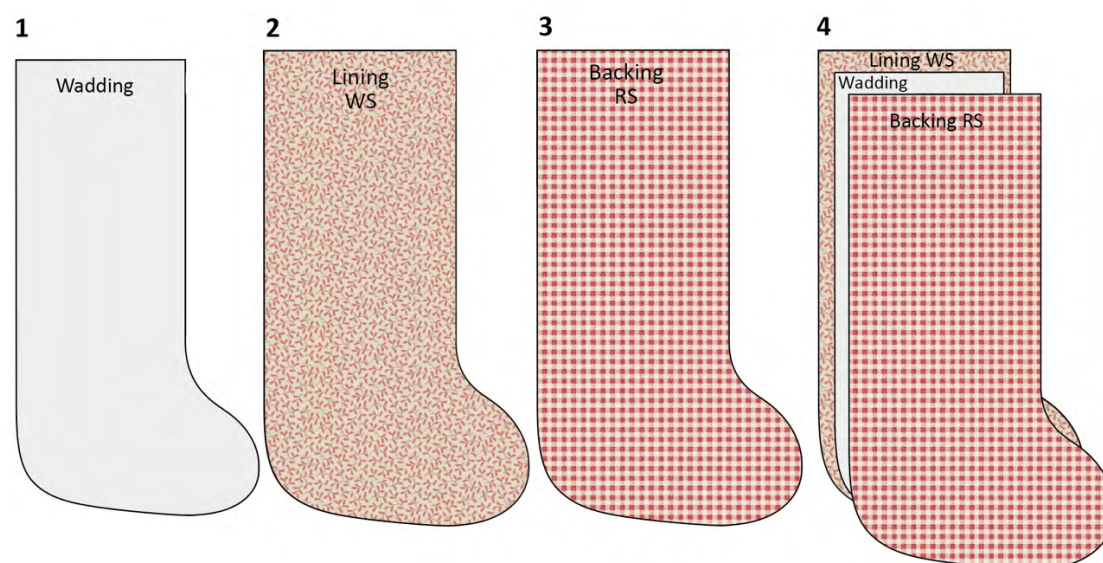
**18** To assemble the stocking prepare the other shapes needed prior to quilting, that is the wadding, the lining and the backing. Take some time to get this layering right, as follows. For the stocking front, follow **Fig L**. Use the stocking patchwork shape to cut the wadding shape but trim it to *at least* ¼in (6mm) smaller all round than the patchwork shape (**Fig L 1**). (This is to reduce bulk around the edge of the stocking.) Cut the lining fabric using the whole patchwork shape as a pattern but marking the shape on the wrong side of the lining fabric, so it looks as in **Fig L 2**. Now layer the three shapes together (**Fig L 3**).

**Fig L** Preparing the front of the stocking for quilting



**19** For the stocking back, follow **Fig M**. Use the stocking patchwork shape to cut the wadding shape but trim it to *at least* ¼in (6mm) smaller all round than the patchwork shape (**Fig M 1**). Cut the lining fabric using the whole patchwork shape as a pattern but reversed, so the lining shape looks as in **Fig M 2**. Cut the backing fabric using the whole patchwork shape as a pattern but reversed so the shape looks as in **Fig M 3**. Now layer the three shapes together (**Fig M 4**).

**Fig M** Preparing the back of the stocking for quilting

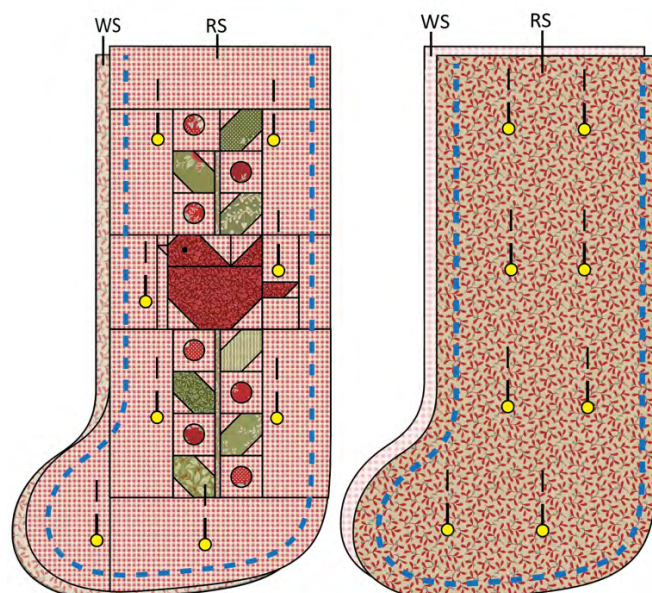




**20** When the front and back pieces have been layered together, sew a line of tacking stitches around the edge of each set of layers, about ½in (1.3cm) in from the edge, as shown in **Fig N**. This will help to keep the layers together and also anchor the wadding shape, which has been cut smaller than the other shapes. If desired, you could use small dabs from a glue pen to secure the wadding edges in places. Secure the layers with pins or other method of your choice and then quilt as desired.

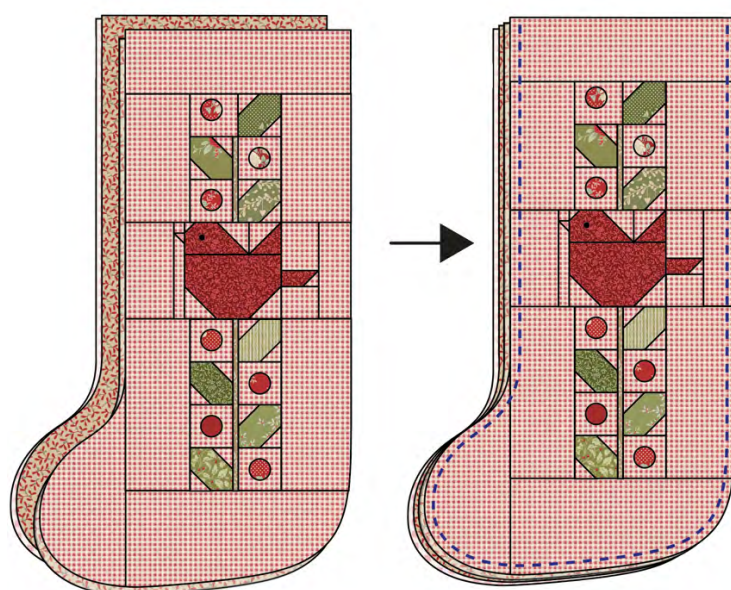
**Fig N** Preparing the stocking for quilting

Blue dashed lines indicate temporary tacking stitches



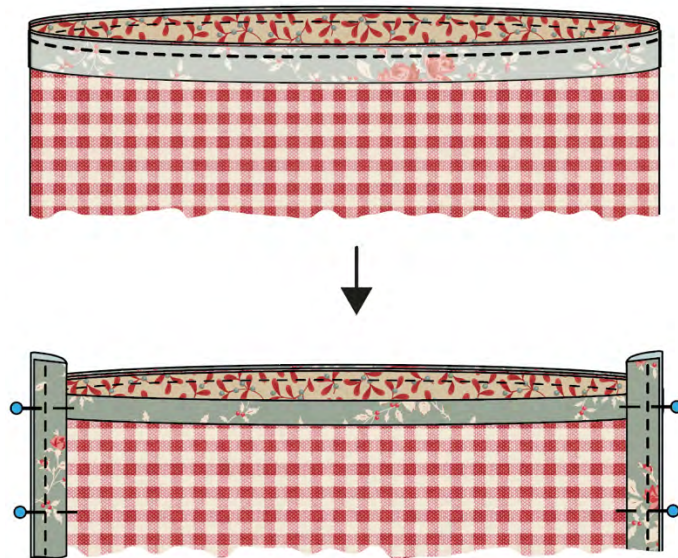
**21** The stocking is sewn together using the binding to seal the edges, therefore the quilted front and back need to be positioned together with *right sides facing outwards*. **Fig O** shows this (quilting not shown). When the quilted front and back sections are placed together, tack them together to secure ready for binding. This line of stitches (shown in blue on the diagram) can be within the ¼in (6mm) seam allowance and can be left in place when the binding is finished. Because the wadding was cut smaller and doesn't extend into the seam allowance, you will find it easier to add the binding as there are fewer layers to sew through.

**Fig O** Preparing for binding



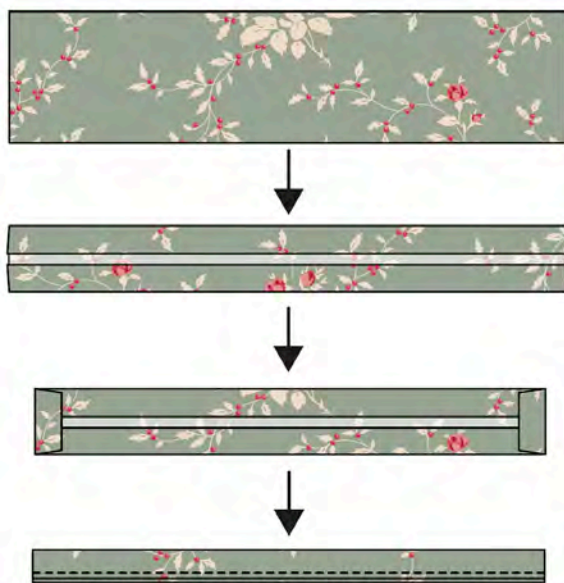
**22** Use the prepared double-fold binding strip to bind your stocking. This is done in two stages. First, bind along the top of the stocking using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam (**Fig P**). Second, bind along the sides edges of the stocking. For this side binding, leave the raw ends of the binding proud, so these can be turned under later. Pin and sew the binding in place, down one side of the stocking and then easing the binding in place to curve around the heel and then the toe and up the opposite side. Turn under the raw ends and then press the binding over to the back of the stocking and use small hand stitches to sew it in place all round.

**Fig P** Binding the stocking top and then the sides



**23** To make a hanging loop, take the 2in x 8in (5.1cm x 20.3cm) strip of binding fabric cut earlier and fold it in half along the length. Open out and fold the long edges to the centre and press (**Fig Q**). Fold the raw short ends over by about  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) and press. Now fold the strip double along the length so it's about  $\frac{1}{2}$ in (1.3cm) wide and press. Sew along the open edge.

**Fig Q** Making a hanging loop





**24** Fold the hanging loop in half and positioning it with one short edge inside the top of the stocking, as shown in **Fig R**. Sew it into place with small hand stitches. Sew the other short end in place inside the other edge of the stocking. Press the stocking to finish.

**Fig R** Adding the hanging loop



# Winter Bird Christmas Stocking

(Plaid colourway)

A lovely big Christmas stocking, tailor-made to fill up with gifts – what more could anyone want? The patchwork is straightforward, showing a bird singing amid holly branches, with the addition of some appliqué berries. The festive colour scheme is easily achieved thanks to the Merry Little Christmas fabric collection and its blenders. For this version of the stocking, a plaid fabric is used as the background, but there are three other colourways to choose from. The stocking design echoes that of the two Winter Birds quilts and the two matching pillows – see [tildasworld.com](http://tildasworld.com) for the instructions.

Difficulty rating \*\*\*

## Materials

- Fabric 1: 1yd (1m) – Plaid stone (160079) (background and back of stocking)
- Fabric 2: about 9in (23cm) square – Joy blue (100628)
- Fabric 3: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Eve burgundy (110140)
- Fabric 4: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Holly moss (100631)
- Fabric 5: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Carol moss (100632)
- Fabric 6: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Joy pine (100634)
- Fabric 7: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Paper Scenes artichoke (100635)
- Fabric 8: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Carol burgundy (100622)
- Fabric 9: about 9in (23cm) square – Noel taupe (110149)
- Fabric 10: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Eve pine (110144)
- Fabric 11: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Noel moss (110145)
- Fabric 12: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Noel red (110139)
- Fabric 13: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Stripe green (160082)
- Fabric 14: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Tiny Dot red (160081)
- Wadding (batting): two pieces 16in x 28in (40.5cm x 71cm)
- Fabric for lining:  $\frac{3}{4}$ yd (75cm) – Carol burgundy (100622)
- Fabric for back of stocking – use Fabric 1
- Binding and hanging loop fabric:  $\frac{3}{8}$ yd (40cm) – Polka Dot red (160085)
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Black stranded cotton (floss) for French knot eye on the bird
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat
- Scrap of stiff card for appliqué
- Fabric glue pen (optional)

## Fabric Notes

Only small pieces are needed for most of the fabrics. If you have made the Winter Birds Quilt, you may have some useful leftovers.

## Finished Size

Approximately 15in x 26½in (38cm x 67.5cm)

## 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.

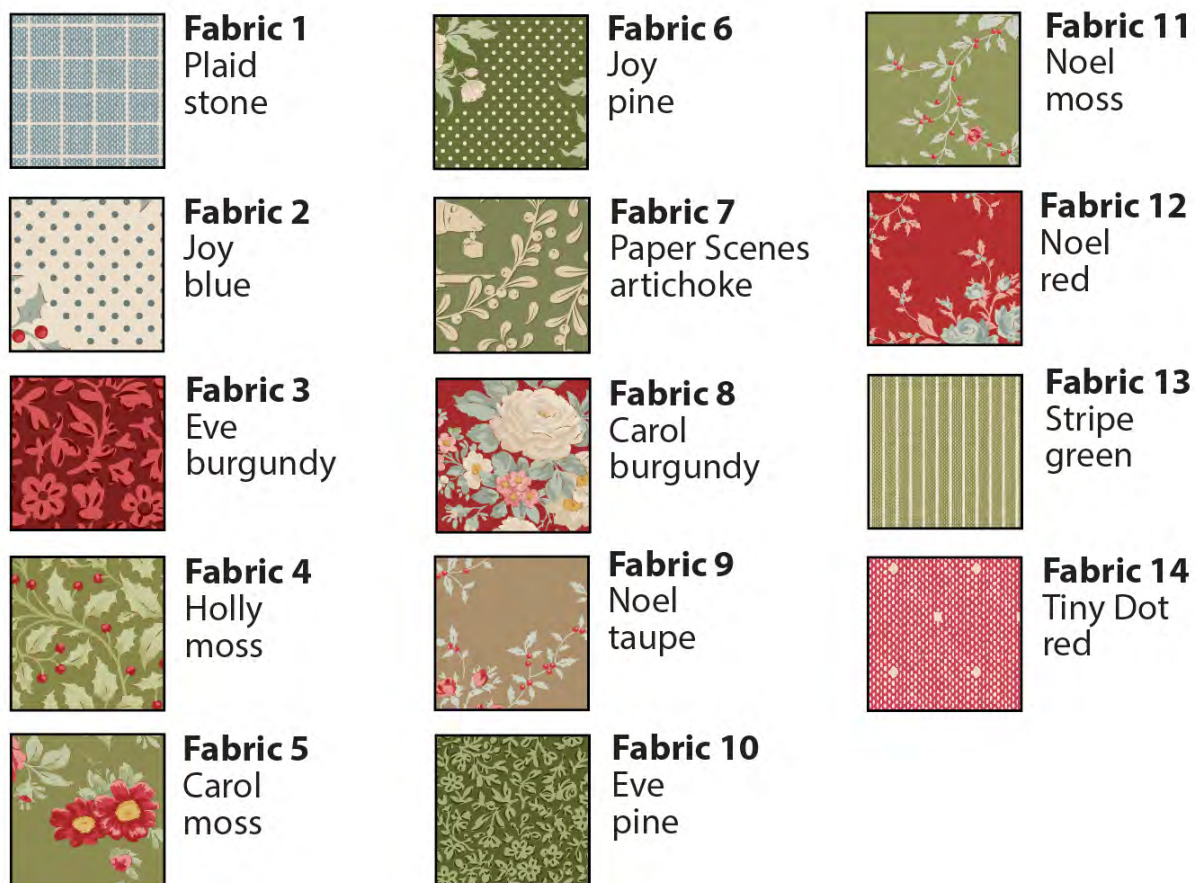


- Press fabric before cutting and trim as needed to square up the fabric pattern/weave, using a quilting ruler to cut the top raw edge at 90 degrees to the selvages.
- Use ¼in (6mm) seams unless otherwise instructed.
- Read all the instructions through before you start.
- Always make one complete block as a test before going on to make the remaining blocks.
- Abbreviations: RS = right side; WS = wrong side; HST = half-square triangle.
- Check that the patterns being used are printed at full size (100%).

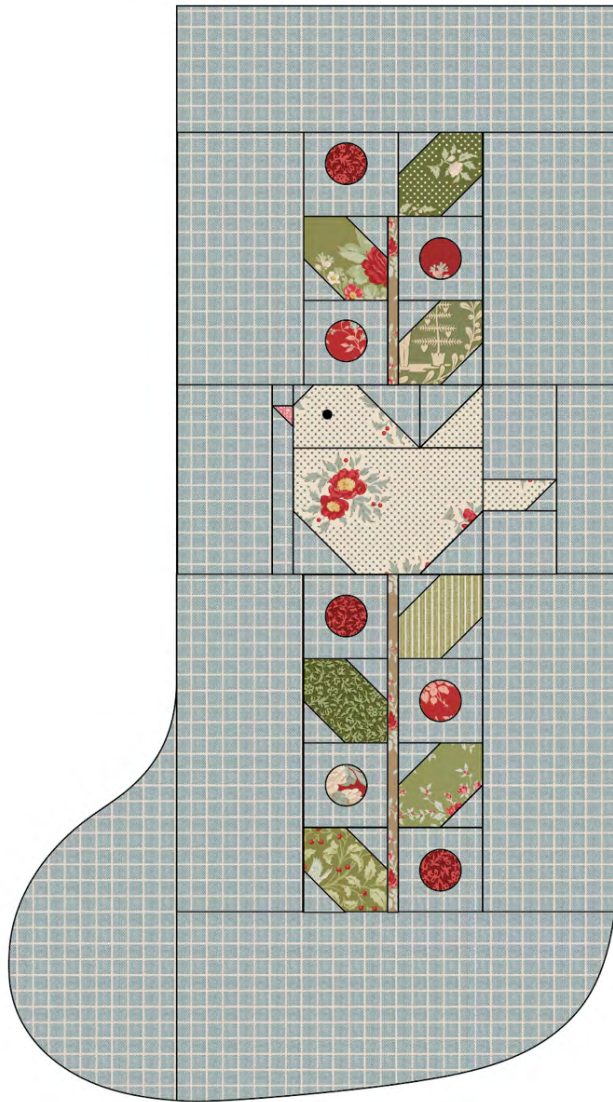
## Stocking Layout

**1** The stocking layout consists of a rectangular section of patchwork, with additional pieces at the top, bottom and left-hand side to produce the stocking shape. Circles for 'berries' are made with turned-edge appliqué and a circle pattern is included if required. A full-size pattern is also included for the toe of the stocking, to assist with cutting the stocking shape. Refer to **Fig A** for the fabrics used and **Fig B** for the stocking layout.

**Fig A** Fabric swatches (Winter Bird Christmas Stocking – plaid)



**Fig B** Stocking layout



## Cutting Out

**2** From Fabric 1 cut a piece for the back of the stocking approximately 16in x 27in (40.5cm x 68.6cm).

From Fabric 1 cut rectangles for the stocking top, bottom and toe section, as on **Fig C**.

- Stocking top – 11in x 3½in (28cm x 9cm).
- Stocking bottom – 11in x 5in (28cm x 12.7cm).
- Stocking toe – 4½in x 10¼in (11.4cm x 26cm).

**3** For the patchwork pieces, use the cut sizes given in **Fig C** and follow the fabric colours given in **Fig D**.

**4** For the appliqué circles cut the following 1½in (3.8cm) diameter circles (a pattern is provided). This size includes a ¼in (6mm) seam allowance.

- Fabric 3 – cut three circles.
- Fabric 8 – cut two circles.
- Fabric 12 – cut two circles.

**5** Cut the fabric for the lining of the stocking into two pieces, each approximately 16in x 27in (40.5cm x 68.6cm).



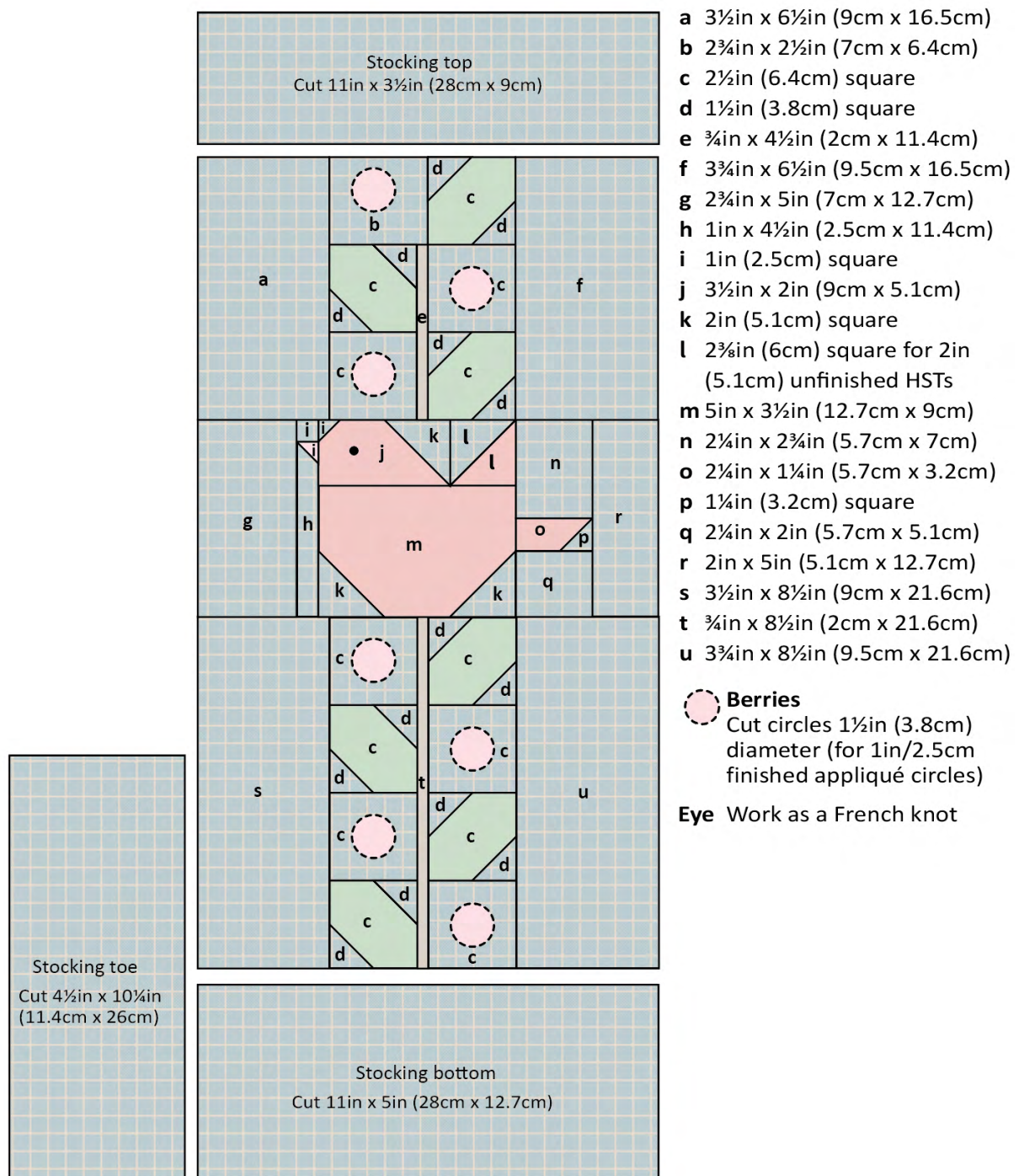
**6** Cut the binding fabric into three 2½in (6.4cm) x width of fabric strips. Sew together end to end and press seams open. Press the binding in half along the length, wrong sides together. You will need a total binding length of at least 110in (280cm) for the sides and top of the stocking. The binding has to be curved to follow the shape of the stocking but the curves are gentle, so straight-cut strips will be sufficient. If you want to cut bias strips, you will need more fabric.

**7** From the remaining binding fabric cut a 2in x 8in (5.1cm x 20.3cm) strip for a hanging loop.

### Fig C Cut measurements for the patchwork

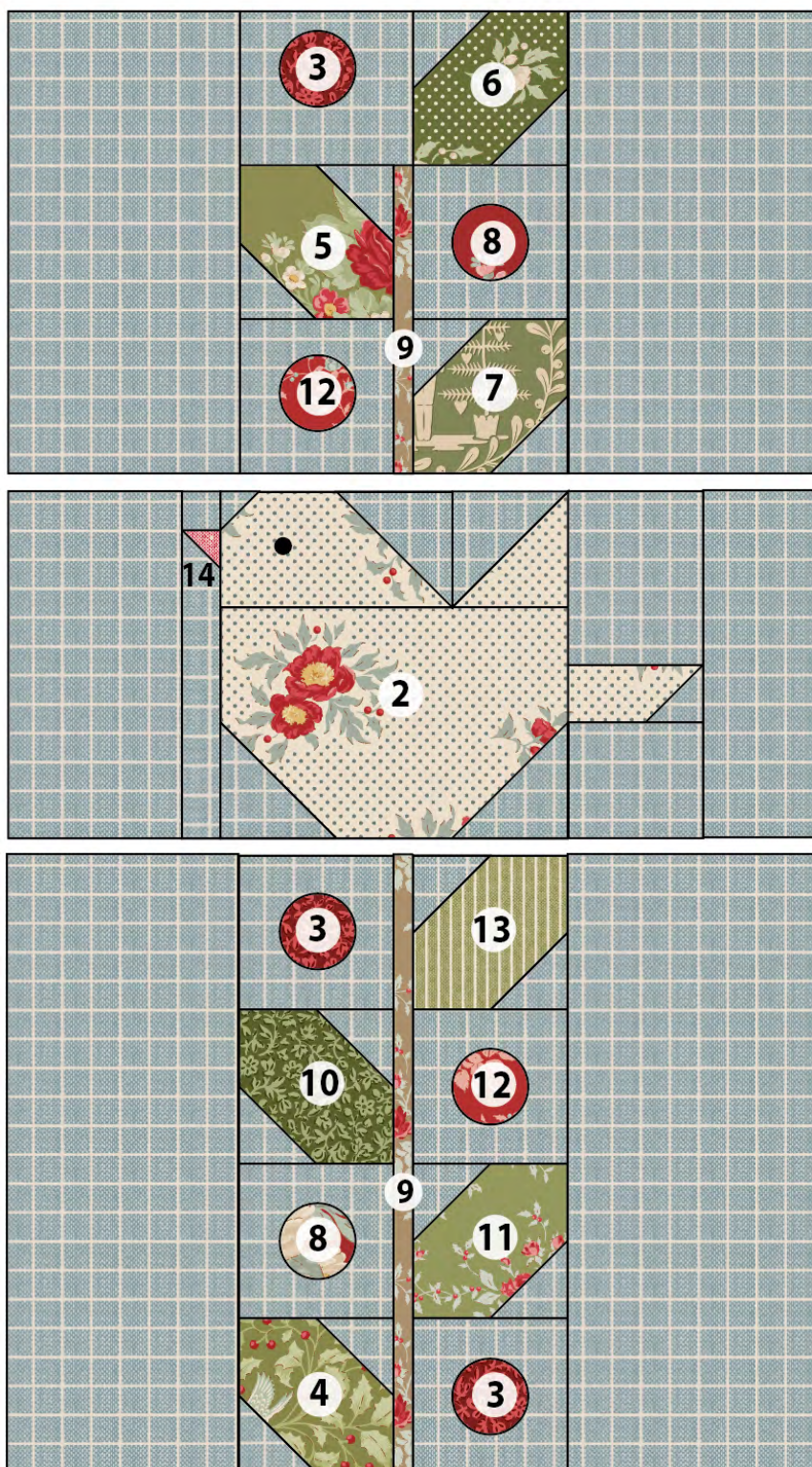
Sizes include ¼in (6mm) seam allowances

All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles, except appliqué circles





**Fig D** Fabric positions for the stocking  
 Bold numbers in circles indicate the fabrics used (see Fig A)  
 The background is Fabric 1

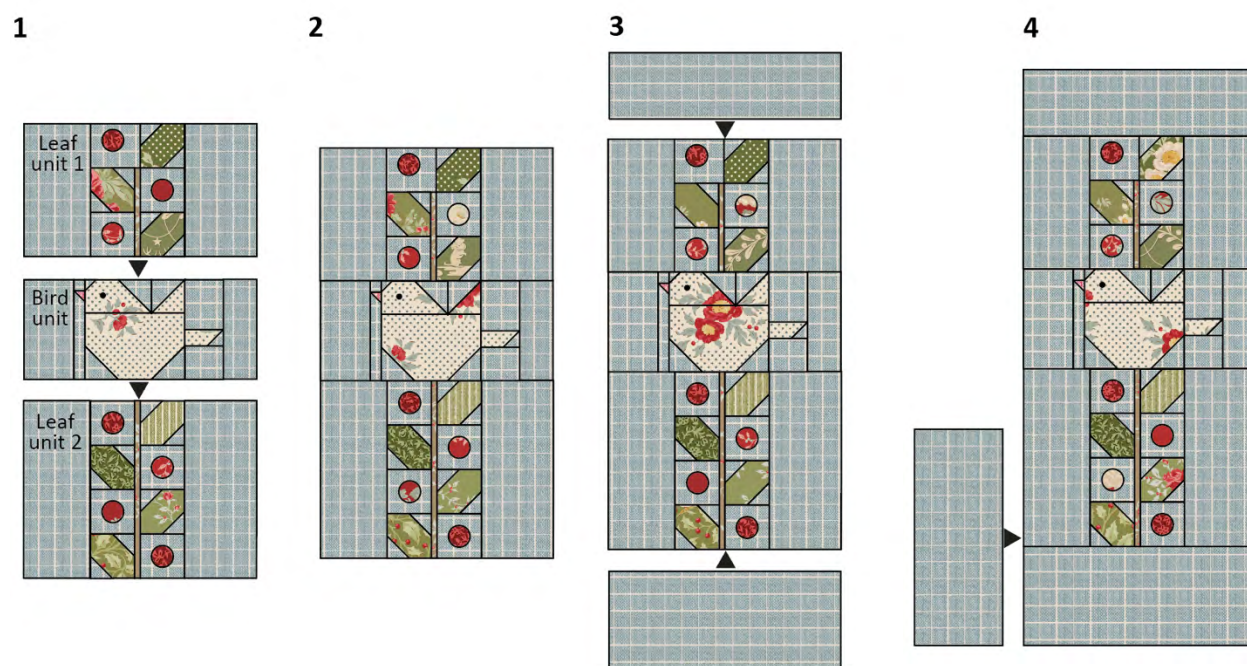


## Making the Stocking Patchwork

**8** The stages of making the stocking patchwork is shown in **Fig E** – Leaf unit 1, Bird unit and Leaf unit 2 – and we will describe each of these sections in turn.



**Fig E** Stages of piecing the patchwork

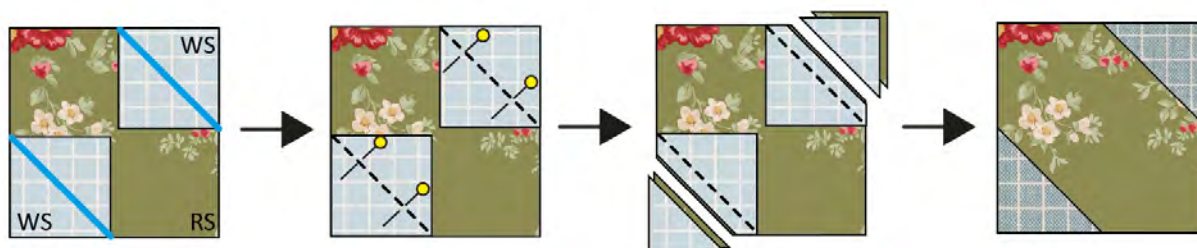


### Making Leaf Unit 1

**9** The piecing for Leaf unit 1 involves creating ‘leaves’ using a corner triangle method, as follows and shown in **Fig F**.

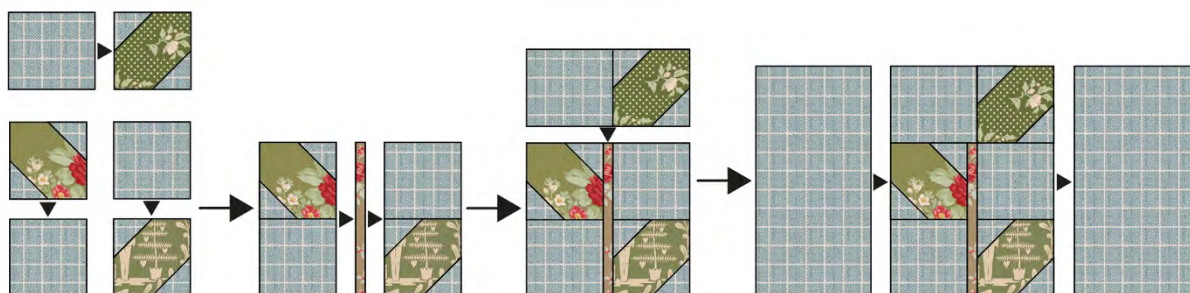
To make a corner unit, choose the correct background fabric piece and the two smaller print squares (see **Fig D** for actual colours). Place the square of print fabric right side (RS) up. Take the two smaller squares and pencil mark a diagonal line on the wrong side of each square. Position the squares right sides together with the print rectangle, in the correct positions for that particular unit and with the marked lines in the directions shown in the diagram. Pin in place and then sew along each marked line. Trim off excess fabric  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) outside the sewn lines and press each triangle outwards. Check the size of the unit, which needs to be  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in (6.4cm) square (unfinished) (for all of the leaves).

**Fig F** Making a unit with corner triangles



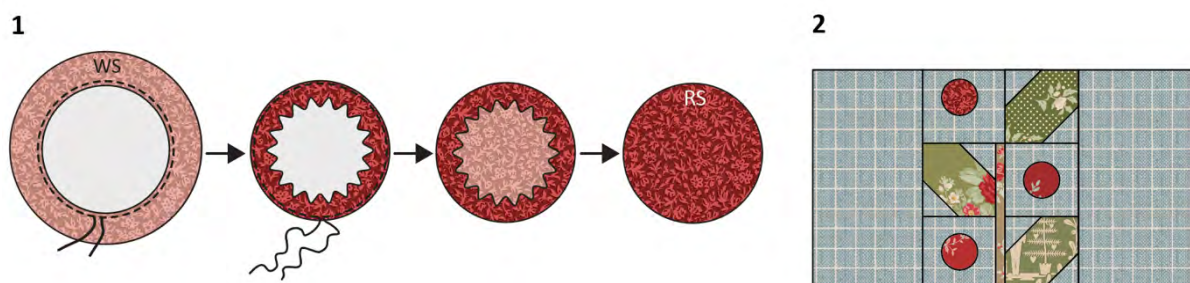
**10** Make the other two leaves for Leaf unit 1, taking care to place the triangles on the correct corners. When the leaves have been made, sew them together with the other pieces needed, as shown in **Fig G**. Follow the stages shown in the diagram, pressing each seam as you sew, pressing them open or to one side. Once sewn, Leaf unit 1 should be  $11$ in x  $6\frac{1}{2}$ in (28cm x 16.5cm) (unfinished).

**Fig G** Assembling Leaf unit 1



**11** The appliqué circles for the berries can be added now. Make the appliqué using a card and gathering thread technique (turned-edge appliqué). You could use a different method if you prefer. Cut a 1in (2.5cm) diameter circle from a piece of stiff card. Take one of the 1½in (3.8cm) diameter circles of fabric cut earlier and place the card circle in the centre of the fabric on the wrong side. Mark the card circle (**Fig H 1**). Remove the card for the moment. Using a strong or doubled thread, hand sew a gathering stitch all around this marked inner circle, slightly *outside* of the marked line. Leave tails of thread, as in the diagram. Put the card circle back in place and pull on the gathering thread to gather it up over the edge of the card. Tie off the thread. Press well and then remove the card. Press again from the right side using a little spray starch if you wish. Make the other two circles needed for Leaf unit 1. Using a matching hand sewing thread and small slip stitches, sew the circles in place on Leaf unit 1 and press (**Fig H 2**).

**Fig H** Adding the appliqué circles



## Making the Bird Unit

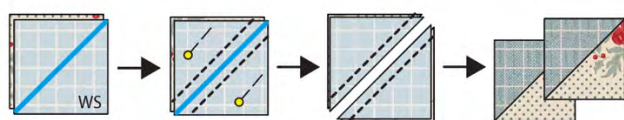
**12** The piecing for the Bird unit includes using a corner triangle method to create the angles needed. A half-square triangle (HST) unit is also needed and the process for making this is shown in **Fig I 1**. This makes two units but only one of them is needed. Make the HSTs as follows. Take two different squares and on the wrong side of the lighter square, pencil mark the diagonal line. Place the two squares right sides (RS) together and sew ¼in (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 HST is 2in (5.1cm) square (unfinished).

**13** Use the corner triangle technique (described for the leaves) to create corners on the correct pieces, as shown in **Fig I**. Now follow the stages in the diagram to sew all the pieces together. Press each seam as you sew, pressing them open or to one side. Once sewn, the unit should be 11in x 5in (28cm x 12.7cm). Add the eye on the bird using black stranded cotton (floss) with six strands wrapped twice around the needle.



**Fig I Making the Bird unit**

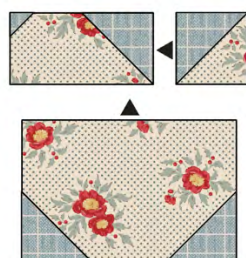
1



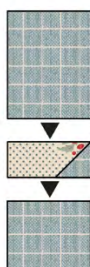
2



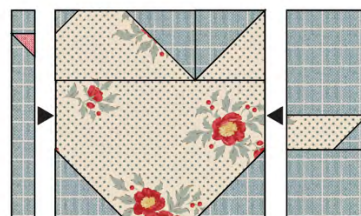
3



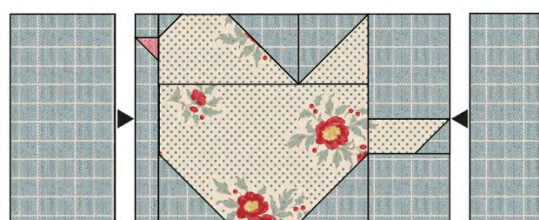
4



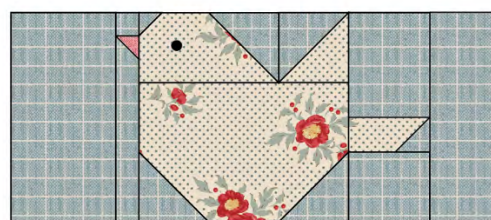
5



6



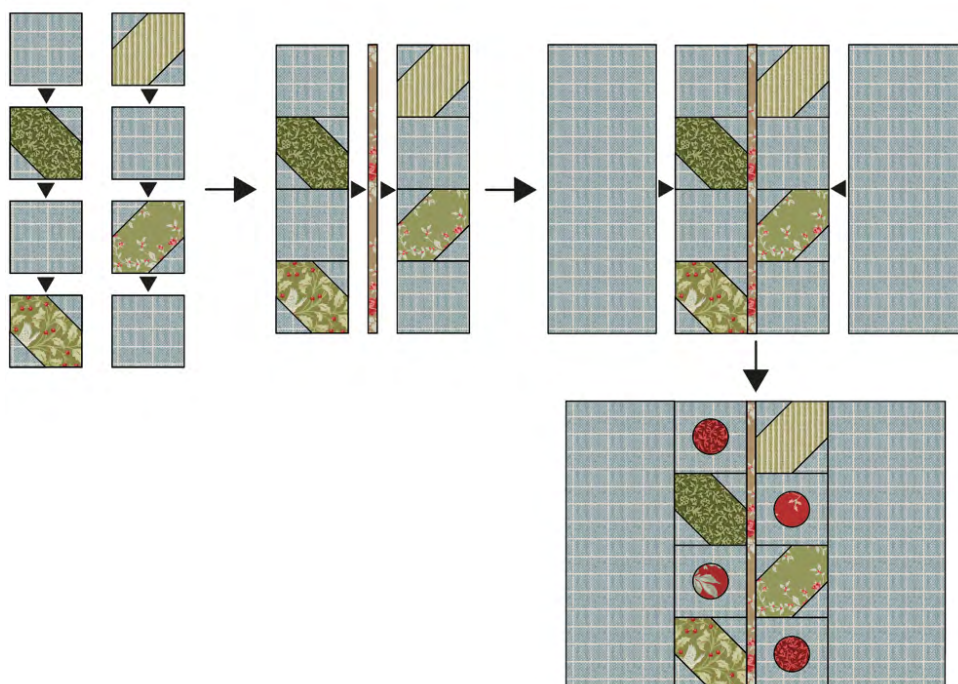
7



### Making Leaf Unit 2

**14** The piecing for Leaf unit 2 is very similar to the previous leaf unit. Make leaves using the corner triangle technique, following the fabric colours given in **Fig D**. Now assemble the unit as shown in **Fig J**. Add the appliqué using the same technique as before. Check the sewn unit is 11in x 8½in (28cm x 21.6cm).

**Fig J Making Leaf unit 2**



### Assembling the Patchwork

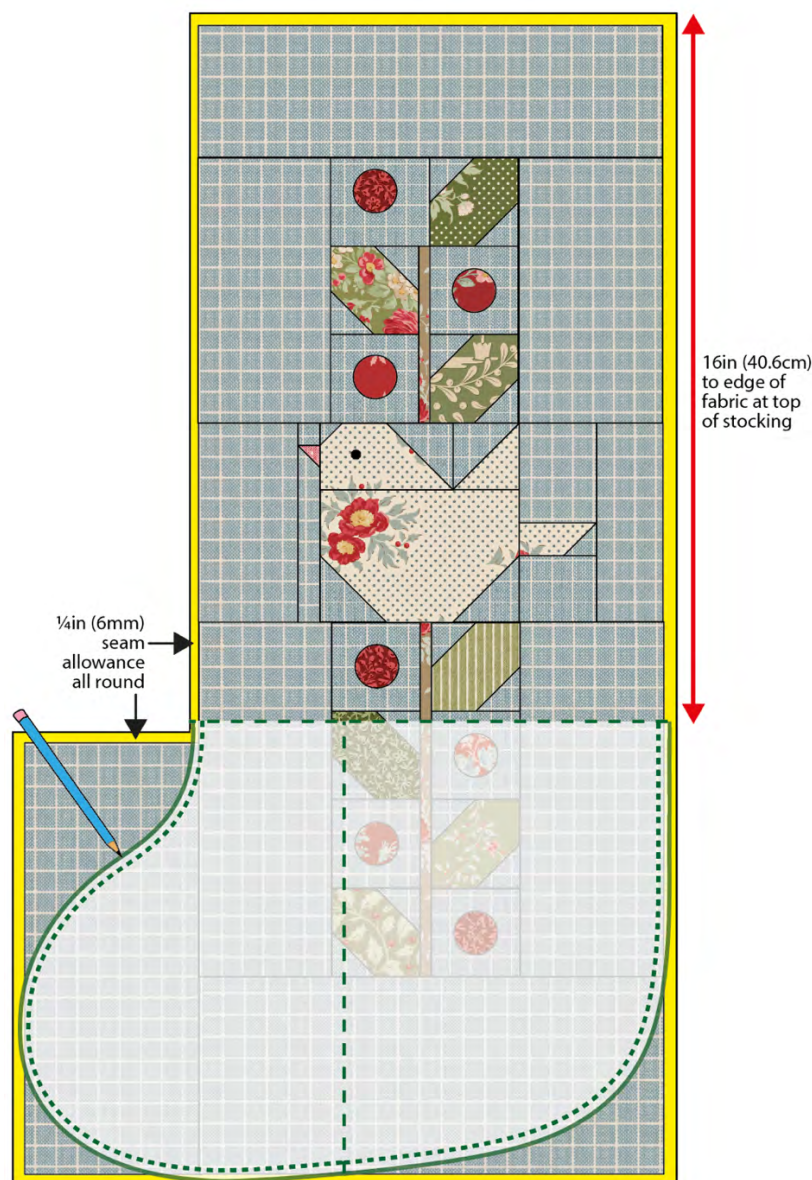
**15** When the three sections of patchwork have been made, assemble the rest of the stocking front referring back to **Fig E**. Sew the three sections together into a column and then add the unpieced pieces to the top and bottom of the patchwork. Press seams open or to one side. Add the toe piece to the left-hand side, aligning it with the base and pressing the seam.

### Preparing the Stocking Pattern

**16** When the patchwork is complete, the work can be trimmed to the stocking shape. To do this, prepare a paper pattern using the two shapes provided for the toe/foot of the stocking. Copy or print out the patterns, making sure they are 100% (full size). Cut out the shapes along the outer lines and then tape the two shapes together along the vertical dashed line (denoted by A and B). This is the stocking toe pattern with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam allowance.

**17** Place the toe pattern onto the patchwork as shown in **Fig K**. With the pattern's seam allowance included, the pattern should just fit the patchwork, as shown. The patchwork seam allowance is shown in yellow. Mark the shape of the pattern on the patchwork and trim off the excess with sharp scissors.

**Fig K** Trimming the patchwork using the toe pattern

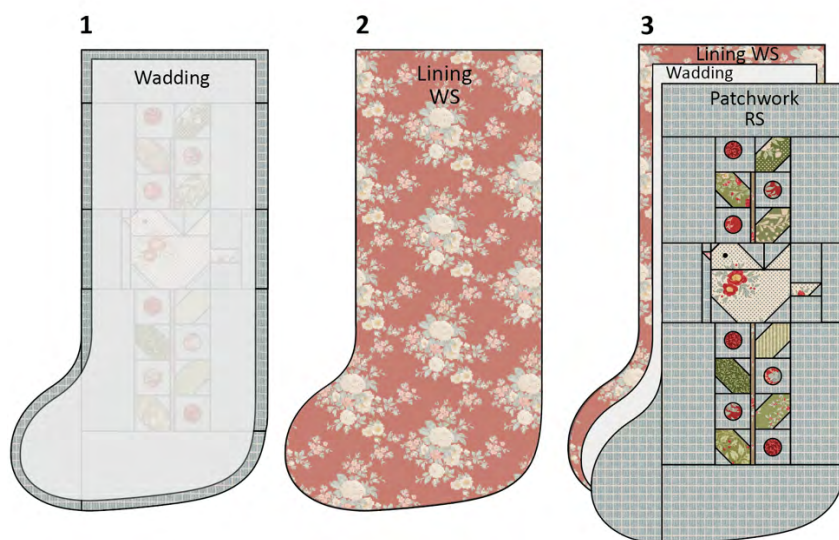




## Assembling the Stocking

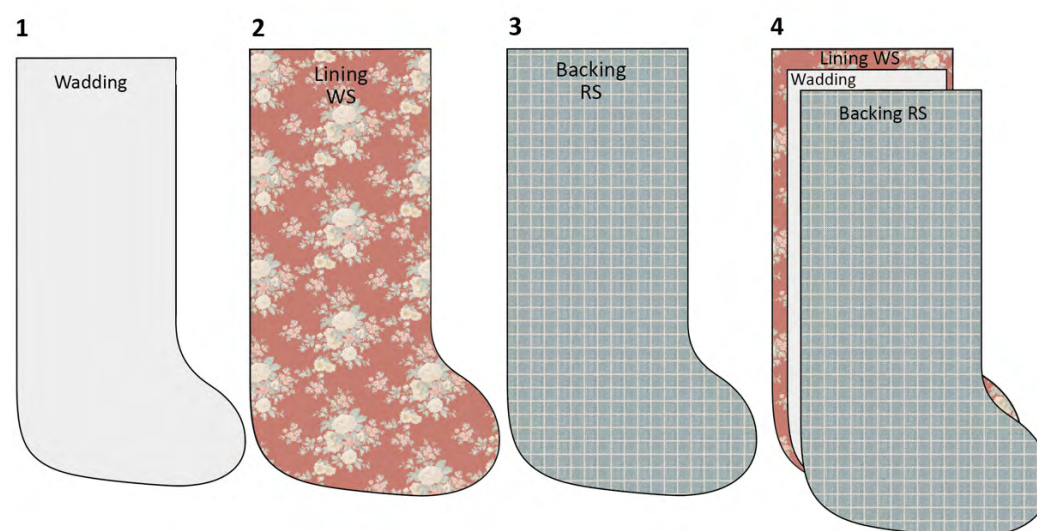
**18** To assemble the stocking prepare the other shapes needed prior to quilting, that is the wadding, the lining and the backing. Take some time to get this layering right, as follows. For the stocking front, follow **Fig L**. Use the stocking patchwork shape to cut the wadding shape but trim it to *at least* ¼in (6mm) smaller all round than the patchwork shape (**Fig L 1**). (This is to reduce bulk around the edge of the stocking.) Cut the lining fabric using the whole patchwork shape as a pattern but marking the shape on the wrong side of the lining fabric, so it looks as in **Fig L 2**. Now layer the three shapes together (**Fig L 3**).

**Fig L** Preparing the front of the stocking for quilting



**19** For the stocking back, follow **Fig M**. Use the stocking patchwork shape to cut the wadding shape but trim it to *at least* ¼in (6mm) smaller all round than the patchwork shape (**Fig M 1**). Cut the lining fabric using the whole patchwork shape as a pattern but reversed, so the lining shape looks as in **Fig M 2**. Cut the backing fabric using the whole patchwork shape as a pattern but reversed so the shape looks as in **Fig M 3**. Now layer the three shapes together (**Fig M 4**).

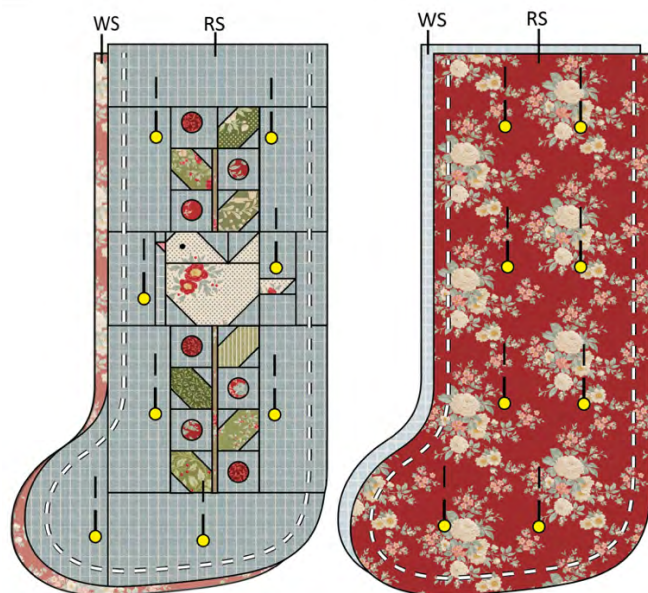
**Fig M** Preparing the back of the stocking for quilting



**20** When the front and back pieces have been layered together, sew a line of tacking stitches around the edge of each set of layers, about ½in (1.3cm) in from the edge, as shown in **Fig N**. This will help to keep the layers together and also anchor the wadding shape, which has been cut smaller than the other shapes. If desired, you could use small dabs from a glue pen to secure the wadding edges in places. Secure the layers with pins or other method of your choice and then quilt as desired.

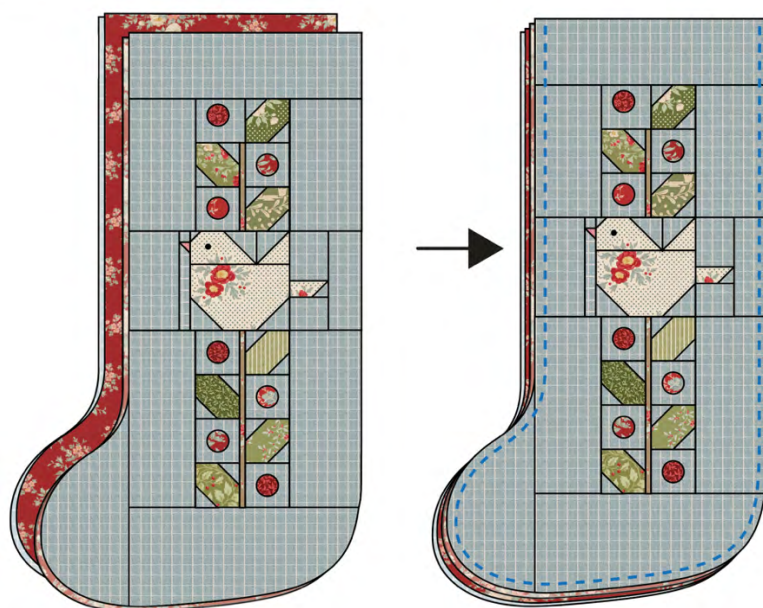
**Fig N** Preparing the stocking for quilting

White dashed lines indicate temporary tacking stitches



**21** The stocking is sewn together using the binding to seal the edges, therefore the quilted front and back need to be positioned together with *right sides facing outwards*. **Fig O** shows this (quilting not shown). When the quilted front and back sections are placed together, tack them together to secure ready for binding. This line of stitches (shown in blue on the diagram) can be within the ¼in (6mm) seam allowance and can be left in place when the binding is finished. Because the wadding was cut smaller and doesn't extend into the seam allowance, you will find it easier to add the binding as there are fewer layers to sew through.

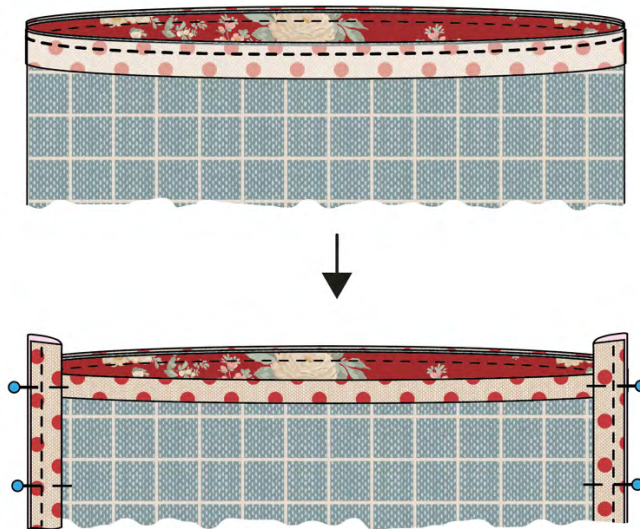
**Fig O** Preparing for binding





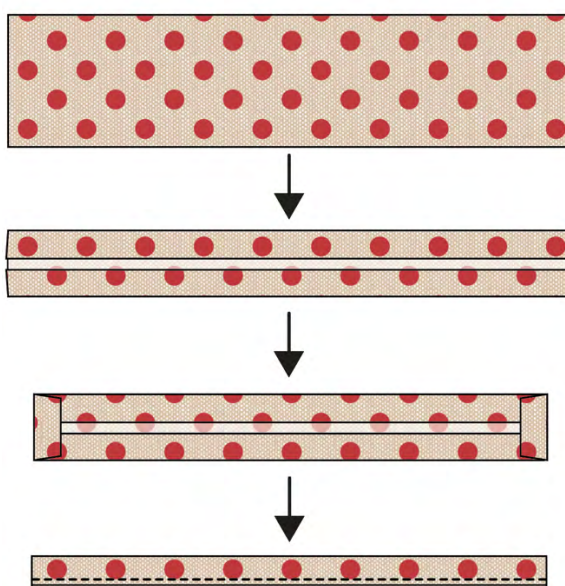
**22** Use the prepared double-fold binding strip to bind your stocking. This is done in two stages. First, bind along the top of the stocking using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam (**Fig P**). Second, bind along the sides edges of the stocking. For this side binding, leave the raw ends of the binding proud, so these can be turned under later. Pin and sew the binding in place, down one side of the stocking and then easing the binding in place to curve around the heel and then the toe and up the opposite side. Turn under the raw ends and then press the binding over to the back of the stocking and use small hand stitches to sew it in place all round.

**Fig P** Binding the stocking top and then the sides



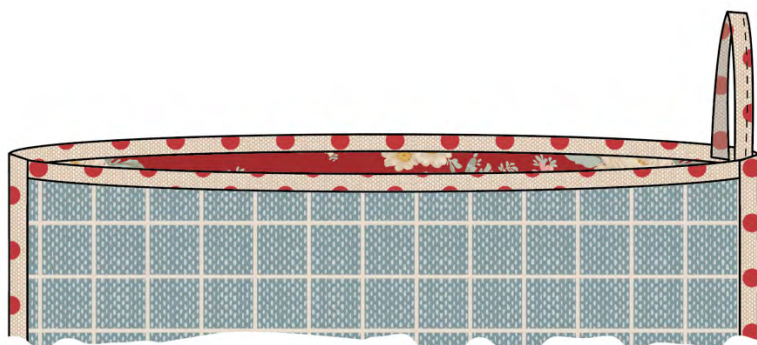
**23** To make a hanging loop, take the 2in x 8in (5.1cm x 20.3cm) strip of binding fabric cut earlier and fold it in half along the length. Open out and fold the long edges to the centre and press (**Fig Q**). Fold the raw short ends over by about  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) and press. Now fold the strip double along the length so it's about  $\frac{1}{2}$ in (1.3cm) wide and press. Sew along the open edge.

**Fig Q** Making a hanging loop



**24** Fold the hanging loop in half and positioning it with one short edge inside the top of the stocking, as shown in **Fig R**. Sew it into place with small hand stitches. Sew the other short end in place inside the other edge of the stocking. Press the stocking to finish.

**Fig R** Adding the hanging loop





# Winter Bird Christmas Stocking

(Putty white colourway)

A lovely big Christmas stocking, tailor-made to fill up with gifts – what more could anyone want? The patchwork is straightforward, showing a bird singing amid holly branches, with the addition of some appliqué berries. The festive colour scheme is easily achieved thanks to the Merry Little Christmas fabric collection and its blenders. For this version of the stocking, a putty white Chambray is used as the background, but there are three other colourways to choose from. The stocking design echoes that of the two Winter Birds quilts and the two matching pillows – see [tildasworld.com](http://tildasworld.com) for the instructions.

Difficulty rating \*\*\*

## Materials

- Fabric 1: 1yd (1m) – Chambray putty white (160043) (background and back of stocking)
- Fabric 2: about 9in (23cm) square – Joy red (100624)
- Fabric 3: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Holly red (100621)
- Fabric 4: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Holly moss (100631)
- Fabric 5: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Carol moss (100632)
- Fabric 6: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Joy pine (100634)
- Fabric 7: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Paper Scenes artichoke (100635)
- Fabric 8: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Eve burgundy (110140)
- Fabric 9: about 9in (23cm) square – Noel taupe (110149)
- Fabric 10: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Eve pine (110144)
- Fabric 11: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Noel moss (110145)
- Fabric 12: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Tiny Dot red (160081)
- Fabric 13: about 5in (12.7cm) square – Stripe green (160082)
- Wadding (batting): two pieces 16in x 28in (40.5cm x 71cm)
- Fabric for lining:  $\frac{3}{4}$ yd (75cm) – Mistletoe cream (100639)
- Fabric for back of stocking – use Fabric 1
- Binding and hanging loop fabric:  $\frac{3}{8}$ yd (40cm) – Eve red (110138)
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Black stranded cotton (floss) for French knot eye on the bird
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat
- Scrap of stiff card for appliqué
- Fabric glue pen (optional)

## Fabric Notes

Only small pieces are needed for most of the fabrics. If you have made the Winter Birds Quilt, you may have some useful leftovers.

## Finished Size

Approximately 15in x 26½in (38cm x 67.5cm)

## 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; HST = half-square triangle.
- Check that the patterns being used are printed at full size (100%).

## Stocking Layout

**1** The stocking layout consists of a rectangular section of patchwork, with additional pieces at the top, bottom and left-hand side to produce the stocking shape. Circles for ‘berries’ are made with turned-edge appliqué and a circle pattern is included if required. A full-size pattern is also included for the toe of the stocking, to assist with cutting the stocking shape. Refer to **Fig A** for the fabrics used and **Fig B** for the stocking layout.

**Fig A** Fabric swatches (Winter Bird Christmas Stocking – putty white)





**Fig B** Stocking layout



## Cutting Out

**2** From Fabric 1 cut a piece for the back of the stocking approximately 16in x 27in (40.5cm x 68.6cm).

From Fabric 1 cut rectangles for the stocking top, bottom and toe section, as on **Fig C**.

- Stocking top – 11in x 3½in (28cm x 9cm).
- Stocking bottom – 11in x 5in (28cm x 12.7cm).
- Stocking toe – 4½in x 10¼in (11.4cm x 26cm).

**3** For the patchwork pieces, use the cut sizes given in **Fig C** and follow the fabric colours given in **Fig D**.

**4** For the appliqué circles cut the following 1½in (3.8cm) diameter circles (a pattern is provided). This size includes a ¼in (6mm) seam allowance.

- Fabric 3 – cut three circles.
- Fabric 8 – cut two circles.
- Fabric 12 – cut two circles.

**5** Cut the fabric for the lining of the stocking into two pieces, each approximately 16in x 27in (40.5cm x 68.6cm).

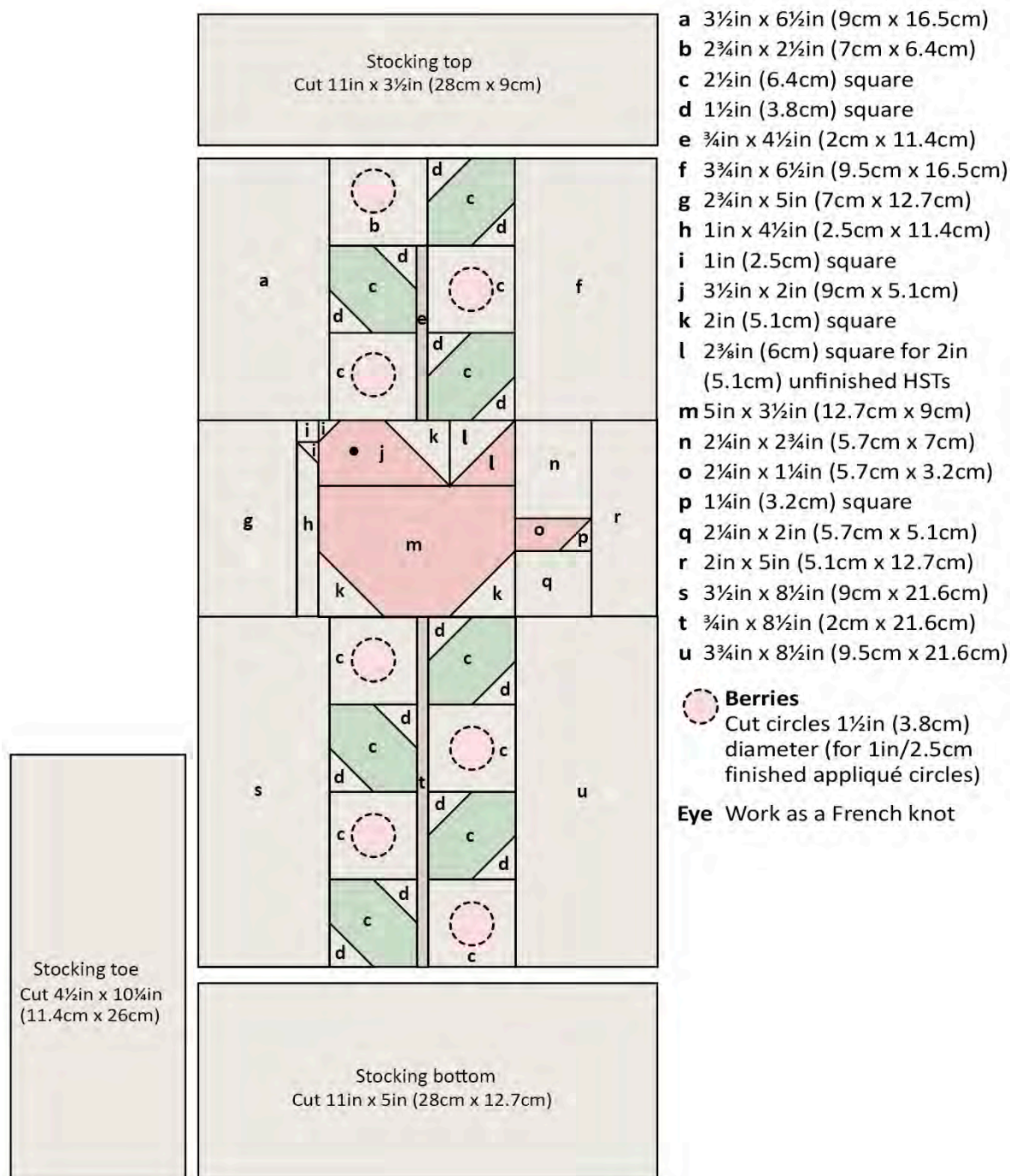
**6** Cut the binding fabric into three 2½in (6.4cm) x width of fabric strips. Sew together end to end and press seams open. Press the binding in half along the length, wrong sides together. You will need a total binding length of at least 110in (280cm) for the sides and top of the stocking. The binding has to be curved to follow the shape of the stocking but the curves are gentle, so straight-cut strips will be sufficient. If you want to cut bias strips, you will need more fabric.

**7** From the remaining binding fabric cut a 2in x 8in (5.1cm x 20.3cm) strip for a hanging loop.

### Fig C Cut measurements for the patchwork

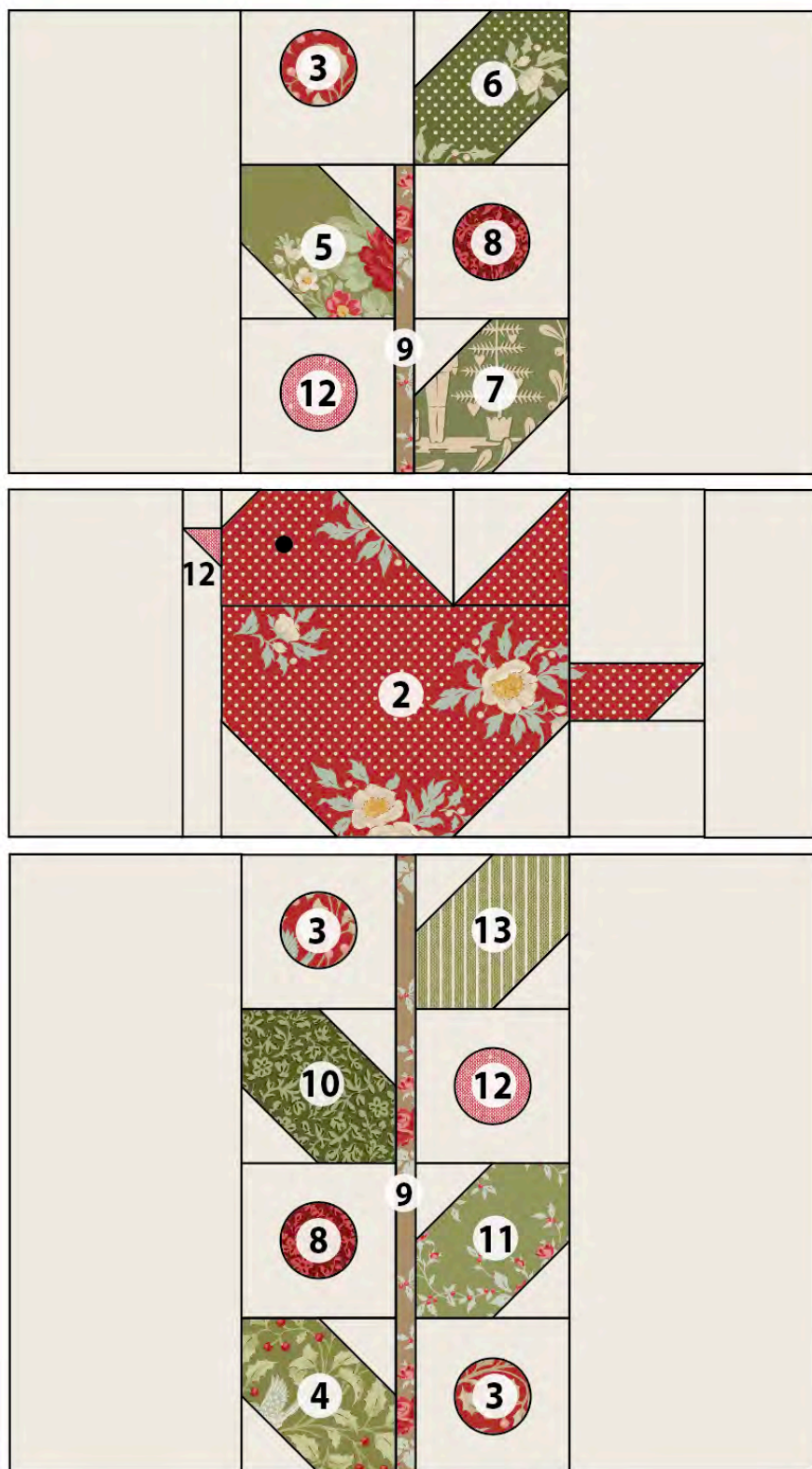
Sizes include ¼in (6mm) seam allowances

All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles, except appliqué circles





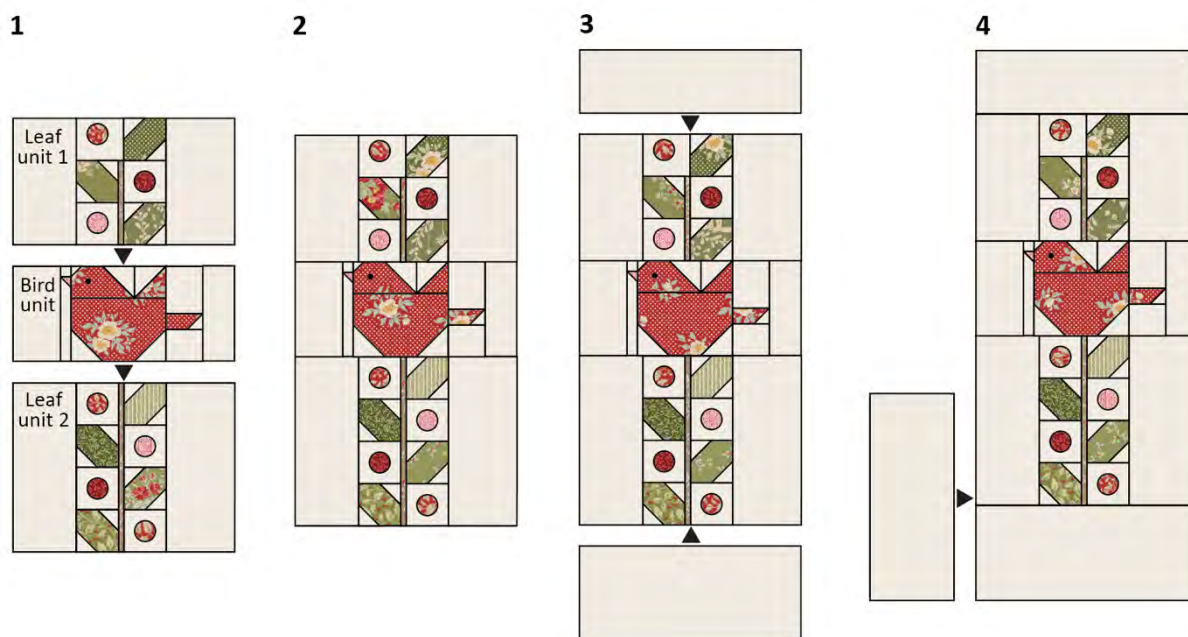
**Fig D** Fabric positions for the stocking  
 Bold numbers in circles indicate the fabrics used (see Fig A)  
 The background is Fabric 1



## Making the Stocking Patchwork

**8** The stages of making the stocking patchwork is shown in **Fig E** – Leaf unit 1, Bird unit and Leaf unit 2 – and we will describe each of these sections in turn.

**Fig E** Stages of piecing the patchwork

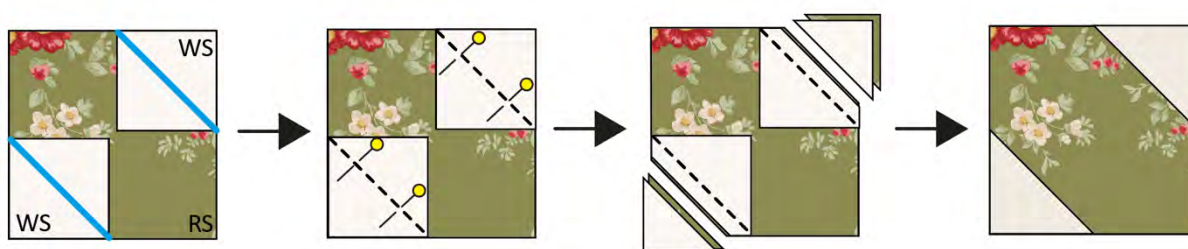


### Making Leaf Unit 1

**9** The piecing for Leaf unit 1 involves creating ‘leaves’ using a corner triangle method, as follows and shown in **Fig F**.

To make a corner unit, choose the correct background fabric piece and the two smaller print squares (see **Fig D** for actual colours). Place the square of print fabric right side (RS) up. Take the two smaller squares and pencil mark a diagonal line on the wrong side of each square. Position the squares right sides together with the print rectangle, in the correct positions for that particular unit and with the marked lines in the directions shown in the diagram. Pin in place and then sew along each marked line. Trim off excess fabric  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) outside the sewn lines and press each triangle outwards. Check the size of the unit, which needs to be  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in (6.4cm) square (unfinished) (for all of the leaves).

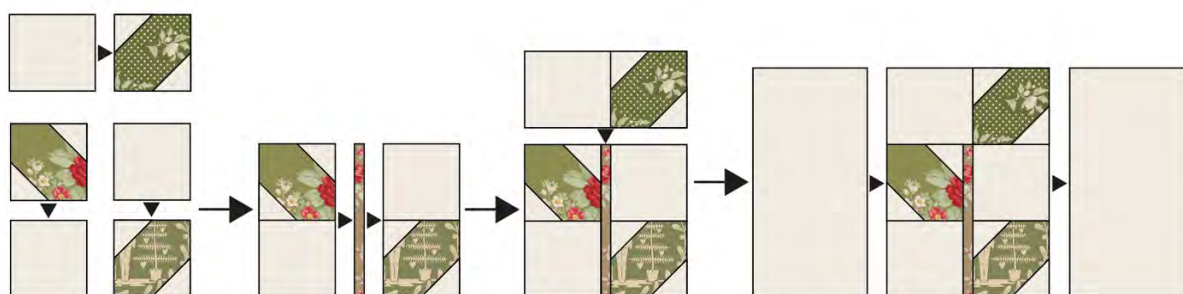
**Fig F** Making a unit with corner triangles



**10** Make the other two leaves for Leaf unit 1, taking care to place the triangles on the correct corners. When the leaves have been made, sew them together with the other pieces needed, as shown in **Fig G**. Follow the stages shown in the diagram, pressing each seam as you sew, pressing them open or to one side. Once sewn, Leaf unit 1 should be 11in x  $6\frac{1}{2}$ in (28cm x 16.5cm) (unfinished).



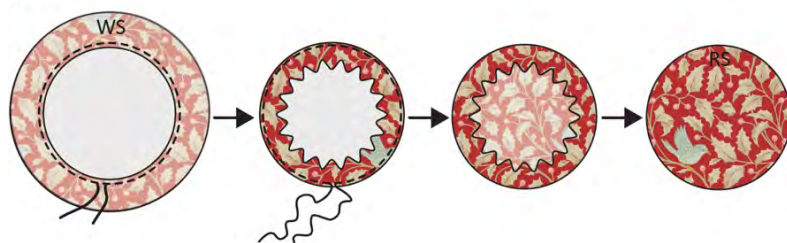
**Fig G** Assembling Leaf unit 1



**11** The appliqué circles for the berries can be added now. Make the appliqué using a card and gathering thread technique (turned-edge appliqué). You could use a different method if you prefer. Cut a 1in (2.5cm) diameter circle from a piece of stiff card. Take one of the 1½in (3.8cm) diameter circles of fabric cut earlier and place the card circle in the centre of the fabric on the wrong side. Mark the card circle (**Fig H 1**). Remove the card for the moment. Using a strong or doubled thread, hand sew a gathering stitch all around this marked inner circle, slightly *outside* of the marked line. Leave tails of thread, as in the diagram. Put the card circle back in place and pull on the gathering thread to gather it up over the edge of the card. Tie off the thread. Press well and then remove the card. Press again from the right side using a little spray starch if you wish. Make the other two circles needed for Leaf unit 1. Using a matching hand sewing thread and small slip stitches, sew the circles in place on Leaf unit 1 and press (**Fig H 2**).

**Fig H** Adding the appliqué circles

**1**



**2**



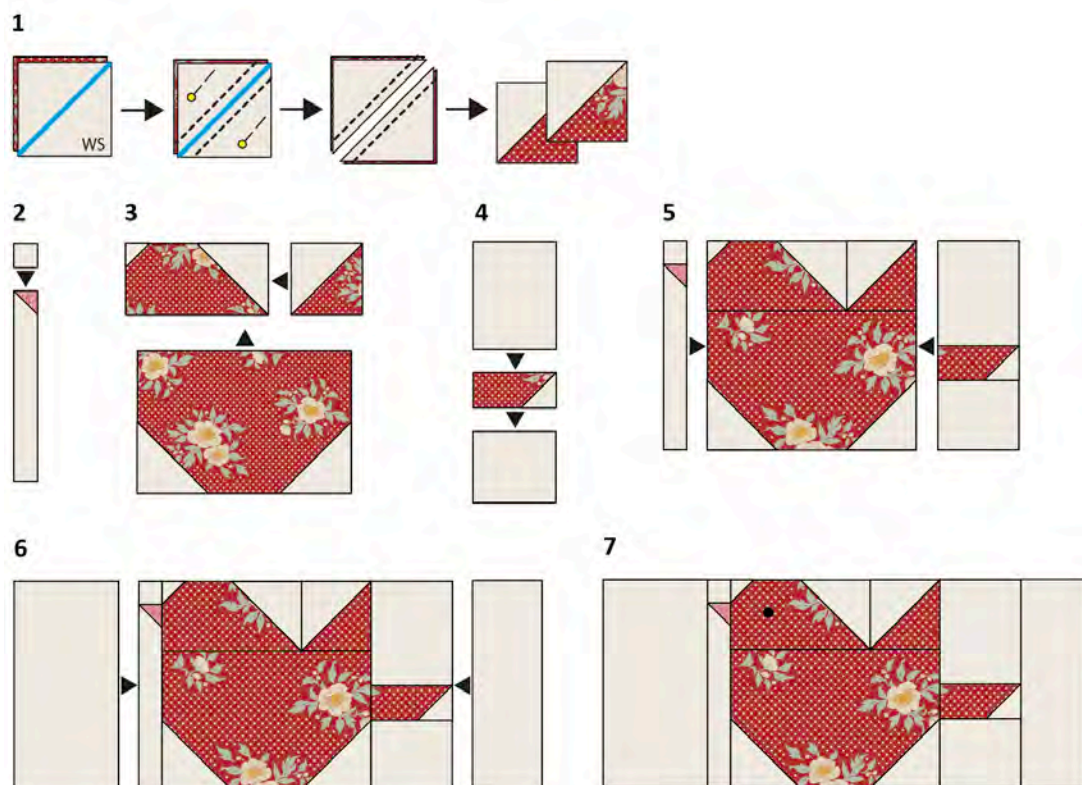
### Making the Bird Unit

**12** The piecing for the Bird unit includes using a corner triangle method to create the angles needed. A half-square triangle (HST) unit is also needed and the process for making this is shown in **Fig I 1**. This makes two units but only one of them is needed.

Make the HSTs as follows. Take two different squares and on the wrong side of the lighter square, pencil mark the diagonal line. Place the two squares right sides (RS) together and sew ¼in (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 HST is 2in (5.1cm) square (unfinished).

**13** Use the corner triangle technique (described for the leaves) to create corners on the correct pieces, as shown in **Fig I**. Now follow the stages in the diagram to sew all the pieces together. Press each seam as you sew, pressing them open or to one side. Once sewn, the unit should be 11in x 5in (28cm x 12.7cm). Add the eye on the bird using black stranded cotton (floss) with six strands wrapped twice around the needle.

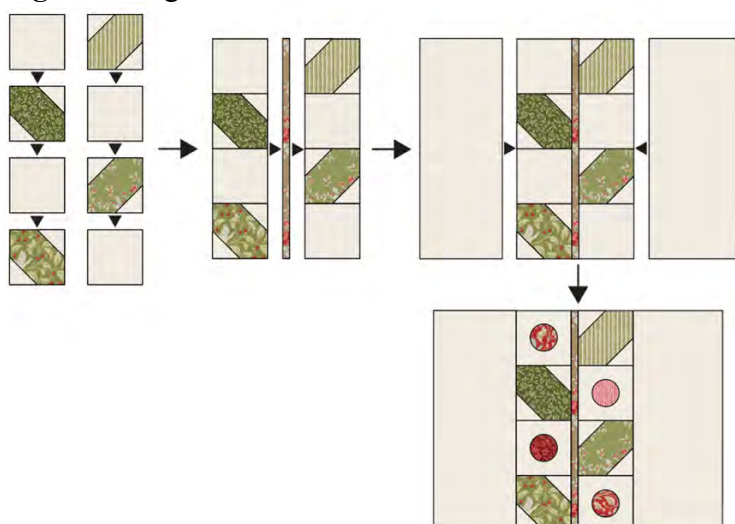
**Fig I Making the Bird unit**



### Making Leaf Unit 2

**14** The piecing for Leaf unit 2 is very similar to the previous leaf unit. Make leaves using the corner triangle technique, following the fabric colours given in **Fig D**. Now assemble the unit as shown in **Fig J**. Add the appliqué using the same technique as before. Check the sewn unit is 11in x 8½in (28cm x 21.6cm).

**Fig J Making Leaf unit 2**



### Assembling the Patchwork

**15** When the three sections of patchwork have been made, assemble the rest of the stocking front referring back to **Fig E**. Sew the three sections together into a column and then add the unpieced pieces to the top and bottom of the patchwork. Press seams open or to one side. Add the toe piece to the left-hand side, aligning it with the base and pressing the seam.

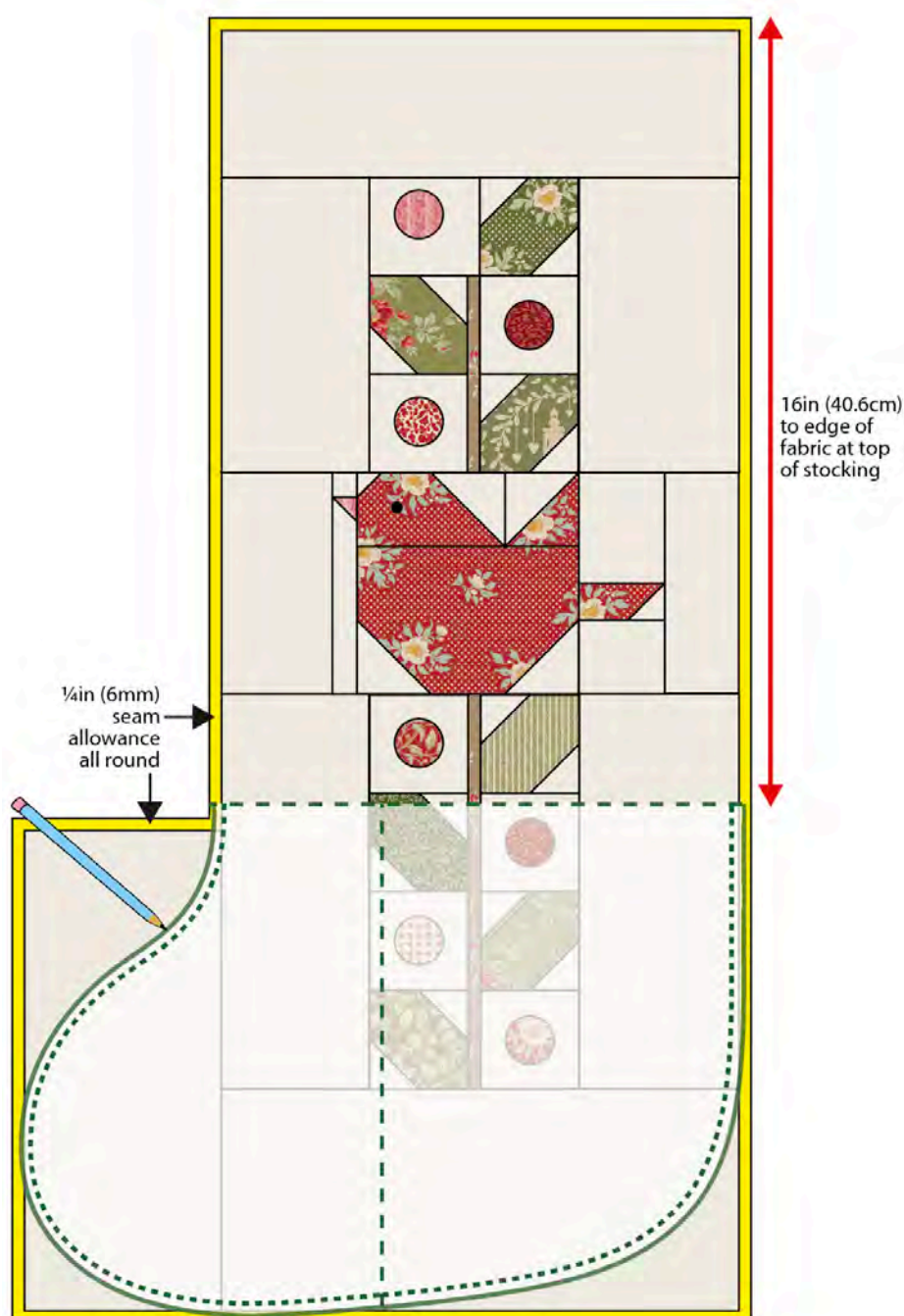


## Preparing the Stocking Pattern

**16** When the patchwork is complete, the work can be trimmed to the stocking shape. To do this, prepare a paper pattern using the two shapes provided for the toe/foot of the stocking. Copy or print out the patterns, making sure they are 100% (full size). Cut out the shapes along the outer lines and then tape the two shapes together along the vertical dashed line (denoted by A and B). This is the stocking toe pattern with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam allowance.

**17** Place the toe pattern onto the patchwork as shown in **Fig K**. With the pattern's seam allowance included, the pattern should just fit the patchwork, as shown. The patchwork seam allowance is shown in yellow. Mark the shape of the pattern on the patchwork and trim off the excess with sharp scissors.

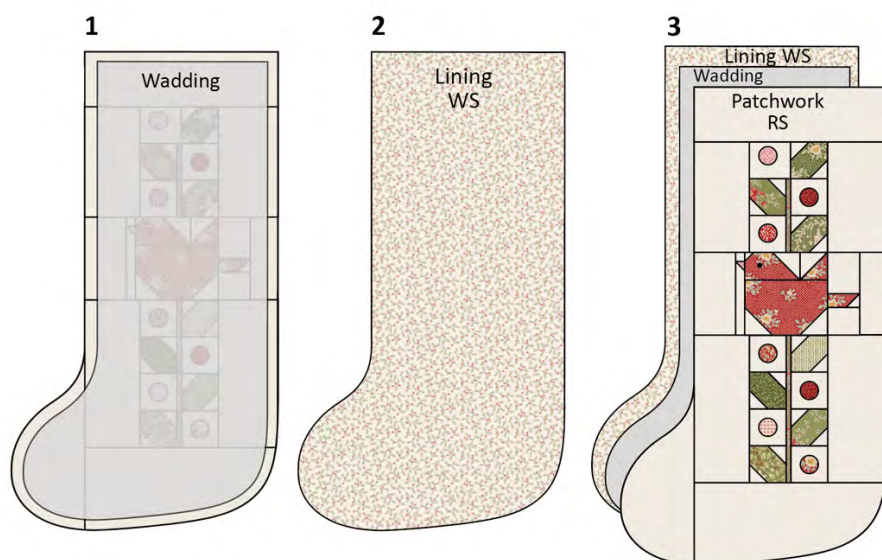
**Fig K** Trimming the patchwork using the toe pattern



## Assembling the Stocking

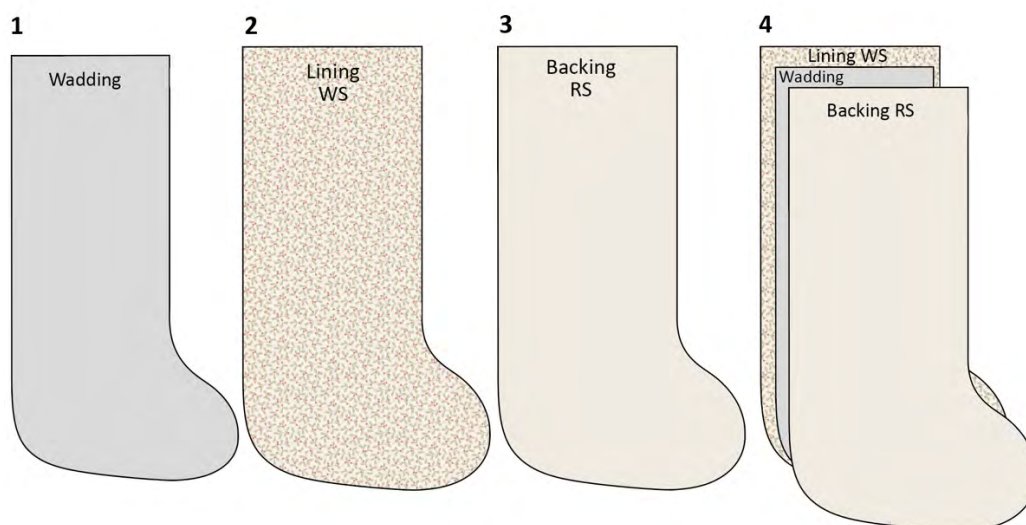
**18** To assemble the stocking prepare the other shapes needed prior to quilting, that is the wadding, the lining and the backing. Take some time to get this layering right, as follows. For the stocking front, follow **Fig L**. Use the stocking patchwork shape to cut the wadding shape but trim it to *at least* ¼in (6mm) smaller all round than the patchwork shape (**Fig L 1**). (This is to reduce bulk around the edge of the stocking.) Cut the lining fabric using the whole patchwork shape as a pattern but marking the shape on the wrong side of the lining fabric, so it looks as in **Fig L 2**. Now layer the three shapes together (**Fig L 3**).

**Fig L** Preparing the front of the stocking for quilting



**19** For the stocking back, follow **Fig M**. Use the stocking patchwork shape to cut the wadding shape but trim it to *at least* ¼in (6mm) smaller all round than the patchwork shape (**Fig M 1**). Cut the lining fabric using the whole patchwork shape as a pattern but reversed, so the lining shape looks as in **Fig M 2**. Cut the backing fabric using the whole patchwork shape as a pattern but reversed so the shape looks as in **Fig M 3**. Now layer the three shapes together (**Fig M 4**).

**Fig M** Preparing the back of the stocking for quilting



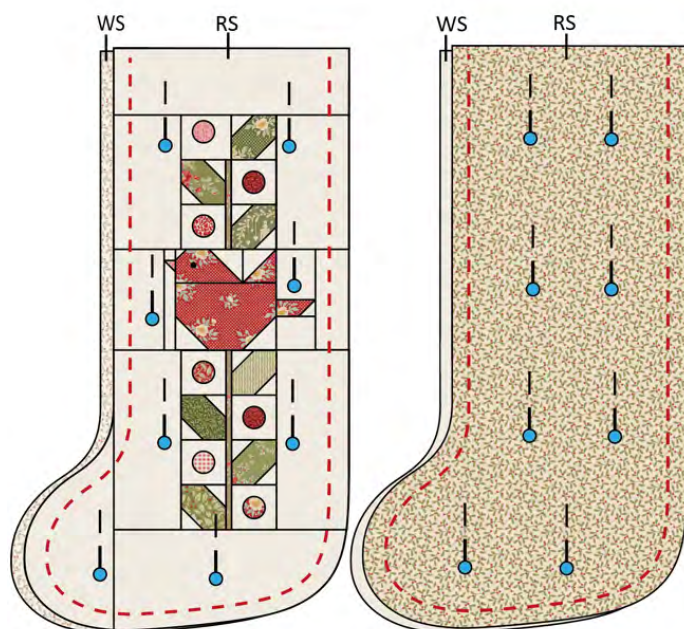
**20** When the front and back pieces have been layered together, sew a line of tacking stitches around the edge of each set of layers, about ½in (1.3cm) in from the edge, as shown in **Fig N**.



This will help to keep the layers together and also anchor the wadding shape, which has been cut smaller than the other shapes. If desired, you could use small dabs from a glue pen to secure the wadding edges in places. Secure the layers with pins or other method of your choice and then quilt as desired.

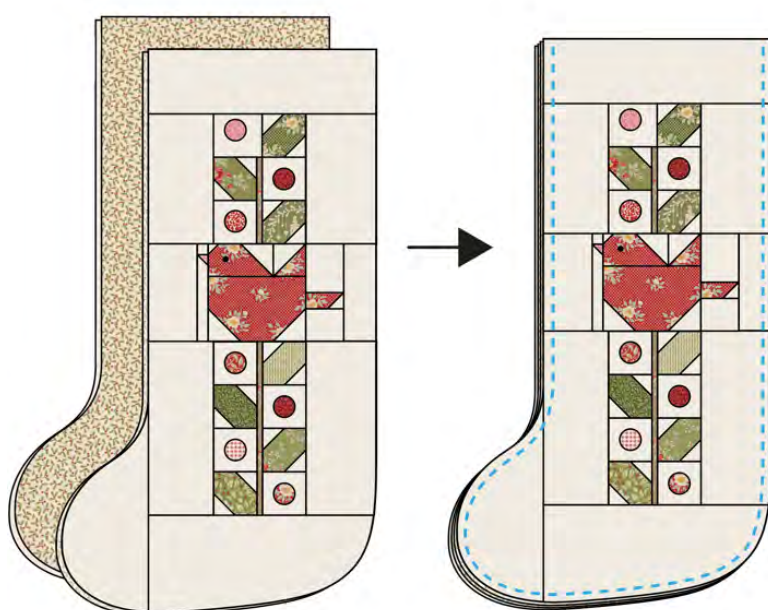
**Fig N** Preparing the stocking for quilting

Red dashed lines indicate temporary tacking stitches



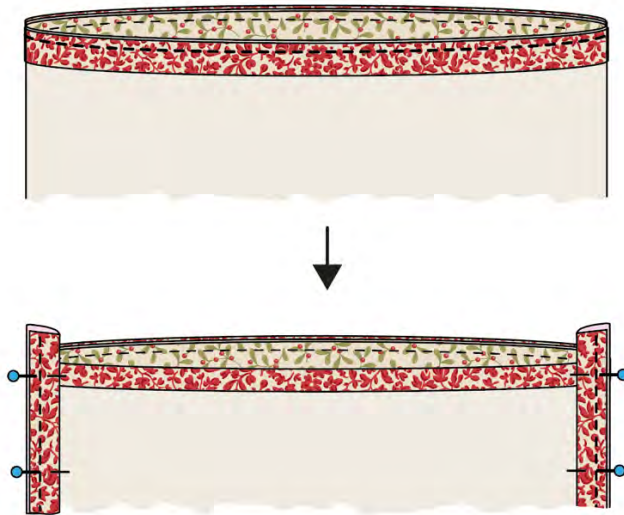
**21** The stocking is sewn together using the binding to seal the edges, therefore the quilted front and back need to be positioned together with *right sides facing outwards*. **Fig O** shows this (quilting not shown). When the quilted front and back sections are placed together, tack them together to secure ready for binding. This line of stitches (shown in blue on the diagram) can be within the  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam allowance and can be left in place when the binding is finished. Because the wadding was cut smaller and doesn't extend into the seam allowance, you will find it easier to add the binding as there are fewer layers to sew through.

**Fig O** Preparing for binding



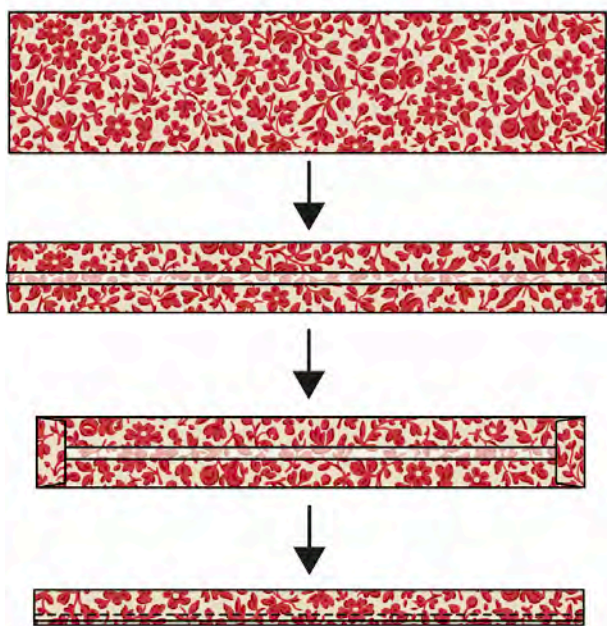
**22** Use the prepared double-fold binding strip to bind your stocking. This is done in two stages. First, bind along the top of the stocking using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam (**Fig P**). Second, bind along the sides edges of the stocking. For this side binding, leave the raw ends of the binding proud, so these can be turned under later. Pin and sew the binding in place, down one side of the stocking and then easing the binding in place to curve around the heel and then the toe and up the opposite side. Turn under the raw ends and then press the binding over to the back of the stocking and use small hand stitches to sew it in place all round.

**Fig P** Binding the stocking top and then the sides



**23** To make a hanging loop, take the 2in x 8in (5.1cm x 20.3cm) strip of binding fabric cut earlier and fold it in half along the length. Open out and fold the long edges to the centre and press (**Fig Q**). Fold the raw short ends over by about  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) and press. Now fold the strip double along the length so it's about  $\frac{1}{2}$ in (1.3cm) wide and press. Sew along the open edge.

**Fig Q** Making a hanging loop





**24** Fold the hanging loop in half and positioning it with one short edge inside the top of the stocking, as shown in **Fig R**. Sew it into place with small hand stitches. Sew the other short end in place inside the other edge of the stocking. Press the stocking to finish.

**Fig R** Adding the hanging loop



# Winter Bird Christmas Stocking Stocking Foot Pattern

Copy the two parts of the  
stocking foot shape and  
cut out. Tape the shapes  
together along the  
vertical dashed line (AB)

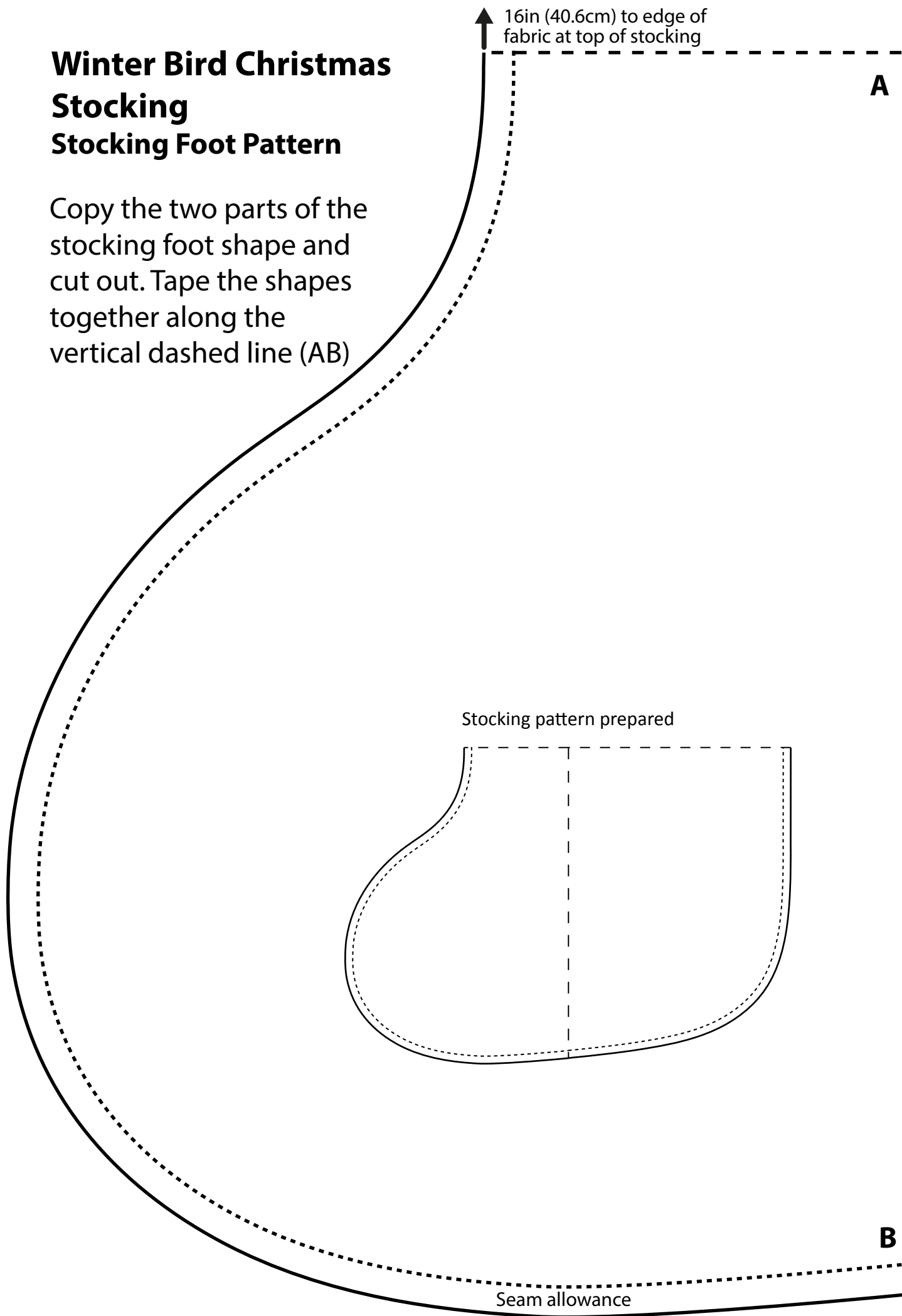
16in (40.6cm) to edge of  
fabric at top of stocking

**A**

Stocking pattern prepared

**B**

Seam allowance





16in (40.6cm) to edge of  
fabric at top of stocking



**A**

Please check this ruler to ensure that you are printing in 100%. Pages are made in A4.



**B**

Seam allowance