



Soirée Pillow

(Coral colourway)

If you are making one of the lovely Soirée Quilts, why not make a pillow to match? This pillow pattern features the Songbird fabric collection and its blenders, showing two elegant ladies chatting during an evening soirée. The buttons used on the appliquéd circle hair ornaments are an extra decorative touch. This pillow uses a warm coral-coloured background, but the pattern is available in three other background colours – sage mist, mustard and light blue. See tildasworld.com for all the quilt and pillow instructions.

Difficulty rating ***

Materials

- Fabric 1: ½yd (0.5m) – Lila coral (110152) (background)
- Fabric 2: fat eighth (*not* a long eighth *) – Ava green (100650)
- Fabric 3: fat eighth – Songbird coral (100645)
- Fabric 4: about 6in (15cm) square – Cora sage (100647)
- Fabric 5: about 6in (15cm) square – Lila sage mist (110153)
- Fabric 6: about 9in (23cm) square – Solid cappuccino (120007)
- Fabric 7: about 9in (23cm) square – Chambray grey (160006)
- Wadding (batting): 21in (53.5cm) square
- Lining fabric (optional): 21in (53.5cm) square
- Fabric for back of pillow: ⅔yd (40cm) – Flora coral (100641)
- Binding fabric: ¼yd (25cm) – Lila coral (110152)
- Erasable fabric marker
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Black stranded cotton (floss) for French knot eyes
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat
- Scrap of thick card for appliqué
- Two buttons for hair ornament Songbird Buttons coral/green 16mm (400074)
- Pillow pad to fit cover

Fabric Notes

Where a fat eighth is given in the Materials list for Fabrics 2 and 3, do *not* use a long eighth, as this shallower cut will not be deep enough. A fat eighth is assumed to be approximately 10½in x 18in (26.7cm x 45.7cm). Alternatively, a 13½in (34.5cm) square could be used.

Finished Size

19½in (49.5cm) square

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 any patterns being used are printed at full size (100%).

Pillow Layout

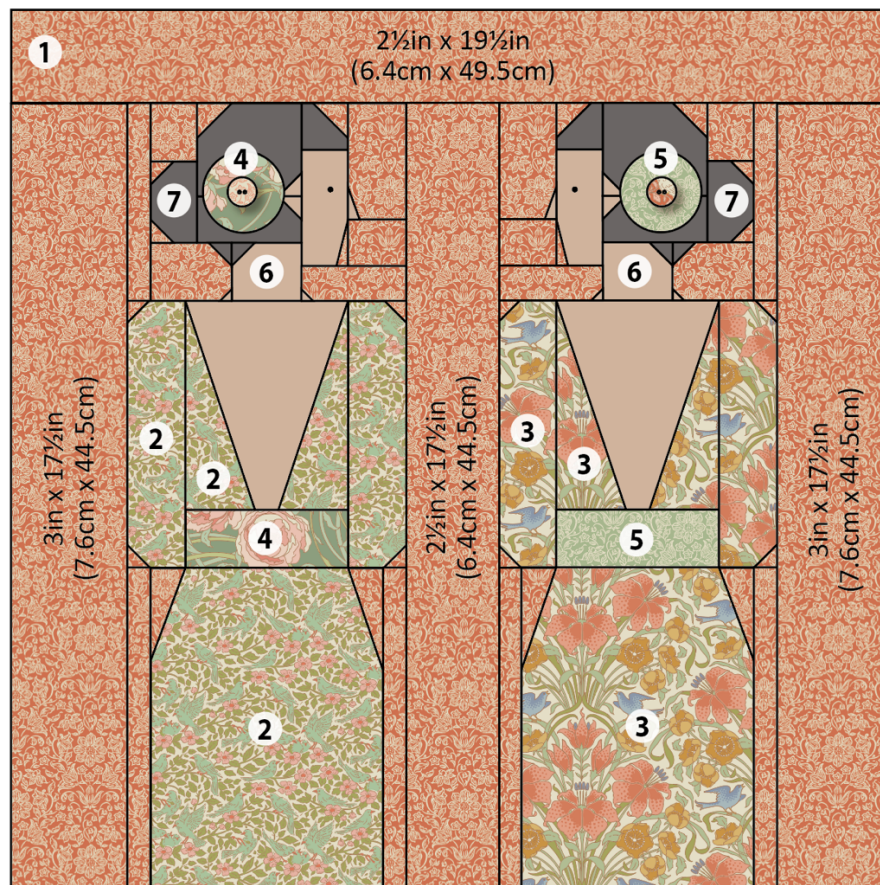
1 The pillow consists of two Lady blocks, one facing right and the other facing left. Sashing separates the blocks, with a border on either side of the pillow and along the top. An appliqué circle is used as a hair decoration on each lady, with a button detail in the centre. Refer to **Fig A** for the fabrics used and **Fig B** for the layout and cut sizes for the sashing and border.

Fig A Fabric swatches (Soirée Pillow – coral)



Fig B Pillow layout and border cut sizes

Numbers in circles indicate fabrics used



Cutting Out

2 Begin by cutting Fabric 1, starting with the sashing and border pieces (see **Fig B**).

- For the sashing that separates the blocks, cut a strip $2\frac{1}{2}\text{in} \times 17\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (6.4cm x 44.5cm).
- For the side borders, cut two strips $3\text{in} \times 17\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (7.6cm x 44.5cm).
- For the top border, cut a strip $19\frac{1}{2}\text{in} \times 2\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (49.5cm x 6.4cm).

3 For the Lady blocks, use Fabric 1 and carefully cut out the sizes given in **Fig C**.

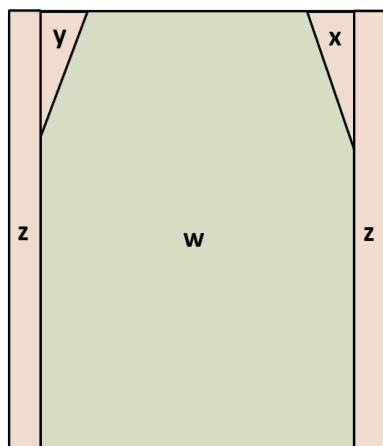
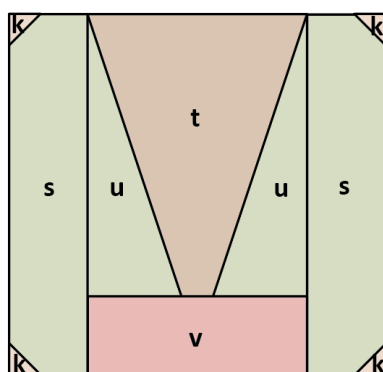
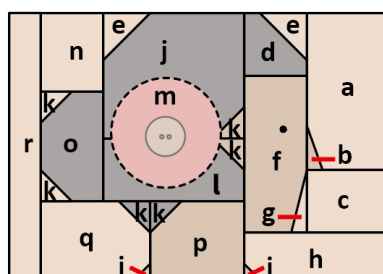
4 For the Lady blocks, use the remaining fabrics, following the cut sizes given in **Fig C** and the fabric colours and positions shown in **Fig B**. (The positions of the buttons are shown but these need to be added after quilting.)

Fig C Cut measurements for the Lady blocks

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


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

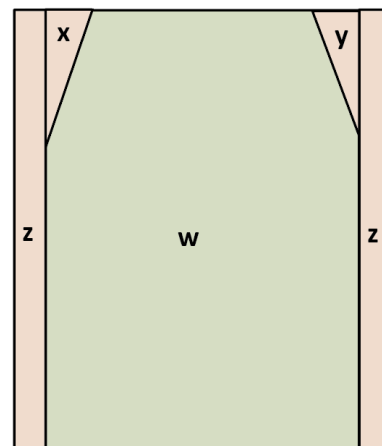
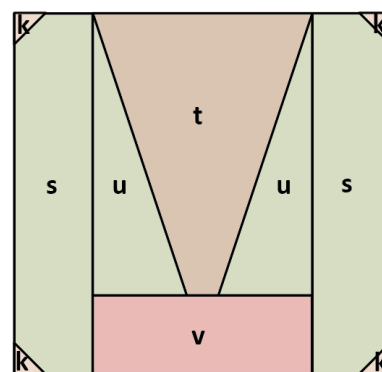
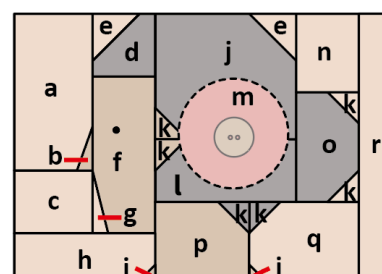
Block: $6\frac{1}{2}\text{in} \times 17\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (16.5cm x 44.5cm) unfinished



- a $1\frac{3}{4}\text{in} \times 3\text{in}$ (4.4cm x 7.6cm)
- b $\frac{3}{4}\text{in} \times 1\frac{1}{4}\text{in}$ (2cm x 3.2cm)
- c $1\frac{3}{4}\text{in} \times 1\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (4.4cm x 3.8cm)
- d $1\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (3.8cm) square
- e $1\frac{1}{4}\text{in}$ (3.2cm) square
- f $1\frac{1}{2}\text{in} \times 3\text{in}$ (3.8cm x 7.6cm)
- g $\frac{3}{4}\text{in} \times 1\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (2cm x 3.8cm)
- h $2\frac{3}{4}\text{in} \times 1\frac{1}{4}\text{in}$ (7cm x 3.2cm)
- i $\frac{3}{4}\text{in}$ (2cm) square
- j $2\frac{3}{4}\text{in} \times 2\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (7cm x 6.4cm)
- k 1in (2.5cm) square
- l $2\frac{3}{4}\text{in} \times 1\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (7cm x 3.8cm)
- m $2\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (5.7cm) diameter circle
- n $1\frac{1}{2}\text{in} \times 1\frac{3}{4}\text{in}$ (3.8cm x 4.4cm)
- o $1\frac{1}{2}\text{in} \times 2\frac{1}{4}\text{in}$ (3.8cm x 5.7cm)
- p $2\text{in} \times 1\frac{3}{4}\text{in}$ (5.1cm x 4.4cm)
- q $2\frac{1}{4}\text{in} \times 1\frac{3}{4}\text{in}$ (5.7cm x 4.4cm)
- r $1\text{in} \times 4\frac{3}{4}\text{in}$ (2.5cm x 12cm)
- s $1\frac{3}{4}\text{in} \times 6\frac{1}{4}\text{in}$ (4.4cm x 15.9cm)
- t $4\text{in} \times 5\text{in}$ (10.2cm x 12.7cm)
- u $2\text{in} \times 5\text{in}$ (5.1cm x 12.7cm)
- v $4\text{in} \times 1\frac{3}{4}\text{in}$ (10.2cm x 4.4cm)
- w $5\frac{1}{2}\text{in} \times 7\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (14cm x 19cm)
- x $1\frac{1}{4}\text{in} \times 2\frac{3}{4}\text{in}$ (3.2cm x 7cm)
- y $1\frac{1}{4}\text{in} \times 2\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (3.2cm x 6.4cm)
- z $1\text{in} \times 7\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (2.5cm x 19cm)

Eye Work as a French knot

 Button



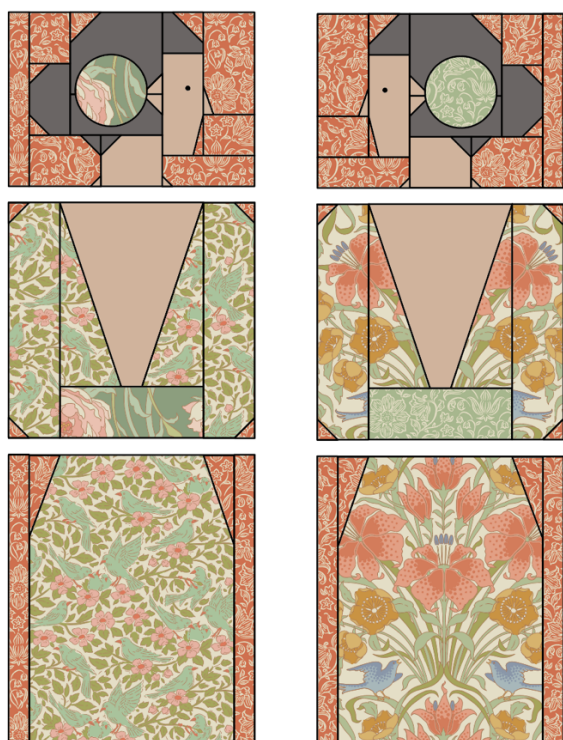
5 Cut the fabric for the back of the pillow into two pieces, each 20in x 13in (51cm x 33cm).

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.

General Techniques Used

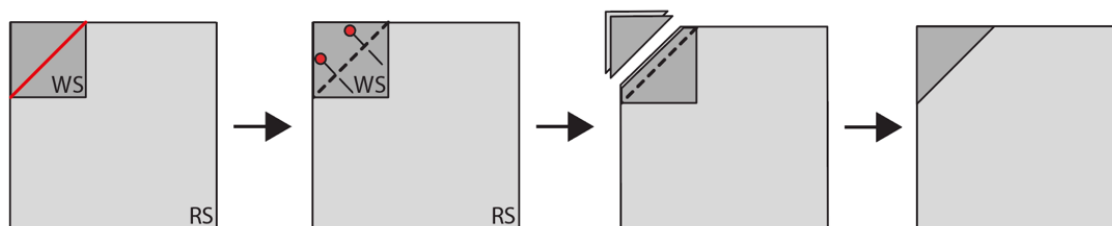
7 **Fig D** shows the sections that make up each block – the head section, chest section and skirt section. The technique of corner triangle units is used frequently in the blocks and the basic method is described here. (Some units also need oblong corner triangles, but these techniques will be described in detail with each section as the piecing is a little more complicated.)

Fig D Block sections



8 **Making a corner triangle unit:** Some units have one corner triangle, others have two, but the basic process is the same, as follows. Follow the stages shown in **Fig E**. Select the correct base/background fabric piece (which may be a square or a rectangle) and the smaller square. Place the base piece right side (RS) up. Take the smaller square and pencil mark a diagonal line on the wrong side (WS). Position the smaller square right sides together with the base piece, in the correct position for that particular unit and with the marked line in the direction shown in the diagram. Pin in place and then sew along the marked line. Trim off excess fabric ¼in (6mm) outside the sewn line and press the triangle outwards. Check the size of the unit, which should be the same size as the original base piece.

Fig E Making a corner triangle unit



Making a Lady Block

Making the Head Section

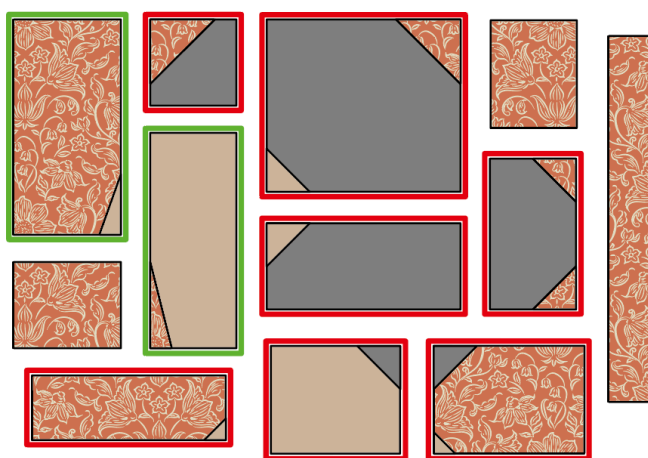
9 The left-facing lady (second block) is shown in the diagrams, but the right-facing lady is made in the same way. We will start with the head section. This is made up of twelve units, most using corner square triangle units (outlined in red on **Fig F**), but there are also some oblong corner units (outlined in green) and three unpieced units. **Fig F** shows these units for the head section. Start by making the units with corner square triangles (red outlined ones), following **Fig C** for the cut pieces. At this stage, the head uses just three fabrics – background Fabric 1, skin Fabric 6 and hair Fabric 7. Some of the triangles are very small, so reduce your stitch length when sewing these.

Fig F Making the units for the head section

(Left-facing lady shown)

Units outlined in red have square corner triangles

Units outlined in green have oblong corner triangles



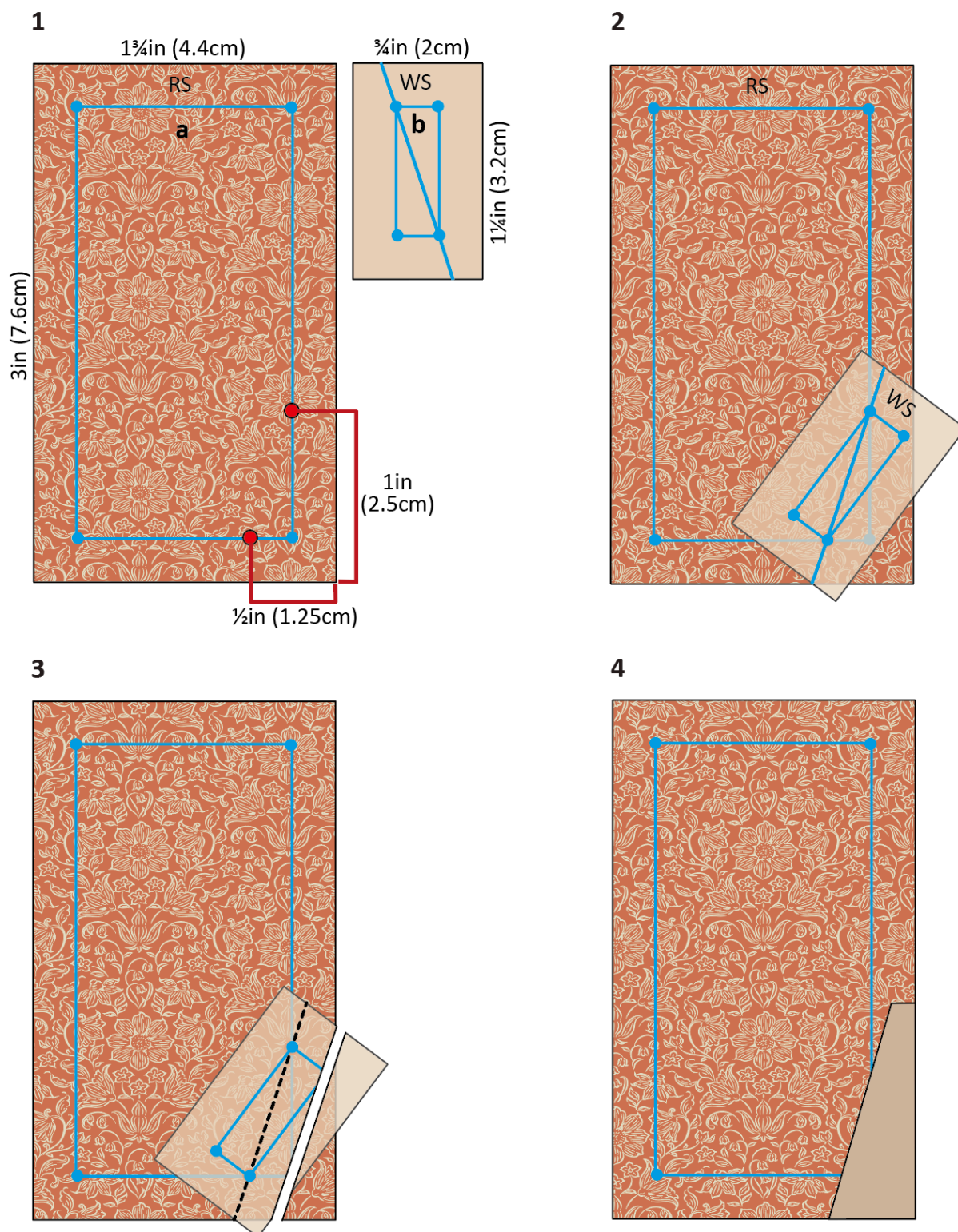
10 Once the corner triangle units have been made, set them to one side. Now make the two units with oblong corner triangles (green outline) – Unit **a+b** (**Fig G**) and Unit **f+g** (**Fig H**). These have different measurements and are illustrated in the detailed diagrams. We will describe Unit **a+b** (the nose) first.

11 Begin by taking the background fabric piece **a**, and on the right side (RS) use a removeable marker to mark the $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam allowance or just dots at the corners (see **Fig G 1**). On the bottom edge mark a dot on the seam allowance (shown in red), $\frac{1}{2}$ in (1.25cm) in from the bottom right-hand edge. Mark another dot on the seam allowance (shown in red), 1in (2.5cm) up from the bottom right edge, as shown.

Take the Fabric 6 (nose skin) piece **b** and on the wrong side (WS) mark the $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam allowance, either with pencil lines or just dots at the corners (see **Fig G 1**). Mark a diagonal line in the direction shown, making sure the line goes through the seam allowance dots (and **not** the outer corners of the fabric piece).

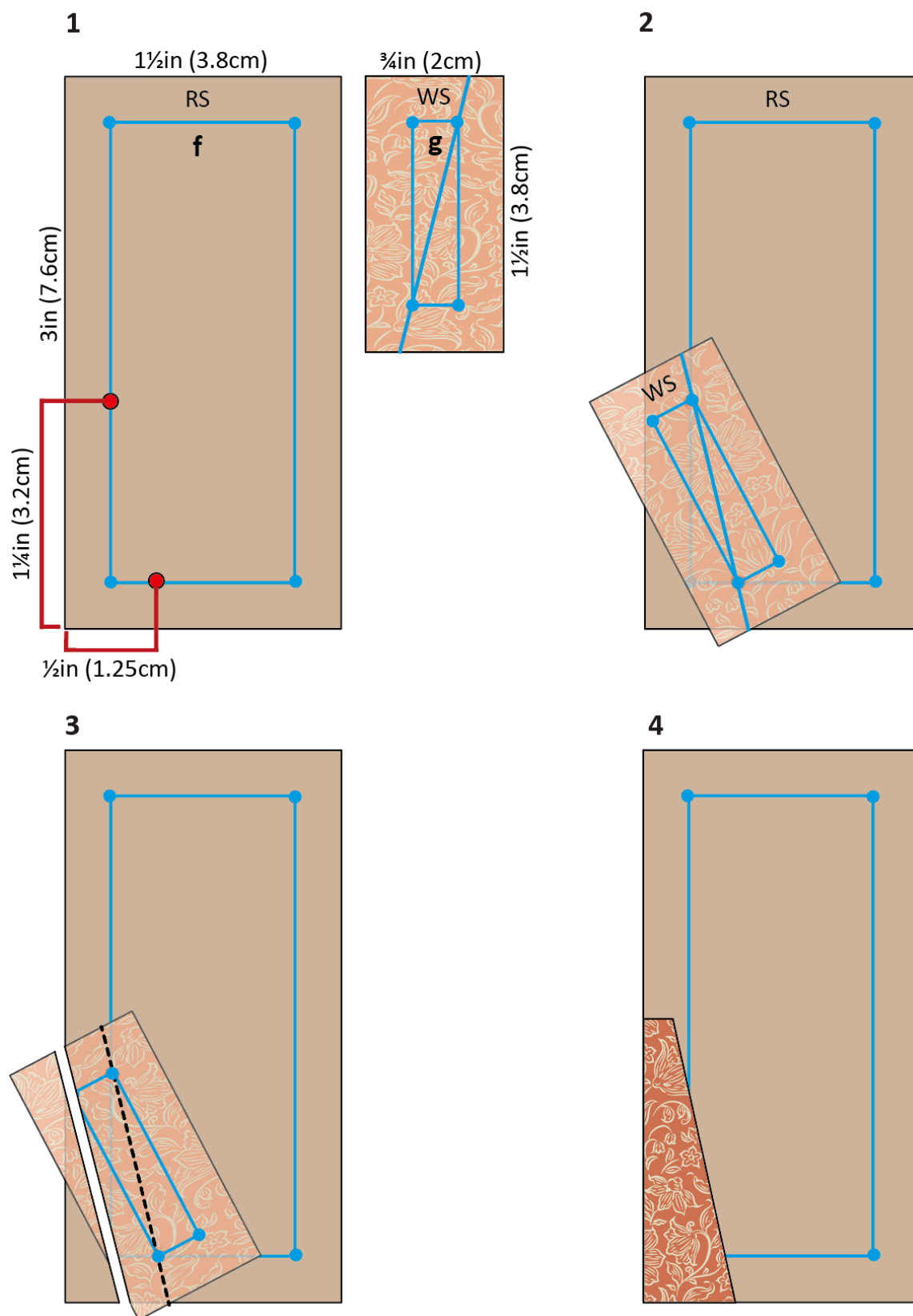
12 Take the background piece and, with right sides together with the nose piece, angle the smaller piece following **Fig G 2**, so the seam allowance dots meet the red dots beneath on the background piece. Pin in place and sew along the marked diagonal line. Fold the triangle over to briefly check that its straight edges align with the larger piece of fabric. Put the triangle back flat and then use a quilting ruler to trim off excess fabric $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) away from the sewn lines, as shown in **Fig G 3**. Press the triangle outwards and check its straight edges are aligned with the larger piece. Check the unit's size – it should be the same size as the original background piece (**Fig G 4**). Remove the marked lines.

Fig G Making Unit a+b for the head section



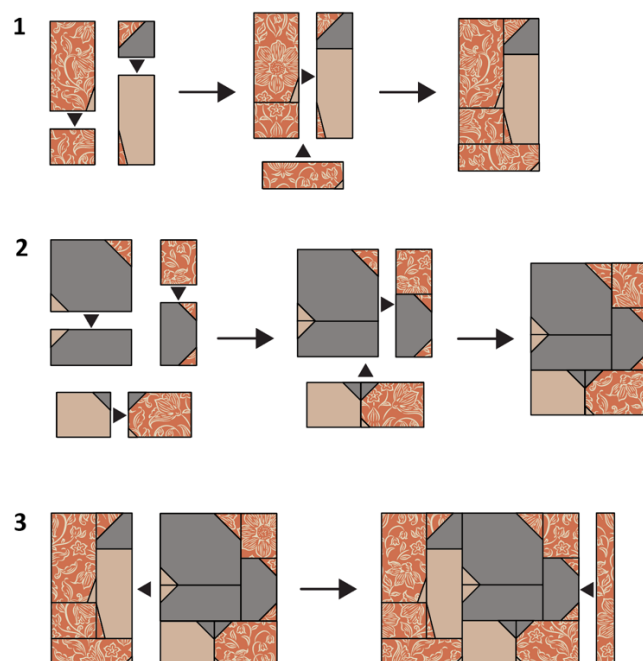
13 Now make Unit **f+g** for the head section, using the same technique as the previous unit, but closely following the measurements and position of the red dots shown in **Fig H 1**. This time, the larger piece of fabric (**f**) is the skin of the face and the smaller piece (**g**) is background fabric. The angle goes in the opposite direction for this unit. Follow the stages in **Fig H**. Mark the dots, angle, pin, sew the diagonal line and trim excess, as before. Press the triangle outwards and check its straight edges are aligned with the larger piece. Check the unit's size – it should be the same size as the original skin piece.

Fig H Making Unit f+g for the head section



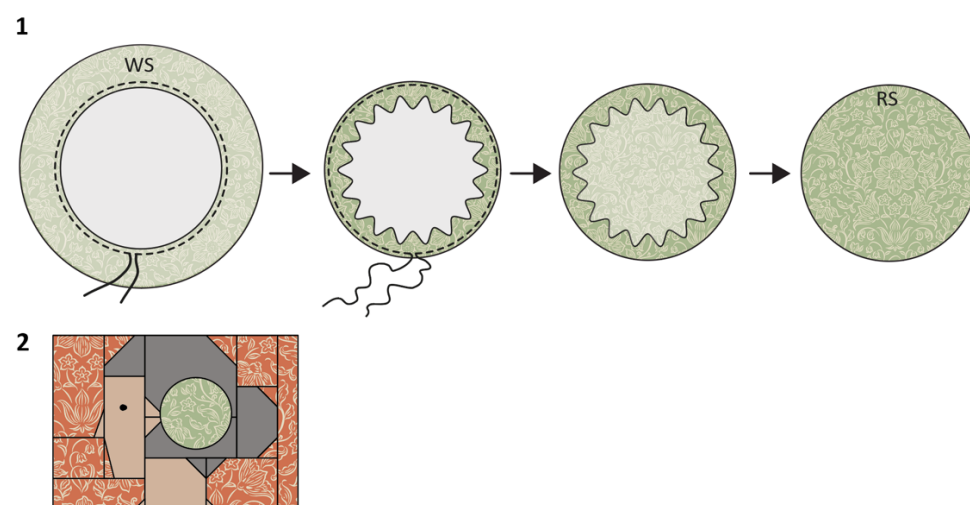
14 Once all the units for the head section have been made, lay them out in the correct order and sew them together following the stages shown in **Fig I**. Press seams open or to one side. Once sewn, the head section should measure $6\frac{1}{2}\text{in} \times 4\frac{3}{4}\text{in}$ (16.5cm x 12cm) (unfinished).

Fig I Assembling the head section



15 Make the appliqué circle for the hair as follows. A card and gathered thread technique is easy to do. Cut a 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ in (4.4cm) diameter circle from stiff card. Take the 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ in (5.7cm) diameter circle of print fabric cut earlier and place the card circle in the centre of the fabric on the wrong side. Mark the card circle (**Fig J 1**). Remove the card for the moment. Using a strong, doubled thread, hand sew a gathering stitch all around this marked inner circle, slightly *outside* of the marked line. Leave tails of thread. 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 remove the card. Press again from the right side using a little spray starch if you wish. Using a matching colour of hand sewing thread and small slip stitches, sew the circle in place on the lady's hair and press (**Fig J 2**). Add the French knot eye using six strands of stranded cotton wrapped twice around the needle. Do *not* sew the button in place yet.

Fig J Making the appliqué circle

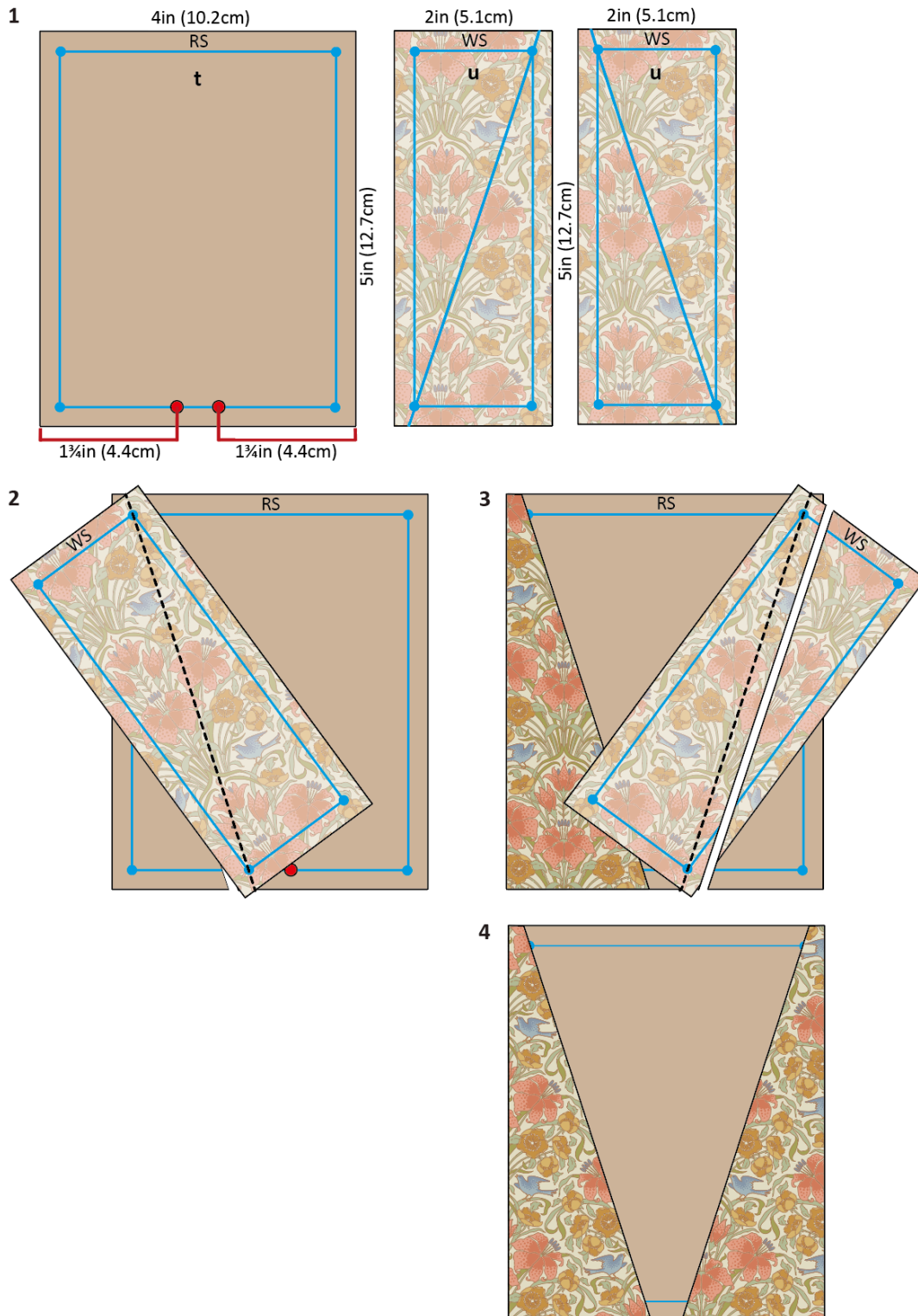


Making the Chest Section

16 The chest section also has a unit with oblong corner triangles, to create the V shape for the neck of the dress. Make Unit **t+u+u**, using the same technique as the previous units, but closely following the measurements and position of the red dots shown in **Fig K 1**. The larger

piece of fabric (**t**) is the skin and the smaller pieces (**u**) are print fabric pieces for the dress. There are two angles for this unit. Add the smaller pieces one at a time, as shown in **Fig K 2** and then **Fig K 3**, marking the dots, angling, pinning, sewing the diagonal line and trimming excess, as before. Press each triangle outwards and check straight edges are aligned with the larger piece. Check the unit's size is the same size as the original skin piece (**Fig K 4**).

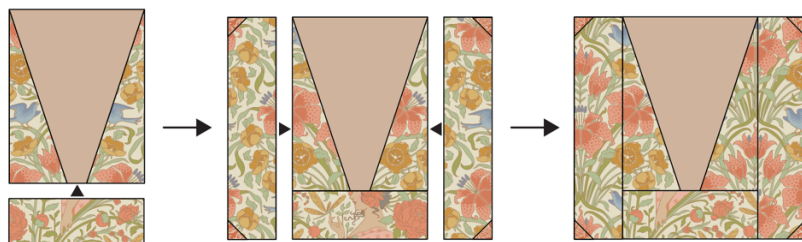
Fig K Making Unit t+u+u for the chest section



17 To finish the chest section, make the two units for the chest that need corner triangles and then arrange all of the units as shown in **Fig L**. Sew them together following the stages

shown in the diagram. Press seams open or to one side. Once sewn, the chest section should measure 6½in x 6¼in (16.5cm x 15.9cm) (unfinished).

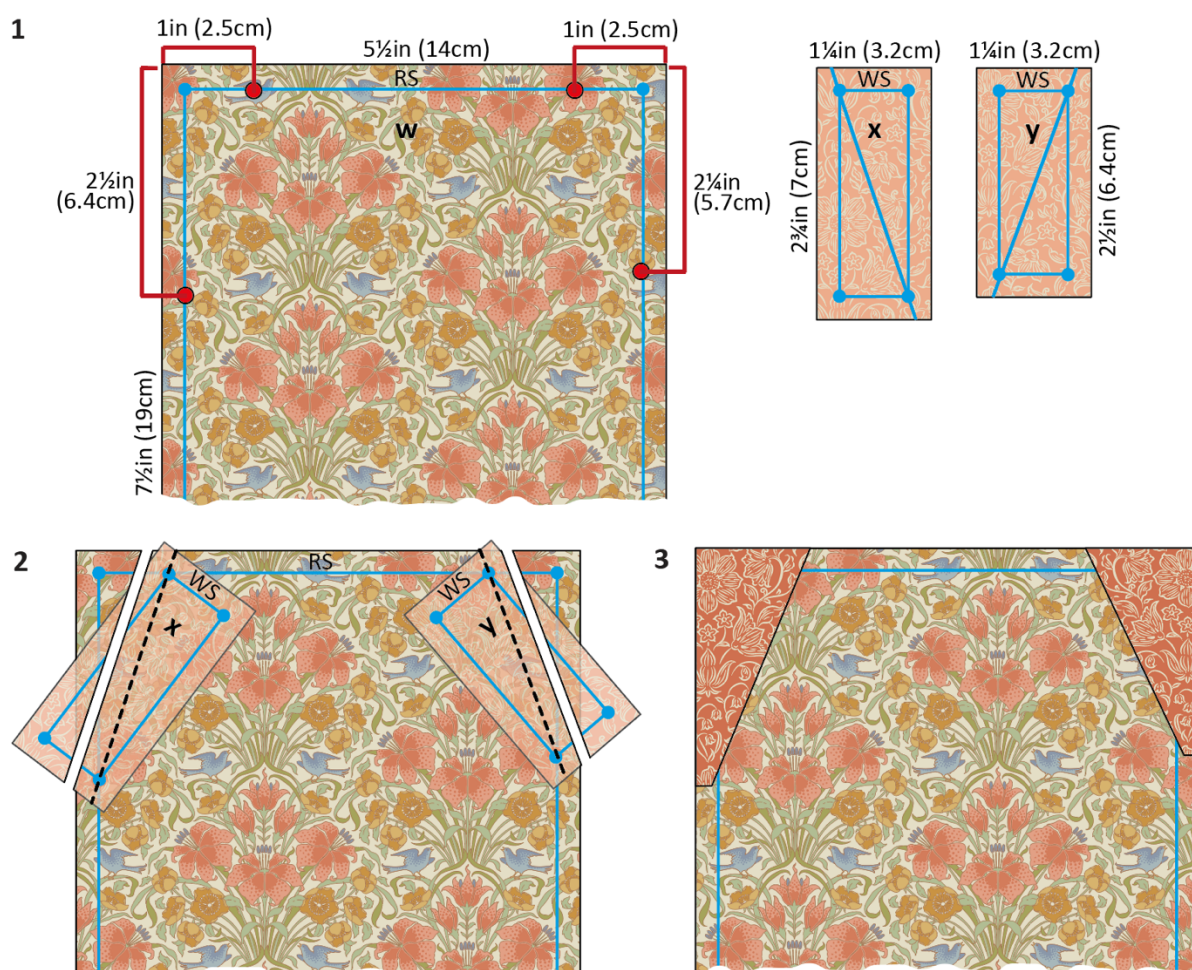
Fig L Assembling the chest section



Making the Skirt Section

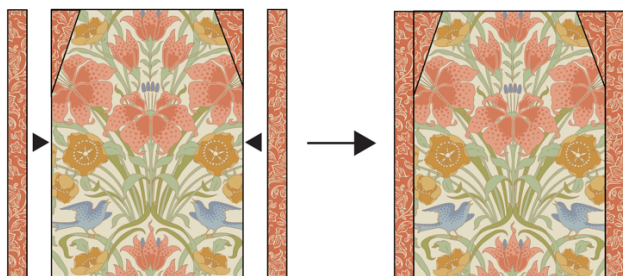
18 The skirt section also has a unit with oblong corner triangles, to create the shape for the tummy and bottom. Note that these two triangles are different heights, so don't confuse them. Make Unit $w+x+y$, using the same technique as the previous units, but closely following the measurements and position of the red dots shown in **Fig M 1**. The larger piece of fabric (w) is the print fabric of the skirt and the smaller pieces (x and y) are background fabric. (Note: the whole length of the skirt piece isn't shown.) There are two angles for this unit. The smaller pieces can be added at the same time, as they do not touch each other. Follow **Fig M 2** for angling, pinning, sewing the diagonal lines and trimming excess. Press each triangle outwards and check straight edges are aligned with the larger piece. Check the unit's size is the same size as the original dress fabric piece (**Fig M 3**).

Fig M Making Unit $w+x+y$ for the skirt section



19 Now assemble the skirt section as in **Fig N**. Press seams open or to one side. Once sewn, the skirt section should measure 6½in x 7½in (16.5cm x 19cm) (unfinished).

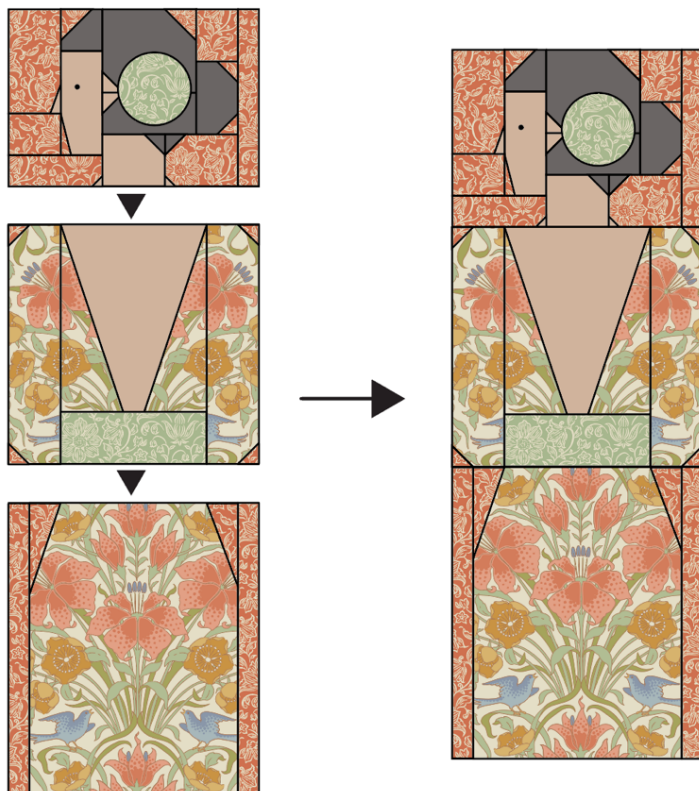
Fig N Assembling the skirt section



Assembling the Block

20 When all of the sections for a block are made, follow **Fig O** to sew the sections together. Once sewn, the block should measure 6½in x 17½in (16.5cm x 44.5cm) (unfinished).

Fig O Assembling the block

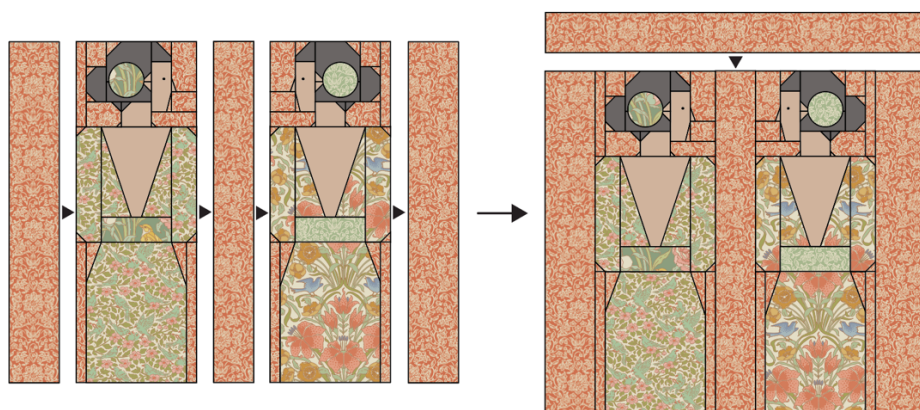


21 Make the other Lady block in the same way, following **Fig B** for the correct colours. Note that for the right-facing block the pieces will be reversed (flipped), so take care to place them correctly before sewing.

Assembling the Patchwork

22 Follow **Fig P**, sewing the sashing strip between the blocks first and pressing seams towards the sashing. Add the side borders and press seams outwards. Finally, add the top border strip and press.

Fig P Assembling the patchwork



Adding the Buttons

23 The buttons are best added *after* the quilt has been assembled and quilted; otherwise, they will get in the way when you are quilting. When you are ready to add them, sew them in place by hand on the appliqué circles, using matching sewing thread.

Quilting and Finishing

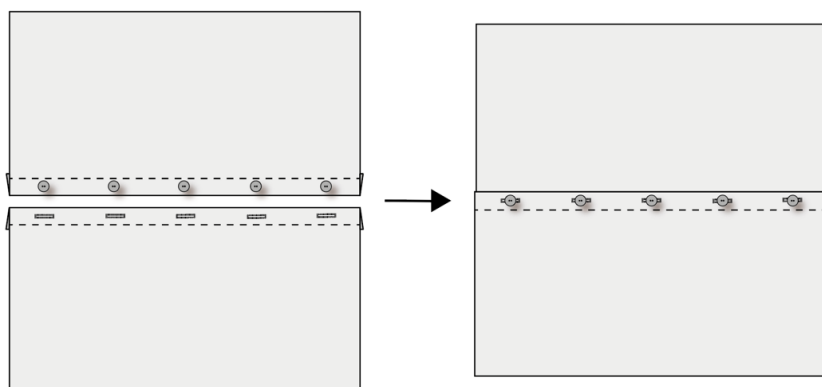
24 Make a quilt sandwich of the patchwork, wadding (batting) and lining fabric (if using). Quilt as desired. Trim off excess wadding and lining fabric to match the patchwork size.

25 To make up the pillow cover, take the two pieces of fabric for the cushion back and on one long edge of each piece, create a hem by turning the edge over by 1 in (2.5cm), twice. Sew the seams with matching thread and press. **Fig Q** is shown in greys, so you can use the Tilda fabric and buttons suggested in the Materials list, or those of your choice.

26 For the fastening, using your sewing machine, create five equally spaced buttonholes within the hem of one of the pieces. Sew five buttons onto the other piece, matching their positions to the buttonholes. Note: Instead of making buttonholes, you could use a hook and loop fastening to fasten the cover and sew on the buttons as a decorative feature.

27 The pillow has a bound edge, so the pieces are assembled with right sides out, as follows. On the backing, fasten the buttons into the buttonholes and place the whole piece right side down. Place the quilted patchwork on top, right side up. Make sure the outer edges of all pieces are aligned. Pin or tack (baste) the layers together and then bind as normal. As you sew the binding in place it will fix the other layers together. Press the cover and insert a pillow pad to finish.

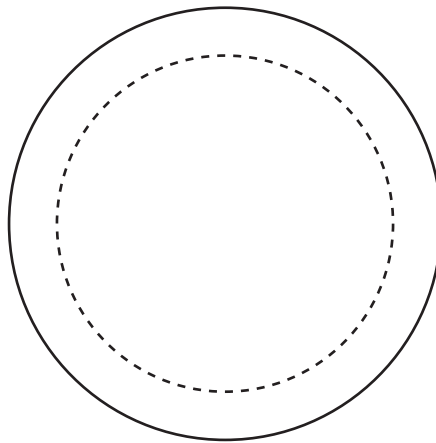
Fig Q Making up the cover



Soirée Quilt

Circle appliqué
Actual size

Includes a ¼in (6mm)
seam allowance for
turned-edge appliqué



Soirée Pillow

(Sage mist colourway)

If you are making one of the beautiful Soirée Quilts, why not make a pillow to match? This pillow pattern features the Songbird fabric collection and its blenders, showing two elegant ladies chatting during an evening soirée. The buttons used on the appliquéd circle hair ornaments are an extra decorative touch. This pillow uses a lovely sage mist-coloured background, but the pattern is available in three other background colours – coral, mustard and light blue. See tildasworld.com for all the quilt and pillow instructions.

Difficulty rating ***

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- Fabric 2: fat eighth (*not* a long eighth *) – Cora coral (100642)
- Fabric 3: fat eighth – Ava coral (100644)
- Fabric 4: about 6in (15cm) square – Flora sage (100648)
- Fabric 5: about 6in (15cm) square – Stella coral (110151)
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- Fabric 7: about 9in (23cm) square – Chambray grey (160006)
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- Lining fabric (optional): 21in (53.5cm) square
- Fabric for back of pillow: ⅔yd (40cm) – Flora sage (100648)
- Binding fabric: ¼yd (25cm) – Lila sage mist (110153)
- Erasable fabric marker
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Black stranded cotton (floss) for French knot eyes
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat
- Scrap of thick card for appliqué
- Two buttons for hair ornament Songbird Buttons coral/green 16mm (400074)
- Pillow pad to fit cover

Fabric Notes

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Finished Size

19½in (49.5cm) square

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 any patterns being used are printed at full size (100%).

Pillow Layout

1 The pillow consists of two Lady blocks, one facing right and the other facing left. Sashing separates the blocks, with a border on either side of the pillow and along the top. An appliqué circle is used as a hair decoration on each lady, with a button detail in the centre. Refer to **Fig A** for the fabrics used and **Fig B** for the layout and cut sizes for the sashing and border.

Fig A Fabric swatches (Soirée Pillow – sage mist)

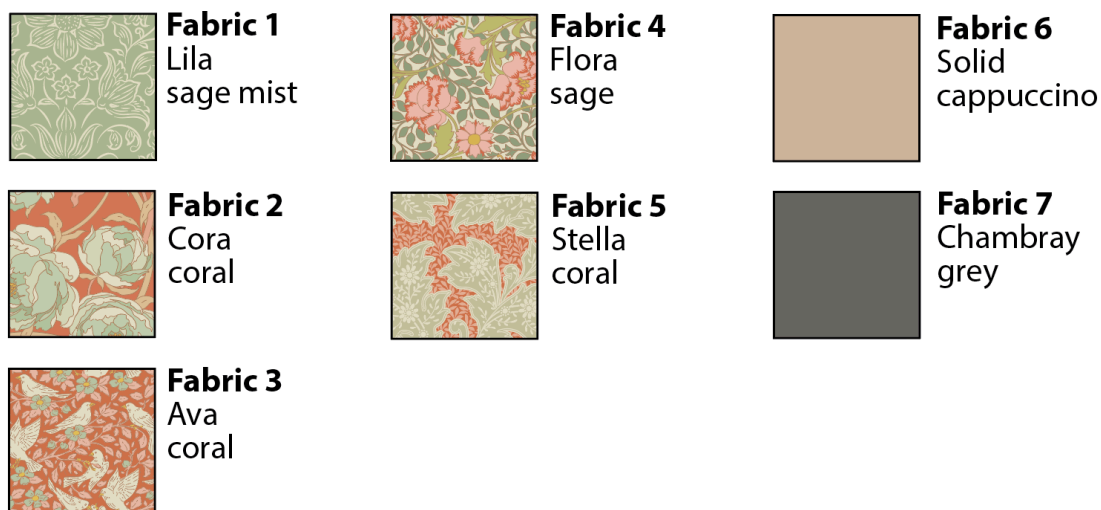
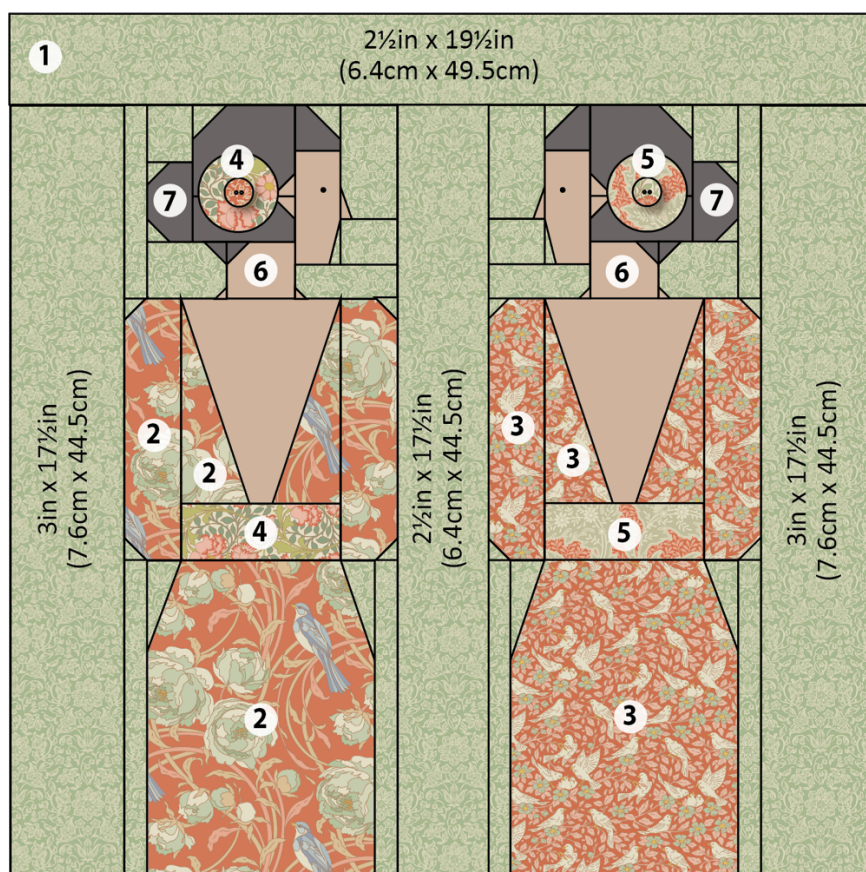


Fig B Pillow layout and border cut sizes

Numbers in circles indicate fabrics used



Cutting Out

2 Begin by cutting Fabric 1, starting with the sashing and border pieces (see **Fig B**).

- For the sashing that separates the blocks, cut a strip $2\frac{1}{2}\text{in} \times 17\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (6.4cm x 44.5cm).
- For the side borders, cut two strips $3\text{in} \times 17\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (7.6cm x 44.5cm).
- For the top border, cut a strip $19\frac{1}{2}\text{in} \times 2\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (49.5cm x 6.4cm).

3 For the Lady blocks, use Fabric 1 and carefully cut out the sizes given in **Fig C**.

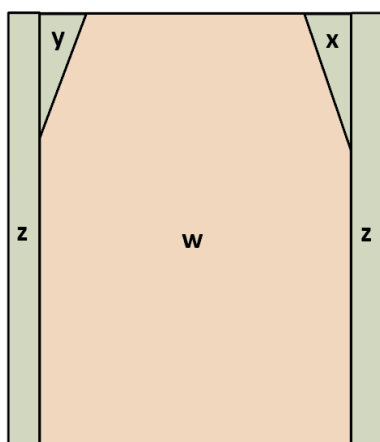
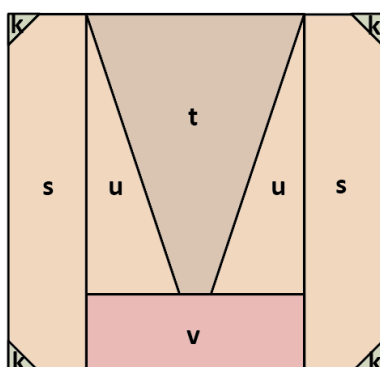
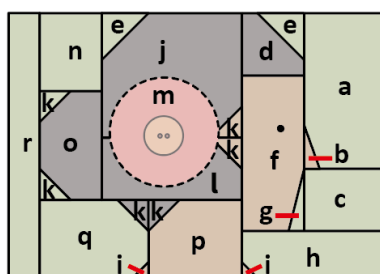
4 For the Lady blocks, use the remaining fabrics, following the cut sizes given in **Fig C** and the fabric colours and positions shown in **Fig B**. (The positions of the buttons are shown but these need to be added after quilting.)

Fig C Cut measurements for the Lady blocks

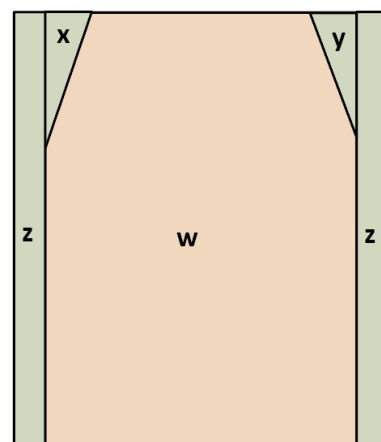
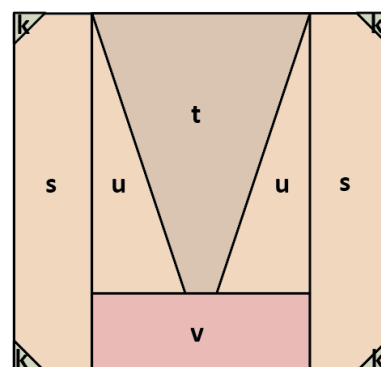
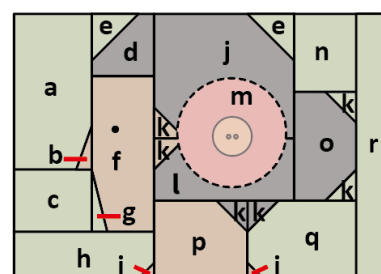
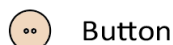
Sizes include $\frac{1}{4}\text{in}$ (6mm) seam allowances

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

Block: $6\frac{1}{2}\text{in} \times 17\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (16.5cm x 44.5cm) unfinished



- a $1\frac{1}{4}\text{in} \times 3\text{in}$ (4.4cm x 7.6cm)
 - b $\frac{3}{4}\text{in} \times 1\frac{1}{4}\text{in}$ (2cm x 3.2cm)
 - c $1\frac{1}{4}\text{in} \times 1\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (4.4cm x 3.8cm)
 - d $1\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (3.8cm) square
 - e $1\frac{1}{4}\text{in}$ (3.2cm) square
 - f $1\frac{1}{2}\text{in} \times 3\text{in}$ (3.8cm x 7.6cm)
 - g $\frac{3}{4}\text{in} \times 1\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (2cm x 3.8cm)
 - h $2\frac{3}{4}\text{in} \times 1\frac{1}{4}\text{in}$ (7cm x 3.2cm)
 - i $\frac{3}{4}\text{in}$ (2cm) square
 - j $2\frac{3}{4}\text{in} \times 2\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (7cm x 6.4cm)
 - k 1in (2.5cm) square
 - l $2\frac{3}{4}\text{in} \times 1\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (7cm x 3.8cm)
 - m $2\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (5.7cm) diameter circle
 - n $1\frac{1}{2}\text{in} \times 1\frac{3}{4}\text{in}$ (3.8cm x 4.4cm)
 - o $1\frac{1}{2}\text{in} \times 2\frac{1}{4}\text{in}$ (3.8cm x 5.7cm)
 - p $2\text{in} \times 1\frac{3}{4}\text{in}$ (5.1cm x 4.4cm)
 - q $2\frac{1}{4}\text{in} \times 1\frac{3}{4}\text{in}$ (5.7cm x 4.4cm)
 - r $1\text{in} \times 4\frac{3}{4}\text{in}$ (2.5cm x 12cm)
 - s $1\frac{1}{4}\text{in} \times 6\frac{1}{4}\text{in}$ (4.4cm x 15.9cm)
 - t $4\text{in} \times 5\text{in}$ (10.2cm x 12.7cm)
 - u $2\text{in} \times 5\text{in}$ (5.1cm x 12.7cm)
 - v $4\text{in} \times 1\frac{3}{4}\text{in}$ (10.2cm x 4.4cm)
 - w $5\frac{1}{2}\text{in} \times 7\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (14cm x 19cm)
 - x $1\frac{1}{4}\text{in} \times 2\frac{3}{4}\text{in}$ (3.2cm x 7cm)
 - y $1\frac{1}{4}\text{in} \times 2\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (3.2cm x 6.4cm)
 - z $1\text{in} \times 7\frac{1}{2}\text{in}$ (2.5cm x 19cm)
- Eye** Work as a French knot



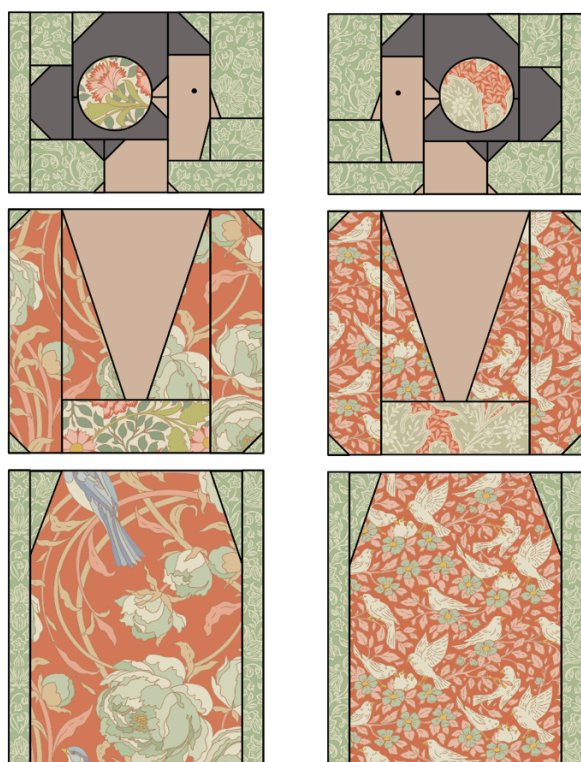
5 Cut the fabric for the back of the pillow into two pieces, each 20in x 13in (51cm x 33cm).

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.

General Techniques Used

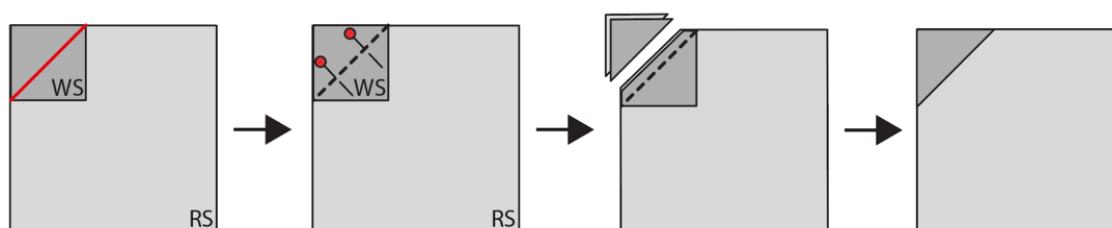
7 Fig D shows the sections that make up each block – the head section, chest section and skirt section. The technique of corner triangle units is used frequently in the blocks and the basic method is described here. (Some units also need oblong corner triangles, but these techniques will be described in detail with each section as the piecing is a little more complicated.)

Fig D Block sections



8 Making a corner triangle unit: Some units have one corner triangle, others have two, but the basic process is the same, as follows. Follow the stages shown in **Fig E**. Select the correct base/background fabric piece (which may be a square or a rectangle) and the smaller square. Place the base piece right side (RS) up. Take the smaller square and pencil mark a diagonal line on the wrong side (WS). Position the smaller square right sides together with the base piece, in the correct position for that particular unit and with the marked line in the direction shown in the diagram. Pin in place and then sew along the marked line. Trim off excess fabric ¼in (6mm) outside the sewn line and press the triangle outwards. Check the size of the unit, which should be the same size as the original base piece.

Fig E Making a corner triangle unit



Making a Lady Block

Making the Head Section

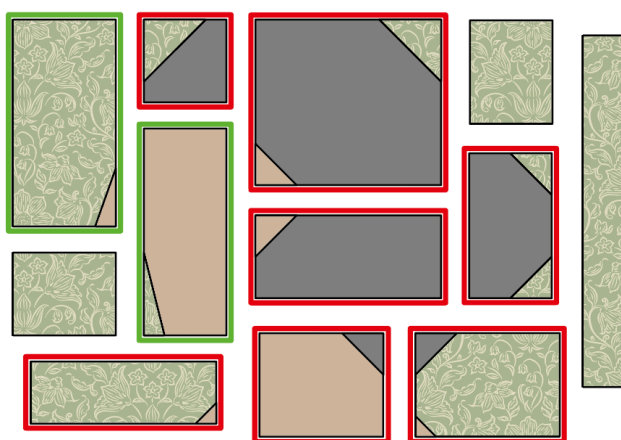
9 The left-facing lady (second block) is shown in the diagrams, but the right-facing lady is made in the same way. We will start with the head section. This is made up of twelve units, most using corner square triangle units (outlined in red on **Fig F**), but there are also some oblong corner units (outlined in green) and three unpieced units. **Fig F** shows these units for the head section. Start by making the units with corner square triangles (red outlined ones), following **Fig C** for the cut pieces. At this stage, the head uses just three fabrics – background Fabric 1, skin Fabric 6 and hair Fabric 7. Some of the triangles are very small, so reduce your stitch length when sewing these.

Fig F Making the units for the head section

(Left-facing lady shown)

Units outlined in red have square corner triangles

Units outlined in green have oblong corner triangles



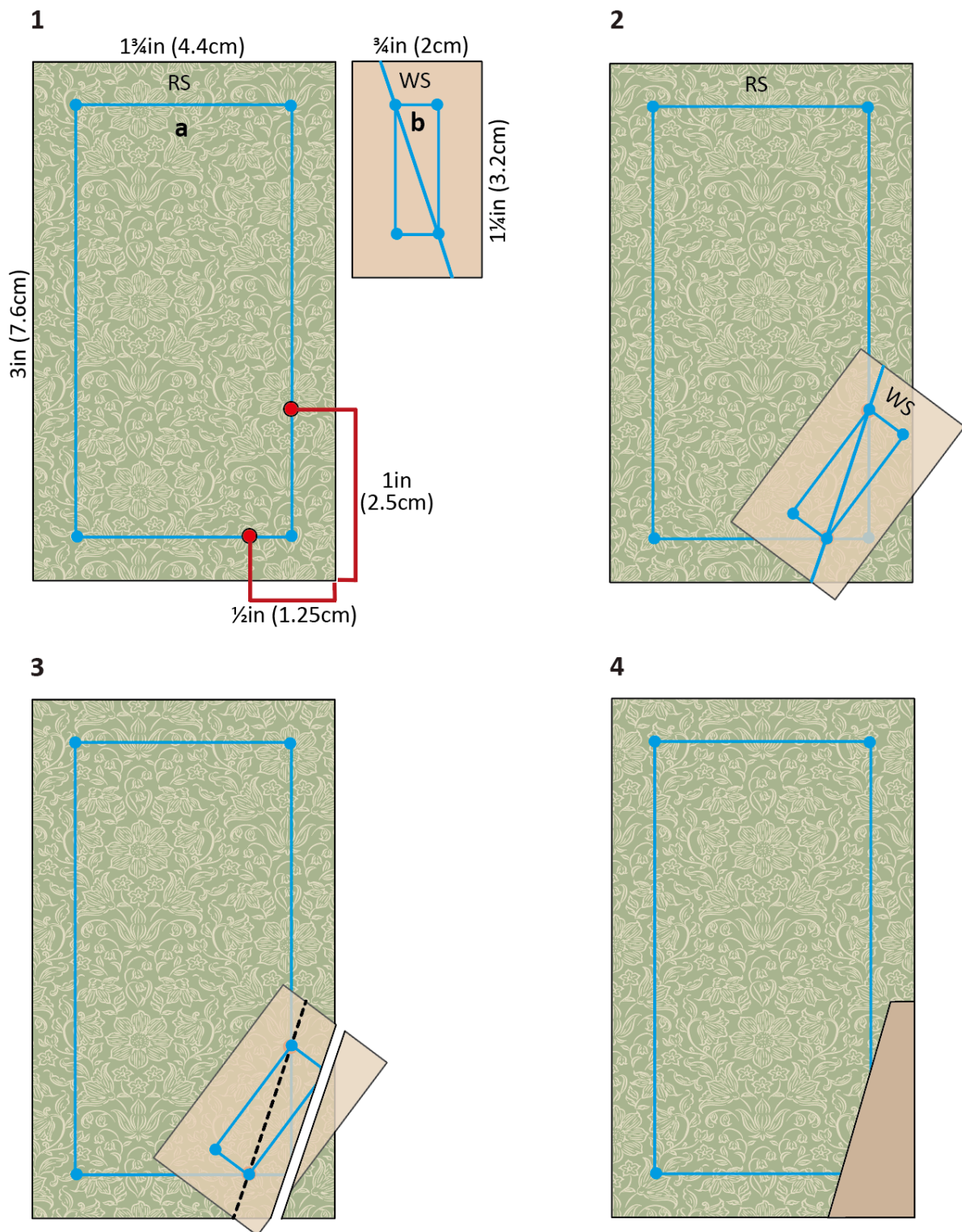
10 Once the corner triangle units have been made, set them to one side. Now make the two units with oblong corner triangles (green outline) – Unit **a+b** (**Fig G**) and Unit **f+g** (**Fig H**). These have different measurements and are illustrated in the detailed diagrams. We will describe Unit **a+b** (the nose) first.

11 Begin by taking the background fabric piece **a**, and on the right side (RS) use a removeable marker to mark the $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam allowance or just dots at the corners (see **Fig G 1**). On the bottom edge mark a dot on the seam allowance (shown in red), $\frac{1}{2}$ in (1.25cm) in from the bottom right-hand edge. Mark another dot on the seam allowance (shown in red), 1in (2.5cm) up from the bottom right edge, as shown.

Take the Fabric 6 (nose skin) piece **b** and on the wrong side (WS) mark the $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam allowance, either with pencil lines or just dots at the corners (see **Fig G 1**). Mark a diagonal line in the direction shown, making sure the line goes through the seam allowance dots (and *not* the outer corners of the fabric piece).

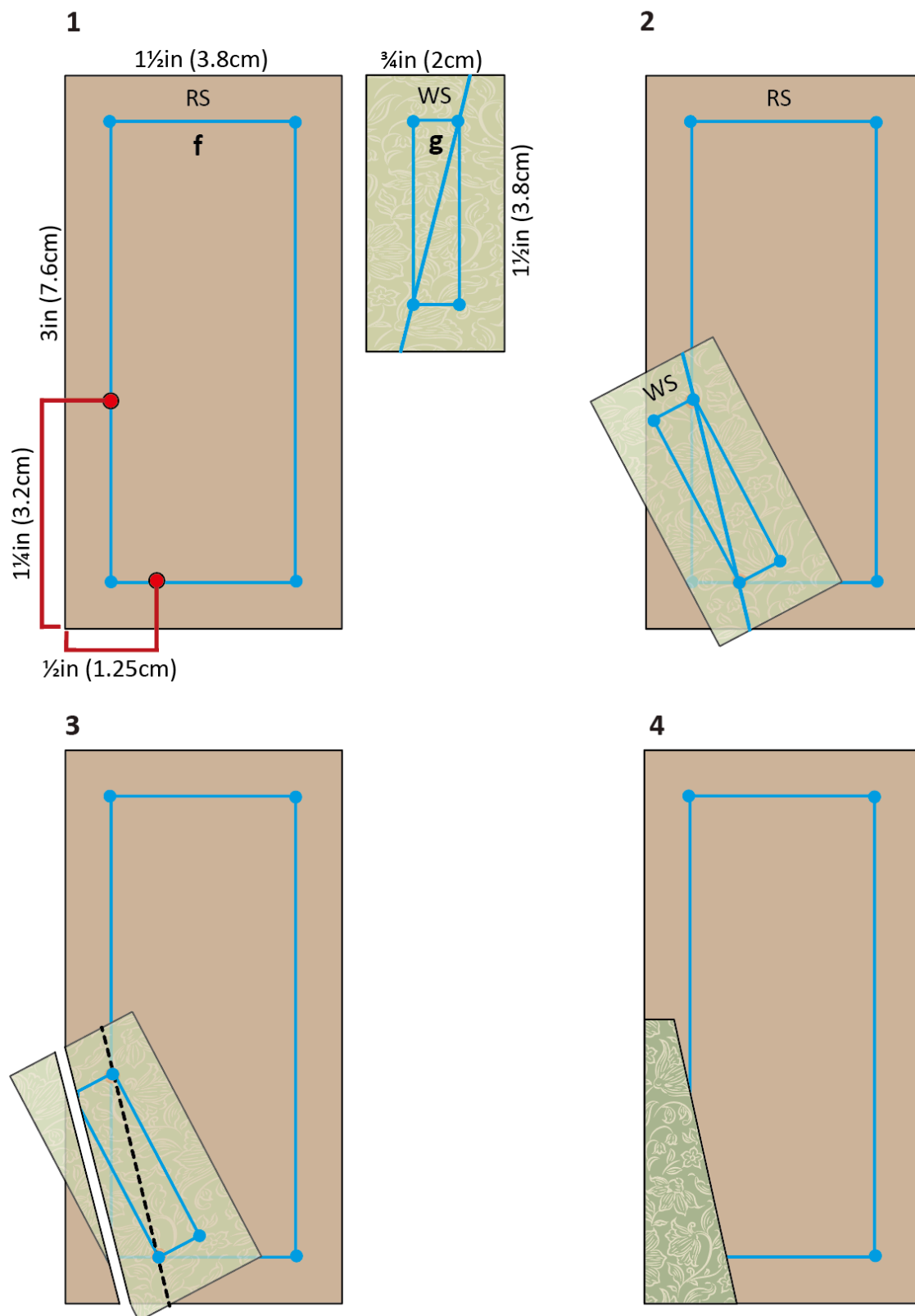
12 Take the background piece and, with right sides together with the nose piece, angle the smaller piece following **Fig G 2**, so the seam allowance dots meet the red dots beneath on the background piece. Pin in place and sew along the marked diagonal line. Fold the triangle over to briefly check that its straight edges align with the larger piece of fabric. Put the triangle back flat and then use a quilting ruler to trim off excess fabric $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) away from the sewn lines, as shown in **Fig G 3**. Press the triangle outwards and check its straight edges are aligned with the larger piece. Check the unit's size – it should be the same size as the original background piece (**Fig G 4**). Remove the marked lines.

Fig G Making Unit a+b for the head section



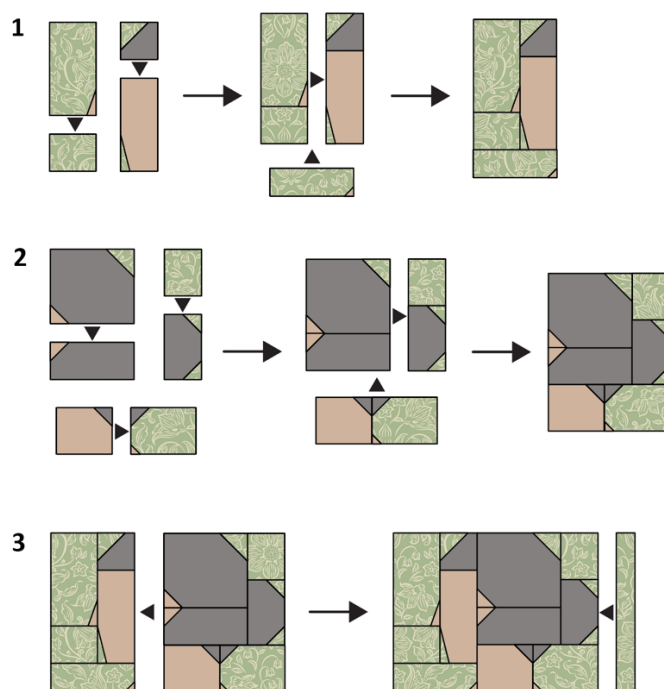
13 Now make Unit f+g for the head section, using the same technique as the previous unit, but closely following the measurements and position of the red dots shown in **Fig H 1**. This time, the larger piece of fabric (**f**) is the skin of the face and the smaller piece (**g**) is background fabric. The angle goes in the opposite direction for this unit. Follow the stages in **Fig H**. Mark the dots, angle, pin, sew the diagonal line and trim excess, as before. Press the triangle outwards and check its straight edges are aligned with the larger piece. Check the unit's size – it should be the same size as the original skin piece.

Fig H Making Unit f+g for the head section



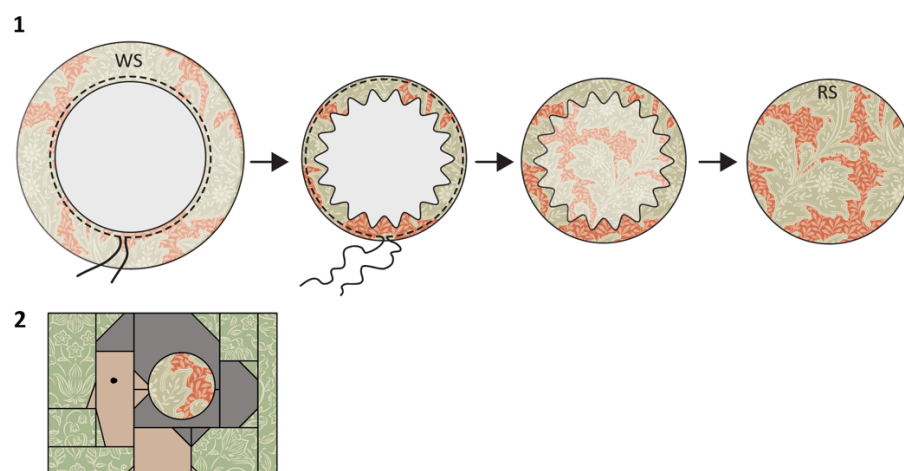
14 Once all the units for the head section have been made, lay them out in the correct order and sew them together following the stages shown in **Fig I**. Press seams open or to one side. Once sewn, the head section should measure $6\frac{1}{2}$ in x $4\frac{3}{4}$ in (16.5cm x 12cm) (unfinished).

Fig I Assembling the head section



15 Make the appliqué circle for the hair as follows. A card and gathered thread technique is easy to do. Cut a 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ in (4.4cm) diameter circle from stiff card. Take the 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ in (5.7cm) diameter circle of print fabric cut earlier and place the card circle in the centre of the fabric on the wrong side. Mark the card circle (**Fig J 1**). Remove the card for the moment. Using a strong, doubled thread, hand sew a gathering stitch all around this marked inner circle, slightly *outside* of the marked line. Leave tails of thread. 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 remove the card. Press again from the right side using a little spray starch if you wish. Using a matching colour of hand sewing thread and small slip stitches, sew the circle in place on the lady's hair and press (**Fig J 2**). Add the French knot eye using six strands of stranded cotton wrapped twice around the needle. Do *not* sew the button in place yet.

Fig J Making the appliqué circle

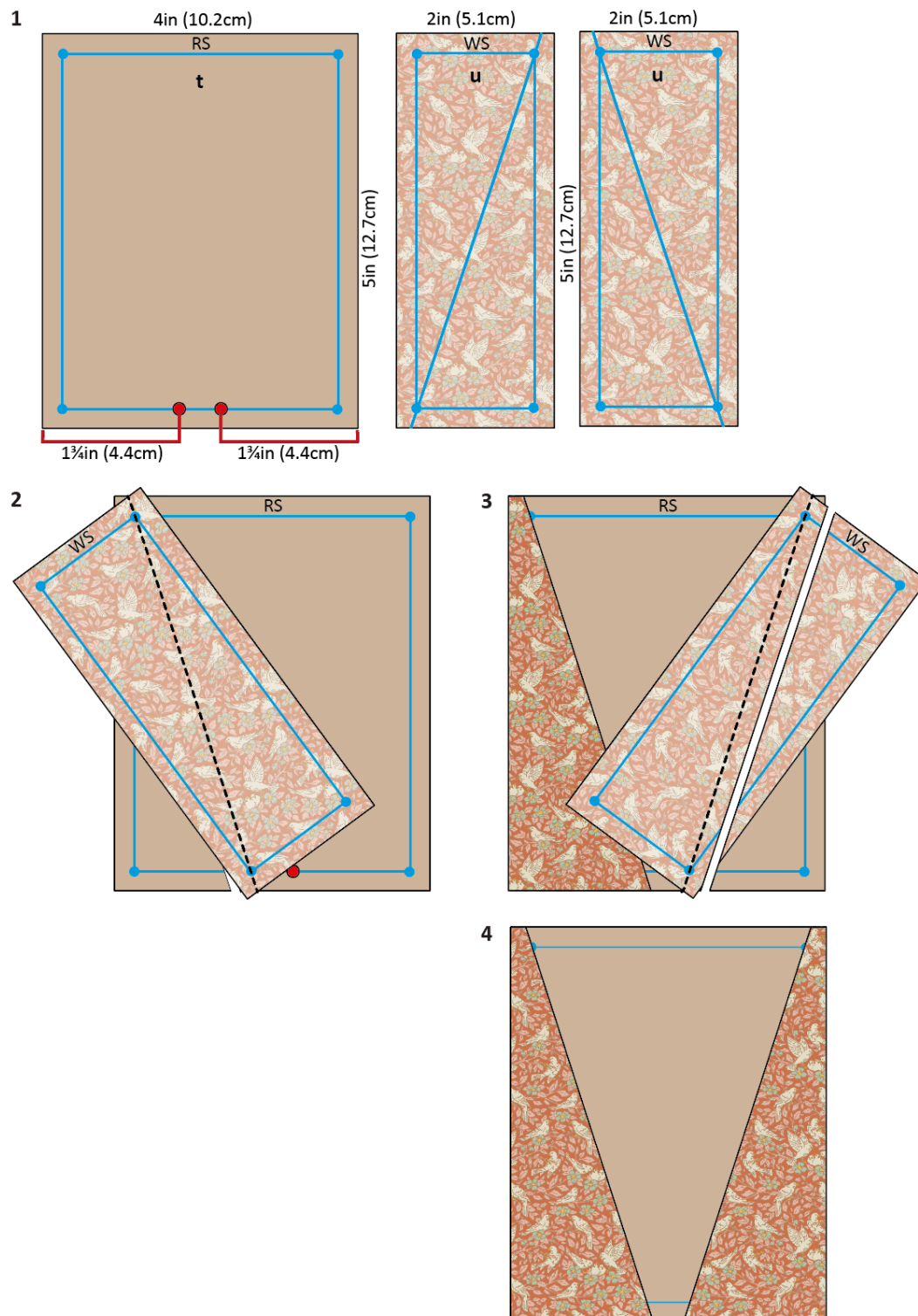


Making the Chest Section

16 The chest section also has a unit with oblong corner triangles, to create the V shape for the neck of the dress. Make Unit **t+u+u**, using the same technique as the previous units, but closely following the measurements and position of the red dots shown in **Fig K 1**. The larger

piece of fabric (**t**) is the skin and the smaller pieces (**u**) are print fabric pieces for the dress. There are two angles for this unit. Add the smaller pieces one at a time, as shown in **Fig K 2** and then **Fig K 3**, marking the dots, angling, pinning, sewing the diagonal line and trimming excess, as before. Press each triangle outwards and check straight edges are aligned with the larger piece. Check the unit's size is the same size as the original skin piece (**Fig K 4**).

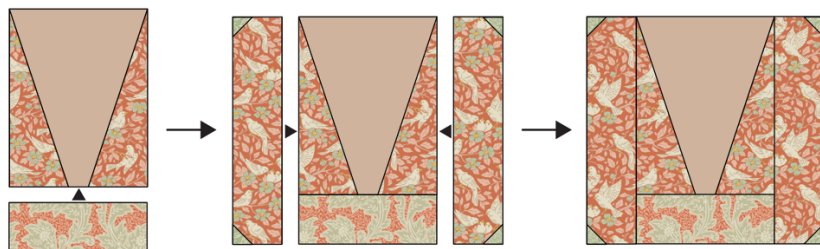
Fig K Making Unit t+u+u for the chest section



17 To finish the chest section, make the two units for the chest that need corner triangles and then arrange all of the units as shown in **Fig L**. Sew them together following the stages

shown in the diagram. Press seams open or to one side. Once sewn, the chest section should measure 6½in x 6¼in (16.5cm x 15.9cm) (unfinished).

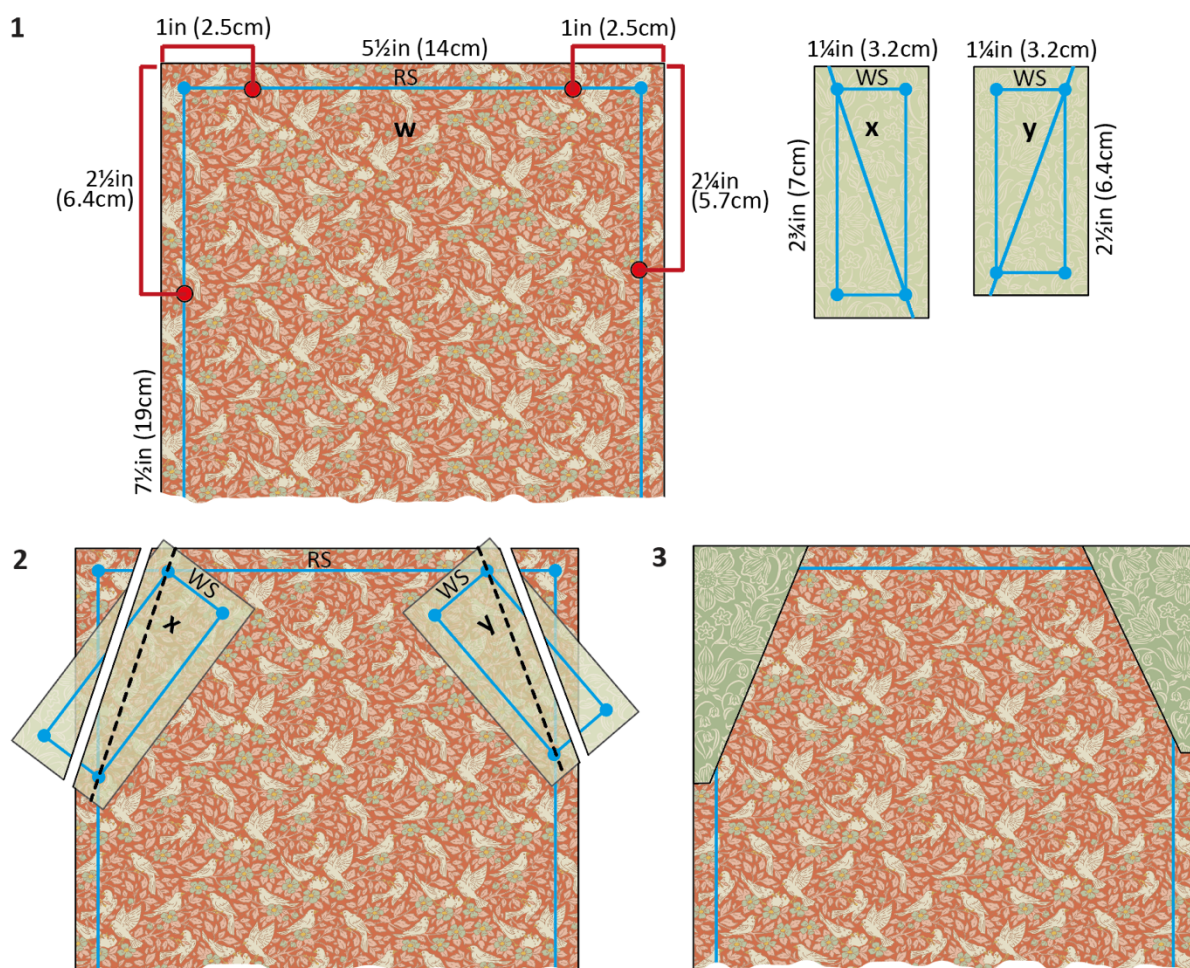
Fig L Assembling the chest section



Making the Skirt Section

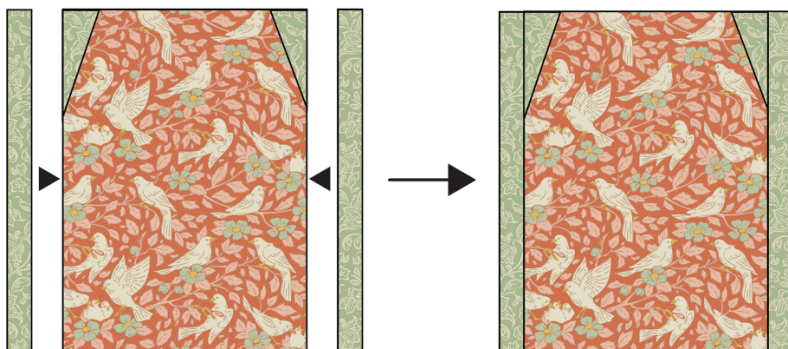
18 The skirt section also has a unit with oblong corner triangles, to create the shape for the tummy and bottom. Note that these two triangles are different heights, so don't confuse them. Make Unit $w+x+y$, using the same technique as the previous units, but closely following the measurements and position of the red dots shown in **Fig M 1**. The larger piece of fabric (w) is the print fabric of the skirt and the smaller pieces (x and y) are background fabric. (Note: the whole length of the skirt piece isn't shown.) There are two angles for this unit. The smaller pieces can be added at the same time, as they do not touch each other. Follow **Fig M 2** for angling, pinning, sewing the diagonal lines and trimming excess. Press each triangle outwards and check straight edges are aligned with the larger piece. Check the unit's size is the same size as the original dress fabric piece (**Fig M 3**).

Fig M Making Unit $w+x+y$ for the skirt section



19 Now assemble the skirt section as in **Fig N**. Press seams open or to one side. Once sewn, the skirt section should measure 6½in x 7½in (16.5cm x 19cm) (unfinished).

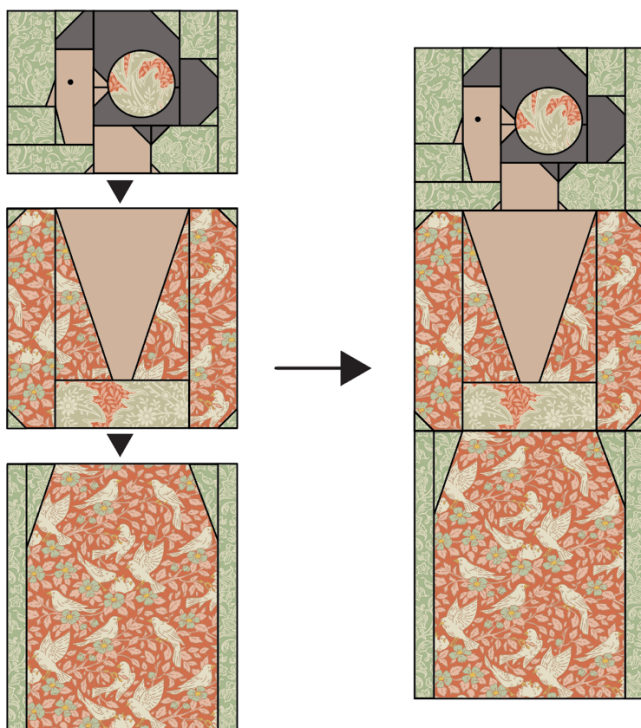
Fig N Assembling the skirt section



Assembling the Block

20 When all of the sections for a block are made, follow **Fig O** to sew the sections together. Once sewn, the block should measure 6½in x 17½in (16.5cm x 44.5cm) (unfinished).

Fig O Assembling the block

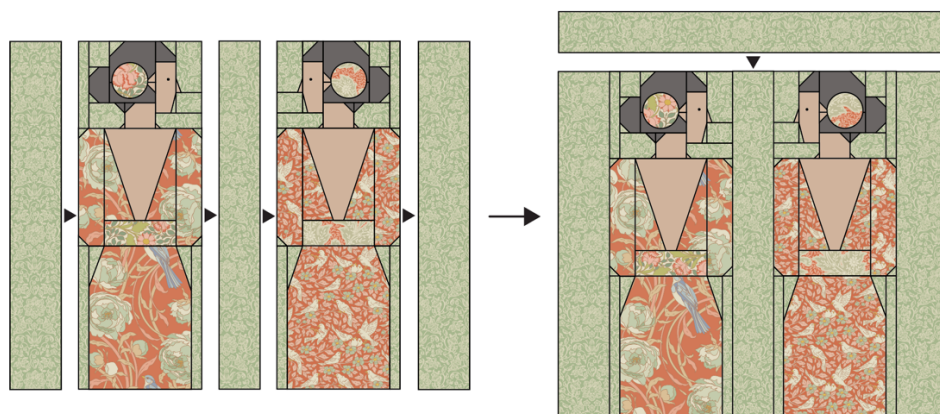


21 Make the other Lady block in the same way, following **Fig B** for the correct colours. Note that for the right-facing block the pieces will be reversed (flipped), so take care to place them correctly before sewing.

Assembling the Patchwork

22 Follow **Fig P**, sewing the sashing strip between the blocks first and pressing seams towards the sashing. Add the side borders and press seams outwards. Finally, add the top border strip and press.

Fig P Assembling the patchwork



Adding the Buttons

23 The buttons are best added *after* the quilt has been assembled and quilted; otherwise, they will get in the way when you are quilting. When you are ready to add them, sew them in place by hand on the appliqué circles, using matching sewing thread.

Quilting and Finishing

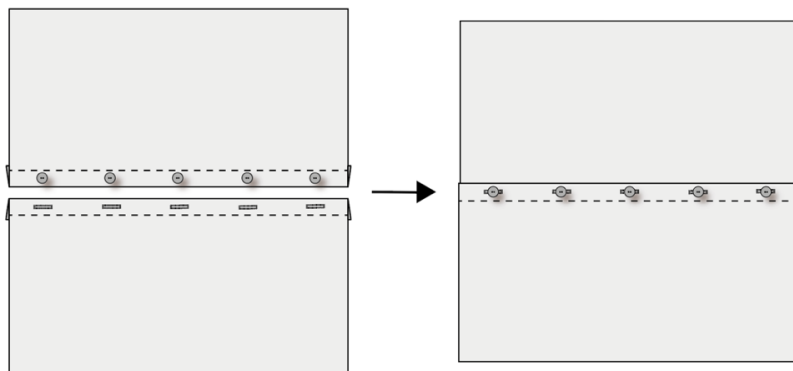
24 Make a quilt sandwich of the patchwork, wadding (batting) and lining fabric (if using). Quilt as desired. Trim off excess wadding and lining fabric to match the patchwork size.

25 To make up the pillow cover, take the two pieces of fabric for the cushion back and on one long edge of each piece, create a hem by turning the edge over by 1 in (2.5cm), twice. Sew the seams with matching thread and press. **Fig Q** is shown in greys, so you can use the Tilda fabric and buttons suggested in the Materials list, or those of your choice.

26 For the fastening, using your sewing machine, create five equally spaced buttonholes within the hem of one of the pieces. Sew five buttons onto the other piece, matching their positions to the buttonholes. Note: Instead of making buttonholes, you could use a hook and loop fastening to fasten the cover and sew on the buttons as a decorative feature.

27 The pillow has a bound edge, so the pieces are assembled with right sides out, as follows. On the backing, fasten the buttons into the buttonholes and place the whole piece right side down. Place the quilted patchwork on top, right side up. Make sure the outer edges of all pieces are aligned. Pin or tack (baste) the layers together and then bind as normal. As you sew the binding in place it will fix the other layers together. Press the cover and insert a pillow pad to finish.

Fig Q Making up the cover



Soirée Quilt

Circle appliqué
Actual size

Includes a ¼in (6mm)
seam allowance for
turned-edge appliqué

