

Tilda®

# Pie in the Sky

Head in the Clouds  
Blue Sage Quilt



# Head in the Clouds Quilt

(Blue Sage Colourway)

What could be more fun than colourful clouds filling a blue sky? The nostalgic designs of the Pie in the Sky fabric collection create just the right amount of whimsy in this unusual quilt with its band-style layout. The Drunkard's Path blocks use a lovely mixture of print fabrics set off beautifully by a solid blue sage background. The sewing of the curved seams is described in detail, with plenty of diagrams to help you succeed. The lovely quilt design is also available in a dusty rose colourway and there are also two pillows to accompany the quilts – see [tildasworld.com](http://tildasworld.com) for details.

Difficulty rating \*\*\*

## Materials

- Fabric 1: 3½yds (3.2m) if cut economically as in **Fig E** – Solid blue sage (120008)
- Fabric 2: ¾yd (40cm) – Confetti blue (100486)
- Fabric 3: ¼yd (25cm) – Tasselflower mustard (100481)
- Fabric 4: ¾yd (40cm) – Confetti cerise (100484)
- Fabric 5: ¼yd (25cm) – Whimsybird blue (100489)
- Fabric 6: ⅛yd (15cm) – Cloudpie blue (110068)
- Fabric 7: ⅛yd (15cm) – Topsy Turvy blue (100490)
- Fabric 8: ¾yd (40cm) – Willy Nilly teal (100487)
- Fabric 9: ½yd (50cm) – Tasselflower blue (100488)
- Fabric 10: ¾yd (40cm) – Willy Nilly mustard (100485)
- Fabric 11: ⅛yd (15cm) – Cloudpie mustard (110064)
- Fabric 12: ⅛yd (15cm) – Topsy Turvy plum (100483)
- Fabric 13: ⅛yd (15cm) – Cloudpie pink (110065)
- Fabric 14: ¼yd (25cm) – Whimsybird plum (100482)
- Wadding (batting): 69in x 85in (175.3cm x 216cm)
- Backing fabric: 4¾yds (4.4m) – Cloudpie grape (110067)
- Binding fabric: ⅝yd (60cm) – Solid ginger (120018)
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat
- Thin card or template plastic for making patterns (templates)

## Fabric Notes

Where a long eighth or long quarter of a yard is given in the Materials list you could use a fat eighth or a fat quarter instead. A fat eighth is assumed to be approximately 10½in x 18in (26.7cm x 45.7cm) and a fat quarter approximately 21in x 18in (53.3cm x 45.7cm).

The quantity given for solid Fabric 1 assumes economical cutting, as shown in **Fig E**. If the shapes are cut without alternately rotating Pattern A you will need more fabric, about 4yds (3.7m).

## Finished Size

60½in x 77in (153.7cm x 195.6cm)

## 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 all fabrics before cutting.
- Use ¼in (6mm) seams unless otherwise instructed.
- Read all the instructions through before you start.
- Make one block first as a test before going on to make the remaining blocks.

## Quilt Layout

1 The quilt is made up of curved units in large, medium and small curve sizes, with shapes cut from the patterns provided. The units are combined into four blocks – A, B, C and D. The blocks are arranged in horizontal rows, separated by solid fabric sashing strips and filler units between the blocks. Partial blocks fill in at the sides of the quilt. See **Fig A** for the fabrics used and **Fig B** for the quilt layout.

**Fig A** Fabric swatches

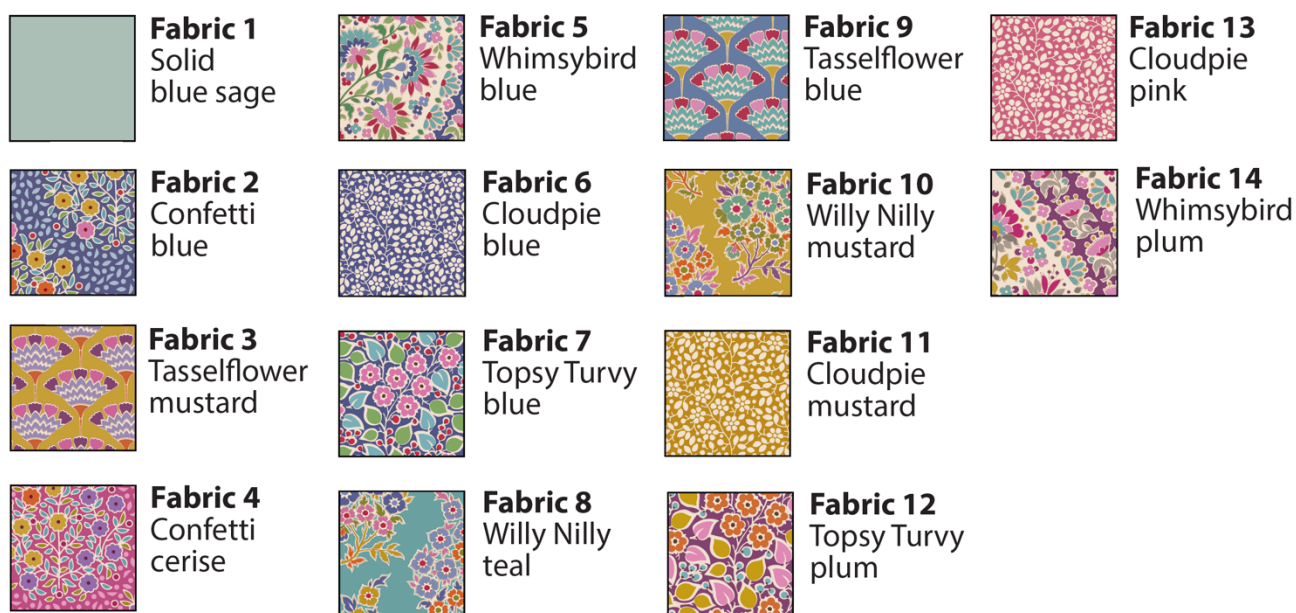
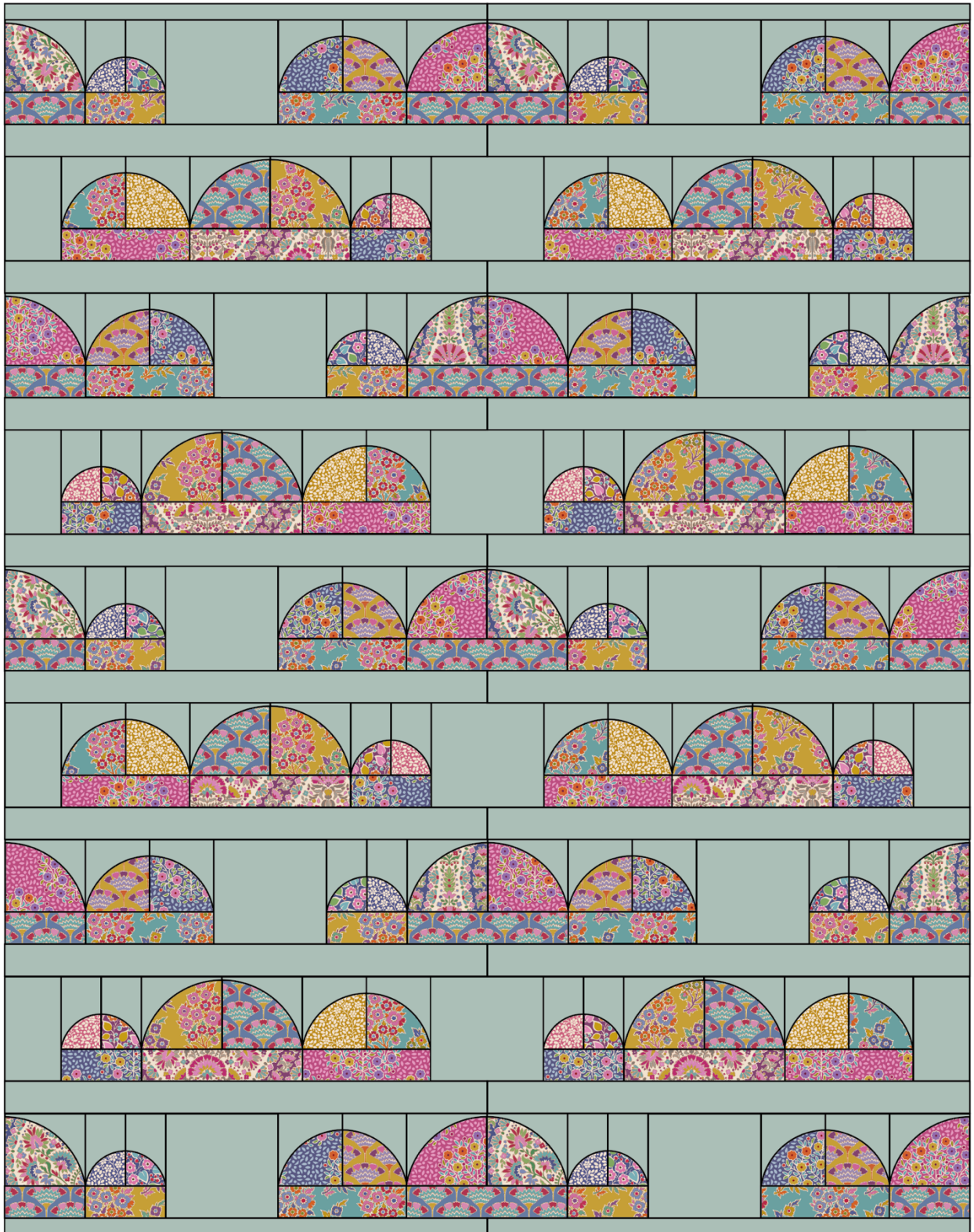


Fig B Quilt layout



## Cutting Out

**2** About 2yds (1.8m) of solid Fabric 1 is needed for the sashing strips and filler units, so it is best to cut these pieces first. When cutting the long sashing strips, don't cut all the way across the width, just 30½in (77.5cm), keeping the remaining width for cutting some of the filler pieces. Cut the following pieces (see **Fig C**).

- Sashing 1 – cut four strips, each 30½in x 1½in (77.5cm x 3.8cm). Sew the strips together in pairs to make strips 60½in (153.7cm) long, pressing the seam open. (You can sew the pairs together later at quilt assembly if you prefer.)
- Sashing 2 – cut sixteen strips, each 30½in x 2½in (77.5cm x 6.4cm). Sew the strips together in pairs to make strips 60½in (153.7cm) long, pressing the seam open.
- Filler 1 – cut fourteen rectangles, each 7½in x 7in (19cm x 17.8cm).
- Filler 2 – cut eight rectangles, each 4in x 7in (10.2cm x 17.8cm).

### Fig C Cutting measurements for the sashing and fillers

Sizes include ¼in (6mm) seam allowances

#### Sashing 1 – cut 4

30½in x 1½in (77.5cm x 3.8cm)

#### Sashing 2 – cut 16

30½in x 2½in (77.5cm x 6.4cm)

#### Filler 1 – cut 14

7½in x 7in  
(19cm x 17.8cm)

#### Filler 2 – cut 8

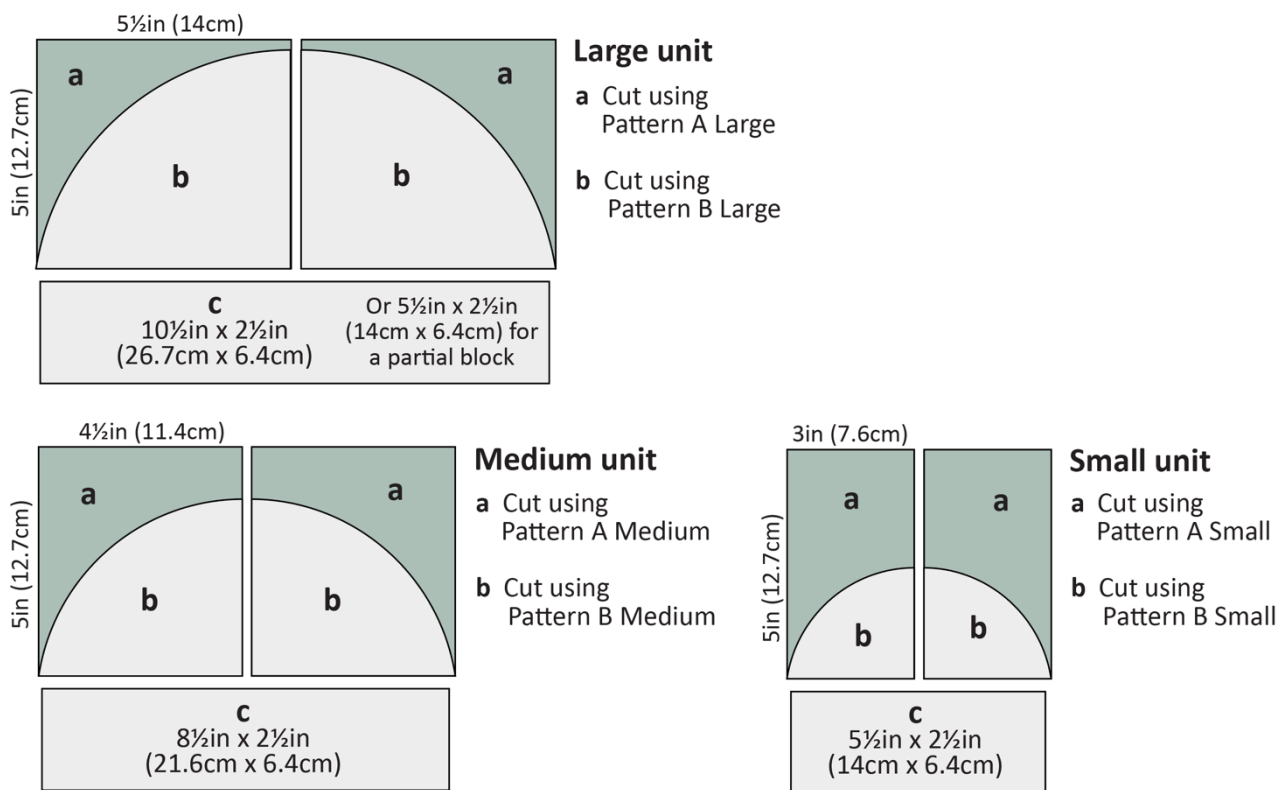
4in x 7in  
(10.2cm x 17.8cm)

**3** The blocks use patterns to cut the curved fabric shapes and full-size patterns (A and B) are provided for the three different unit sizes (large, medium and small). The patterns include ¼in (6mm) seam allowances. Make the patterns out of thin card or template plastic so they have some rigidity and will be easy to draw around. **Fig D** shows the individual fabric sizes (including the **c** rectangles, which are used under the curved units). For the curved **a** and **b** shapes, it is best to cut the shapes across the width of the fabric, arranging them economically as suggested in **Fig E**. Keep all fabric offcuts in case you need them. The patterns are *not* symmetrical, so it's best to mark their shapes on the front of the fabric, and also bear in mind that if the fabric has a directional pattern that you might need to consider this when cutting the pattern B shapes. Mark the pattern shapes accurately on the fabrics, marking them neatly across the width of the fabric. For the reversed (mirror image) shape, simply flip the paper pattern over before copying it onto the fabric. Once cut out, check each fabric shape is accurate by placing the pattern back on top. **Fig F** lists exactly how many shapes you will need in total and the fabrics used.

**Fig D** Cutting measurements for the block units

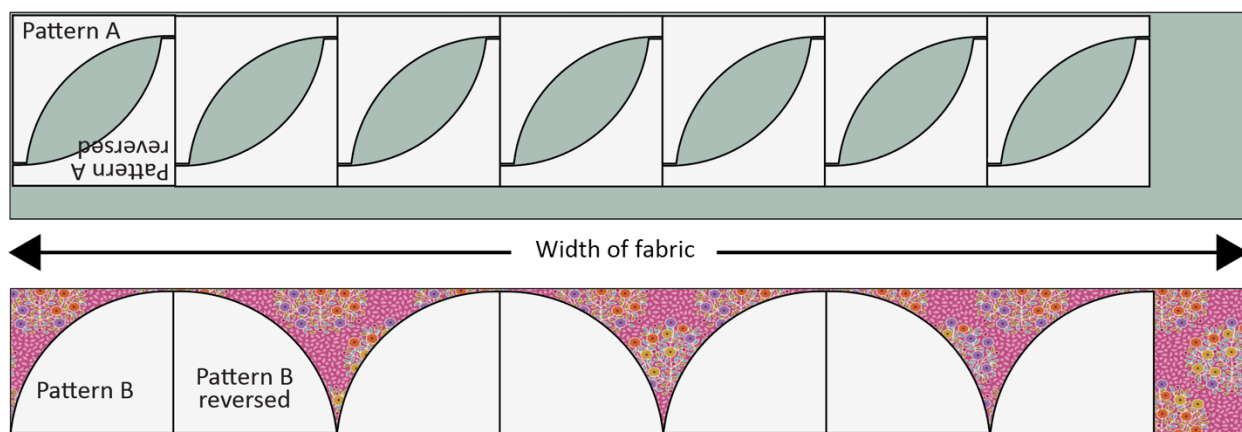
Sizes include 1/4in (6mm) seam allowances

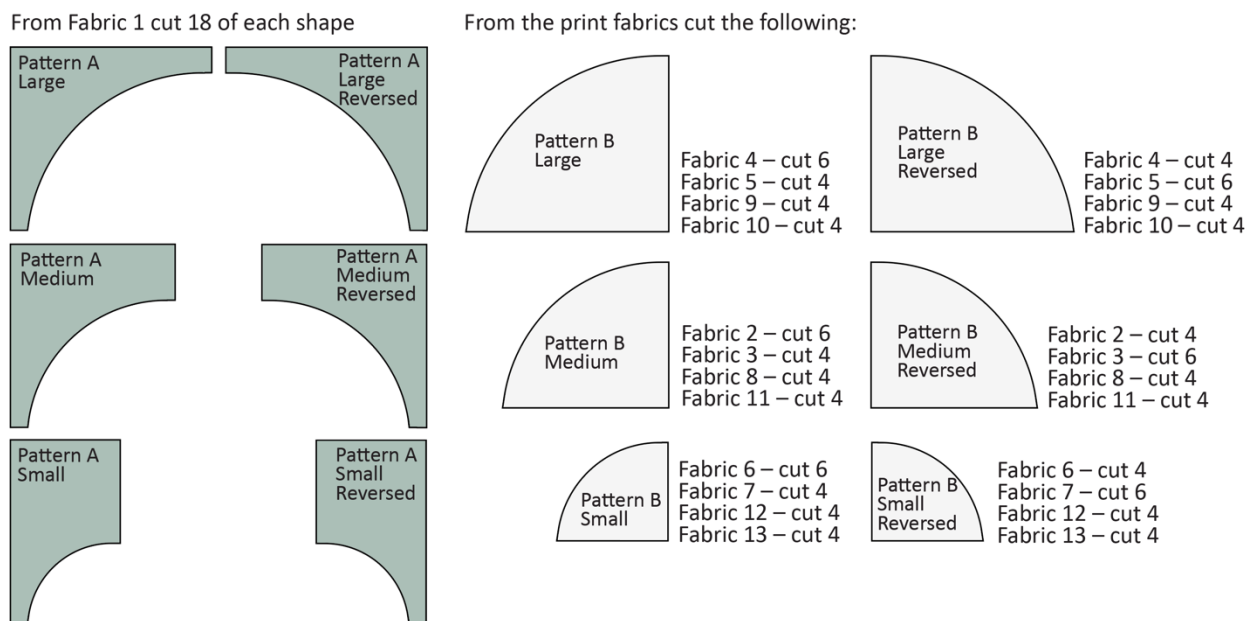
See Fig E for suggested economical cutting using the width of the fabric and Fig F for specific quantities to cut



**Fig E** Suggested economical cutting

(Large patterns shown)



**Fig F** Numbers of shapes to cut

**4** To cut the backing fabric, remove the selvages and cut the fabric into two pieces each 85in (216cm) long x width of fabric. Sew them together along the long side and press the seam open. Trim to a piece about 69in x 85in (175.3cm x 216cm).

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

### Making a Block

**6** Block A and Block C are made in the same way but with different fabric positions. Block B is the same as Block A but a mirror image. Block D is the same as Block C but a mirror image. **Fig G** shows the block layouts and the positions of the fabrics in each block. We will describe Block A in detail and show the curved seam sewing in **Fig I**.

**7** Block A and B are also needed as partial blocks, to fill in at the sides of the quilt. **Fig H** shows the partial block layouts and the positions of the fabrics in each partial block. (These partial blocks are really just whole blocks divided in half.)

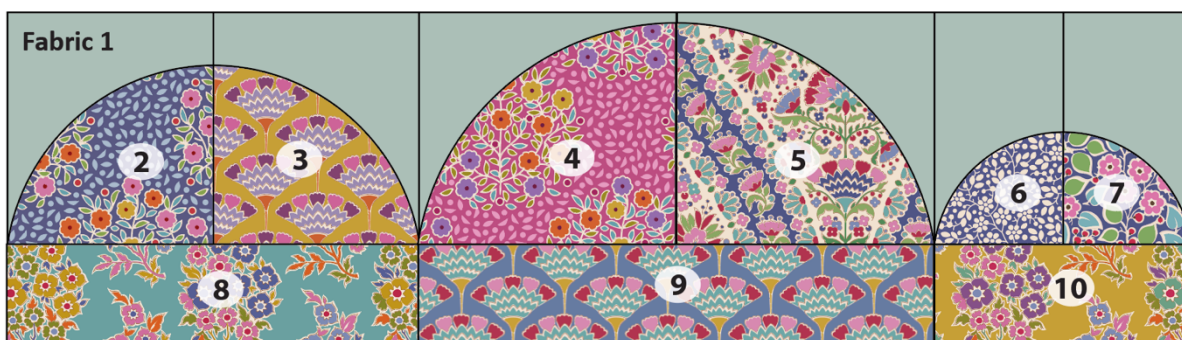
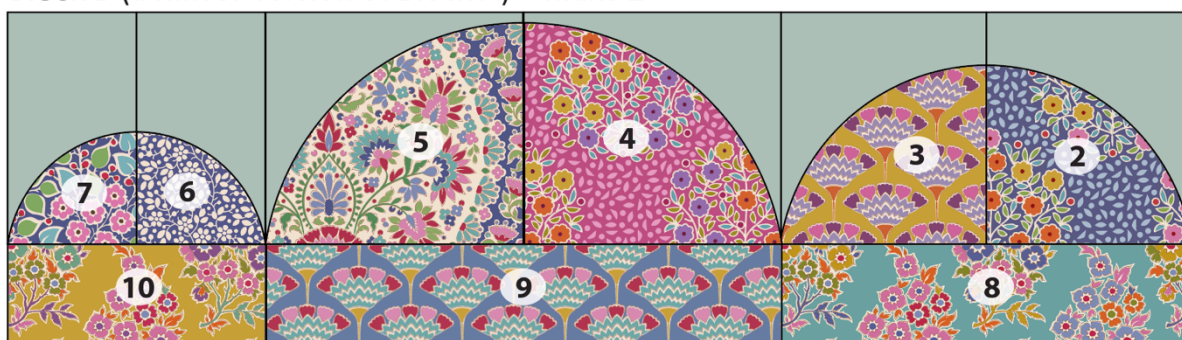
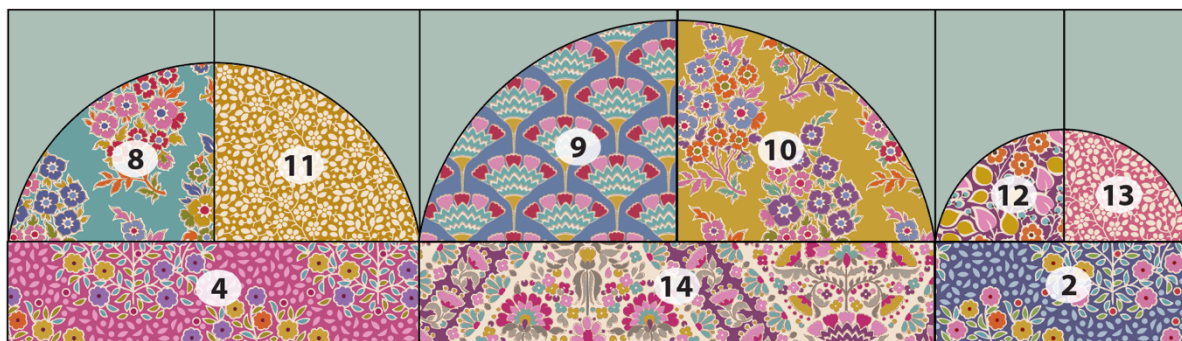
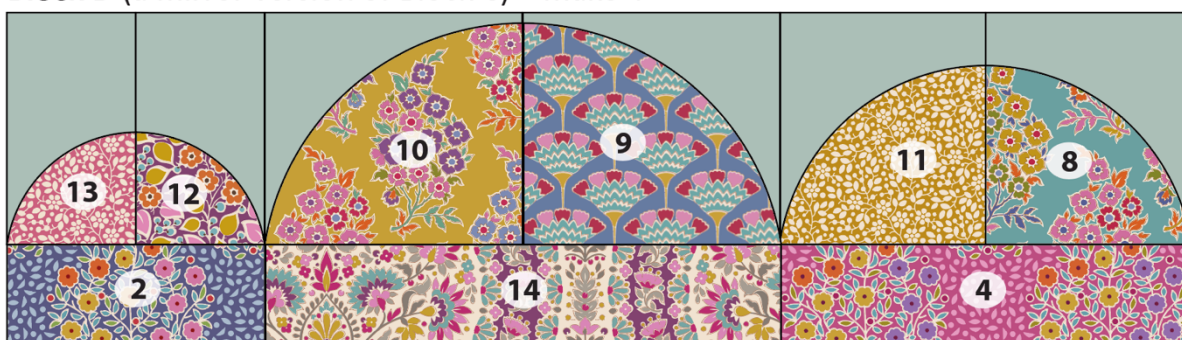
**Important Note:** we urge you make test units (a large, a medium and a small unit) first from any scrap fabrics you have, as sewing curves can be tricky and it's important that the sewn units measure the correct sizes. Follow the cutting and sewing instructions carefully.

- A large unit should have an unfinished size of 5½in x 5in (14cm x 12.7cm).
- A medium unit should have an unfinished size of 4½in x 5in (11.4cm x 12.7cm).
- A small unit should have an unfinished size of 3in x 5in (7.6cm x 12.7cm).

**Fig G** Whole block layouts and fabric positions

Numbers indicate the fabrics used (see Fig A)

Make the number of blocks indicated

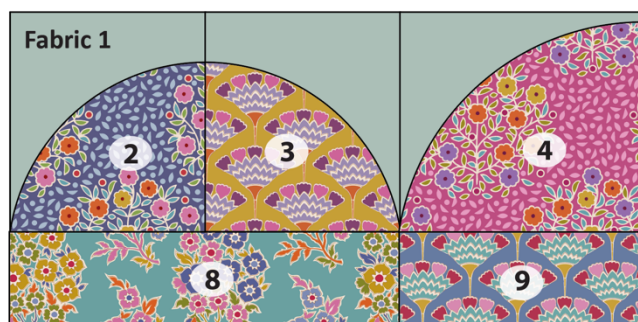
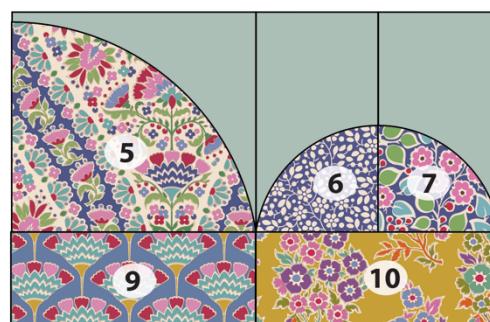
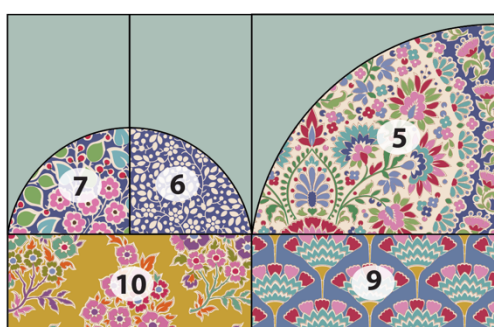
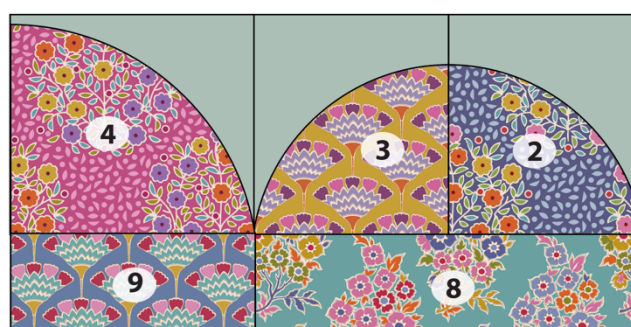
**Block A – make 3****Block B (a mirror version of Block A) – make 2****Block C – make 4****Block D (a mirror version of Block C) – make 4**



**Fig H** Partial block layouts and fabric positions

Numbers indicate the fabrics used (see Fig A)

Make the number of blocks indicated

**Partial Block A1 – make 3****Partial Block A2 – make 3****Partial Block B1 – make 2****Partial Block B2 – make 2**

**8** When you are ready to make the actual blocks, start by selecting the correct pieces for Block A and lay them out as in **Fig G**. Handle the fabric shapes carefully at all stages, as there are bias edges that may stretch. The curved units need to be created first. In the sequence shown in **Fig I** the large pattern sizes are shown but this basic method can be used for all the curved seams.

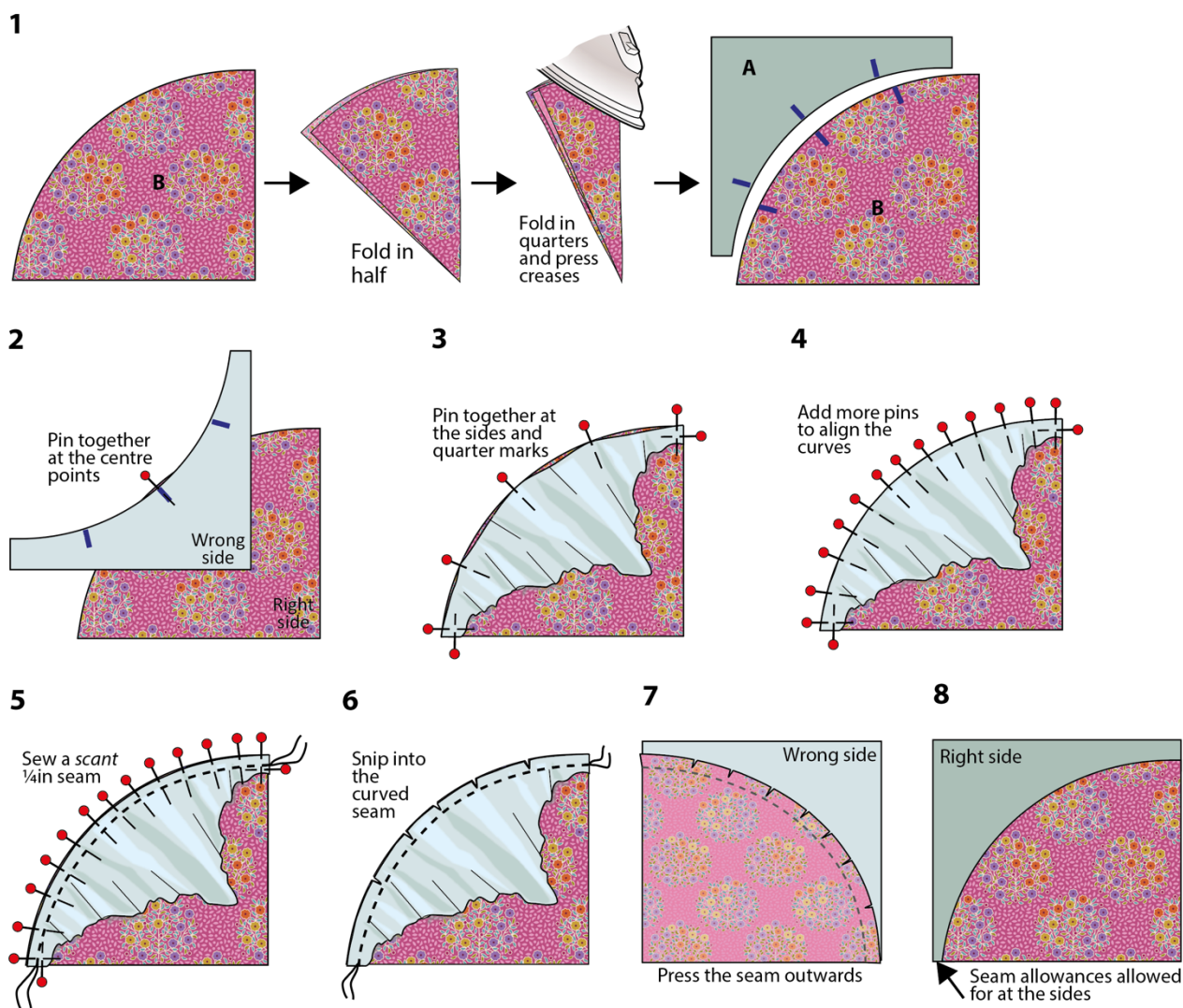
**9** Start by taking a large Pattern A piece of Fabric 1 and Pattern B shape of Fabric 4 and mark or crease the centre and quarter points on the curves of both shapes. The easiest way to do this is to fold each piece into quarters and use an iron to press little creases, which can be seen from the right and wrong side (**Fig I 1**).

**10** Place the pieces right sides together aligning centre marks and pin (**Fig I 2**). Align the outer edges and the quarter marks and pin at those points too (**Fig I 3**). Check that the short straight edge of piece A is aligned with the straight edge of piece B, pinning at these places as well. Ease the remaining areas of curved edges together and pin, adding as many pins as needed to ensure that the curves match well (**Fig I 4**). You may need to pull very slightly to ease the fabric edges into place. Once pinned, check that there are no pleats or tucks formed on the back of the work.

**11** Now sew the seam using a *scant*  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (5mm) seam (**Fig I 5**). A scant seam is one or two needle's width narrower than a normal seam. If you have placed the pins as shown, you should be able to sew over them, leaving them in place until the seam is sewn. Remove the pins and snip into the seam allowance at intervals using sharp-pointed scissors, with cuts about  $\frac{1}{8}$ in (3mm) long (**Fig I 6**). Press the seam outwards, using the nose of the iron to make sure the seam is pressed fully and smooth (**Fig I 7**). Take care when pressing not to distort the

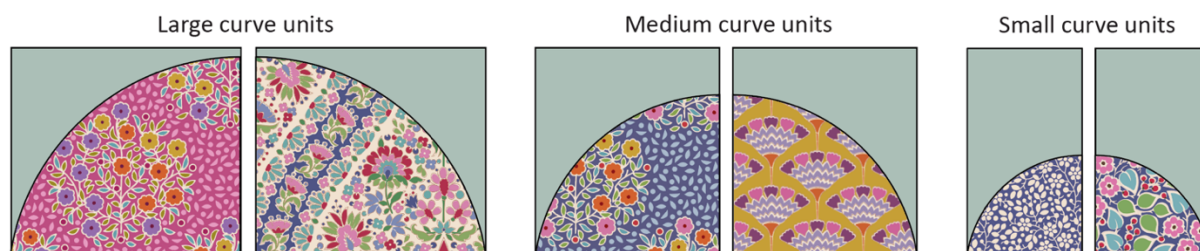
edges of the unit. The unit is shown from the right side in **Fig I 8**. Check the unfinished size of the unit is correct. For a large unit this is 5½in x 5in (14cm x 12.7cm).

**Fig I** Sewing a curved seam



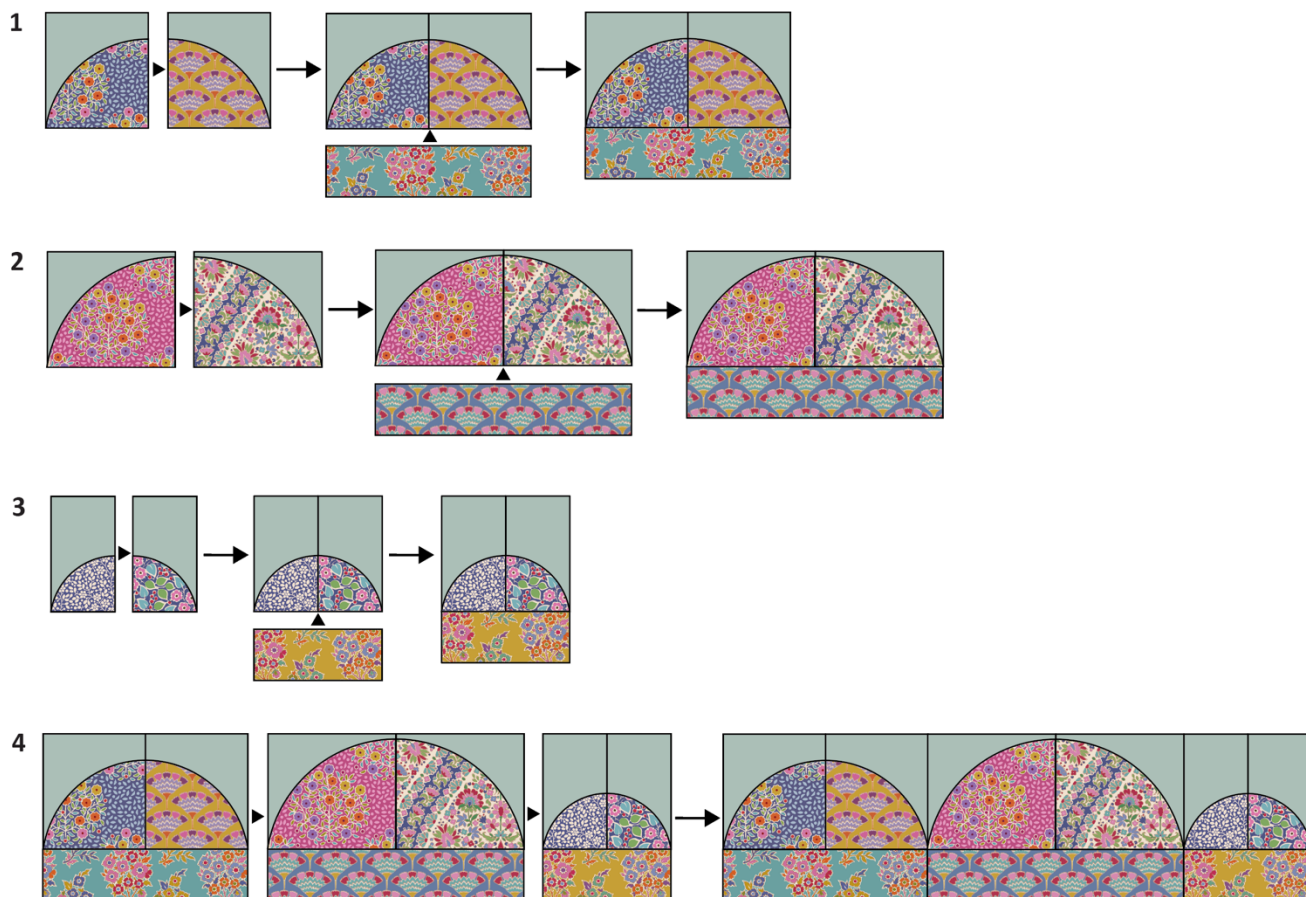
**12** Make the other curved units for Block A using the same process. Use the reflected (reversed) fabric pieces to make the mirror image units. You will need to make six curved units for the block – two large, two medium and two small, as in **Fig J**. Check the unfinished units are the correct sizes (see measurements in the Important Note under Step 7).

**Fig J** Sewing the other curved units for Block A



**13** When the curved units are made, sew the units together into pairs using a normal  $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam. Press the seams open or to one side. Now sew the correct **c** rectangles beneath each pair (**Fig K**). Finally, sew the units together in a row, matching seams neatly and press. Check the block is  $23\frac{1}{2}$ in x 7in (59.7cm x 17.8cm) at this stage.

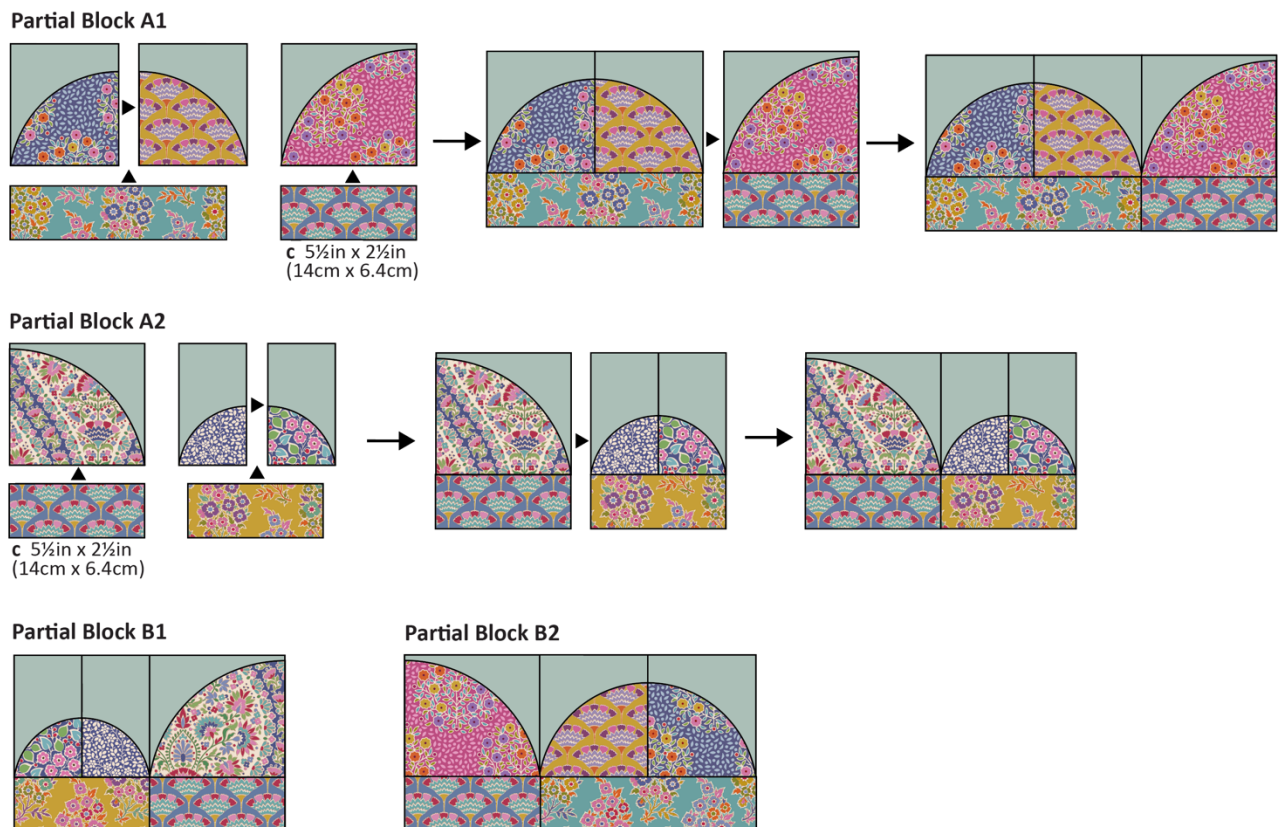
**Fig K** Assembling Block A



**14** Repeat the whole block-making process to make two more of Block A, two of Block B, four of Block C and four of Block D. Refer back to **Fig G** for the layout and fabric placement for each block. Check each block is  $23\frac{1}{2}$ in x 7in (59.7cm x 17.8cm).

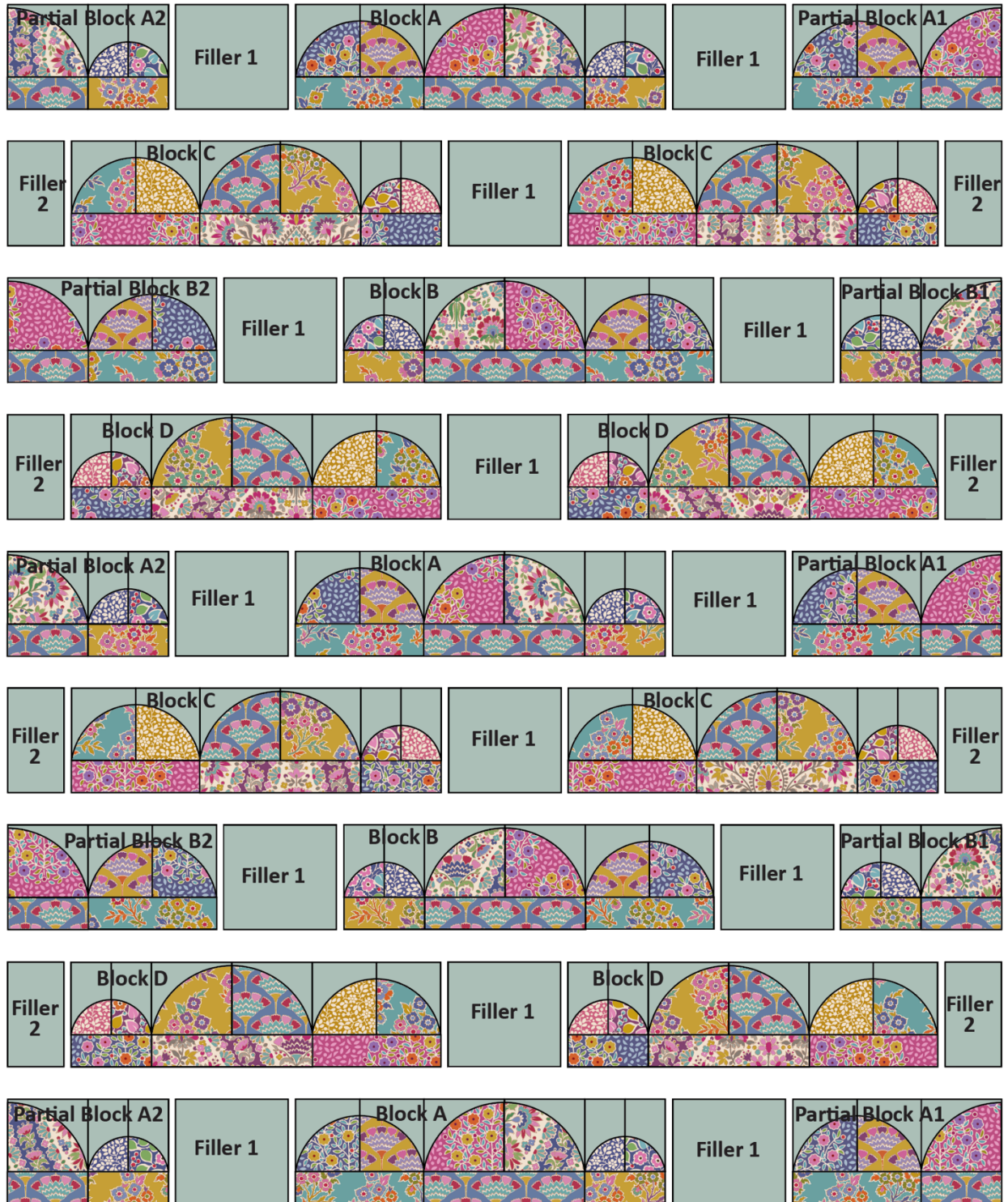
### Making the Partial Blocks

**15** The partial Blocks A1, A2, B1 and B2 are made using the same process as the whole blocks but with shorter **c** rectangles under the large curve units, using a  $5\frac{1}{2}$ in x  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in (14cm x 6.4cm) piece, as shown in **Fig L**. Refer back to **Fig H** for the layout and fabric placement for each partial block and the number of blocks to make. Once sewn, check that partial Block A1 and B2 are  $13\frac{1}{2}$ in x 7in (34.3cm x 17.8cm) and that partial Blocks A2 and B1 are  $10\frac{1}{2}$ in x 7in (26.7cm x 17.8cm).

**Fig L** Assembling the partial blocks

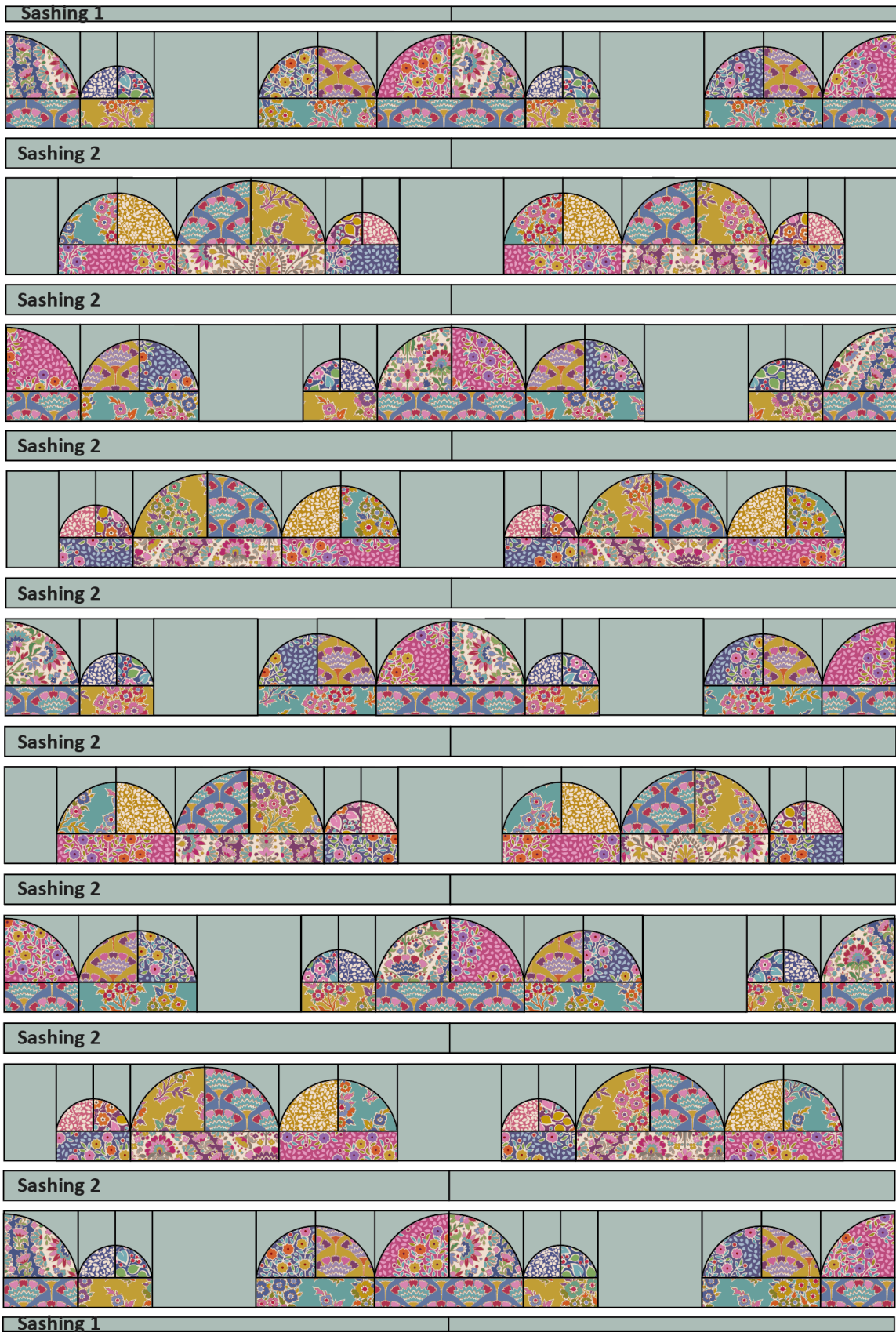
## Assembling the Quilt

**16** Once all of the whole and partial blocks are made, begin the quilt assembly by sewing the blocks and filler pieces into rows, as shown in **Fig M**. Note that only alternate rows have partial blocks at the sides of the layout. Use normal 1/4 in (6mm) seams and press the seams open or to one side. Each row should measure the same length, 60 1/2 in (153.7cm).

**Fig M** Assembling the block rows

**17** Now add the sashing between the rows. If you didn't sew the sashing strips into pairs at Step 2, do so now. Follow **Fig N** to sew the rows together and press the seams open or to one side. Your quilt top is now finished.

**Fig N** Adding the sashing



## Quilting and Finishing

**18** If you are quilting the quilt yourself you now need to make a quilt sandwich – you can do this in various ways, as follows.

- Use large stitches to tack (baste) a grid through the layers of the quilt in both directions, with lines about 4in (10cm) apart.
- Use pins or safety pins to fix the layers together.
- Use fabric glue sprayed onto the wadding (batting) to fix the layers together.

If you are sending the quilt off to be commercially long-arm quilted you won't need to make a sandwich, as this is done when the quilt is mounted on the machine. When the layers of the quilt are secured, you can quilt as desired.

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

**20** Use the prepared double-fold binding strip to bind your quilt. Sew the binding to the quilt by pinning the raw edge of the folded binding against the raw edge of the quilt. Don't start at a corner. Using a ¼in (6mm) seam, sew the binding in place, starting at least 6in (15.2cm) away from the end of the binding. Sew to within a ¼in (6mm) of a corner and stop. Take the quilt off the machine and fold the binding upwards, creating a mitred corner. Hold this in place, fold the binding back down and pin it in place. Begin sewing the ¼in (6mm) seam again from the top of the folded binding to within ¼in (6mm) of the next corner and then repeat the folding process. Do this on all corners. Leave a 6in (15.2cm) 'tail' of unsewn binding at the end.

**21** To join the two ends of the binding, open up the beginning and end of the binding tails, lay them flat and fold the ends back so the two ends touch. Mark these folds by creasing or with pins – this is where your seam needs to be. Open out the binding and sew the pieces together at these creases. Trim off excess fabric and press the seam. Re-fold the binding and finish stitching it in place on the front of the quilt.

**22** With the quilt right side up, use a medium-hot iron to press the binding outwards all round. Now begin to turn the binding over to the back of the quilt, pinning it in place. Use matching sewing thread and tiny stitches to slipstitch the binding in place all round, creating neat mitres at each corner. Press the binding and your lovely quilt is finished.

# Head in the Clouds Patterns for the Quilts and Pillows

For the units facing the other way,  
reverse (flip) the patterns horizontally  
before cutting the fabric shapes

Please check this ruler to ensure that you are printing in 100%. Page size is A4.

