

Tilda®

SOMETHING BLUE

Sunny Skies Quilt



Sunny Sky Quilt

This fabulous quilt will surely become an heirloom in your family, with its sunburst design that perfectly showcases the lovely blue and white fabrics of the Something Blue collection. The addition of some Poppyseed Basics fabrics in peach and terracotta provide a nice contrast. The design will test your piecing skills but the finished result is worth it. The central arc is pieced using foundation paper piecing, which is a super-accurate technique perfect for achieving sharp points, and detailed diagrams are supplied to ensure success with this. If you haven't tried foundation paper piecing before, making the Sunny Sky Pillow first would be an excellent introduction to the technique. See tildasworld.com for the pillow instructions.

Difficulty rating ***

Materials

- Fabric 1: ¼yd (25cm) – Noel blue (100661)
- Fabric 2: ¼yd (25cm) – Afina blue (100662)
- Fabric 3: ¼yd (25cm) – Isolde cornflower (100663)
- Fabric 4: ½yd (50cm) – Carol pale blue (100664)
- Fabric 5: ¼yd (25cm) – Whimsyflower cream (100665)
- Fabric 6: ¾yd (75m) – Picnic sky (100666)
- Fabric 7: ¼yd (25cm) – Wildgarden blue (100667)
- Fabric 8: ¾yd (75m) – Bushbloom blue (100668)
- Fabric 9: ¼yd (25cm) – First Kiss cream (100669)
- Fabric 10: ¼yd (25cm) – Cottonview cream (100670)
- Fabric 11: ¾yd (75m) – Celeste sky (110162)
- Fabric 12: ¾yd (75m) – Dorothy sky (110163)
- Fabric 13: ½yd (50cm) – Claramay blue (110164)
- Fabric 14: ¼yd (25cm) – Celeste blue (110165)
- Fabric 15: ¾yd (40cm) – Noel cornflower (100671)
- Fabric 16: ¼yd (25cm) – Afina denim (100672)
- Fabric 17: ¼yd (25cm) – Isolde night (100673)
- Fabric 18: ¾yd (40cm) – Carol cornflower (100674)
- Fabric 19: ¼yd (25cm) – Whimsyflower night (100675)
- Fabric 20: ¾yd (40cm) – Picnic denim (100676)
- Fabric 21: ¼yd (25cm) – Wildgarden night (100677)
- Fabric 22: ¼yd (25cm) – Bushbloom cornflower (100678)
- Fabric 23: ¼yd (25cm) – First Kiss denim (100679)
- Fabric 24: ¼yd (25cm) – Cottonview night (100680)
- Fabric 25: ¼yd (25cm) – Dorothy blue (110166)
- Fabric 26: ¾yd (40cm) – Celeste denim (110168)
- Fabric 27: ¾yd (15cm) – Dorothy night (110169)
- Fabric 28: 1yd (1m) – Poppyseed Basics terracotta (130171)
- Fabric 29: 1yd (1m) – Poppyseed Basics dusty peach (130172)
- Fabric 30: ½yd (15cm) – Poppyseed Basics dusty rose (130184)
- Wadding (batting): 68in x 82in (173cm x 208cm)
- Backing fabric: 4½yd (4.25m) – Carol pale blue (100664)
- Binding fabric: ¾yd (60cm) – Claramay denim (110167)
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat

- Photocopier paper (80g) for printing patterns

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 striped pattern of Fabric 13 is used vertically and horizontally in the sashing, so enough fabric has been allowed for this.
- The binding used has a striped pattern but can be cut as normal across the width of the fabric, so the stripes will appear horizontally on the binding.

Finished Size

59¾in x 74¼in (152cm x 189cm)

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; FPP = foundation paper piecing.
- Check that any patterns being used are printed at full size (100%).

Quilt Layout

1 The quilt is made up of twenty blocks in a 4x5 layout, with all blocks made the same way. A block is made up of four quadrants, joined by sashing strips and a small centre square. The block uses foundation paper piecing (FPP) to create the arc at the centre of each quadrant and a pattern is supplied for this. The inner and outer curves that make the block square are provided as normal patterns (full size) and are sewn to the arc shape using curved seams. Print all of the patterns but do *not* cut them out yet. To complete the quilt layout, the blocks are separated by sashing strips and cornerstones. Refer to **Fig A** for the fabrics used and **Fig B** for the layout.

Fig A Fabric swatches

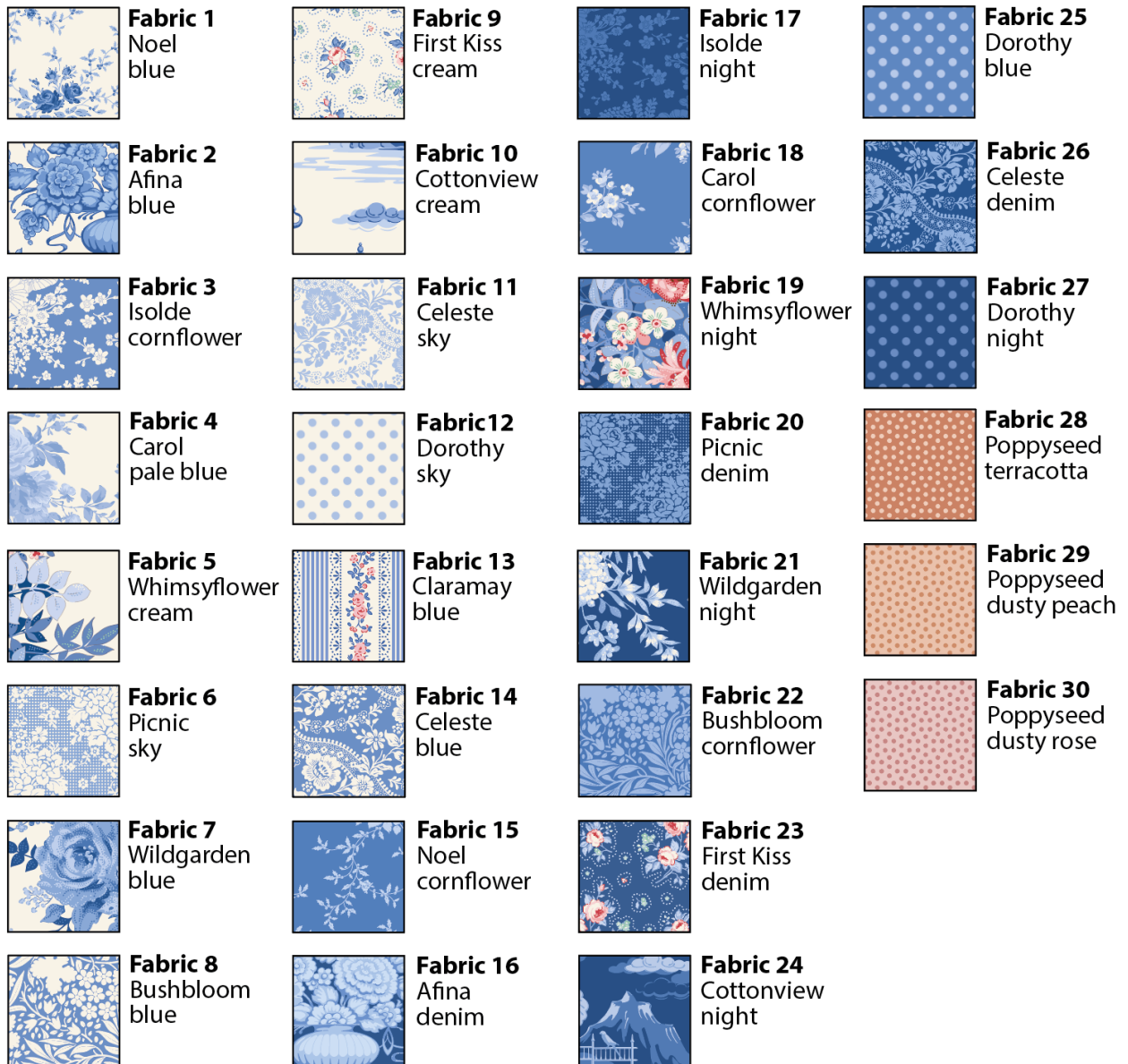
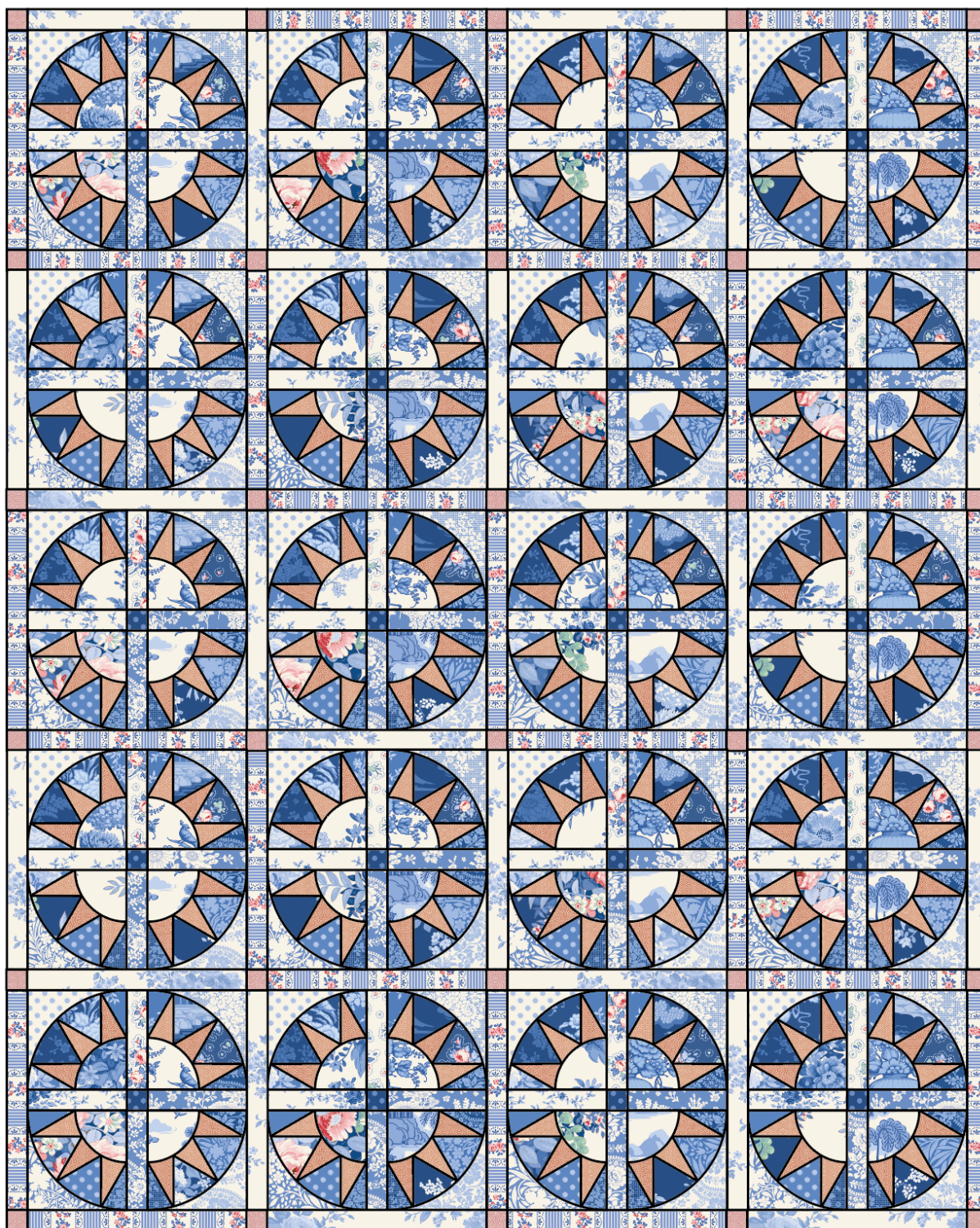


Fig B Quilt layout



Cutting Out

See Step 3 for a complete cutting list for the whole quilt.

2 Straight-cut pieces: The straight-cut pieces for the block are shown in **Fig C** and include $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam allowances. (The fabrics are identified in **Fig E**.) The straight-cut pieces for the sashing and cornerstones are also shown in **Fig C**.

Curved pieces: Shape A is the pieced arc made up of triangles (called sections), sewn together using foundation paper piecing (FPP). Note that the fabric pieces needed for this arc are cut *larger* than required. Follow **Fig D** for the cut sizes (and Step 3). Sections 1, 2, 4, 6

and 7 are cut 2½in x 4in (6.4cm x 10.2cm). Sections 3 and 5 are cut 4in (10.2cm) square. You will find it helpful to print out **Fig D** at full page size, as this will allow you to make notes on the diagram about exactly which fabric goes where. The four quadrants are made the same way but with different fabric combinations and the exact fabric positions are shown in **Fig E**. The fabrics used for the sashing and cornerstones are shown in **Fig F**.

Pattern B and Pattern C are supplied full size and have a seam allowance of ¼in (6mm) included. The shape of Pattern B can be cut from a 3⅝in (9.2cm) square and Pattern C from a 6½in (16.5cm) square. See Step 3 for a complete cutting list for the whole quilt.

3 Cutting list for the whole quilt:

- From each of Fabric 1, Fabric 3, Fabric 9 and Fabric 14: cut twenty pieces 1¾in x 6½in (4.5cm x 16.5cm).
- From each of Fabric 2, Fabric 5, Fabric 7 and Fabric 10: cut twenty pieces 3⅝in (9.2cm) square (for Pattern B).
- From each of Fabric 6, Fabric 8, Fabric 11 and Fabric 12: cut twenty pieces 6½in (16.5cm) square (for Pattern C).
- From each of Fabric 15, Fabric 18, Fabric 20 and Fabric 26: cut forty pieces 2½in x 4in (6.4cm x 10.2cm) (for Pattern A).
- From each of Fabric 16, Fabric 17, Fabric 19, Fabric 21, Fabric 22, Fabric 23, Fabric 24 and Fabric 25: cut twenty pieces 4in (10.2cm) square (for Pattern A).
- From Fabric 27: cut twenty pieces 1¾in (4.5cm) square (for block centres).
- From Fabric 30: cut thirty pieces 1¾in (4.5cm) square (for sashing cornerstones).
- From each of Fabric 28 and Fabric 29: cut one hundred and twenty (120) pieces 2½in x 4in (6.4cm x 10.2cm).
- From each of Fabric 4 and Fabric 13: cut twenty-four pieces 13¾in x 1¾in (35cm x 4.5cm) for sashing. When cutting the strips for Fabric 13, note that for half of the pieces, the stripe direction changes from vertical to horizontal.

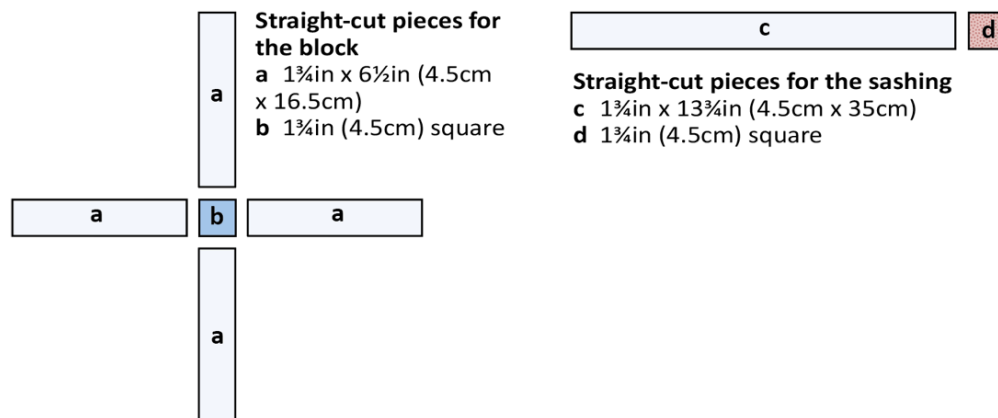
4 Cut the backing fabric across the width into two pieces. Sew together along the long side and press the seam open. Trim to a piece about 68in x 82in (173cm x 208cm). This is about 4in (10.2cm) larger all round than the quilt top, to allow for quilting and finishing.

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

Fig C Fabric cut sizes

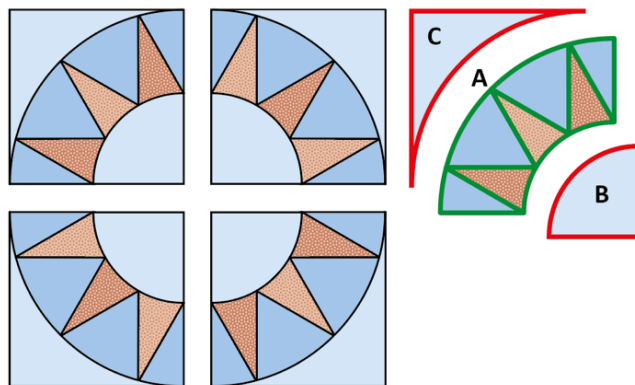
Sizes include $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam allowances

Pieces for the foundation paper pieced arcs are cut larger – see Fig D



Quadrants

Each $6\frac{1}{2}$ in (16.5cm) square (unfinished)



Foundation paper pieced arc – use foundation pattern A

(outlined in green here)

Note: pieces are cut larger than needed – see Fig D

Curved pieces – use patterns B and C (outlined in red here)

B $3\frac{5}{8}$ in (9.2cm) square (includes $\frac{1}{4}$ in/6mm seam allowance)

C $6\frac{1}{2}$ in (16.5cm) square

(includes $\frac{1}{4}$ in/6mm seam allowance)

Fig D Pre-cut fabric sizes for foundation paper pattern A

Note the sizes are larger than needed to allow for seams and positioning

The pattern must be cut out with extra paper all round, about $\frac{1}{8}$ in– $\frac{1}{4}$ in (3mm–6mm)

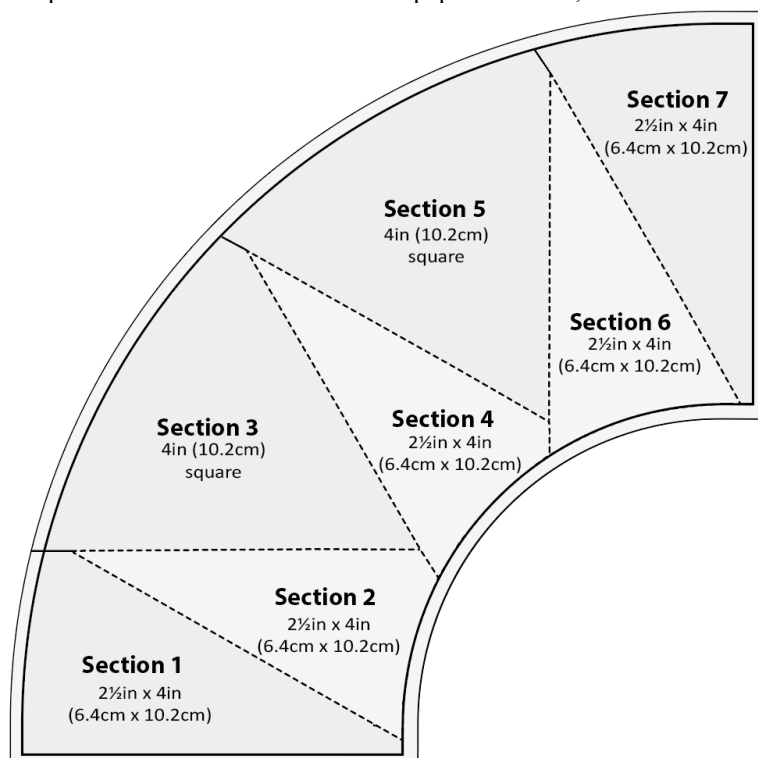


Fig E Fabric positions for the block
 Bold numbers in circles indicate the fabrics used (see Fig A)

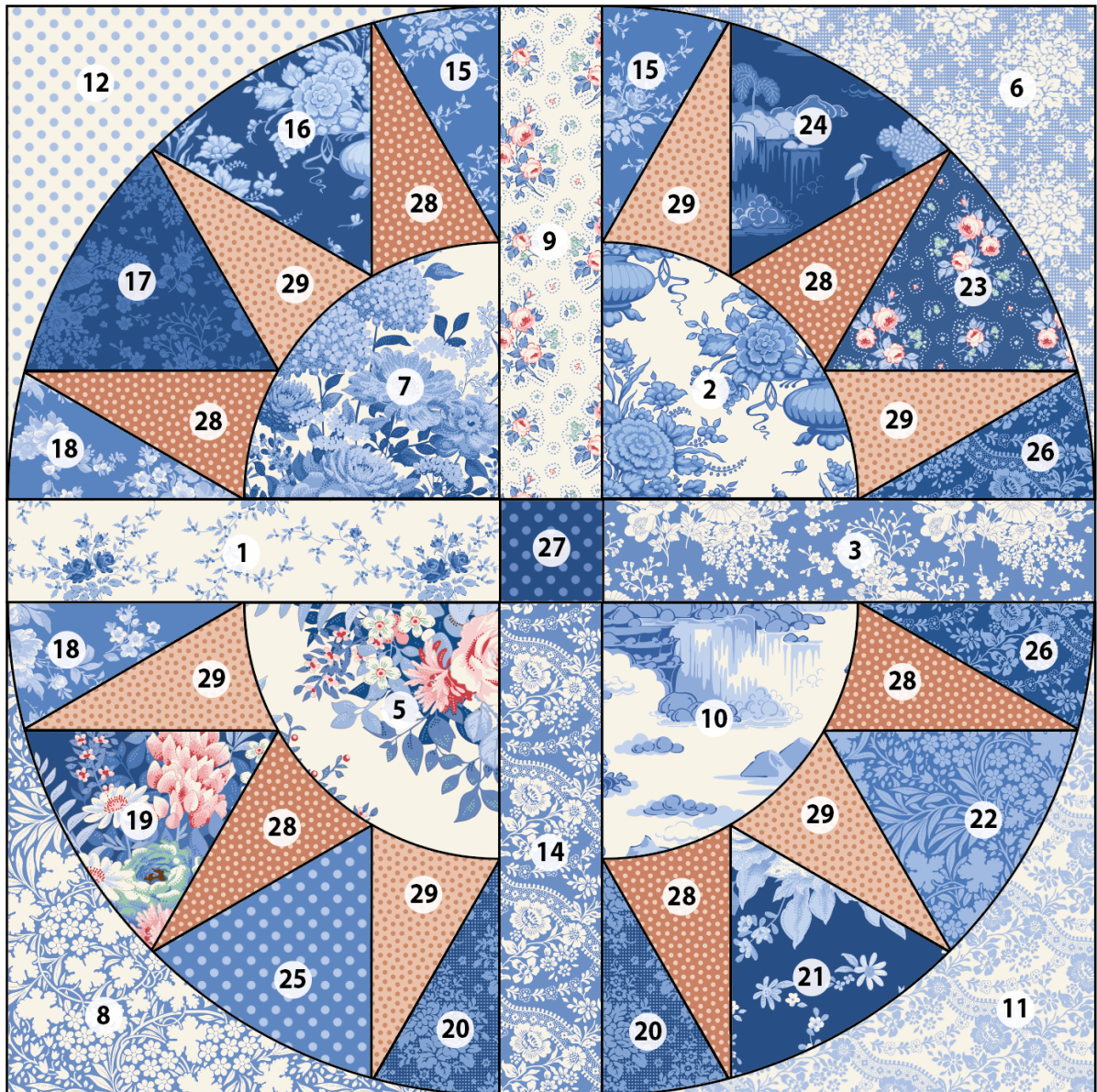
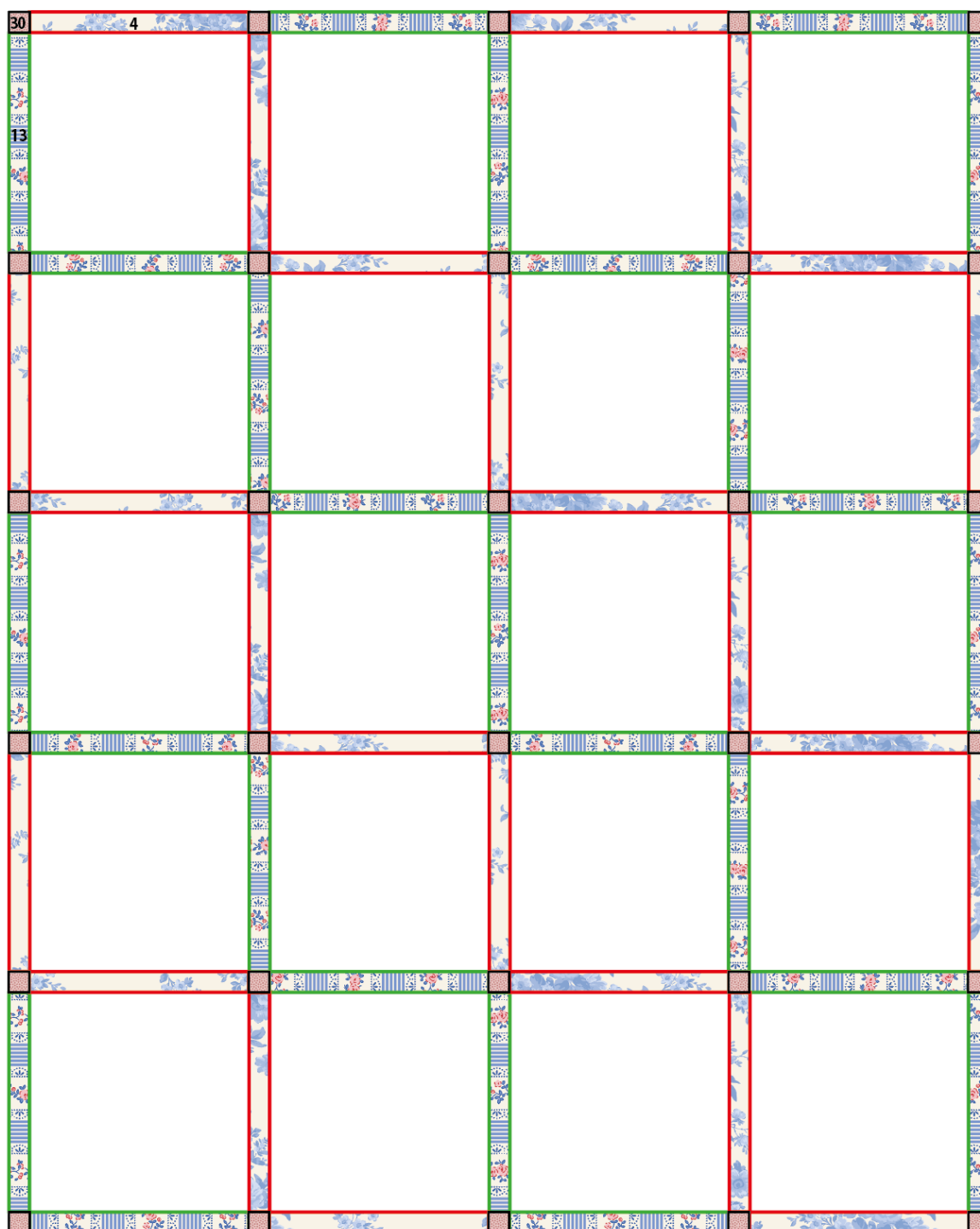


Fig F Fabric positions for the sashing and cornerstones

Sashing outlined in red is Fabric 4. Sashing outlined in green is Fabric 13. Cornerstones are Fabric 30



Preparing the Patterns

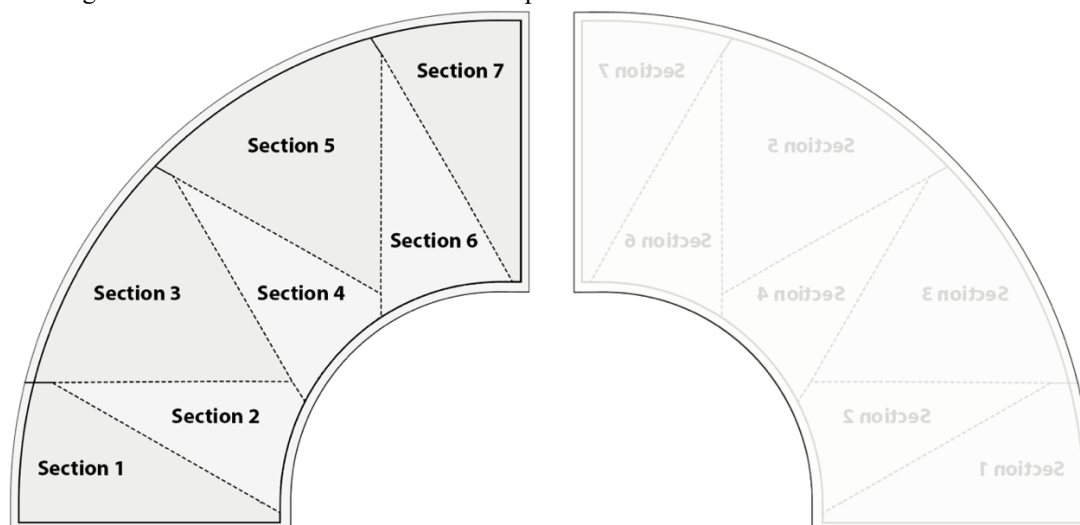
6 Full size patterns are provided for shapes A, B and C. Shape A is the pieced arc made up of triangles, sewn with foundation paper piecing (FPP). When FPP Pattern A is printed out full size, cut out the pattern *plus* some extra paper all round, about $\frac{1}{8}$ in– $\frac{1}{4}$ in (3mm– 6mm). **Fig G** shows this and also shows what the pattern will look like from the right side (the printed side) and the wrong side (plain side).

Pattern B and Pattern C have a seam allowance of $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) included, so print out the patterns full size and cut them out on the outer line.

Fig G Preparing the foundation paper piecing pattern for A

The pattern must be cut out with a little extra paper all round

The diagram shows the front and the back of the pattern



Making Arc A Using Foundation Paper Piecing

7 Foundation paper piecing (usually abbreviated to FPP) is an extremely accurate way of piecing sharp points and unusual shapes. The paper is torn away after all of the stitching is done. For those of you who haven't used this technique before, the diagrams and instructions that follow are very detailed to allow you to produce a perfectly pieced arc that will fit exactly with the curves of Patterns B and C.

Points to remember about FPP

- Ordinary photocopier paper is fine for foundation paper piecing.
- The paper pattern must be cut out with some extra paper all round.
- Fabric pieces are cut larger than needed to allow for seams and also make placement easier.
- Fabrics are placed on the back (WS) of the paper pattern but sewing is done from the front, along the marked lines.
- Take care when choosing and positioning fabrics to ensure the work will appear correct from the right side of the work.
- When a piece of fabric is initially pinned in place, flip it over and hold it up to the light to check that the piece will completely cover the relevant section on the paper template.
- Reduce stitch length to about 1.5 when sewing FPP, as it is easier to tear paper away later.
- Add the fabric pieces in the number order shown on the pattern.
- Continue the stitching line few stitches past the beginning and end of the line, unless otherwise instructed, or where a 'stop' dot is shown on the diagram.
- Once a fabric piece is added, trim the work to a ¼in (6mm) seam allowance, making very sure that the paper template and the relevant fabric pieces are folded out of the way.
- Remove the paper in the reverse order.

8 Begin the FPP by following the six stages shown in **Fig H** (foundation paper piecing sections 1 and 2). The front (printed side) and back (plain side) of the paper pattern are shown when necessary, so follow the diagrams carefully. The process is straightforward and once you get into a repetitive rhythm you will find the technique quite easy. Quadrant 1 (top left of block) is described, so fabrics mentioned relate to that quadrant.

Before you start, an important point to remember is that because fabric pieces are placed on the *back* (WS) of the paper pattern but sewn in place from the *front*, the fabric positions will be reversed when compared to **Fig E**. The earlier advice about printing out **Fig**

D at full page size is relevant here, as this will allow you to make notes on the diagram to remind you exactly which fabric goes where.

Fig H 1: Turn the paper pattern to its plain side. Take the piece of Fabric 15 and place it right side up so it covers the whole of Section 1. (Remember that the fabric positions will appear reversed compared to **Fig E**.) Pin in place. Turn the pattern over to the printed side and fold it along the dashed sewing line between Section 1 and Section 2, making a crease in the paper and the fabric (shown as a yellow line in the diagram). This creasing shows where to place the new fabric piece.

Fig H 2: Turn the paper pattern back to its plain side, take the second piece of fabric (Fabric 28) and place it right side down so its long edge is **at least** ¼in (6mm) past the creased line, as shown.

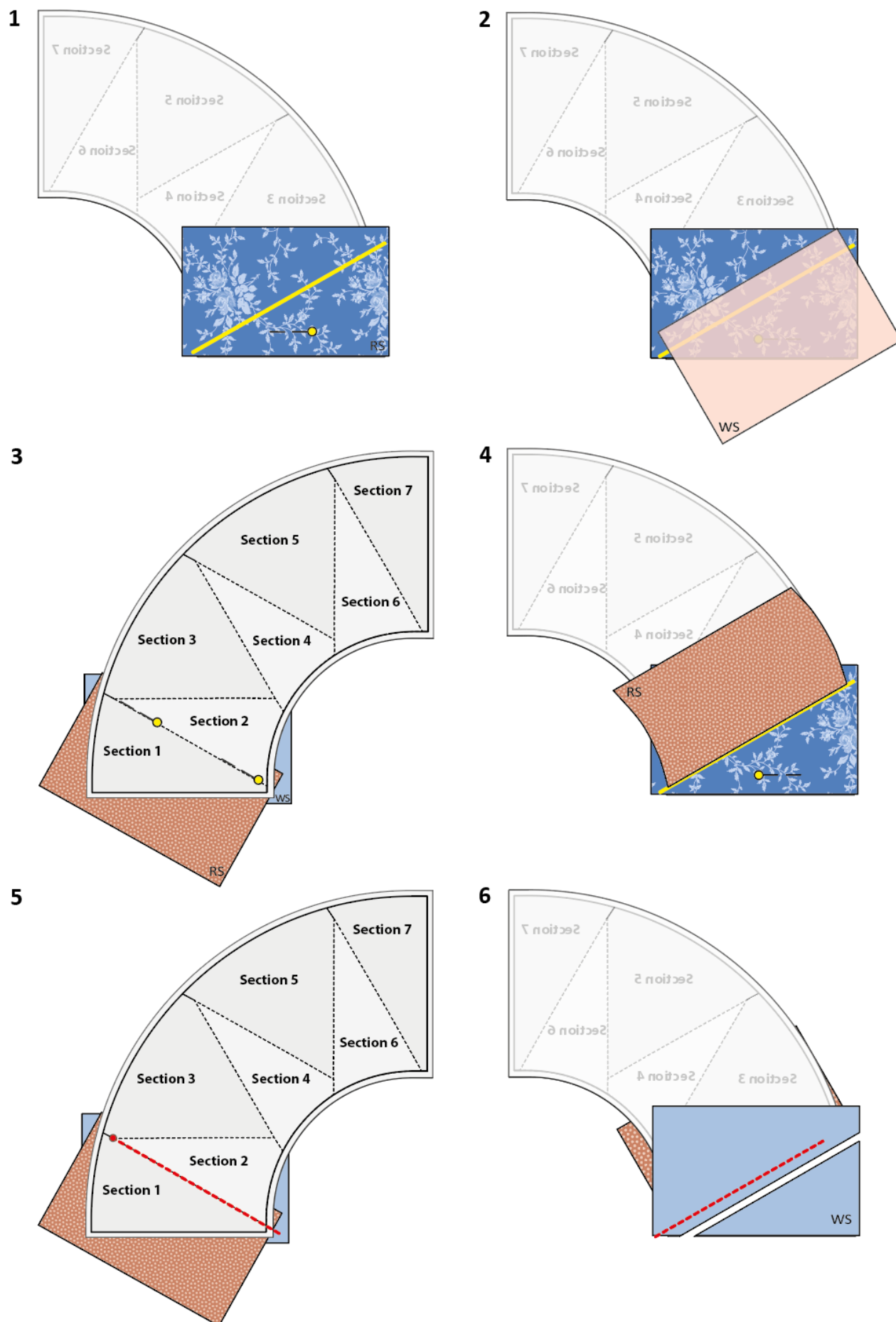
Fig H 3: Holding the fabric in place, turn the pattern over and place two pins along the line to be sewn, as shown, pinning through the paper and the fabric pieces. This pinning allows you to check the fabric's position will be correct once it is sewn.

Fig H 4: Before sewing, turn the pattern to the plain side and flip the second fabric piece over, holding the work up to the light to check that the piece will cover the **whole** of Section 2, with allowance for seams. If it doesn't, adjust the pins and the fabric position.

Fig H 5: Turn back to the printed side and with a short machine stitch, sew along the sewing line from the bottom right edge and stopping at the point of Section 2, as shown by the red 'stop' dot.

Fig H 6: To trim the seam allowance down, fold the pattern along the sewn line. Make doubly sure that the paper pattern is folded out of the way and that you are not going to trim off any part of the main areas of the fabrics. Use a quilting ruler to trim the fabric edges to ¼in (6mm). Turn back to the plain side and press the fabric into place.

Fig H Foundation paper piecing sections 1 and 2



9 The process is now repeated to add the next fabric, this time to cover Section 3. We'll describe the stages once more in detail in **Fig I** to familiarise you with the technique. We are still working on Quadrant 1.

Fig I 1: Turn the paper pattern to the printed side and fold it along the dashed sewing line between Section 2 and Section 3, making a crease. Turn the pattern back to its plain side, as shown – the crease here is shown as a yellow line.

Fig I 2: Take a piece of the third fabric (Fabric 16) and place it right side down so its long edge is *at least* ¼in (6mm) past the creased line, as shown.

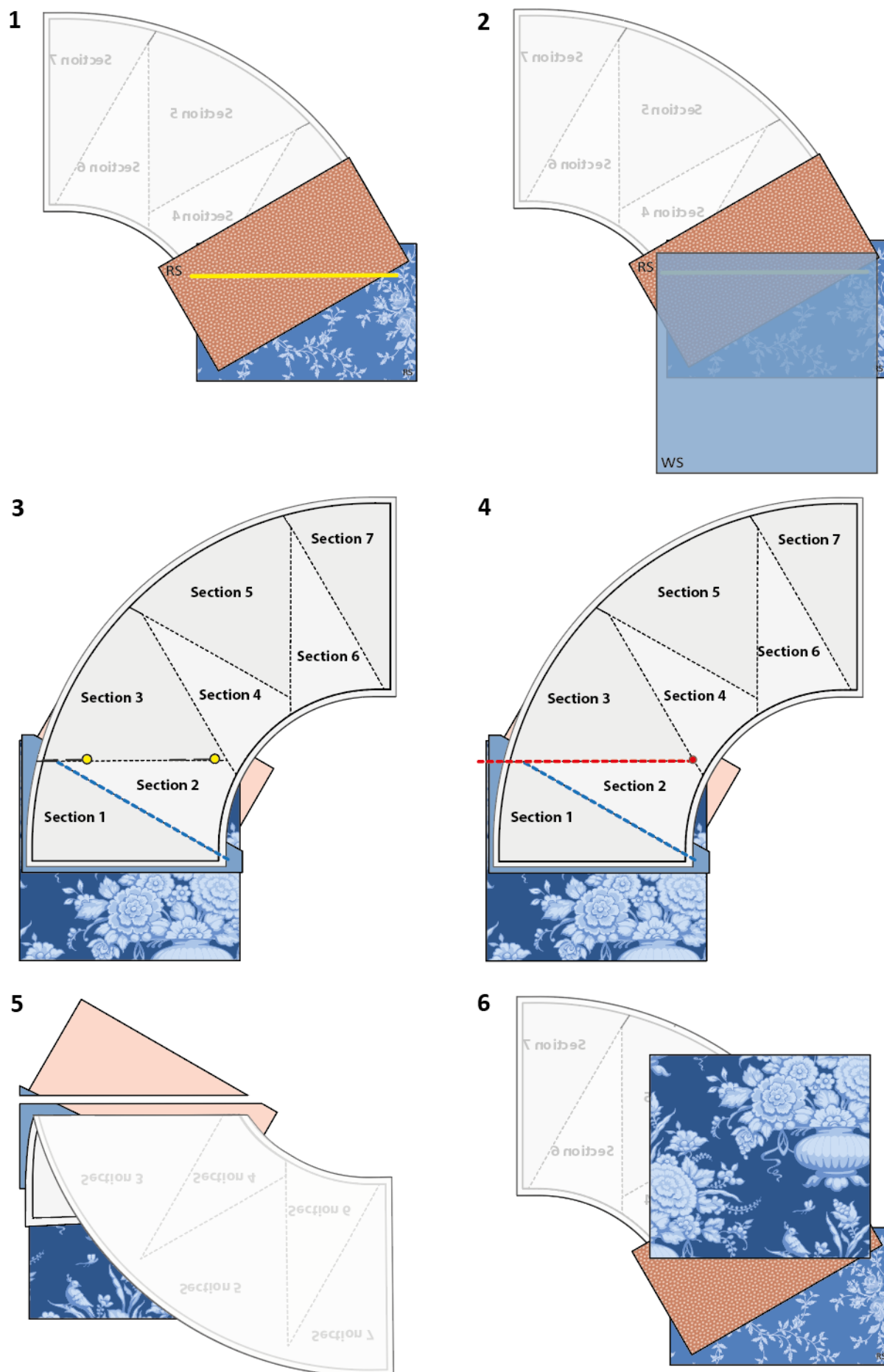
Fig I 3: Holding the fabric in place, turn the pattern over and place two pins along the line to be sewn, as shown. Before sewing, turn the pattern over again and flip the fabric over, holding the work up to the light to check the piece will cover the whole of Section 3. If it doesn't, adjust the fabric position.

Fig I 4: Turn back to the printed side and with a short machine stitch, sew along the sewing line. This time, sew from the 'stop' dot near the right-hand edge, along the sewing line and then right off the edge of the paper, as shown. (The general rule about when to stop or when to sew on, is to follow the line on the pattern – only sew off the edge of the paper if the pattern line points off the edge.)

Fig I 5: To trim the seam allowance down, fold the pattern along the sewn line, as shown. Making sure the paper pattern is folded out of the way and that you are not going to trim off any part of the main areas of the fabrics, use a quilting ruler to trim the fabric edges to ¼in (6mm).

Fig I 6: Turn back to the plain side and press the fabric into place. You are now ready to add the fabric piece for Section 4.

Fig I Foundation paper piecing section 3



10 The FPP process is now repeated to add the next fabric, and the next, and so on. Follow the same process as before: crease to show the sewing line – pin the fabric in place – flip to check it covers well – sew – trim excess to the seam allowance – press into place. The diagrams shown in **Fig J** show the arc piecing completed and how to trim the final shape.

Fig J 1: This stage shows, more or less, what your work will look like when all of the fabrics have been sewn in place.

Fig J 2: When seen from the printed side of the pattern you can see that at this stage the fabric pieces extend past the edges of the paper all round.

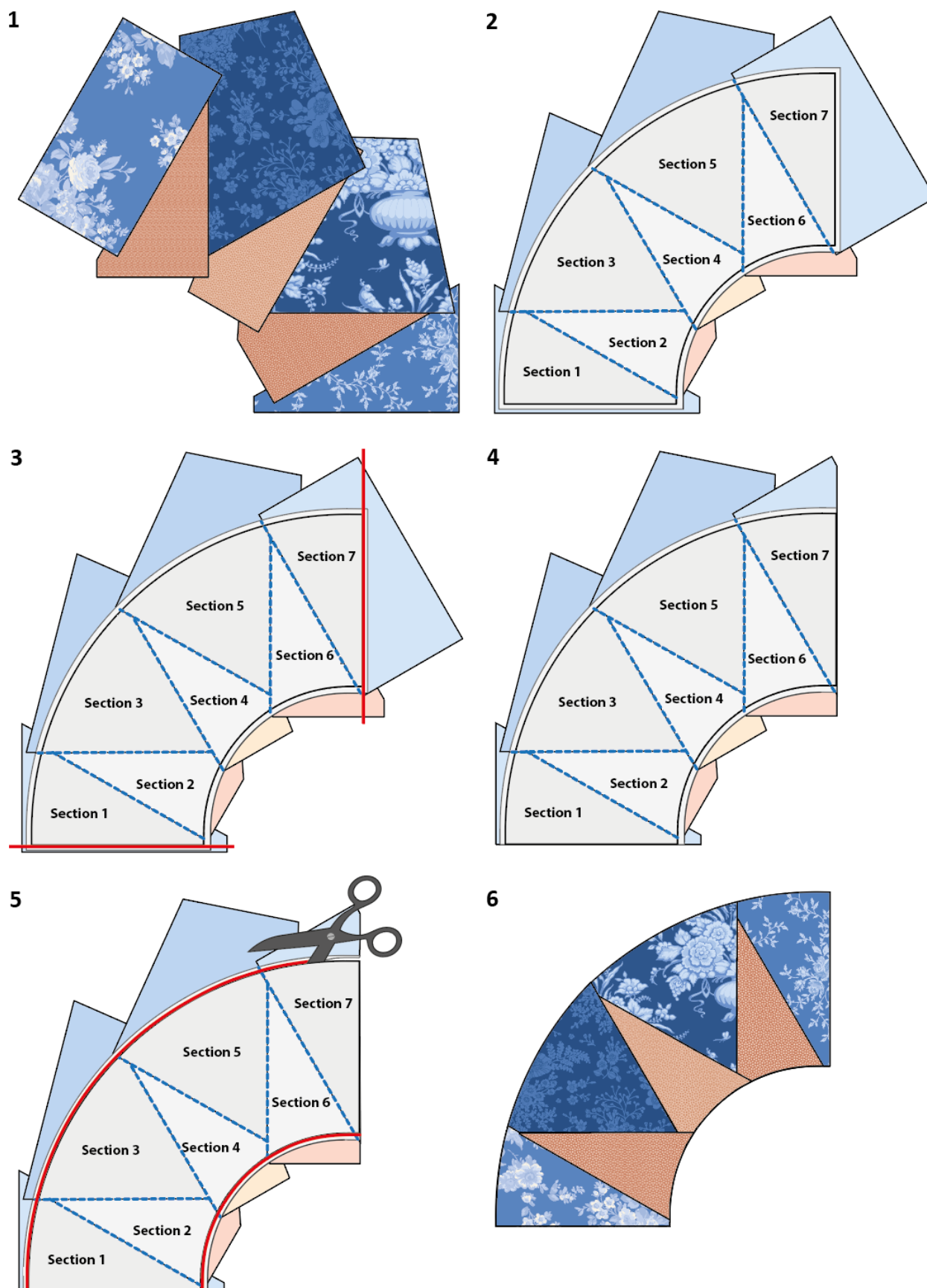
Fig J 3: Start the trimming by using a quilting ruler and rotary cutter to trim the two straight edges (shown as red lines on the diagram). When trimming, cut on the outer printed line of the pattern (but *not* inside this line). The trimming will remove the small amount of extra paper from the pattern.

Fig J 4: This diagram shows the work once the straight edges have been trimmed.

Fig J 5: To finish the trimming, use a pair of sharp scissors to trim excess paper and fabric from the curves (shown as red lines on the diagram). When trimmed, carefully tear off the paper pieces. They should tear away quite easily if you have used a short stitch length as this will have perforated the paper nicely.

Fig J 6: The final stage of the arc will look as shown here. The work will have sharp points and perfect curves, plus the necessary seam allowances, which means it will fit perfectly with Patterns B and C.

Fig J Completing the arc and trimming

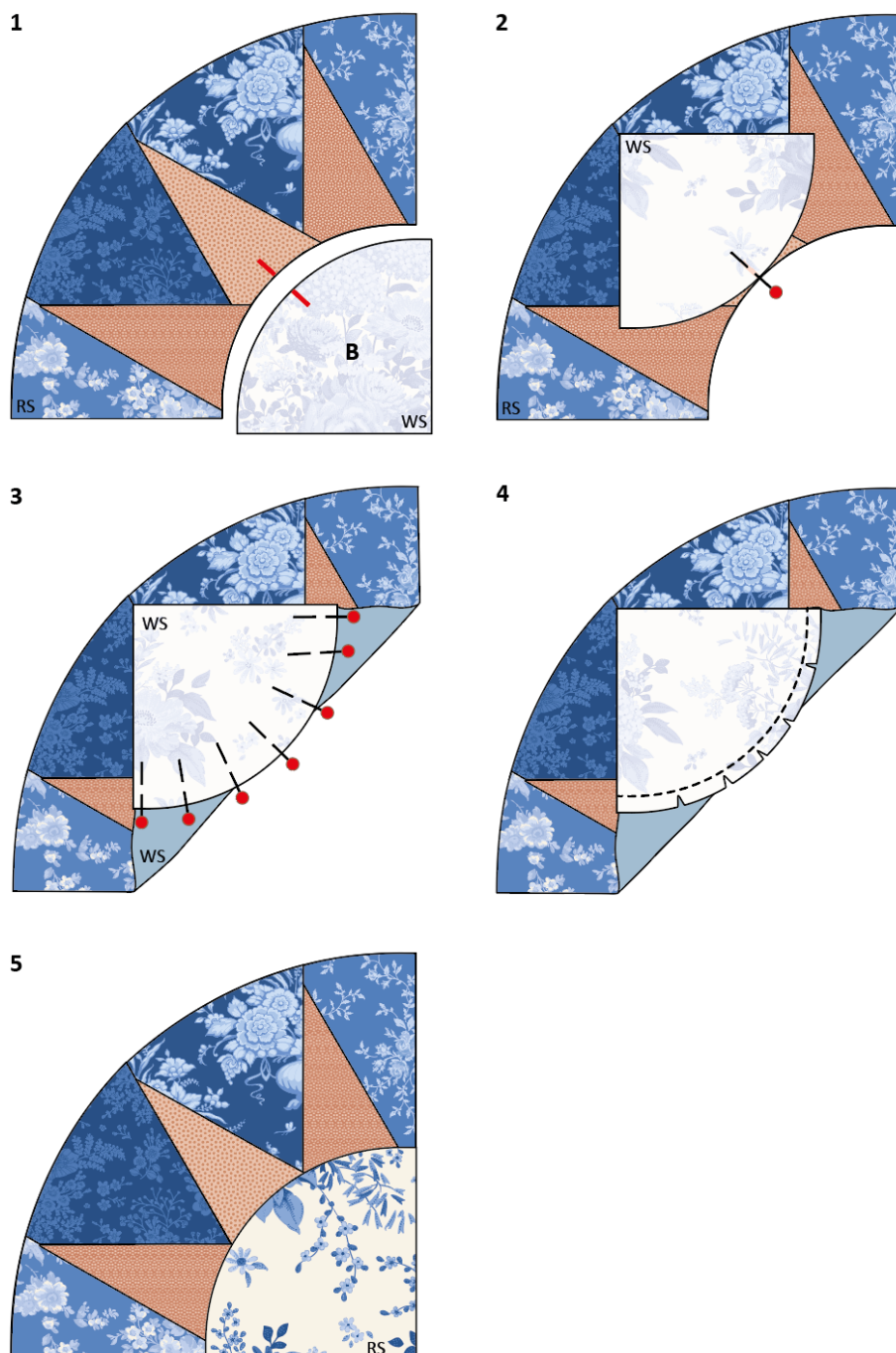


Adding Shapes B and C

11 The shapes that turn the arc into a pieced square are sewn into place with curved seams. Start with Pattern B, following the stages shown in **Fig K**.

Begin by folding the arc in half to crease the centre of the inner curve (shown as a short red line). Do the same with the B piece, making a crease midway along the outer curve (**Fig K 1**). Place the pieces right sides together, matching up centre points and pin together (**Fig K 2**). Pin piece B into place at the sides and then ease the rest of the curves together, using enough pins to keep the curves smooth (**Fig K 3**). Look at the back of the work to check there are no pleats and then sew a *scant* $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam. Remove the pins and using sharp, pointed scissors, snip into the curved seam at various places, cutting only about $\frac{1}{8}$ in (3mm) deep (**Fig K 4**). Gently press piece B into place, pressing the seam towards the arc (**Fig K 5**). Check the curve is smooth and flat.

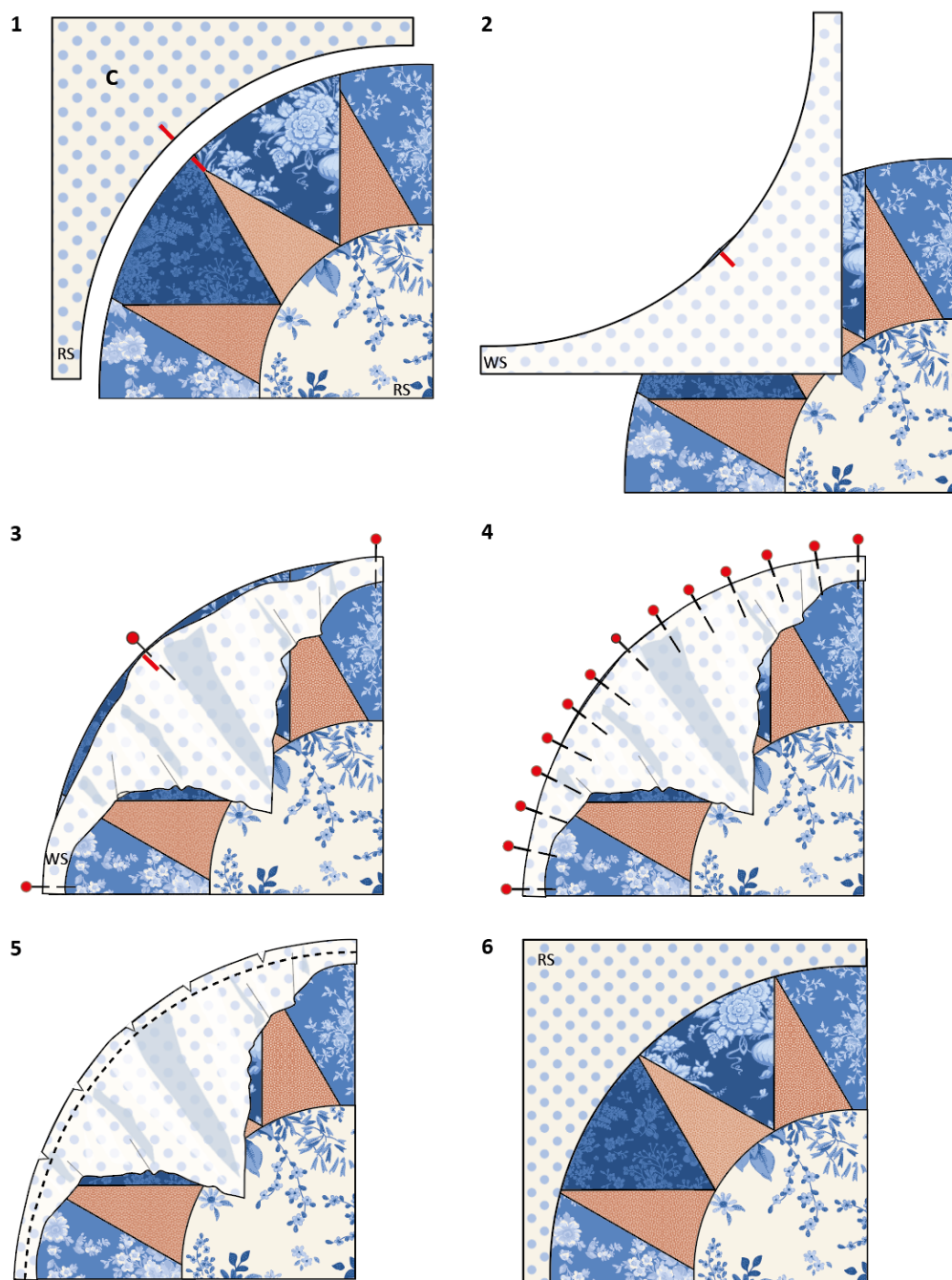
Fig K Sewing Pattern B to the arc



12 Once Pattern B has been sewn and press, sew Pattern C into place, following the stages shown in **Fig L**.

Take the fabric piece cut with Pattern C and fold it in half to crease the centre of the inner curve. Repeat with the arc piece, making a crease midway along the outer curve (**Fig L 1**). Turn C to the wrong side, match up the centre points and pin the pieces right sides together (**Fig L 2**). Pin piece C into place at the sides (**Fig L 3**). Now ease the rest of the curves together, using enough pins to keep the curves smooth (**Fig L 4**). Look at the back of the work to check there are no pleats and then sew a *scant* ¼in (6mm) seam. Remove the pins and using sharp, pointed scissors, snip into the curved seam, cutting only about ⅛in (3mm) deep (**Fig L 5**). Gently press piece C into place, pressing the seam away from the arc (**Fig L 6**). Check the size of the block – at this unfinished stage it should be 6½in (16.5cm) square.

Fig L Sewing Pattern C to the arc



13 Make the other three quadrants using the same techniques, paying close attention to **Fig E**, which shows exactly where the fabrics are used. Check each sewn quadrant is 6½in (16.5cm) square.

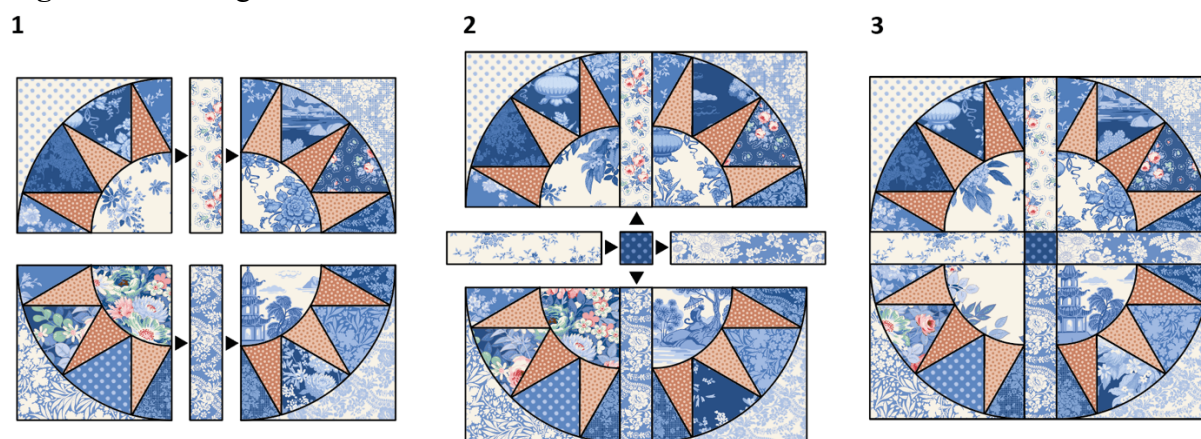
Assembling the Patchwork

14 When all four quadrants are made, lay them out in the order shown in **Fig M 1**. With reference to **Fig E**, put two vertical sashing strips between the quadrants, as shown. Sew the strips to the quadrants and press the seams towards the sashing.

Take the remaining two sashing strips and sew them together with the small centre square, as shown in **Fig M 2**. Press the seams away from the sashing. Now sew this pieced strip to the quadrants, matching up the centre seams and then press. Check that the block is 13¾in (35cm) square.

15 Make the rest of the blocks using the same techniques. Check that each block is 13¾in (35cm) square.

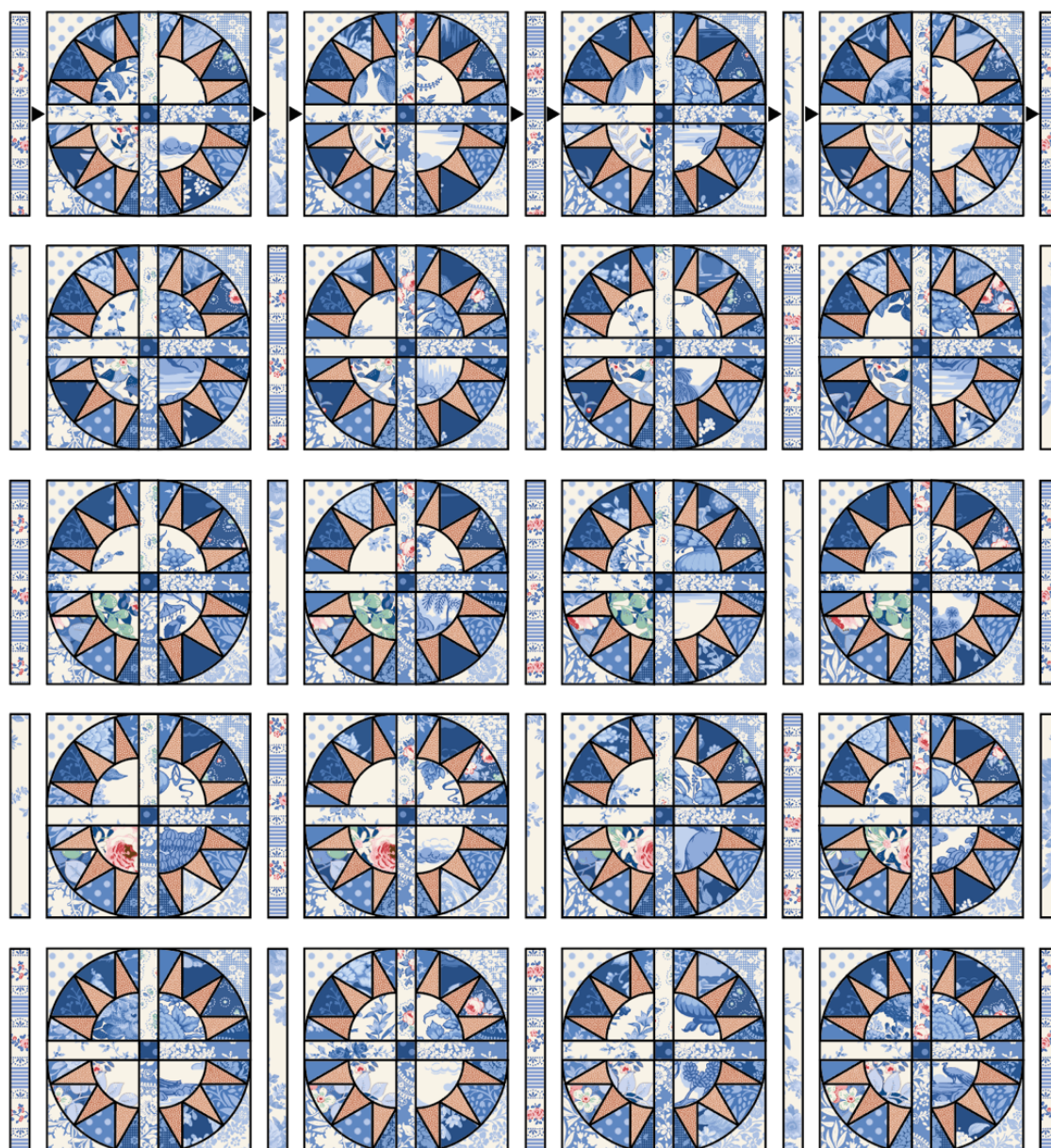
Fig M Assembling the block



Assembling the Quilt

16 The quilt is sewn together in horizontal rows first. Lay out the blocks in rows with the correct sashing strips between them, as shown in **Fig N**. (See **Fig F** for a reminder of the sashing fabric positions.) Sew each row together, pressing seams open.

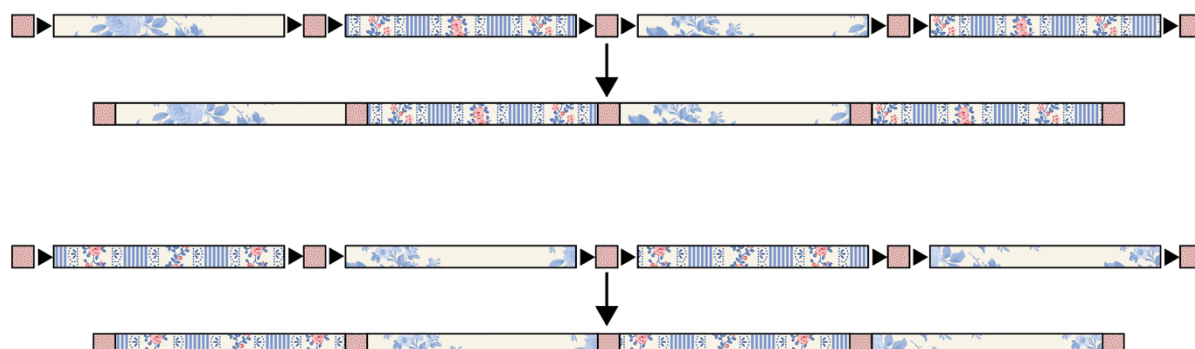
Fig N Assembling the quilt rows



17 Now prepare the horizontal pieced sashing, following **Fig O**. The first two rows are shown in the diagram. Sew four sashing strips together with five cornerstones, pressing seams open. Prepare all six of the pieced rows in this way, noting that they alternate.

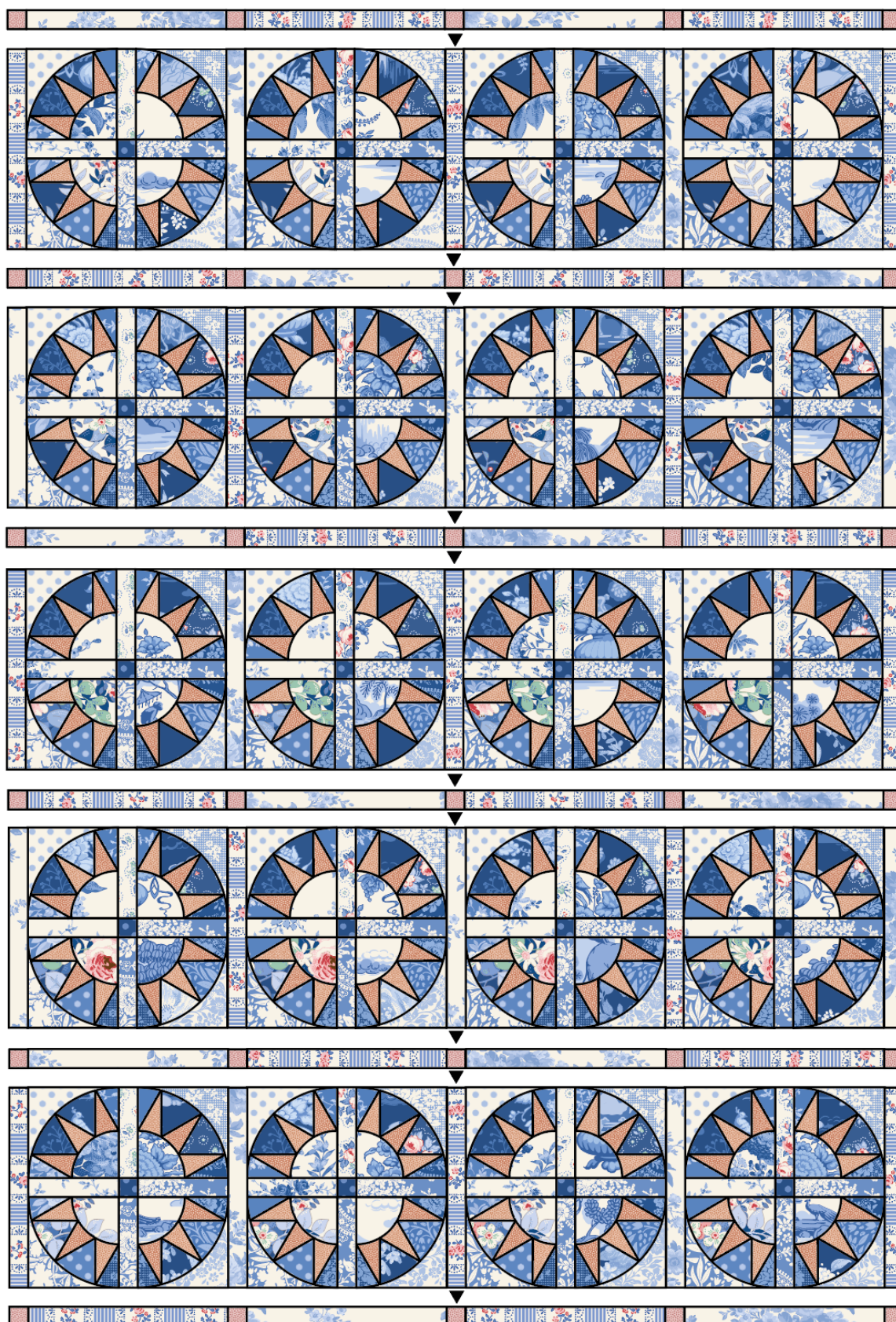
Fig O Sewing the pieced horizontal sashing

First (top) row and second row shown



18 Sew the pieced sashing strips between the quilt rows, as shown in **Fig P**, alternating them as shown. Take care to match up all the seams neatly. Press the seams in one direction. Your quilt top is now finished.

Fig P Adding the horizontal sashing



Quilting and Finishing

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

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

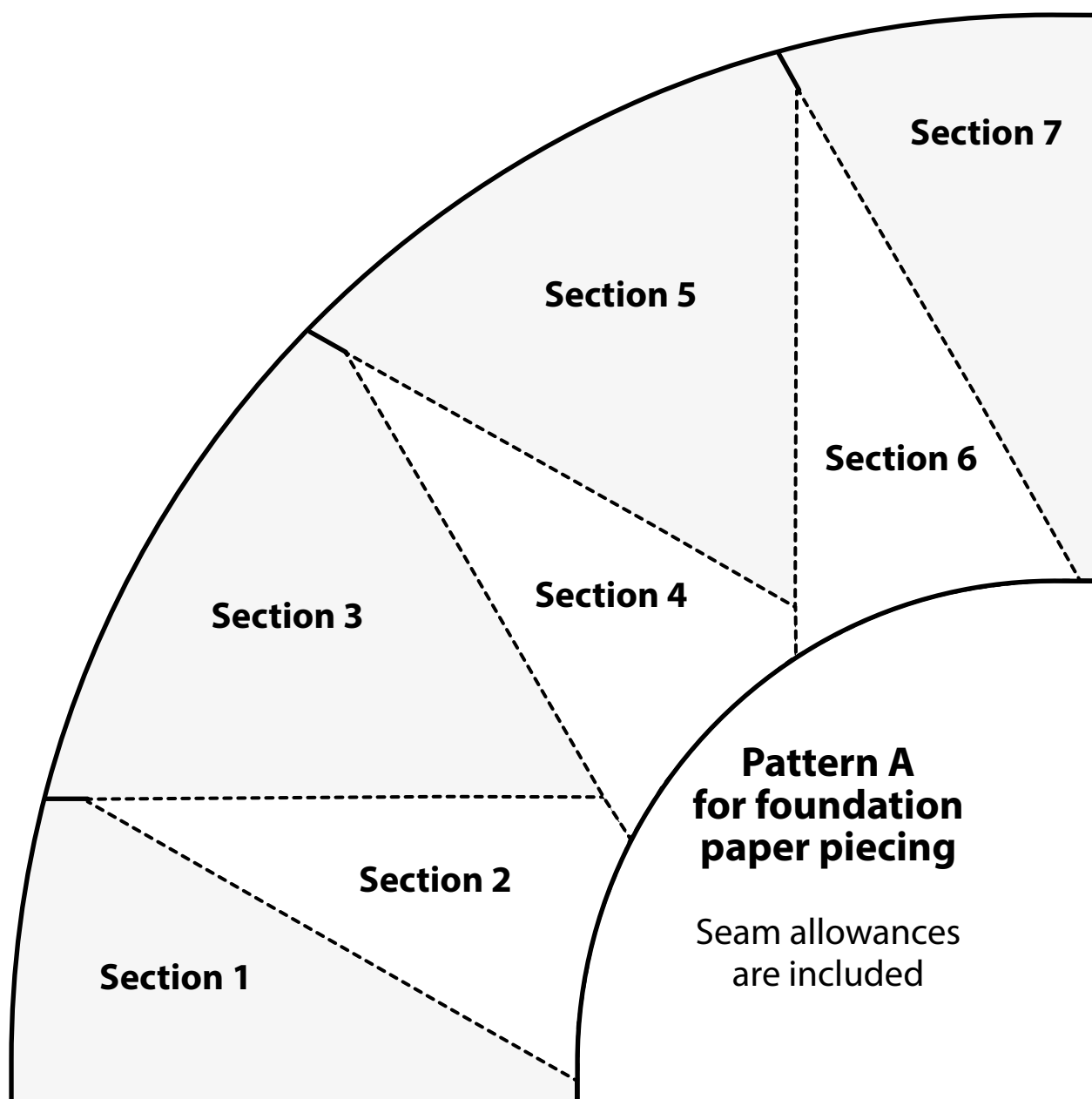
If you are sending the quilt off to be commercially long-arm quilted you won't need to make a sandwich, as this is done when the quilt is mounted on the machine. When the layers of the quilt are secured you can quilt as desired.

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 fabulous quilt is finished.

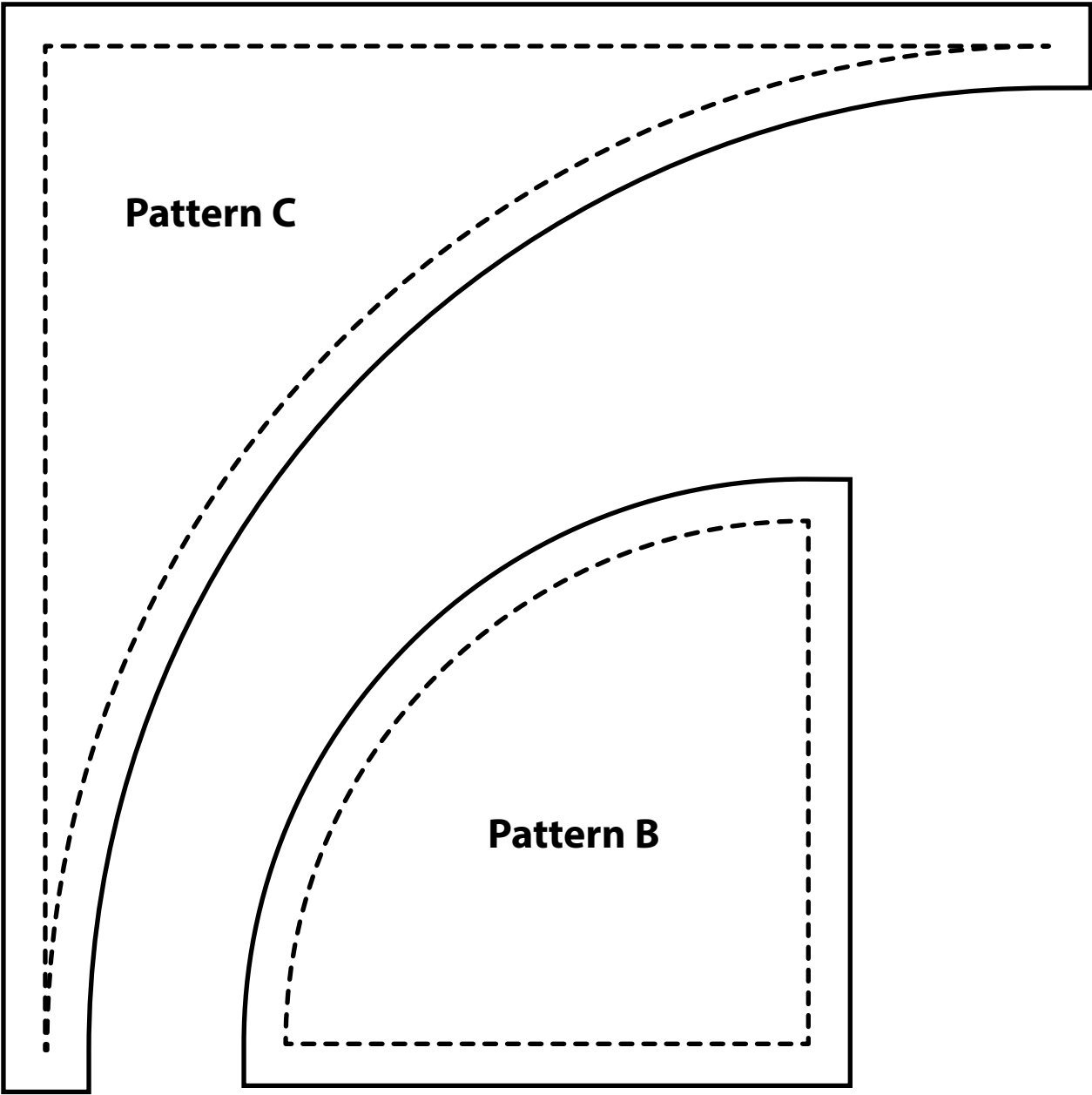
Sunny Sky Patterns



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Sunny Sky Patterns



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