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## Spinning Top Quilt (Warm colourway)

This bold quilt is really easy and quick to sew. It is made up of strips of bright solid colours against two paler background colours in warm shades. An asymmetrical look is produced by rotating one half of the design 180 degrees, to create the illusion of the much-loved spinning top children's toy. A pieced backing for the quilt continues the clean, contemporary look and instructions are given for making this if you choose this option. The quilt design is also available in a cooler colour palette – see the end of these instructions for that alternative.

#### Difficulty rating \*

## Materials

- Fabric 1: 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>yds (1.3m) Solid warm sand (120002)
- Fabric 2: 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>yds (1.3m) Solid dusty rose (120009)
- Fabric 3: 5in (13cm) square Solid rust (120017)
- Fabric 4: 9in (23cm) square Solid plum (120048)
- Fabric 5: 10in (25.5cm) square Solid country red (120014)
- Fabric 6: 10in (25.5cm) square Solid grape (120046)
- Fabric 7: 13in (33cm) square Solid brown (120005)
- Fabric 8: 14in (35.5cm) square Solid petrol (120037)
- Fabric 9: 16in (40.5cm) square Solid mustard (120040)
- Fabric 10: 21in (53.3cm) square Solid coral (120016)
- Fabric 11: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) or fat quarter Solid rosewood (120034)
- Fabric 12: 19in x 9in (48.3cm x 23cm) Solid aubergine (120036)
- Fabric 13: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Solid ginger (120018)
- Fabric 14: ¼yd (25cm) Solid burgundy (120006)
- Fabric 15: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Solid sage green (120020)
- Fabric 16: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Solid dijon (120039)
- Fabric 17: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>yd (25cm) Solid moss (120038)
- Fabric 18: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub>yd (15cm) Solid peacock (120045)
- Wadding (batting): 71in x 81in (180cm x 206cm)
- Backing fabric if using your choice of a single fabric: 4yds (3.6m) **OR** Backing fabric if making the pieced backing described: refer to Step 4 for fabrics needed
- Binding fabric: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>yd (50cm) Solid toffee (120004)
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat

#### **Fabric Notes**

Where a long quarter of a yard is given in the Materials list, a fat quarter is *not* suitable (except for Fabric 11).

## **Finished Size**

62<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>in x 72<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>in (159cm x 184cm)

#### **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 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>in (6mm) seams unless otherwise instructed.
- Read all the instructions through before you start.

## **Quilt Layout**

1 The quilt is made up of rows of different fabrics (nineteen rows in total), with the majority of the rows being  $4\frac{1}{2}$ in (11.4cm) deep. An asymmetrical look is created by rotating the top half of the design 180 degrees to make the bottom half. See **Fig A** for the fabrics used and **Fig B** for the quilt layout.



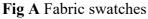
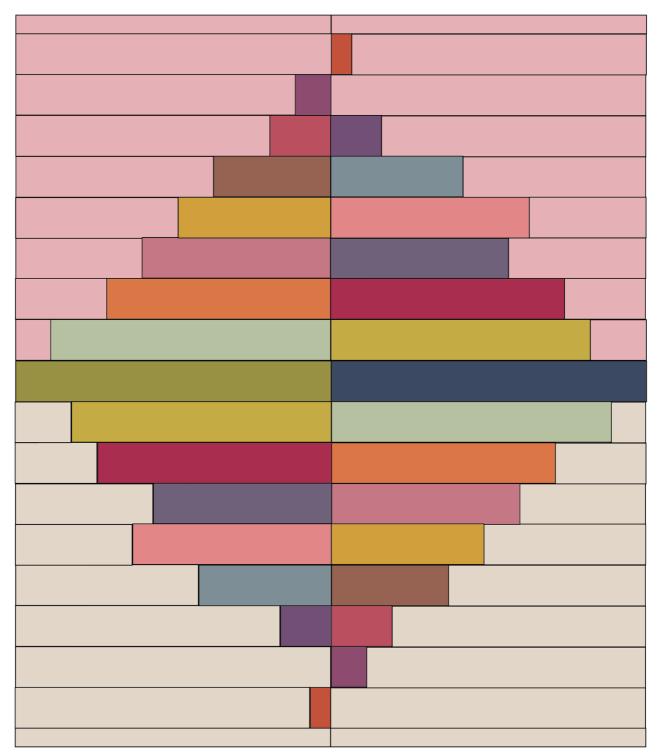




Fig B Quilt layout



## **Cutting Out**

2 All of the strips are cut  $4\frac{1}{2}$  in (11.4cm) deep, except for the top and bottom rows, which are cut  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in (6.4cm) deep. The cut measurements for the strips are given in **Fig** C, so follow these measures carefully. **Fig** D shows the fabric positions.



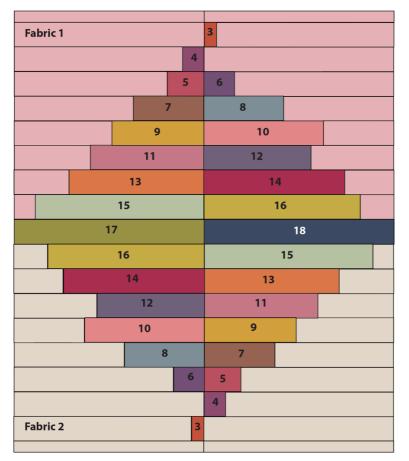
# Fig C Layout and cutting measurements Sizes include seam allowances

Row 1	31½in x 2½in (80cm x 6.4cm)						31½in x 2½in (80cm x 6.4cm)					
Row 2	31½in x 4½in (80cm x 11.4cm)					<ul> <li>4 2½in x 4½in (6.4cm x 29½in x 4½in (75cm x 11.4cm) 11.4cm)</li> </ul>						
Row 3	28in x 4½in (71.1cm x 11.4cm)					4in x 4½in -(10.2cm x 31½in x 4½in (80cm x 11.4cm) 11.4cm)						
Row 4	25½in x 4½in (64.8cm x 11.4cm) (16				2in x 4½in 6.5cm x 4cm)	•	5½in x 4½in - (14cm x 11.4cm)	26½in	26½in x 4½in (67.3cm x 11.4cm)			
Row 5	20in x 4½in (51cm x 11.4cm)			12in x 4½in (30.5cm x 11.4cm)			in x 4½in 3cm x 11.4cm) 18½in x 4½i			n (47cm x 11.4cm)		
Row 6	16½in x 4½in (42cm x 11.4cm)			15½in x 4½in (39.4cm x 11.4cm)		20in x 4½in (51cm x 11.4cm)			12in x 4½in (30.5cm x 11.4cm)			
Row 7	13in x 4½in (33cm x 11.4cm) 19in x		19in x 4½	: 4½in (48.3cm x 11.4cm)		18in x 4½in (45.7cm x 11.4cm)				14in x 4½in (35.5cm x 11.4cm)		
Row 8	9½in x 4½in (24.1cm x 11.4cm)	m x 22½in x 4½in (57.1cm x 11.4cm)				23½in x 4½in (59.7cm x 11.4cm)				(2	½in x 4½in 21.6cm x 1.4cm)	
Row 9	4in x 4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> in (10.2cm x 28in x 4½in (71.1cm x 11.4cm) 11.4cm)					26in x 4½in (66cm x 11.4cm) (15					6in x 4½in (15.2cm x 11.4cm)	
Row 10	31½in x 4½in (80cm x 11.4cm)						31½in x 4½in (80cm x 11.4cm)					
Row 11												
Row 12												
Row 13												
Row 14												
Row 15												
Row 16								1				
Row 17												
Row 18												
Row 19												

This part of the pattern is repeated for the bottom half of the quilt, but rotated 180 degrees



## Fig D Fabric positions



**3** *If using a single backing fabric:* Remove the selvedges from the backing fabric and cut the fabric into two pieces each 71in (180cm) long x width of fabric. Sew them together along the long side and press the seam open. Trim to a piece about 71in x 81in (180cm x 206cm).

**4** *If making a pieced backing:* You will need the following fabrics – the large pieces (warm sand and dusty rose) need to be bought in *addition* to the quilt front fabrics and will produce a backing that is about 4in (10cm) larger all round than the quilt front, to allow for quilting. Buying 2yds (2m) of each fabric will suffice.

- One piece of Solid warm sand 72in x 39in (183cm x 99cm).
- One piece of Solid dusty rose 72in x 39in (183cm x 99cm).

For the pieced strips across the back, cut the following pieces: one 9½ in x 4½ in (24.1cm x 11.4cm) rectangle from Fabrics 10, 18, 11, 9, 17, 14, 13 and 8. (Sufficient fabric has been allowed for these pieces in the Materials list.). Once cut, set them aside for the moment.

**5** Cut the binding fabric into seven strips  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in (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.

## Sewing the Rows

**6** The sewing is very easy but do make sure you are using a  $\frac{1}{4}$  in (6mm) seam allowance throughout. Follow **Fig E** to select the correct sizes and fabrics for each row, laying them out to check them before sewing. It is best to sew the quilt together in quarters, to keep the work as stable as possible, so follow the layouts shown in **Fig E**. Work on one quarter at a time,



sewing the seams and pressing the seams open or to one side. Check each quarter measures  $31\frac{1}{2}$  in (80cm) wide.

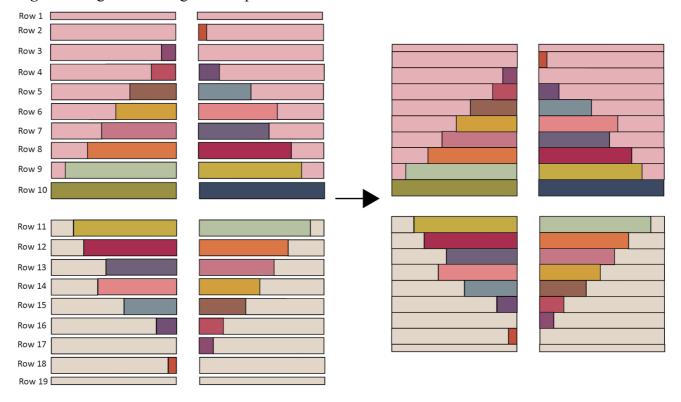
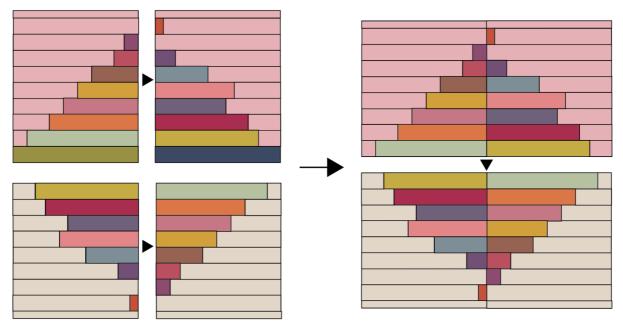


Fig E Sewing the rows together in quarters

## Assembling the Quilt

7 Now sew the quarters together as in **Fig F** and matching seams neatly. Press each seam carefully, ensuring the horizontal lines stay straight. Your quilt top is now finished.

**Fig F** Assembling the quilt





## Making a Pieced Backing

**8** If you have chosen this option, take the rectangles for the backing that you cut and set aside earlier and sew them together into a long strip, in the order shown in **Fig G**. The strip needs to be 72in (183cm) long; if it is slightly longer than this, trim as needed.

9 Lay out the pieced strip and the large pieces for the backing, as in Fig G, sew them together and press the seams open. This will make a backing about 71 in x 81 in (180cm x 206cm), which will be big enough to allow for quilting.

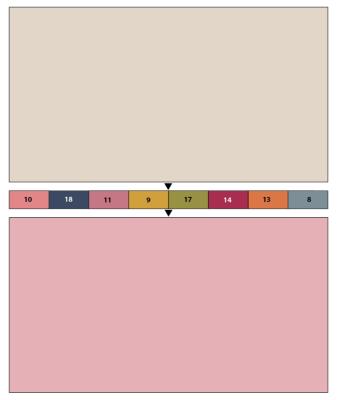


Fig G Assembling the backing

## **Quilting and Finishing**

**10** 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.

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

12 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  $\frac{1}{4}$  in (6mm) seam, sew the binding in place, starting at least 6in (15.2cm) away from the end of the binding. Sew to within a  $\frac{1}{4}$  in (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.

**13** 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.

14 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 stunning quilt is finished.

