

Spring Hare Quilt

This adorable quilt, filled with cute hares and pretty flowers, is perfect to welcome spring. The design would also be ideal to celebrate a new baby or for a child's room. The pastel seasonal colours of the Creating Memories fabric collection are set off beautifully by a delicate sage Chambray background. There are also two lovely pillow designs to match the quilt – see tildasworld.com for the free patterns.

Difficulty Rating **

Materials

- Fabric 1: 4¹/₄yds (4m) Chambray sage (160011) (background)
- Fabric 2: \(\frac{1}{8}\)yd (15cm) Chambray pine (160033)
- Fabric 3: 9in (23cm) square Gracie yellow (130117)
- Fabric 4: ¹/₄yd (25cm) Carla pink (130118)
- Fabric 5: 9in (23cm) square Frida lime (130119)
- Fabric 6: \(\frac{1}{8}\)yd (15cm) Avery yellow (130120)
- Fabric 7: 1/8 yd (15cm) Brie green (130121)
- Fabric 8: \(\frac{1}{8} \) yd (15cm) Harper yellow (130122)
- Fabric 9: 9in (23cm) square Lulu yellow (130123)
- Fabric 10: ½yd (15cm) Frida pearl (130124)
- Fabric 11: ¹/₄yd (25cm) Evie dove white (130125)
- Fabric 12: 1/8 yd (15cm) Seamstripe teal (160060)
- Fabric 13: 9in (23cm) square Tiny Dot pink (160061)
- Fabric 14: ¼yd (25cm) Stripe yellow (160062)
- Fabric 15: \(\frac{1}{8}\)yd (15cm) Tiny Stripe pink (160063)
- Fabric 16: ¹/₄yd (25cm) Polka Dot yellow (160064)
- Fabric 17: 1/8 yd (15cm) Gingham yellow (160065)
- Fabric 18: \(\frac{1}{8}\)yd (15cm) Plaid pea green (160066)
- Wadding (batting): 63in x 77in (160cm x 195.6cm)
- Backing fabric: 4¹/₄yds (4m) Frida pearl (130124)
- Binding fabric: ½yd (50cm) Gingham yellow (160065)
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Black stranded cotton (floss) for eye embroidery
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat
- Erasable fabric marker

Finished Size

55¹/₄in x 69¹/₄in (140.3cm x 176cm)

Fabric Notes

Where a long eighth or long quarter of a yard is given in the Materials list you could use fat eighths or fat quarters instead. A fat eighth is assumed to be approximately $10\frac{1}{2}$ in x 18 in (26.7cm x 45.7cm) and a fat quarter approximately 21 in x 18 in (53.3cm x 45.7cm). The Chambray fabrics can be cut in any direction for the most economical use of the fabric.

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 selvedges.
- Use ½in (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.

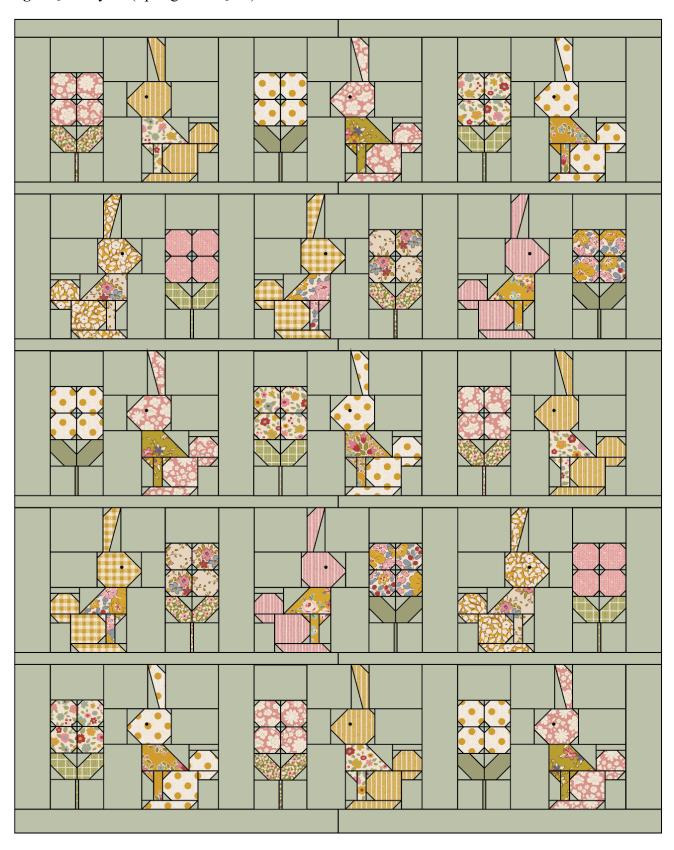
Quilt Layout

1 The quilt has fifteen Hare blocks and fifteen Flower blocks, each in six different colourways. The Hare blocks are reversed for six of the blocks, so those hares face in the opposite direction. The blocks are separated by strips of vertical sashing, with horizontal sashing between the quilt rows and a border at the top and bottom of the quilt. See **Fig A** for the fabrics used and **Fig B** for the quilt layout.

Fig A Fabric swatches (Spring Hare Quilt)



Fig B Quilt layout (Spring Hare Quilt)

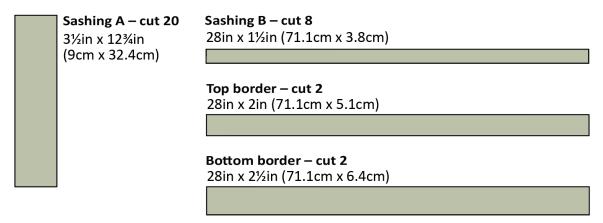


Cutting Out

2 From Fabric 1 cut the sashing and border pieces first, cutting the following pieces (see Fig C).

- Vertical sashing (A) twenty strips $3\frac{1}{2}$ in x $12\frac{3}{4}$ in (9cm x 32.4cm).
- Horizontal sashing (B) eight strips 28in x 1½in (71.1cm x 3.8cm). Join the strips together in pairs using ¼in (6mm) seams, to make four pairs each 55½in (141cm) long. *Note:* the quilt width should theoretically be 55¼in (140.3cm), so these joined strips *may* have to be trimmed by ¼in (6mm), however it is best to wait until your quilt rows are sewn together in case your measurements differ from ours.
- Top border two strips 28in x 2in (71.1cm x 5.1cm). Join the strips together using ¼in (6mm) seams, to make a strip 55½in (141cm) long. This may have to be trimmed later, as explained before.
- Bottom border two strips 28in x 2½in (71.1cm x 6.4cm). Join the strips together using ¼in (6mm) seams, to make a strip 55½in (141cm) long. This may have to be trimmed later, as explained before.

Fig C Cut measurements for the sashing and border pieces Measurements include ¼in (6mm) seam allowances



3 The Fabric 1 background pieces for the blocks are best cut across the width of the fabric for economical use of the fabric. It is more efficient to cut the same size shapes at once. The cut measurements are shown in **Fig D** (Hare) and **Fig E** (Flower). Note that although **Fig C** also shows the reverse hare block (reduced), the shapes cut will be the same. Refer also to **Fig F** (Hare) and **Fig G** (Flower) for the exact fabric positions in the blocks.

4 For the print and Chambray fabrics, follow the cut measurements shown in Fig D (Hare) and Fig E (Flower). See also Fig F and Fig G for the exact fabric positions in the blocks.

5 Cut the backing fabric across the width into two pieces. Using a ¼in (6mm) seam, sew together along the long side and press the seam open. Trim to a piece about 63in x 77in (160cm x 195.6cm). This is about 4in (10.2cm) larger all round than the quilt top, to allow for quilting and finishing.

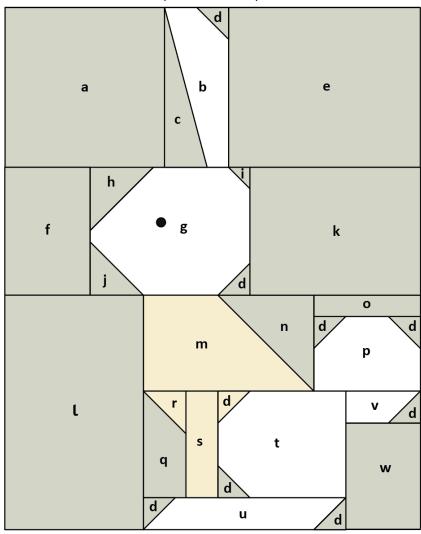
6 Cut the binding fabric into seven $2\frac{1}{2}$ in (6.4cm) x width of fabric strips. Sew the strips together end to end and press seams open. Press the binding in half along the length, wrong sides together.

Fig D Cut measurements for the Hare block

Sizes include ¼in (6mm) seam allowances

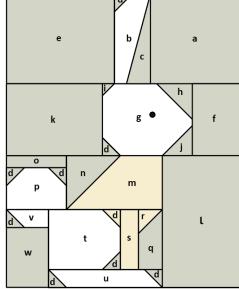
All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles

Hare Block: 101/in x 123/in (26cm x 32.4cm) unfinished



- a 41/4 in (10.8 cm) square
- **b** 2in x 4½in (2.1cm x 10.8cm)
- c 1½in x 4¼in (3.8cm x 10.8cm)
- **d** 1¼in (3.2cm) square
- **e** 5in x 4½in (12.7cm x 10.8cm)
- **f** 2½in x 3½in (6.4cm x 9cm)
- g 4¼in x 3½in (10.8cm x 9cm)
- h 2in (5.1cm) square
- i 1in (2.5cm) square
- j 1¾in (4.4cm) square
- k 4½in x 3½in (11.4cm x 9cm)
- l 3¾in x 6in (9.5cm x 15.2cm)
- m 4½in x 2¾in (11.4cm x 7cm)
- n 2¾in (7cm) square
- o 3in x 1in (7.6cm x 2.5cm)
- **p** 3in x 2½in (7.6cm x 5.7cm)
- q 1½in x 3in (3.8cm x 7.6cm)
- r 1½in (3.8cm) square
- s 1¼in x 3in (3.2cm x 7.6cm)
- t 3½in x 3in (9cm x 7.6cm)
- **u** 5¼in x 1¼in (13.3cm x 3.2cm)
- v 2½in x 1½in (5.7cm x 3.2cm)
- w 2½in x 3in (5.7cm x 7.6cm)

French knot eye – see instructions

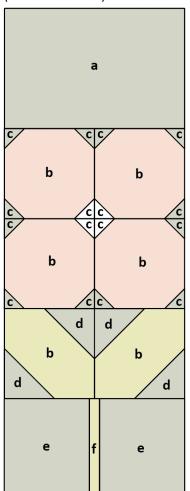


Reversed hare showing letter positions for reference (block shown reduced)

Fig E Cut measurements for the Flower block

Sizes include ¼in (6mm) seam allowances All pieces to be cut initially as squares or rectangles

Flower Block: 5in x 12¾in (12.7cm x 32.4cm) unfinished



- a 5in x 3½in (12.7cm x 9cm)
- **b** 2¾in (7cm) square
- c 1in (2.5cm) square
- **d** 1¾in (4.4cm) square
- e 25% in x 3 in (6.7 cm x 7.6 cm)
- f ¾in x 3in (2cm x 7.6cm)

Fig F Block colourways for the Squirrel blocks

Bold numbers indicate fabrics used (see Fig A). All background is Fabric 1. Make the number of blocks indicated

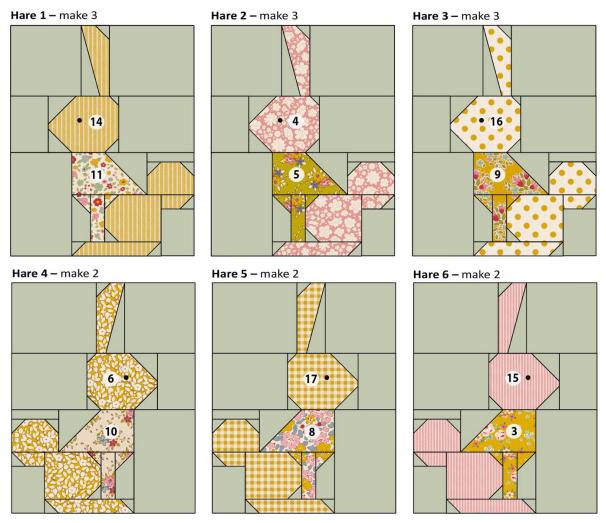
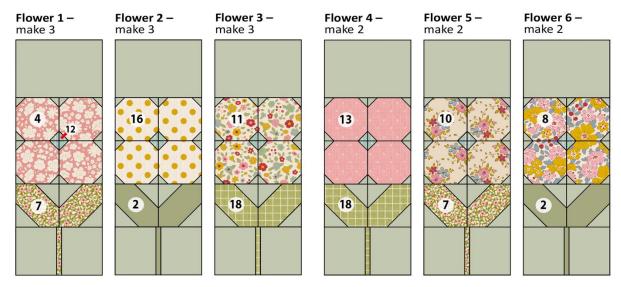


Fig G Block colourways for the Acorn blocks Bold numbers indicate fabrics used (see Fig A). All background is Fabric 1. All flower centres are Fabric 12. Make the number of blocks indicated

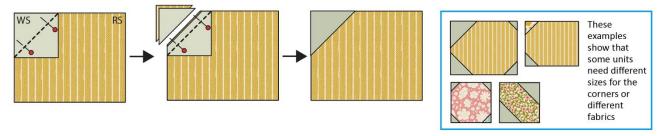


Making the Blocks

7 Most of the piecing in the blocks is to make corner triangle units and corner triangle units are used in various places. The basic technique is the same regardless of the size of the pieces being sewn. **Fig H** shows the stages of creating a corner triangle. The blue box shows examples of some of the units. It is best to make all the units needed for a block, so the block can then be assembled without delay.

The basic process of sewing a corner triangle is as follows. Place the larger piece of fabric right side up (RS). Take the small square and pencil mark a diagonal line on the wrong side (WS) of the square. Pin the square right sides together with the larger fabric piece, aligning the edges as shown and with the diagonal line in the direction needed. Sew along the marked line. Trim off excess fabric ¼in (6mm) outside the sewn line and gently press the triangle outwards. Check the unit is the same size as the original larger piece of fabric, with no distortion.

Fig H Making a corner triangle unit



Making a Hare Block

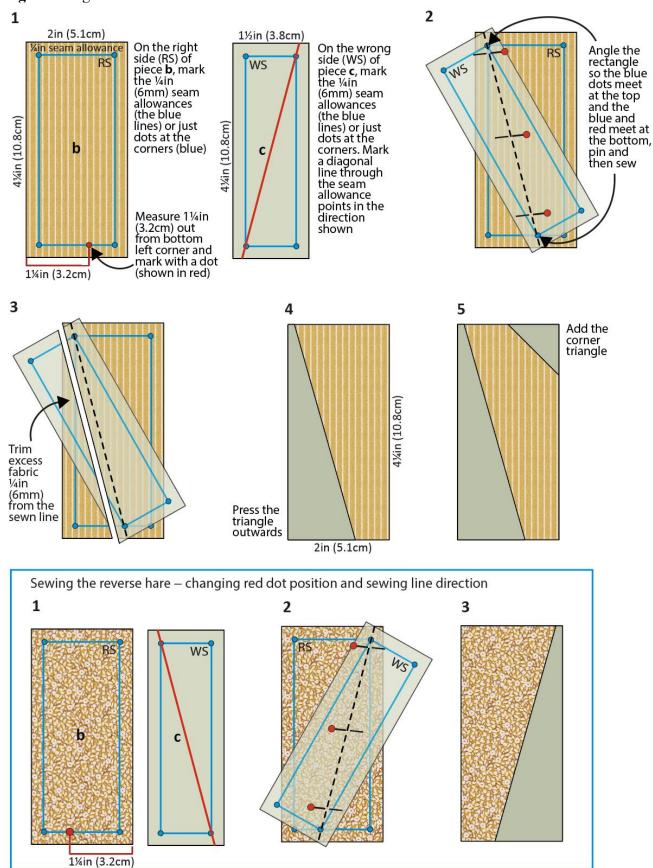
8 The hare block is quite easy but a special technique is needed to create the ear, which is described here and shown in Fig I (the unit for Block 1 is shown).

Begin by taking piece **b** (print fabric) and on the right side (RS) use an erasable fabric marker to mark the ¼in (6mm) seam allowances (shown in blue on **Fig I 1**). You can just mark dots at the corners if you prefer. At the bottom of the piece, mark a dot 1¼in (3.2cm) out from the bottom left corner (shown by the red dot). Now take piece **c** (background piece) and on the wrong side (WS) mark the ¼in (6mm) seam allowances (these can be pencil lines or just dots at the corners). Mark the diagonal line in the direction shown, making sure the line goes through the seam allowance dots (and *not* the outer corners of the fabric).

9 Take the background piece and, with right sides together, angle it following **Fig I 2**, so two of its seam allowance dots meet the dots beneath on the print fabric. Note that the alignment at the bottom is for the red 1½in (3.2cm) dot. Pin in place and then sew along the marked diagonal line. Using a quilting ruler, trim off excess fabric ½in (6mm) away from the sewn line, as in **Fig I 3**. Press the triangle outwards and check that its edges are aligned with the print fabric piece. Check the unit's size – it should be 2in (5.1cm) x 4½in (10.8cm) (**Fig I 4**).

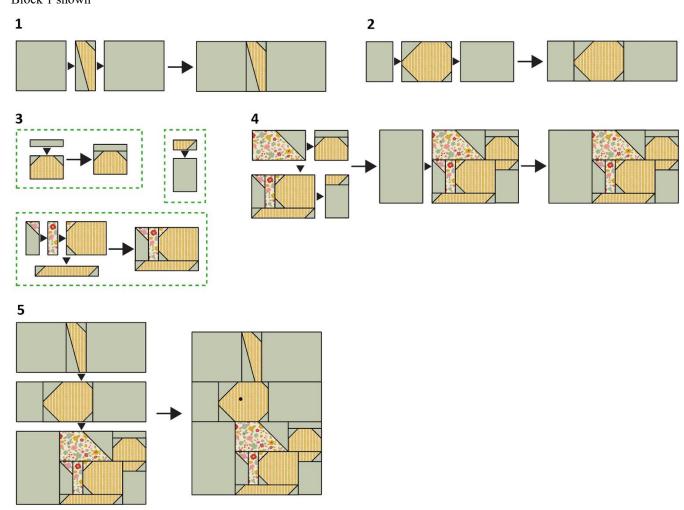
10 The corner triangle can now be created in the top right corner (Fig I 5) using the same method described before for corner triangles (see Step 7). *Note:* when making the reverse hare, the diagram, red dot and stitching direction need to be in the opposite direction – see the blue box in Fig I.

Fig I Making the hare's ear



- 11 When the pieced units have been made for a Hare block, the block can be assembled. Follow the stages shown in Fig J (where Block 1 is shown). The dotted green line boxes show the assembly of sub-sections. Press seams after each stage, pressing open or to one side. When the assembly is finished, check the sewn block is 10½ in x 12¾ in (26cm x 32.4cm).
- **12** Repeat this process to make three of Hare block 1 in total. Repeat the block-making process to make three of Hare block 2 and Hare block 3.
- 13 Repeat the block-making process again to make two each of reverse Hare blocks 4, 5 and 6.
- 14 When all of the Hare blocks are made, use a French knot to sew an eye onto each hare, using six strands of black stranded cotton, with the thread wrapped twice around the needle.

Fig J Making a Hare block Block 1 shown



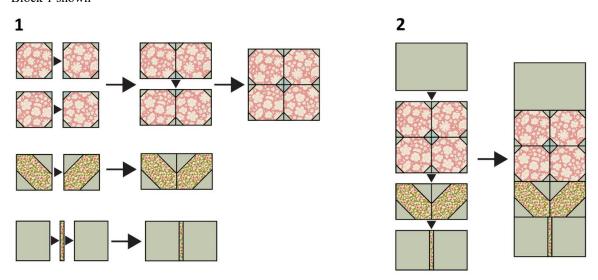
Making a Flower Block

15 A Flower block is very easy to piece. First, make the units that have corner triangles (as described before). When the pieced units have been made, the block can be assembled. Follow the stages shown in **Fig K** (where Block 1 is shown), pressing seams open or to one side. When the assembly is finished, check the sewn block is $5 \text{ in } \times 12^{3} / \text{in } (12.7 \text{ cm } \times 32.4 \text{ cm})$.

16 Repeat this process to make three of Flower block 1 in total. Repeat the block-making process to make three of Flower block 2 and Flower block 3.

17 Repeat the block-making process again to make two each of Flower blocks 4, 5 and 6.

Fig K Making a Flower block Block 1 shown

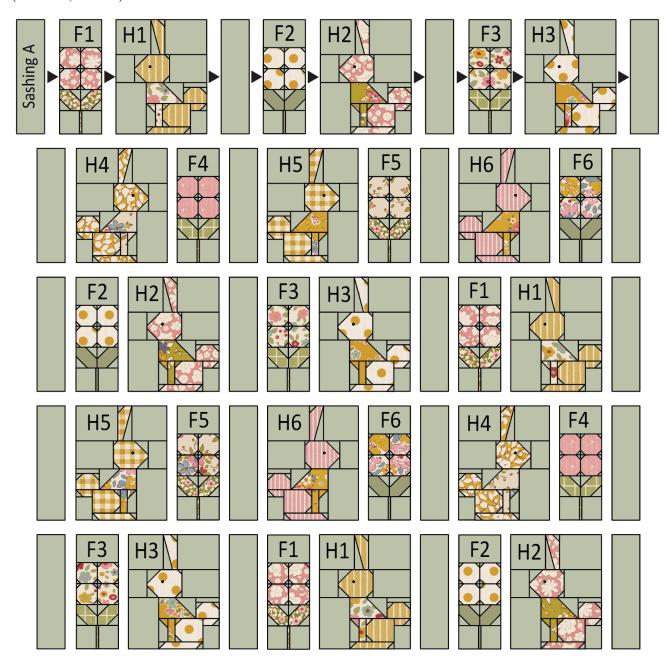


Assembling the Quilt

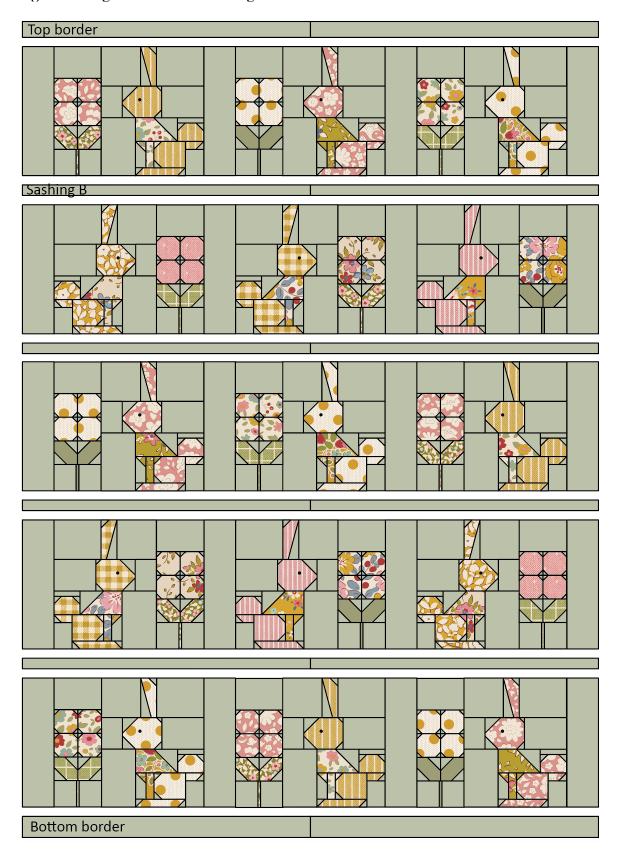
18 When all of the blocks are made the quilt can be assembled. The quilt rows are sewn first and the layout of the five rows is shown in Fig L. The blocks are identified by number in the diagram, so follow this to select the correct order, placing the shorter sashing strips between each block and at the end of each row. Note that the hares face in one direction in rows 1, 3 and 5 and the opposite direction in rows 2 and 4. Sew the rows together using accurate ½in (6mm) seams, pressing the seams towards the sashing. Once sewn, check each row measures 55½in (140.3cm).

19 Before adding the horizontal sashing strips and borders, trim them if necessary to match your quilt's width. Sew the long sashing strips between each quilt row, pressing seams towards the sashing. Add the border strips to at the top and bottom of the quilt (note that the bottom strip is slightly deeper) (Fig M). Press seams towards the border strips. Your quilt top is now finished.

Fig L Sewing the quilt rows together (F=Flower, H=Hare)



 $Fig\ M$ Adding the horizontal sashing and borders



Quilting and Finishing

20 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.

21 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.

22 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.

23 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 adorable quilt is finished.