

LONG TIME AGO IN BETHLEHEM

# Quilt Assembly



AUSTRALIAN  
**HOMESPUN**



LONG TIME AGO IN BETHLEHEM STITCH-A-LONG



## Preparation and cutting

**Finished size:** 136cm (53½in) square

1. Check that you have all your blocks cut to the correct size. (These measurements include a ¼in seam allowance on all raw edges and are listed as height x width.)

Hello block: 10¼ x 10in

Kitchen Sink Camel block: 10¼ x 7½in

Megaphone Angel block: 5¾ x 7in

The Singing Praise Angel Band block: 8 x 26½in

Reluctant Donkey block: 7 x 11½in

Which Way? block: 12¼ x 10in

Mice Burglars block: 7¾ x 10½in

Keep It Down! block: 7¾ x 13½in

Spotlight Angel block: 9½ x 8½in

The Glory Of The Lord block: 7 x 25in

Eggsellent Advice block: 4¼ x 10in

Hark block: 3½ x 7in.

2. From the cream starburst print fabric, cut:

- Nine strips, 2in across the width of the fabric (sashings).

Crosscut these strips to yield:

- Two rectangles, 2 x 28in (M)
- o Three rectangles, 2 x 26½in (L)
- o Two rectangles, 2 x 13in (K)
- o Two rectangles, 2 x 12¼in (J)

- o One rectangle, 2 x 11½in (I)
- o Two rectangles, 2 x 11in (H)
- o Two rectangles, 2 x 10¼in (G)
- o One rectangle, 2 x 10in (F)
- o Two rectangles, 2 x 8½in (E)
- o One rectangle, 2 x 8in (D)
- o Two rectangles, 2 x 7¾in (C)
- o Two rectangles, 2 x 7in (B)
- o Two rectangles, 2 x 5¾in (A).

To use your fabric most efficiently, cut the longest sashings strips (M and L) first and use the leftover lengths of these strips to cut the shorter ones.

3. From the cream floral dot print fabric, cut:

- 13 strips, 2in across the width of the fabric. Trim eight of these strips to 41in long (Borders 2 and 4). Crosscut the remaining five strips to yield:

- o 52 rectangles, 2 x 2½in (N) (Border 3)
- o Eight rectangles, 2 x 5½in (O) (corners of Borders 2 and 4).

4. From the gold starburst fabric, cut:

- four strips, 1½in across the width of the fabric (Border 1).

Trim two of these strips to 39in and the remaining two to 41in.

5. From assorted print and tone-on-tone fabrics, cut:

- 52 squares, 2½in (Border 3).

6. From the teal starburst print fabric, cut:

- Six strips, 1½in across the width of the fabric (Border 4)
- Six strips, 2½in across the width of the fabric (binding).



## Assembly

7. The quilt is assembled by sewing sashing strips to some of the blocks, joining them into Units, then joining the Units. Press seams away from the blocks as you work. Refer to the diagrams below as a guide.

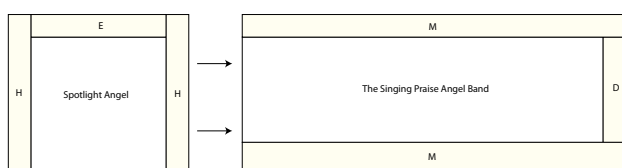
### Unit One

8. To make Unit One you need the Spotlight Angel and the Singing Praise Angel Band blocks, one D sashing strip, one E sashing strip, two H sashing strips and two M sashing strips.

9. Sew the D sashing strip to the right edge of the Singing Praise block. The sew an M sashing strip to the top and bottom edges of the panel.

10. Sew the E strip to the top edge of the Spotlight Angel block. Then sew an H sashing strip to the left and right edges of the block.

11. Sew the Spotlight Angel block to the left edge of the Singing Praise block to complete Unit One. Your Unit One should measure 11 x 39in from raw edge to raw edge.



Unit One assembly diagram

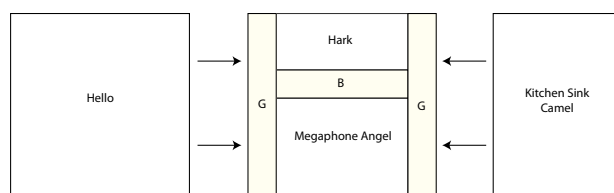
### Unit Two

12. To make Unit Two you need the Hello, Hark, Megaphone Angel and Kitchen Sink Camel blocks, along with one B sashing strip, two G sashing strips and one L sashing strip.

13. Sew the B sashing strip to the bottom edge of the Hark block. Then sew the panel to the top edge of the Megaphone Angel block. Sew a G sashing strip to the left and right edges of this panel.

14. Join the Hello block to the left edge of the panel and the Kitchen Sink Camel block to its right edge.

15. Complete Unit B by sewing an L sashing strip to the bottom edge of the panel. Your Unit Two should measure 11¼ x 26½in from raw edge to raw edge.

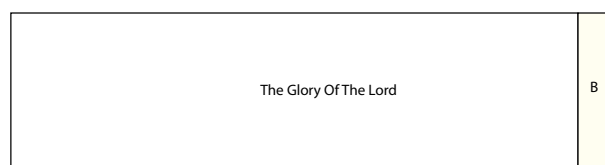


Unit Two assembly diagram

### Unit Three

16. For Unit Three you need the Glory Of The Lord block and a B sashing strip.

17. Sew the sashing strip to the right edge of the block. Your Unit Three should measure 7 x 26½in from raw edge to raw edge.



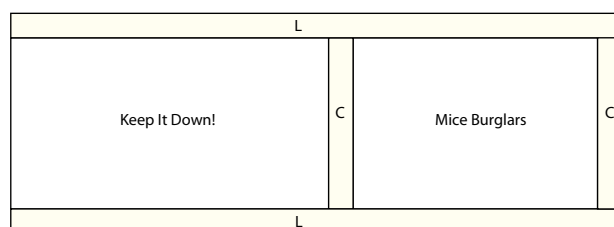
Unit Three assembly diagram

### Unit Four

18. For Unit Four you need the Keep It Down! and Mice Burglars blocks, along with two D sashing strips and two L sashing strips.

19. Sew a D sashing strip to the right edge of each of the two blocks. Then join the Keep It Down! panel to the left edge of the Mice Burglars panel.

20. Sew an L sashing strip to the top and bottom edges of the panel. Your Unit Four should measure 10¼ x 26½in from raw edge to raw edge.



Unit Four assembly diagram

## Unit Five

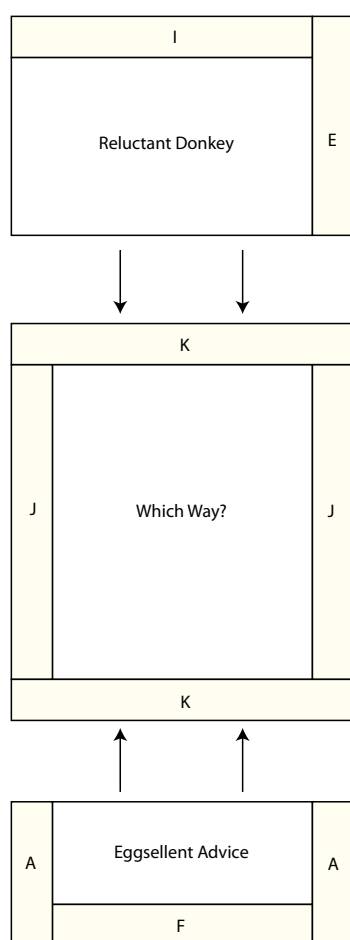
21. For Unit Five you need the Reluctant Donkey, Which Way? and Eggsellent Advice blocks, along with two A sashing strips, an E sashing strip, an F sashing strip, an I sashing strip, two J sashing strips and two K sashing strips.

22. Join the I sashing strip to the top edge of the Reluctant Donkey block. Then join the E sashing strip to the right edge of this panel.

23. Join the F sashing strip to the bottom edge of the Eggsellent Advice block. Then join an A sashing strip to the left and right edges of this panel.

24. Join a J sashing strip to the left and right edges of the Which Way? block. Then join a K sashing strip to the top and bottom edges.

25. Sew the Reluctant Donkey panel to the top edge of the Which Way? panel. Sew the Eggsellent Advice panel to the bottom edge of the Which Way? panel. Your Unit Five should measure 13 x 28½in from raw edge to raw edge.



Unit Five assembly diagram

## Quilt centre

26. Sew Unit Two to the top edge of Unit Three. Sew Unit Four to the bottom edge of Unit Three. This panel should now measure 28½ x 26½in from raw edge to raw edge. Join it the right edge of the Unit Five. Then sew Unit One to the top edge. Your completed quilt centre should measure 39in square from raw edge to raw edge.

## Border 1

27. Sew the 39in strips of gold starburst print fabric to the top and bottom edges of the quilt. Press seams outwards.

28. Sew the 41in strips of gold starburst print fabric to the left and right edges of the quilt. Press.

## Borders 2–4

29. Choose four 2½in coloured squares for the corners. Sew an N cream rectangle to the left and right edge of each of them. Press seams outwards. Then sew an O cream rectangle to the top and bottom edge of each of them, and press as before. These units should measure 5½in square from raw edge to raw edge.

30. Lay out the remaining 2½in coloured squares in four rows of 12 squares each. Mix and match them until you have an array of colours that you like. Add an N cream rectangle between each pair of coloured squares – each row will end up with 12 coloured squares and 11 N rectangles.

31. Sew the patches in each row together. Your rows should measure 2½ x 41in from raw edge to raw edge.

32. Sew a 41in strip of cream floral dot print fabric to the top and bottom edges of each row and press seams outwards. Join one of these panels to the top and bottom edges of your quilt. Press.

33. Join a corner unit made in step 29 to each end of the remaining two panels, then sew them to the left and right edges of your quilt. Press.

## Border 5

34. Join the 1½in strips of teal print fabric together end to end to make one long strip.

35. Measure your quilt vertically through the centre. Trim two strips this long from the long teal strip. Join them to the left and right edges of your quilt and press seams outwards.

36. Measure your quilt horizontally through the centre. Trim two strips this long from the remainder of the long teal strip. Join them to the top and bottom edges of your quilt.

## Quilting and binding

37. Cut the backing fabric into two equal lengths. Remove the selvages and join the pieces along one long edge. Trim the backing fabric to 60in square. Smooth out the backing fabric on a large table or the floor with right side down and secure it with masking tape. Lay the batting on top ensuring it is smooth and free from wrinkles. After pressing the quilt top, lay it on top of the batting and baste or pin the three layers together.

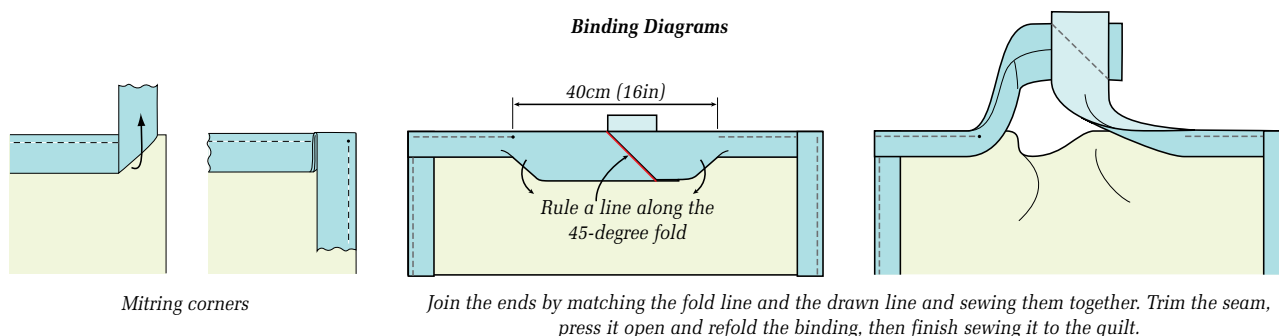
38. Quilt as desired. Long Time Ago In Bethlehem was machine quilted by her mother-in-law, Margaret, using clear monofilament thread.

39. Trim away the excess batting and backing fabric  $\frac{1}{4}$ in outside the edge of the quilt.

40. Join the six  $2\frac{1}{2}$ in strips of teal print fabric end to end to make one long strip. Fold the long strip in half lengthwise, wrong sides together, and press. With raw edges together, stitch the binding strip to the edge of the quilt using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ in seam, mitring the corners as you go and referring to the diagrams below for details.

41. Turn the binding over and stitch it by hand to the back of the quilt. Label and date your quilt.

*For more information on this project or to view more appliqué and stitchery designs by Natasha Curtin of Smee Designs, visit her website at [www.smeedesigns.com](http://www.smeedesigns.com)*



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