

Tilda®

Cotton Beach

Coral Reef Quilt Coral



Coral Reef Quilt

(Lavender/coral colourway)

This quilt evokes images of tropical coral reefs in a lovely edge-to-edge design. The quilt uses fabrics from the Cotton Beach and Chambray ranges, and is made up of squares and rectangles, sewn together into columns. The piecing for the quilt is easy but care will be needed to keep the design straight and the seams neatly aligned. There is another version of the quilt in a teal/blush colourway – see tildasworld.com for instructions.

Materials

- Fabric 1: 1½yd (1.4m) – Chambray lavender (160009)
- Fabric 2: 1½yd (1.4m) – Chambray coral (160014)
- Fabric 3: ¼yd (25cm) – Coral Reef blue (100334)
- Fabric 4: ¼yd (25cm) – Sea Anemone blue (100332)
- Fabric 5: ¼yd (25cm) – Ocean Flower blue (100335)
- Fabric 6: ¼yd (25cm) – Limpet Shell blue (100333)
- Fabric 7: ¼yd (25cm) – Coral Reef coral (100324)
- Fabric 8: ¼yd (25cm) – Scallop Shell coral (100321)
- Fabric 9: ¼yd (25cm) – Ocean Flower coral (100325)
- Fabric 10: ¼yd (25cm) – Sea Anemone lilac (100322)
- Fabric 11: ¼yd (25cm) – Limpet Shell lilac (100323)
- Fabric 12: ¼yd (25cm) – Beach Shells coral (110024)
- Fabric 13: ¼yd (25cm) – Ocean Flower grey (100330)
- Fabric 14: ¼yd (25cm) – Sea Anemone grey (100327)
- Fabric 15: ¼yd (25cm) – Scallop Shell grey (100326)
- Fabric 16: ⅓yd (15cm) – Limpet Shell grey (100328)
- Fabric 17: ⅓yd (15cm) – Beach Shells grey (110025)
- Wadding (batting): 64in x 82in (162.5cm x 208cm)
- Backing fabric: 3⅝yds (3.4m) – Dottie Dots light blue (130044)
- Binding fabric: ½yd (50cm) – Coral Reef ginger (100329)
- Piecing and quilting threads
- Quilter's ruler, rotary cutter and mat

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).

Finished Size

56in x 74in (142.2cm x 188cm)

General Notes

- Fabric quantities are based on a usable width of 42in (107cm) (selvedges removed), 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 of the instructions through before you start.

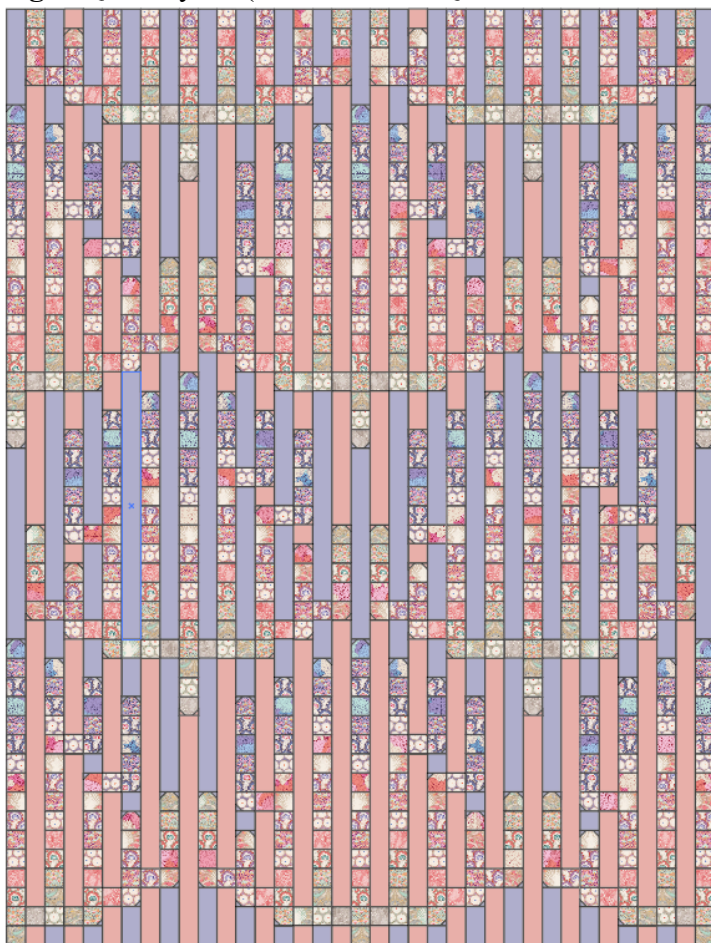
Quilt Layout

1 The quilt is made up of squares and rectangles, sewn together into columns. There are sixteen different columns, which when sewn together create a coral motif, repeated over the quilt in a staggered pattern. See **Fig A** for the fabrics used and **Fig B** for the quilt layout.

Fig A Fabric swatches (Cotton Beach Quilt – lavender/coral colourway)



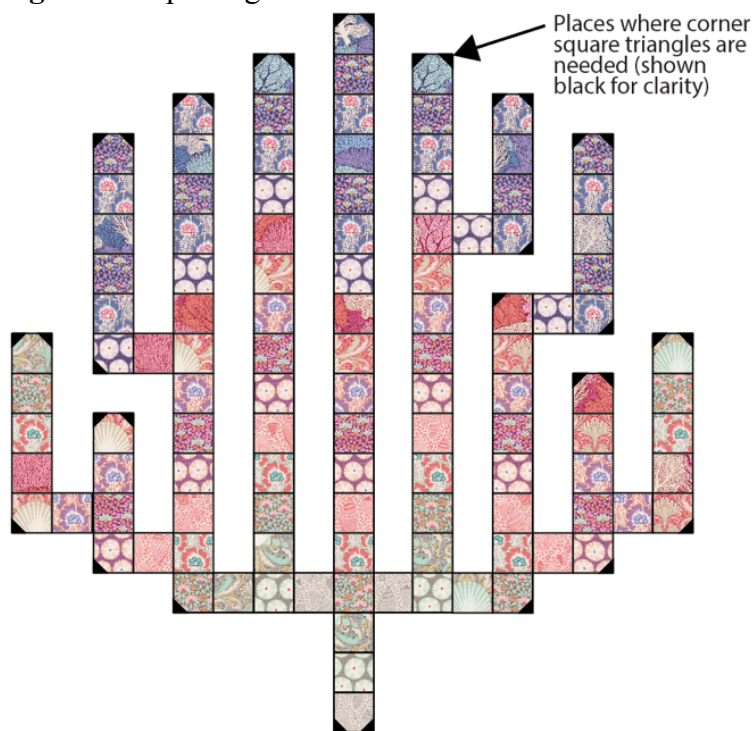
Fig B Quilt layout (Cotton Beach Quilt – lavender/coral colourway)



Cutting Out

2 The quilt has thirty-seven columns across its width, made up of sixteen different piecing layouts, most repeated twice or more. The coral shape is created with squares of print fabrics, some of which have triangle corners to create a rounded shape to parts of the coral. **Fig C** shows these triangle corners – shown in black on the diagram but are in Chambray Fabric 1 and Fabric 2 within the quilt.

Fig C The repeating coral motif



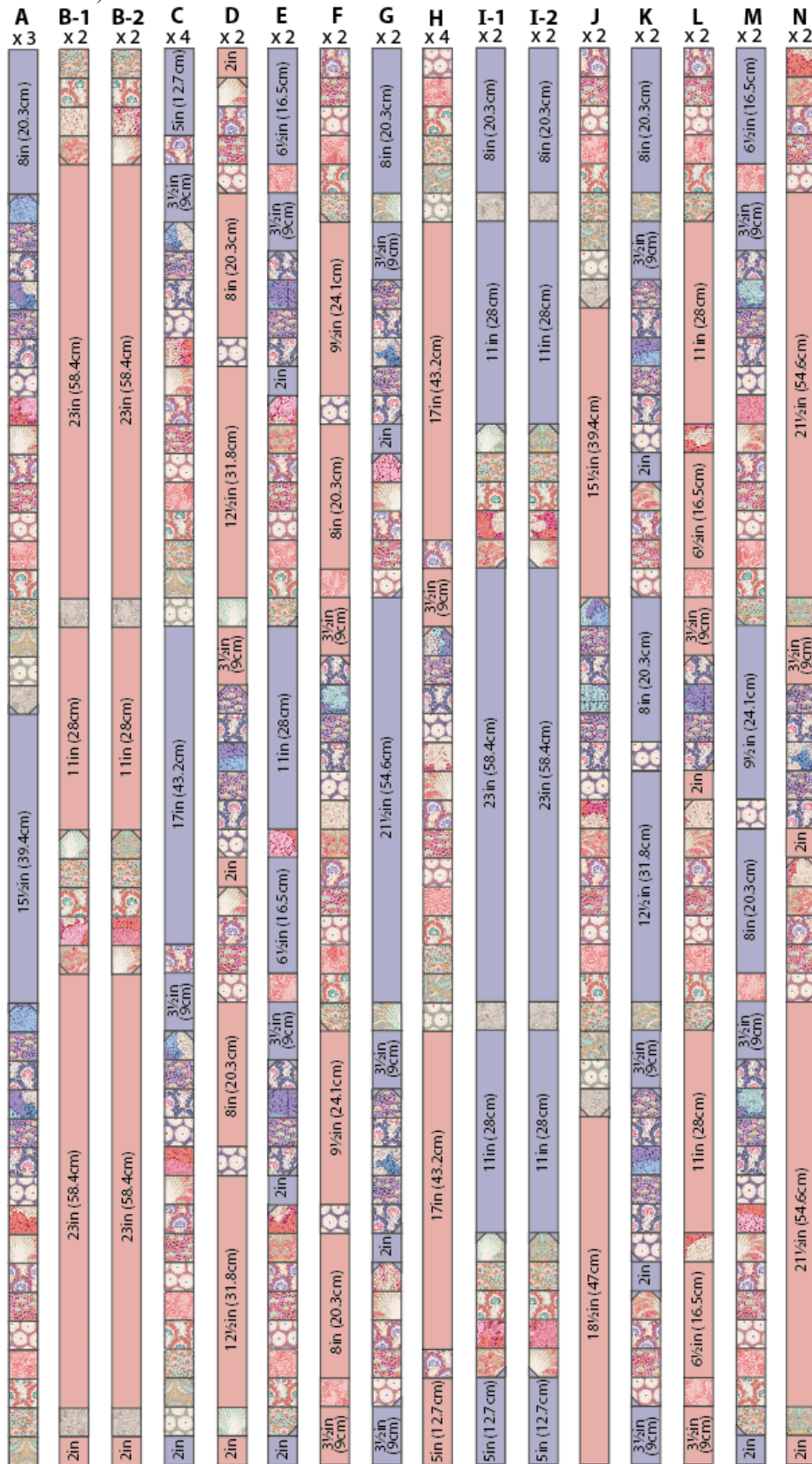
3 To cut the 2in (5.1cm) squares, cut 2in (5.1cm) x width of fabric strips and then sub-cut into 2in (5.1cm) squares. You will need the following numbers of squares – it is wise to place these in piles and label them, for easy identification later.

- Fabric 1 – cut 20 squares.
- Fabric 2 – cut 16 squares.
- Fabric 3 – cut 52 squares.
- Fabric 4 – cut 64 squares.
- Fabric 5 – cut 76 squares.
- Fabric 6 – cut 44 squares.
- Fabric 7 – cut 62 squares.
- Fabric 8 – cut 64 squares.
- Fabric 9 – cut 70 squares.
- Fabric 10 – cut 54 squares.
- Fabric 11 – cut 58 squares.
- Fabric 12 – cut 58 squares.
- Fabric 13 – cut 58 squares.
- Fabric 14 – cut 58 squares.
- Fabric 15 – cut 54 squares.
- Fabric 16 – cut 23 squares.
- Fabric 17 – cut 23 squares.

4 To cut the Fabric 1 and Fabric 2 rectangles (you have already cut the 2in squares), cut 2in (5.1cm) x width of fabric strips and then sub-cut the lengths required, following **Fig D** carefully for the sizes. Label these cut rectangles with their sizes, for easy identification later. Some of the strips needed are quite long, so trim only the bare minimum from the selvedge, to keep the fabric width as wide as possible. Save all offcuts in case you need them later.

Fig D Cutting the Fabric 1 and Fabric 2 pieces

Pieces cut 2in (5.1cm) wide x lengths given. Note the numbers of columns that need to be made (**not** in final order here)



5 To cut the 1in (2.5cm) squares for the corner triangle units, cut 1in (2.5cm) x width of fabric strips from Fabric 1 and Fabric 2, and then sub-cut into 1in (2.5cm) squares. You will need the following numbers of squares.

- Fabric 1 – 138 squares.
- Fabric 2 – 88 squares.

6 Cut the backing fabric into two pieces 64in (162.5cm) x width of fabric. Sew them together along the long side and press the seam open. Trim to a piece about 64in x 82in (162.5cm x 208cm).

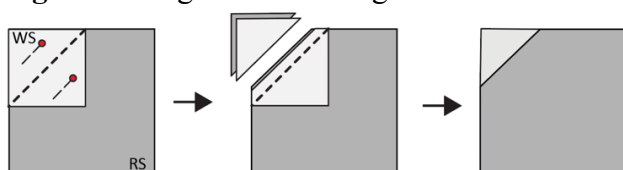
7 Cut the binding fabric into seven strips 2½in (6.4cm) x width of fabric. Sew them together end to end and press seams open. Press in half along the length, wrong sides together.

Making the Columns

8 There are sixteen columns, each with a different layout. **Fig E** shows details of exactly which fabrics are placed within each column.

9 Before you can begin sewing the pieces together, however, you will need to make the corner triangle units. The process for creating a corner triangle is shown in **Fig F**. The diagram is shown in greys, but follow **Fig E** for the actual fabric colours. Take a 2in (5.1cm) square of fabric and place it right side (RS) up. Take a 1in (2.5cm) square and pencil mark the diagonal line on the wrong side (WS). Pin the square right sides together with the larger piece of fabric, aligning the edges as shown. Sew along the marked line. Trim off excess fabric $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) outside the sewn line. Press the triangle outwards. Repeat this process as necessary to create the number of units needed for the whole quilt. Note that some units need two corner triangles, so pay close attention to the red arrowheads in **Fig E**.

Fig F Creating a corner triangle unit



10 Assemble Column A to begin with, laying out the correct pieces as shown in **Fig E**. Using a $\frac{1}{4}$ in (6mm) seam, sew the pieces together, double checking that you have them in the correct order and that the corner triangle units are positioned the correct way. **Fig G** shows part of Column A being sewn together. Once all of the pieces are sewn together, press the seams in one direction and check that the total unfinished length is 74in (188cm) and that the column is straight. Make two more of Column A and label these columns.

Fig G Sewing a column together
(Part of Column A shown as an example)

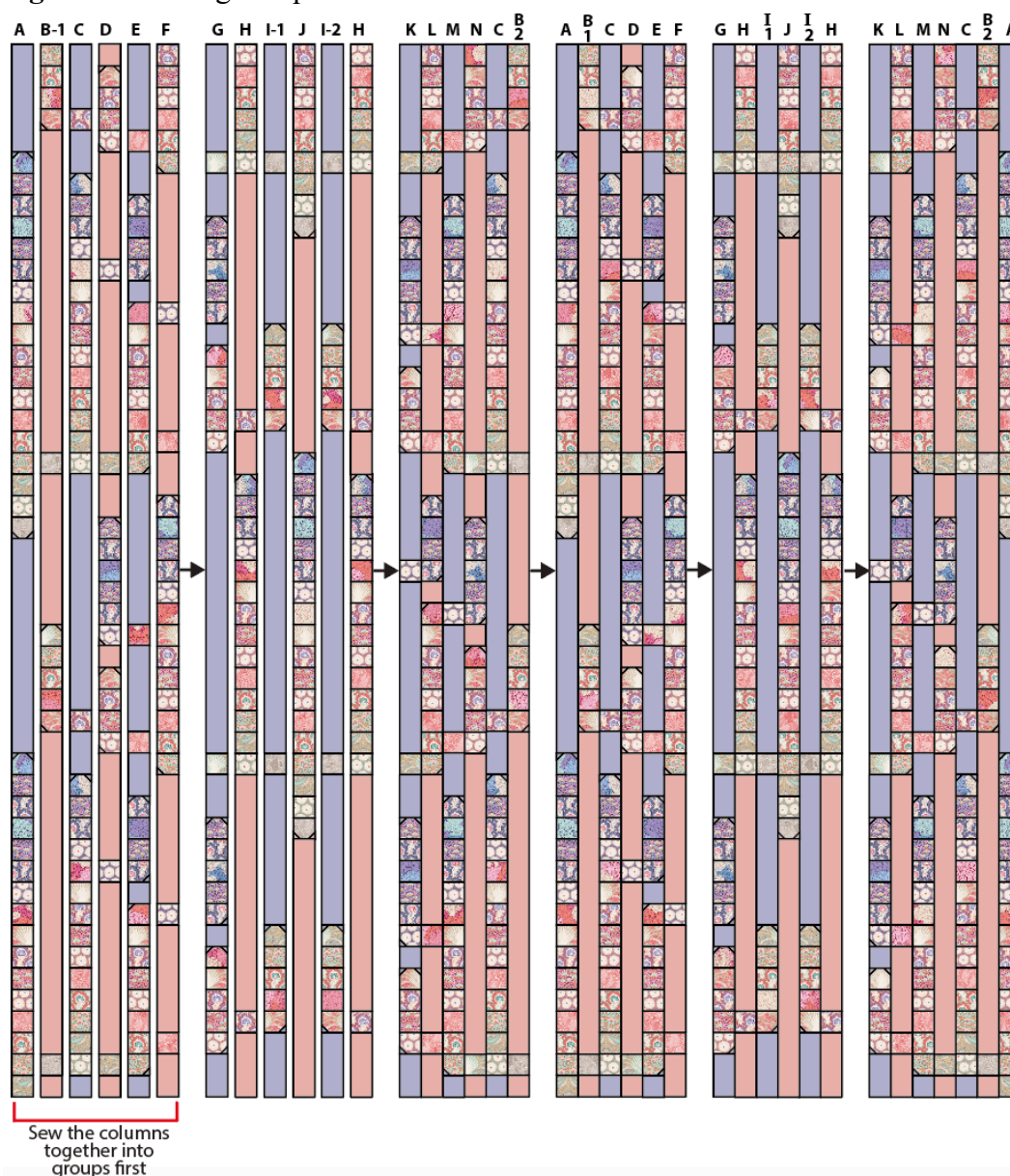


11 Continue in this way to make the other columns, making the number required (see **Fig D**). Press the seams of alternate columns in the opposite direction, so seams will nest together neatly later when the columns are sewn together. Check each column has a total unfinished length of 74in (188cm). Label each column as it is easy to get them confused. You should have thirty-seven columns in total.

Assembling the Quilt

12 When all of the columns are made, lay them out in the order shown in **Fig H**. It is best to sew the columns together in smaller sections, as this will help prevent the work bowing and distorting. Take great care to pin well and align the seams neatly. Using a slightly longer stitch length than normal may help, in case you have to unpick any seams. As each column is added, press carefully and check the work is not distorting and veering off-course (which is easy to do with such long pieces). Now sew the sections together, again, matching seams neatly, and then press. Your quilt top is now finished.

Fig H Assembling the quilt



Quilting and Finishing

13 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.

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

15 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.

16 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.

17 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.