



# single-block quilts



**Finished block size: 8" × 8"**  
**Finished quilt size: 8½" × 8½"**

Single-block quilts are fast and fun. Select your favorite block (or blocks) and make one, or make a few for a small grouping with a big impact. Framed or unframed, they are sure to add a simple but elegant statement to any room décor. Keep the quilts, or give them away as gifts to someone special.



## materials

Materials listed are for 1 single-block quilt.

- ½ yard light for appliqué block background
- A variety of scraps for appliqué pieces
- ⅜ yard green for backing and binding
- ¼ yard paper-backed fusible web
- 10" × 10" batting

## cutting

Cut 1 square 8½" × 8½" from the light for the appliqué block background.

## appliqué

Refer to Appliqué on page 6.

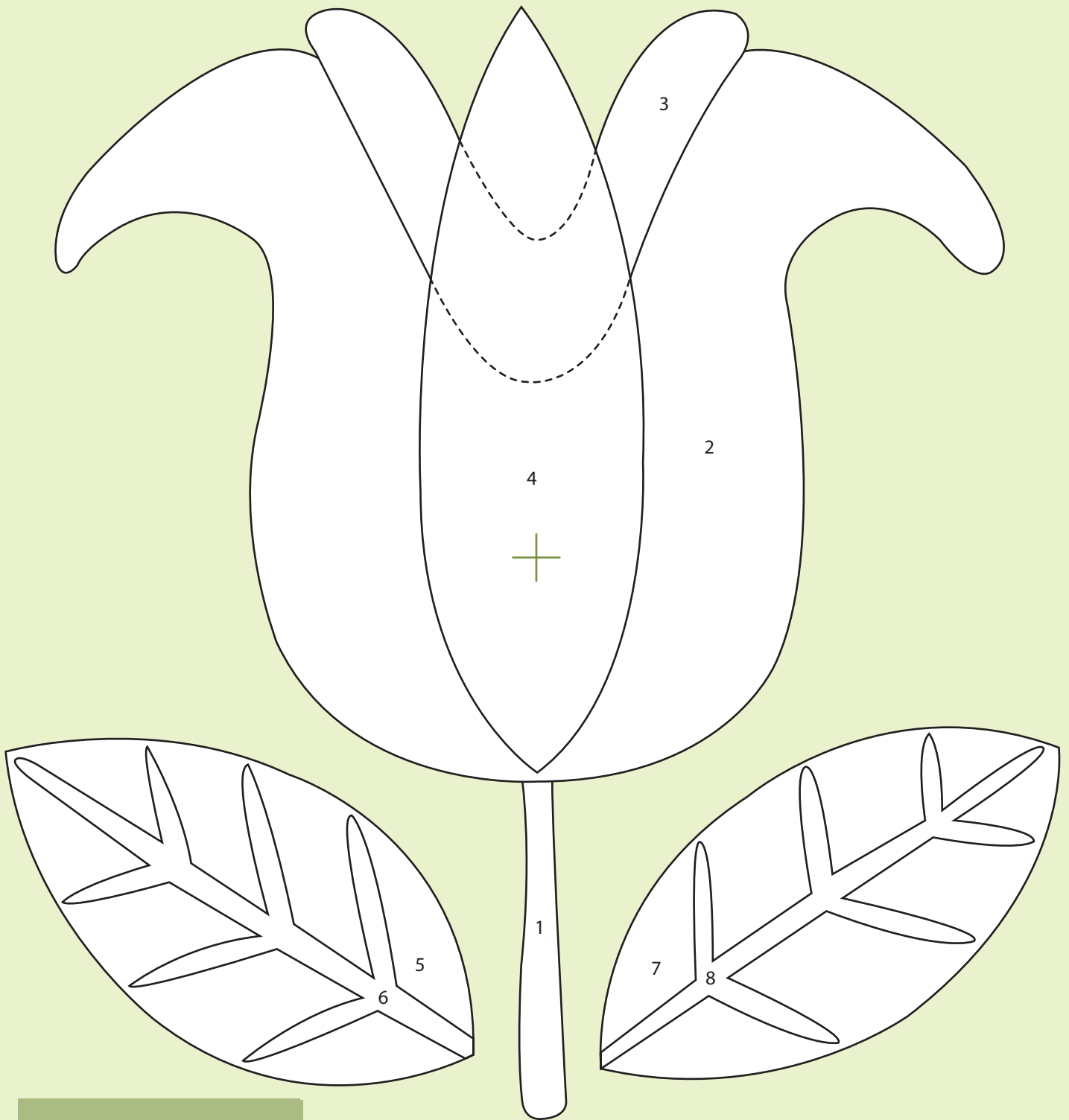
1. Cut out the appropriate appliqué pieces for your chosen block. Use the pattern of your choice from pages 10–59.
2. Appliqué the pieces onto the background.

## putting it all together

### FINISHING

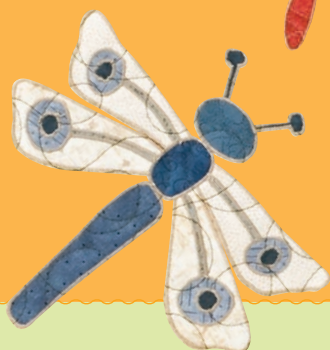
1. Layer the quilt with batting and backing.
2. Quilt as desired, and bind.
3. Hang the quilt as it is, or mat and frame it as desired.





# #3 Dutch Delight





# general instructions

## ROTARY CUTTING

I cut all the fabrics used in the pieced blocks, borders, and bindings with a rotary cutter, an acrylic ruler, and a mat. I trimmed the blocks and borders with these tools as well.

## PIECING

All measurements for piecing include  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowances. If you sew an accurate  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam, you will have happiness, joy, and success in quilting. If you don't, you will have misery, tears, and the seam ripper.



tip

My best quilt-making tip is: Learn to sew an accurate  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam.

## PRESSING

Press seams to one side, preferably toward the darker fabric. Press and lift the iron. Avoid sliding it over the pieces, which can distort and stretch them. To reduce bulk when you join two seamed sections, press the seams in opposite directions so they nest together.

## APPLIQUÉ

All appliqué instructions are for fusible web with machine appliqué, and the appliqué patterns have been drawn in reverse. If you prefer a different appliqué method, you will need to trace a mirror image of the pattern and add seam allowances to the appliqué pieces.

A lightweight paper-backed fusible web works best for machine appliqué. Choose your favorite fusible web, and follow the manufacturer's directions.

## General Appliqué Instructions

1. Trace all parts of the appliqué design on the paper side of the fusible web. Trace each layer of the design separately. For example, trace all the petals on a flower as one piece, and trace the center as another. Whenever two shapes in the design butt together, overlap them by about  $\frac{1}{8}$ " to help prevent the potential for a gap between them. When tracing the shapes, extend the underlapped edge  $\frac{1}{8}$ " beyond the drawn edge in the pattern. Write the pattern letter or number on each traced shape.
2. Cut around the appliqué shapes, leaving a  $\frac{1}{4}$ " margin around each one.
3. Iron each fusible web shape to the wrong side of the appropriate fabric, following the manufacturer's instructions for fusing. Cut on the tracing lines, and peel the paper backing off the fusible web. A thin layer of fusible web will remain on the wrong side of the fabric—this layer will adhere the appliqué pieces to the backgrounds.
4. Position the pieces on the backgrounds. Press to fuse them in place.
5. Machine stitch around the appliqué pieces using a zigzag, satin, or blanket stitch. Stitch any detail lines indicated on the patterns.

My choice is the satin stitch. I generally use beige thread for all the stitching. Sometimes the stitches blend with the fabric, and sometimes they don't. Using one color throughout gives the quilt a folk art look. However, on the *Tulip Lap Quilt* (page 81), I used black thread, and you can see how changing the thread color changed the entire look of the quilt. As always, the type of stitching you use and the thread color you select are personal choices.

