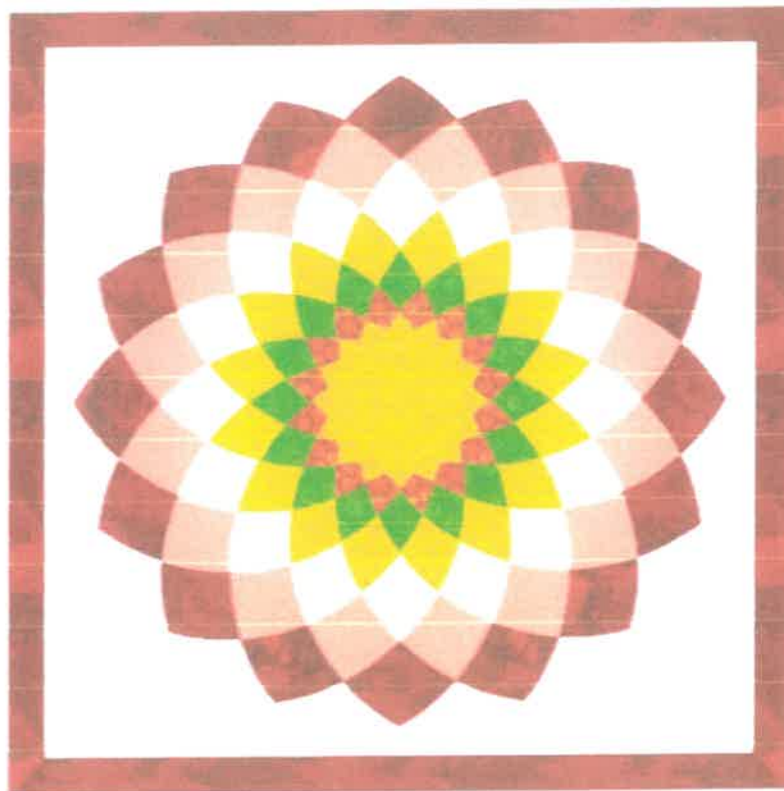


## Dahlia Quilt by Sue Thornborough

Small Dahlia - 20 inch square.

Can be made larger with additional borders



7 fabrics for the petals - a fat quarter of each is fine (half that for the inner petals).

Background fabric -  $\frac{1}{2}$  metre

Additional border (optional) - another  $\frac{1}{2}$  metre.

If you want to turn this into a cushion or wall hanging you will need wadding and backing fabric. Calculate how wide a border you want and cut your wadding and backing accordingly.

### Dahlia cutting instructions

Glue the patterns onto card or template plastic and cut accurately on the cutting line.

If you feel confident that you know which pattern piece goes with which fabric then you can make a start on the cutting.

You must cut the old fashioned way by drawing round the template and cutting each piece.

You can fold the fabric double but, please, no more than that as you lose accuracy rapidly with more layers.

Mark with a **very sharp** pencil, a propelling pencil is best, and cut accurately on the line. If you are cutting two layers at a time then pin them together before you cut.

You require 16 of each piece except for the wide, flat triangle which is background fabric (labelled 12 in the small pattern and K in the large pattern).

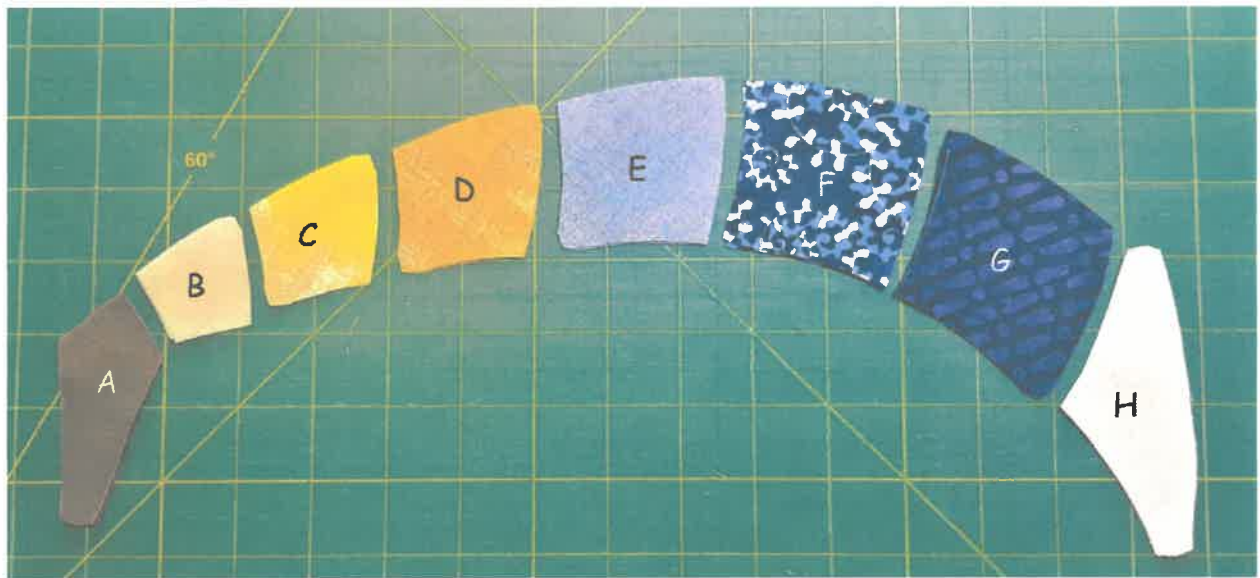
Cut as accurately as possible with sharp scissors.

There is a star on the point of each pattern piece. This star denotes the point that is pointing towards the centre of the dahlia. Please be sure to **mark this point on all pattern pieces**. It is very easy to get the pieces upside down without this mark!

## 20" Dahlia - Construction

1. Cut 16 of each piece. Please take care to mark and cut accurately.
2. Place your cut pieces in order making sure that you have them all in the correct orientation. The star on the pattern marks the point that is pointing towards the centre of the dahlia.

Hint: the concave curve (or shorter side) is always towards the centre and the convex curve (or longer side) is always towards the outside.



3. Sew the centre 'spear' (A) to the next petal (B). Sew B to C and so on along the 'arm'. Take care to keep them all in the right orientation, particularly with pieces B and G. These pieces seem to like turning themselves round! Sew all 16 'arms'.
4. Now press half of them towards the centre and half towards the outside.
5. Sew these 'arms' together into pairs (with seams pressed in opposite directions). Sew the centre (A) piece first, stopping at the cross seam and backtacking. Then match all the cross seams as you sew.

Take care that you sew an accurate seam allowance especially at the point of the 'spear'.

6. Press and trim the seam allowances at the centre.



7. Sew the pairs together into fours, then fours into eights, pressing and trimming as you go.



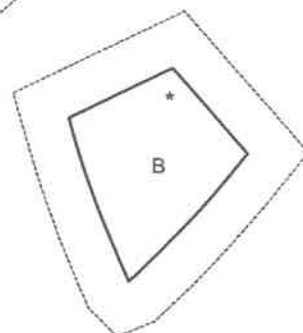
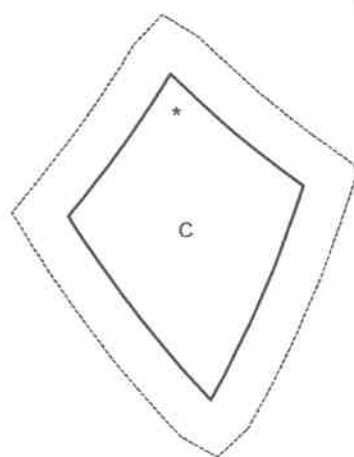
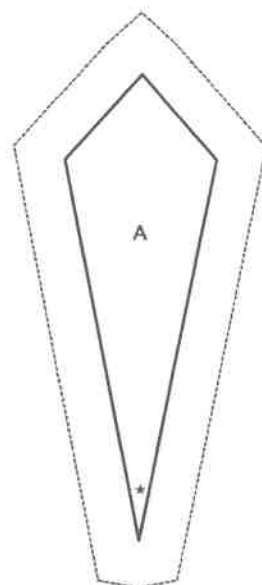
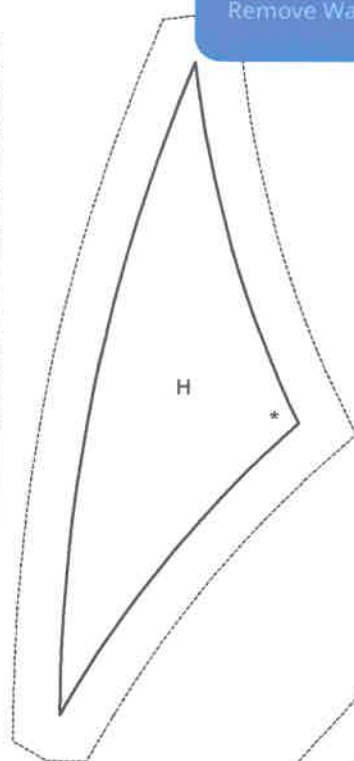
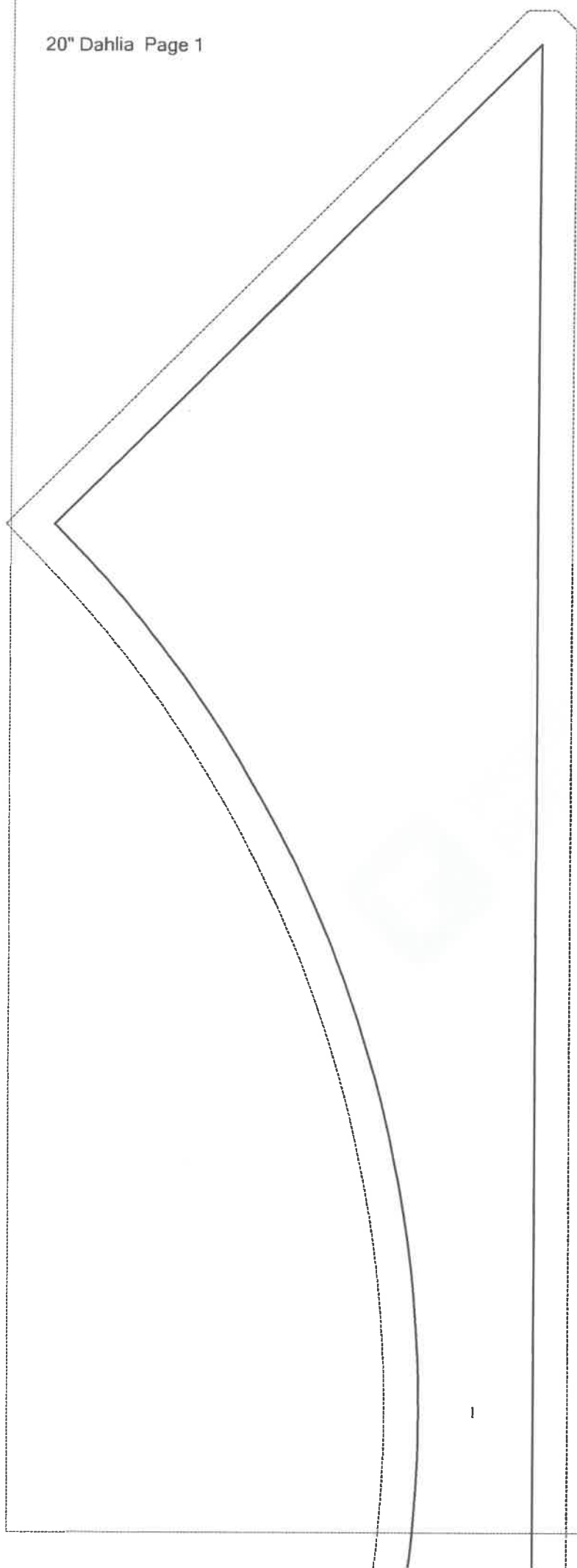
8. You will then have two halves. Fit the centre together and sew it first, starting and stopping at the seam allowance.

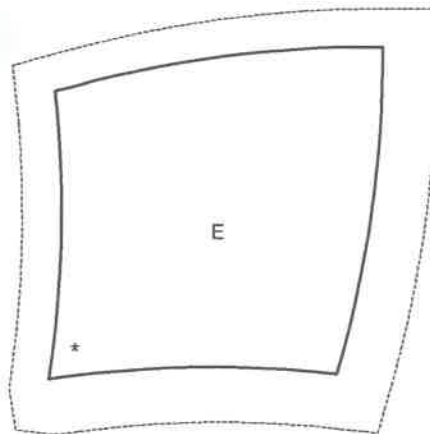
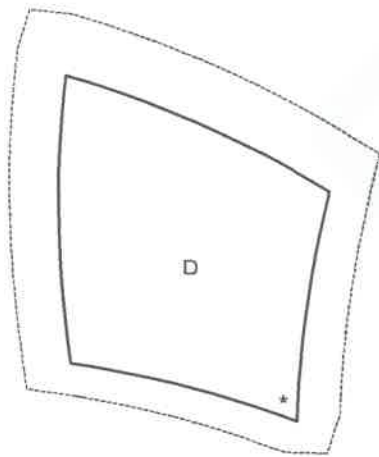
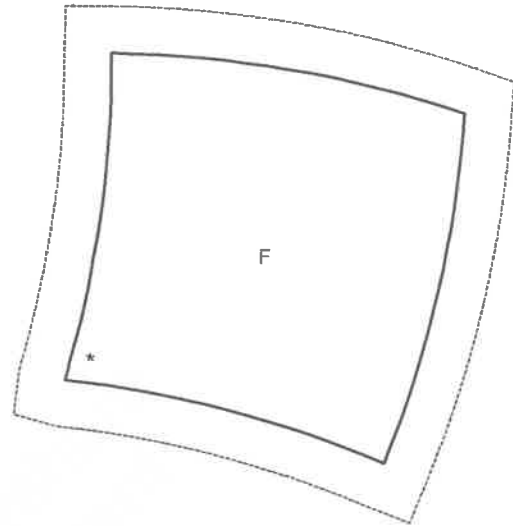
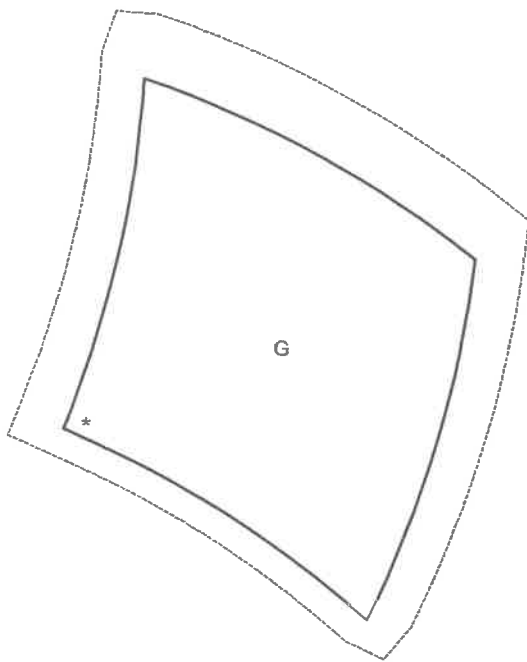
9. Then stitch the arms.

10. Now you have a beautiful Dahlia! It's time to fit it into it's frame. Stitch the four sections of your frame together. Your dahlia has 16

points so pin every fourth point to a seam on the frame, and the rest should fit nicely in between. Stitch and press the seam outwards.

20" Dahlia Page 1







20" Dahlia Page 3

