

This old English
Christmas carol enumerates each day by
the gifts given on each of the twelve days of Christmas.

In London, in 1909, Frederic Austin popularized the arrangement of the song we know today. In Dec. 2020, Eleanor Levie fiddled with the lyrics for the Village Quilters of Catonsville, MD to perform on Zoom.

[Verse 1]

On the first day of Christmas my true love sent to me: A partridge in a pear tree

On the 1st day of Quiltmas, good fortune brought to me: that part for my broken machine.

[Verse 2]

On the second day of Christmas my true love sent to me: Two turtle doves

And a partridge in a pear tree

On the 2nd day of Quiltmas, good fortune brought to me: Two non-skid gloves
And that part for my broken machine.

[Verse 3]

On the third day of Christmas my true love sent to me: Three French hens...

On the 3rd day of Quiltmas, good fortune brought to me: how-to's on French hems, Two non-skid gloves,

And that part for my broken machine.

[Verse 4]

On the fourth day of Christmas my true love sent to me: Four calling birds...

On the 4th day of Quiltmas, good fortune brought to me: Four sprawling batts, how-to's on French hems,
Two non-skid gloves,
And that part for my broken machine.



[Verse 5]

On the fifth day of Christmas my true love sent to me: Five gold rings...

On the 5th day of Quiltmas, good fortune brought to me: Five gold-tipped needles! Four sprawling batts, how-to's on French hems, Two non-skid gloves, And that part for my broken machine.

[Verse 6]

On the sixth day of Christmas my true love sent to me: Six geese a-laying...

On the 6th day of Quiltmas, good fortune brought to me: Seams flatly laying,
Five gold-tipped needles!
Four sprawling batts,
how-to's on French hems,
Two non-skid gloves,
And that part for my broken machine.

[Verse 7]

On the 7th day of Christmas my true love sent to me: Seven swans a-swimming...

On the 7th day of Quiltmas, good fortune brought to me: Several bands of trimming,
Seams flatly laying,
Five gold-tipped needles!
Four sprawling batts,
how-to's on French hems,
Two non-skid gloves,
And that part for my broken machine.





[Verse 8]
On the eighth day of Christmas my true love sent to me: Eight maids a-milking...

On the 8th day of Quiltmas, good fortune brought to me: 8 blades for cutting
Several bands of trimming
Seams flatly laying
Five gold-tipped needles!
Four sprawling batts,

Four sprawling batts, how-to's on French hems, Two non-skid gloves,

And that part for my broken machine.

[Verse 9]

On the ninth day of Christmas my true love sent to me: Nine ladies dancing...

On the 9th day of Quiltmas, good fortune brought to me: 9 Crazy quilt blocks, 8 blades for cutting,

Several bands of trimming, Seams flatly laying, Five gold-tipped needles! Four sprawling batts, how-to's on French hems, Two non-skid gloves, And that part for my broken machine.



[Verse 10]

On the 10th day of Christmas my true love sent to me: 10 lords a-leaping

On the 10th day of Quiltmas, good fortune brought to

me: 10 awards I'm keeping,

9 Crazy quilt blocks,

8 blades for cutting,

Several bands of trimming, Seams flatly laying, Five gold-tipped needles!

Four sprawling batts,

how-to's on French hems,

Two non-skid gloves,

And that part for my broken machine.

[Verse 11]

On the 11th day of Christmas my true love sent to me: 11 pipers piping

On the 11th day of Quiltmas, good fortune brought to

me: 11 yards of piping

10 awards I'm keeping

9 Crazy quilt blocks

8 blades for cutting

Several bands of trimming

Seams flatly laying

Five gold-tipped needles!

Four sprawling batts,

how-to's on French hems

Two non-skid gloves

And that part for my broken machine



[Verse 12]
On the 12th day of Christmas my true love sent to me
12 drummers drumming



On the 12th day of Quiltmas, good fortune brought to me: 12 projects humming 11 yards of piping 10 awards I'm keeping 9 Crazy quilt blocks 8 blades for cutting Several bands of trimming Seams flatly laying Five gold-tipped needles! Four sprawling batts, how-to's on French hems Two non-skid gloves

And that part for my broken machine! [the end!]