



Magical Pillowcase Tutorial



Notes:

The pillowcase in this tutorial uses three fabrics - a main fabric, a cuff/contrast fabric, and a trim fabric. You can of course make the pillowcase using only one or two fabrics if you'd like.

The use of 44/45" wide fabric is assumed.

The assumption is that you'll be using 44/45" wide fabric.

The pillowcase pattern makes a standard pillowcase. If you'd like to make a Queen or King pillowcase, fabric requirements are provided at the end of this tutorial.

You will need a relatively large flat surface like a dining room or kitchen table for pinning.

Fabric requirements (for one standard size pillowcase):

3/4 yd (27") main fabric

1/3 yd (12") contrast fabric

1/8 yd trim fabric

Instructions:

1. Cut a 1 1/2" wide strip of trim fabric, selvedge to selvedge. Fold the strip in half lengthwise, wrong sides together. Press. (Note: this will result in a very narrow trim section as in my pillowcase above. If you'd like your trim a little wider, just cut this strip a little wider.)
2. Cut the main fabric 27" long by 41" wide.
3. Place the contrast fabric (12" by the width of the fabric) right side up on the table.



4. Place the folded trim fabric on top, matching up the raw edges.



5. Place the main fabric right side down on top of the trim fabric, once again lining up the raw edges.



6. Pin. (Note that the main fabric is a little narrower than the trim and contrast fabrics. Don't worry about this right now.)



7. Roll up the main fabric ONLY, until about 3" of the contrast fabric is exposed.



8. Fold the exposed contrast fabric over the main fabric roll and line up its raw edge with the raw edge you pinned in step 6.



9. Re-pin, undoing the original pins as you go and making sure all the raw edges are lined up.



10. Stitch a 1/2" seam along the raw edge.



11. Turn the pillowcase right side out by pulling the main fabric section out through the side opening of the "burrito".



12. Lay flat (WRONG sides together) folding the cuff exactly in half and lining up the trim seams. Press. You will now have a nice cuff with a little trim sticking out. Trim off the excess cuff and trim fabric.



13. Now we're going to sew French seams. Line up all the raw edges. Note that you have the wrong sides of the pillowcase together and not the right sides like you will when sewing regular seams. Pin along both the end and side raw edges.

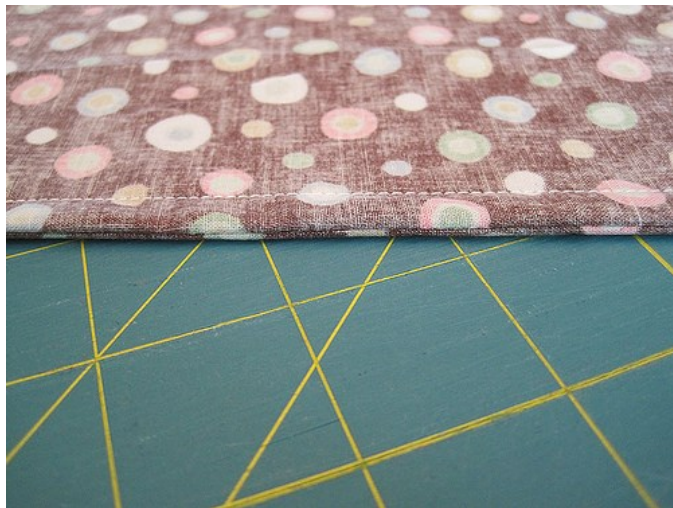


14. Stitch the side and end of the pillowcase, using a scant 1/4" seam.



15. Turn the pillowcase wrong side out. Use a chopstick or knitting needle to push out the corners. Be careful though. If you push too hard, you'll go straight through the seam. Press.

16. Stitch along the side and end of the pillowcase again, this time using a 3/8" seam. This will enclose the raw seam edge.



17. Turn the pillowcase right side out. Push out the corners again to sharpen them. Press.

Voila!



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Queen and King Pillowcase Measurements:

Queen:

7/8 yd main fabric
1/3 yd contrast fabric
1/8 yd trim fabric

Step 2: Cut the main fabric 32" long by 41" wide.

King:

1 yd main fabric
1/3 yd contrast fabric
1/8 yd trim fabric

Step 2: Cut the main fabric 36" long by 41" wide.