

Pillowcase Tutorial



Notes:

The pillowcase in this tutorial uses two fabrics - a main fabric and a cuff/contrast fabric. You can use a trim fabric and many videos show this; however, I feel that it often needs ironing and would not be practical for these purposes.

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

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The pillowcase pattern makes a small pillowcase that will hold a 16" pillow form. If you'd like to make a Standard, 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 or the floor for pinning.

Try to use child-friendly fabrics that would be special to a child

Fabric requirements (for one small size pillowcase):

3/4 yd (27") main fabric or if you don't want to double, I would use 18"

1/4 yd (9") contrast fabric

Also need 16" pillow form, thread, scissors or rotary cutting board and Velcro

Instructions:

1. Cut the main fabric 27" long by 41" wide.
2. Place the contrast fabric (9" by the width of the fabric) right side up on the table or floor.



3. Fold the main fabric in half long-wise with raw edges matching and lay right side down on top of the contrast fabric, lining up the raw edges. You can also use about 18 inches and only have 1 thickness for your pillowcase. In this case, lay right side down on top of contrast fabric, lining up raw edges.



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



5. Roll up the main fabric ONLY, until about 3" of the contrast fabric is exposed, whether you are using a single thickness or doubled fabric.



6. Fold the exposed contrast fabric over the main fabric roll and line up its raw edge with the raw edge you pinned in step 4.



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



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



9. Turn the pillowcase right side out by pulling the main fabric section out through the side opening of the "burrito". Lay flat and press the cuff on both sides upward so that it lays nicely. Trim off the raw edges and selvages.



10. 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. Trim down to about 18 inches.



11. 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. You can also use serger if you like rather than do French seams. Trim accordingly to fit 16" pillow form.



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

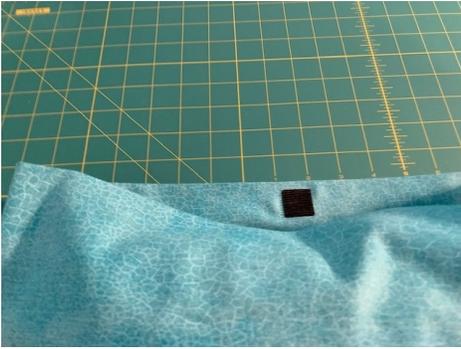


13. Turn the pillowcase wrong side out. Use a chopstick, knitting needle, or turning tool to push out the corners. Be careful though. If you push too hard, you'll go straight through the seam. Press.

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



15. Turn the pillowcase right side out. Push out the corners again to sharpen them. Press. I like to add Velco in middle of contrast band inside to help keep pillow from falling out when child carries around.



Video tutorials that are very helpful: Pick the one that you like best:

- 1) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LR8T4SrFNPs>
- 2) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3mXaYrSMk8c>

Other size Pillowcase Measurements:

Standard:

3/4 yd (27") main fabric
 1/3 yd (12") contrast fabric
 1/8 yd trim fabric

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.