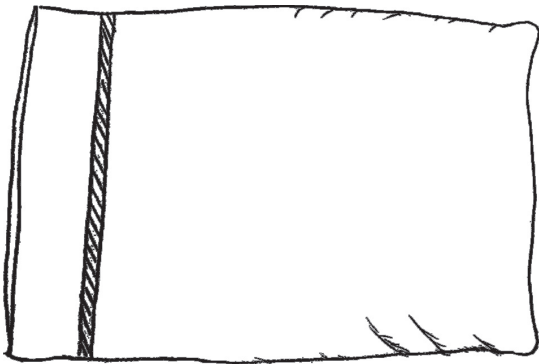


A Simple Pillowcase



So you have the perfect duvet cover, quilt or bedspread - but it's so hard to find matching pillowcases! Why not make your own?

Pillowcases are so simple to make you may want to make special ones for the holidays or give them as gifts.

Materials Needed:

Main Fabric:* 3/4 yd. (1-1/4 yd. if fabric is directional)

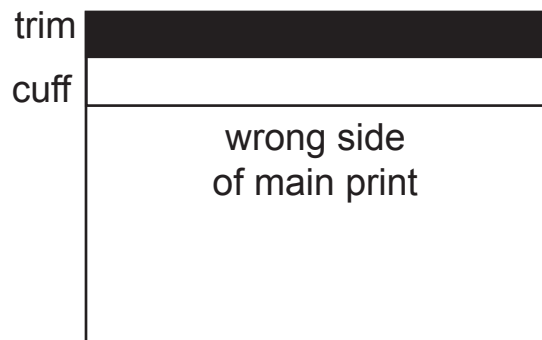
Cuff Fabric: 3/8 yd.

Trim Fabric: 1/8 yd.

Thread to match or blend

Instructions:

1. Pre-wash all your fabrics. If you're using flannel you'll want to wash and dry the fabric a couple of times on hot since flannel continues to shrink.
2. Cut out your pieces. Cut the main fabric to 26" x 40" (36" x 40" for king size.) Cut the cuff fabric to 13" x 40" and the trim fabric to 1-3/4" x 40".
3. Fold and press the cuff fabric and trim fabric in half lengthwise, wrong sides together.
4. Along one 40" edge of the WRONG SIDE of the main print, layer the cuff and trim fabrics as shown, matching raw edges.

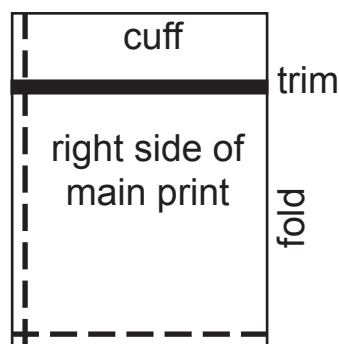


40"

5. Sew the layers together using a 1/4" seam. Trim the seam to 1/8".
6. Press the seam towards the main fabric.
7. Flip trim and cuff over to the right side of main print with the stitched line exactly on the fold. Press again.
8. Sew 1/4" seam along this edge, enclosing all the raw edges. You will sew this type of enclosed seam (called a French seam) on all seams in the pillowcase.
9. Fold the layered fabrics in half matching the 26" edges (36" edges for king size) with the WRONG SIDES together.
10. Sew 1/4" seam along the edges shown at right. Trim the seam allowance to 1/8" and press towards one side. Turn the pillowcase so the right sides are together with seamline along the fold, press again and sew using a 1/4" seam.

BE SURE TO BACK STITCH AT THE CUFF END AS THIS WILL BE THE PART MOST LIKELY TO HAVE STRESS PUT ON IT.

Turn your pillowcase right-side out and you're done!



Hints:

If you are using a directional print, think about how the pillowcase will lie on the bed and which way you want your design to go before cutting.

This is a great first sewing project to do with children!

Pillowcases make great "parting" gifts for your house guests. Make a souvenir pillowcase that can be used while they are visiting and then taken home as a memento.

Start a pillowcase of the month "club" for a college student or anyone else who would love to receive a touch of handmade each month.