

Pocket Pillowcase

By Rebecca Kemp Brent
As seen on *The Quilt Show*
[www.thequiltshow.com]

Materials

- 1 yard main fabric
- Nine 1½" x 12" strips of various coordinating fabrics
- (optional) embroidery design, thread and supplies

Pictured morning glory motif can be found in Redwork from The WORKBASKET.



Finished size: 20" x 29"

Instructions

Seam allowance is ¼".

1. Cut from the main fabric:

- One piece 20½" x 35" for the pillowcase back
- One piece 20½" x 25½" for the pillowcase front
- One piece 20½" x 4½" for the cuff facing

2. Join the 1½" x 12" fabric strips side by side. Fold, with right sides together, and sew the first and last strips together to form a tube.

4. Flatten the tube on a rotary cutting mat and straighten one open end. Cut the tube into seven segments 1½" wide.

5. Remove the stitches between the first and last fabric strips in one segment. Continue removing every fourth seam to make three pieced strips, each four squares long.

6. Remove the stitches between the first and second strips in the next segment. Continue removing every fourth seam to make three pieced strips.

7. Repeat with the remaining segments, beginning with a different seam in each segment, for a total of 21 pieced strips.

8. Arrange the pieced strips as desired for a random, scrappy appearance, or create a stripe or bargello pattern. Sew the strips together and press the seams to one side.

9. Position the pieced section on the pillowcase front, right sides together and raw edges matched. Center the pieced cuff on the main fabric; the facing extends beyond the pillowcase fabric on each side.

10. Stitch the cuff to the pillowcase front. Trim the ends of the pieced section to match the pillowcase fabric. Press the seam toward the main fabric.

11. Lay the cuff facing on the pieced cuff, right sides together and raw edges matched. Stitch. Press the cuff facing to the wrong side, covering the piecing's raw edges.

12. Press a fold into the pillowcase fabric ¼" above the cuff seam. Tuck the cuff and facing seam allowances into the fold.

13. Stitch in the ditch along the cuff seam, catching the raw edges inside the tuck. Fold the main fabric away from the cuff and press the tuck toward the main fabric.
14. Optional embroidery
 - Mark the embroidery location on the main fabric, centered side to side, so that the embroidery design's lower edge will lie ½" - 1" above the tuck's fold.
 - For hand embroidery, transfer the embroidery motif to the pillowcase fabric. Hoop and stitch the design.
 - For machine embroidery, hoop the pillowcase front with appropriate stabilizer and stitch the design.
15. Press 6" of the pillowcase back to the wrong side, forming the pocket. Finish the pocket raw edge by serging, overcasting or hemming.
16. Lay the pieced front on the pillowcase back, right sides together, and pin. Fold the pocket extension over the pillowcase front so the pocket right side lies against the cuff wrong side.
17. Sew the side and end seams. Finish the seams by overcasting or serging.
18. Flip the pocket into position against the pillowcase back. Turn the pillowcase right side out and press the seams.
19. Slip the pillow into the case and tuck its end into the pocket. The pocket also makes a hiding place for a diary, small toy, or other "secret" treasure.



Detail, showing the pocket

*For a travel-size pocket pillowcase and eleven other projects, see **Redwork** from **The WORKBASKET**, coming in February 2010 from Krause Publications, an imprint of F+W Media.*

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