

Rectangular Cushion

FREE PATTERN



This Cushion measures 30cm x 56cm wide (12" x 22").

Many embroidery designs lend themselves perfectly to be made into small square pillows. By simply adding a piece of complementing print fabric at each side, you can easily make a beautiful bolster style cushion instead.

BY

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Rectangular Cushion Pattern

You will need

- * 35cm x 35cm wide (7" x 7") piece of medium weight cotton to compliment your embroidery
- * 50cm x 125cm wide (20" x 49") piece of linen or medium weight cotton for backing and piping
- * 40cm (16") matching zip
- * 175cm (1yd 33") size 6 piping cord
- * 40cm x 60cm wide (16" x 24") cushion insert
- * Matching sewing thread

Cutting Out

Cut the fabric pieces according to the measurements below.

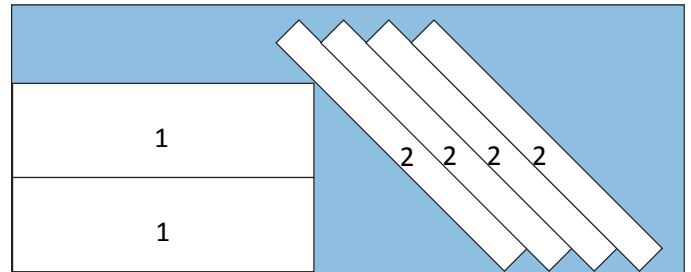
Medium weight print cotton

Side front: cut two, each 30cm x 16cm wide (12" x 6 1/4")

Backing fabric

Back: cut two, each 16.5cm x 58cm wide (7" x 22")

Piping: cut four on the bias, each 60cm x 6cm wide (24" x 2 3/8 ")



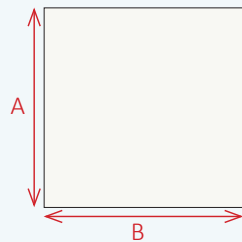
Changing size

The measurements given in these instructions suit a centre panel that measures 30cm (12") square.

If your embroidery is very different in size to the one used here you can change the size of the finished pillow to suit smaller or larger pieces of embroidery using the following:

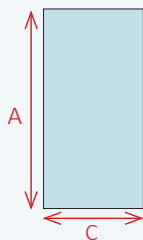
1. Centre front

Trim your embroidered piece into a square (A high x B wide)



2. Side pieces

To determine the width of the side pieces: $1/2B + 1\text{cm } (3/8") = C$
Cut two pieces, each A x C wide

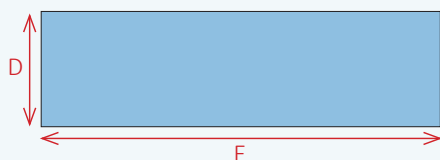


3. Back pieces

To determine the height of the back pieces: $1/2A + 1.5\text{cm } (5/8") = D$

To determine the width of the back pieces: $(C + B + C) - 4\text{cm } (1 3/8") \text{ wide} = E$

Cut two pieces, each D x E wide



4. Piping

To determine the total length of piping needed: $A + A + E + E$

Cutting layout

Backing fabric

1. Back
2. Piping

Construction

All seam allowances are 1cm (3/8") unless otherwise specified. The shaded areas on the following diagrams indicate the right side of the fabric.

1. Preparing the embroidered panel

Place the embroidery with the right side down onto a soft, padded surface and press.

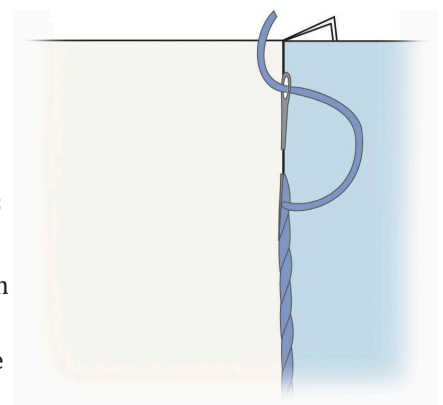
Measuring from the centre, trim the embroidered piece to measure 30cm (12") square.

2. Making the front

With right sides together and matching raw edges, pin and stitch a front side piece to each side of the embroidered panel.

Press the seam allowances towards the sides.

Use a matching colour yarn and work a row of stem stitch along each seam line (diag 1).

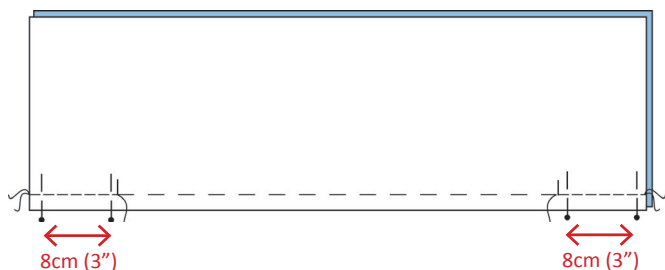


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3. Making the cushion back

Neaten one long edge of each back piece with a machine zigzag or overlock stitch.

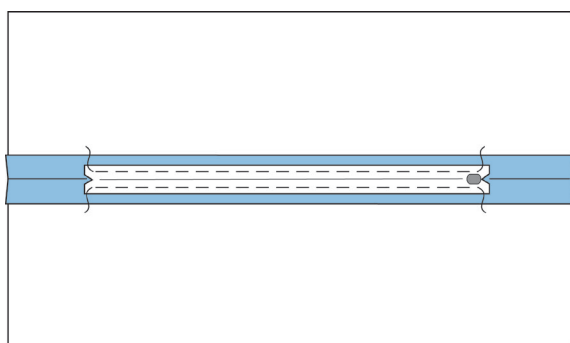
Matching the neaten edges, pin and stitch for 8cm (3") at each end using a 1.5cm ($\frac{5}{8}$ ") seam allowance. Tack along the remainder of the edge (diag 2).



Press the seam open.

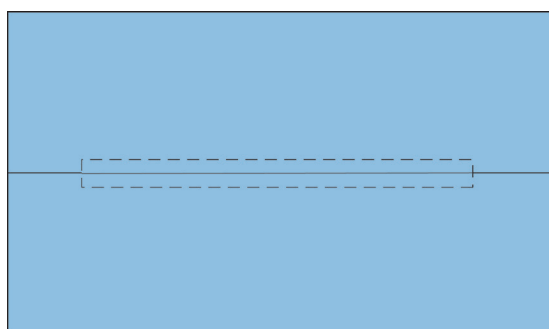
Stitch a bartack across the top of the zip to hold the two pieces of tape together.

With the right side of the closed zip facing the wrong side of the cushion back, centre the zip over the tacked section of the seam. Pin and tack in place (diag 3).



With the right side of the fabric facing up, stitch the zip in place using a zipper foot, stitching 6mm ($\frac{1}{4}$ ") from the seam along both sides and across the ends (diag 4).

Remove the tacking.

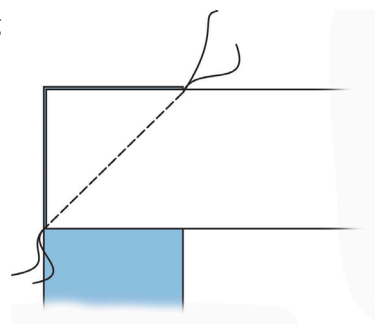


4. Making and attaching the piping

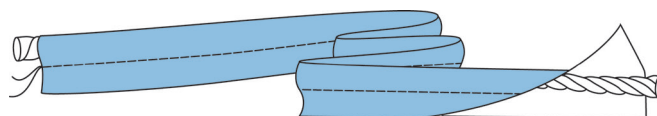
Join the bias strips by placing one end of each strip right sides together and at right angles to each other.

Stitch diagonally across the overlapping ends (diag 5).

Trim the seam to 6mm ($\frac{1}{4}$ ") and press open.

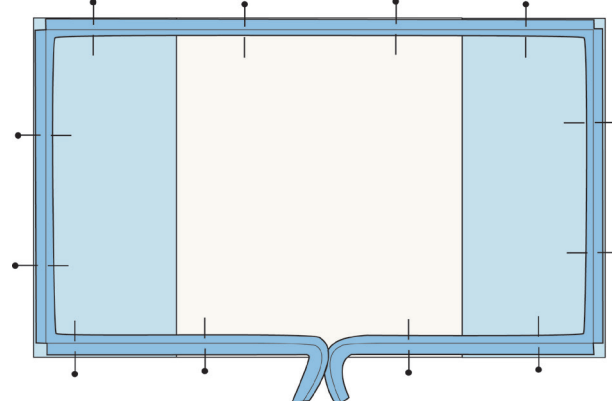


Lay the piping cord along the centre of the bias strip on the wrong side. Fold the fabric over the cord, matching raw edges. Stitch close to the cord using a zipper foot (diag 6).

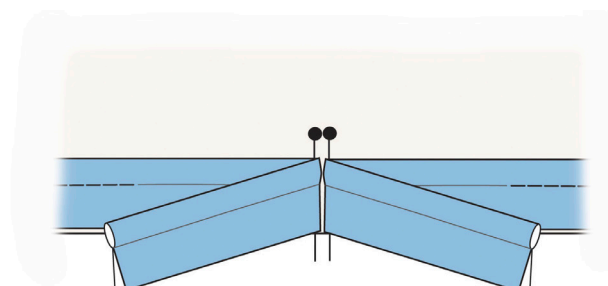


With right sides together, matching raw edges and leaving a 5cm (2") tail extending past the seam, pin the piping to the cushion front. Clip the piping heading at the corners. Finish with a tail extending past the starting point (diag 7).

Starting and finishing 5cm (2") from the overlap point.



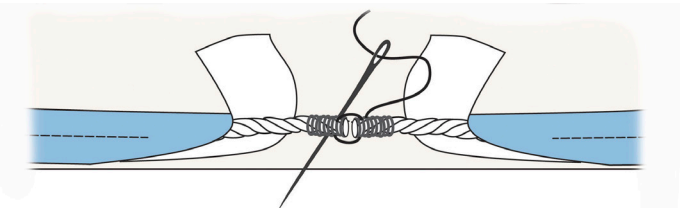
stitch the piping in place, stitching along the piping stitch line. Mark the piping headings at the point that they overlap. (diag 8).



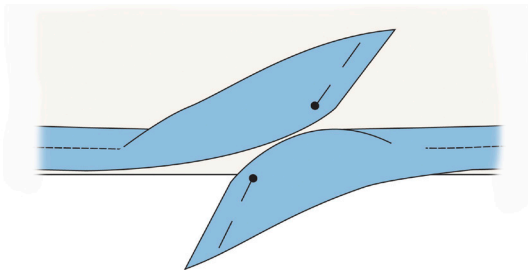
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Unpick the stitching for a short distance from both ends of the piping. Using doubled sewing thread, wrap each cord end tightly at the marked point for 6mm ($\frac{1}{4}$ ").

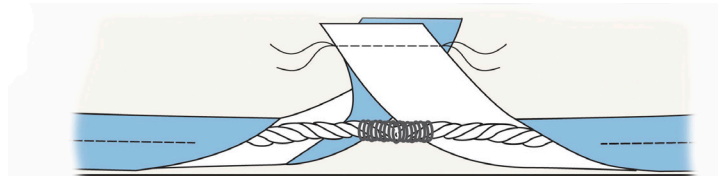
Trim away the excess length of piping cord on both ends and catch the ends together (diag 9).



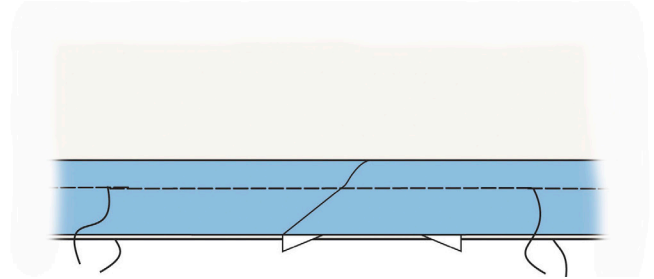
Open out the ends of the piping strips and measure a 1cm ($\frac{3}{8}$ ") seam allowance beyond the marks. Trim away the excess fabric (diag 10).



Place the right sides of the piping strips together by twisting one end and match the raw edges. Pin and stitch the piping strips together at the marked point (diag 11).



Press the seam open. Reposition the cord and stitch the remainder of the piping in place (diag 12).



5. Making the cushion

Open the zip. With right sides together and matching raw edges, pin and stitch the cushion front to the back around the outer edge, stitching along the previous stitch line.

Turn the cushion cover to the right side, pushing out the corners.



The cushion shown is made using my **MEADOW BLOOM** crewel embroidery design. It is available as a kit or downloadable PDF from the **Fine Stitch Studio** store on Etsy.