

Pincushion

Level: Beginner/Basic.

Materials and Equipment Required:

Approx 20cm x 40cm of fabric (this project is a great way of using up scrap pieces of fabric). A fat quarter is plenty of fabric for this project.

Approx 70cm of piping cord.

Approx 12cm of 1cm wide ribbon.

Hollowfibre filling.

Thread.

The Pattern

Cut 2 square pieces of fabric; 16cm x 16cm. This the front and back of the pincushion. Both pieces are the same.

Cut 1 piece of fabric (for the loop) 12cm x 4cm.

Cut approximately 75cm of bias strips (cut at a 45° angle to the selvedge of your fabric), 4cm wide.

1.5cm seams are used throughout this project.

Making up

1. Cut out the pattern pieces in your fabric as described above.
2. Take your loop piece fabric and fold the long raw edges to the centre of the loop; wrong sides together. Press in place.
3. Place the centre of the ribbon over the centre of the loop (you are now covering up the raw edges. Make sure the ribbon is placed evenly all the way down the loop. Pin in place.
4. Sew the ribbon in place. This should be on the very edge of the ribbon. The ribbon side of the loop is the right side.
5. Fold the back piece in half along the top edge and mark this point.
6. Fold the loop piece in half to make a loop. Pin in place (right side uppermost) on the right side of the back piece of your pincushion. The point where the loop joins in the centre should be placed on the centre of the back of your pincushion. Machine stitch in place.
7. Machine stitch your bias strips together. You should now have a strip approximately 75cm long x 4cm wide. Press the seams open and trim down to 1cm.
8. Change your sewing machine foot to a piping foot or a zipper foot.
9. Wrap your bias strip around the piping cord.
10. Take the front piece of your pincushion and starting at the bottom of the pincushion, sew the piping in place. *Do not start machine stitching at the very end of the piping. Leave a gap to enable you to join the piping together.*
11. Machine stitch the piping in place; matching the raw edges of the piping with the raw edge of the pincushion front. The foot of your machine should be very close to the wrapped piping to ensure that the piping is firm and not baggy.
12. Clip the wrapped piping at the corners to enable you to achieve a smooth finish around the corners. Leave the needle of your machine in your work as you make these clips. Leave a gap at the end of the piping to enable you to join the piping in one continuous round.
13. Join the bias strips together and trim down the seam.
14. Cut the piping to fit and machine stitch the gap closed.
15. Lay the front and back pieces of your pincushion together with right sides facing each other. Machine stitch around the edge (1.5cm seam) close to the piping. Remember; you want the piping to be nice and firmly wrapped. Leave a gap at the bottom edge of the pincushion so that you can turn it through.
16. Clip the corners of the pincushion.
17. Turn through the pincushion.
18. Stuff firmly with the hollowfibre filling.
19. Hand stitch closed the gap at the bottom of the pincushion.
20. Ta... Dah.... You have a completed pincushion.

