



# NEEDLEBOOK (1)

## Sewing Skills You Will Learn

1. Measure and cut accurately.
2. Stitch straight.
3. Backstitch.
4. Press.

## Supplies Needed:

Felt or firmly woven wool fabric scraps  
Matching or contrasting thread

You may make your needlebook all one color or in contrasting colors. (Examples: red, yellow and blue, or blue, blue-green and green.)

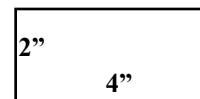
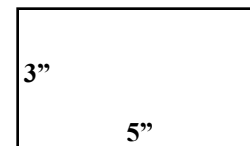
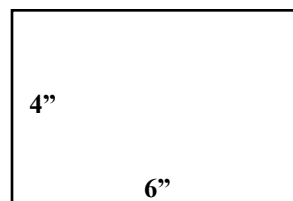
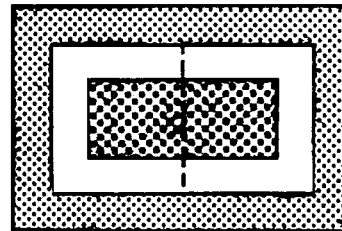
**Step 1.** Cut 3 felt or wool pieces the same shape, each piece slightly smaller than the one before. Sizes are 6" x 4"; 5" x 3"; 4" x 2". Make 3 cardboard patterns to size and trace around the fabric using chalk or water-erasable pen. You may use pinking shears when cutting for a decorative edge.

**Step 2.** Find the center of each piece by placing the short edges together. Press along fold to mark center.

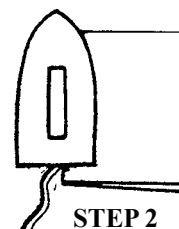
**Step 3.** Place the largest piece down; center the next piece on it with creases matching; place the smallest piece on top. Pin all layers, keeping the creases together.

**Step 4.** Machine stitch along the crease. Secure threads at each end by backstitching 2 or 3 stitches.

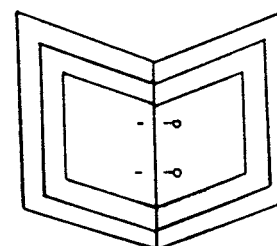
**Step 5.** Lightly steam press the needlebook in half. Your needlebook is finished and ready for you to put needles in it!



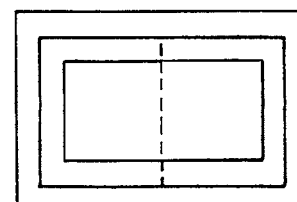
STEP 1



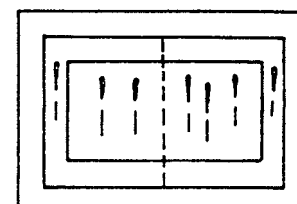
STEP 2



STEP 3



STEP 4



STEP 5



# SQUARE PIN CUSHION (1)

## Sewing Skills You Will Learn

1. Felt wool fabric.
2. Measure and cut accurately.
3. Stitch 3/8" seam allowance.
4. Pivot at corners.
5. Backstitch.

## Supplies Needed:

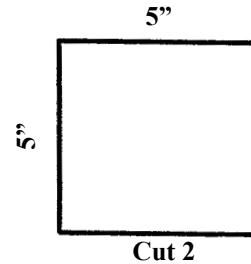
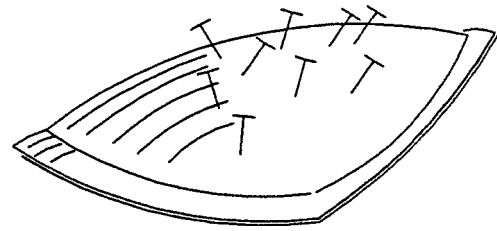
1/4-yard 100% wool fabric (not too tightly woven)

**OR**

1/4-yard wool felt fabric (Do not use synthetic felt.)

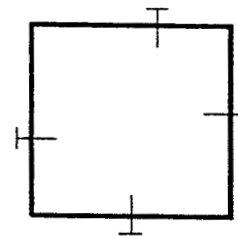
Matching thread

Stuffing — human hair, clean unprocessed wool from sheep fleece, fine cedar shavings, dry coffee grounds, sawdust (Polyester batting will dull pins.)



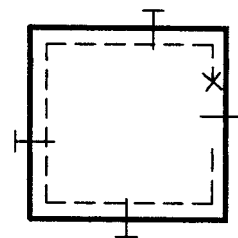
Step 1. Felt the wool by washing it in the washing machine using hot water, rinse in cold water and dry on the hot setting of your dryer.

Step 2. Cut two 5" squares from the wool fabric or from the felt.

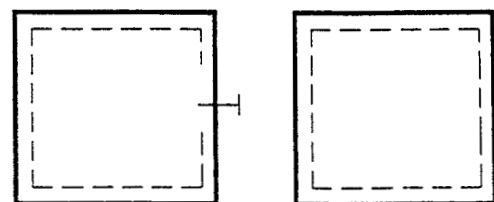


Step 3. Pin the two squares wrong sides together, matching raw edges.

Step 4. Begin at X. Machine stitch 3/8" from the edge. Pivot at the corners. Leave about 2" open along one edge for stuffing.



Step 5. Stuff firmly. Pin or baste the opening shut. Machine stitch the opening closed by sewing from corner to corner. Backstitch at both ends of this new stitching line. Be careful to sew directly over your previous stitching.





# PILLOW STRIPES (2)

## Sewing Skills You Will Learn

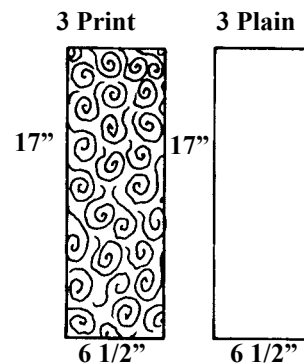
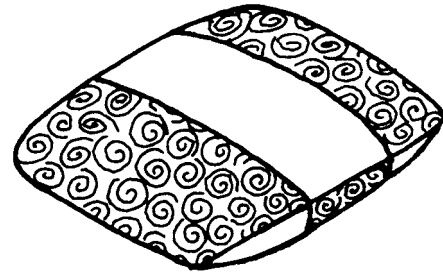
1. Measure and tear fabric to size.
2. Stitch 1/2" seam allowances.
3. Backstitch.
4. Press seams open.
5. Match seams.
6. Pivot at corners.
7. Trim seams.
8. Slip stitch/whip or overhand.

## Supplies Needed:

1/2 yard of two contrasting woven fabrics 44-45" wide

Matching thread

1 bag of polyester fiberfill or a 16" pillow form

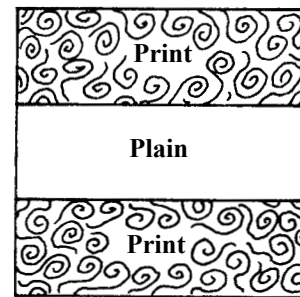


STEP 3

Step 1. Prewash all fabric.

Step 2. Straighten crosswise grain of fabric. See your member manual.

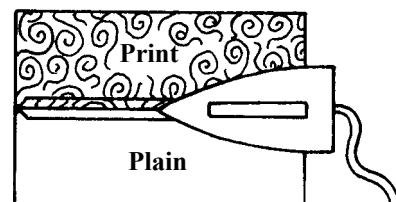
Step 3. Cut and/or tear 3 pieces of fabric 17" x 6 1/2" from each piece of fabric. You will have a total of 6 pieces.



1/2" seam allowance

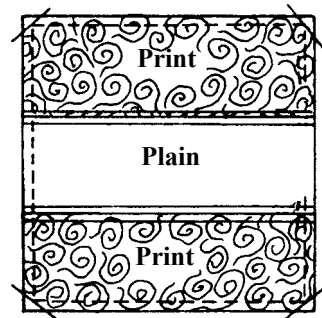


Step 4. Following the illustration, join the long sides of the strips together with 1/2" seam allowance to make one side of the pillow. Sew the remaining 3 sections together in opposite order. Press seams open.



STEP 4

Step 5. If you are making a stuffed pillow, pin front to back, right sides together. Be sure to match the seams of the stripes you have sewn together. Beginning in the middle on one side, stitch 1/2" seam allowance around the pillow, pivoting at corners. Leave a 4" opening for pillow stuffing. If you are using a pillow form, stitch only 3 sides of the pillow in a 1/2" seam allowance. The fourth side is left open for putting in the pillow form.

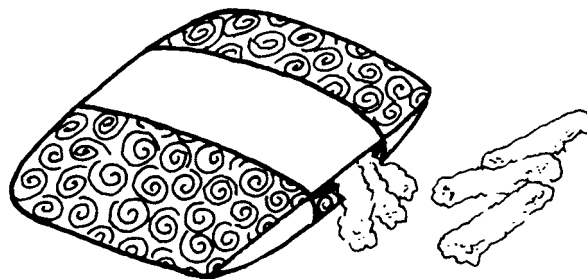


STEPS 5-6

Step 6. Trim corners diagonally to reduce bulk. Press seams open. Turn pillow right side out. Use a point turner to push out corners.

Step 7. Stuff pillow or insert pillow form.

Step 8. Use one of the hand stitches to close pillow opening. See the section in your member manual on Hand Sewing. Enjoy your pillow. Make one for a friend.



STEP 7

# PATCHWORK PILLOW (2)

## Sewing Skills You Will Learn

1. Measure and tear or cut fabric to size.
2. Stitch 1/2" seam allowances.
3. Backstitch.
4. Match seams.
5. Press seams open.
6. Pivot at corners.
7. Trim seam.
8. Slip stitch/whip or overhand.

## Supplies Needed:

1/3 yard of two contrasting woven fabrics 44-45" wide

Matching thread

1 bag polyester fiberfill or a 16" pillow form

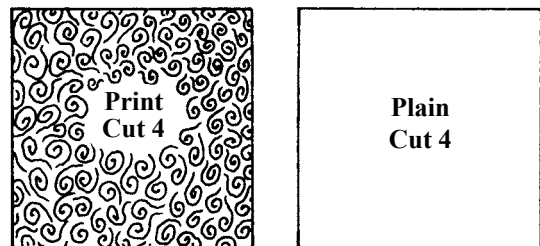
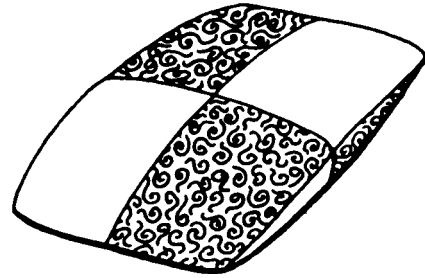
Step 1. Prewash all fabric.

Step 2. Straighten crosswise grain of fabric.  
(See your member manual.)

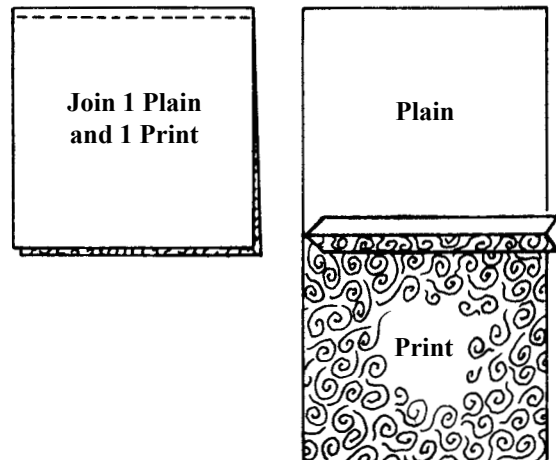
Step 3. Cut four 9" squares from each piece of fabric. You have a total of 8 squares. Cut square accurately so when joining them together they will be exact.

Step 4. Join two 9" contrasting squares together with a 1/2" seam allowance. Join the remaining 2 squares. Press seams open. Do the same for the remaining 4 pieces of fabric.

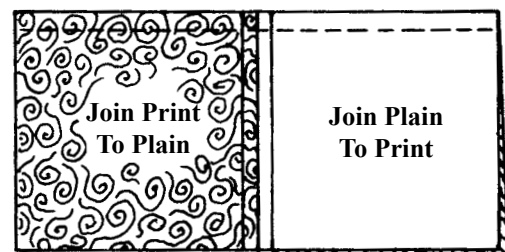
Step 5. Join 2 sections together with a 1/2" seam allowance to create the patchwork pillow top. See illustration. Join other two sections for back of pillow. Be sure seams meet at center. Press seams open.



STEP 3



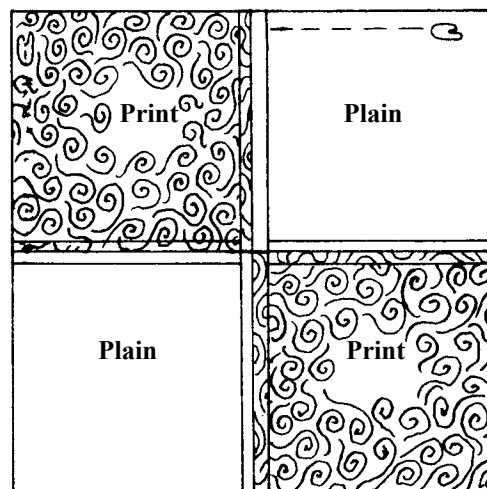
STEP 4



STEP 5



Step 6. If you are stuffing the pillow, pin front to back, right sides together. Be sure to match the seams. Beginning in the middle on one side, stitch a 1/2" seam allowance around the pillow, pivoting at corners. Leave a 4" opening for pillow stuffing. If you are using a pillow form, stitch on three sides of the pillow in a 1/2" seam allowance. The fourth side is left open for putting in the pillow form.



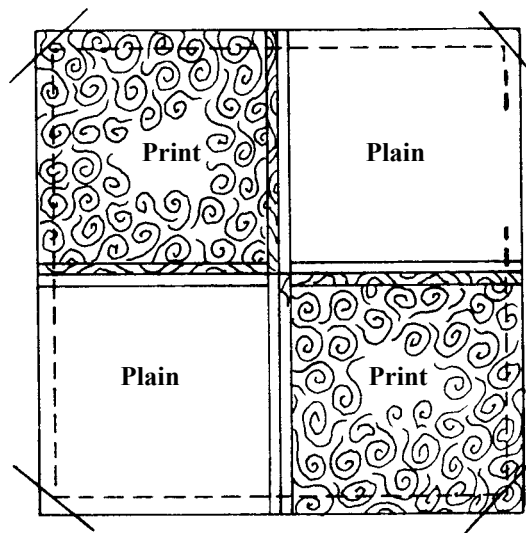
STEP 6

Step 7. Trim corners diagonally to reduce bulk. Press seams open. Turn pillow right side out. Use a point turner to push out corners.

Step 8. Stuff pillow or insert pillow form.

Step 9. Use one of the hand stitches to close pillow opening. See the section in your member manual on Hand Sewing.

Enjoy its comfort. Now you can make large and small pillows for a variety of needs.



STEP 7

# OPTIONAL PILLOW BACK WITH ENVELOPE CLOSURE (2)

This back can be used for the Pillow Stripes, Patchwork Pillow, the Diagonal Patchwork Pillow, and the Rail Fence Pillow. It eliminates the need for hand stitching. (These directions can be adapted to any size pillow by changing the 18" dimension to match the size of the pillow. It is important to allow an overlap of at least 6" on the two sides of the envelope to hold the pillow form within the pillow.)

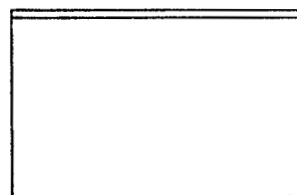
## Skills you will learn:

1. Cut fabric to size.
2. Sew narrow hem.
3. Sew with 1/2" seam allowance.
4. Trim corners.

## Supplies Needed:

3/8-yard fabric to match or coordinate with the pillow top  
Matching thread  
16" Pillow form

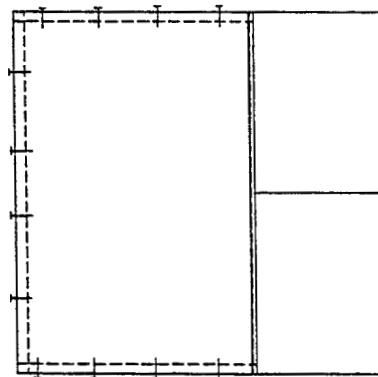
- Step 1.      Preshrink the fabric.
- Step 2.      Straighten the crosswise grain of fabric.
- Step 3.      Cut two 12" x 18" rectangles.
- Step 4.      Stitch 1/4" along one 18" side of fabric; turn under on wrong side along stitching line, pin and press.
- Step 5.      Fold under another 1/4", pin and press. Stitch close to the first fold. You have just finished a **Narrow Hem**. Repeat steps 4 and 5 for the other piece of fabric. **\*See back of this sheet for an alternative to the narrow hem.**
- Step 6.      Pin one of the rectangles to the pillow top with right sides together as shown in the diagram. (Line up the un-hemmed 18" edge of the rectangle with one side edge of the pillow top.) Using a 1/2" seam, stitch the three sides of the rectangle to the pillow top, leaving the hemmed edge unstitched. Be sure to backstitch at the beginning and end of each line of stitching.
- Step 7.      Pin the un-hemmed 18" side of the other rectangle to the pillow top, overlapping the last rectangle in the center of the pillow top. Again, stitch the three sides of the rectangle, being sure to backstitch. **Note:** On two of the sides of the pillow, you will be stitching over the stitches you did in step 6.



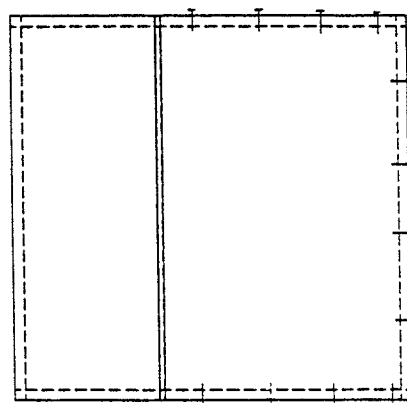
STEP 4



STEP 5

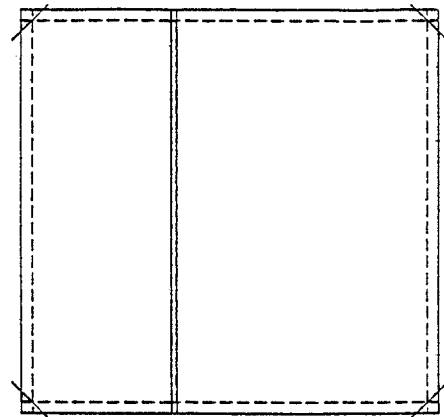


STEP 6



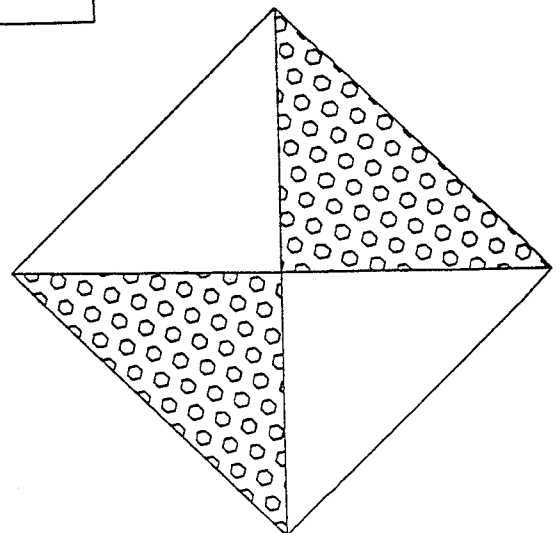
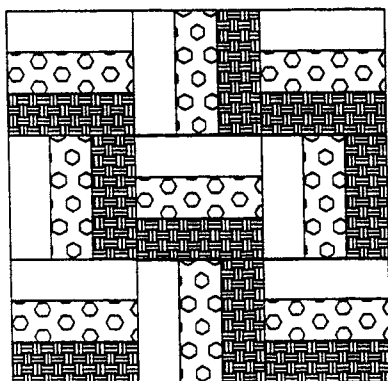
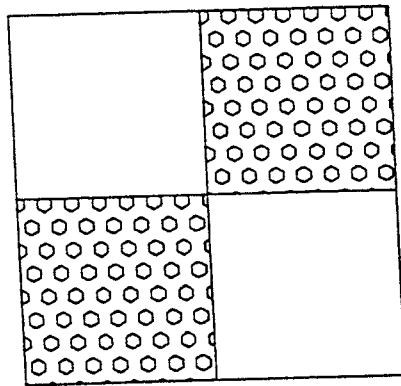
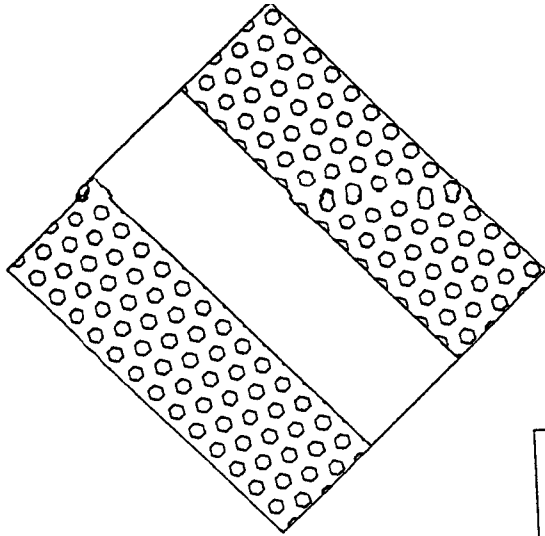
STEP 7

Step 8. Trim corners and turn right side out. Use a point turner to push out the corners. Press if necessary.



STEP 8

Step 9. Stuff the pillow form into the opening in the back and enjoy your soft, fluffy pillow!



STEP 9

**\*Alternative to narrow hem in step 5:** Cut two pieces of fabric 24" x 18". Fold fabrics in half, wrong sides together, and press the fold. This makes two folded pieces that are 12" x 18". Continue with step 6. Note that there will be no "wrong side" to the folded pieces.

# TOTE BAG (2)

## Sewing Skills You Will Learn

1. Measure and tear or cut fabric to size.
2. Stitch  $\frac{5}{8}$ " seam allowances.
3. Backstitch.
4. Zigzag seam edges.
5. Make a machine-stitched hem.
6. Slip stitch/whip or overhand stitch.
7. Press.

## Supplies Needed:

$\frac{1}{2}$  yard firmly woven fabric (such as denim, sail-cloth, trigger or poplin)

Matching thread

Step 1. Preshrink fabric. If selvages puckered after washing, clip  $\frac{1}{8}$ " diagonally into the selvage at 3" to 4" intervals.

Step 2. Cut or tear a rectangle 14" x 32".

Step 3. Cut or tear handles 15" x 4".

Step 3A. **OPTIONAL**

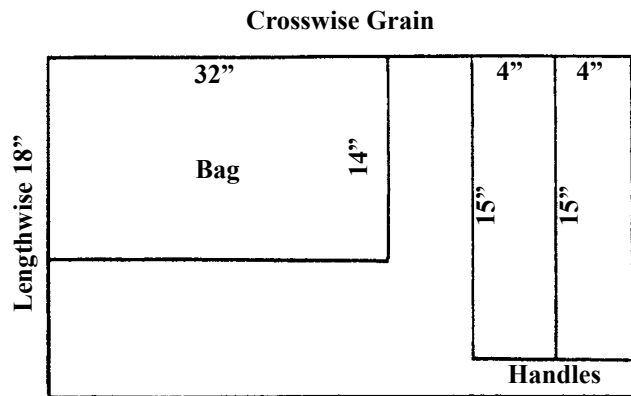
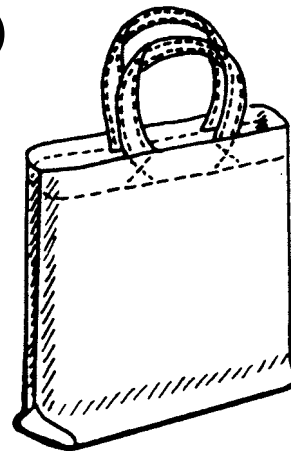
If you would like to decorate your tote bag, this is the time. You could make a design and cut it out of iron-on fabric or you could embroider or applique a design on your bag. If you decide to decorate your tote bag, fold the fabric so it is in the shape of the finished tote bag with the right side out. Decide where you want the design. Apply your chosen design.

Step 4. Finish the edges with a zigzag stitch.

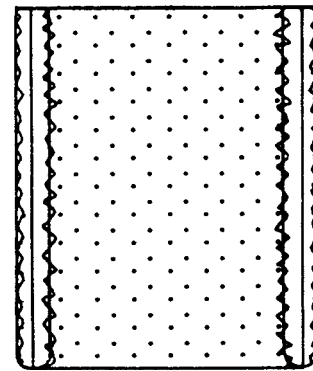
Step 5. Fold the bag, right sides together, and pin side seams.

Step 6. Stitch a  $\frac{5}{8}$ " seam. Backstitch at the beginning and end of each seam. Press seams open.

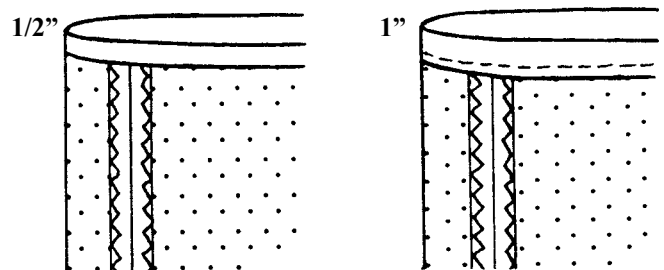
Step 7. To finish the top, turn under  $\frac{1}{2}$ ", pin and press. Turn another 1" to form a hem. Pin hem in place. Stitch hem close to the hem edge— $\frac{1}{8}$ " from edge.



STEPS 2-3

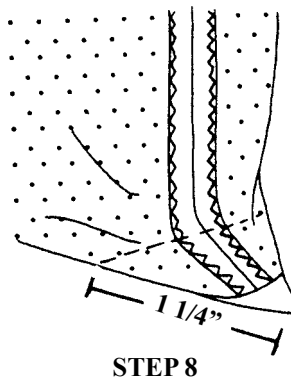


STEP 6

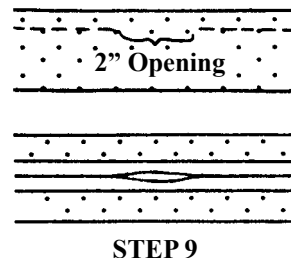


STEP 7

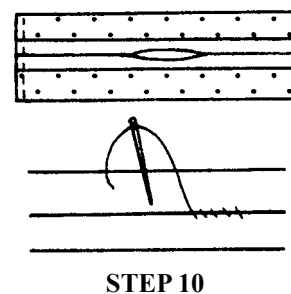
- Step 8. To square bottom of bag, bring right sides of bottom and side seams together, forming a triangle. Stitch across the base 1 1/4" from the point of the triangle.



- Step 9. To make the handles, fold fabric pieces lengthwise, right sides together. Pin and stitch a 5/8" seam along the long edge. Leave a 2" opening in the center of the seam. Press seam open.

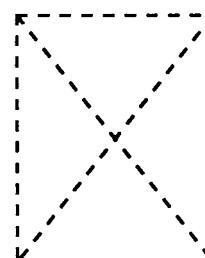
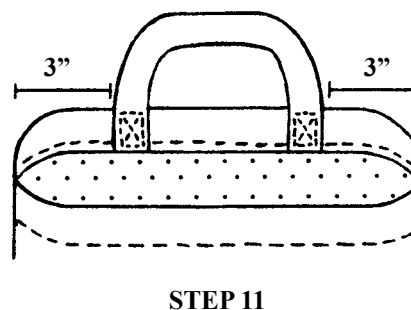


- Step 10. Fold handle so pressed seam is down the middle of the handle. Stitch a 1/4" seam across each end of the handle. Turn handles right side out through the 2" opening in the seam. Use a point turner to push out each corner. Press so seam opening is flat on inside of handle. Slip stitch opening closed.



**OPTIONAL:** You can topstitch 1/4" from the edge all around the handles for extra strength.

- Step 11. Pin the handles to the top hem 3" from the side seams. The handles go inside the bag and even at the bottom of the hem. Stitch the handles as shown. A large "X" could be sewn inside the rectangle for added reinforcement. Be sure you sew through only one handle and one side of the tote bag so you don't sew the bag shut!



Stitching pattern  
enlarged

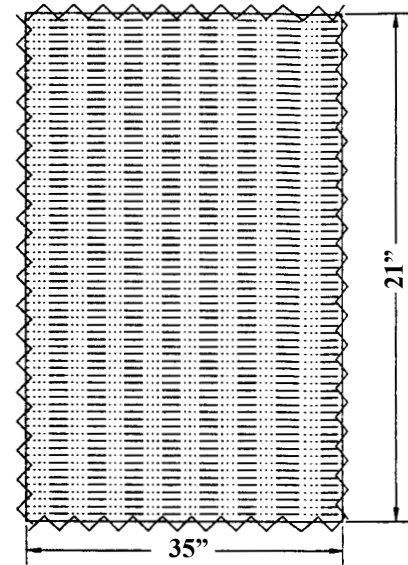
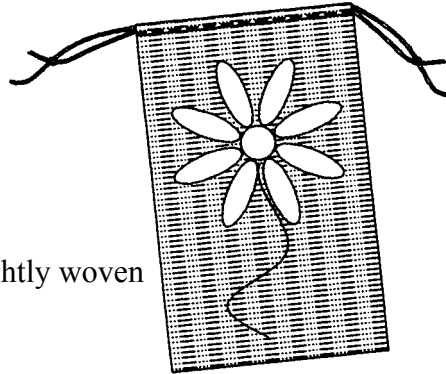
# LAUNDRY BAG (2)

## Sewing Skills You Will Learn

1. Measure and cut fabric to size.
2. Stitch 5/8" seam allowance.
3. Zigzag raw edges.
4. Make a casing.
5. Insert a draw string.
6. Pressing.

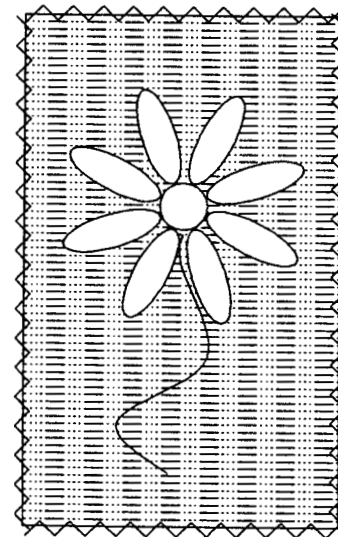
## Supplies Needed:

1-yard medium-weight, tightly woven washable fabric  
3-yards 1/4-3/8" cording  
Matching thread



STEP 3

- Step 1. Preshrink your fabric.
- Step 2. Straighten the crosswise ends of your fabric. (Check your member manual for information on Grain Perfect Fabric.)
- Step 3. Cut two panels of fabric 21" wide by 35" long. Zigzag the edges to keep the fabric from ravelling.
- Step 4. **(OPTIONAL)**  
Decorate the front panel of your bag using any washable technique you'd like. Examples include iron-on applique, embroidery, puff paint, dye, etc. Keep the design at least 4" from the top of the bag.

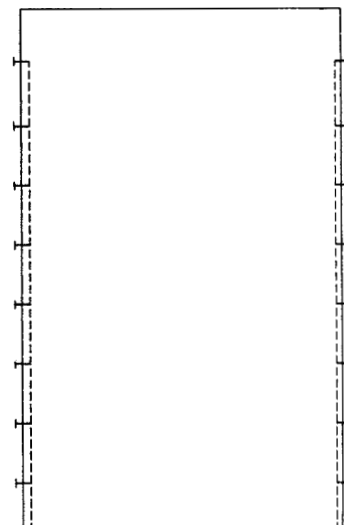


STEP 4

- Step 5. Pin the front of the bag to the back, right sides together. At the top of the bag, place a pin 3 1/2" down from the top edge. Begin stitching your 5/8" seam at that 3 1/2" mark, and stitch to the bottom of the bag. Be sure to backstitch at the beginning and end of this seam. Press seams open. (Also press 5/8" seam allowance on the 3 1/2" above stitching) Repeat for the other side of the bag.

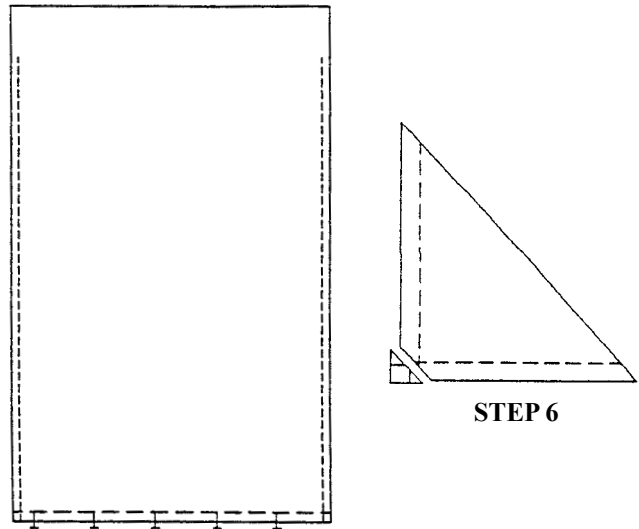
**TIP: Always sew in the same direction.**

If you start at the top on one side, be sure to start at the top on the other side, too.



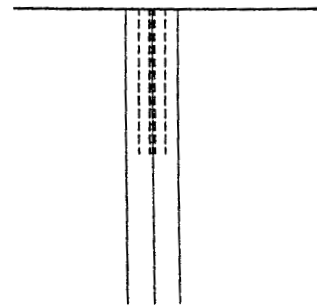
STEP 5

Step 6. Stitch a  $\frac{5}{8}$ " seam across the bottom of the bag. Again, don't forget to backstitch at the start and end of your seam. Reinforce the corners by stitching on top of the side stitches 2" from corner, pivot at corner, and continue 2" beyond the corner, repeat for other corner. Clip the corners close to, but not through, the corner stitches.



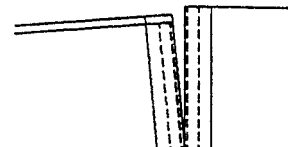
STEP 6

Step 7. At the top of the bag in the  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " area above your seam, reinforce the  $\frac{5}{8}$ " seam allowance by stitching through both the seam allowance and the fabric; first, very near the fold, and again  $\frac{3}{8}$ " from first stitches.



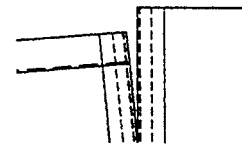
STEP 7

Step 9. Fold each of the top edges down again 1". Pin and press in place. Stitch each edge separately close to the lower fold. This will create your casing.



STEP 8

Step 10. Fold the cording in half. Put a piece of transparent tape around the middle of the cord and cut through the tape. This will keep the cord from unraveling.

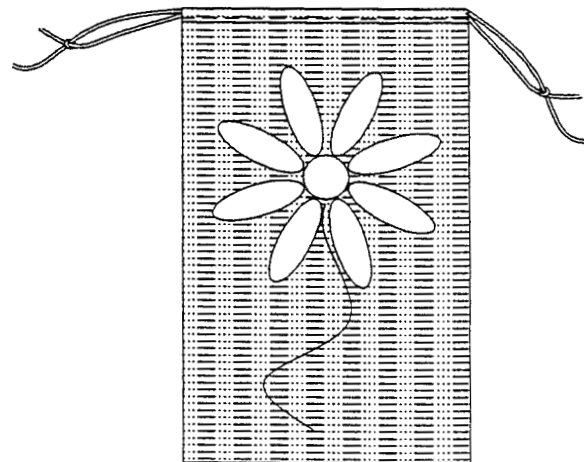


STEP 9

Attach a large safety pin to the cord. Work it through one side of the casing, and then through the other. Tie the ends of the cords together in a knot. Repeat the same procedure with the other cord, starting at the opposite end.

### You're finished!

How else could you use this great bag?  
It would make a great duffle bag to carry clothes to camp or overnight outings, sporting goods, all sorts of things!



STEP 10

# DIAGONAL PATCHWORK PILLOW (3)

## Sewing Skills You Will Learn

1. Cut fabric to size.
2. Stitch 1/2" seam allowances.
3. Sew on the bias.
4. Backstitch.
5. Press seams open.
6. Match seams.
7. Pivot at corners.
8. Trim seams.
9. Slip stitch/whip or overhand.

## Supplies Needed:

5/8 yard of two contrasting woven fabrics 44-45" wide

Matching thread

1 bag polyester fiberfill or a 16" pillow form

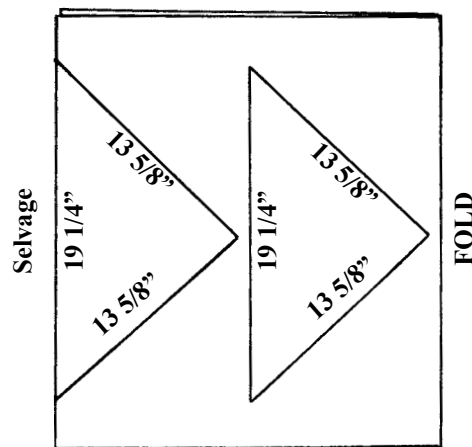
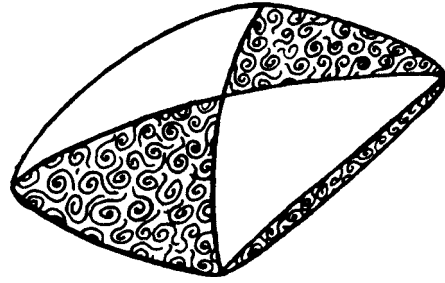
Step 1. Prewash fabric.

Step 2. Straighten crosswise grain of fabric. Check your member manual for more information.

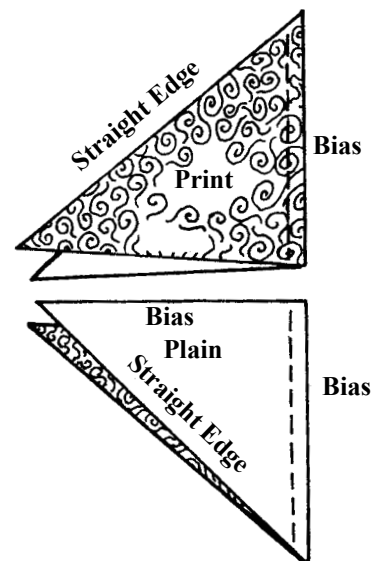
Step 3. Make a pattern of a triangle that is 19 1/4" by 13 5/8" by 13 5/8". See illustration. Pin pattern in place.

Step 4. Cut 4 pattern pieces from each piece of fabric. You will have a total of 8 pieces. Cut very **accurately** along the edge of the pattern pieces. Make sure you join pieces together exactly.

Step 5. Join contrasting bias sections together using a 1/2" seam allowance. Join the remaining two sections together. Press seams open.



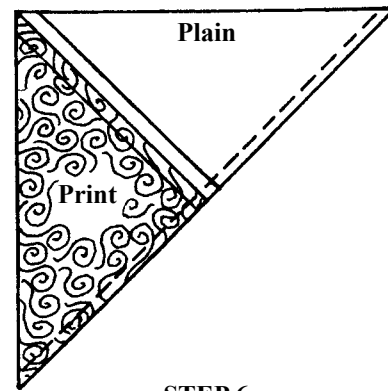
STEP 3



STEP 5

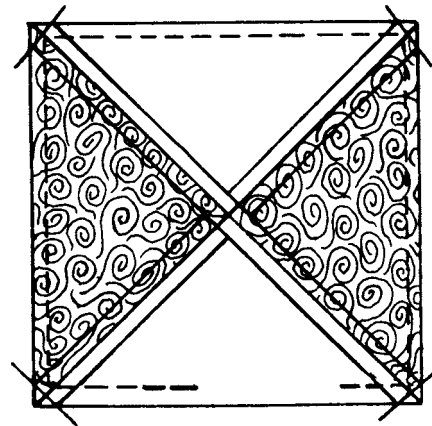


Step 6. Pin the two right sides together matching the seams. Sew a 1/2" seam allowance. Be careful not to stretch the triangles as you are sewing on the bias. Be sure seams meet at center. Do the same for the remaining 4 pieces of fabric. Press all seams open.



STEP 6

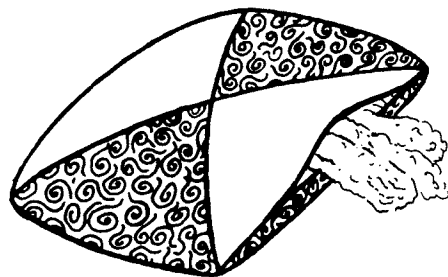
Step 7. If you are stuffing the pillow, pin front and back of the pillow—right sides together, putting either contrasting or same-colored material together. Be sure to match the seams. Beginning in the middle on one side, stitch a 1/2" seam allowance around the pillow, pivoting at the corners. Leave a 4" opening for the pillow stuffing. If you are using the pillow form, stitch only three sides of the pillow in the 1/2" seam allowance. The fourth side is left open for putting in the pillow form.



STEP 7

Step 8. Trim corners diagonally to reduce bulk. Press seams open. Turn the pillow right side out. Use a point turner to push out corners.

Step 9. Stuff pillow or insert pillow form.



STEP 9

Step 10. Use one of the hand stitches to close pillow opening. Check the section on Hand Sewing in your member manual.

Enjoy its comfort. Make a pillow for a family member or friend.

# RAIL FENCE PILLOW (3)

## Skills You Will Learn:

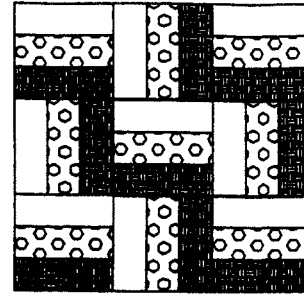
1. Cut fabric to size with rotary cutter.
2. Sew with 1/4" seam allowance.
3. Chain piecing.
4. Pressing.
5. Sewing pieced blocks together.

## Supplies Needed:

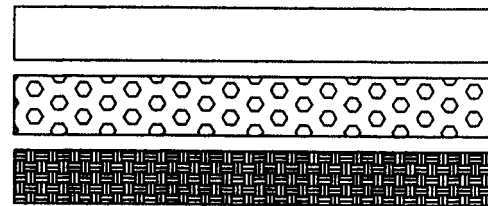
1/4 yard of 3 contrasting fabrics (one light, one medium and one dark)

Thread to match medium fabric

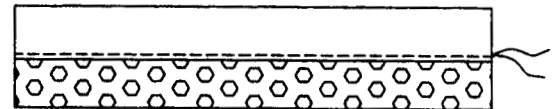
16" or 18" pillow form



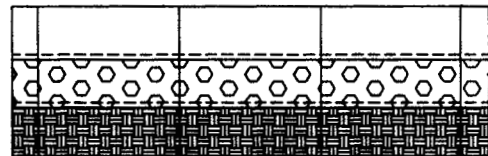
- Step 1. Preshrink the fabric and straighten the crosswise grain.
- Step 2. Using a rotary cutter and clear plastic ruler, cut three 2 1/2" x 22" strips of each of three contrasting fabrics. Rotary cutters are extremely sharp! Do this with adult supervision only.
- Step 3. Pin light strips to medium strips along the long 22" side. Stitch with 1/4" seam. Press both seam allowances toward the medium strip.
- Step 4. Pin the dark strip to the other long 22" side of the medium-colored strip. Stitch using 1/4" seam. Press both the seam allowances toward the dark fabric. Measure the width across the three fabrics. Jot the measurement here \_\_\_\_\_. (It should be somewhere between 6" - 6 3/4".)
- Step 5. Use the rotary cutter to cut the selvages off the pieced strips, then cut strips into squares by cutting the same length as your measurement from step 4. You will now have nine square blocks.
- Step 6. Pin one block to another, right sides together, by placing the bars at right angles so that the light fabric is on top of the first block, and on the left side of the second block (as you look at the right sides). Stitch with a 1/4" seam. Repeat 2 times. You will now have three pairs of blocks. Press toward the straight, light rectangle.



STEP 2

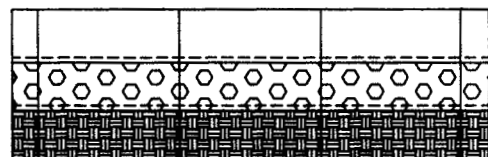


STEP 3

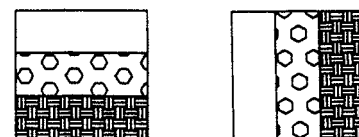


STEP 4

Cut Cut Cut Cut

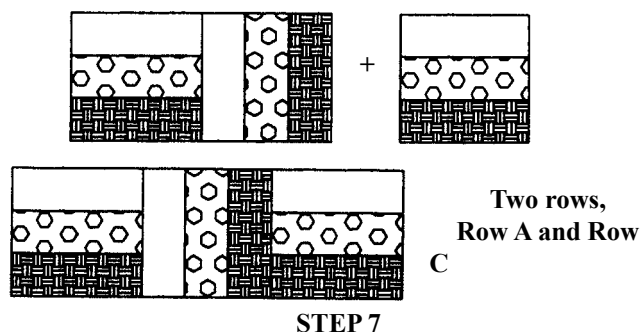


STEP 5

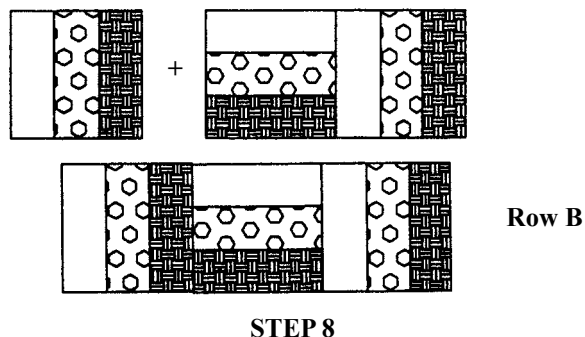


STEP 6

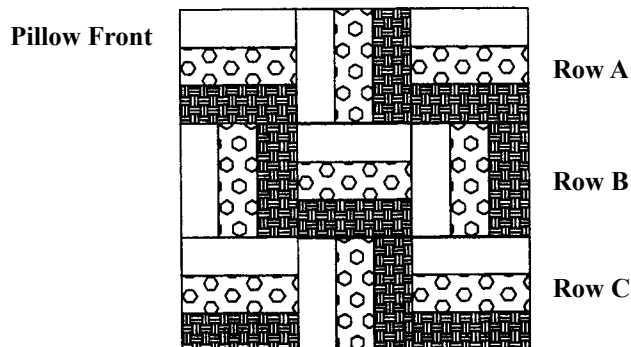
Step 7. Pin a third block with the light rectangle on top to the pair on the straight, dark rectangle. Stitch with a 1/4" seam. You now have a row of three blocks. This is Row A. **Repeat once, making another three-block row, which is Row C.** Press both seam allowances toward the straight, dark rectangle. (Notice that is the side without any seams.) We'll call these two rows Row A and Row C.



Step 8. Pin a third block to the remaining pair, pinning the dark rectangle to the left side of the three horizontal bars block. Stitch with a 1/4" seam. Press toward the straight dark rectangle. You now have 1 row of 3 blocks. We'll call this Row B.

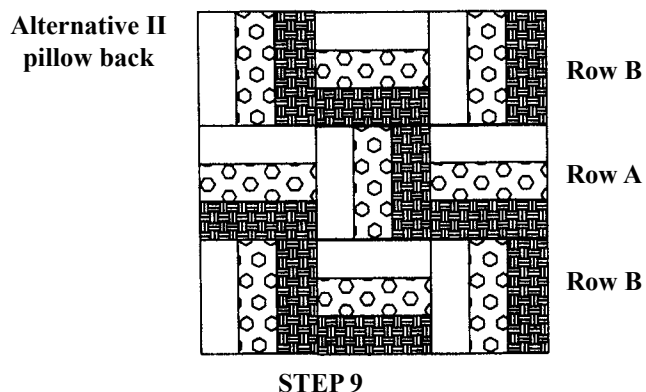


Step 9. **Pillow Front:** The front side of the pillow will consist of three rows of blocks. Pin the bottom of Row A to the top of Row B. Match the seams. Since seam allowances are pressed in opposite directions, the seams should interlock, and they will line up beautifully. Stitch with 1/4" seam. (Be careful to keep the seam allowances lying the direction you pressed them as you stitch over them.) Press seam allowances toward Row B. Pin the bottom of Row B to the top of Row C. Stitch using 1/4" seam. Press seam allowances toward Row B.



**Pillow Back:** You can do the back in two different ways. The simplest back is the **Optional envelope pillow back**, which you will find in the Sewing for Fun packet.

**Alternative II:** (more difficult) Repeat steps 1 through 7. This time, in step 8, make one row which will be Row B, and in step 9, make two rows which will be Rows A and C. Complete Step 10.



Step 10. Pin pillow top and back right sides together so that the seam allowances of the front and back interlock at seam crossings. Stitch with a 1/4" seam, leaving an 8" opening along one side. Clip corners, turn, stuff with pillow form, stitch the 8" opening using tiny hand stitches.