

child's play

Bring your little artist's sketches to life by transforming them into an embroidered keepsake. Coordinating scraps of patterned fabric and perky rickrack make for a portable gallery you'll want to display in any room in the house.



DESIGNER
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WHAT YOU NEED

Basic Pillows Tool Kit

3 coordinating scraps of print cotton for fabrics A, B, and C, none less than 4 x 6 inches (10.2 x 15.2 cm)

9 x 18-inch (22.9 x 45.7 cm) piece of print cotton for fabric D

5 x 5-inch (12.7 x 12.7 cm) square of linen for embroidery

Child's drawing to embroider

Water-soluble fabric marker

Embroidery hoop

Embroidery floss

Embroidery needle

1 yard (.9 m) of 1-inch (2.5 cm) rickrack

Polyester fiberfill

SEAM ALLOWANCE

½ inch (1.3 cm) unless otherwise noted

FINISHED SIZE

12 x 4 inches (30.5 x 10.2 cm)



WHAT YOU DO

1 For the front of the pillow, cut 3½ x 5-inch (8.9 x 12.7 cm) rectangles each from fabrics A and D. Take care to cut from the end of fabric D as you will be using the rest of fabric D to create the back of the pillow. Then cut 2½ x 5-inch (6.4 x 12.7 cm) rectangles each from fabrics B and C. Cut another rectangle from fabric D for the back of the pillow that is 5 x 13 inches (12.7 x 33 cm).

2 Transfer the child's drawing to the linen square using the water-soluble fabric marker. Place the fabric in the hoop and embroider using floss colors that coordinate with the fabric prints. Use simple stitches, such as the backstitch, chain stitch, and running stitch). When done, remove the fabric from hoop and press, but do not iron over the embroidery.

3 Piece the cotton prints. Stitch A to B. Then stitch C to the 3½ x 5-inch (8.9 x 12.7 cm) rectangle of fabric D.

4 With right sides together, pin the patch made of fabrics A and B to one side of the embroidered linen square, and pin the patch made from fabrics C and D to the other side (figure 1). Stitch, then press all seams open.

5 Lay the large rectangle cut from fabric D right side up. Following the instructions for sewing rickrack in seams on the following page, pin and baste the rickrack. Pin the pillow front to the back with right sides together. Sew both long ends and one of the short sides.

6 On the open short side, press the seam allowance under at the opening. Trim the corners, then turn pillow right side out. Poke the corners out as needed and press.

7 Stuff with the polyester fiberfill. Do not overstuff. Stitch the opening closed using a slipstitch.

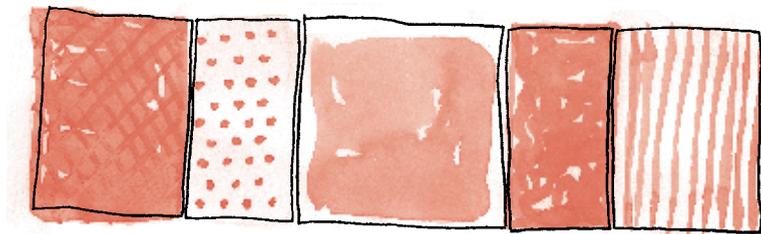


figure 1

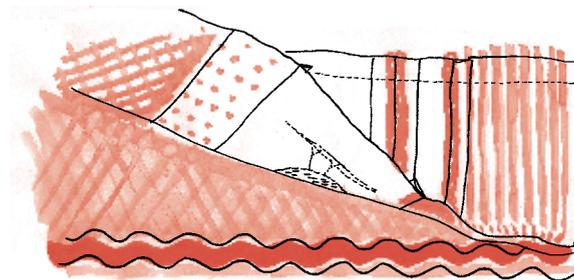


figure 2

SEWING RICKRACK IN SEAMS

If you're looking for a fun way to finish the edges of your pillow, try sewing rickrack in the seams.

1 Lace the rickrack on the right side of a piece of fabric. Center it on the seam allowance, pin in place, and then baste along the center of the rickrack (figure 3).

2 Pin the two pieces of fabric right sides together, then stitch. When you turn your pillow cover right side out, half the rickrack will show, giving you that signature wavy edge.

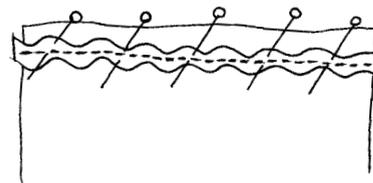


figure 3

