

Pin Cushion

Every crafter needs a pin cushion, and this lovely design will make a very stylish home for all your pins! A simple embroidery technique turns this simple make into an eye-catching wonder.

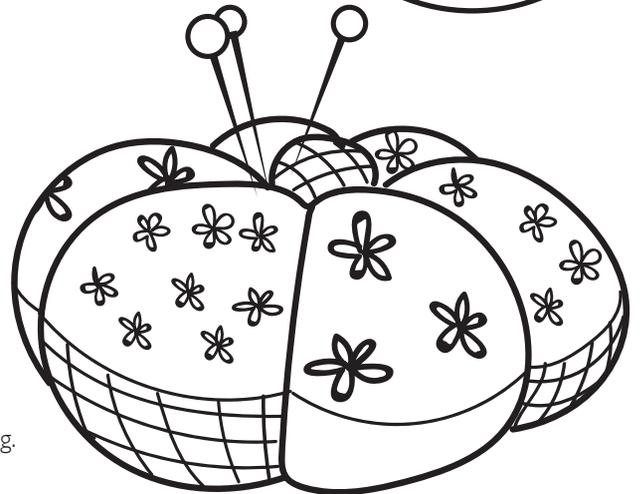
You will need...

Fabric fat quarters
Sewing machine (optional)
Needle and thread
Scissors and pins
Tailor's Chalk
Embroidery thread
Button
Stuffing

1. Iron your fabric and cut out 2 of the large circle templates.
2. Cut out each piece along the edge of the printed design, using fabric scissors or pinking shears. These will help to prevent the fabric fraying.
3. Pin two circles together right sides facing
4. Using a sewing machine, sew around the circle using a 1cm seam allowance and leave a gap large enough to allow you to stuff the cushion. Mark the gap with tailor's chalk to remind you not to stitch all the way around. Once sewn, clip the circle edges inwards to create ease around the seam. Be careful not to clip too close to the stitching.
5. Turn right side out and stuff your pin cushion. Hand stitch up the gap with ladder stitch.
6. Thread your embroidery needle with the embroidery thread. This thicker thread is suitable for heavier stitching – there is no need to separate the strands for this project.
7. Pass your threaded needle down through the centre of the pin cushion, then bring the thread up on the outside, along the edge of one segment, and take it back through the centre. Pull the stitch tight enough to keep it in place and create a tucked in shape. Repeat until you have divided all the segments around the cushion.
8. Tie off your thread by stitching it into the centre of the bottom of your pin cushion. You can then tack the thread into place along the segment lines using a normal needle and thread to prevent movement/slipping.
9. Sew a button in the centre of both the top and bottom of your pin cushion.



Cut this template out as a guide for your pin cushion



Create your own fabric covered buttons:

Cut out the small circle template. Use a running stitch around the edge of the circle, leaving a long tail of thread at the start and end of your stitching. Place the fabric face down on your work surface. Add your button upside down in the centre and pull the threads to gather the fabric around the button. Tie a couple of knots to secure in place. You can cover any buttons in this way – but for best results use smooth round buttons with a shank.

TIP

Simply stitch together scraps of fabric to make a patchwork effect for your pattern.