Pillowcase Pattern

Pattern designed by Marsha Doyenne and Marlene Nelson
Skill Level: Confident Beginner
This is a pillowcase that anyone can make!

Fabric Requirements for ONE Pillowcase:

A. Cuff – To make up to a 5 ½" wide cuff:	1/3 yard
B. Accent Strip – For a 1-2" accent strip:	1/8 yard
C. Body – For **nondirectional** or **horizontal** prints :	
• Standard size	3/4 yard
• Queen size	7/8 yard 1 1/8 yard
• King size	1 1/4 yard
For **vertical** prints (where print is oriented lengthwise):	
• All sizes	

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Standard – 21" x 30" for pillows up to 20" x 26"
Queen – 21" x 34" for pillows up to 20" x 30"
King – 21" x 40" for pillows up to 20" x 36"

Skill Level: Confident Beginner

Every bed needs pretty pillowcases to match the beautiful quilt you worked so hard to complete. This full-color pattern includes step-by-step photographs, fabric requirements, and full-color instructions for making **three** sizes of pillowcases – Standard, Queen, and King – using either directional or non-directional fabrics. Quickly roll, sew and pull to create your pillowcases. Finish with easy French seams and you have no raw edges showing.

Sweet Dreams!

Overview:

Once a quilt is complete and ready to put on the bed, everyone needs pillowcases to match. We are often asked, "How much fabric do I need to buy for a set of pillowcases?" The answer is, "It depends." It depends on what size of pillows you have, how big you want the cuff of the pillow to be, and how the design is oriented on the fabric. Below, we will explain how to decide how much fabric you need. This pattern will give you the yardages for standard, queen, and king size pillowcases with enough fabric to adjust the sizes of the various parts of the pillow to your personal preferences.

1. Pillowcase sizes:

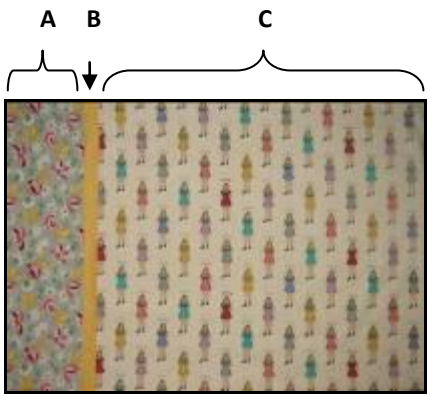
- Standard – 21" x 30" for pillows up to 20" x 26"
- Queen – 21" x 34" for pillows up to 20" x 30"
- King – 21" x 40" for pillows up to 20" x 36"

2. Three parts of a pillowcase:

A. Cuff – This is a double layer of fabric at the end of the pillowcase. It can be as wide or narrow as you desire. Following the directions in this pattern, you will have no raw edges showing on the inside between the cuff and the body of the pillow.

B. Accent Strip – This is optional. In this pattern it is a strip of fabric folded in half lengthwise and sewn into the seam with the cuff so the folded side is loose. You can also use lace, rickrack, piping, or other forms of trim to accent your pillow.

C. Body – The length of the body will depend on how big you choose to make the cuff. How you determine the amount of fabric for the body is based on the direction of the print on the fabric. See below for more details.



3. Fabric choice for body of pillow:

The amount of fabric you will need for your pillows is determined by the orientation of the print on the fabric you choose. Fabric can be printed in a nondirectional, horizontal, or vertical pattern manner. Nondirectional or horizontal prints are the easiest and most economical to work with.

A. Nondirectional – This is an all over print that doesn't matter which direction it is put on the pillowcase.

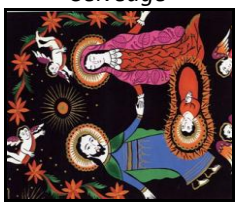
B. Horizontal – With the print running this direction, it also does not make a difference in the amount of fabric you need to buy.

C. Vertical – This is a print running the length of the fabric. If you choose a vertical print, you will need more fabric. If you use it "as is", the print will be wrapping around the pillow sideways. For example, with the girls on the picture to the right, used "as is" they would be laying on their sides across the pillowcase. If this is acceptable, then you can use the yardage requirements for a non-directional pillow.

Nondirectional print:

Horizontal print:

Selvedge



Fold

Vertical Prints:

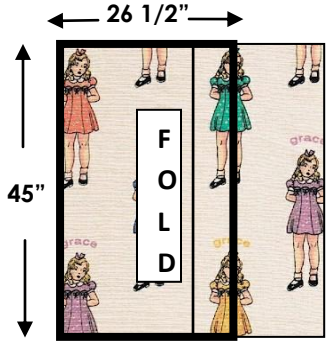
Selvedge

Fold

While all possible care has been taken to ensure the accuracy of this pattern, we are not responsible for the way in which individual work varies.

Cutting Directions:

*Before cutting, determine the size of cuff you desire. These directions are for a **4 ½" cuff**. If you make the cuff wider, cut the body smaller and if you cut the cuff smaller, cut the body wider. Whether you use the optional accent strip or not does not affect the length of the pillowcase. If your pillows are shorter or longer than standard size, adjust the length of the body fabric measurements as well.*

Fabric	Cutting Directions
Body Fabric **Nondirectional or Horizontal Print**	**See Diagram A:** **Standard size:** Cut 1—26 1/2" x Width of Fabric (WOF) strip. **Queen size:** Cut 1—30 1/2" x (WOF) strip. **King size:** Cut 1—36 1/2" x (WOF) strip. ***Diagram A:*** **FOLD** **26 ½"**
Vertical Print	*If the print is positioned vertically, you will need to **unfold the fabric** and cut the body piece from a 1 ¼ yard piece of fabric **(See Diagram B).** The fabric to the right of the box is extra, and can be used to make other accessories.* **Standard size:** Cut 1—26 1/2" x Width 45" strip. **Queen size:** Cut 1—30 1/2" x 45" strip. **King size:** Cut 1—36 1/2" x 45" strip. ***Diagram B (For a standard size. Adjust accordingly for other sizes):*** 
Cuff Fabric	Cut 1—10" x WOF" strip of fabric for a 4 ½" cuff.
Accent Strip	Cut 1—2 ½" x WOF" strip of fabric for a 1" finished accent strip, or 4 ½" X WOF for a 2" finished accent strip. NOTE: *If you prefer a wider or narrower accent strip, cut accordingly. The finished size will be one half the size of your original strip minus a half inch for seam allowances.* **Fold in half lengthwise, wrong sides together, and press to make a 1 1/4" x WOF" strip.**

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Assembly Directions:

Layer –

1. Place the cuff fabric **right side up.**
2. Lay the folded 1 1/4" x WOF" trim fabric along the long edge, raw edges together.
3. Lay one pillow body fabric on top of the trim **right side down.**
4. Pin the raw edges together. **(Picture 1)**

VERY IMPORTANT NOTE:
When using a directional print to make two pillowcases for the bed, put the cuffs on opposite sides of the body fabric; otherwise, one of the pillowcases will be upside down on the bed.

Picture 1:

Roll and Wrap–

5. Roll the body fabric in a tube towards the pins.

6. Pin the ends of the tube to keep it from getting sewn into the seam. **(Picture 2)**

Picture 2:

7. Wrap the loose end of the cuff fabric up over the tube and pin along the edge with the pillow body, trim, and other side of the cuff—all raw edges together. **(Picture 3)**

8. Sew a ¼" seam allowance along the pinned edge making sure to avoid catching the tube in the seam.

Picture 3:

9. Remove the pins from the tube and pull the tube out of the center until you have the pillow body right side up with the trim and cuff attached. The raw edges will be hidden inside the cuff. **(Picture 4 & 5)**

10. Trim the side edges even, removing selvedges. It should measure 42 ¾" x 30 ¾".

Picture 4:

Picture 5:

Note:

Adjust sizes if your pillow is larger or smaller than the standard 20" x 26" pillow or if you desire a tighter or looser pillowcase. If your fabric is not at least 42 ¾" wide, you might want to finish your pillow with a simple seam rather than a French seam; otherwise your pillowcase will be narrower than 21" wide and you will have a tighter pillowcase. (See Finishing the Pillowcase… on page 4.)

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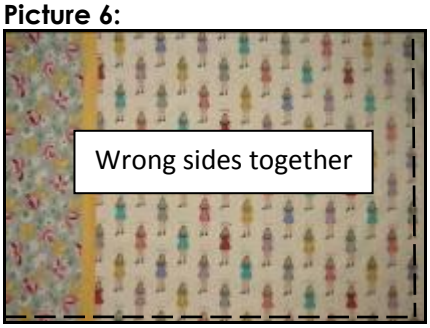
Finishing the pillowcase with a French seam.

11. Fold the fabric in half **wrong sides together.** Stitch ¼" seam along the side and end of the pillowcase, matching seams on the cuff side. **(Picture 6)**

12. Trim seams and corners if needed.

Picture 6:

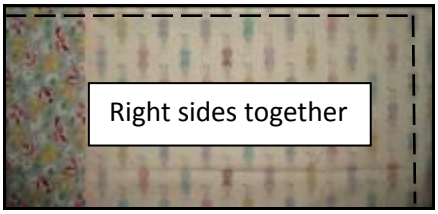


13. Turn pillowcase **right sides together** (inside out). Push out the corners and seam edges. Press.

14. Sew a 3/8" seam along the side and end seam edges to encase the raw edges. **(Picture 7)**

15. Turn pillowcase right side out and press.

Picture 7:



16. The pillowcase is finished with all seams enclosed. **(Picture 8)**

Picture 8:

Note:
A quick alternate to the French seam is at Step 11 simply turn the pillow right sides together. Sew a 3/8" seam along the side and end of the pillow and then zigzag or serge the raw edges.

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