

YIELD: 1

Easy Sew Reading Pillow

Make this adorable Reading pillow for the person that loves to read. Customize the fabric to the users' tastes. Bonus tip, include a new book for the person to read if giving this as a gift.

PREP TIME	ACTIVE TIME	TOTAL TIME
10 minutes	50 minutes	1 hour
DIFFICULTY	ESTIMATED COST	
Moderate	\$15.00	



Materials

- [Fabric - Comfy Flannel](#)
- [Thread](#)
- [Ribbon - 3/4" grosgrain](#)
- [18" square pillow form](#)

Tools

- Iron
- Ironing Board
- [Scissors](#)
- [Sewing Machine](#)
- [Rotary Cutter and Mat](#)
- [Sewing Pins](#)

Instructions

1. Wash, dry and press the fabric.
2. Measure and cut out your fabric. You will need:
3. Pocket and back fabric: Three 13" x 18" rectangles (I'll call these A pieces) and One 4" x 12" rectangle (for the handle – piece C)
4. Front panel of fabric (under the pocket): One 18" x 18" square (This will be piece B)

5. At the top of two of the A pieces, fold the fabric down ½" and press all the way across (this is the top 18" edge). Fold down ½" again and press. On the third A piece, follow the same folding/pressing process twice – but this time on the bottom of the pattern/print. This will end up being the top panel of the envelope back.
6. Using ½" seam allowance, top stitch across all 3 folded hems you just created. The stitch should be close to the edge of the hem.
7. Measure and cut a 19" piece of ribbon. Place ribbon along hemmed edge of piece A (choose one where the hem is at the top), leaving ½" of ribbon hanging over each end. I chose to cover my seam, but leave about ¼" of the fabric showing above the ribbon. Pin the ribbon into place.
8. Stitch very close to each side of the ribbon to attach it to piece A. (think sewing like railroad tracks!)
9. If you wish to add a handle, follow these directions now.
10. Fold piece C in half lengthwise and press to create crease. Unfold fabric.
11. Fold in one side of piece C to meet the crease you made. Press.
12. Repeat for the opposite side.
13. Fold piece C in half again, along the original crease. Press.
14. Stitch very close to the edge of each side of piece C.
15. Set aside Handle fabric – you'll sandwich it in the pillow in a minute!
16. Lay out piece B, right side facing up. Place your piece A (with ribbon sewn on) on top of piece B, lining it up along the bottom and sides of piece B. Pin in place.
17. Top stitch around the sides and bottom of piece A to attach it to piece B. It should be left open at the top – you just created the pocket!
18. Form piece C into a "U" shape and lay it at the top of piece B – the ends of piece C should be hanging over the top of piece B's top edge. I left the ends 4" apart.
19. Take the piece A with the hem stitched at the bottom. Place it on top of newly sewn piece B (pocket piece), right sides together (piece A will be facing down). This will sandwich piece C.
20. Place the other piece A (hem at the top) face down on top of piece B and piece A. Pin all the way around the square, making sure to add a pin on each side of the "U" shape of piece C.
21. Using a ½" seam allowance, stitch all the way around the square. Backstitch at the start and stop of your sewing, as well as over the edges of the pocket and the handle strips (piece C).
22. Snip the corners to allow for easier turning and less bulk.
23. Reach into the bottom part of the envelope back and pull the fabric right side out. Repeat for the top envelope piece as well.
24. Insert your pillow form into the pillowcase, bottom first. You'll need wiggle it around and push the corners into the corners of the pillowcase. The handle should be at the top
25. Enjoy your Reading Pillow

Notes

I did not add any extra fabric in my measurement for seam allowances. I made my pillow to be a finished 18" square. This will make the pillow extra fluffy, rather than having extra wiggle room inside.

The ribbon piece is not necessary, but I wanted added strength at the top of the pocket. I didn't want the pocket to stretch sag after many uses by my kiddos, so the ribbon should help with that.

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PROJECT TYPE: Sewing / **CATEGORY:** DIY/Sewing

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