

Embroidered Pillowcase 2

Carol A. Brown (with thanks to Pauline Fisher)

With measurements of about 20" x 26", this pillowcase is a little shorter than you normally see. Instead of having a decorative band around the whole opening, it has a band only on the front. The back side of the pillowcase has a flap that holds the pillow inside. The decorative band sits on the edge of the pillow so that the fullness of the pillow will be sure to show off your beautiful embroidery.

Materials:

1. Fancy Jumbles Alphabets, available at http://www.annthegran.com/online_store/fancyjumbles.htm
2. For the **case front**: 21" x 22" cotton print fabric.
3. For the **case back**: 21" x 35" cotton print fabric.
4. For the **trim band**: 22" of rickrack or trim in contrasting color.
5. For the **outer band**: 10" x 21" cotton fabric, solid or nearly solid color (e.g., marble prints, some batiks, tiny polka dots, or any print that will let your embroidery be the star). You may make this band wider than 10", but you will need to compensate by making the **case front** shorter or the **case back** longer.
6. Thread.
7. Embroidery thread.
8. Stabilizer.

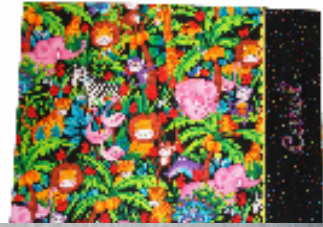
Prepare Outer Band:

1. Press **outer band** in half along the length (folded dimensions are 5" x 21").
2. Let the **outer band** fall open.
3. If your fabric has a print with an obvious top and bottom, turn the **outer band** so that the bottom of the print is at the fold.
4. Using a removable marker or chalk, mark centering lines halfway between the fold and the raw edge and halfway between the two side raw edges.
5. Unfold the **outer band**. Embroider your design at these centering lines, stitching through a single layer of the fabric. The bottom of the name should be toward the fold. Remove basting, excess stabilizer and marks.

Assemble the case front:

1. Pin rickrack or other trim to one 21" raw edge of the **case front**. If the print has an obvious top and bottom, pin it to the edge that is toward the bottom. If you cut your **case** so that the 21" side is along the lengthwise grain, then pin the trim to the side where you want the decorative **outer band**. Stitch the trim in place, about 1/8" from the raw edge.
2. Right side down, pin the **outer band** to the edge of the **case front** that has the trim. Make sure the embroidery design faces the **case front**.
3. Stitch a 1/4" seam with a seam/overcast stitch.
4. Press seam allowances toward the **outer band**.

Copyright © 2005-2008 by Carol A. Brown. All rights reserved.



5. If desired, topstitch through all layers from the right side.

Finish the case back:

1. Place the **case back** on the table, wrong side up. If the print has an obvious top and bottom, place the fabric so the bottom of the print is toward you. Place the **case front** on top, right side up. The direction of the print should match that of the **case back**.
2. Note the short end (21" long) that is closest to the **outer band** of the **case front** that is on top.
3. Mark a line on the wrong side of that side, 1 1/2" from the raw edge.
4. Press the raw edge up to meet that line.
5. Let the crease fall open. Press the raw edge to meet the crease.
6. From the right side, pin this double hem. Topstitch.



Assemble the pillowcase:

1. Place the **case back** on the table, right side up.
2. Place the case front on top, right side down. Match the raw edges on three sides. The ends with the outer band and the topstitched hem will not match.
3. Bring the extra fabric from the **case back** over the **outer band**. The fold should be just past the outer edge of the **outer band**.
4. Pin the three sides that have raw edges.
5. Stitch 3/8" seam, pivoting at corners.
6. Trim corners diagonally, then finish raw edges.
7. Press the seams toward one side of the pillow case.
8. Turn flap right side out. Press crease even with the outer edge of the **outer band**.
9. Turn pillowcase right side out and press flat.
10. Insert pillow and enjoy your rest.

