Beautiful Bolsters

Materials and Supplies:

Items

Fabric for pillow and welt

Clear View Ruler - #MR50

Welt Cord - #WCP0/S

Snap Together Buttons - #FCB60 or FCB75

Poly Cord - #LC9R/11

24" Bolster Needle - #TP89

7" x 16", Polyester Cluster Pillow Inserts - #PJ54

Definitions

- Diameter: The measurement across the circle – from one point straight across to the other side.
- Circumference: The measurement around the circle.
- Pi: Mathematical measurement used to find the circumference of a circle. Pi=3.14.
    - Diameter of circle x 3.14 = circumference.

Step-by-step: Pattern Pieces

1. How to figure your pattern pieces. (Photo 1) This sample has a 7" diameter and finishes 16" wide.
    a. Cut two (2) circles the size of the pillow diameter, plus seam allowances, for the two ends of the bolster.
        i. The Bolster finishes at 7" diameter so cut the circles at 8" diameter.
    b. Cut one (1) rectangle piece using Pi to figure out the amount of fabric needed for the body of the Bolster.
        i. For this sample: 7 (diameter) x 3.14 (pi) = 22". The rectangle needs to be 23" (22 + 1" seam allowance) tall by 17" (16 + 1" seam allowance) wide.

2. Fold the rectangle in half, folding one short side up to the other short side, right sides together. (Photo 2)

3. Stitch the two sides together, stitching 2-3" only on each side – leave the center of this seam open. This hooks the rectangle together to make a tube. (Photo 3)

4. Pin the end pieces (circle pieces) onto the openings of the tube, matching seams. Stitch. Clip curves. (Photo 4)

Photo 1   Photo 2   Photo 3   Photo 4

a. If using welt cord, make and sew the welt to the circles (Photo cord 1) prior to attaching them to the body. Clip the seam allowance as needed to make the curve.

  i. Open one end of the welt. (Photo cord 2) Fold the opened end back onto itself to form a 45* angle. The excess material should go toward the outside. (Photo cord 3) Cut the welt cord behind the fold. (Photo cord 4) Cut the other welt cord so the two cords lay next to each other. (Photo cord 5) Fold the flap closed and stitch. (Photo cord 6)
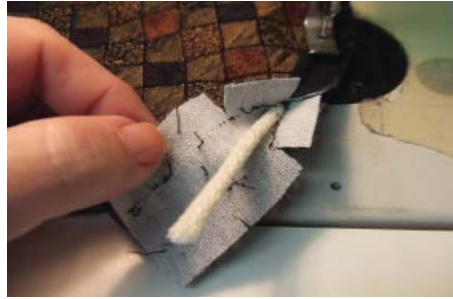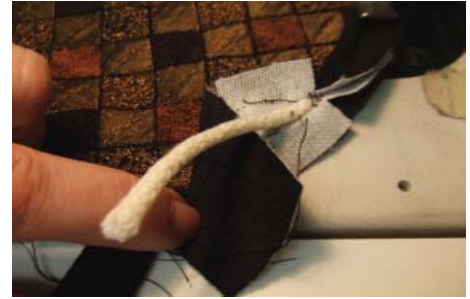

Photo cord 1

Photo cord 2

Photo cord 3

Photo cord 4

Photo cord 5

Photo cord 6

5. Turn the pillow right side out. Stuff and hand close.

  a. Securing buttons on the ends of the bolster is covered below.

Step-by-step: To make the surround

1. How to figure your pattern pieces. This sample has a 7" diameter and finishes 16" wide.

  a. Cut one body piece 23 x 17. Cut two (2) rectangles for the two ends. Each piece should be cut at ½ the diameter, plus seam allowance, plus 1" for the casing. For this example, cut the two rectangles at 23" wide by 5" tall. (Photo 5)

Photo 5

  b. For each end piece, fold the rectangle in half, folding one short side to the other short side, right sides together. Sew the two sides together to form a tube. (Photo 6)

Photo 6

  c. On one side of the tube, turn under 1" for a casing. Place Poly Cord inside of the casing prior to stitching the casing. Leave a small area unstitched to allow the cord to start and stop. This will become the gathering cord. (Photo 7)

2. For the body: fold the large rectangle in half, folding one short side up to the other short side, right sides together.

  a. Stitch the two sides together, stitching 2-3" only on each side – leave the center of this seam open. This hooks the rectangle together to make a tube.

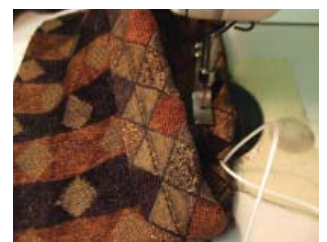
Photo 7

b. Pin the raw edge of the end tube onto the body tube, matching seams. Stitch. (Photo 8)

c. Turn the pillow right side out. Stuff. Hand close the body.

d. Draw the Poly Cord through the casing, pulling the cord tight to close the ends of the Bolster. Tie a knot in the twine, trim the ends and tuck the ends into the opening. (Photo 9)

e. Cut a piece of poly cord that is 3x longer than the length of the Bolster. Load a button onto the poly cord then fold the cord in half. Put both ends of the Poly Cord through the 24" Long Bolster Needle eye. (Photo 10) Push the needle through the length of the pillow. Pull the needle off the poly cord, load and tie off a second button (Photo 11).

Photo 8

Photo 9

Photo 10

Photo 11