

“No Raw Edge” Pillowcase – With Drawstring

Materials for 1 standard size (approx. 20” by 32”) pillowcase:

$\frac{3}{4}$ yard of cotton fabric for the main body of the pillowcase
 $\frac{1}{4}$ yard of cotton fabric for the cuff of the pillowcase
 $\frac{1}{8}$ yard (3 inches) of cotton fabric for drawstring casing (it will show on the outside)
4 to 5 feet of high quality $\frac{5}{8}$ ” wide grosgrain ribbon (like Offray) for the drawstring
matching or coordinating thread
point turner
seam gauge

Sewing machine, rotary cutter, cutting mat, ruler (at least 4” by 24”), iron, usual sewing supplies, like pins, seam ripper, and scissors

Assembly:

1. Iron all of the fabrics and square the Body and Cuff fabrics.
2. Cut a 3” strip from the Casing fabric. Cut selvages off. Trim 2” off one end. Fold under a $\frac{1}{4}$ ” hem on both short ends of the Casing. Stitch the hems. Iron Casing fabric in half the long way, wrong sides together.
3. Lay Cuff fabric down, right side facing up.
4. Place Casing fabric along top edge of the Cuff fabric, matching the raw edges and centering the Casing in the middle of the Cuff (the Cuff should extend about 1-1/2” to 2” on either side of the centered Casing).
5. Place the Body fabric, right side facing down, along the top edge of the Cuff and Casing fabrics, matching raw edges. Pin in place. If selvages do not match, it’s OK; you can even them up later.
6. Tightly roll Body fabric from the bottom until you can see half of the Cuff fabric.
7. Fold Cuff fabric up and over all the other fabrics; matching the raw edge to the others, forming a tube, and pin. Double check to make sure that only the edge of the pillow body fabric is in the seam.
8. Sew along the raw edge using a $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ inch seam allowance.
9. Pull all the fabric out of the roll from one end. Iron. Top stitch the loose long end of the Casing down onto the Body of the pillowcase.
10. Even up both sides with a rotary cutter or scissors, making sure to cut off the selvages.
11. Fold in half **wrong** sides together, matching Cuff edge at the top. Pin the side and the bottom.
12. Sew a narrow seam ($\frac{1}{4}$ ”) on the side and the bottom pivoting at the corner. Backstitch at both ends to secure the seam.
13. Trim the bottom corners, making sure you don’t cut your stitching. Using your point turner, push out both corners then iron the entire pillowcase.
14. Turn pillowcase inside out -- so the right sides are together – and iron. Using a $\frac{1}{2}$ ” seam, sew the side and bottom again, pivoting at the corner again. Make sure that the first seam is being sewn inside this second seam. Backstitch at both ends to secure the seam.
15. Turn right side out. Using your point turner, push out both corners and iron. . Do **not** trim the corners.
16. Insert the ribbon Drawstring into the Casing. Using a safety pin or bodkin, pull the drawstring through the Casing. Trim the Drawstring to desired length and knot each end. Tack the Drawstring to the Casing in one spot to keep the Drawstring from coming out.