

How to Make a Magic Pillowcase



Let's go from this.....



To this!

Step 1: Cut Your Fabric.

For a standard-size pillowcase:

Accent Strip: 3" x WOF

Cuff: 9" x WOF

Main: 27" x WOF

Remember: $3 \times 9 = 27$!

Step 2: Lay it Out.

Fold each strip in half and lay out your pillowcase with selvages along the bottom. Confirm orientation of stripes. Stripes across WOF will appear up and down on your pillowcase.



Step 3: Lay out on Cutting Mat & Trim All Strips to Same Length.

Carefully bring your “pillowcase” to the cutting mat, and stack fabrics as needed to line up all 3 folds to the left. Selvages will extend to the right, and will not be lined up. Use your rotary cutter to trim the selvages so the 3 strips are the same length. In the photos, the cuff and accent strip are stacked on top of the body fabric.



Folds are lined up.

Selvages do not line up; need to be trimmed.

Trim the fabrics to the same length, removing selvages.

Step 4: Fold the Accent Strip in half lengthwise, wrong-sides together, and press.

This makes your 1” wide accent strip for your pillowcase.



Step 5: Line Up Each Fabric to Make a Burrito.

Open up the cuff fabric strip and lay it out in a straight line, right side up.



Open up the main fabric strip and lay it over the cuff strip, also right side up, with the top edges even along the whole strip. Photo shows left corner folded back so cuff fabric is visible beneath. Notice how the main fabric is loosely folded up to save space on the table.



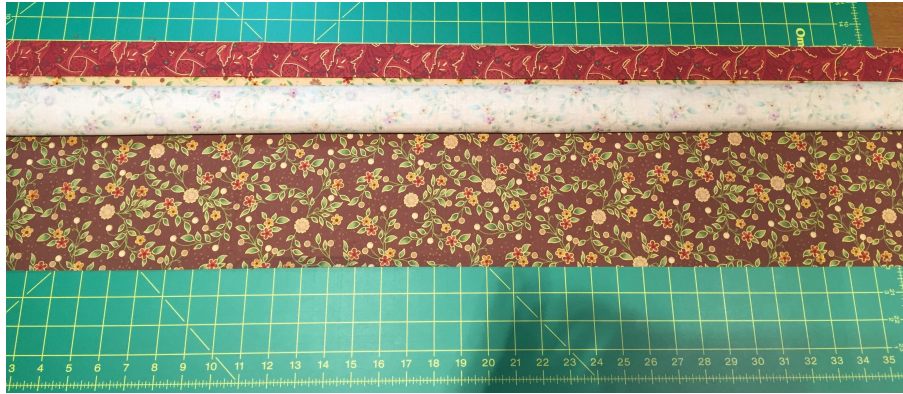
Line up the folded accent fabric strip along the top edges of the other two fabrics, all raw edges even.



Step 6: Roll Up Your Burrito!



Roll up the main fabric so it just abuts the accent strip.



Step 7: Carefully Fold Up the Cuff Fabric and Align Its Edge with the Other Fabrics.



Pin carefully to make sure all fabrics (5 raw edges total) will be caught in the $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam.



Step 8: Stitch Your Burrito Closed with a $\frac{1}{4}$ " Seam.

Backstitch well at both ends as there will be pressure on the seam when turning inside out.

Step 9: Turn your Burrito Inside Out. Surprise!

No pictures here; a pillowcase with finished trim will appear before your very eyes.

Step 10: Use Your Hands to Open the Seams, and Press!



Clean finished both sides!

Step 11: Close Your Pillowcase with a ¼” Seam Along the Two Raw Edges.

To complete your pillowcase, fold it inside out and serge or stitch the two unfinished edges with a ¼” seam. But since the opened end of the pillow is of enclosed seams, why not finish your final seam as well? Read on to complete your pillow with a completely enclosed French seam. Easy Peasy!

Step 11 (Better): Close Your Pillowcase with a French Seam

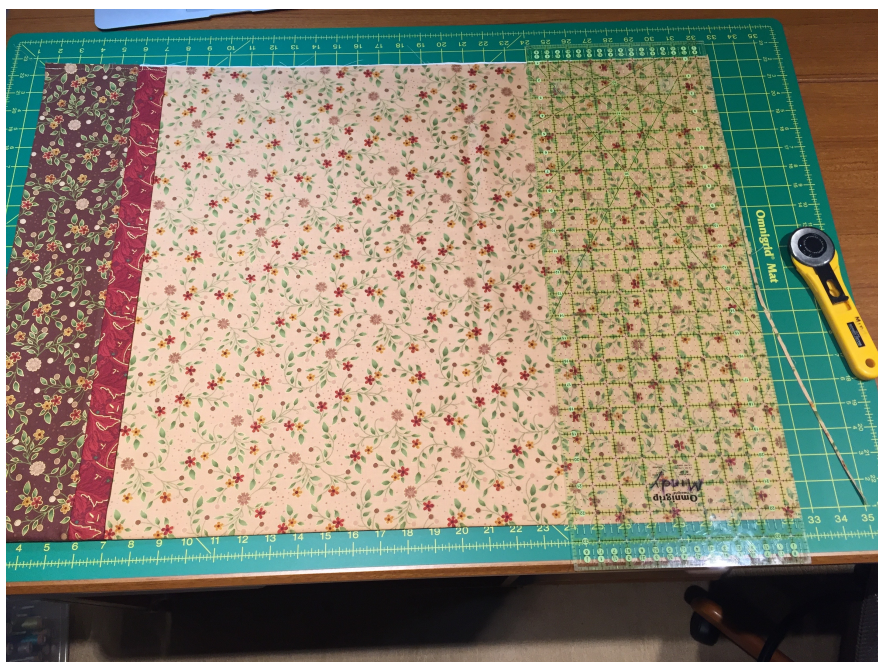
Fold your pillowcase to its finished shape, **wrong-sides together**, and pin carefully to match ends of cuff and accent strip. Stitch a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam along the two open edges, backstitching at both ends.

Pin and stitch these two open edges.

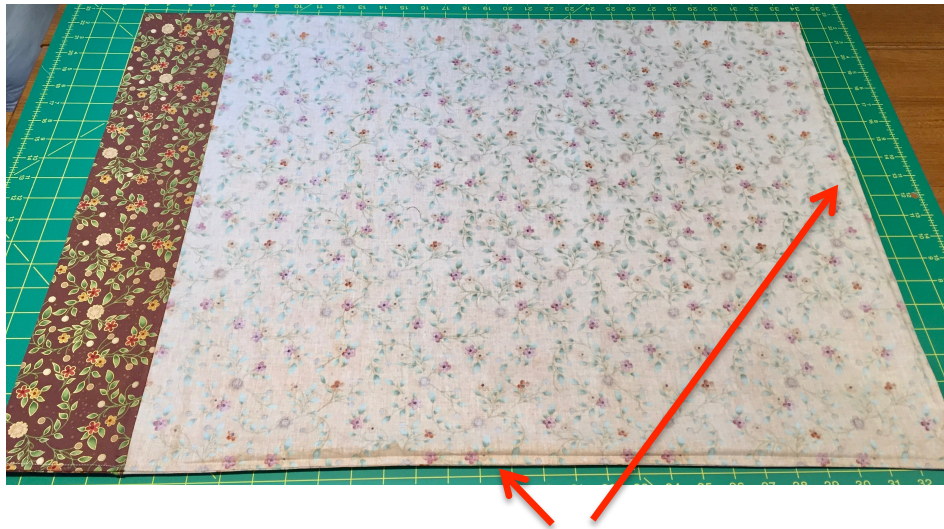


Folded edge.

Trim off $\frac{1}{8}$ " of your $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance.



Turn your pillowcase inside out, so it is right sides together. Push with your hands to open the seams, and press well. Then stitch your final $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam. Notice this time your seam allowance is "finished."



Final seam, with enclosed seam allowances.

Turn your pillowcase right-side out, and press the seams one last time.

Step 12: Enjoy Your New Custom Pillowcase!

