

**Crafty Girls Workshop Presents:**



**A Pillowcase Tutorial**

**By Anna Luna**

Want to make a REALLY easy and REALLY fast gift for a special someone in your life? Why not make them a couple of cute pillowcases to decorate their beds and send them off to sweet dreams each night?



Supplies for ONE standard 20" X 26" pillowcase (great for a twin bed, double these supplies for two cases):

- \* 3/4 yd non-directional fabric (for body of pillowcase)
- \* 1/8 yd fabric for small accent band
- \* 1/4 yd fabric for outside band
- \* Sewing machine, thread, scissors, rotary cutter, mat, iron

### **1) Cut the fabric:**

From the main body fabric, cut a rectangle 26" x 42"

From the small accent band fabric, cut a strip 2-1/4" x 42"

From the outside band fabric, cut a strip 8-1/2" x 42"

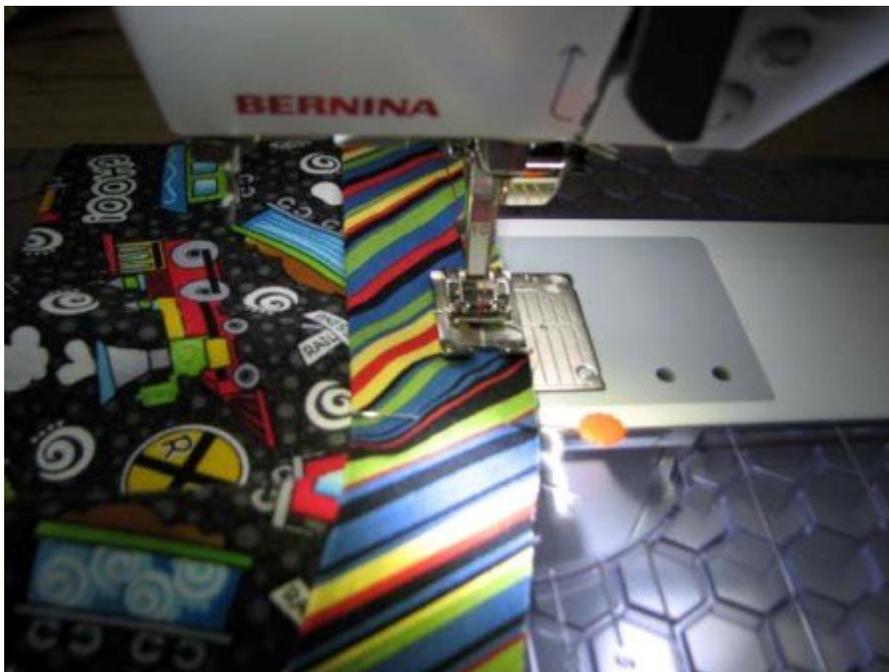
## 2) Fold and press:



Fold the 2-1/4" strip in half lengthwise and press.

Do the same with the 8-1/2" strip.

## 3) Attach accent band to the outside band.



Using a 1/4" seam allowance, line up the raw edges and attach the accent band to the outside band.

#### 4) Attach the body fabric.



This is where things get a little tricky, but it's OK, I'll walk you through it. Lay the accent band piece so that the raw edges are up. Then line up one of the long edges of the body fabric with the raw edge of the accent/band fabrics. Make sure the small accent piece is sandwiched between the two larger pieces. Stitch together with 1/4" seam allowance.



Got it? Good. You're almost done!

#### 5) Press bands and sew pillowcase body

Press the bands forward so that they lay flat and the small accent band is on top of the outside band.

Fold the entire piece in half with right sides together and stitch along the bottom and side seams. Backstitch at the beginning and end to secure the threads. (Backstitch means stitch forward a couple of stitches, then press the reverse button, if your machine has one, and stitch backwards over the same stitches.) If you don't have a reverse stitch, that's fine, you can just tie threads off. At this point, you'll probably want to turn right side out and press the side seam flat or at least to one side so that it lays nicely, wa-la you are DONE!

**6) Optional finish, zigzag the inside edge:**



To prevent the seams from fraying with repeated washes or to give it a more finished look you can go back and do a zigzag stitch over the seam allowance. When you do so, make sure that the outside points of the stitch go over the edge of the fabric. Also, be sure to stitch over the seam allowance of the outside bands as well.

Here is what the finished pillowcase looks like:



As you can see in the first image, you shouldn't feel limited to just cotton fabrics for the pillowcase body. I used a soft, snuggly fabric called Minkee for the pillowcase that matched the backing to the quilt in the picture.

If you'd like the pattern for the quilt in the first image, check out my blog: <http://sewgoodsewfar.wordpress.com> for the FREE pattern!

Happy Stitches!

Anna