

# Quilted Pocket Pillow

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Use a 1/4" seam allowance unless otherwise noted.

## 1) Gather Materials for the Front:

- Coordinating cotton prints from the Michael Miller First Sight collection
- ribbon 8" long
- Quilt batting and backing fabric OR fleece
- Polyester fiberfill stuffing
- 18" x 18" pillow form

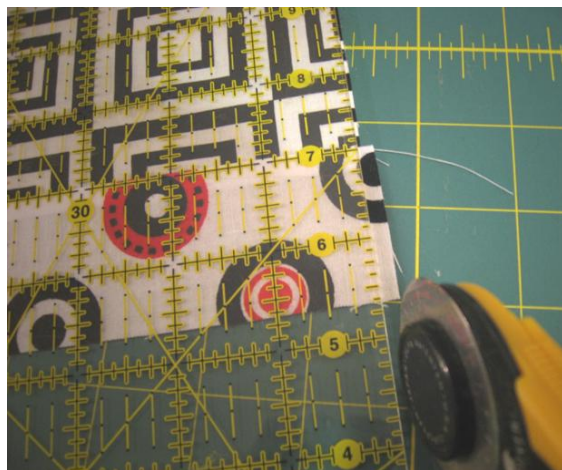


## 2) Piece the Front Panel:

The main fabric on the front panel (*black cubism*) is 14-1/2" x 14-1/2". It is surrounded by 2" wide strips of fabric (*first circles*). You'll need four strips: One piece measuring 14-1/2", two that are 16-1/2", and the last one 18-1/2". Cut your strips a little longer than required.



Sew on the first strip and iron the seams to one side. Use a rotary cutter to square off the corner. Rotate the block. Sew on the next the strip the same way. Continue around until you've sewn on all four strips.



## 3) Quilt the Front Panel:

You may sandwich a piece of quilt batting between the front panel and backing fabric. In my case, I saved a step by using a fluffy piece of organic fleece.

Pin it all together around the edges.



Start by stitching in the ditch between the border and main fabric all the way around.



Then quilt diagonal lines using the design on the fabric as your guide. Backstitch at the beginning and end of each line.



#### 4) Make the Stuffed Panda:

Using the *first sight* fabric, cut around the panda leaving a 1/2" edge for sewing. Use the cut out panda as a guide for cutting backing fabric.



Machine baste the ribbon to the side of the panda.



Pin your pieces, front sides facing and sew around the perimeter. Keep the ribbon INSIDE the panda. Leave a two inch opening on the bottom of the panda for turning and stuffing. Reinforce your stitches when you stop and start.



Turn the panda right side out. Stuff with fiberfill, and hand stitch it closed.

### 5) Create the Pocket:

You'll need two pieces fabric (the front and the lining)—both 6"H and 8-1/2"W.

With front sides facing, sew them together around the perimeter leaving a 3" opening on the side for turning. Reinforce stitches when you start and stop.



Trim off the corners to remove bulk. Turn the pocket right side out. Iron flat, and sew the opening shut.

With a fabric pen mark the bottom of the pocket at 1-1/2" in on either side.



Using the mark as your guide, fold the pocket toward the backside as pictured.



Fold the edge back so that it meets the first fold. Iron this down. Do the same to the other side.



Place the pocket in the middle of the quilted panel. Pin in place, making sure the “flap” stays out of the way. Sew down the left side, reinforcing at the top and bottom by backstitching. Before sewing the right side of the pocket, pin the panda’s ribbon in along the inside edge. Once you have sewn both sides, pin the flaps down and sew along the bottom edge.



Place panda in his pocket.



#### 6) Gather Materials for the Back:

For the back you will need 2 pieces coordinating fabric, 18-1/2”H x 11”W (*first numbers*) and 18-1/2”H x 13”W (*jet black*). These will need to be lined with cotton fabric of the same dimensions.



### 7) Line the Fabric:

Let's start with the *first numbers* panel. With right sides facing, pin it to the backing fabric along one 18-1/2" side. Sew along the side, iron the seam open, and then fold it along the seam so that the seam is on the inside. Iron it flat, making sure all the edges of the fabric line up.



Top stitch along the folded edge.

Do the same with the *jet black* fabric to create the second panel.



### 8) Attach the Panels to the Front:

Place the panels so that the black panel overlaps the numbered panel, as pictured.



Holding them together, flip them over and place them on top of the front panel with right sides facing. Line up the top and side edges of all the panels.



Pin in place along the top and sides. Leave the bottom open for now. Sew the top and sides together. Remove pins.



Trim off the excess fabric on the bottom of the pillow cover. Pin in place and sew. Reach in through the closure and turn the cover right side out. Stuff with a pillow form. ♦

