Assorted Throw Pillow Styles

Discover how to create multiple pillow styles featuring a double flange detail, decorative braid, unique zipper techniques and flat braid trim.

Materials & Supplies

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Assorted Throw Pillow Styles: Step-By-Step Instructions

**Pillow #1 - 18" x 18" Square with Decorative Braid Cord & Tapered Corners:**

Use the tapered corner template. Mark and cut the pillow front at 19" x 19". Serge the raw edges.
2 Cut the pillow back in two pieces as shown. The bottom portion is the zipper strip. The top portion is cut to allow a ½” flap for the top section of the zipper. Serge the raw edges of both sections.

3 Stitch the decorative braid cord to the pillow front, clipping the lip at each corner.

4 To finish the edges of the decorative braid cord, use a fabric strip with the raw edges folded inside. Wrap this around the ends of the decorative braid cord for a clean finish.

5 Insert a zipper between the zipper strip and the bottom of the pillow back. Fold up ¾” of the bottom of the pillow back. Press. Sew the zipper to this. Sew the other side of the zipper to the top of the zipper strip.
Pin pillow front and backs together, make sure the zipper is open, stitch. Turn right sides out. Press pillow. Insert pillow form.

Pillow #2 – 21" x 21" Double Flange with Contrast Miter inside the Flange:

1. Cut pillow front and back fabric. For a 21" pillow body with a 2" flange, cut pillow front and back at 26" x 26". The pillow template measures 25" x 25" so we used this in combination with our 60" ruler to get our pillow cuts.


3. Cut the contrast flange fabric and stabilize. For this pillow the flange sections were cut at 26" x 4". You will need 4 for the pillow front and 4 for the pillow back. The fabric stabilizer also helped prevent raveling of the fabric.
4 Fold the corners to the wrong side of each strip to create a 45° angle. Press.

5 Unfold, pin, and stitch together. Clip corners and press seams open.

6 Place the mitered frame right sides together with the pillow, pin, and stitch around all 4 sides.

7 Clip corners, grade seams and turn the contrast mitered edge to the inside. Press edges. Repeat this process for the second pillow side.
8 On the bottom of the pillow front and back, mark for the 2” flange, starting and stopping 2” from each edge. Pin the 2” line. Stitch on this line.

9 Place the pillow front and back together, wrong sides in. Mark and pin the 2” flange along the 3 remaining sides of the pillow. Stitch the flange.

10 Press the pillow. Insert the pillow form. Pin the flange together and hand stitch closed.

Pillow #3 – 9” x 18” Specialty Pillow with Flat Braid Trim Overlays:

1 Cut pillow front and back at 10” x 19”. Serge around all edges.
For the pillow back, cut an additional zipper strip at 19" x 3". Serge all edges. On the larger pillow back section at the bottom edge, fold ¾" towards the back side. This will be the flap that covers the zipper. Pin the zipper to the bottom of the pillow back as shown. Stitch.

Pin the second side of the zipper to the zipper strip and stitch.

The completed pillow back.

Add the flat braid to the pillow front. Begin placing small sections of the trim diagonally across each corner. Working next from the center out, weave the flat braid working towards the edges of the pillow front.
6. Continue weaving the trim until the pillow front is covered.

7. Draw the pillow cut size on the pillow front and stitch around the face, tapering the corners. Clip the edges of the trim.

8. Using the flat braid trim, press in half and make a flange and stitch to the pillow front.

9. Pin pillow front and back, right sides together, and stitch. Turn right sides out.