

# Rowley project list: **Round, Tapered Semi-Attached Pillow Top Ottoman**

For this project we've combined a semi-attached pillow top ottoman with a shaped base. It's a challenging upholstery project, but in the end, is well worth the effort for that one-of-a-kind creation.



## **MATERIALS & SUPPLIES**

### **Rowley Products**

FirmaFlex™  
 5 oz. Polyester Batting  
 5/32" Polyester Welt Cord  
 Iron-On Batting  
 Upholstery Thread  
 Curved Needle  
 Pneumatic Stapler  
 Staples  
 Cambric

### **SKU**

[\*\*BP48/\*\*](#)  
[\*\*PF72\*\*](#)  
[\*\*WCP0/\*\*](#)  
[\*\*PA20/\*\*](#)  
[\*\*TU6K/\*\*](#)  
[\*\*TP68\*\*](#)  
[\*\*NSG10\*\*](#)  
[\*\*NS33/E\*\*](#)  
[\*\*PA40/\*\*](#)

### **If pulling buttons:**

8" Double-Ended Needle  
 0.9mm Poly Cord  
 #60 Snap-Together Buttons

[\*\*TP84\*\*](#)  
[\*\*LC9C/11\*\*](#)  
[\*\*FCA60\*\*](#)

### **Outside products:**

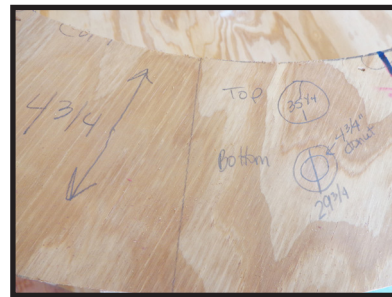
1 x 3 x 8 Boards  
 1/2" Plywood  
 Medium Density Foam  
 T-Nuts  
 Decorative Legs

## **ROUND, TAPERED SEMI-ATTACHED PILLOW TOP OTTOMAN: STEP-BY-STEP INSTRUCTIONS**

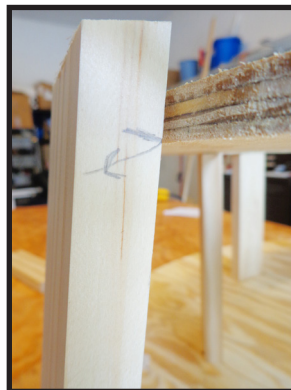
This project guide will cover steps for planning and building the frame as well as padding and upholstering the ottoman. Our project ottoman finished at 36" wide at the top and 30" wide at the bottom, 18 1/2" tall and used 4" medium density foam.

## Making the Base:

- 1 Cut two circles from a sheet of  $\frac{1}{2}$ " plywood. Cut the top circle at  $35\frac{1}{4}$ " and the bottom circle at  $29\frac{3}{4}$ ".  
A. Cut sizes are made to account for a  $\frac{3}{8}$ " wrap around the outside edge.
- 2 On the bottom circle, mark for and cut out an inner circle, leaving a  $4\frac{3}{4}$ " donut.
- 3 Cut the outer support legs at 13". You'll need at least 14.
- 4 Cut the inner support legs at 11". You'll need at least 12.



- 5 Set the inner support legs between the top and bottom, spacing them evenly. Screw or pneumatic nail to both top and bottom circles.
- 6 Measure for the outer support leg angle by holding the support leg to the outside of the frame. Mark for bottom angle cut, then cut angle.
- 7 Hold angled support leg in place to mark and measure for top angle cut. Mark and cut.
- 8 Cut the rest of the outside support legs from the first one. All the angles will be the same.
- 9 Pneumatic nail or screw outside support legs in place, spacing them evenly.

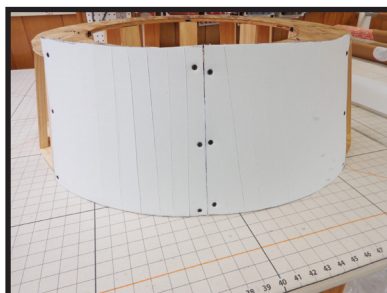
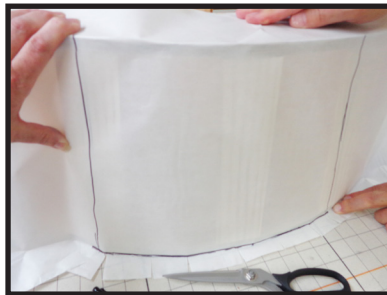




- 10** Mark for T-nut and decorative leg placement.
- 11** Drill holes for T-nuts. Pound T-nuts into holes. Attach legs.

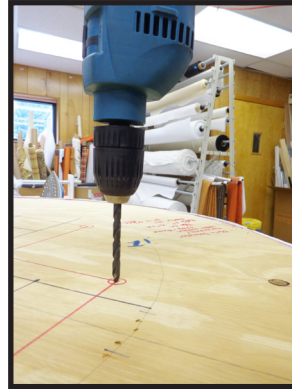
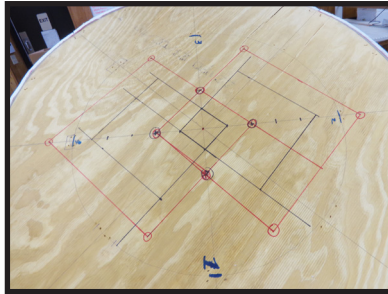
## Covering the Base Frame:

- 1** Mark the center of each outside support leg board.
- 2** Make a pattern that covers three outside support legs – ½ a leg, a full leg and ½ a leg.
- 3** Transfer the pattern to a piece of FirmaFlex, marking a straight center line as a scoring guide.
- 4** Cut out the FirmaFlex piece and score it, straight up and down – not following the taper of the sides – about every 1" going across the piece.
- 5** Screw piece to base, making sure the bottoms are level. The tops can be trimmed later, if needed.
- 6** Repeat steps 1-5 until base is covered.



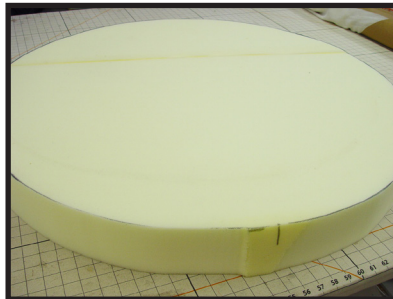
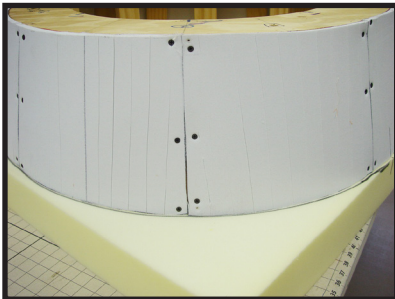
## Marking for Button Placement (optional):

If you are going to use buttons in your design, mark for their placement now. Mark your pattern on the top plywood piece. Drill holes at all marks. Cover all buttons. Load buttons with button twine or a firm cording and set aside.



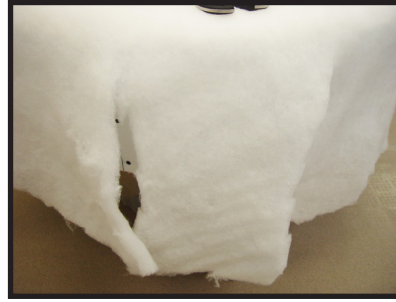
## Cutting and Prepping the Foam:

- 1 Turn the frame upside down on the foam and trace around the outside.
- 2 Cut foam.
- 3 Wrap the foam in a layer of batting, whip-stitching edges together.



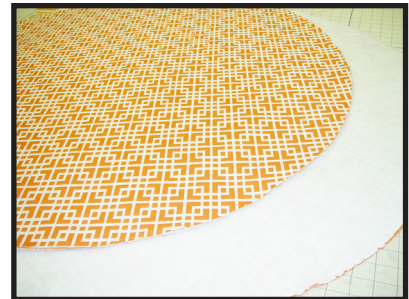
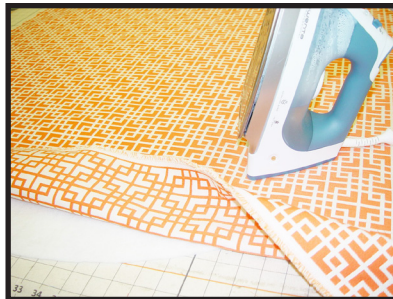
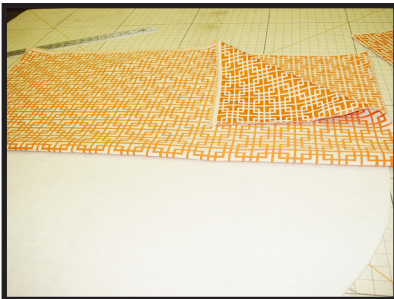
- 4 Cut a layer of batting large enough to drape the top and all sides.

- 5 Cut away excess on the sides so the batting lies tight to the frame.
- 6 Staple batting to the bottom.



## Cutting and Prepping the Fabric:

- 1 Cut two 37" circles out of iron-on batting.
- 2 Iron batting onto fabric for the top and bottom of the cushion, centering the batting on a specific pattern.
- 3 Cut away any excess face fabric.



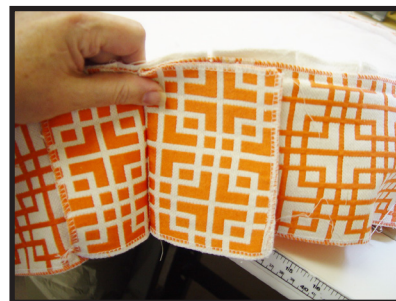
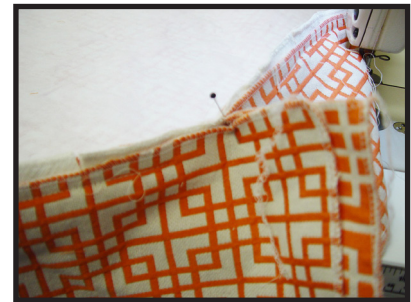
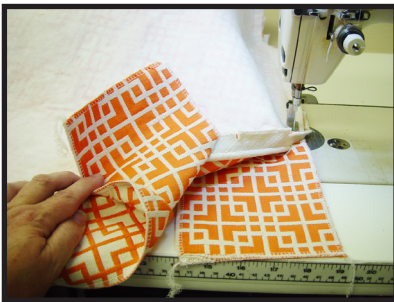
- 4 Cut fabric for the boxing and banding.
  - A. Our project used 4" foam so we cut our boxing at 5" x the circumference of the ottoman, plus 10" for pattern matching at the join seams.
  - B. Our base was 12" tall so we cut our banding at 19" tall by the circumference of the ottoman, plus 10" for pattern matching at the join seams.
- 5 Join the pieces needed for the boxing, matching patterns. Do not sew it into a circle.
- 6 Join the pieces needed for the banding, matching patterns. Do not sew into a circle.
- 7 Cut and make welt cord (enough for four times around the frame).

- 8 Glue-baste the covered welt cord to the top and bottom cushion circles, clipping the seam allowance as needed for it to lie flat.
- 9 Sew welt to circles, joining ends at the machine.



## Starting the Cushion:

- 1 Sew the boxing onto the cushion top, matching a pattern in the front.
- 2 Start sewing with a tail and end with a tail, leaving about 5" un-sewn.
- 3 Walk the two edges together to find the placement for the join seam. Pin.
- 4 Sew the join seam. Trim away any excess beyond the seam.
- 5 Open the seam and finish sewing the boxing to the cushion top.
- 6 Set this aside.



## Fitting the Banding:

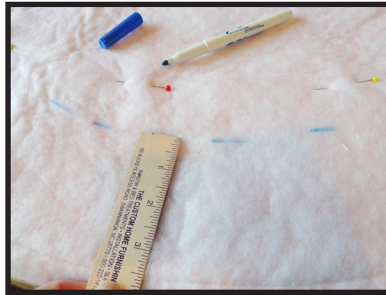
- 1 Place the strip of banding on the base, wrong sides out with at least 5" of fabric laying over the top. Leave enough fabric at the bottom to be tucked under and stapled later.
- 2 Pull snug and pin for a join seam, paying attention to a pattern match if possible.
- 3 Remove the banding from the frame and sew the join seam.
- 4 Place the circle of banding on the frame, wrong sides out. It should be a snug fit!
- 5 Pull the excess fabric, on the top, into evenly spaced darts. Pin.
- 6 Remove from frame and sew darts.
- 7 Turn right sides out and pull onto frame to check fit. Adjust as needed.



## Finishing the Ottoman:

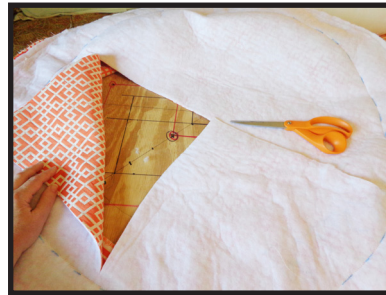
- 1 Lay the bottom cushion piece right side down on top of the fitted banding, centering it and matching patterns as able. Pin well.
- 2 Mark in 4" all the way around. This is your stitch line.
- 3 Sew on the marked line (circle) – twice for strength.

## Rowley project list: tapered pillow top ottoman



**4** Once the bottom cushion and the banding are attached, cut an "x" inside of the stitched circle, cutting only the cushion bottom.

**5** Flip over so the right side of the cushion bottom is facing up and tuck in the banding.

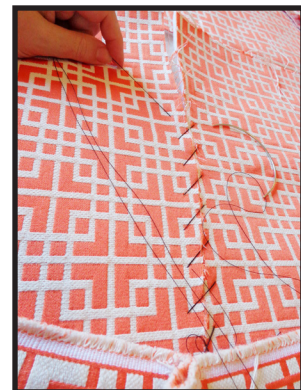


**6** Match the cushion top to the bottom and sew all the way around.

**7** Turn right sides out through the "x".

**8** Stuff wrapped foam into the cushion casing.

**9** Hand-close the "x" by whip-stitching. Make sure to just butt the edges together and not to overlap them.



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- 10** Pull onto base, stapling underneath the frame.
- A. You will have more fabric at the bottom so plan on easing in the fabric evenly.
  - B. Staple on the final layer of decorative welt cord.
  - C. If you are using buttons, attach them now.

- 11** Staple on a layer of cambric and re-attach legs.

