

Pillowcase Tutorial – Tube Style with French Seams

This tutorial can be confusing because of the rollup method. It makes it visually very clear if you watch this video before you start:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MrYWCma9wgM>

Supplies:

Main Fabric:

- King pillow case: 36" x 42" (1 yard)
- Queen pillow case: 32" x 42" (7/8 yard)
- Standard pillow case: 27" x 42" (3/4 yard)

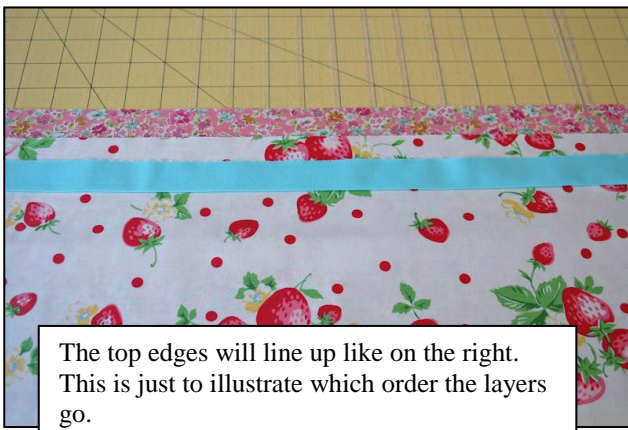
For all size pillows:

- Cuff Fabric: 9" x 42" (1/4 yard)
- Trim Fabric: 2½" x 42" (1/8 yard)

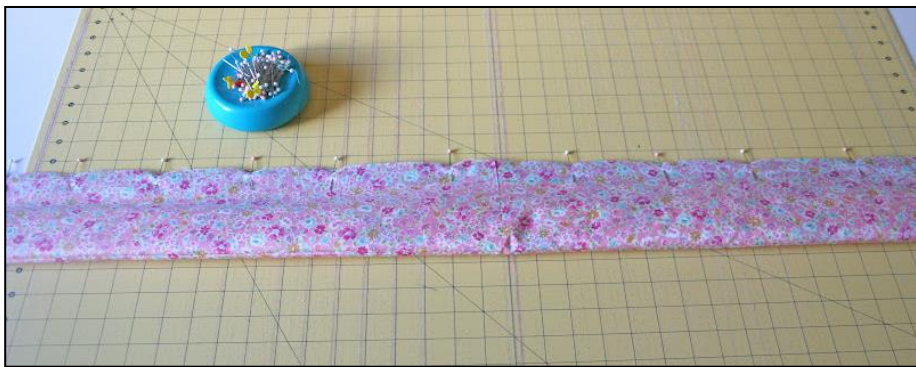


Instructions:

1. Lay your fabrics on top of each other and trim off the selvages and trim so they are all the same width.
2. Fold and press the 2½" fabric strip lengthwise with **WS together** so that you have a long, 1¼" strip.



3. Lay down your 9" cuff fabric **RS up** with the 42" side along the top. Lay the fabric for the main pillowcase on top of the cuff fabric, **RS up**, aligning the top and the sides. Lay the trim strip on top of both of those with the cut edge aligning along the top. Pin to keep them lined up.



4. Starting at the bottom, roll up the main body fabric (pretty tightly). You can stop rolling when the roll is about 4" past the lower edge of the cuff fabric.
5. Bring the bottom edge of the cuff fabric up over the roll to match up with the top edges of the trim and body fabric, and pin all the layers together (you may need to remove some pins already pinned). You want your body fabric roll to be tight enough to not get caught in the seam you are about to sew.

6. Stitch a ½ " seam along the pinned edge at the top. Remember to backstitch at the beginning and end.
7. Reach inside the tube and gently pull the body of the pillowcase out.
8. You are ready to make your French seam! Fold the case in half with **WS together**, (right sides showing outside) matching up the trim and cuff top. Trim if you need to make the edges even. Make sure that the trim piece is pointing downward at the seam.



9. Pin down the side and along the bottom. Sew a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam, pivoting at the bottom corner for a continuous seam. When you are done, trim off the point on the corner so there is less bulk inside the seam.

10. Trim up any fraying threads, then turn your pillowcase **inside out** so you have **WS on the outside**. Push the corners out so they have a nice crisp point and press. Put a few pins in the keep the top edge and the trim even. Now you'll make a $\frac{3}{8}$ " to $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam down the side and along the bottom again, pivoting at the corner. Remember to backtack at the beginning and end.



Yippee, we're all done!! Wasn't that easy peasy! :)

NOTE: An alternative method to the French Seams of finishing the pillowcase would be:

- With RS together, stitch down the side and along the bottom.
- Zigzag along the edges of the seam so the seams won't unravel.