



# PATCHWORK CUSHION

## BY TEATUM JONES

*Reviving and recycling scrap textiles  
into a homemade cushion cover.*





## MATERIALS

- 1 x cushion
- Variation of scrap fabrics
- Zip
- Scissors
- Sewing machine
- Machine thread
- Chalk/pen/pencil

- Any paper or card
- Pins
- Ruler
- Measuring tape
- Optional: embroidery ring, hand sewing needle, yarn/thread

# LET'S GET STARTED!

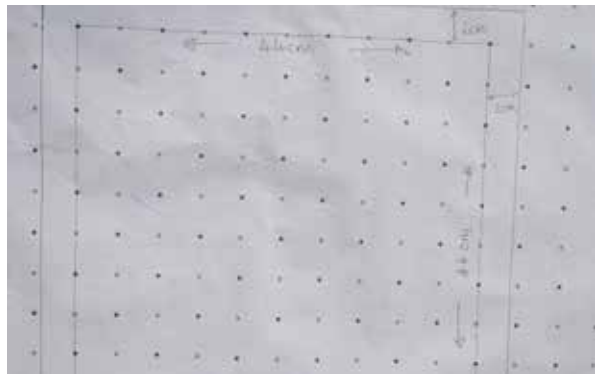
## STEP 1



**Measure cushion size.**  
(instructions based on 45cm x 45cm).

For our cushion, we are going to use 9 different wool-based fabrics, but this combination is up to you. We would recommend non-stretch fabrics as this will be easier to handle, but you can always fuse the fabric to give more stability when sewing.

## STEP 2



**Create a paper pattern.**

We are going to divide our cushion into 3 x 3 squares, making each square 15cm x 15cm. Add a 1cm seam allowance to all 4 sides. You should end up with a pattern that 17cm x 17cm big. Dividing your cushion into 9 squares is optional.

## STEP 3



**Place your pattern onto your desired fabric.**  
**Pin around the paper and cut out fabric.**

We have cut 9 fabric squares of this size for the front. For the back, we have chosen to use a plain black fabric. To do this, you will need to create a separate pattern that's the size of your cushion.

Ours will be 47cm x 47cm, which includes 1cm seam allowance all way round.

## STEP 4



**Play with the position of your squares.**

Machine stitch your squares together at 1cm seam allowance. Remember to press open the seams so that the outside is nice and flat.

For this exercise, we will be sewing 3 rows of 3 squares and then joining up the rows together to form the bigger square.

## STEP 5

### Embroidery (optional)

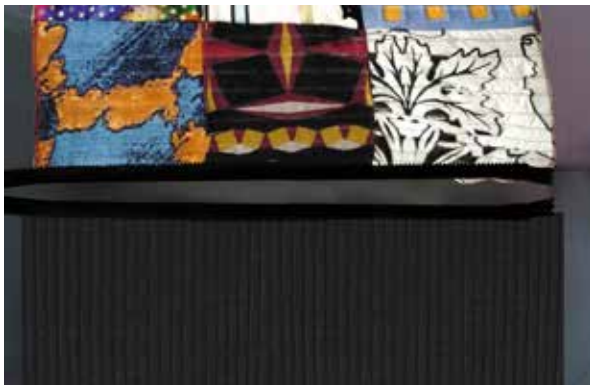
Draw the design you want on your cushion in chalk, light pen or pencil. If your pencil is not erasable, be careful not to make too many mistakes as your embroidery may not cover the unwanted marks. When we do embroidery, we always apply a paper template first. Then we can move and reposition the artwork if it doesn't look right.

Put the fabric through an embroidery ring, but if you don't have one, not to worry, just make sure when you are pulling your yarn through, you are not pulling too tight, otherwise your fabric will start pulling and wrinkle.

You can hand embroider or machine embroider your design depending on your desired finish. For hand embroidery, we tend to embroider 0.5cm length stitches up and down the artwork using weaving wool

yarn, but you can unravel any scrap yarn from an old jumper to achieve same effect.

You can also embroider onto a separate piece of fabric and applique onto your cushion after.



**Machine sew the zip onto both front and back of your fabric.**

We usually position the zip opening along the bottom of the cushion.

Pin the zip into position making sure the front and back of cushion lines up when zipped closed.

Note: It will be easier to finish the cushion if your zip is slightly shorter than the fabric width.



**Once the zip is sewn, line up both layers of fabric with the wrong side on the outside.**

Sew along the remaining 3 edges, and also along the zip opening to close the hole.

Make sure you have unzipped the zip before sewing, this will make it easier to turn out after sewing.

## STEP 7

## TO FINISH

### STEP 8



**Turn your cushion cover inside out and push out all of the corners. Give the cushion cover one final press.**

To give extra reinforcement, you can overlock or bind inside seams during sewing process, but this is optional.

### STEP 9



**Place cushion into cover and zip up.**

All done!

Visit [woolmark.com/care](https://www.woolmark.com/care) for more simple tips on washing and drying wool.