

Good Housekeeping

Easy, breezy
summer style

Do it Yourself

Summer 2000

DECORATING BASICS • CRAFTS • HOME IMPROVEMENTS • GARDENING

making
marvelous
mosaics

15+ super
outdoor spruce ups

HEARST SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS



DISPLAY UNTIL SEPT. 11
www.hearstspecials.com

10 playful
paint projects



stitch a bolster

One of the easiest ways to dress up your bedroom is to simply sew some new decorative pillows to toss on the bed. Pillows can add coordinated color to the room—and they make reading in bed so much more comfortable. If you're aiming for a more complete makeover in your bedroom, buy more fabric than you need to cover the pillows so that you can create complementary curtains or valances. Yellow

is a particularly cheery color in a bedroom, especially if the room doesn't get much daylight. Shades of yellow also make excellent accents, enlivening almost any other color scheme. If you like having a passel of pillows covering your bed, choose several fabrics that look as if they belong to the same color family. Try combining stripes and plaids with floral patterns. Just be sure that the different patterns have some of the same hues.

1 To create the bolster wrap (the fabric cover that encircles the length of the bolster form), cut a piece of fabric equal to the length of the pillow form plus 1" and equal in width to the circumference of the pillow form plus 1". To make the bolster ends (the gathered fabric that covers the circular ends of the bolster), cut two pieces of fabric equal in length to the circumference of the pillow form plus 1" and equal in width to half the diameter of one end of the pillow form. Fold the fabric for the bolster wrap in half with the right sides together and the long edges matching. Pin the material in place, then machine stitch a $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam on this long edge. Press the seam flat and turn the bolster wrap right-side out.

2 Cut two pieces of cording, each equal in length to the circumference of the pillow plus 1". Also cut two strips of fabric on the bias to cover the cording. These should be $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide and equal in length to the circumference of the pillow form plus 1". To make the piping, place a piece of cording lengthwise down the center of the wrong side of each bias strip. Fold the fabric over the cording so the right side of the fabric faces out and the long edges of the fabric match. Pin in place and use the zipper foot on a sewing machine to stitch as close to the cording as possible. Start and stop stitching $\frac{1}{8}$ " from both ends.

3 To attach the piping, start at the seam of the bolster wrap and pin one length of piping to the right side of an open end of the wrap; the raw edges of the bolster wrap should match the raw edges of the piping. Trim the ends of the cording so they meet flush without overlapping and hand stitch the two ends together. Turn under the outside raw edge of the piping fabric and hand stitch it in place. Stitch the piping in place around the open end of the bolster wrap, sewing as close to the cording as possible. Repeat the process at the other end of the bolster wrap. (You could use ready-made piping in a matching or complementary color instead, if you prefer.)

Create inviting bedroom accents by covering decorative pillows with two-toned florals and plaids

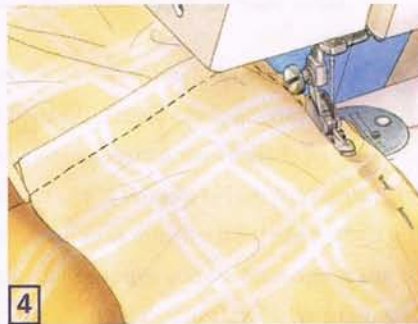
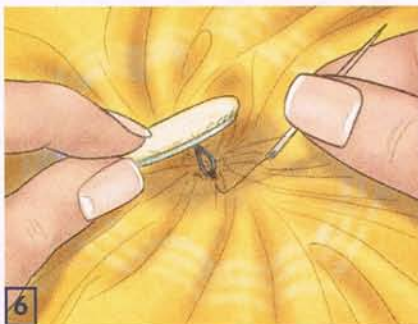
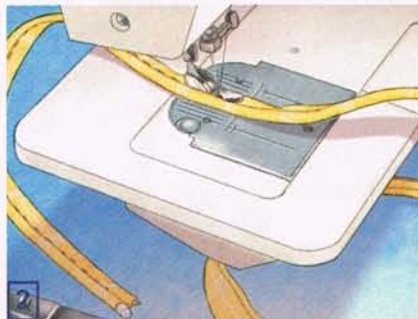
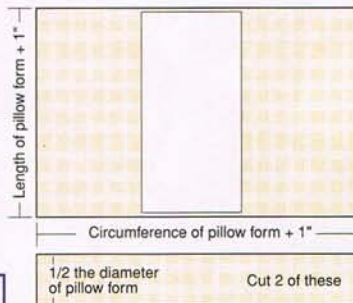
4 Fold the fabric for one of the bolster ends in half, right sides together and short edges matching. Machine stitch the short ends together with a $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam. Press the seam flat. Slide this tube of fabric (wrong side facing out) onto an end of the bolster wrap. The right sides of the two pieces of fabric will be facing, with the cording sandwiched in between. Match the seams and raw ends and pin in place. Use the zipper foot to stitch as close to the cording as possible. Repeat with the other piece of fabric for the other bolster end. Slide the bolster form into the wrap.

5 Extend both bolster ends so the right side of the fabric is facing out. Hand sew a row of running stitches $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the raw edge of both ends. Pull up the running stitches to gather the fabric in the center of both ends. Close the opening with a few more hand stitches.

6 Cover two buttons with fabric following the directions on a button kit (available at any fabric store). Place one covered button (or a matching or complementary button of your choice) over the gathers in the center of each end and hand stitch in place.

materials

- Scissors
- Fabric, such as a tightly woven, washable cotton
- Measuring tape
- Bolster pillow form
- Straight pins
- Sewing machine with a zipper foot
- Iron
- Ironing board
- $\frac{1}{8}$ "-diameter cording, or ready-made cording to match or complement your fabric
- Needle and thread
- Covered button kit or two buttons with shanks that match or complement your fabric



1 To create the bolster wrap (the fabric cover that encircles the length of the bolster form), cut a piece of fabric equal to the length of the pillow form plus 1" and equal in width to the circumference of the pillow form plus 1". To make the bolster ends (the gathered fabric that covers the circular ends of the bolster), cut two pieces of fabric equal in length to the circumference of the pillow form plus 1" and equal in width to half the diameter of one end of the pillow form. Fold the fabric for the bolster wrap in half with the right sides together and the long edges matching. Pin the material in place, then machine stitch a $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam on this long edge. Press the seam flat and turn the bolster wrap right-side out.

2 Cut two pieces of cording, each equal in length to the circumference of the pillow plus 1". Also cut two strips of fabric on the bias to cover the cording. These should be $\frac{1}{2}$ " wide and equal in length to the circumference of the pillow form plus 1". To make the piping, place a piece of cording lengthwise down the center of the wrong side of each bias strip. Fold the fabric over the cording so the right side of the fabric faces out and the long edges of the fabric match. Pin in place and use the zipper foot on a sewing machine to stitch as close to the cording as possible. Start and stop stitching $\frac{1}{8}$ " from both ends.

3 To attach the piping, start at the seam of the bolster wrap and pin one length of piping to the right side of an open end of the wrap; the raw edges of the bolster wrap should match the raw edges of the piping. Trim the ends of the cording so they meet flush without overlapping and hand stitch the two ends together. Turn under the outside raw edge of the piping fabric and hand stitch it in place. Stitch the piping in place around the open end of the bolster wrap, sewing as close to the cording as possible. Repeat the process at the other end of the bolster wrap. (You could use ready-made piping in a matching or complementary color instead, if you prefer.)

Create inviting bedroom accents by covering decorative pillows with two-toned florals and plaids

4 Fold the fabric for one of the bolster ends in half, right sides together and short edges matching. Machine stitch the short ends together with a $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam. Press the seam flat. Slide this tube of fabric (wrong side facing out) onto an end of the bolster wrap. The right sides of the two pieces of fabric will be facing, with the cording sandwiched in between. Match the seams and raw ends and pin in place. Use the zipper foot to stitch as close to the cording as possible. Repeat with the other piece of fabric for the other bolster end. Slide the bolster form into the wrap.

5 Extend both bolster ends so the right side of the fabric is facing out. Hand sew a row of running stitches $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the raw edge of both ends. Pull up the running stitches to gather the fabric in the center of both ends. Close the opening with a few more hand stitches.

6 Cover two buttons with fabric following the directions on a button kit (available at any fabric store). Place one covered button (or a matching or complementary button of your choice) over the gathers in the center of each end and hand stitch in place.

materials

- Scissors
- Fabric, such as a tightly woven, washable cotton
- Measuring tape
- Bolster pillow form
- Straight pins
- Sewing machine with a zipper foot
- Iron
- Ironing board
- $\frac{1}{8}$ "-diameter cording, or ready-made cording to match or complement your fabric
- Needle and thread
- Covered button kit or two buttons with shanks that match or complement your fabric

