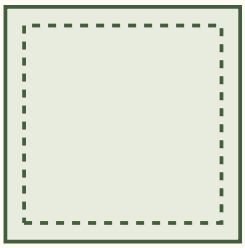
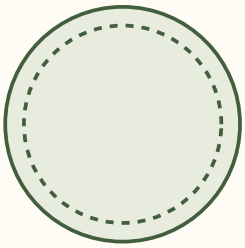
WORKSHOP GUIDE

Cushion patterns

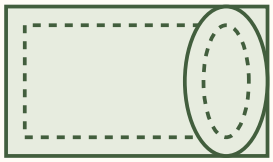
Nine sizes across three shapes / Removable zip covers



SQUARE



ROUND



BOLSTER

Fabric to buy per cover

Shape	Small	Medium	Large	Pattern
Square	0.45 m	0.55 m	0.65 m	Page 2
Round	0.45 m	0.55 m	0.65 m	Page 3
Bolster	0.45 m	0.55 m	0.70 m	Page 4

Quantities assume 54 in fabric with at least 133 cm usable width after excluding the selvedges. They include a small cutting buffer. Allow extra for shrinkage, pattern repeats, centring motifs or changing the cutting direction.

Before you cut

1 **Gather your supplies**

Use woven furnishing fabric, matching thread, a zip, a zipper foot, scissors, clips or pins, a tape measure and a cushion insert. Use an insert matching the finished size in the tables.

2 **Draft from the measurements**

Draw the pieces full size on paper or directly on the fabric. All cut sizes include a 1.5 cm seam allowance. The diagrams show how the pieces fit together.

3 **Check direction and finish**

Check the print or velvet nap before cutting. Keep matching faces oriented the same way. Pre-wash only if the care instructions permit, and finish fraying edges with an overlocker or zigzag.

PATTERN 01

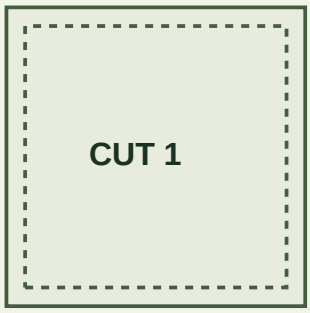
Square cushion

Cut dimensions in centimetres / 1.5 cm seam allowance included

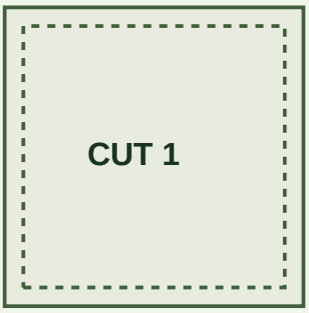
Size	Finished	Cut × 2	Buy	Zip
Small	35 × 35	38 × 38	0.45 m	25 cm
Medium	45 × 45	48 × 48	0.55 m	35 cm
Large	55 × 55	58 × 58	0.65 m	45 cm

PATTERN PIECES

Solid = cut edge / Dashed = stitch line



FRONT



BACK / ZIP AT LOWER EDGE

Make the cover

1 **Cut the front and back**

Measure two equal squares. Keep edges square to the grain. Mark the bottom edge on both pieces and centre the zip along it.

2 **Fit the zip first**

Place right sides together. Sew the bottom seam either side of the opening, then baste across the opening. Press the seam open, sew in the zip from underneath with a zipper foot, remove the basting and open the zip.

3 **Close the other three sides**

With right sides together, sew the three remaining sides at 1.5 cm. Trim diagonally across the corners without cutting stitches. Turn out, gently push out corners and fit the insert.

PATTERN 02

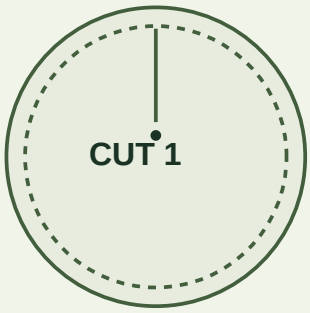
Round cushion

Cut dimensions in centimetres / 1.5 cm seam allowance included

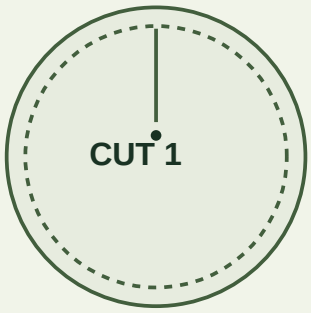
Size	Finished	Cut × 2	Buy	Zip
Small	35 dia.	38 dia.	0.45 m	25 cm
Medium	45 dia.	48 dia.	0.55 m	35 cm
Large	55 dia.	58 dia.	0.65 m	45 cm

PATTERN PIECES

Solid = cut edge / Dashed = stitch line



FRONT



BACK / ZIP AT LOWER EDGE

Make the cover

1 **Draw and cut two circles**

Mark a centre point and set a compass or string pencil to 19, 24 or 29 cm for small, medium or large. Mark matching top points so the print stays aligned.

2 **Fit a flexible nylon zip**

Centre the zip on the lower arc. Sew the seam on either side of the opening. Baste the opening closed, finger-press the allowance open, then sew in the zip from underneath with a zipper foot. Remove the basting and open the zip.

3 **Sew around and turn**

With right sides together, stitch the remaining curve at 1.5 cm. Clip the curved allowance at intervals without cutting stitches. Turn through the zip and fit the insert.

PATTERN 03

Bolster cushion

Cut dimensions in centimetres / 1.5 cm seam allowance included

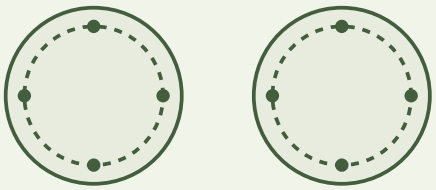
Size	Finished Ø × L	Body × 1	Ends × 2	Buy	Zip
Small	18 dia. × 35	59.5 × 38	21 dia.	0.45 m	25 cm
Medium	20 dia. × 45	65.8 × 48	23 dia.	0.55 m	35 cm
Large	24 dia. × 60	78.4 × 63	27 dia.	0.70 m	50 cm

PATTERN PIECES

Solid = cut edge / Dashed = stitch line



Join the two short edges with the zip.



ENDS / CUT 2

Dots mark quarters

Make the cover

1 **Cut and mark**

Cut one body rectangle and two circles. Set the paper compass to half the cut diameter. Mark quarters on each circle and at both ends of the tube along the stitch lines.

2 **Make the tube**

With right sides together, sew the two short edges together either side of a centred zip opening. Baste the opening, press it open, sew the zip in from underneath, remove the basting and open the zip.

3 **Sew in the ends**

With right sides together, match the quarter marks, pin and sew each circle to the tube with a 1.5 cm seam. Clip into the curved allowance without cutting stitches. Turn and fit the insert.

Add piping

A corded edge for square, round and bolster cushions

POSITION THE PIPING BEFORE JOINING THE COVER



The cord sits towards the centre of the panel. Its tape sits in the seam allowance.

Make and attach the piping

1 **Prepare your piping**

Use ready-made piping or wrap fabric strips cut at 45° around piping cord. Make the strip wide enough for the fabric to wrap around the cord and leave 1.5 cm of tape beyond the stitching. Sew close to the cord with a piping or zipper foot.

2 **Baste to the cushion front**

With the panel right side up, place the cord just inside the seam line, with the tape towards the cut edge. Baste close to the cord. At square corners or along curves, clip the tape as needed to help it bend, stopping before the stitching.

3 **Join or finish the ends**

For a continuous loop, open the fabric wrap at one end, trim the cords to meet without overlapping, then fold the wrap edge under and overlap it to hide the join. For an open run, pull out and trim a little cord so only the tape extends into the adjoining seam.

4 **Sew the cover together**

Lay the second piece right sides together over the piping. Sew with a zipper foot close to the cord, just inside the basting. On a bolster, baste piping to each circular end before attaching it to the tube. Open the zip before closing the cover.

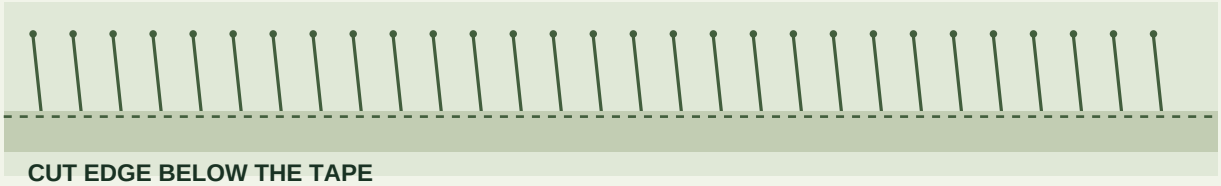
HOW MUCH TO BUY

Measure the seam line you plan to trim and add 10 cm per continuous run. For an easy zip finish on square or round covers, end the piping clear of the zip opening.

Add fringe

Choose a hidden seam tape or a decorative braid on the front

FRINGE WITH A FLAT TAPE / BEFORE SEWING THE SEAM



Tassels point inwards while you sew. They hang outwards once the cover is turned.

Choose how to attach the fringe

1 **Hide the tape in the seam**

On the right side of the cushion front, line up the fringe tape so the tassels emerge at the seam line. Point the tassels towards the centre and baste through the tape. If the tape is narrower than the seam allowance, position it by the seam line.

2 **Keep the tassels clear of the stitching**

Gather loose strands towards the centre with removable hand tacks or leave the manufacturer’s holding thread in place. Lay the back on top, right sides together. Sew the seam through the tape, turn through the zip and release the tassels.

3 **Show off a decorative braid**

If the fringe has a braid you want visible, place it on the right side of the flat front panel, clear of the seam allowance. Topstitch through the braid only, keeping the strands free. Turn under the braid ends or tuck them into a seam before assembling.

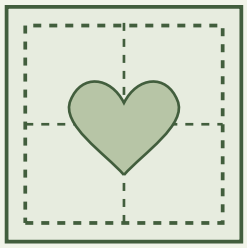
LENGTH AND PLACEMENT

Measure each run and add 5 cm for finishing. Keep bulky trim clear of the zip. On a round cushion or bolster end, test a short section on the curve before sewing.

Add appliqué

Stitch a fabric shape onto the front before assembling the cushion

APPLIQUÉ PLACEMENT / KEEP THE MOTIF INSIDE THE STITCH LINE



Use the front panel’s fold lines to centre a motif, or place it off-centre by design.

Apply the motif while the panel is flat

1 **Trace the motif**

For raw-edge appliqué, trace the shape onto the paper side of sewable fusible web. Mirror letters and one-way shapes. Rough-cut around the tracing and fuse the web to the wrong side of the motif fabric, following the web’s instructions.

2 **Cut and place**

Cut on the traced line, peel away the paper and arrange the pieces on the right side of the cushion front. Keep the design clear of the 1.5 cm seam allowance. On a bolster, position it on the flat body panel away from the zip seam.

3 **Secure the edges**

Fuse the motif in place, then sew around the edge with a narrow zigzag or blanket stitch. Test the stitch on scrap and use a removable stabiliser if the panel puckers. For velvet or heat-sensitive fabric, hand-baste the motif and sew it without fusible web.

FABRIC AND WEB

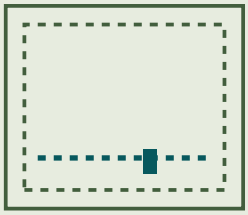
Use scraps slightly larger than the motif and enough fusible web to cover its back. For a turned edge, add a small turning allowance to the motif, turn it under and slipstitch it in place.

FASTENINGS

Choose a fastening

Four ways to make a removable cover

01

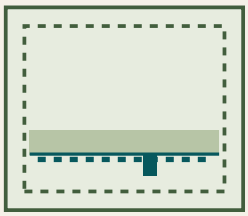


Standard zip

SQUARE AND ROUND EDGE / BOLSTER BODY SEAM

Centre a nylon coil zip in the seam. Sew either side of the opening, baste it shut and press the seam open. Stitch the zip underneath with a zipper foot, then remove the basting. Use a flexible coil zip on a round edge. Open the zip before closing the cover.

02

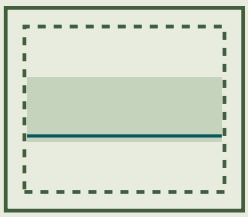


Concealed zip

SQUARE AND ROUND BACK / KEEP THE PIPED EDGE CLEAR

Split the back pattern across a straight line and add 1.5 cm to both new edges. Sew an invisible zip to the edges with an invisible-zip foot, then close the seam beyond both ends. For a round back, cut the assembled back to the circle pattern after fitting the zip.

03

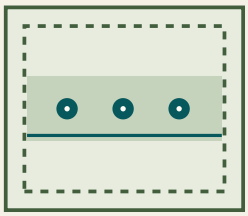


Envelope overlap

SQUARE BACK / NO HARDWARE

Cut two back panels with the same width as the front. Each cut height is (front cut height + overlap + 4 cm) ÷ 2. Double-turn the inner edge of each panel by 1 cm twice. Overlap the hems by 10–15 cm, baste the back together, then join it to the front.

04



Buttons or sew-on snaps

SQUARE BACK / DECORATIVE OR DISCREET

Make an envelope back with an overlap and reinforce the fastening areas with interfacing. Work buttonholes on the top flap and sew matching buttons underneath, or sew on snaps through the reinforced areas. Space them evenly and test the fit before sewing the cover closed.

Fabric quantities in the pattern tables assume the original zip covers.

PROJECT PEACOCKS

From cut to cushion

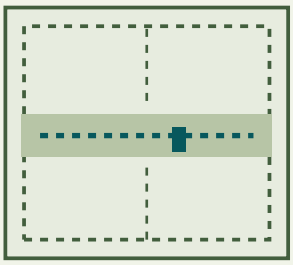
Illustrated assembly using your peacock print / Teal-piped square

01 Centre the peacock



Position your pattern over the bird, then cut the front. Mark the top so the motif stays upright.

02 Prepare the back



Fit the zip across the back first so you can pipe all four edges. This shows the zip from the wrong side.

03 Baste the teal piping



Lay the cord on the right side of the front, with the tape facing the cut edge. Clip the tape at the corners.

04 Join, turn and fill



Open the zip. Pin the front and back right sides together, stitch beside the cord, then turn and insert the pad.



Make the other Project Peacocks styles

Velvet border

Sew velvet strips around the peacock panel, then square up the front before adding the back.

Rust-sided lumbar

Join rust side panels to the print first. Use your insert to size the rectangular front and back.

Corner tassels

Baste the tassel loops at the corners, with the tassels tucked towards the centre before sewing.

Assembly drawings use the fabric photo. Finished examples are Project Peacocks mock-ups.