

# Craft:

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PATTERN  
PODCAST

# Pin Cushion Caddy

This little pin cushion will travel with you to the couch, the porch, the bed, or anywhere that your sewing takes you. There's a cubby for your scissors, your thread, and any other hand-sewing essentials for your mobile sewing. You'll be able to find everything, even if you're on a haystack

## Supplies

### FABRIC

8 scraps at least 4" x 8", 1 piece at least 10" x 12"

Heavy, double-sided fusible interfacing (It should be firm almost cardboard-like.)

Fiberfill

Aluminum foil

Fabric scissors

Craft scissors

Hand-quilting needle

Cardboard or poster board

### MY COLOR NOTES

I cut my pin cushion pieces from vintage hand-pieced quilt blocks. The old hand stitching is visible between some of the pieces, but the result is playful and nostalgic.



## Cut

- 1 Cut patterns **1A**, **1B**, **1C**, **1D**, **1E**, **1F** from Pattern Page 1 with craft scissors.
- 2 Cut eight of pattern piece **1A**, one each from your eight assorted fabrics.
- 3 Cut one of pattern piece **1B**, a 4½" circle from your larger piece of fabric.
- 4 Cut one of pattern piece **1C**, a 5" circle from your larger piece of fabric.
- 5 Cut one of pattern piece **1D**, a 3½" circle from fusible interfacing.
- 6 Cut one rectangle that measures 11" x 3½" from the fusible interfacing.
- 7 Cut one of pattern piece **1E**, a 4" circle from cardboard poster board.
- 8 Cut one of pattern piece **1F** from your larger piece of fabric.

## Assemble the "Ball"

- 9 With two **1A** pieces *right sides* together, sew along one long side from top to bottom at a ⅜" seam width using the straight-stitch setting. Keep your stitch length on a short stitch setting to help make smooth curves. You'll want to backstitch to knot at the beginning and end of the stitch.
- 10 Continue Step 9, in the fabric order of your choice, with the rest of the **1A** pieces, adding one after the other to the row of side-by-side pieces until you have a long line of all of them.
- 11 Press each seam allowance to one side. This curved shape fits pretty well against the curve on the narrow end of the ironing board.

**12** Join the two end **1A** pieces, *right* sides together, stitch from the top down about  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " in length, and stop with backstitching. Then start your stitching again  $1\frac{1}{2}$ " away from the bottom, beginning and ending with backstitching. Set aside.

## Begin the Inner "Tube"

**13** Center the fusible interfacing rectangle to the *wrong* side of piece **1F** and press from the *right* side of the fabric. Follow the directions on your fusible interfacing to get the best adhesion.

**14** Stitch the short ends of piece **1F** *right* sides together with a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance and backstitching to knot on both ends. Avoid stitching through the interfacing.

**15** Baste the seams open by hand against the interfacing to hold them in place.

## Join the "Ball" and Inner "Tube"

**16** Turn the fabric "ball" *right* side out and slide it into the tube you've created with the piece **1F** until the edges of each meet at one end. (Smooth them against each other to check if they fit well together. If they don't, you may need to adjust the depths of your seam allowances, as sewn in Step 9, until the ball and the tube have the same circumference.)

**17** Baste the edges together by hand just above the line of interfacing, not going through the interfacing. (Basting in a small space like this is easier than pinning.) Then sew carefully on the machine all the way around in the same line. If you find it difficult to machine sew this step, you can make very small, uniform straight stitches instead of basting. Turn the ball *right* side out and down over the tube.

**18** Center the fusible interfacing circle (**1D**) onto the *wrong* side of the  $4\frac{1}{2}$ " fabric circle (**1B**); then press from the *right* side of the fabric to fuse them together.

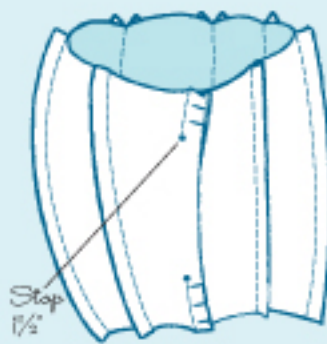
## Close the "Tube"

**19** Fit the fused circle into place *right* sides together at the bottom end of the tube, opposite from the end you sewed in Step 18, and pin in place. The edges that extend beyond the interfacings will be the seam allowance. Hand-stitch a short running stitch all the way around, just above the interfacing, to secure the tube bottom in place.

**20** Now match those edges with the edges of the bottom of the ball and hand-sew a long basting stitch through all three layers of fabric about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the edges. Before you knot and finish the thread, gently pull on it to gather the seam allowance up against the bottom of the interfacing circle until it fits snugly. Secure with a few whip stitches and knot.



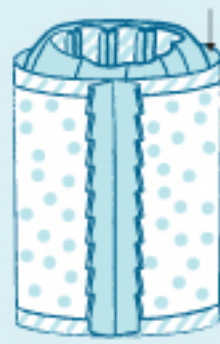
Step 9



Step 12



Step 15



Step 16

## Stuff It

**21** Taking small amounts of fiberfill at a time, begin stuffing into the side of the ball form in the hole created from Step 14, reaching around each side to get it all stuffed firmly so that it will fill out the whole shape.

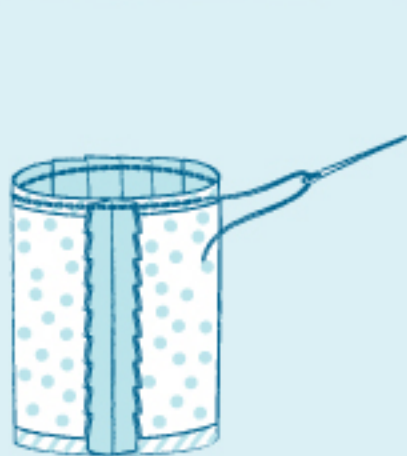
**22** Blind-stitch (or slip-stitch) the opening closed after the ball is sufficiently stuffed.

## Finish the Caddy

**23** Using the "Super Circles" technique with the aluminum foil (see page 57 in Chapter 5), press your 5" fabric circle's (1C) wrong side around the 4" cardboard or poster board (1E) to get a smooth, turned edge.

**24** Center the pressed circle's wrong side against the bottom of the ball, making sure you've covered all the unfinished raw edges. Press just a bit against the fusible interfacing to hold it in place.

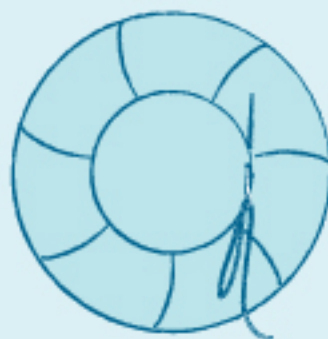
**25** Blind-stitch the circle onto the form using a small quilting needle.



Step 17



Step 18



Step 25