

Geometric Cushions

Project designed and made by Janet Goddard

Stitch a pair of bold, bright geometric styled cushions. The plain grey background fabric showcases the contrasting bright squares and triangles. Just the project to brighten up a comfy chair or sofa.

Finished size: Each cushion finishes at 22" square

Materials:

The materials listed will make two cushions.

- 2m dark grey plain background fabric
- 1/8 m of plain blue, yellow, green and orange fabric cut across the width of the fabric
- Neutral thread for piecing
- 2(22 1/2") squares of calico or similar for the lining
- 2(22 1/2") squares of wadding
- Circle templates in various sizes
- Orange and yellow embroidery thread
- 2(21") cushion pads

Preparation:

All measurements include 1/4" seam allowances, unless otherwise stated.

The cushions have envelope backs and either patchwork squares or triangles on one side of the back.

To Stitch the Square Geometric Cushion:

Cut the following:

From the grey fabric cut:

- 18(2 1/2" x 6 1/2") rectangles
- 15(2 1/2") squares
- 2(2" x 19 1/2") strips
- 2(2" x 22 1/2") strips
- 1(10 1/4" x 22 1/2") rectangle
- 1(4 1/2" x 22 1/2") rectangle
- 1(10 3/4" x 22 1/2") rectangle

From the blue fabric cut:

- 7(2 1/2") squares

From the green fabric cut:

- 5(2 1/2") squares

From the orange fabric cut:

- 6(2 ½") squares

From the yellow fabric cut:

- 5(2 ½") squares
- 2(1" x 18 ½") strips
- 2(1" x 19 ½") strips

To stitch the cushion front:

Nine blocks are needed for the cushion.

1. To make the first block, stitch an orange 2 ½" square to each side of a grey 2 ½" square. Press seams towards the grey fabric. Stitch a grey 2 ½" x 6 ½" rectangle to each side of the 3 square unit. Press seams towards the grey fabric.
2. Repeat in this way until nine blocks have been stitched. There should be 2 orange blocks, 2 yellow, 2 green and 3 blue in total.
3. Arrange the nine blocks in a pleasing design, rotating the blocks so that the squares alternate vertically and horizontally. Stitch together.
4. Stitch a 1" x 18 ½" yellow strip to the top and bottom of the cushion front. Press seams towards the yellow fabric.
5. Stitch a 1" x 19 ½" yellow strip to each side of the cushion front. Press seams towards the yellow fabric
6. Stitch a 2" x 19 ½" grey strip to the top and bottom of the cushion front. Press seams towards the grey fabric.
7. Stitch a 2" x 22 ½" grey strip to each side of the cushion front. Press seams towards the grey fabric.

To quilt the cushion front:

1. Using the circle templates, mark 16 – 18 circles of various sizes, randomly over the cushion
2. Layer the cushion front by placing the 22 ½" calico square wrong side up on a clean surface, followed by the 22 ½" square of wadding and then the cushion front, centrally and right side up. Secure the quilt sandwich with tacking or quilters' pins placed at regular intervals.
3. Using the orange embroidery thread, quilt with large running stitches around each circle.

To stitch the cushion back:

1. Take the remaining 6(2 ½") grey squares and 5(2 ½") coloured squares and stitch these together in a long strip, starting and finishing with a grey square and alternating the coloured squares. Press the seams downwards.
2. Stitch the 10 ¼" x 22 ½" grey fabric piece to the left side of the strip of squares. Press the seam towards the grey fabric.
3. Take the 4 ½" x 22 ½" piece of grey fabric and press under ¼" on one long side of the fabric towards the wrong side of the fabric. Stitch this 1/8" from the

outer edge. Stitch this piece to the right hand side of the unit made in step 2 matching the raw edges. Press the seam towards the grey fabric.

4. Measure 2" from the turned under edge and fold this towards the wrong side of the fabric. Press and pin in place.
5. Take the remaining 10 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ " piece of grey fabric and press under $\frac{1}{4}$ " on one long side of the fabric towards the wrong side of the fabric. Stitch this $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the outer edge.

To finish the cushion:

1. Place the cushion front, right side facing up on a clean surface. Lay the cushion back with the coloured squares on top, matching the raw edges with the folded piece in the centre of the cushion. Lay the second piece of cushion back, right side facing the cushion front on top of this, lining up the raw edges. Pin in place around the outer edge. Stitch. Trim corners.
2. Turn cushion through and push out corners. Enjoy your first cushion and now begin the second one to match!

To Stitch the Triangle Geometric Cushion:

Cut the following:

From the grey fabric cut:

- 18(2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") rectangles
- 38(2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") squares,
- 2(2" x 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") strips
- 2(2" x 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") strips
- 1(10 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") rectangle
- 1(4 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") rectangle
- 1(10 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") rectangle

From the blue fabric cut:

- 5(2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") squares
- 2(1" x 18 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") strips
- 2(1" x 19 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") strips

From the green fabric cut:

- 7(2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") squares

From the orange fabric cut:

- 5(2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") squares

From the yellow fabric cut:

- 6(2 $\frac{1}{2}$ ") squares

To stitch the cushion front:

Nine blocks are needed for the cushion.

1. To make the first block, draw a line on the diagonal on the reverse of 2 yellow squares. Lay each yellow square right side facing on a 2 ½" grey square. Stitch on the drawn line. Trim ¼" away from the stitched line on one side. Press the seam towards the grey fabric.
2. Stitch a yellow half square triangle to each side of a grey 2 ½" square. Press seams towards the grey fabric. Stitch a grey 2 ½" x 6 ½" rectangle to each side of the 3 square unit. Press seams towards the grey fabric.
3. Repeat in this way until nine blocks have been stitched. There should be 2 yellow blocks, 2 orange, 3 green and 2 blue in total.
4. Stitch a 1" x 18 ½" blue strip to the top and bottom of the cushion front. Press seams towards the blue fabric.
5. Stitch a 1" x 19 ½" blue strip to each side of the cushion front. Press seams towards the blue fabric
6. Stitch a 2" x 19 ½" grey strip to the top and bottom of the cushion front. Press seams towards the grey fabric.
7. Stitch a 2" x 22 ½" grey strip to each side of the cushion front. Press seams towards the grey fabric.
8. Quilt the cushion in exactly the same way as for the cushion with the squares.

To stitch the cushion back and finish:

The instructions to finish the triangle cushion are exactly the same as that of the square cushion with the exception of instead of stitching coloured squares to the centre of the reverse you are stitching coloured triangles. All other instructions are the same.

Handy hints:

When marking the quilting circles on the cushion front use a water erasable pen. After quilting dab the quilting marks with water to remove the markings.

Coton a broder is a very effective embroidery thread to use for big stitch quilting as it is not stranded and therefore does not get tangled so easily.