



FLOWER SHOW PEBBLE COLLECTION

Fan Cushion Project

designed by Alice Caroline for Liberty

CUSHION PROJECT

LIBERTY.
FABRICS

FINISHED PILLOW SIZE 30" X 30"

This Fan Cushion is a large version of the classic quilt block which is used in both EPP and quilting. Simple but fun, this cushion would look lovely on a bed, sofa, or even displayed on a wall as a piece of art. Perfect for children's bedrooms, too! You may arrange the colours in your fan any way that you wish. Whether a classic rainbow or a more monochrome design (as pictured above and on the front page), it is sure to look great. We hope you enjoy being creative!

This would be a great project for an intermediate quilter. This pattern uses 44" (112cm) wide fabrics. Beautiful Liberty Quilting Cotton would be a perfect choice.

EQUIPMENT NEEDED

Iron	Paper Scissors
Pins	Pencil
Thread	Ruler
Sewing Machine	Cutting Mat
Zipper Foot	Rotary Cutter or Fabric Scissors
Standard Sewing Foot	Optional: Hand Sewing Needle

FABRIC REQUIREMENTS

Fan Fabric	Eleven different fabrics in a selection of colours, each 5" x 21"
Corner Circle Fabric	One neutral coloured fabric sized 5" x 5"
Binding Fabric:	Two 2" x 56" strips cut on the bias (43" x 44" of fabric required to do this), <i>or</i> a 112" length of 2" wide bias binding
Background Fabric	One neutral coloured fabric sized 30" x 30"
Wadding	One 30" x 30"
Backing fabric	Two pieces 16" x 24"
Lightweight interfacing	One 5" x 5"
3-5mm Piping cord	112" length

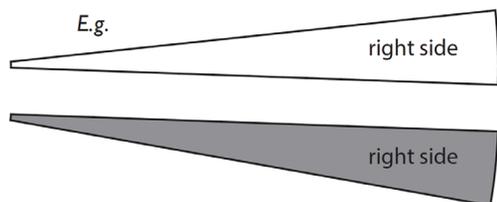
Standard Pinning & Sewing Together

Refer to these Standard instructions for every sewing step throughout making the project.

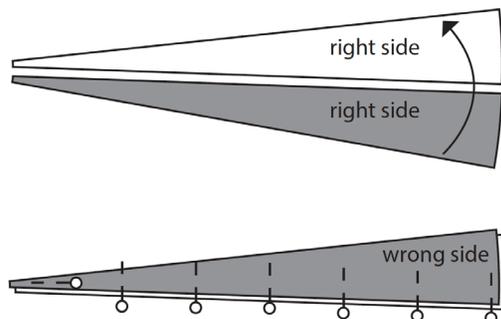
Do not sew the units shown, they are examples only. Actual instructions will start on page 4.

When joining two fabric pieces/units together always use the following method unless indicated otherwise.

i.
Arrange the units being joined on a flat surface as the instructions indicate, right sides facing up.



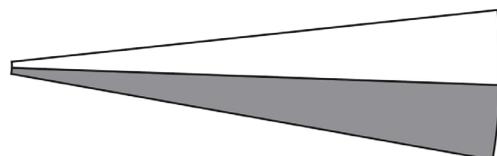
ii.
Fold one unit over the other right sides together, like closing a book. Align their edges along the now closed 'spine' and pin together along this edge.



iii.
Sew together using the indicated seam allowance. Always remove pins before sewing over them.



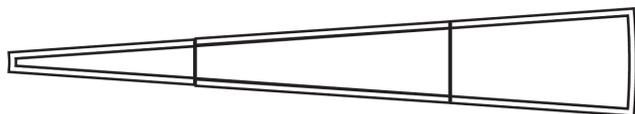
iv.
Open out and press.



CUTTING AND PREPARING

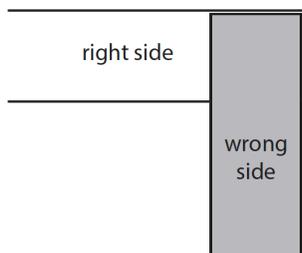
1.

Print pages 9-11 single sided at 100% scale. Cut out the corner pattern piece including the seam allowance. Cut out the wedge pattern pieces (pages 9-10) along the dotted line where indicated by the scissors. Paste/tape these over the grey area on the middle pattern piece, aligning the lines to join all three pieces together. Cut out the whole wedge pattern piece including the seam allowance.

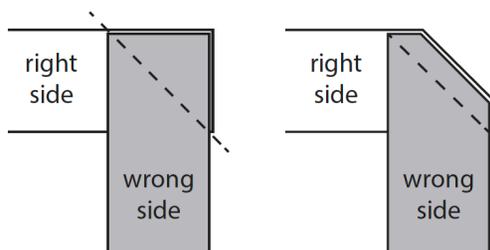


2.

If you cut two 2" x 56" (5.1cm x 142.2cm) binding strips, prepare these now. Place one end of both strips over the top of each-other as shown, at right angles and with right sides together.



Sew diagonally across the two strips. Trim down to 1/4" (0.6cm) seam allowance.



Open out and press seams open. Set aside for later.

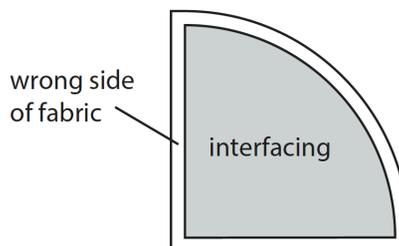
3.

Take all 11 coloured fabrics. Use a rotary cutter, ruler and cutting mat or fabric scissors to cut one wedge pattern piece from each fabric.

Tip: It will be possible to layer up multiple fabrics and cut them at once to save time. 4-5 layers at a time is sensible, just make sure your blades are sharp. The pattern may be pinned through multiple layers to hold them all in place.

4.

Take the corner circle fabric and corner pattern piece (page 11) and cut out one in fabric including the seam allowance. Also cut out one corner pattern piece without the seam allowance in a lightweight interfacing. Iron this to the wrong side of the corner fabric, leaving a 1/4" (0.6cm) gap around the edge for the seam allowance. Iron this to the wrong side of the corner fabric, leaving a 1/4" (0.6cm) gap around the edge for the seam allowance.



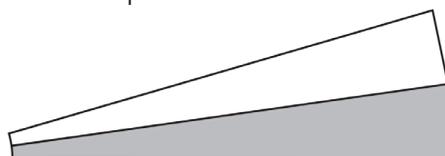
Make Dresden Plate

All seams 1/4" (0.6cm) unless otherwise stated. Always press seams open unless otherwise stated. Always secure stitches at the beginning and end of sewing. Trim away loose threads after every sewing step. Refer to the Standard Instructions (page 3) for all relevant sewing steps.

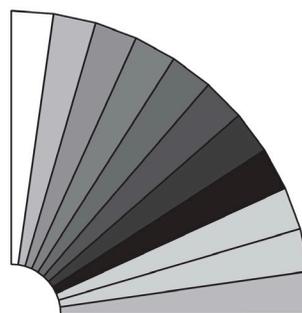
5.

Arrange all of the coloured wedges on a large surface until you are happy with the layout. Take a photo for your reference. Take two adjacent wedges. Pin and sew them right sides together along their longest edge.

Tip: Pay attention to how the wedges are meeting at either end, aligning them well now will prevent issues later. Press open

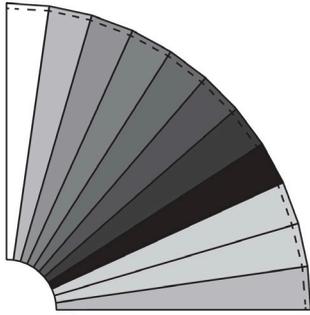


Continue adding wedges in this way until you have 11 wedges sewn together. Press seams open.



6.

Press the whole fan flat. Persist and use lots of steam to help it flatten. Sew 1/4" (0.6cm) around the outside edge of the fan.

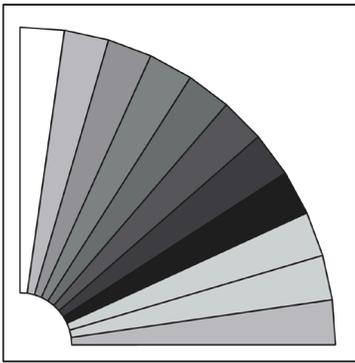


Press this edge under towards the wrong side, using the stitching line as a guide for how much to turn under.

MAKE CUSHION TOP

7.

Lay the background piece down, right side facing up. Place the fan piece on top of the background as shown with large gaps around it, right side also facing up. Pin in place.



Baste the colour wheel onto the background fabric to temporarily hold in place (you will remove these stitches later). Be sure to keep the outside curved seam allowance turned under. This is the cushion top.

MAKE QUILT SANDWICH

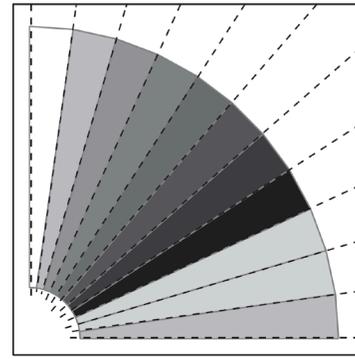
8.

Place your backing fabric right side facing down on a table, then wadding on top, then the cushion top on top of the wadding with right side facing up. Baste or tack layers together (you will remove these stitches later) or use washable adhesive to stick layers together.

QUILTING

9.

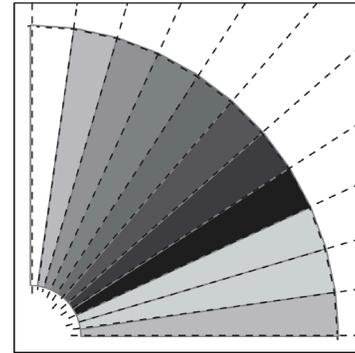
Stitch in the ditch along all the seams in the fan, as well as a pin width away from the raw edges of the loose side and bottom edges. Start at the edge of the corner circle and project outwards to the outer edges of the cushion, sewing through all layers. Use a ruler and erasable pen to draw the lines on before quilting if desired. Quilting may be done using a sewing machine or a needle and thread. Be careful the seam allowance remains folded under on the outside edge.



Remove all of the basting/tacking threads.

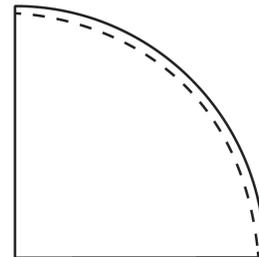
10.

Topstitch close to the outside edge of the fan.



11.

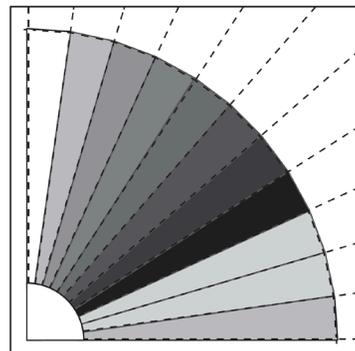
Take the corner fabric piece. Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ " (0.6cm) around the curved outside edge.



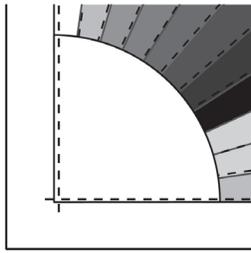
Press this edge under towards the wrong side, using the stitching line as a guide for how much to turn under.

12.

Place the corner fabric piece in the fan's corner, on the front of the cushion, right side facing up. It should cover the raw edges of the colourful wedge pieces and the straight edges should match the straight edges of the fan. Pin in place, keeping the curved seam allowance folded under and neat.

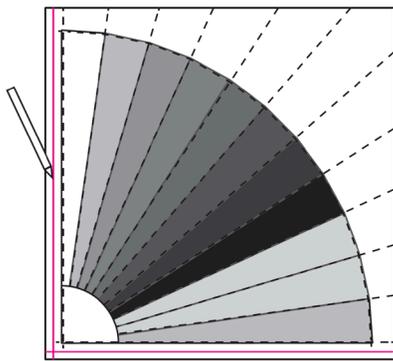


Sew the curved edge of this corner piece onto the front using small invisible slip stitches with a hand sewing needle and thread. The straight edges may be machine or hand sewn down, close to the edge to secure.

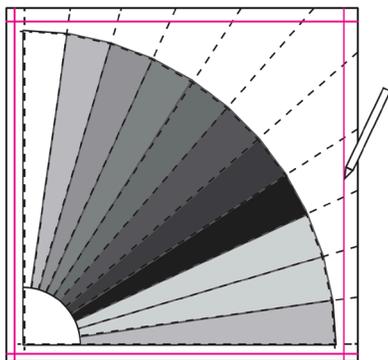


13.

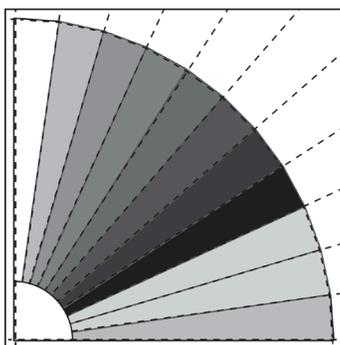
Use a ruler and fabric marker to draw two lines $\frac{1}{4}$ " (0.6cm) away from the edge of the fan on the side and bottom. The lines should meet at a right angle.



Use a ruler and fabric marker to draw two lines $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the edge of the fan on the other side and top. The lines should meet at a right angle and make a square sized approx. 24" x 24".



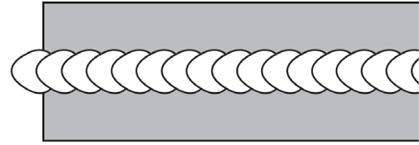
Trim all layers along these drawn lines. The $\frac{1}{4}$ " gap is now the seam allowance.



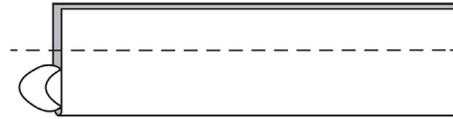
MAKE PIPING

14.

Place the piping cord in the middle of the binding, wrong side of binding facing up.

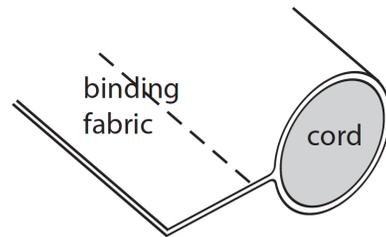


Fold the binding around the piping cord, keeping the cord central.



Use the zipper foot on the sewing machine and a longer stitch length to sew along the whole length. Stitch a little distance away from the cord. It doesn't have to be neat, this is just to hold the cord in place.

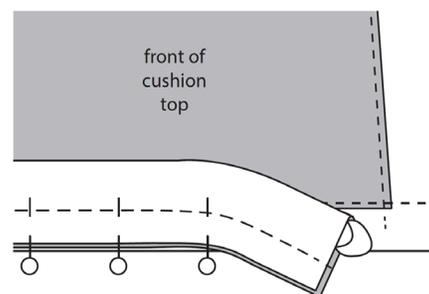
Cross section view:



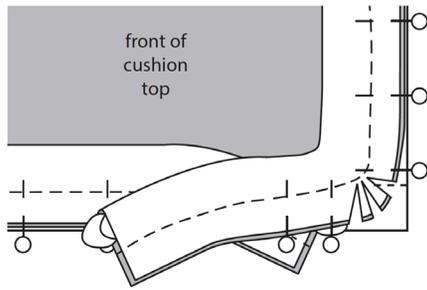
PIPE EDGES

15.

Take the now encased cord and pin it all around the cushion front, leaving at least 2" (5.1 cm) hanging loose at the start. Start pinning along the bottom, near the corner. The corded half of the piping should face inwards and the raw edge matching the raw edge on the cushion front.



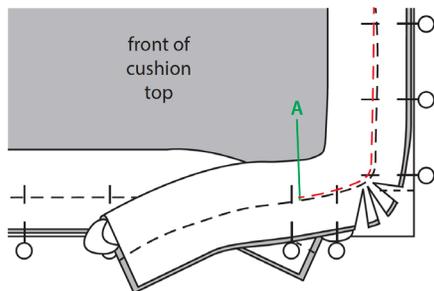
Continue pinning the encased cord around the whole cushion top. At corners, use scissors to snip into the cord up to 2-3mm away from the stitching line. This will help you to turn the cord, following the shape of the corner. At the end, leave at least 2" (5.1 cm) hanging loose and overlapping the start of the cord.



16.

Sew the piping cord to the cushion top, using the zipper foot. You do not need to sew very close to the piping cord and can use a longer stitch length. It doesn't have to be neat, this is just to hold the piping in place on the cushion front.

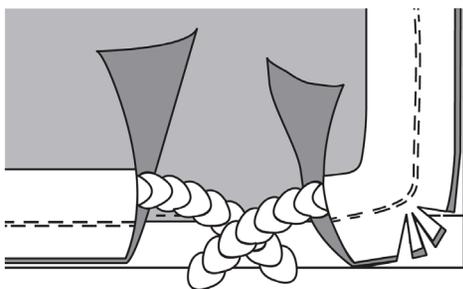
Start sewing at point A, being sure to hold the tail of the piping cord underneath out of the way. When you reach a corner, lift the foot with the needle down and pivot the fabric, then drop the foot down again. (New stitching line shown in red for clarity.)



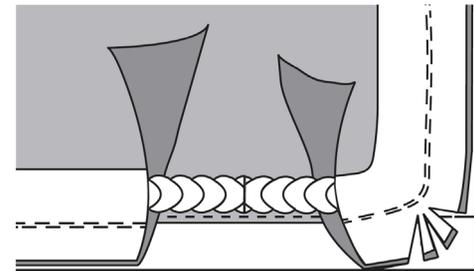
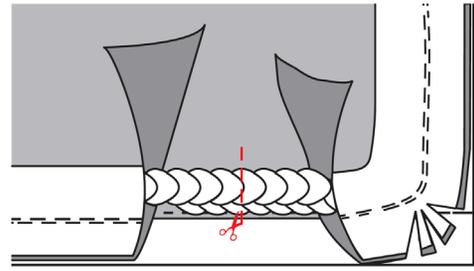
Continue stitching all around, removing pins just before you sew over them. Stop stitching about 2" (5.1 cm) before the loose, overhanging tail. Backtack to secure the stitches and move the cushion top out from under the sewing machine, for better handling.

17.

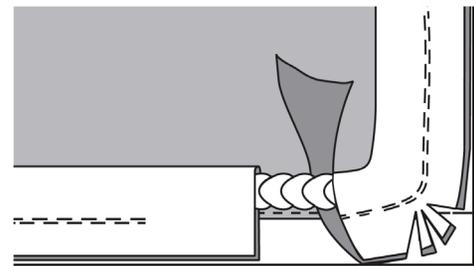
Unpick the stitches on the piping cord at both loose ends. Stop where the stitches from step 16 start and end. Pull the binding fabric up and out of the way.



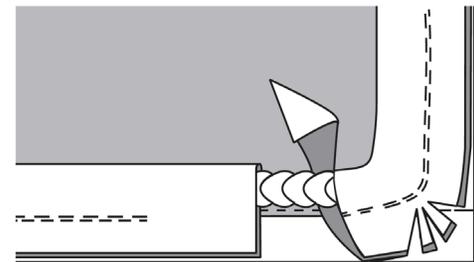
Arrange the cords straight against each other. Cut the cords so that they meet perfectly without any gap.



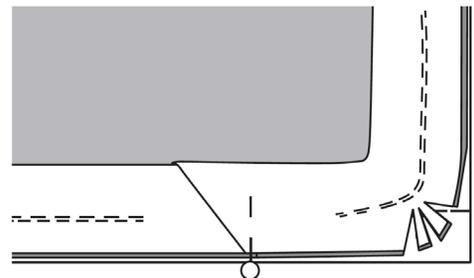
Fold one end of the binding fabric back over the cord.



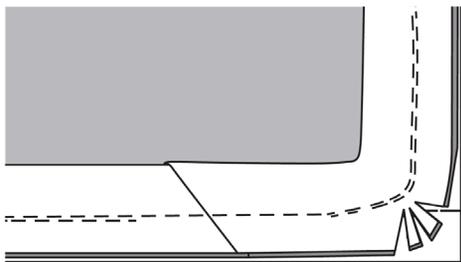
On the other end of binding fabric, fold its end over into a triangle.



Wrap this back over the cord and binding fabric, being sure to keep the end folded in the triangle. Pin in place.



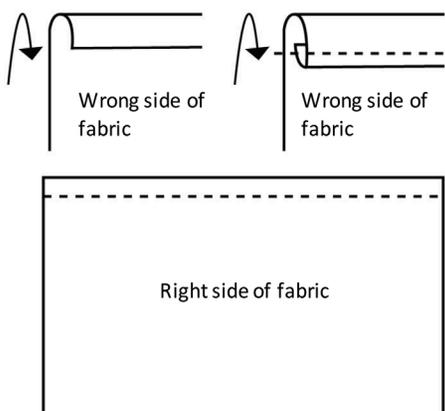
Continue sewing to secure. The stitches can be long and not particularly close to the cord, as before.



MAKE ENVELOPE BACK

18.

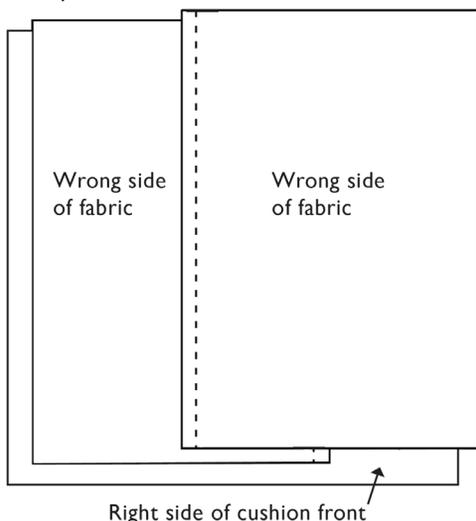
Take one 16" x 24" (40.6cm x 61cm) backing fabric piece. Fold over 1/2" (1.3cm) along one longest edge, press. Fold over another 1" (2.6cm) and press. Use a normal stitch length and a standard sewing machine foot to topstitch through all layers close to fold. It should now measure 14 1/2" x 24" (36.8cm x 61cm).



Repeat with the other 16" x 24" (40.6cm x 61cm) backing fabric piece.

19.

Overlap cushion backs, wrong sides facing up, and place onto the right side of the cushion front, aligning all outer edges. The long stitched edges of the cushion backs should be in the middle and all raw edges around the outside. Pin in place.

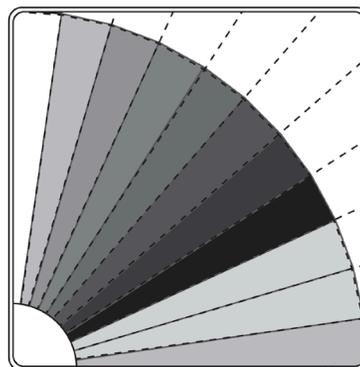


20.

Put the zipper foot back onto the sewing machine. Sew all around the edges of the cushion, using the zipper foot to sew very close to the piping cord and stitching all layers together. The seam allowance should be approx 1/2" (1.3cm), but this is less important than sewing as close to the bulk of the cord as possible. Use a standard stitch length.

Alternatively, if you are struggling to sew close to the cord using the sewing machine and zipper foot, you may wish to hand sew the cushion together instead. To do this, use a hand sewing needle and thread to sew a backstitch close to the cord, sewing through all layers of the cushion.

Turn the cushion inside out and press.



Your Fan Cushion is now complete.

Enjoy your new cushion!

