

Decorating a Pillowcase Using Mabel's Motif

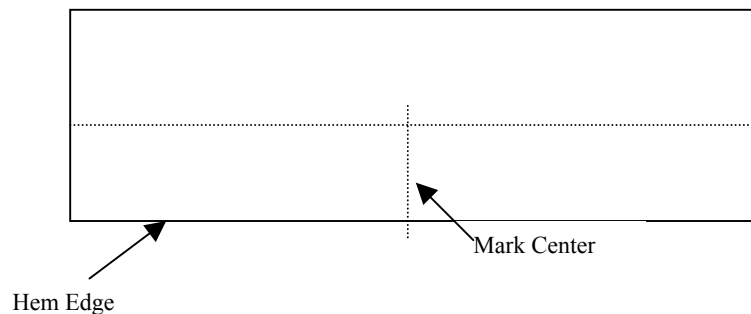
For this project, you can make your own pillowcase using either a muslin or percale fabric or you can purchase a pillowcase ready made. The directions which follow are for using a ready made pillowcase. A pillowcase made of 100% cotton is recommended. Three motifs are required per pillowcase to make this design.

Preparation of the Pillowcase

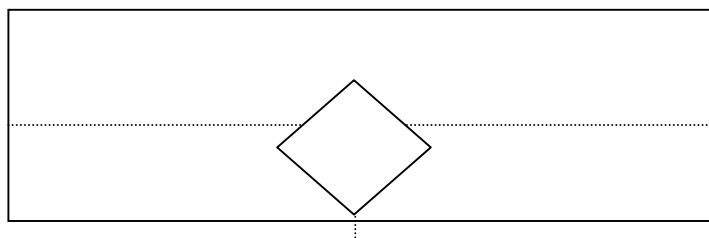
1. Take out the hem in the pillowcase. You will use most of this part of the pillowcase to attach the motifs and make a decorative edge.
2. **IMPORTANT: *Measure your motifs!*** The directions given below are for motifs which are 4 inches square. If your motif is a different size, you will need to adjust your measurements accordingly.

Using tissue paper or pattern paper, measure and cut a 4 inch square to use in cutting the edges and area where the motifs will be placed.

3. Measure and mark the center of your pillowcase along the hem edge and approximately 4 inches above the hem edge:

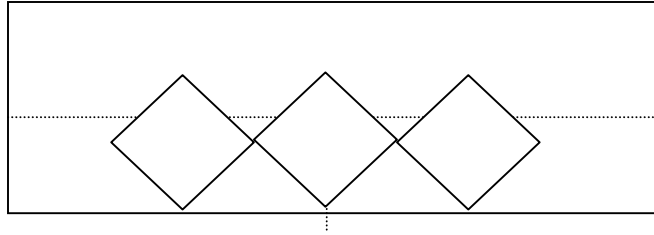


4. Place the 4 inch square pattern diagonally on the marked center line:

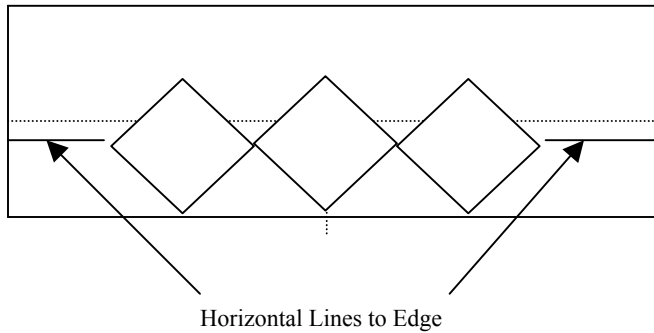


Mark the diamond on the pillowcase using a washable marker.

5. Now mark the other two diamonds by placing the 4 inch pattern square on each side of the center square:

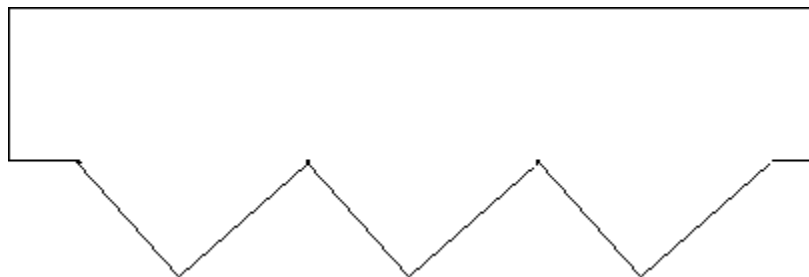


6. Now mark a horizontal line from the corner of the end diamonds to the edge of the pillowcase:

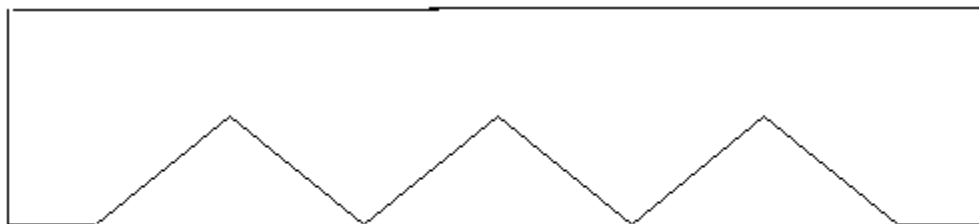


Depending upon the width of your pillowcase, the length of the lines should be approximately 1 -2 inches.

7. Cut the lower edge of the pillowcase following the outline of the lower edges of the diamonds and the horizontal lines -- cut both layers of the pillowcase. When finished the hem edge of your pillowcase should look like this:



- Now cutout the other side of the diamonds on **ONLY the top layer** of the pillow case. When finished, the top layer should look like this:

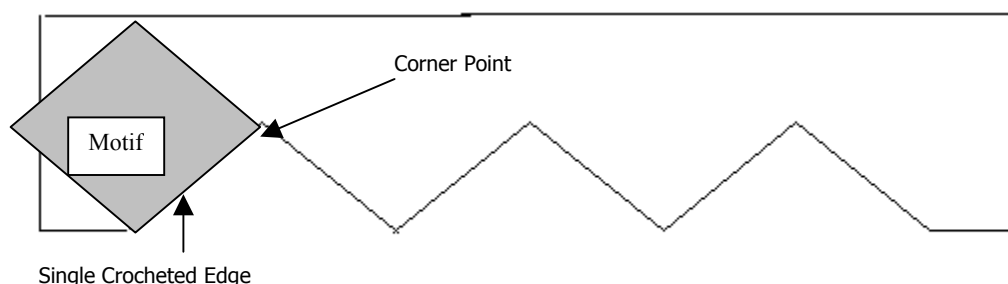


- Make a narrow hem (1/8 inch). If you have a serger, make either a rolled hem or a picot hem. If you are using a standard sewing machine, use the narrow hem attachment or fold the 1/8 inch hem and stitch it in place.
- Single crochet through the fabric and around the hemmed edge using white crochet thread. Finish off.

Attaching the Motifs to the Pillowcase:

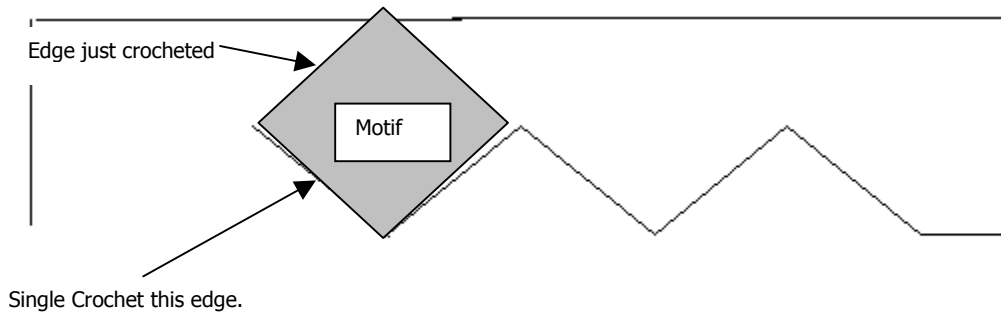
The motifs are attached to the pillow case edge on two sides to "fill in" the square area that was cut out on the top layer of the pillow case. Use white crochet thread to attach the motifs to the pillowcase.

- Right Sides Together -- place the one edge of the motif together with the single crocheted edge of the top layer of the pillowcase:



Single crochet the two edges together.

2. At the corner point, SC in next SC pillowcase edge and the Ch 3 space of the motif corner, Ch 1, SC in the same SC space, Ch 1, SC in the same SC space. This turns the corner of the motif and the pillowcase edge.
3. Continue to Single Crochet along the next edge of the motif until you reach the end of the edge.



4. Turn the corner by SC in Corner Point, Ch 1, SC in same SC space, Ch 1, SC.
5. Repeat Steps 1 through 4 for each of the other two motifs. Finish off.

Crocheted Shell Edging:

The Shell Edging is crocheted using the same color yarn as the rose used in the motif. Size 20 crochet thread is recommended for this edging.

1. At the pillowcase seam edge, Join the yarn with a slip stitch. Ch 3.
2. Skip 3 SC, Make Shell in next SC: 1 HDC, 2DC, Ch 1, SC in top of last DC, 1DC, 1 HDC.
3. Ch 3, Skip 3 SC, SC in next SC. Ch 3.
4. Repeat Steps 2 and 3 around the hem edge and the free edges of the motifs. (When crocheting around the edge of the motif, make shell and SC in the CH 3 spaces of the motif.)
5. Slip Stitch to the beginning stitch and finish off.