Dress Form Pin Cushion

Created by:
Sam Fung, Janome Education Coordinator

This is a fun and easy project that you can make in just a couple of hours. It can be used as a pin cushion or as a decoration for your sewing studio. Select a beautiful print or embellish solid fabric with decorative stitches, so you'll have a beautiful stitch reference at a glance.

Finished size: 17" tall × 8" wide. (Approx.)

Dress Form Pin Cushion

Janome Supplies Required:

- ☐ Janome Sewing Machine
- ☐ Zig-Zag foot A
- ☐ 1/4" Seam foot O (optional)

- ☐ Zipper Foot E
- ☐ Red Tip Needle

Fabrics/Notions Required:

- ☐ 2/3 yd fabric
- ☐ 2/3 yd Interfacing or similar medium-weight woven fusible interfacing
- ☐ All-purpose thread to match fabric
- ☐ 7" Zipper
- ☐ Seam Ripper
- ☐ Hand Sewing Needle
- ☐ Polyester fiber fill material

- ☐ Tape
- ☐ Scissors
- ☐ Rice/Poly Pellets/Sand (Optional)
- ☐ Pattern printed at 100%
- ☐ Marking pen/chalk marker
- ☐ Pins

Preparation:

1. Print patterns at 100% on 11' X 17" paper. Front A and B is longer than one sheet of paper and will need to be taped together to form a complete pattern before cutting out.

2. Fuse Interfacing to wrong side of fabric.

3. Trace pattern onto fabric and cut out. Make sure to transfer notches from pattern to fabric. You will be cutting out three bottom pieces. Two of them will be used to hold the weights for the inside.

4. Thread machine with All-purpose sewing thread in top and bobbin.

5. Insert Red Tip needle

6. Attach Zig-Zag foot A.

Sewing Instructions:

1. Select Straight Stitch.

2. Sew center back seam with 1/2" seam allowance. Back stitching at beginning and end.

3. Press seams open flat.

4. Center zipper teeth on center seam, pin left side of zipper tape. The wrong side of the zipper is facing you.

5. Attach Zipper foot E. Adjust needle position so that it is close to zipper teeth. Sew the right side first, removing pins as you sew.

6. Repeat for left side.

7. Use a seam ripper and open the seam where the zipper teeth are located.

8. On the top of the front and back turn down 1/4", press and stitch close to cut edge.

9. All seam allowances from here on will be 1/4" unless otherwise noted.

10. Attach 1/4" Seam foot O and select a 1/4" seam (applicable on 9mm machines).

11. With right sides together, sew front to back piece starting at the shoulder seam. Notch all the way to the top using a 1/4" seam allowance.

12. Clip the curved seam around the neck to shoulder area. Press shoulder seam open.

13. Pin side piece matching up notches to front and back pieces. Starting at the bottom sew all the way around.

14. Press all seams on the bottom open about 3" up. Mark the center front bottom by folding the two side seams together.

15. With right side together, take the bottom piece, matching front and back notches pin all the way around the bottom and sew.

16. Clip curves on front and back pieces. Unzip and turn inside out.

17. To make the bottom weight, take the 2 bottom pieces, right sides together, sew all the way around using a 1/2" seam allowance leaving a small hole for putting in rice/poly pellets. This does not need to be turned inside out.

18. Insert weight to the bottom and stuff the rest with stuffing. Stuff as tight as you can get it, make sure you go all the way up to the neck area. When zipping it up put one finger behind the zipper while zipping and this will keep the stuffing from getting caught.

19. If the neck and shoulder isn't tight enough put more stuffing through to top hole and keep pushing down until the stuffing won't go down when you remove your fingers. Take the upper cap and stitch by had a running stitch around the edge.

20. Pull on thread, placing one finger in center to hold together. Place a little more stuffing in the middle, pull thread to close.

21. With thread still attached, place cap on top opening, push top down to where all the gathering is hidden and hand stitch all around the top.
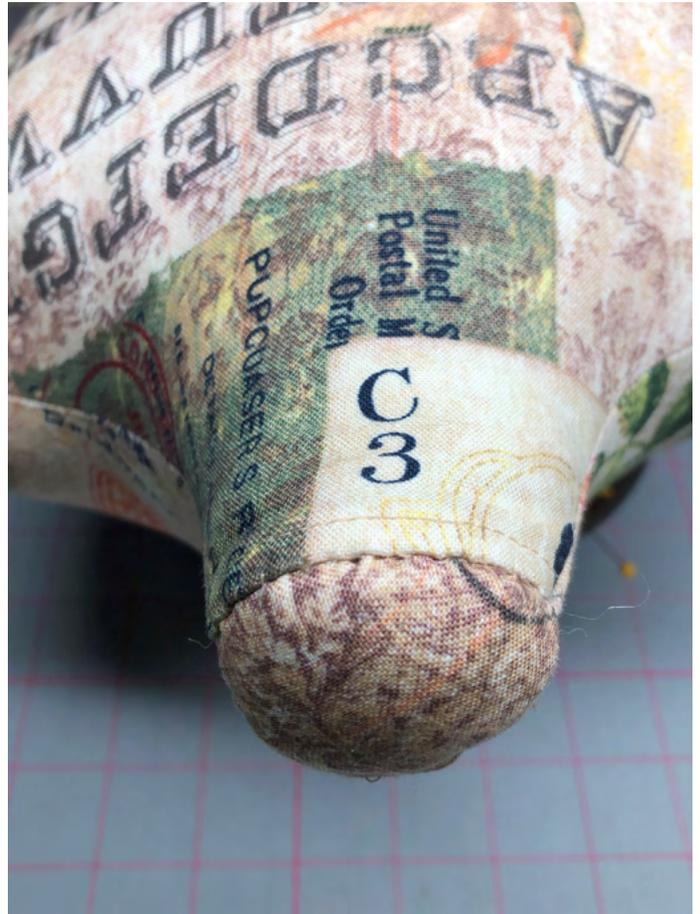
Enjoy your new dress form pin cushion (or however you'd like to use it)!