

How to Make a Pillowcase Using the Burrito Method

If you can sew a straight seam, then you can make a pillowcase with a French seam.

Step 1: Cut Out Fabric Pieces

Cut 1 piece - 27" x 42" (body of pillowcase)

Cut 1 piece - 9" X 42" (cuff)

Cut 1 piece - 2" X 42" (trim)

a. Step 2: Assembling the Pieces

Lay the Cuff out flat with the right side facing up.

b. With the wrong sides together, fold the Trim piece in half lengthwise and press.

c. Match the raw edges of the Trim along the top edge of the Cuff.

d. Pin to keep the Trim from shifting.

e. Place the Pillowcase Body on top of the Cuff/Trim with right sides together and pin.

Step 3: Why It's Called a Burrito

a. Starting at the bottom of the Pillowcase Body, begin rolling the fabric towards the top edge.

b. Continue to roll up the Pillowcase Body until it is a few inches from the top edge.

c. Take the bottom edge of the Cuff fabric and wrap it over the rolled-up Pillowcase Fabric.

d. Pin through all layers of fabric.

e. Using a 3/8" seam allowance, sew along the raw edge.

f. Fold back the Cuff and carefully pull out the Pillowcase Body.

g. Keep pulling!

h. Almost there!

i. Press the Cuff and Trim on both sides.

Step 4: Side and Bottom Seams

a. The next step uses a French seam.

b. Fold Pillowcase in half wrong sides together, matching up the Cuff and Trim fabrics on the seam line.

c. Pin around the raw edges on the side and bottom of the Pillowcase.

d. Stitch together down the side and across the bottom using a 1/4" seam allowance.

e. Be sure that the Cuff/Trim seam is even. I sew this first, then go back and do the rest.

f. Turn the pillowcase.

g. It's time to flip the Pillowcase wrong side out and press the seams down. Using something like a knitting needle or chopstick, push out the corners.

h. Now, the Pillowcase is facing right sides together. Pin the side and bottom seams.

i. Stitch the side and bottom seams using a 1/2" seam allowance.

Step 5: Finishing the Pillowcase

a. Turn the Pillowcase right side out and press the seams flat.

b. You now have enclosed French seams, and the Pillowcase has no loose threads on the inside.

c. Voila! A finished burrito pillowcase!

*A serger can be used to sew the seam side and bottom of the pillowcase in place of French seams. If using a serger, sew the side and bottom seams with right sides together, serge seams and press.