

March Edition

SUNNY SIDE UP PILLOWS

By Jill Finley of Jillily Studio





These darling pillows are quick and easy. Pick a couple of fun fabrics, (like my new *Poppy Patio*) and whip up a pair to add a pop of color and style to your home.

You can make these versatile pillows in any size, but for these directions I use a 16" x 24" pillow form. (I got mine at IKEA.) I like to make the pillow cover a little bit smaller than the pillow form so that it is nice and puffy, filling out the cover all the way. Keep in mind that my samples were made using strike-offs from my new fabric line, so the fabric is heavier than normal quilting cottons. Also, I didn't have enough fabric for the pillow backs, but normally I would use the same fabric on the pillow back as on the front. I recommend that you use quilting cottons so that your ruffles will be a little fuller and easier to gather.

FABRICS AND SUPPLIES (for one pillow)

1/2 yard of fabric 1 for the pillow front and back 3/8 yard of fabric 2 for the ruffle.
One 16" x 24" pillow form

CUTTING

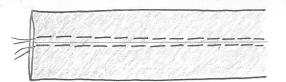
2 rectangles, 16" x 24" of fabric 1 2 strips, 6 ½" x 40" of fabric 2

CONSTRUCTION

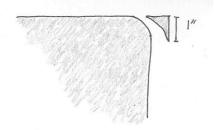
- 1. Seam together the two 6 ½" fabric strips end to end. Cut the strip to be 60" in length. Press seam open.
- 2. Fold the 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 60" strip in half lengthwise with the right sides together. Sew together in a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam all along the long edge making a tube. Do not sew the short sides together.



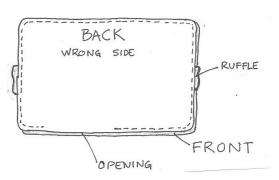
- 3. Turn the tube right side out. Press flat with the seam open in the center of one side of the tube.
- 4. Mark a line down the lengthwise center of the tube on the side that does not have a seam. (I use chalk so that it brushes off easily-this line may show.) Sew a line of basting stitches down each side of the drawn line about 1/8" away.



- 5. Pull up the bottom threads of the basting stitches to gather the ruffle. Adjust the ruffles to be 24" in length.
- 6. Lay the pillow front and back together on your cutting surface. Round off the corners about 1" from the point as shown. You can mark this if you want with a round template, but I just eyeball it. This will make your pillow corners nice and full without skinny "bunny ear" pointed corners.



- 7. Mark a line down the center of one of the 16" x 24" rectangles. Lay the ruffle flat, centered on the drawn line. Pin in place. Use a narrow zig zag to stitch down the center of the ruffle. Keep the ruffle as flat as you can. The raw edges at the ends of the ruffle should be even with the edges of the pillow front.
- 8. Lay the pillow back on top of the pillow front, right sides together. Sew together around the outside edge in a ¼" seam. The ends of the ruffle will be sandwiched between the pillow front and the pillow back. Leave an opening on one side about 10" wide.



- 9. Turn the pillow right side out. Stuff the pillow form inside the pillow cover.
- 10. To close the opening, squish the pillow form out of the way to the other side of the pillow. Pin the front to the back to keep the form out of the way. Turn the 1/4" seam allowance to the inside, and stitch together as close to the fold as you can.

NOTE: If you would like to put in a zipper, you can. I rarely need to wash the pillow cover, and if I do, I just undo the stitching, wash, and resew.

11. Fluff the ruffle by twisting it in opposite directions all along the length of it.



Enjoy your new pillows on your favorite chair!

