

Project: Quilted Pillowcase

American Patchwork & Quilting

1 MILLION  
PILLOWCASE CHALLENGE

Pattern 18



**FABRICS** are from the Habitat collection by Jay McCarroll for Free Spirit ([freespiritfabric.com](http://freespiritfabric.com)).

## Project: Quilted Pillowcase

**Materials****For one pillowcase:**

- 1¼ yards body print (pillowcase body)
- 1¼ yards backing print (pillowcase backing)
- ¼ yard binding print (binding)
- 34×45" lightweight batting

**Finished pillowcase:** 30×20"  
(fits a standard-size bed pillow)

**Quantities** are for 44/45"-wide, 100% cotton fabrics.

**Measurements** include ½" seam allowances for pillowcase construction. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise specified.

**Cut Fabrics****From body print, cut:**

- 1—34×45" rectangle

**From backing print, cut:**

- 1—34×45" rectangle

**From binding print, cut:**

- 2—2½×42" binding strips

**Quilt Fabrics**

1. Place backing print 34×45" rectangle wrong side up on a flat surface. Center and smooth batting atop backing. Center the body print 34×45" rectangle right side up on top of the batting and smooth out any wrinkles. Use safety pins or long hand stitches to baste the layers together, creating in a quilt sandwich.
2. Quilt as desired, or use one of the three machine-quilting patterns that follow.

**Grid Quilting**

Grid quilting is the result of two sets of uniformly spaced straight lines quilted in a perpendicular pattern (see photo, page 1).

When quilting in a grid, mark at least the horizontal and vertical

center lines on the pillowcase top before you begin stitching. Attach a walking (even-feed) foot to your sewing machine. Working from the center outward, stitch rows 1½" apart until an area is completely quilted.

*Note:* Some sewing machines come with a quilting bar that attaches to the machine to serve as a guide for evenly spaced rows. Use the bar when your quilting rows are farther apart than a presser foot width or when the guides on your machine bed are covered.

**Greek Key Quilting**

Greek key quilting is a spiral-like design made of straight lines. Refer to **Greek Key Quilting Diagram** (page 3) to mark the pattern on the body print 34×45" rectangle before preparing quilt sandwich.

Attach a walking (even-feed) foot to your sewing machine. Starting in the center of one edge of the basted quilt sandwich, stitch the Greek key pattern to the opposite edge. Repeat stitching the pattern the width of the basted quilt sandwich, first stitching on one side, then the other side, of the center row of quilting.

**Loop with Star Quilting**

Loop with star is a free-motion machine-quilting pattern made by combining loops with stars.

Attach a darning foot to your sewing machine and drop or cover the feed dogs. Starting at one edge of the basted quilt sandwich, stitch curvy lines flowing into a loop in clockwise direction followed by a loop in a counter-clockwise direction. Continue, filling in spaces with loopy curving lines. Where desired, go from one loop right into a star pattern (stitching directions are shown in **Loop with Star Quilting Diagram**, page 3). To get sharp points on the star,

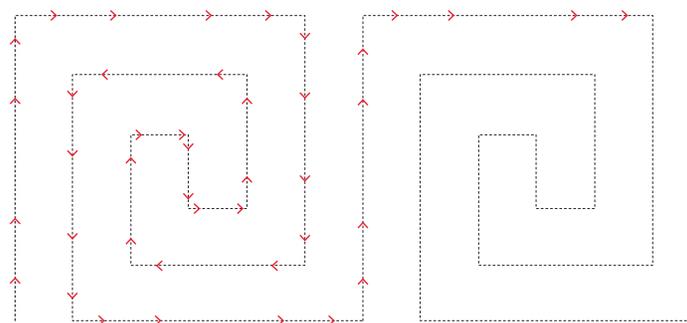
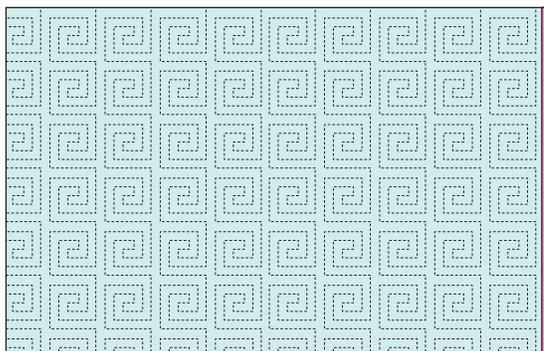
stop briefly at each point of the star before switching the stitching direction to stitch the next leg of the star.

**Assemble Pillowcase**

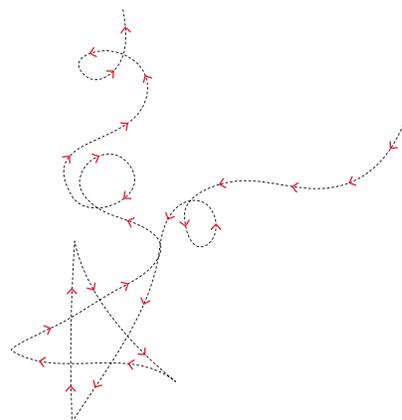
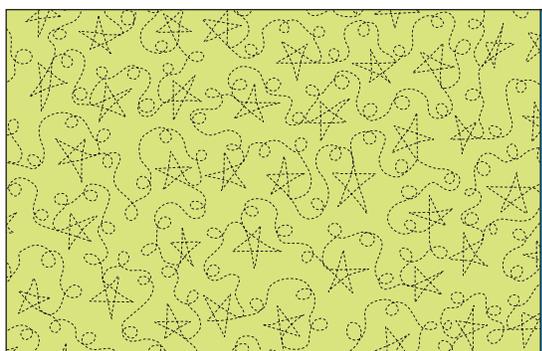
Use a ½" seam allowance for the following steps.

1. Trim quilted rectangle to 30½×41" including seam allowances.
2. Fold quilted 30½×41" rectangle in half crosswise to form a 30½×20½" rectangle. Sew together long edges and one pair of short edges to make pillowcase body. Turn right side out and press flat.
3. Join 2½×42" binding strips with a diagonal seam to make one long binding strip. Trim seam allowances to ¼" and press open.
4. With the wrong side inside, fold under 1" at one end of the binding strip and press. Then fold the strip in half lengthwise with wrong side inside. Place binding strip on the right side of the pillowcase body along unfinished edge, aligning the binding strip raw edges with the pillowcase body raw edge (do not start at seam). Begin sewing the binding in place 2" from folded end.
5. When you return to the starting point, encase the binding strip raw edge inside the folded end and finish sewing to the starting point.
6. Turn binding over the edge to the back. Hand-stitch the binding to the backing fabric only, covering any machine stitching.

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GREEK KEY  
QUILTING DIAGRAM



LOOP WITH STAR  
QUILTING DIAGRAM