

WHITE

CHAMBRAY REDWORK PILLOWCASES

Add these antique-looking redwork pillowcases to any contemporary decor. The retro redwork designs are now stitched using the embroidery sewing machine instead of worked by hand! Try chambray rather than traditional white fabric for the background.



Designed especially for White

SUPPLIES

Whether you purchase or make your own pillowcases (finished size 30" x 20"), try to have at least a 3 1/4" to 3 1/2"-wide hem. This will provide plenty of space for the embroidery and is a good proportion for the designs.

- Redwork Embroidery card
- Two standard pillowcases
- Rayon thread (red)
- Bobbin thread
- Thread to coordinate with binding
- 1/2 yard of 45"-wide fabric for contrast binding
- One package of soutache braid
- Water- or air-soluble marking pen
- Tear-away stabilizer
- Basting adhesive spray (optional)

Embroidery

Plan your designs. For the most pleasing appearance, position the ladies facing all the same direction. Or have the middle one facing the opposite direction as shown in the sample. The designs used from top to bottom, on one pillowcase, are #17, #11, and #9 and on the other, #14, #6, and #20. Mark where the center of each design will be placed.

Centering each design, place the pillowcase in the hoop backing it with stabilizer and embroider using the rayon thread in the needle and a bobbin thread. If necessary open the seam approximately 6" so you are not working with a circle or fabric. If you cannot get the fabric firmly and flatly in the hoop, hoop only the stabilizer and use the basting adhesive spray to hold the pillowcase on top of the stabilizer.

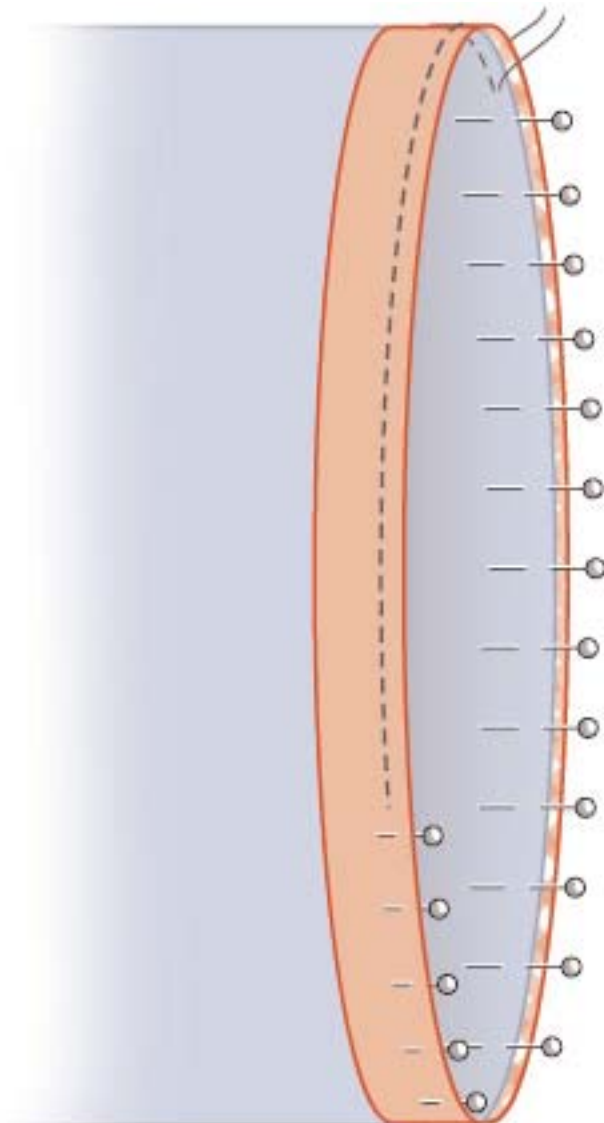


Embellishment

1. For the outside edge, cut a strip of fabric 2 1/2" x the width of the fabric; for the inside edge trim, cut a strip 1 1/4" by the fabric width.

NOTE: The strips do not need to be cut on the bias because they do not have to go around corners or curves, however the tiny gingham used for the sample was so much more interesting when cut on the bias. Let the fabric used determine how it will be cut.

2. On the outside edge, fold the contrasting strip in half lengthwise, wrong side together. Press.



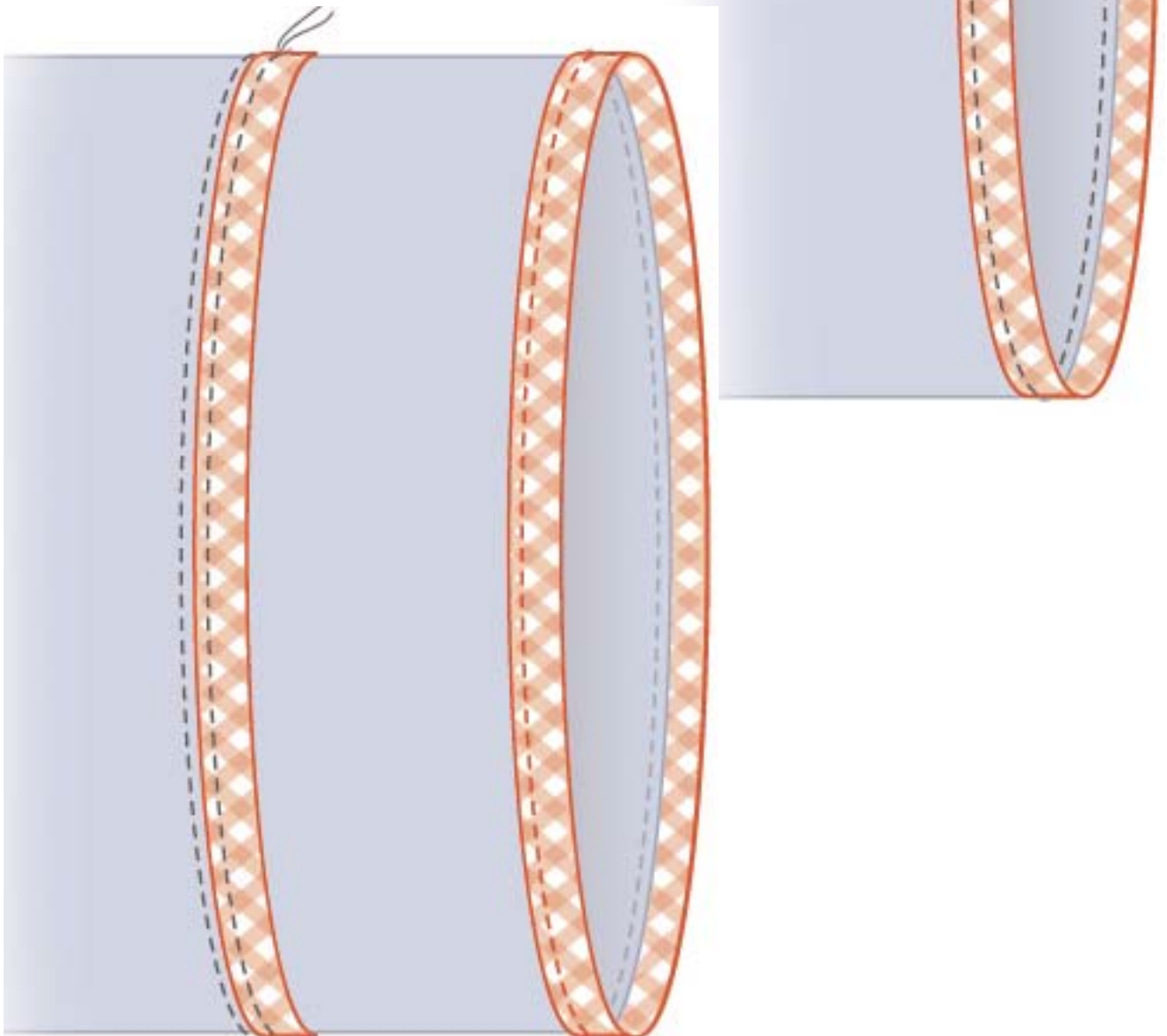
3. Turn the pillowcase wrong side out. Pin the raw edges of the strip to the edge of the pillowcase matching the edges. Turn in 1/4" on one end and over lap ends. Straight stitch with a scant 1/4" seam.

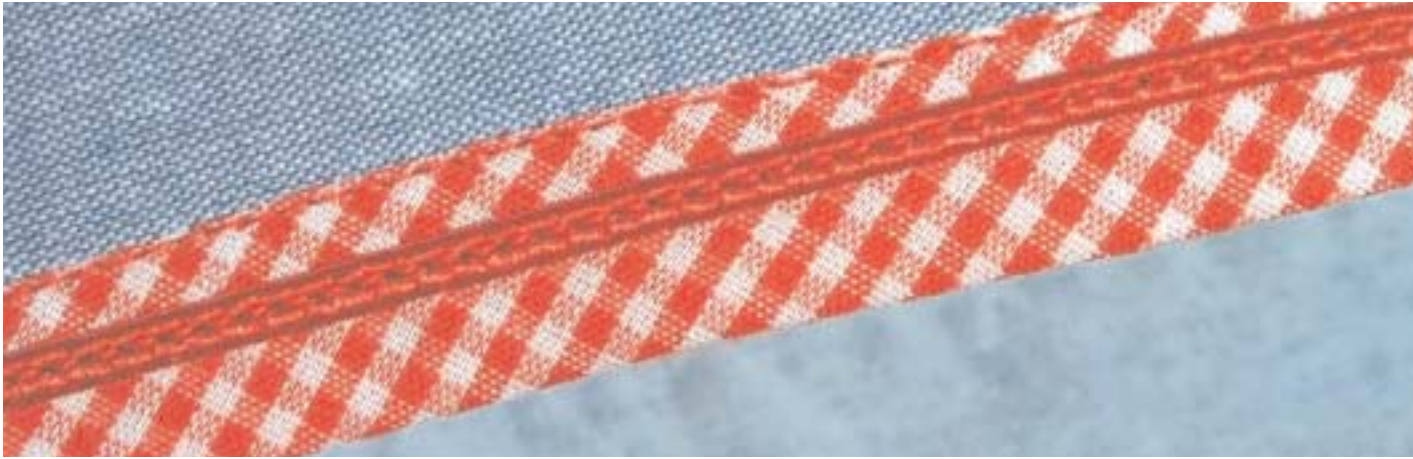
4. Press the strip away from the pillowcase and then wrap it around to the front so the fold just covers the stitching line. Pin to hold. Turn the pillowcase right side out and top-stitch next to the fold.

5. For the inside edge, fold the 1/4" strip in half lengthwise, wrong sides together and press.

6. With the pillow opening and the fold of the strip to your right, place the raw edges of the contrasting strip along the hemline stitching. Turn in 1/4" along one end and overlap. Stitch with a scant 1/4" seam.

7. Fold the trim back on itself and press over the seam allowance. Top-stitch in place right next to the fold.

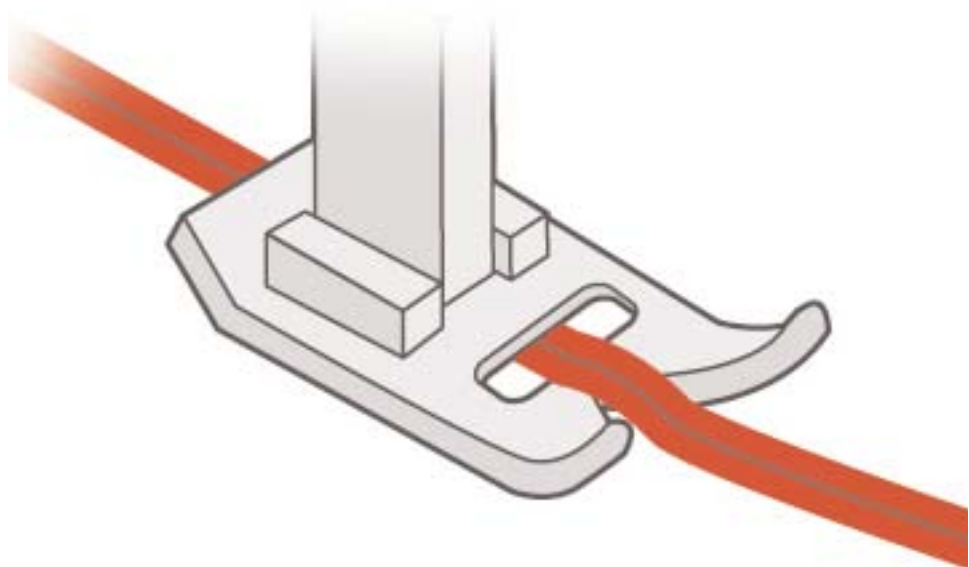




Soutache braid can be added to one or both contrasting strips.



8. Examine the soutache braid closely. The right side appears to have more depth, the “valley” where you will stitch is deeper. If you really cannot tell the difference, just be sure you are being consistent on both contrasting strips.



9. For easier guiding, place the braid through the needle opening on the all-purpose foot and under the back of the foot. Straight stitch the braid in place or use a narrow zigzag stitch instead.

Optional ideas:

Use rickrack or narrow ribbon for the trim.