



HOW TO CROSS STITCH

HOW TO SEW A PILLOW

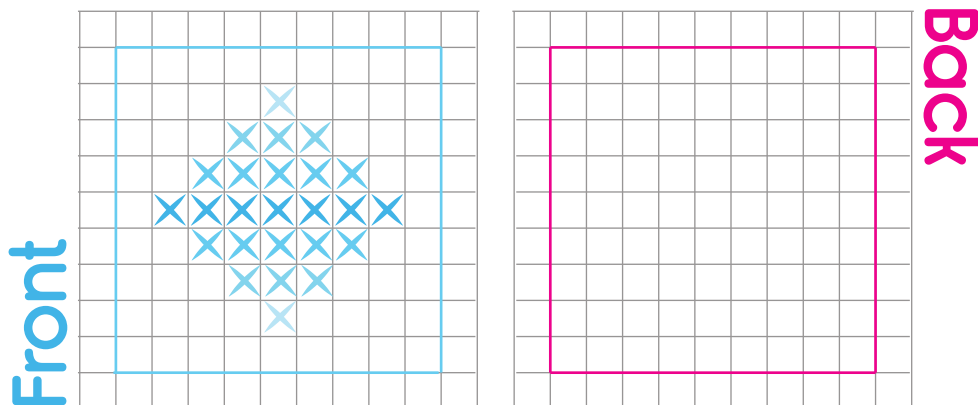
Without a sewing machine!

Method #1 - The biscornu method

If you don't have a sewing machine, this is so far the best method in my honest opinion. I don't know if it has a proper name, anyway I've called it the "Biscornu Method", as it works exactly like sewing a Biscornu (you can find a step by step guide on cloudsfactory.net/guides).

The idea is really simple: backstitch a square (or a rectangle) all around your work, leaving about an inch on all the sides from your stitching or the space you need to reach the desired size of the pillow. Count the extra stitches and add them to the pattern stitches count so you will know how many backstitches you'll have sew on the back of your pillow. Take another piece of aida or linen, same size of the front, and backstitch a square of the exact number of backstitches of the front.

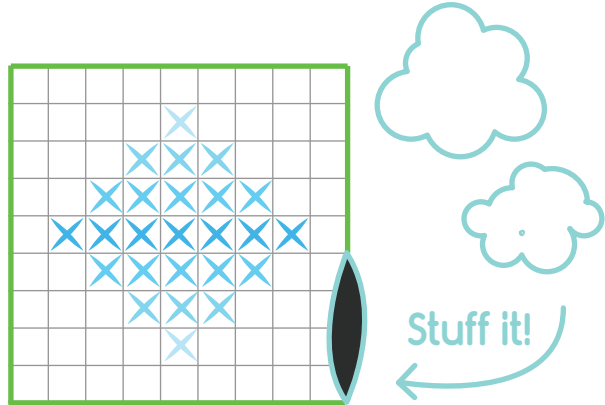
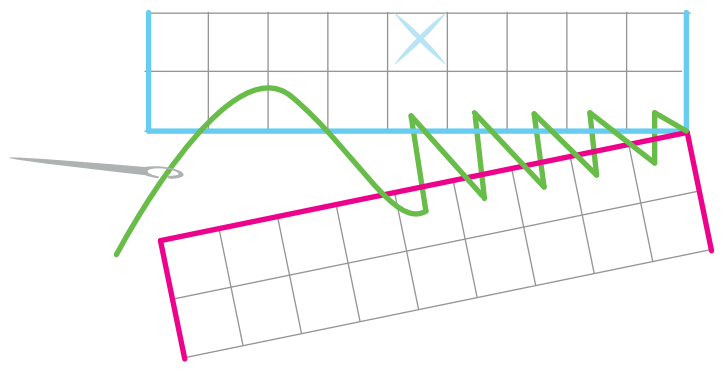
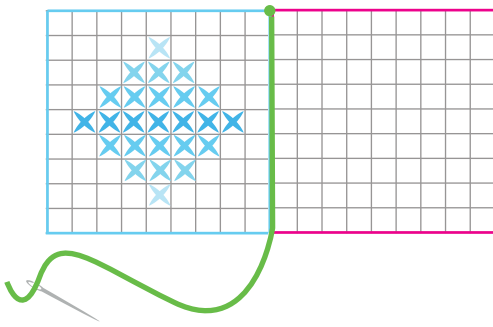
I.e. if your design is 100x100 stitches and you add 14 stitches on each side to have a 1" border, then you will stitch $100+14+14 =$ a 128x128 backstitches square on the back.



Once done, cut both pieces leaving approximately 1/2" of fabric from the sewing line on all sides, then fold the edges along the outer backstitch sewing line towards the back of your stitching.

Thread your needle with one or two strands of floss (same color of backstitching line -> in this tutorial we will use a **different color** just to keep it clear).

Make a little knot and join the corner of the back with the corner of the front, then start assembling your biscornu by passing your needle through the backstitches of both parts from top to bottom in a sewing motion, using taut and tiny stitches (not too tight), make sure to pick up the backstitches only.



Continue stitching all around, and stop stitching when you have completed most of the fourth side, leaving a hole for stuffing.

Stuff the pillow, then continue stitching to close the open side(s). Pass your needle inside the pillow and secure your thread with a hidden knot, do not leave visible threads.

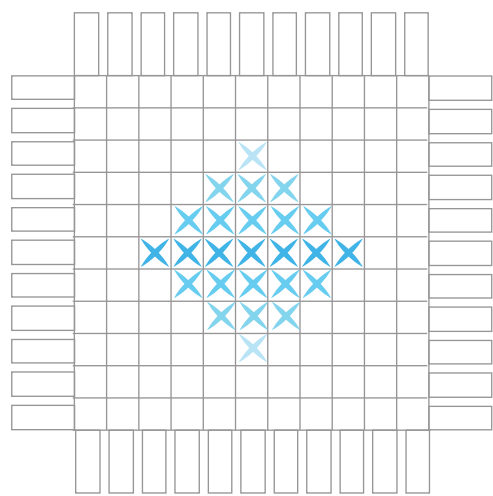
You're done!!! Enjoy your pillow!

Method #2 - Fringe pillow

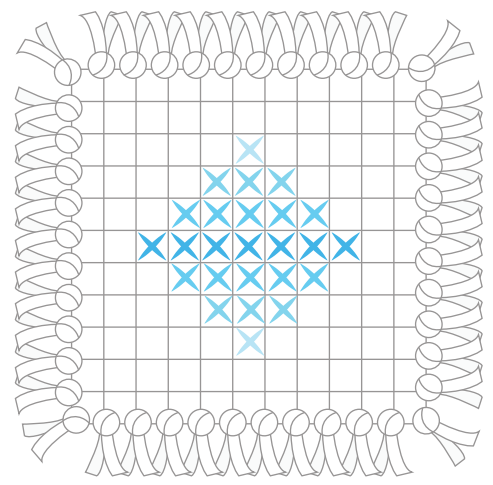
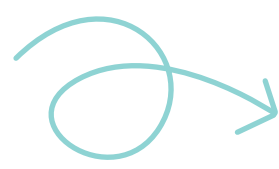
This method works best with soft fabric like linen and you will need a quite big piece of fabric.

Layer the front and back together and cut them at 3-4" (7-10 cm) out of each side. Then make fringe around all sides of both pieces by cutting 3-4" into the fabric at 1" (2,5 cm) intervals. Place front and back wrong sides together with pillow form sandwiched between.

Knot fringe pieces together using one strand from the top and one from the bottom to tie each knot and tie together along all four sides.



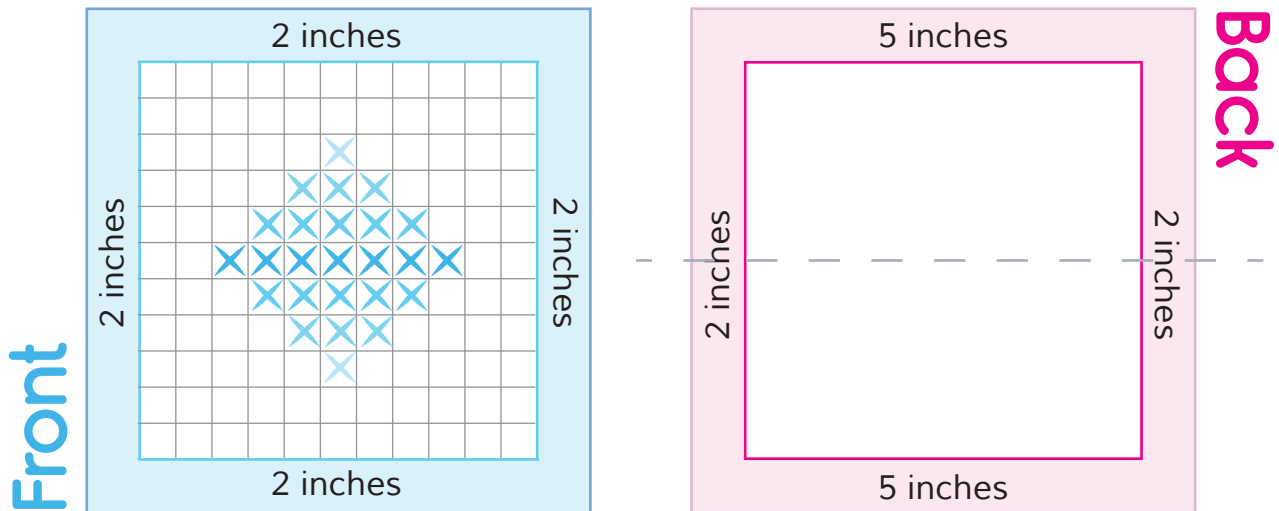
Do it on both sides



Method #3 - Fabric fusion tape "envelope style" pillow

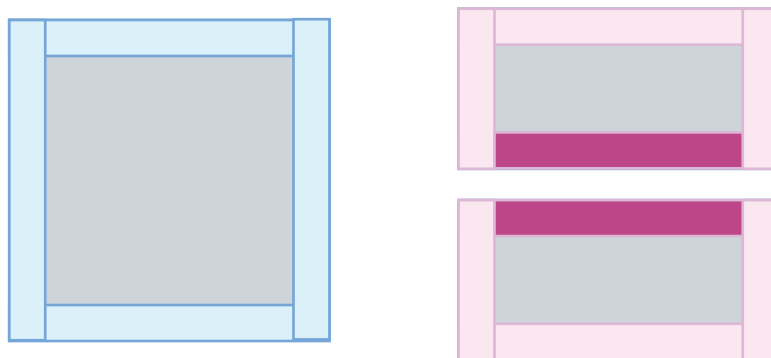
As you can imagine, this method uses fabric fusion tape and iron to seal together the two sides of the pillow.

To begin, cut the front of your pillow cover adding 2" (5 cm) to the pillow size on each side. Do the same with the back, adding 2" on left and right sides and 5" (13 cm) on top and bottom side.



Cut the back in half as shown by the grey dashed line in the image above. This is the envelope part and will create the side where you slide your pillow into once finished.

With both your fabric facing down, fold by 1.5" (3,5 cm) all the edges and iron them in place. Using a good, hot iron place solid strips of fusion tape over the previously ironed creases on all sides except the two openings of the "envelope" slip marked in darker pink hereunder.



Once you're done carefully line up your 2 envelope pieces to overlap on top on the 1 solid piece, wrong sides together.

Take your warm iron and press all along the pillow cover's edge. Slip your pillow in the cover and your done!!!



These are just some ideas, if you need more, try to google "no sew pillow"!