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“Tissue Box Cover With Pockets”

Description: This pattern was designed for a standard Tissue box cover. The addition of pockets will allow storage for loose items such as pens, pencils, glasses etc.



Finished Tissue Box Cover

Materials needed: **1/4 yard fabric (Example is suiting material)**

Matching Thread

Stabilizer if using an embroidery machine

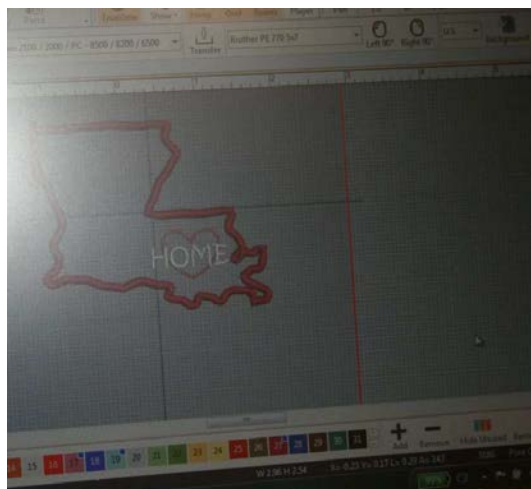
Embroidery design if doing applique

Embroidery thread and spray adhesive for applique material

Notions : cutting implements, measuring tools, marking tools, iron and ironing board

Seams are 1/4 inch (exact) unless noted



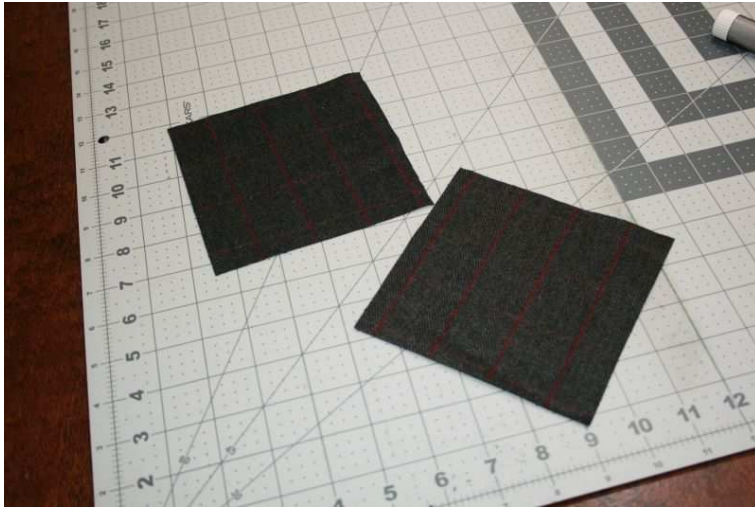


Gather your embroidery design, embroidery thread, stabilizer if you are going to do an applique on your cover. We used the state outline with a small piece of gray flannel. The applique is done on one of the sides that will not have a pocket. You can sew out the design before you make any cuts if easier for you or you can pre cut all of your pieces and use spray adhesive to float your fabric in the hoop.

You will need to cut

- (2) 5 1/4" by 5 1/4" Top Pieces
- (4) 5 1/4" X 6 " Side pieces
- (2) 5 1/4" by 6 " pocket pieces





The top of the cover will be next to sew. You will take both top pieces and place them right sides together.

You can either do the marking freehand or use your measuring tools. We drew a cross mark in the center and joined together with a curved ruler so we had an oval. This will wind up being the opening that the tissues pull through.



Stitch around the perimeter of the oval on the marked line. Trim the interior using a 1/4 inch allowance. You are going to flip the pieces to the right side but first clip all around the curved edges so the seams lay flat





Flip right sides out through the center hole. Now you should have a nice enclosed oval that will be your top. Press the seams flat. You can do a top stitch around the oval to keep the pieces aligned.

Mark a 1/4 inch square on each corner and clip that material away. This will allow for easier attaching to the side pieces



Now you'll get your pockets ready by folding over the top 1/4 inch and then again 1/4 inch to the wrong side. Sew a seam across the top so it is a finished hem on both pockets.



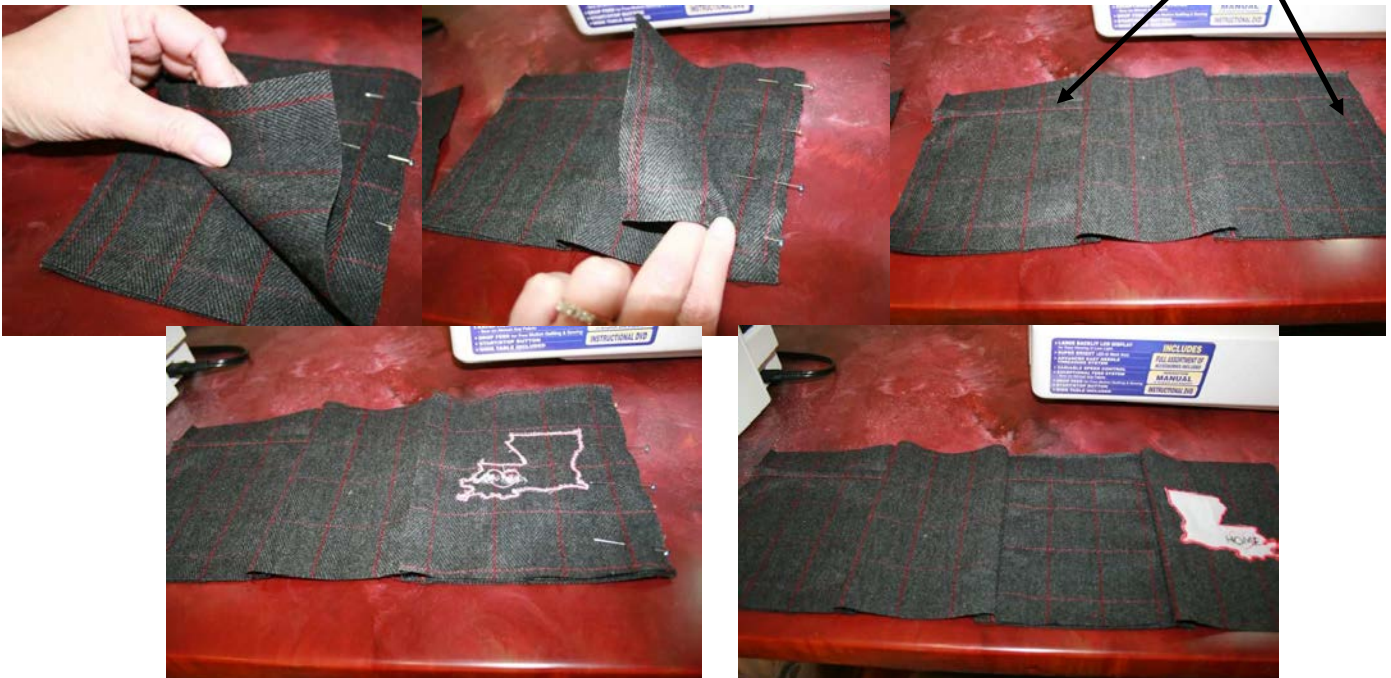


Gather two of your side pieces and your pockets. Set your machine for a long or basting seam. Lay the pockets directly on top of the sides lining up the bottoms. All pieces will be right sides up.

Sew a 1/4 inch basting seam along both sides to attach the pockets to the side pieces. Do not sew the bottoms.



Set your machine to a regular seam length. Take the next side piece that does not have a pocket attached and lay it right sides together with the pocket piece. Pin along one side and sew a 1/4 inch seam. You will be sewing over the same seam you used for the pockets. Continue this process until all side pieces are connected in a row. You will **alternate your pieces** so your pockets wind up opposite each other on the completed cover.





If you turn your piece it should resemble a tube and the pockets should be open on the bottoms. Turn the cover wrong side out again so you can finish the seams and connect the top.

With the top facing wrong side up, Pin the four side edges to the top. *NOTE! Make sure your design is facing the correct direction before you sew. If your design is upside down, you may have to rip it out and sew again.* You can add more pins to really secure it while sewing.



Carefully sew around the top perimeter of the cover keeping the excess from under the needle as you move along. Take your time with this part. You will notice the notches at each corner will allow you to make sure your side seam edges line up evenly. When you get to a corner, turn the piece and continue sewing with a 1/4 inch seam.



Using a zig zag stitch, finish all of the interior seam edges so that they do not fray. The stitch should swing just off the right edge of the fabric to enclose the raw edge. You can trim any loose fibers close to that zig zag seam.





This view shows all of our interior finished seams with zig zag stitching. It will make your project look more professional.



Turn your entire project right side out and place on the tissue box. You will be able to decide the hem length. Each manufacturer is similar in box heights but you can decide to embellish or go simple. Adding lace or other decorative items would be nice at this stage. A turned up hem can be done also.



We used a serger to do a rolled hem. You can accomplish something similar to this with your sewing machine by setting a zig zag stitch. Your length will need to be very short. You can also adjust your bobbin tension tighter if you are familiar with that. This will make the bobbin pull the top thread tight and roll the edge. Some machines have rolled hem feet that can be used also. If you don't want to alter the machine tension or use a different foot, use a short but wide zig zag stitch.





Our rolled hem took up just the right amount of length for our particular box of tissues.



This view shows one of the pockets installed. When you do the hem, it will close up the bottom of the pockets. These are great to store loose items like glasses, pens, small notepads or even cell phones. This is a great one of a kind gift!



ENJOY!

