

Projects

"Crazy Patch Decorator Pillow"



Create your own custom decorator pillow and complete it using a variety of decorative stitches and a touch of bobbin-work.

Skill Level: Beginner

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Supplies:

- Baby Lock Sewing Machine
- Specialty bobbin-work bobbin case (Grey)
- 20 inch pillow form
- 2/3 of a yard decorator stripe fabric for the backing
- 24" square of muslin fabric for patchwork base
- 1/2 yard yellow decorator fabric for pillow front borders
- 2 1/2 yards cotton cord to cover for piping
- 1/4 yard pink silk
- 1/8 yard orange silk
- 1/8 of a yard black and white check silk
- 1/4 yard floral decorator prints

1/8 yard plaid silk
Remnants of black and orange faux leather
Remnants of green velveteen
1/2 yard green trim
1/4 yard orange trim
2 1/4 yards red velvet ribbon (optional)
One package Madeira Mouline silk thread
Assorted colors of Aerofil thread
Hand-sewing needle
Fabric glue
Rotary Cutter, mat and ruler

Instructions:

1. Begin your crazy patch piecing using the 24" muslin piece as the base. Start in center with the orange faux leather cut into a shape with five sides.
2. Add a strip of fabric to the shortest side of the orange piece, right sides together. Stitch using a 1/4" seam and then flip so the right sides are facing up.
3. Continue adding fabric pieces to each side of the center orange piece until all sides are covered. Trim any excess fabric from the seam allowances to eliminate bulk.
4. Then continue adding fabric pieces in random order and color selection until the entire base pieces covered. This creates the fabric for the center crazy patch section of the pillow front.
5. Decide which seams to cover with the orange and green trims. Using matching thread and a narrow zigzag stitch couch or topstitch these trims over the seams.
Note: It is best for these trims to start and end so that the ends of the trim end along the outer seam allowance.
6. Threading the machine in varying contrasting color threads stitch over some of the seams using assorted decorative built in stitches.
7. Insert the gray specialty bobbin case into the machine. Wind a bobbin with the Madeira Mouline thread.
8. On the machine select an open and airy stitch.
9. With the wrong side of the fabric facing up stitch along one of the seam lines to add bobbin work to some of the seams in the crazy patch section.
10. Using the Rotary Cutter, mat and ruler trim the center fabric to a 16 1/2" piece.



11. Cut the yellow decorator fabric into strips 3-1/2 inches by the width of the fabric.
12. Sew the borders to the left and right side of the center piece. Trim to square off the sides.
13. Then add the top and bottom border strips. Trim to square off the center piece.
14. *Optional:* Topstitch or glue the velvet ribbon to the edges of the crazy patch centerpiece along the yellow borders.
15. Cut a piece 24 in square from the decorator stripe fabric.
16. From the remaining decorator stripe fabric cut strips on the bias 2 1/4 inches wide.
17. Sew the strips together to create one long piece of bias.
18. Fold the bias strip over the cotton cord and use a zipper foot to stitch close to the fabric to create matching piping cord.
19. Baste the piping cord along the edges of the pillow front.
20. Trim the backing fabric to match the exact size of the finished front.
21. Pin the backing fabric to the front fabric over the cord.
22. Sew around the edges of the pillow leaving an opening along one edge for turning and to insert the pillow form.
23. Turn the pillow right side out and insert the pillow form.
24. Hand stitch the opening closed.

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