



# Bedroom Expressions

By Elizabeth Cecchetti

Create a segmented silk pillow and embellish it with a circle of embroidered paisleys.

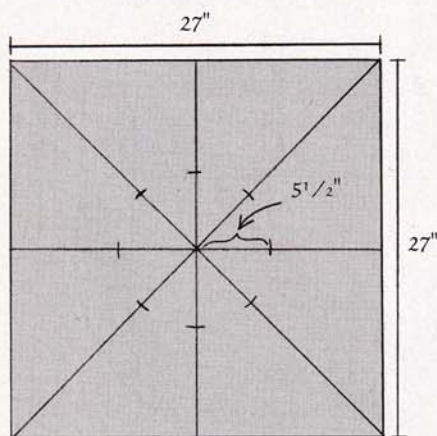
## Supplies

- ◆ 3/4 yard of gold silk shantung
- ◆ 5/8 yard of coordinating print fabric
- ◆ 3/4 yard of lightweight fusible interfacing
- ◆ 3 yards of 1/4" cotton cording
- ◆ One 20"-square pillow form
- ◆ Mediumweight cut-away stabilizer
- ◆ Temporary adhesive
- ◆ Water-soluble marker
- ◆ Size 90/14 embroidery needles
- ◆ Size 75/11 universal needles
- ◆ Hand sewing needle
- ◆ Embroidery, bobbin and sewing thread
- ◆ Zipper foot
- ◆ Rotary cutter, mat and ruler
- ◆ Embroidery design

## Preparation

- ◆ Cut one 27" square from both the gold shantung and the fusible interfacing. Fuse the interfacing to the silk shantung wrong side, following the manufacturer's instructions.
- ◆ On the interfaced side, mark the pillow top into four equal sections with a water-soluble marker. Divide each section in half to create eight equal sections; mark. Mark 5 1/2" away from the center of each line (A).

**A** Mark 5 1/2" away from center on each line.



## Embroidery

- ◆ Hoop cut-away stabilizer and the gold shantung. Spray with temporary adhesive if needed. Position one pillow-top marking down the hoop center, and align the 5 1/2" marking with the hoop center.
- ◆ Adjust the paisley design to measure 16.8cm x 7.9cm, angled 7° to the right. Embroider the design; remove the excess stabilizer. Repeat to embroider each of the remaining seven sections.
- ◆ Embroider the center design to measure 9cm in diameter.

## Construction

- ◆ Using rotary-cutting tools, trim the pillow top and backing to a 19" square.
- ◆ Cut enough 1 1/4"-wide gold shantung strips to cover the cotton cording. Piece the strips together to form one long strip.
- ◆ Install the zipper foot on the sewing machine. Fold the shantung strip in half lengthwise, encasing the cording. Stitch the strip long edges, positioning the needle as close to the cording as possible.

- ◆ Pin the covered cording to the pillow top with raw edges aligned. Clip the cording seams so they ease around the pillow corners. Tuck under the cording ends, concealing the fabric raw edges. Baste the cording to the pillow top.
- ◆ With right sides facing, pin the pillow top to the pillow back around the perimeter. Stitch, following the basting stitches around the cording. Leave an opening on one side large enough to insert the pillow form.
- ◆ Turn the pillow case right side out, and insert the pillow form through the opening. Pin the opening shut; slipstitch by hand. ☞

*Elizabeth Cocchettini is a freelance designer and writer specializing in sewing and quilting. Her work has appeared in a variety of sewing, embroidery, and quilting-related publications. She's also creative director for [www.dystyle.net](http://www.dystyle.net).*

### Designs

*Paisley I, Amazing Designs: ADC -31J, design #03; [www.amazingdesigns.com](http://www.amazingdesigns.com), (866) 336-8329*

*Home Accents, Baby Lock: (BLEC-67), design #20; [www.babylock.com](http://www.babylock.com)*