

# The Pillow Case Project

# Thank You!

**The Pillow Case Project** is an effort to eliminate the black plastic garbage bag used by CPS workers to collect a child's belongings when it has been determined that they need to be removed from an unsafe home environment. The damage to the emotional wellbeing of a child seeing all their worldly possessions being stuffed into a black plastic garbage bag is clear.

**While nothing can eliminate** the trauma of being removed from their home – a cheerful / pretty pillow case they can use to gather their belongings - and that they get to keep, is a small step in the right direction.

**I'm delighted that you've decided** to be a part of this effort! By making up the drawstring pillow case in this kit - you are helping to make that traumatic moment just a bit easier for a child in our local area.

**The pieces in this kit are pre-cut to the correct size** - all you need to do is follow the instructions on the pattern included with this kit and sew it up.

**Once your pillow case is completed** - please bring it back to the next MPS meeting (and perhaps check out another kit or two : )

**The pattern is yours to keep** - my gift to you.

**Thank you so much** for joining in!

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**The Pillow Case Project**

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# Drawstring Pillow Case

This easy to assemble Drawstring Pillow Case doubles as a Laundry Bag.

**Finished Size: 20" wide x 34" long.**

## General Instructions

- **Please read** through all of the instructions before sewing.
- **Use a good quality** cotton thread.
- Follow instructions at each step
- **The fabrics in this kit** have been cut to the size you need for each part of the project.
- **If you are not using a Pre-cut kit** - Please use the measurements below.
- **Directional prints** - make sure the print is right side up when you are holding the Pillow Case with the opening at the top.

## Fabric Requirements

- **Pillowcase Body:** 1 Yard (36" x 42")
- **Casing:** (2) 3" x 16"
- **Drawstring:** (1) 4 1/4" x 42"

## Assembly - Body

1. **Fold "Body" fabric** so it measures (approx.) 22" x 36".
2. **With Right Sides Together** - stitch a seam 1/2" from the 36" edge. This first seam is just to hold everything together in preparation for Step 2.
3. **Fold over the raw edge** a scant 1/4" and then fold in over again to encase the raw edge of the seam.
4. **Stitch this seam** in place. **See Diagram 1.**
5. **Repeat steps 1 and 2** for the bottom edge of the Pillow Case body.
6. **To hem top opening** - fold over raw edge 1/4" and press. Fold over another 1/4" and press. Stitch the hem down from the inside - right at the edge of fold. **See Diagram 2.**

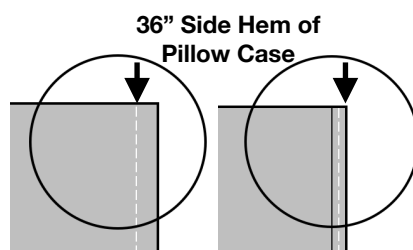
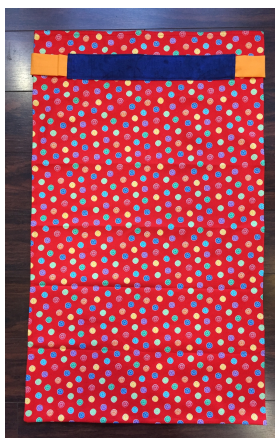


Diagram 1

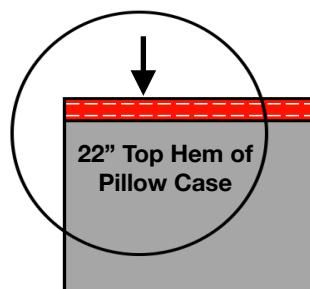


Diagram 2

I add another stitching line right at the outer edge of the hem. This gives the hem a more finished feel and is a little stronger. You could also use a double needle for this step if you prefer.

## Assembly - Casing (functions like an extra wide belt loop)

1. **Press 16" edges** under 1/4"
2. **Press 3" ends** under 1/4" and then fold over another 1/4" and press to create a rolled hem on each 3" end of both strips.
3. **Stitch rolled hem** (I stitch right next to both sides of each rolled hem to give it a more finished feel). **See Diagram 2.**

## Assembly - Drawstring

1. **Sew a rolled hem** (See Diagram 2) on one end of the 4 1/4" x 42" drawstring.
2. **Right Sides Together** - sew a seam 1/4 inch from the 42" raw edge.
3. **Using a Bodkin**, a Purple Thang or your favorite large safety pin - turn the drawstring tube right side out.

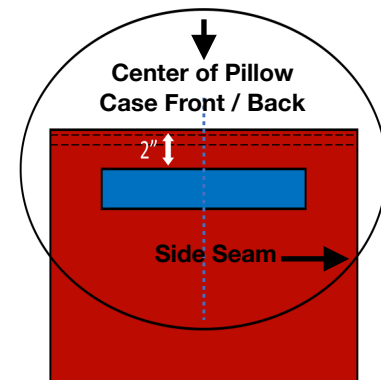


Diagram 3

## Putting it all Together

1. **Lay the Pillow case body complete flat** and find the center of one of the casing pieces and the center of the Pillow Case body. Position the casing 2" from the top opening - matching the centers of the casing and the Pillow Case body. Pin in place. Tip - I place a ruler inside the top edge of the pillow case while I am pinning so I don't pin through all the layers. **See Diagram 3.**
2. **Stitch the casing in place** along the top and bottom edges (leave the short ends open) - back tack at the beginning and end of your stitching lines.
3. **Repeat for the casing** on the other side of the Pillow Case body.
4. **Thread the drawstring** through both casing sections - make sure that the drawstring is flat (not twisted).
5. **Pull both ends** of the drawstring away from the body of the Pillow Case so you have a little room to maneuver.
6. **Insert the raw end of the drawstring** into the hemmed end of the drawstring and stitch into place so it is a continuous loop. **See Diagram 4.**

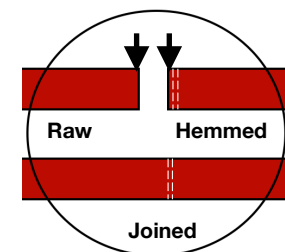


Diagram 4

**Note: If needed - adjust the length of the drawstring** so that it lays flat - not extending beyond the edges of the Pillowcase Body.