

Half Square Triangle Pillow Shams Tutorial

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Your Supplies (standard size pillow 20"x30")

4 complimentary fabric strips each measuring 6"x45" (the ones in this tutorial are Mod Damask Red, Mod Damask Black and Mod Flower Red, Mod Flower Black)

1/2 yard white cotton for the back

Optional ruffle edge (4"x90") white cotton.

Note: you can sew pieces together to get the long lengths of the strips.

Step 1- Cutting your fabric

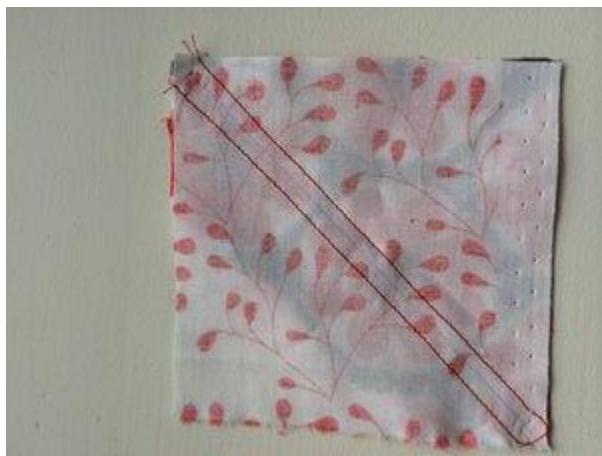
You need to cut 9 4.5" squares of each of your fabric. You can use a 4.5" cardboard template or a quilting ruler. Using a rotating blade is best to get all the squares perfectly even.



Step 2- Draw a diagonal line in the middle of the back of each of your squares.



Step 3-With right sides together, line up two squares (different colors) and sew $1/4"$ away from the line in the middle. Do this for both sides of the line. (*Note: its best to use a $1/4"$ sewing foot for accuracy*)



Step 4- Cut all the way down the middle of the line.



Step 5- Open up the two triangles and iron. Cut, the corner edges so that you have perfect squares after your iron. Repeat steps 3-5 for all your fabric squares. I made two sets of squares; dark (black) and bright (red)





Step 6- Assemble pattern strips

For this design, I decided to pair my dark squares with light squares. Each pair matches with a fabric that has a different color and pattern.



Align 7 squares together to form your strip.



Step 7-Make 5 strips using step 6 above. Sew each strip together to form your pillow top. Iron with starch.



Step 8 *Optional Ruffles.*

Take your 4"x90" white cotton strip and fold it in half so that you end up with a strip measuring 2"x90". Iron down the center.

There are a few ways to make the ruffles:

- a) you can iron down about 1/4" fold all throughout the strip
- b) you can do a long stitch with your machine and then pull the bottom thread to gather or
- c) you can fold in 1/4" while you sew.

I chose to do option c where I just fold in 1/4" as I sewed down the strip to the pillow top.

Step 9- take your strip with the raw edges facing the raw edge of the right side of the pillow top, sew all the way around, curving as you come to the ends.





Step 10- Cut the pieces for the back.

For the back you will need two pieces measuring 20"x18". Fold down the short size about 1/2" and then again about 2". Iron and sew all the way down. Repeat for both pieces.



Step 11-Put it all together.

Lay the pillow top right side up and take your two back pieces and lay them right sides down with the folded edges that you did in step 10 facing each other. Pin and sew all the way around the pillow using 3/4" seam allowance.

