



Round Patchwork Cushion

Step-by-Step Tutorial

Materials

- 100% cotton fabric (assorted prints)
- Denim fabric (for ruffle and some wedges)
- Batting (for a firm pillow)
- Round button (2-3 cm)
- Strong thread
- Hand sewing needle
- Sewing machine
- Scissors, pins, ruler
- Chalk or fabric marker
- Fiberfill (pillow stuffing)

Finished Project



40 cm

40 cm

Main Techniques Used (Sewing)


Straight Stitch


Topstitching


Quarter Inch Seam


Applique/Embroidery Look


Gathering (Ruffle)

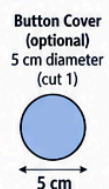
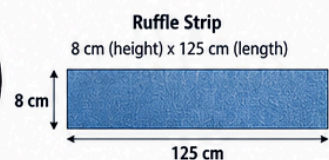
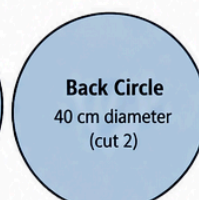
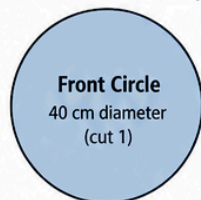
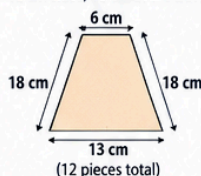

Sewing Curved Pieces


Quilting (Optional)


Hand Stitching Button

1 Cutting the Pieces (Measurements in CM)

Cut 12 wedges (6 cm at the top, 18 cm sides, 13 cm at the bottom)



2 Sew the Wedges



Sew the 12 wedges together with a 0.6 cm seam allowance, alternating the fabrics.

3 Form the Front Circle



Join the first and last wedge to form a circle. Press the seams open.

4 Topstitch the Wedges



Topstitch along each seam (0.2-0.3 cm from the seam) for a nice finish.

5 Make the Ruffle



Fold the long strip in half lengthwise, sew, turn right side out and press. Gather one long edge to fit the 40 cm circle.

6 Attach the Ruffle



Pin the gathered ruffle around the front circle (right sides together). Sew. Turn the ruffle outward and press.

7 Prepare the Back



Make two 40 cm circles for the back. You can add an envelope opening or a zipper. Here we will use an envelope opening.

8 Assemble the Pillow Cover



Place the front and back pieces right sides together. Sew all around with a 1 cm seam allowance, leaving the opening.

9 Turn and Stuff



Turn right side out, insert the fiberfill stuffing, and hand-sew the opening closed.

10 Add the Center Button



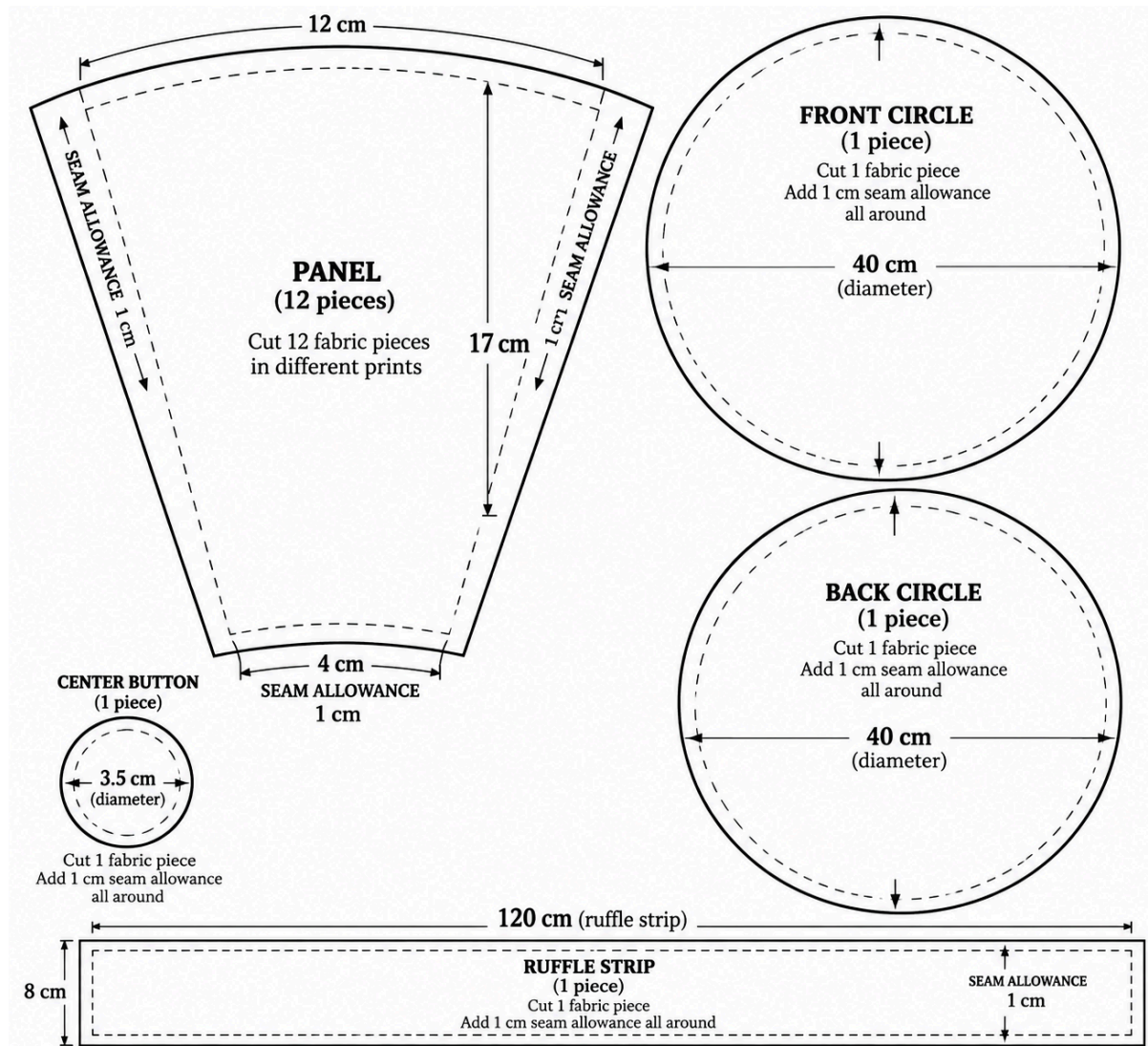
Cover the button with matching fabric (optional) and sew it firmly at the center, pulling slightly to create a tufted effect.

11 Finished Pillow



Tips for Success

- ✓ Use 100% cotton fabric (quilting quality).
- ✓ Keep a 0.6-1 cm seam allowance.
- ✓ Press all seams for a neat finish.
- ✓ Topstitch for durability and visual appeal.
- ✓ Use firm stuffing to keep the round shape.
- ✓ You can hand embroider flowers or use printed fabrics.
- ✓ Adjust the ruffle length if you want more or less fullness.



Round Patchwork Cushion – Complete Step-by-Step Tutorial

This Round Patchwork Cushion is a cheerful sewing project that combines traditional patchwork, decorative topstitching, gathering, and a dramatic ruffled edge. The finished cushion measures approximately 40 cm (15.75 inches) in diameter, not including the outer ruffle.

The design uses 12 fabric wedges arranged like slices around a central point. Alternating yellow, cream, light blue, and dark

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blue fabrics creates the sunny floral appearance shown in the tutorial graphic. A gathered denim-style ruffle frames the cushion, while a fabric-covered or decorative button finishes the center.

This tutorial follows the measurements and construction shown in the graphic. Measurements are kept in centimeters (CM) so the project remains consistent with the original pattern.



Step 1: Gather the Materials and Cut the Pieces

For the best result, choose 100% cotton quilting fabric for the patchwork wedges. Cotton is easy to cut accurately, presses well, and is stable enough for assembling the radial design.

You will need assorted cotton fabrics in coordinating prints. For a look similar to the example, combine dark blue floral, light blue floral, cream floral, yellow floral, and yellow gingham fabrics. You can repeat several prints around the cushion rather than using 12 completely different fabrics.

For the ruffle, use a medium-weight denim-look fabric or another cotton fabric with enough body to hold the gathers. You will also need batting, strong sewing thread, a hand-sewing needle, sewing machine, fabric scissors or rotary cutter, pins or clips, ruler, fabric marker, iron, and fiberfill.

Cut the following pieces:

- 12 wedge pieces: 6 cm across the top, 12 cm across the bottom, and 18 cm along each side.
- Front reference circle: approximately 40 cm diameter. The assembled wedges will ultimately create this front.
- Back pieces: two approximately 40 cm circles, as shown in the graphic, for an envelope-style back. Alternatively, they can be adapted for another closure method.

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- Ruffle strip: 8 cm wide × 125 cm long.
- Optional button-cover circle: approximately 5 cm diameter for covering a suitable button.

The graphic specifies approximately a 0.6–1 cm seam allowance during construction. The wedge-sewing step specifically shows a 0.6 cm seam allowance. Accuracy matters because even a small difference multiplied across 12 wedges can affect the finished circle.

Before cutting all 12 wedges, make one test wedge from inexpensive fabric or paper. Arrange 12 copies around a center point to confirm that your template produces the desired approximately 40 cm finished cushion front.

Step 2: Sew the 12 Patchwork Wedges

Lay your 12 wedges on a large flat surface before sewing. Arrange the colors until the design feels balanced. Try to avoid placing too many identical colors or prints directly beside each other.

The example alternates darker and lighter sections throughout the circle. Dark blue floral wedges provide strong visual anchors, while cream, yellow, and light blue prints keep the design bright.

Take the first two wedges and place them right sides together, carefully aligning one long side. Pin or clip the layers so they cannot shift.

Sew the long edge using approximately a 0.6 cm seam allowance, following the measurement specified in the tutorial graphic. Backstitch briefly at the beginning and end.

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Open the pieces and press the seam neatly. Continue adding wedges one at a time, always keeping the planned color sequence in the correct order.

After all 12 wedges have been connected into one long patchwork unit, do not permanently close the final seam until you have checked the shape. Place the piece flat and bring the first and last wedges together. The sections should meet cleanly at the center without severe puckering.

Step 3: Form the Front Circle

Place the first and last wedge right sides together and align their long raw edges. Sew this final seam with the same seam allowance used on the other wedges.

Open the patchwork front and lay it on your ironing surface. You should now have a complete circular, pinwheel-style arrangement.

Press every seam carefully. Avoid stretching the fabric while pressing because several edges may behave somewhat like bias edges. Use an up-and-down pressing motion rather than aggressively sliding the iron.

Check the center. All 12 wedge points should converge as neatly as possible. A tiny opening or slightly imperfect intersection is usually not a serious problem because the center will eventually be covered with a decorative button.

Now check the overall diameter. The target shown in the graphic is approximately 40 cm. Minor differences can occur because of fabric behavior and seam-allowance accuracy.

If necessary, carefully true the outer edge using the 40 cm circle as a reference. Remove only small amounts of fabric so that you preserve the proportions of the wedge design.

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Step 4: Add Batting and Topstitch the Wedges

The example has a lightly padded, quilted appearance. Place batting behind the completed patchwork circle. If desired, add a lightweight backing or muslin layer underneath the batting to create a traditional quilting sandwich.

Smooth everything from the center outward. Pin, baste, or use your preferred quilting method to prevent the layers from shifting.

The graphic recommends topstitching approximately 0.2–0.3 cm from each wedge seam. This emphasizes the radial structure while helping stabilize the cushion front.

Start close to the center and sew toward the outside edge. Repeat beside the wedge seams until the complete circular design has a clean, structured appearance.

Use a coordinating thread for subtle stitching. A contrasting thread can make the radial lines more decorative, especially when working with denim-blue and yellow fabrics.

Additional quilting is optional. If your printed fabrics are already visually detailed, simple seam topstitching may be enough. More quilting can be added to plain areas if you prefer a denser texture.

Step 5: Make the Gathered Ruffle

Cut the ruffle strip approximately 8 cm × 125 cm, as specified in the graphic. If your fabric is not wide enough for a continuous 125 cm strip, join shorter strips before forming the ruffle.

Fold the strip lengthwise, bringing the long edges together. Depending on your construction preference, you can prepare

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the strip so that the finished folded edge becomes the visible outer edge of the ruffle.

Press the fold gently. The resulting folded strip will be approximately 4 cm wide before seam allowances and gathering are considered.

Sew one or two rows of long machine-basting stitches along the raw edge. Do not backstitch at the ends. Leave generous thread tails so they can be pulled.

Hold the bobbin threads and gently slide the fabric along them to create gathers. Distribute the fullness evenly rather than allowing large clusters of gathers in only a few areas.

The gathered strip must fit comfortably around the approximately 40 cm cushion front. The tutorial also notes that the ruffle length can be adjusted if you want more or less fullness.

Step 6: Attach the Ruffle to the Cushion Front

Place the completed patchwork front right side up.

Position the gathered ruffle around the outside edge with its raw edge aligned with the raw edge of the cushion front. The decorative folded portion of the ruffle should face inward toward the center while you sew.

Pin the ruffle at four equally spaced points first: top, bottom, left, and right. Then distribute the remaining gathers evenly between these points.

Continue pinning around the entire circumference. Take extra care where the ends of the ruffle meet. Join or overlap them neatly so the connection will not be obvious on the finished cushion.

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Machine-baste the ruffle to the cushion front. Sew slowly and regularly check underneath to make sure no folds or unintended pleats are caught in the stitching.

After stitching, gently turn the ruffle outward temporarily to inspect it. The gathers should appear reasonably uniform around the whole circle.

Step 7: Prepare the Back

The graphic demonstrates a two-piece back and suggests an envelope opening or zipper. An envelope back is convenient because it provides access without requiring advanced zipper installation.

Cut the two back sections using the approximately 40 cm circle as your basic reference. Because they must overlap to create an envelope closure, the actual pieces need enough additional material at their inner opening edges to form the overlap.

Finish the opening edge of each back section. Fold the raw edge toward the wrong side, press it, fold again if appropriate for your fabric, and stitch securely.

Overlap the two finished sections until together they reproduce the complete approximately 40 cm circular back.

Pin the overlapping layers securely. Baste around the outside perimeter so the two pieces behave as a single circular back during final assembly.

Check the back against the cushion front. Their outer circumferences should correspond closely before you proceed.

Step 8: Assemble the Pillow Cover

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Place the patchwork front on your work surface with its right side facing up. The ruffle will be sandwiched between the front and back during this stage.

Place the prepared circular back over it with its right side facing down. Therefore, the right sides of the front and back fabrics should face one another.

Carefully align the outer raw edges. Pin around the complete circle, using plenty of pins or sewing clips to control the multiple layers.

The graphic indicates approximately a 1 cm seam allowance for this assembly stage. Sew slowly around the perimeter.

Keep the gathered ruffle tucked safely inside. You want to stitch through its raw attachment edge, but you do not want to accidentally catch the visible ruffled portion farther inside the seam.

If you are using an envelope back, the envelope opening provides the turning point. If you choose a solid back instead, leave a sufficiently large unstitched opening for turning and stuffing.

Step 9: Turn and Stuff the Cushion

Turn the cushion right side out through the envelope opening or the opening you intentionally left in the seam.

Work slowly so you do not stress the center seams or distort the circular edge. Once turned, gently pull the ruffle outward all the way around.

Run your fingers along the circular seam to smooth it. Avoid using sharp objects that could puncture the fabric.

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Begin adding fiberfill in small handfuls. Push the stuffing toward the outer portions first and gradually work toward the center.

Continue filling until the cushion looks rounded and supportive. The tutorial recommends firm stuffing to maintain the circular shape, but avoid packing it so tightly that the wedge seams become strained.

Massage and redistribute the fiberfill as you work. The finished pillow should have an even dome rather than hard lumps or empty sections.

Step 10: Add the Center Button

The center button is both decorative and practical because it conceals the intersection of the 12 wedges and can create the gently tufted appearance seen in the finished example.

The graphic shows an optional 5 cm fabric circle for preparing a covered button. Follow the instructions for your particular button-cover kit because the exact fabric-circle size depends on the button hardware.

Alternatively, use a ready-made decorative button approximately 2–3 cm across, similar to the gold-toned button illustrated in the tutorial.

Thread a strong hand-sewing needle with durable thread. Position the button directly over the center where all the wedge points meet.

For a tufted effect, pass the thread securely through the cushion and gently tension the center. Do not pull so aggressively that you distort the surrounding patchwork.

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Secure the thread thoroughly. If your button has a shank, make sure the stitches sit firmly around the shank and cannot easily loosen during normal decorative use.

✨ **Step 11: Finish and Shape the Round Patchwork Cushion**

Place the cushion upright and inspect the entire circumference. Adjust the stuffing with your hands until the round shape appears symmetrical.

Fluff the ruffle and distribute the gathers. Areas that appear compressed can usually be restored by gently separating the folds with your fingers.

Check the radial topstitching and the center button. The seams should visually lead toward the middle, emphasizing the pinwheel effect.

Trim any visible loose threads. Check the back opening and make sure it sits neatly and securely.

Your completed cushion should measure approximately 40 cm in diameter, excluding the ruffled border. Small variations are normal in handmade sewing projects.

The finished piece can now be displayed on a sofa, armchair, bed, or reading chair. The combination of floral patchwork, blue fabric, sunny yellow prints, and a gathered ruffle gives it a classic cottage-style appearance.

★ **Tips for Success**

Use quilting-quality 100% cotton fabric whenever possible because stable woven cotton makes the wedge construction easier to control. Pre-press every fabric before cutting, and use the same wedge template for all 12 sections.

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Maintain a consistent 0.6–1 cm seam allowance according to the stage of the project. Consistency is particularly important when assembling the wedges because small differences accumulate as you work around the circle.

Press every seam before adding the next major construction step. Good pressing can make the difference between a bulky patchwork circle and a smooth professional-looking front.

When topstitching, maintain approximately 0.2–0.3 cm from the seam for the crisp decorative effect shown in the graphic. Test the thread and stitch length on fabric scraps first.

For a fuller ruffle, start with a somewhat longer strip. For a softer, less gathered border, reduce the amount of extra length. Always test the gathered strip around your actual finished cushion front before permanently attaching it.

Finally, treat the measurements as the working specifications of this particular tutorial. Because the wedge geometry, seam allowances, fabric thickness, and sewing accuracy all influence the final circumference, making one test wedge and checking a 12-piece paper layout before cutting your best fabric is the safest way to achieve a clean 40 cm finished cushion.