



How to Make a Pillowcase

with French Seams

Using the Burrito Method

By Leslie Rutland
seasonedhomemaker.com

Making a pillowcase is unbelievably simple if you follow my tutorial using the Burrito Method. This method is so quick and easy that you'll be making pillowcases for everyone. And, in this tutorial you will learn how to sew a French seam. It's simple, it's fun, and you will be amazed at the results.



How to Make a **Pillowcase** with French Seams Using the Burrito Method seasonedhomemaker.com



If you can sew a straight seam then you can make a pillowcase with a French seam. I'm going to teach you something I call the Burrito Method to assemble your pillowcase and remove any fear you may have regarding French seams. Let's get started!



Supplies

Main Fabric: 1 yard.

Cuff Fabric: 1/3 yard.

Trim Fabric: 1/4 yard. Note: This is totally optional.

Thread

Scissors

Size 90/14 or 100/16 Heavy Duty Needles

Step 1 - Find the Grain

Visit [my tutorial on how to find the grain](#). It is important for your fabric to be squarely on the grain or you will have a twisted pillowcase. Ask me how I know this.

Step 2 - Cut Out Fabric Pieces

From Main Fabric, cut 1 piece that is 27" x 40".

From Coordinating Fabric, cut 1 piece that is 9" X 40"

From Trim Fabric, cut 1 piece that is 2" X 40"



Step 3 - Understanding the Process

It is important to understand what each piece is called.

Main Fabric is the Pillowcase Body.

Coordinating Fabric is the Cuff and will wrap around the Pillowcase Body. Kind of like a burrito.

The Trim will be in between the Pillowcase Body and the Cuff.



Step 4 - Assembling the Pieces

Lay the Cuff out flat with the right side facing up.

Fun Idea: Embroider or applique a name on the cuff before assembling the pillowcase.



With wrong sides together, fold the trim piece in half lengthwise and press.



Match the raw edges of the Trim along the top edge of the Cuff.



Pin to keep the Trim from shifting.



Place the Pillowcase Body on top of the Cuff/Trim with right sides together and pin.



Step 5 - Why It's Called a Burrito

Starting at the bottom of the Pillowcase Body, begin rolling the fabric towards the top edge.

Continue to roll up the Pillowcase Body until it is a few inches from the top edge.



Take the bottom edge of the Cuff fabric and wrap it over the rolled up Pillowcase Fabric.

See how the Cuff wraps over the Pillowcase Body, like a burrito.

Pin through all layers of fabric.



Pin through all layers of fabric.



Using a 3/8" seam allowance, sew along the raw edge.



Fold back the Cuff and carefully pull out the Pillowcase Body.





Press the Cuff and Trim on both sides.



Step 6 - Side and Bottom Seams

The next step uses a French seam. **If you've never sewn a French seam before, you can review the process [here](#).**

Fold Pillowcase in half wrong sides together, matching up the Cuff and Trim fabrics on the seam line.



Pin around the raw edges on the side and bottom of the Pillowcase.



Stitch together down the side and across the bottom using a 1/4" seam allowance. Be sure that the Cuff/Trim seam is even. I actually sew this first, then go back and do the rest.



Clip the corner where the side and bottom seam meet. This will help with the bulk when you turn the pillowcase.



It's time to flip the Pillowcase wrong side out and press the seams down. Using something like a knitting needle or chopstick, push out the corners.

Now, the Pillowcase is facing right sides together. Pin the side and bottom seams. Stitch the side and bottom seams using a 1/2" seam allowance.



Step 7 - Finishing the Pillowcase

Turn the Pillowcase right side out and press the seams flat.



You now have enclosed French seams and the Pillowcase has no loose threads on the inside.



Voila! Finished size 30" x 19".

