

Denim 'n' Hearts Cushion

Make this homespun-style cushion in an evening from an old pair of jeans and brushed cotton shirts. Add a zip, four buttons and you're done.



Materials Required

You will need:

- Medium weight denim – about ½ m or 1 leg of an old pair of jeans.
- ½ m each of light blue and air force blue brushed cotton or 2 brushed cotton man's shirts in suitable colours
- 19" square of cotton wadding
- Scraps of red plaid fabric for hearts
- Small piece fusible web
- 14" nylon dress zip
- 4 x small toning buttons
- 18" cushion pad
- All –purpose polyester thread in a toning colour

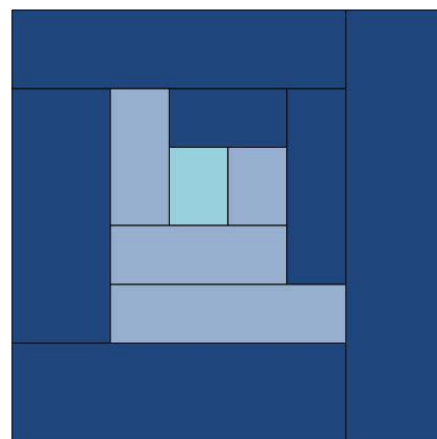
To Make Your Cushion

Cut Out Your Cushion Pieces

- 1** From the light blue brushed cotton cut:
1 x piece 3" x 4" (8cm x 10cm)
4 x binding strips 3" x 20" (8cm x 50cm)
- 2** From the air force blue cotton cut:
2 x 3" x 20" strips (8cm x 50)
2 x back pieces 9 ½" x 18" (24cm x 46cm)
- 3** From the denim cut:
1 x 3" x 20" strip (8cm x 50)
1 x 18" x 5" strip (46cm x 13cm)
3 x 13" x 5" strips (33cm x 13cm)

Make Your Log Cabin Cushion Front

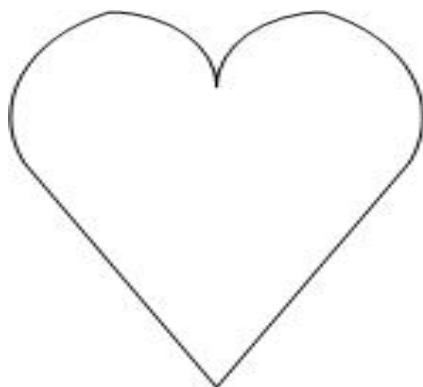
- 4** Using the smallest light blue rectangle as a centre, make a log cabin panel as shown in the diagram.



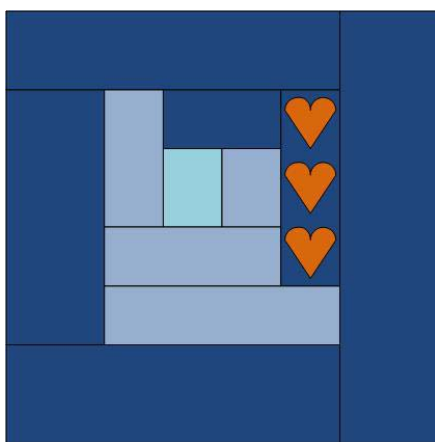
- 5** Press as you go, pressing all the seam allowances towards the outer edge of the panel.

Add Your Heart Motifs

- 6** Trace the heart shape supplied onto the fusible web three times keeping the hearts as close together as possible.



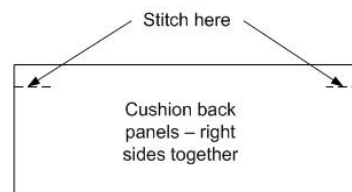
- 7 Roughly cut out the block of hearts.
- 8 Remove one of the paper backings from the fusible web ensuring that the glue layer remains on the side with the hearts tracings on.
- 9 Finger press the hearts block onto the WRONG side of the red fabric.
- 10 Set your iron to the wool setting and press the hearts onto the fabric until secured.
- 11 Carefully cut out each heart shape.
- 12 Press each heart into place on the log cabin panel as shown below.



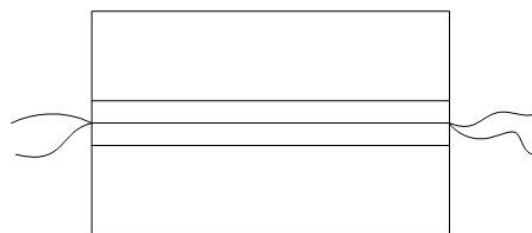
- 13 Cut a square of cotton wadding approximately 1/2" wider all round that the log cabin panel and place behind the panel.
- 14 Place pins at various intervals to keep the wadding in place.
- 15 To stitch your hearts in place you can either use a blanket or zigzag stitch or be brave and use some free arm embroidery!
- 16 Using a toning thread, quilt around the log cabin block as desired.

Insert Your Zip

- 17 Place the two cushion back panels right sides together.
- 18 Lay your zip centrally down one long edge, leaving a gap of approx 1 1/2" between the zip tapes and the edge of the fabric.
- 19 Using tailor's chalk, mark, on the cushion fabric, where the zip teeth begin and end.
- 20 Using a 1/2" seam stitch from the edge of the fabric to this mark.



- 21 Press entire seam allowance open from one seam to the other.



- 22 Turn over the joined panels and lay on a flat surface – right side up.
- 23 Place the zip in the opening between the seams and pin the left-hand folded edge of the fabric close to the teeth of the zip.
- 24 Position the right-hand edge slightly over the left hand edge and pin in place, placing the pins against the teeth.
- 25 Tack all round the zip and remove the pins.
- 26 Fit a zipper foot onto your sewing machine and move the needle to the right side of the foot.

Margo's Tip

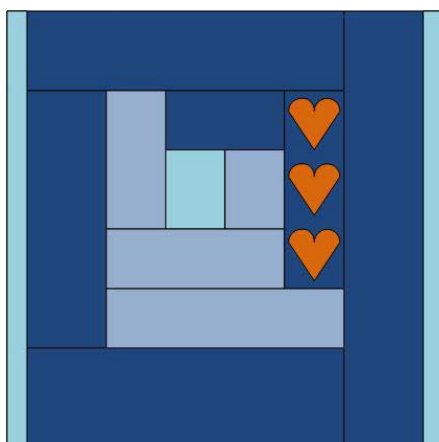
If your machine has the type of zipper foot that is moved from side to side – rather than moving the needle – then move the foot as required.

- 27 Open the zip to a distance of 2". Beginning at the edge of the fabric nearest the top of the zip, stitch the left-hand side of the zip – ensuring you catch in the zip tapes – until you reach the zip pull. Keep the edge of the foot up against the teeth.

- 28** Stop the machine. Place the needle in the fabric and raise the presser foot.
- 29** Close the zip. Lower the presser foot and carry on stitching to the end of the fabric.
- 30** Move the needle to the left-hand side of the foot and repeat the procedure above, again keeping the foot up against the teeth.

Make Your Binding

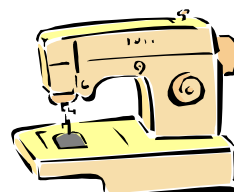
- 31** Take your four binding strips and fold them in half lengthways. Press.
- 32** Place the cushion back face down on the table and place the cushion front on top - face up. Pin together.
- 33** Apply binding to two opposite sides of cushion, and pin in place through both the front and back panels, raw edges together. Stitch in place.



- 34** Trim binding flush with the edges of the cushion.
- 35** Flip the binding over to the back of the cushion and press.
- 36** Now fold the binding over until the folded edge meets the line of stitching. Press and pin in place.
- 37** Apply binding to the two remaining edges, leaving 1" overhang at each end. Stitch in place.
- 38** Turn the 1" overhang, at each end, inwards and then fold binding as before, to form a perfect corner. Pin and stitch in place using small, neat hand stitches.

Add Your buttons

- 39** Stitch one button onto each corner of the light blue centre of the log cabin.



You're Finished