

Shaker Pincushion

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A Stitch in Time...

This shaker style pincushion was inspired by one I saw in an antique store. You can put your pins in the top and your thread, thimble, and snips in the box. The perfect accessory for any sewer!

Estimated project time: 1 hour

Finished Size: 3" in diameter, 2" high

LEVEL: Beginner

Materials Needed

1 circular paper mache box, 3" in diameter

10" square of fabric

2 buttons, 1/2" in diameter

Perle cotton to coordinate with fabric

Acrylic paint

Polyester Fiberfill

NOTE: Any size circle box can be used.

Paint the Box

1. Paint paper mache box inside and out with two coats of acrylic paint. Set aside to dry.

Cut the Fabric

2. Fold the fabric right sides together. Pin layers together so they don't slide.

3. Place lid on fabric and trace around it.

4. **Adding roughly a 1/2" seam allowance**, cut out circles (the drawn line is the sewing line).

Make the Pincushion

5. With circles right sides together, use a 1/2" seam allowance and sew COMPLETELY around the circle on the marked sewing line.

6. Cut notches into the seam allowance all around the circle to make it easier for turning.

7. Using your fingers, pull apart the two layers of fabric in the center of the circle. Through ONE layer, make a small 1 1/2" cut. (This cut will not be seen as it will be on the bottom of the pincushion).

8. Turn the circle right side out and press.

10. Stuff circle firmly with polyester fiberfill and hand stitch the opening closed.

12. Thread an embroidery needle with a 24" piece of perle cotton.

13. Secure thread to bottom of pincushion in the center (near the sewn opening) by taking a few stitches on the bottom.

14. Poke the needle through the bottom center of the pincushion and come out at top center.

15. Wrap cotton around edge of pincushion and come up through the bottom center again. Pull on thread to make tight (cushion will dimple on the side).

16. Wrap cotton on the opposite side and come up through bottom center again and pull tight. Proceed in this manner until you have done this a total of 8 times. The cushion will now be segmented into 8 parts.

Attach Pincushion to Box

17. Using scissors, poke a small hole in the center of the box lid.

18. Take one button and place in top center of pincushion. Thread the perle cotton through one button hole, then through the other hole.

19. Poke the needle through the top center and come out at bottom. Button is now secured on top.

20. Place pincushion on top of lid and bring thread through hole on lid.

21. Place second button in center of inside lid and thread perle cotton through both holes to secure the button.

22. Poke thread through hole in lid and through the pincushion so it comes out at top through one of the top button holes.

23. Make two or three more loops to secure cushion. Pull thread tight to create dimple in center of cushion. Tie off thread at bottom button (inside the lid).

24. Add pins and thread. Enjoy!

Questions or Comments?

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