

'From Tassels to Textures' Pillow: Designed by Louisa Meyer



Materials:

Silk 50cm long x 90cm wide (20 in. x 36 in.)

Velveteen 50cm long x 25cm wide (20 in. x 10 in.)

Woven iron-on stabiliser G 700 1.00m (90 cm wide)

Matching invisible zip (40cm)

Matching threads for sewing the silk

Isacord embroidery threads 2155 / 873 / 2220 / 933 / 4643 / or as preferred

Embroidery stabiliser:

- 'Stitch and tear' for the decorative stitches on the silk; 'Stitch and tear' and transparent embroidery stabiliser such as e.g. Avalon or Aqua Film for the embroidery on the velveteen
- Woven iron-on stabiliser G 700 (specialist shops) for all pillow-cover sections

Cloth marker – test first on silk and velveteen

Needles: Embroidery needle 80 130 / 705 H-E and a Microtex 80 130 / 705 H-M for sewing the silk

Bear in mind the needle/thread ratio if you use other thread.

*Motif from the embroidery CD of the book 'From Tassels to Textures'

Presser feet: Embroidery foot no. 15, open embroidery foot no. 20C, walking foot no. 50 and invisible-zipper foot no. 35

Optional embellishments: contrasting silk tassel (medium-sized), welting, cord binding or fringe binding

Cutting out: See graphic

Includes seam allowances: Hems 1.5cm (5/8 in.) and centre-back zip seam allowance 2 cm (3/4 in.)

Silk:

1 x fabric piece A

2 x pillow-cover back 48cm (19 in.) long x 26cm (10¼ in.) wide (seam allowances included).

Velveteen:

1 x fabric piece B

Woven iron-on stabiliser:

1x fabric piece A und B

2 x pillow-cover back

Preparations:

Apply woven iron-on stabiliser to **all** sections.

Fabric piece A:

Apply tear-away embroidery stabiliser to fabric piece A for additional support (use a little adhesive spray) and to avoid puckering when using 9mm decorative stitches.

Starting 10cm (3⁷/₈ in.) from the bottom cut edge, mark in 10 lines 3cm (1¼ in.) apart, as shown in the graphic.

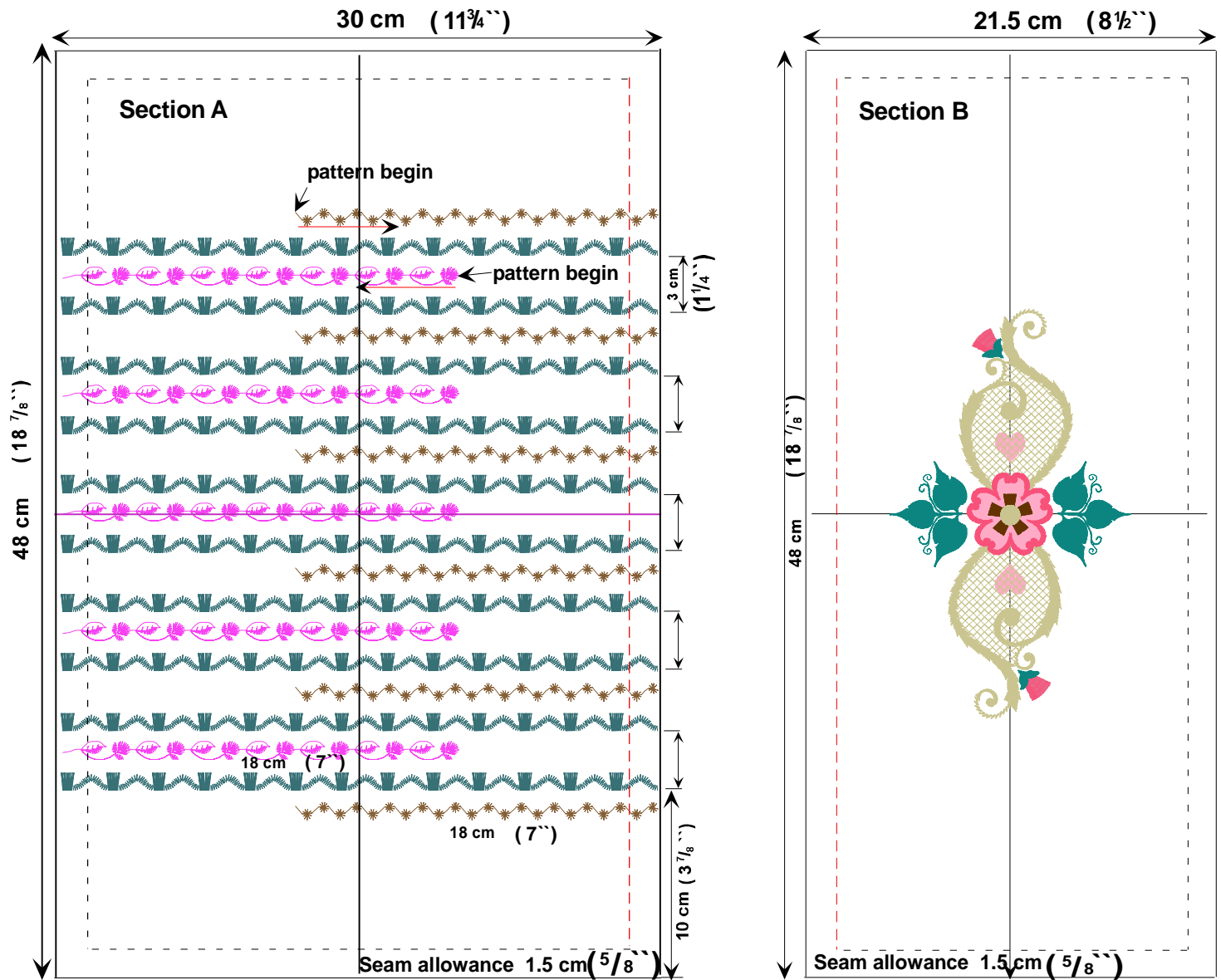
Fabric piece B:

Mark centre line in order to position the motif – 'centre of fabric coincides with centre of hoop'.

Pillow cover: finished size 45 cm x 45 cm (17 3/4" x 17 3/4")

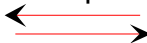
The front of the pillow cover consists of two sections:

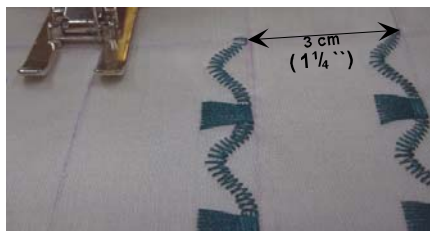
- Section A Silk with sewn decorative stitches
- Section B Velveteen with an embroidered motif



Note:

For all decorative stitches, select 'pattern begin' on the machine in each case.

Sew out stitch pattern with a border length of just 18cm from the inside of the fabric surface towards the cut edge; in this way you'll always have a whole pattern repeat on the pillow surface (see graphic: pattern-begin and sewing-direction arrow). 



Mark 10 lines 3cm apart on the fabric.

Sewing the decorative stitches:

Remember:

Not all decorative stitches have the same needle position at pattern begin.

Basically, all decorative stitches can always be sewn on next to each other half-a-presser-foot's-width apart.

If using several colours, however, the thread must be changed for each new row.

Adjust the upper-thread tension on the 830 from 2.5 to 2.0 if necessary.

Use the same colour for upper and lower threads.

Sewn tassel stitches must not be cut open.

Try out on a test piece first.

- ✪ **Tassel stitch no. 1114** (Isacord embroidery thread, colour 4643): Begin at the seam allowance and sew over the entire width of the fabric. Sew all 10 rows one after the other, guiding the right inside edge of the presser foot along the marked line (Fig.1). All 10 rows can be sewn in succession (without changing thread) with this spacing between lines.

The remaining decorative stitches are sewn in between these rows (Figs. 2 and 3). Position presser foot in the centre in each case.

Select 'pattern begin' each time you begin a row.



Fig.1

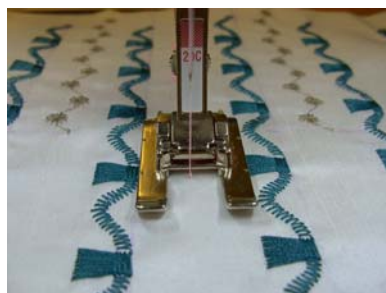


Fig. 2



Fig. 3

- * **Zigzag candlewicking stitch no. 1118** (Isacord embroidery thread colour 873): Sew from inside of the fabric surface towards the raw edge. 4 rows in between tassel rows, as well as 1 row top and bottom next to tassel row (see graphic).
- * **Fringed flowers no. 1121** (Isacord embroidery thread colour 2155): Sew from inside of the fabric surface towards the raw edge. 5 rows are sewn between the tassel rows (see graphic).

Using a little steam, press finished section A onto the back, trim to 47cm x 29cm (18¹/₂ in. x 11¹/₂ in.) and neaten with an overlock or narrow zigzag stitch. Remove as much embroidery stabiliser as possible.

Fabric piece B: Embroidery

*Choose motif set no. 5 on the embroidery CD. Consult page 11 of the enclosed embroidery instructions booklet. Follow the instructions for embroidering the large or the 4x4 in. motif. Change the embroidery threads to suit your fabric and the decorative stitches you have chosen. In this project, the Silky Sheen embroidery threads are replaced by Isacord threads. Try out first on a test piece and make a note of all colour changes.

Tip: Do not hoop the velveteen. To avoid hoop marks, use the following methods: Hoop only the embroidery stabiliser and spray it with adhesive spray. Mark the centre of the hoop on the stabiliser and then centre the velveteen on it, or use double-sided sticky tape instead of adhesive spray: Cut off 4 pieces of nearly the same length as the hoop sides. Stick these pieces of tape onto the stabiliser right next to the sides of the hoop. Take care not to embroider on the tape. Peel off the cover paper from the double-sided sticky tape and stick the velveteen in place on top. The strips of tape will hold the velveteen firmly in place.

Attach the Aqua Film or Avalon to the velveteen, using the hoop basting-stitch function of your 830. (Reduce speed or use the foot pedal to do this.)
With other machines, pin the film to the velveteen.
After embroidering, remove stabiliser and carefully tear away film.
Any bits of film remaining under the lattice-stitch fill can be removed with a clean cloth and an iron on a low steam setting (do not rinse out stabiliser).
Iron the embroidered section on the back, trim to 47cm x 21 cm (18¹/₂ in. x 8¹/₄ in.) and neaten as for piece A.
Cut open tassel stitches on the back.

Finishing the pillow cover:

Front of pillow cover:

Sew fabric pieces A and B together along the red lines (see graphic). Baste right side to right side, and use the walking foot (as velveteen tends to slip very easily).
Ensure that the sewn-together pillow-cover front is square, trimming to shape if necessary.
Optional: Give free rein to your imagination and sew a contrasting cord binding, some silk welting or a silky fringe binding along the hems on the front before sewing the front of the pillow cover together with the back.
Choose three of the new decorative stitch patterns for the 830, or use an appropriate combination of stitches available on your machine.

You can also use presser foot no. 1C to sew decorative stitches onto the pillow, as long as they add structure to the silk.

Or forget the stitches, and sew on rows of colourful ribbons or cords.

Back of pillow cover:

Using your overlocker, neaten both cut edges for the zip seam allowance, which runs vertically through the centre of the back of the pillow cover. Using foot no. 35, insert the 'invisible' zip with a seam allowance of 2 cm (6/8 in.)

Joining the front and back sides:

With right sides facing, pin and baste the front section to the finished back section. Open the zip a few centimetres – otherwise it will be hard to open once the seams are sewn.

Close the seams with the walking foot. Turn the pillow cover right-side-out and press the corners out with your fingers. Insert pillow into finished cover.

Optional: Hand-sew a large gold tassel onto the top left-hand corner of the front of the pillow cover.

For this project, the following embroidery threads were used for the decorative stitches:

Tassel stitch no. 1114

Isacord no. 4643

Zigzag French knot no. 1118

Isacord no. 873

Fringed flower no. 1121

Isacord no. 2155

