

## Making a buttoned envelope-back cushion cover

### Materials

½ yard fabric of choice

2 – 3 buttons

### Method

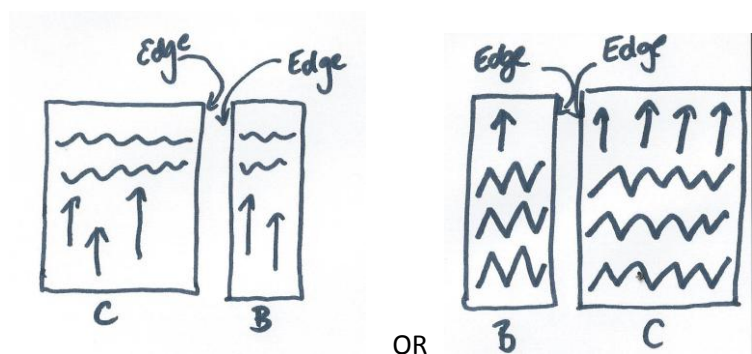
Cut one square of fabric to measure 18" x 18" square (A). 'A' is your front panel, so if you are using different fabrics be sure to cut this from the fabric you want on the front of your cushion.

Cut one piece of fabric 18" x 9" (B).

Cut one piece of fabric 18" x 14" (C).

(If you are using the same fabric for the front and back of the cushion cover then after tidying up your ½ yard to an even 18" depth, you can just cut the square and the strips from that strip.)

B and C are the back of your cushion cover. If you are using a solid or a non-directional pattern it doesn't matter which side you edge to form the envelope back. If you are using a directional pattern then you should ensure that the long edge of B and the long edge of C that you are going to edge in the next steps, will face each other with the pattern going in the right direction. When the cover is completed, C will be the piece on top, while B will sit under the overlap with C.



If you have an overlocker (serger) use it to sew along the long edge of piece B and of piece C. If you don't have an overlocker, turn the edge under about ¼ inch or .5cm, to the wrong side, and iron the fold.

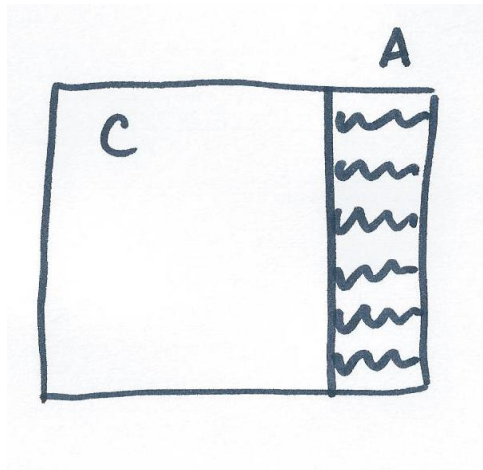
Then turn the long edge of piece B and of piece C under again (to the wrong side) ¾ inch (2 cm) and sew along the edge so that you have a nice neat folded edge.

Take piece C and if you are planning on two buttonholes, measure down the long edge from the top and place a pin to mark at 6 ½" and then again at 11 ½ inches.

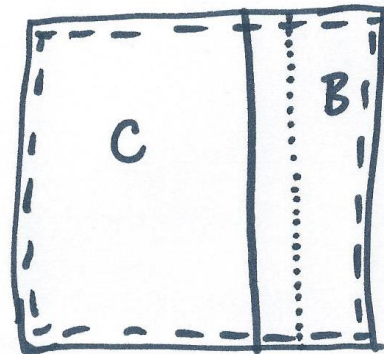
If you are using 3 buttons then make your pin marks at 4 ½", 9" and 13 ½". These pin marks are the spots for your buttonholes.

Using your preferred method of making buttonholes (mine is to set the automatic buttonhole setting on my machine and let it do the work) make a button hole one inch from the edge at each of the spots you have marked with a pin.

With right side together lay C on top of A, with corners, and the unedged side of C aligned. Pin in place.



Then place B on top of both pieces, with the unedged side of B aligned with the other side of A (still with right sides together).



Pin in place and then stitch around the edge of the square, reinforcing the points where B and C's edges are by adding an extra line of stitches (I do it by reversing and retracing the first row of stitches), until you have sewn all 4 sides of the square. If you are going to overlock (serge) the inner edges, this is the time to do it, otherwise a zig zag along the rough edges of the square is a good way to ensure that the seams don't fray.

Snip the corners to remove the bulk, and then turn the cushion inside out and hey presto, you are almost there! All you need to do now is sew your buttons on to B so that they line up with the middle of the buttonholes you made on C, and you are finished!

Now put an inner in your cushion (anything from a size 16 to a size 18 will fit, depending on the amount of plumpness you want in your cushion), sit it on your couch and go and admire how awesome you are!!

Here is one I prepared earlier!



a little bird made me 2014