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PROJECT: Singer Featherweight Pincushion

Use scraps to create a Singer Featherweight sewing machine on an oversize pincushion. Let a Nine-Patch block represent a quilt ready to be sewn.

INSPIRED BY: *Sew Happy* from designer Kathleen Berlew (flossandfleece.blogspot.com)

QUILT TESTER: Sarah Huechteman



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FINISHED PINCUSHION:
5½×5½×2"

MATERIALS

- 7×14" piece gray print (pincushion top and bottom)
- 4×5" piece solid black (appliqué)
- 2" square solid light pink (appliqués)
- Scrap of solid orange (appliqué)
- 2×6" piece solid dark pink (appliqués)
- 6" square piece solid green (Nine-Patch block)
- 3" square piece solid purple (Nine-Patch block)
- 6×12" piece solid white (pincushion side panel)
- Lightweight fusible web
- Embroidery floss: green, light pink, dark pink, black, white
- 7/16"-diameter button: white
- 5/8"-diameter button: black
- 2—1/4"-diameter buttons: white
- Ground walnut shells

CUT FABRICS

Cut pieces in the following order.

Patterns are on page 6. To make a template of Pattern A, see Make and Use Templates, page 7.

To use fusible web for appliquéing B-G pieces, complete the following steps.

1. Lay fusible web, paper side up, over patterns B-G. Use a pencil to trace each pattern once, leaving ¼" between

tracings. Cut out each fusible-web shape roughly ⅛" outside traced lines.

2. Following manufacturer's instructions, press each fusible-web shape onto wrong side of designated fabric; let cool. Cut out fabric shapes on drawn lines. Peel off paper backings.

From gray print, cut:

- 2 of Pattern A

From solid black, cut:

- 1 of Pattern B

From solid light pink, cut:

- 1 each of patterns C and F

From solid orange, cut:

- 1 of Pattern D

From solid dark pink, cut:

- 1 each of patterns E and G

From solid green, cut:

- 5—1" squares

From solid purple, cut:

- 4—1" squares

From solid white, cut:

- 2—2½×11¼" strips

APPLIQUÉ PINCUSHION TOP

Measurements include ¼" seam allowances. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated.

Use two strands of embroidery floss for all embroidery stitches.

1. Referring to **Appliqué Placement Diagram**, on a gray print A piece arrange appliqué pieces B-G. Fuse all pieces in place following manufacturer's instructions.

2. Referring to **Diagram 1**, lay out solid green and solid purple squares in three rows. Join pieces in rows. Join the rows to make a Nine-Patch block. The block should be 2" square including seam allowances.

3. Fold each edge of the Nine-Patch block under ¼"; press. Referring to **Appliqué Placement Diagram**, position

Nine-Patch block on G piece; pin. Using green floss, blanket-stitch Nine-Patch block in place.

To blanket-stitch, pull your threaded needle up at A (**Blanket Stitch Diagram**), form a reverse L shape with the floss, and hold the angle of the L shape in place with your thumb. Push your needle down at B and come up at C to secure the stitch. Continue until all edges are stitched.

4. Using floss in colors that match appliqués, backstitch ⅛" from edges of all pieces except solid orange D spool and Nine-Patch block.

To backstitch, pull your threaded needle up at A (**Backstitch Diagram**), insert it back into fabric at B, and bring it up at C. Continue in the same manner (needle down at D, up at E, down at F, and up at G) until all edges are stitched.

5. Using black floss, on black B machine satin-stitch a knob at top left-hand edge and a needle head at bottom left-hand edge.

To satin-stitch, pull your threaded needle up at A (**Satin Stitch Diagram**) and insert it back into fabric at B. Holding floss out of the way, bring your needle back up at C and insert it back into fabric at D. The CD stitch should touch the AB stitch. Continue in same manner until the space is filled.

6. Use black floss to make one long straight stitch for the needle.

To straight-stitch, pull your threaded needle up at A (**Straight Stitch Diagram**) and push it down at B.

7. Referring to **Embroidery and Button Placement Diagram**, use green floss to satin-stitch solid orange D spool, leaving ⅛" unstitched at top and bottom edges.

8. Referring to **Embroidery and Button Placement Diagram**, use floss that matches the button colors to

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stitch buttons in place, completing the appliquéd pincushion top.

FINISH PINCUSHION

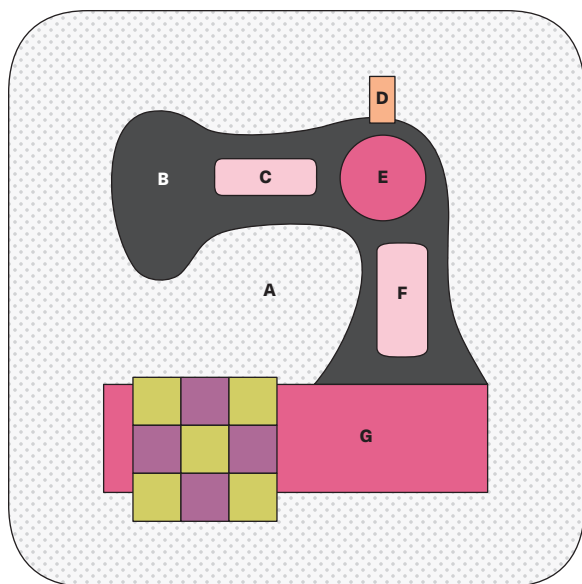
1. Layer solid white $2\frac{1}{2} \times 11\frac{1}{4}$ " strips; sew together short edges to make pincushion side panel (**Diagram 2**). Press seams in one direction.

2. Pin side panel to appliquéd pincushion top, matching raw edges and centering side panel seams on pincushion side edges. Sew together, easing fabric around corners (**Diagram 3**).

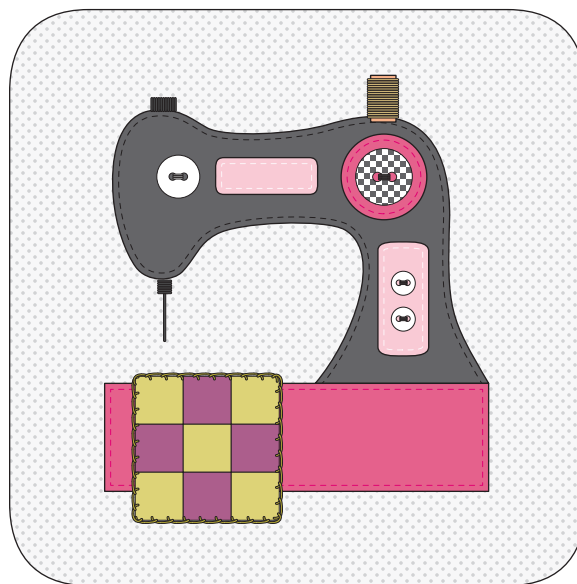
3. Pin side panel to remaining gray print A piece. Sew together as before, leaving a 2"-wide opening in one edge for turning (**Diagram 4**).

4. Turn Step 3 unit right side out. Firmly stuff unit with ground walnut shells. Hand-stitch opening closed to complete pincushion.

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Appliqué Placement Diagram



Embroidery and Button Placement Diagram

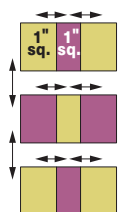


Diagram 1

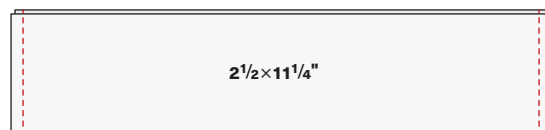


Diagram 2

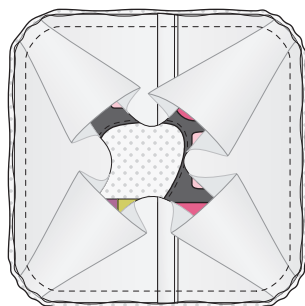


Diagram 3

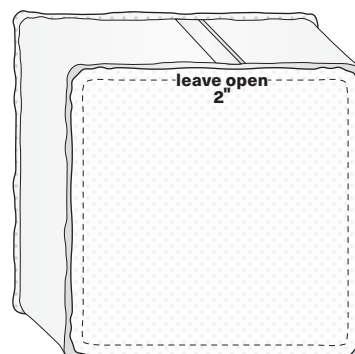


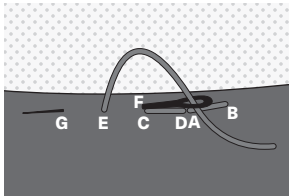
Diagram 4

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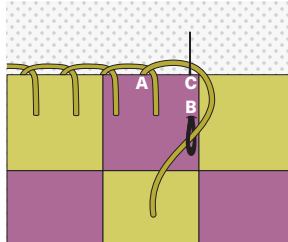
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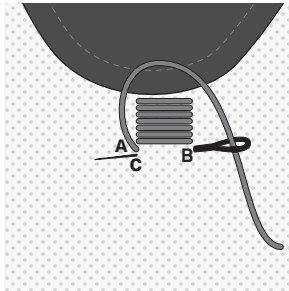
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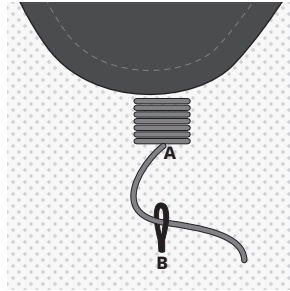
Backstitch Diagram



Blanket Stitch Diagram



Satin Stitch Diagram



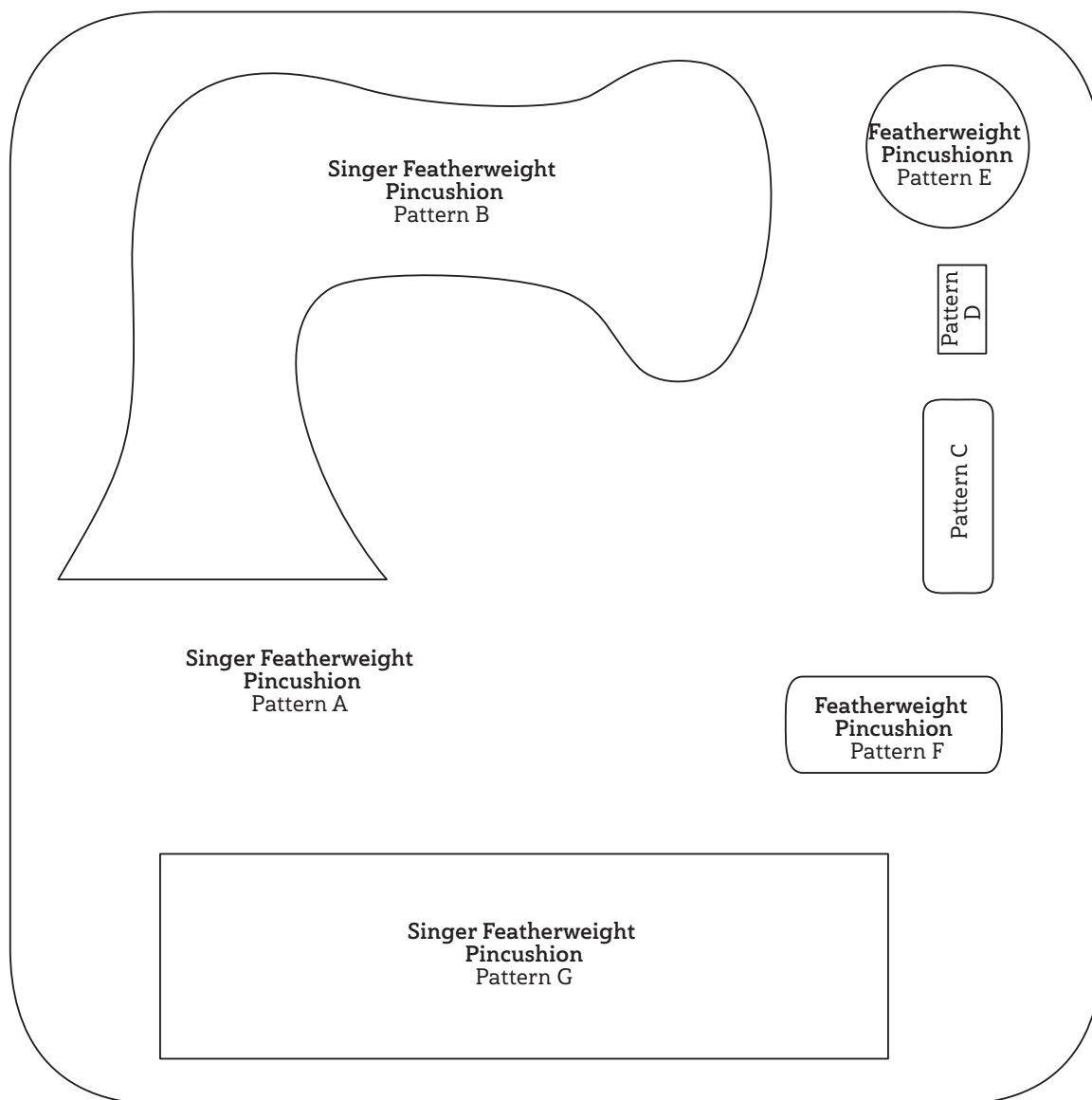
Straight Stitch Diagram

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This box should
measure 1".

← 1" →

*** NOTE:**

When printing a downloadable PDF, set Page Scaling preference to None to print patterns at 100%. Do not use Shrink to Fit or Fit to Printable Area.

MAKE AND USE TEMPLATES

MAKE TEMPLATES

A template is a pattern made from extra-sturdy material so you can trace around it many times without wearing away the edges. Acrylic templates for many common shapes are available at quilt shops. Or you can make your own by duplicating printed patterns on template plastic.

To make permanent templates, purchase easy-to-cut template plastic, available at quilt shops and crafts supply stores. Lay the plastic over a printed pattern. Trace the pattern onto the plastic using a ruler and a permanent marker to ensure straight lines, accurate corners, and permanency.

For hand piecing and appliqué, make templates the exact size finished pieces will be (without seam allowances). For piecing, this means tracing the patterns' dashed lines.

For machine piecing, make templates that include seam allowances by tracing the patterns' solid and dashed lines onto the template plastic.

For easy reference, mark each template with its letter designation, grain line (if noted on the pattern), and block name. Cut out the traced shapes on their outside lines. Verify each template's shape and size by placing it over its printed pattern. Templates must be accurate; errors, however small, will compound many times as you assemble a quilt. To check templates' accuracy, make a test block before cutting the fabric pieces for an entire quilt.

USE TEMPLATES

To mark on fabric, use a pencil, white dressmaker's pencil, chalk, or a special fabric marker that makes a thin, accurate line. Do not use a ballpoint or ink pen; it may bleed if washed. Test all marking tools on a fabric scrap before using them.

To make pieces for hand piecing or appliqué, place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template at least 1/2" away from the previous tracing (Diagram 1), trace again, and repeat. The lines you trace on the fabric are sewing lines. Mark cutting lines 1/4" away from the sewing lines, or estimate the distance by eye when cutting out the pieces with scissors. For hand piecing, add a 1/4" seam allowance; for hand appliqué, add a 3/16" seam allowance.

Because templates used to make pieces for machine piecing have seam allowances included, you can use common tracing lines for efficient cutting. Place a template facedown on the wrong side of the fabric and trace. Then reposition the template without a space between it and the previous tracing (Diagram 2); trace again and repeat. Using a rotary cutter and ruler, cut pieces out, cutting precisely on the drawn lines.

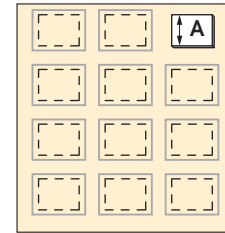


DIAGRAM 1

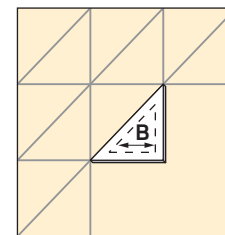


DIAGRAM 2