Project: Pillowcase with Pyramid Band

FABRICS are from Figures collection by Brigitte Heitland for Zen Chic for Moda Fabrics (modafabrics.com).
**Materials**

For one pillowcase:
- \(\frac{3}{4}\) yard total assorted prints (band)
- \(\frac{1}{3}\) yard print No. 1 (band)
- \(\frac{1}{8}\) yard solid (piping)
- \(\frac{7}{8}\) yard print No. 2 (pillowcase body)

**Finished pillowcase:** 30\(\times\)20” (fits a standard-size bed pillow)

Yardages and cutting instructions are based on 42” of usable fabric width.

**Measurements** include \(\frac{1}{4}\)” seam allowances for piecing blocks and \(\frac{1}{2}\)” seam allowances for pillowcase construction. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated.

**Cut Fabrics**
The Triangle Pattern is on page 5. To make a template of the pattern, see “Make and Use Templates,” page 6. Be sure to transfer dots marked on pattern to template, then to fabric pieces. The dots are matching points and are necessary when joining pieces.

From assorted prints, cut:
- 16 of Triangle Pattern
From print No. 1, cut:
- 1—5\(\frac{1}{2}\)\(\times\)40\(\frac{1}{2}\)” strip
From solid, cut:
- 1—1\(\frac{1}{2}\)\(\times\)41” strip
From print No. 2, cut:
- 1—25\(\frac{3}{4}\)\(\times\)41” rectangle

**Assemble Band**

Use a \(\frac{1}{4}\)” seam allowance for the following steps.

1. Referring to Diagram 1, arrange assorted triangle pieces in a row.

2. Sew together the first two triangle pieces (Diagram 2), being careful not to stretch edges. Press joined triangles open (Diagram 3). Continue adding triangle pieces until all are joined in a row. Press seams open.

3. Trim row to 5\(\frac{1}{2}\)\(\times\)40\(\frac{1}{2}\)” including seam allowances to make a pieced unit (Diagram 4).

4. Referring to Band Assembly Diagram, sew together the pieced unit and the print 5\(\frac{1}{2}\)\(\times\)40\(\frac{1}{2}\)” strip along a pair of long edges. Press seam toward print strip.

5. Join short ends of Step 4 unit to make a loop. Press seam open. Fold loop in half with wrong side inside; press to make pillowcase band.

**Assemble Pillowcase**

Use a \(\frac{1}{2}\)” seam allowance for the following steps, except where noted.

1. Fold solid 1\(\frac{1}{2}\)\(\times\)41” strip in half lengthwise with wrong side inside; press to make piping strip.

2. Aligning raw edges, baste folded piping strip to a long edge of print 25\(\frac{3}{4}\)\(\times\)41” rectangle to make pillowcase body unit (Diagram 5).

3. Fold Step 2 rectangle in half to form a 25\(\frac{3}{4}\)\(\times\)20\(\frac{1}{2}\)” rectangle. Sew together long edges and the short edges that do not have piping to make the pillowcase body. Turn right side out and press flat.

4. Matching raw edges and seams, slide pillowcase band over pillowcase body with pieced side of band facing pillowcase body (Diagram 6); pin. Using \(\frac{1}{4}\)” seam allowance, sew together through all layers.

5. Press pillowcase band open, pressing seam toward pillowcase body. Topstitch \(\frac{1}{4}\)” from band edge to secure seam allowance and complete pillowcase (Diagram 7).
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DIAGRAM 6

DIAGRAM 7
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triangle pattern

This box should measure 1".

NOTE:
When printing a downloadable pdf, set Page Scaling preference to NONE to print patterns at 100%. Do NOT “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 $\frac{1}{8}$" away from the previous tracing (Diagram 1), trace again, and repeat. The lines you trace on the fabric are sewing lines. Mark cutting lines $\frac{1}{8}$" away from the sewing lines, or estimate the distance by eye when cutting out the pieces with scissors. For hand piecing, add a $\frac{1}{4}$" seam allowance; for hand appliqué, add a $\frac{3}{16}$" 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.