

Project: Courthouse Steps Band

American Patchwork & Quilting

1 MILLION  
PILLOWCASE CHALLENGE

Pattern 57



FABRICS are from the Sew & Sew collection by Chloe's Closet for Moda Fabrics ([modafabrics.com](http://modafabrics.com)).

## Project: Courthouse Steps Band

### Materials

#### FOR ONE PILLOWCASE

- ½ yard total assorted prints (blocks for band)
- ⅓ yard print No. 1 (band)
- ⅞ yard print No. 2 (pillowcase body)

**Finished pillowcase:** 30×20"  
(fits a standard-size bed pillow)

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

**Measurements** include ¼" seam allowances for piecing strips and ½" seam allowances for pillowcase construction. Sew with right sides together unless otherwise stated.

### Cut Fabrics

Each block in the band is composed of four pieces each of two assorted prints and a square from a third print. To achieve a similar look, refer to the **Block Assembly Diagram** before cutting pieces and assembling the blocks.

#### From assorted prints, cut:

- 16—1½×5½" strips
- 32—1½×3½" strips
- 16—1½" squares
- 8—1½" center squares

#### From print No. 1, cut:

- 1—5½×40½" strip

#### From print No. 2, cut:

- 1—25¾×41" rectangle

### Assemble Blocks

Use a ¼" seam allowance for the following steps.

1. For one block, gather one 1½" center square, two 1½" squares and two 1½×3½" strips that match, and two 1½×3½" strips and two 1½×5½" strips that match.

2. Sew together 1½" center square and remaining 1½" squares (**Diagram 1**). Press seams away from center square.

3. Referring to **Block Assembly Diagram**, add rectangles according to color. Press seams away from center to make a block. The block should be 5½" square including seam allowances.

4. Repeat steps 1-3 to make eight blocks total.

### Assemble Band

Use a ¼" seam allowance for the following steps.

1. Join blocks in a row (**Band Assembly Diagram**). Press seams in one direction. The row should be 5½×40½" including seam allowances.

2. Sew together print 5½×40½" strip and the block row.

3. Join short edges of Step 2 unit to make a loop. Fold loop in half with wrong side inside; press to make pillowcase band.

### Assemble Pillowcase

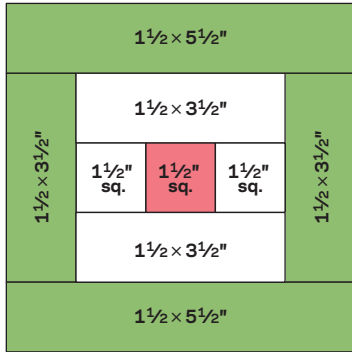
1. Fold print 25¾×41" rectangle in half to form a 25¾×20½" rectangle. Using a ½" seam allowance, sew together long edges and one set of short edges to make the pillowcase body. Turn right side out and press flat.

2. Matching raw edges and seams, slide pillowcase band over pillowcase body with pieced side of band facing pillowcase body (**Diagram 2**); pin. Using a ¼"

seam allowance, sew together through all layers.

3. Press pillowcase band open, pressing seam toward pillowcase body. Topstitch ⅛" from band edge to secure seam allowance and complete pillowcase (**Diagram 3**).

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BLOCK ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM

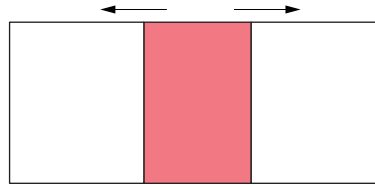
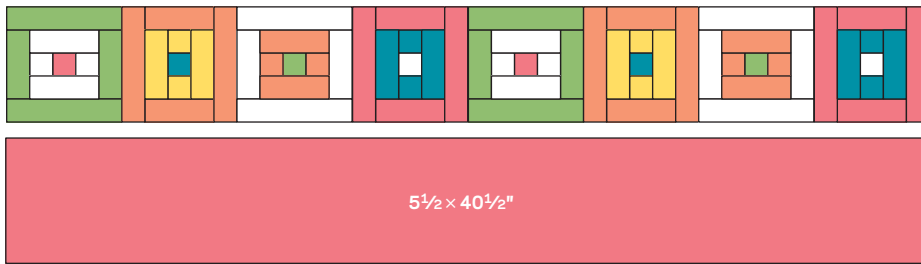


DIAGRAM 1



BAND ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM

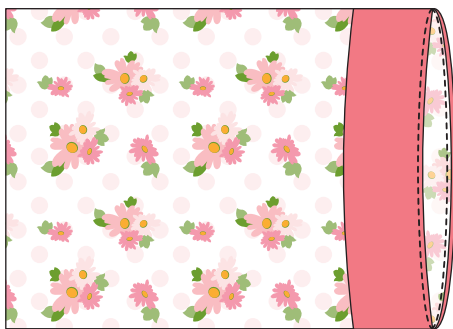


DIAGRAM 2



DIAGRAM 3