

CONFETTI

dog's bed

The flurry of spots in this patchwork dog bed might well reflect the character of your cheeky pet! You can easily adjust the size of the cushion for a smaller or larger



MATERIALS:

- 11 fat eighths different coloured spot fabric
- 0.5m dark blue, base
- 0.5m stripe, binding
- 1m Thermolam 272 (Vlieseline)
- polyester toy stuffing

HOW TO MAKE:

1 Start by making the top (so put the base fabric aside for now) with your spotty colours, cut 59 12cm-square pieces.

2 Make a patch panel that is 5 squares wide and 7 squares long using a 0.5cm seam allowance. (Use this seam allowance throughout.) Be very sure to keep your joins aligned at the seams – this is a simple construction so there is nowhere to hide! (See Pic A.)

3 Iron and pin it to a piece of wadding a little larger than the patchwork panel.

4 Quilt in a pleasing pattern of your choice. We went for a simple either side of the seam quilt pattern. (See Pic B.)

5 Trim the wadding back to the patches.

6 The end sides of the bed are only one square high so make two strips of squares 5 long and again pin them to a slightly larger piece of wadding. Quilt as before and trim. Ensure the end and corner squares are all different colours if you want a random colour effect in the completed bed.

7 We'll call the remaining sides the front and back. Working to the same directions as the end sides, make two strips 7 squares long, quilt and trim.

8 With RST, attach the four sides together, alternating between short and long sides. Don't sew the full seam allowance when you do this; stop about 0.5cm from each end so when you join the sides to the top and base it will keep the corners sharp!

9 For the base, cut a 75x55cm piece of fabric. With RST, attach the base to the sides and back.

10 Attach the top next but pin with WST this time and sew all the way around, leaving a 15cm gap for stuffing – then you won't need to turn the bed out the right way!

11 Stuff the bed well and then close the gap by hand.

12 You'll now have a raw edge on top, which will look nice bound in co-ordinating fabric. Use the chalk stripe to make 2.5m of bias binding or alternatively you can use shop bought binding.

13 Settle down with a good cup of tea and hand-sew the binding into place around the top.

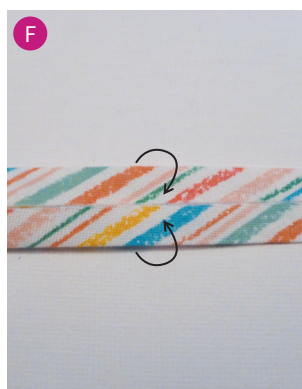
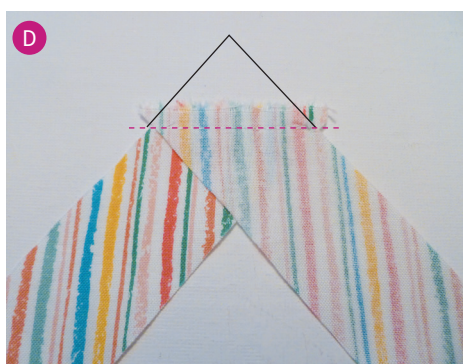
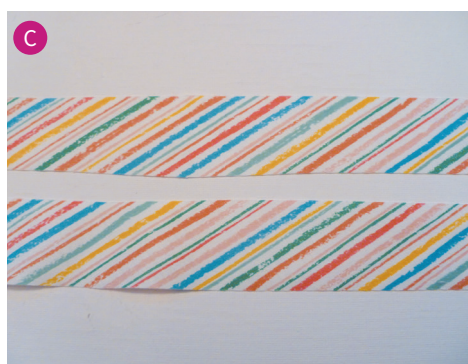
Top tip!

You will need stuffing in quantity so buy inexpensive pillows and rip them open! You buy the same thing for more money in a smaller bag

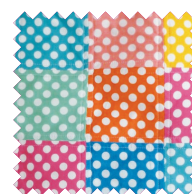


TUTORIAL

- 1 To make your own bias binding, cut 3cm-wide strips on 45° diagonal (also known as the true bias). (See Pic C.)
- 2 For this project you need enough to go around the entire border to maximise the amount you can get out of your fabric.
- 3 Join the strips by placing them RST on a 90° angle and sewing from the top-right corner to the bottom-left corner where the pieces overlap. (See Pic D.) Trim then press open the seam allowance.
- 4 When you have one continuous strip, fold it in half lengthwise and iron. (See Pic E.)
- 5 Fold the raw edges into the centre and iron. (See Pic F.)
- 6 Instead of steps 4 and 5 you can feed the continuous strip into a 29mm bias binding maker and iron the strip flat as it comes out of the folded end of the tool. (See Pic G.)

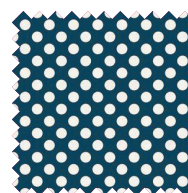


Shopping list

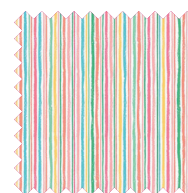


Makower Spots collection:

1572/S grey, 1572/Y yellow, 1572/R7 red, 1572/G green, 1572/N orange, 1572/P7 pink, 1572/L6 lilac, 1572/T5 jade, 1572/B5 blue, 1572/T4 turquoise, 1572/R3 peach



0.5m Makower 1572/B8 dark blue for the base



0.5m Makower 1634/P chalk stripe from the Flo's Friends collection