

DIY - Organizer Pillow made from Jeans

ULTIMATE TUTORIAL: SEWING YOUR OWN DENIM POCKET CUSHION

KEY SEWING & QUILTING TECHNIQUES (USA Style)

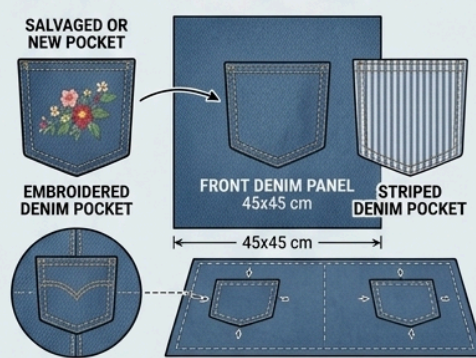


MATERIAL & PATTERN PREP

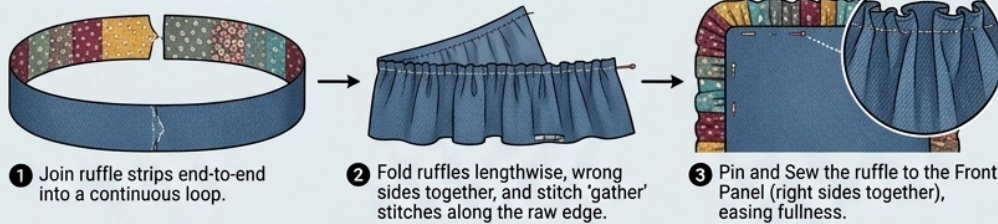


Measure and Cut All Pieces:
Main Panels (x2, 45x45 cm each), Ruffle Strips (x4, 15 x 65).
Keep your seam allowance consistent (e.g., 1.25 cm).

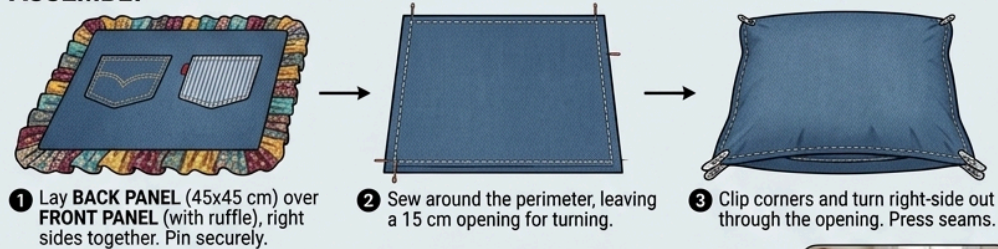
POCKET PREPARATION & PLACEMENT



RUFFLE CONSTRUCTION



ASSEMBLY



FINISHING TOUCHES



Here is a **complete, detailed tutorial in English** based strictly on the infographic so that **any beginner in the United States can follow it from start to finish**. I expanded each step to make the process very clear and practical. 🧵✂️

Materials and Tools You Will Need

Before starting, gather all your materials so the sewing process goes smoothly.

Fabric and Materials:

- 2 denim fabric panels measuring **45 cm x 45 cm** (about **17.7 x 17.7 inches**) for the front and back of the cushion
- **4 ruffle strips** measuring **15 cm x 65 cm** (about **6 x 25.5 inches**) each
- One **denim pocket** (you can reuse a pocket from old jeans or sew a decorative pocket)
- Optional **striped or decorative pocket**
- Fabric for ruffles (scrap quilting fabric works great)
- **Polyester fiberfill stuffing**

Tools:

- Sewing machine
- Fabric scissors
- Measuring tape or quilting ruler
- Pins or sewing clips
- Hand sewing needle
- Thread matching your fabrics
- Iron

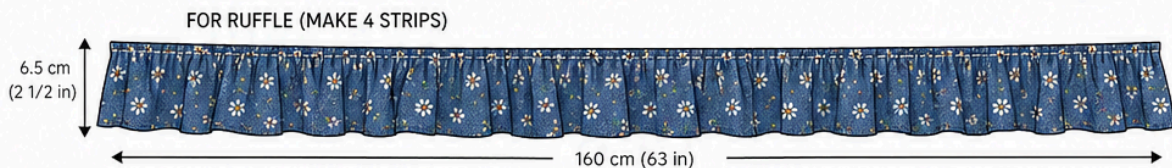
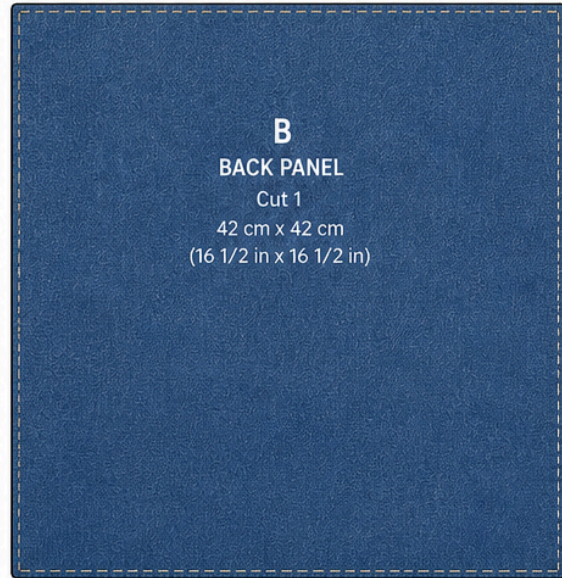
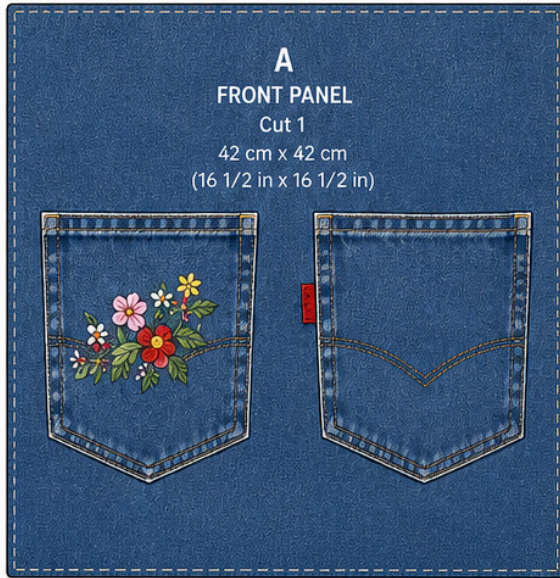
Important sewing concepts used in this project:

- Straight stitch seaming
- Ruffling / gathering
- Appliqué (for decorative pockets)
- Top-stitching
- Seam allowance management
- Binding/edging techniques

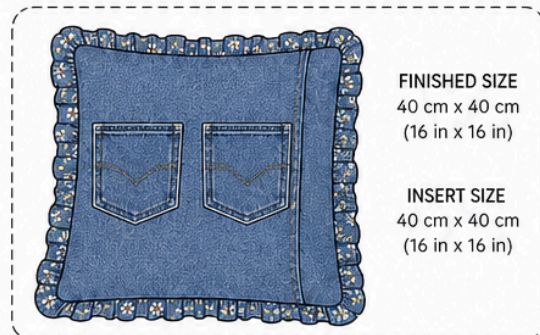
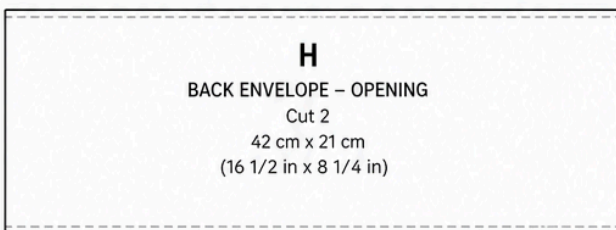
Use a **consistent seam allowance of about 1.25 cm (1/2 inch)** throughout the project.

DENIM POCKET PILLOW WITH RUFFLE – PATTERN

Seam allowance 0.7 cm (1/4 in) included
 Finished size: 40 cm x 40 cm (16 in x 16 in)



ASSEMBLY REFERENCE (PILLOW INSERT OPENING AT BACK)



* All measurements are approximate and may vary.

Step 1: Preparing and Cutting the Fabric

Start by measuring and cutting all fabric pieces accurately. Precision at this stage will make assembly much easier later.

Cut the following pieces:

Main Panels:

- Cut **2 square panels of denim**, each **45 cm x 45 cm**.
One will become the **front panel** of the cushion and the other will be the **back panel**.

Ruffle Strips:

- Cut **4 fabric strips** measuring **15 cm x 65 cm** each.

These strips will form the decorative ruffle that surrounds the pillow.

Pocket:

Prepare your pocket. You have two options:

Option 1 – Salvaged Pocket

Remove a pocket from an old pair of jeans using a seam ripper.

Option 2 – Decorative Pocket

Create a pocket using denim and decorate it with:

- embroidery
- appliqué flowers
- quilting stitches

Iron all pieces so the fabric is smooth before sewing.

Step 2: Preparing and Positioning the Pocket

Take the **front denim panel (45 x 45 cm)** and decide where you want the pocket.

A popular layout is:

- One embroidered denim pocket on one side

- One striped pocket on the other side

Positioning tips:

- Place the pocket about **10–12 cm from the top edge**
- Leave at least **7–8 cm from the side edges**

Pin the pocket in place.

Using your sewing machine, **topstitch around the sides and bottom edges of the pocket**, leaving the top edge open.

Sew slowly and close to the edge to create a strong reinforcement stitch.

If adding a second pocket, repeat the same process.

Now your front panel should have decorative pockets attached.

Step 3: Creating the Ruffle Strip

Now you will make the decorative ruffle border.

Take the **four ruffle strips** and sew them together.

Place two strips **right sides together** and sew along the short edge using a straight stitch.

Continue attaching strips until all four are connected.

You will now have **one long continuous strip**.

Press the seams open with an iron.

Next, fold the strip **lengthwise with the wrong sides together**, aligning the raw edges.

Press the fold with an iron so the strip stays folded neatly.

Now sew **two rows of gathering stitches** along the raw edge:

Set your sewing machine to:

- longest stitch length
- low tension

Sew the first row about **0.5 cm from the edge**, and the second row about **1 cm from the edge**.

Do not backstitch.

Leave long thread tails so you can pull them later.

Gently pull the threads to **gather the fabric**, creating soft ruffles.

Continue gathering until the strip length matches the perimeter of the pillow front.

Step 4: Attaching the Ruffle to the Front Panel

Lay the **front panel right side up** on your workspace.

Place the ruffle around the edges of the panel with:

- **raw edges aligned**
- **ruffle facing inward toward the center**

Pin the ruffle all the way around the panel.

Important tips:

- Ease the gathers evenly
- Make sure the folded edge of the ruffle faces inward
- Corners should have slightly tighter gathers

Once pinned, sew the ruffle to the panel using a **straight stitch with a ½ inch seam allowance**.

This stitching secures the ruffle temporarily.

Check that the ruffles are evenly distributed.

Step 5: Assembling the Pillow Cover

Take the **back panel**.

Place it **right sides together with the front panel**.

The ruffle will now be sandwiched between the two layers.

Align all edges carefully.

Pin around the entire perimeter.

Using your sewing machine, sew around the edges with a **½ inch seam allowance**.

Very important:

Leave about **15 cm (6 inches)** open on one side so the pillow can be turned right-side out later.

Sew slowly over the areas where the ruffle seam is thick.

Step 6: Trimming and Turning the Pillow

After sewing around the edges:

Trim the seam allowance slightly to reduce bulk.

Clip the corners diagonally without cutting the seam. This helps create sharp corners when turned.

Turn the pillow **right side out through the 15 cm opening**.

Use a blunt tool (like a chopstick or turning tool) to push out the corners carefully.

Gently pull out the ruffles so they sit nicely around the edge.

Press the pillow cover with an iron to flatten the seams.

Step 7: Stuffing the Pillow

Now it's time to fill the cushion.

Take your **polyester fiberfill** and begin stuffing the pillow through the opening.

Add small amounts at a time.

Distribute the filling evenly so there are no lumps.

Make sure the corners are well filled for a nice square shape.

Continue adding filling until the pillow feels full but still soft and comfortable.

Step 8: Closing the Pillow Opening

To close the opening, use a **ladder stitch (also called invisible stitch)**.

Thread a hand sewing needle with matching thread.

Fold the seam allowance of the opening inward so it matches the stitched seam.

Insert the needle into one folded edge, then across to the other side.

Continue sewing back and forth across the opening.

When you gently pull the thread, the seam will close invisibly.

Tie a small knot and hide the thread inside the pillow.

Step 9: Final Finishing Touches ✨

Fluff the pillow and shape it evenly.

Check that:

- Ruffles are evenly distributed
- Pockets are secure
- Corners are well filled

You can add extra decorative touches such as:

- embroidered flowers
- patchwork appliqué
- quilting stitches around the pockets
- decorative top-stitching

Your **Denim Pocket Cushion** is now finished!

It is perfect for:

- holding remote controls
- storing sewing tools
- keeping notebooks or phones nearby