

Project: Sweet Retreat room ensemble

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Decorative pieced pillow (1),  
Coordinating shams (2),  
Nightstand slipcover with magazine holder (3),  
and Bed skirt (4),

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**Materials****For decorative pillow:**

- $\frac{3}{4}$  yard total assorted pink prints (pillow top)
- $1\frac{1}{4}$  yards white tone-on-tone (pillow top, lining, pillow back)
- $\frac{3}{4}$  yard medium floral (pillow top)
- 40×18" batting
- Polyester fiberfill
- 3 yards  $\frac{1}{2}$ "-wide ivory rickrack

Finished pillow:  $36\frac{3}{4}$ × $14\frac{1}{4}$ "

**Cut Fabrics****From assorted pink prints, cut:**

- 10—2×10" strips

**From white tone-on-tone, cut:**

- 1—40×18" lining rectangle
- 1— $14\frac{3}{4}$ × $37\frac{1}{4}$ " pillow back rectangle
- 4—2×16" strips
- 8—2×10" strips
- 8— $4\frac{1}{8}$ " squares, cutting each diagonally twice in an X for 32 setting triangles total
- 2— $2\frac{3}{8}$ " squares, cutting each in half diagonally for 4 corner triangles total

**From medium floral, cut:**

- 5—2×16" strips

**Assemble Pillow**

1. Referring to **Diagram 1**, sew together five assorted pink print 2×10" strips and four white tone-on-tone 2×10" strips to make a strip set A (**Diagram 2**). Press seams away from white strips. Cut into four 2"-wide A segments total.
2. Repeat Step 1 to make four more A segments using different assorted pink prints.
3. Join five medium floral 2×16" strips and four white tone-on-tone 2×16" strips to make strip set B (**Diagram 2**). Press seams away from white strips. Cut into seven 2"-wide B segments total.

4. Referring to **Pillow Assembly Diagram**, lay out five A segments and four B segments. Remove the stitching as necessary from remaining A and B segments to shorten segments for corners of pillow top.

5. Add setting triangles to ends of each segment; press seams toward segments. Join segments; press seams in one direction. Add corner triangles to complete pillow top.

6. Layer pillow top, batting rectangle, and lining rectangle. Quilt as desired. Trim batting and lining even with edges of pillow top.

7. Referring to **Diagram 3**, pin rickrack to quilted pillow top, curving corners slightly. Where the ends meet, overlap them slightly and draw tails toward raw edge. Sew around pillow top with a scant  $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance, following the curve at each corner to just barely catch the rickrack.

8. Sew together pillow top and backing rectangle, stitching just inside previous stitching line and leaving a 4" opening along bottom edge. Turn pillow right side out through opening and stuff with fiberfill. Hand-stitch opening closed.

**Materials****For sham:**

- $1\frac{5}{8}$  yards white-and-green dot (sham)
- 1 yard muslin (lining)
- 29×39" batting

Finished sham: 26×36" (fits a standard 20×30 pillow with 3" flange all the way around)

**Cut Fabrics****From green gingham, cut:**

- 1— $26\frac{1}{2}$ × $36\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle
- 2—21× $26\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangles

**From muslin, cut:**

- 1—29×39" lining rectangle

**Assemble Sham**

1. Layer white-and-green dot 27×37" rectangle with batting and lining 29×39" rectangles. Quilt as desired. Trim batting and lining even with edges of white-and-green dot rectangle to complete sham top.
2. Turn under  $\frac{1}{2}$ " twice on one long edge of each white-and-green dot 21× $26\frac{1}{2}$ " rectangle. Topstitch close to hem.
3. Overlap hemmed edges of Step 2 rectangles by about  $3\frac{1}{2}$ " to make a  $26\frac{1}{2}$ × $36\frac{1}{2}$ " sham back; baste (**Diagram 4**).
4. Sew together sham top and back, stitching around all edges. Turn right side out and press.
5. Stitch a rectangle about 3" from outer edges to create a flange and complete the pillow sham (**Diagram 5**).

**Materials****For nightstand slipcover:**

- Equal amount of green gingham for slipcover and muslin for lining (amount depends on nightstand; see Step 1)
- $\frac{1}{2}$ "-wide ivory rickrack (amount depends on nightstand; see Step 1)
- 2—1"-diameter covered button kits

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**Measure Nightstand and Cut Fabrics**

- 1. For top panel:** Measure width and length of top surface of nightstand you're covering. Add 1" to each measurement to allow for seam allowances. Cut one of these rectangles *each* from green gingham and muslin.
- 2. For side panels:** Measure from top edge of nightstand to floor (or where you want bottom edge of slipcover to fall). Add 9½" to this height measurement to allow for seam allowances and pocket. Measure width of side panel of nightstand and add 1" to allow for seam allowances. Cut two of these rectangles *each* from green gingham and muslin.
- 3. For front and back panels:** Add 1" to height measurement from Step 2. Add 1" to width measurement from Step 1. Cut two of these rectangles *each* from green gingham and muslin.
- 4. For optional pleat panels:** Add 1" to height measurement from Step 2. Cut two 7"-wide rectangles this height *each* from green gingham and muslin.

**Assemble Slipcover**

- 1.** Right sides together and using ½" seam allowances, sew each green gingham side, front, and back panel to a coordinating muslin lining piece along side and bottom edges; press. Turn in top, raw edges ¼" and baste closed. (If desired, prepare two pleat panels in same manner.)
- 2.** On each side panel, turn up bottom edge 9" and pin. Topstitch in place close to side edges to make pocket.

- 3.** Following manufacturer's instructions, cover two buttons and hand-sew a button to top center of each pocket, stitching through all layers.
- 4.** Referring to **Diagram 6**, baste rickrack to all edges of green gingham top panel. Right sides together and using ½" seam allowances, sew green gingham top panel to coordinating muslin lining piece along all edges, leaving an opening for turning in back edge. Turn right side out and press. Slip-stitch opening closed.
- 5.** Referring to **Diagram 7**, position side, top, front, and back panels on a large flat surface. Lap side, front, and back panels under the top panel by about ¼". Topstitch through middle of rickrack to secure panels in place.
- 6.** If desired, add pleat panels to conceal nightstand corners. Place them underneath the side, front, and back panels and topstitch in place as in Step 5.

**Materials****For bed skirt:**

- 4 to 5 yards medium floral for side and foot panels for a flat bed skirt (for a gathered bed skirt, you'll need 9 to 10 yards)
- 3 to 4 yards muslin (center panel)
- 9 to 10 yards of 1/4"-wide cording

**Finished bed skirt:** Fits a double/full- or queen-size bed

**Measure Bed and Cut Fabrics**

- 1.** Measure width and length of the bed's box spring. Add 1" to the width measurement and 2¾" to the length measurement to allow for seam allowances and hem. Cut and piece a muslin rectangle to those dimensions to make center panel.
- 2.** Turn a short edge of muslin center panel under ¼"; press. Turn same edge under 2"; press. Topstitch folded edge in place to hem top edge of center panel.
- 3.** Measure around center panel, starting at point A, and working alphabetically through D (**Diagram 8**). Divide resulting measurement by four and mark those points on the edges of the center panel.
- 4.** Measure the distance from the top edge of the box spring to the floor. Add 3" to this measurement (to allow for seam allowances and a hem).
- 5. For a flat bed skirt:** To the A-to-D measurement determined in Step 3, add 6" for each pleat desired; we used pleats only at the bottom corners of the bed skirt.
- 6. For a gathered bed skirt:** Multiply the A-to-D measurement determined in Step 3 by 2½. (Depending on the fullness you want in the finished bedskirt and the weight of your fabric, you may wish to multiply by a higher or smaller number.)
- 6.** Cut and piece medium floral according to measurements determined in steps 4 and 5 to make skirt.

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**Finish Flat Bed Skirt**

1. Turn one long edge of the skirt under  $\frac{1}{2}$ "; press. Turn the same edge under 2"; press. Topstitch folded edge in place to hem the skirt. Repeat with each short edge. (For a bed with a footboard, make the skirt in three sections—two for the sides and one for the foot—to accommodate the legs.)
2. At points where pleats are desired (ours are at points B and C), fold a 3"-wide finished pleat (Diagram 9).
3. Place the skirt on the center panel, matching pleats to points B and C and matching all raw edges; pin. Join the pieces, using a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance, to complete the bedskirt.

the cord to gather the skirt into an even fit; pin in place. Join the pieces, using a  $\frac{1}{2}$ " seam allowance, to complete the bedskirt.

**Finish Gathered Bed Skirt**

1. Turn one long edge of the skirt under  $\frac{1}{2}$ "; press. Turn the same edge under 2"; press. Topstitch folded edge in place to hem the skirt. Repeat with each short edge. (For a bed with a footboard, make the skirt in three sections—two for the sides and one for the foot—to accommodate the legs.)
2. Position the cording  $\frac{1}{4}$ " from the raw edge of the skirt. Firmly stitch across one end of the cord to secure it, then zigzag-stitch over the length of the cord, being careful not to sew through it (Diagram 10).
3. Working along the skirt's raw edge, divide the length into fourths; mark.
4. Place the skirt on the center panel, matching marks and raw edges (Diagram 11); pin. Pull

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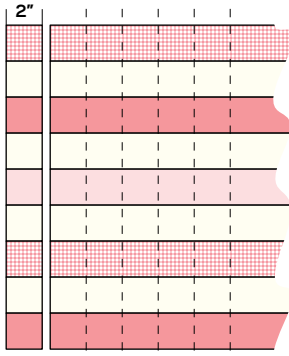


DIAGRAM 1  
Strip Set A

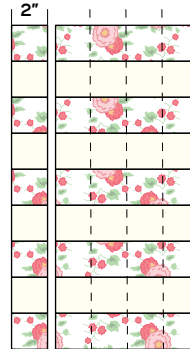


DIAGRAM 2  
Strip Set B

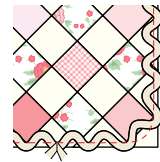
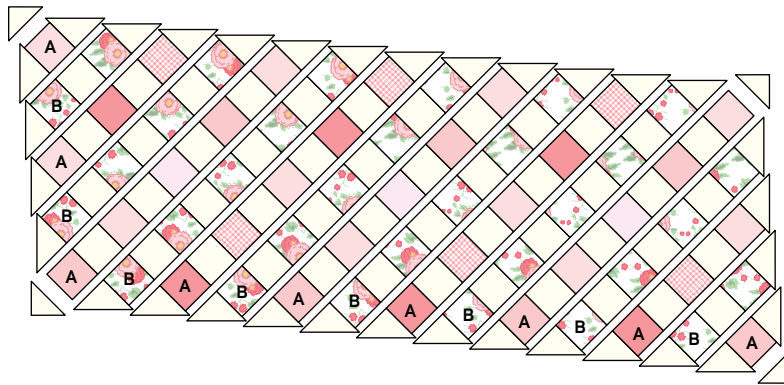


DIAGRAM 3



PILLOW ASSEMBLY DIAGRAM

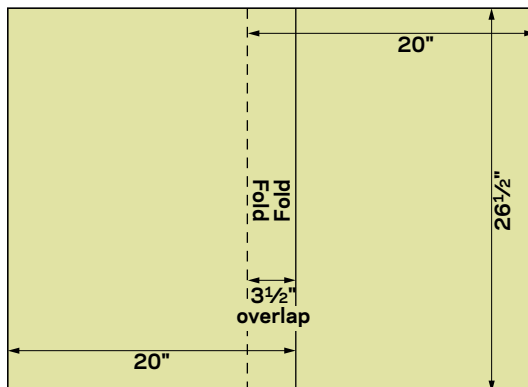


DIAGRAM 4

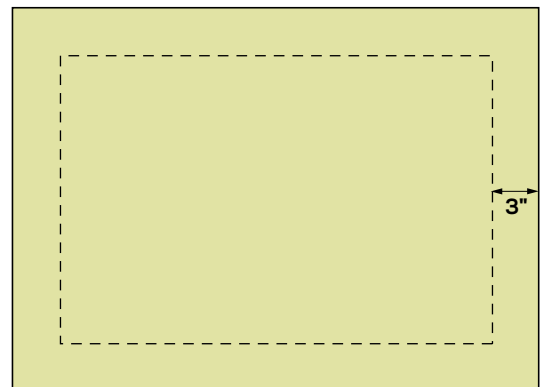


DIAGRAM 5

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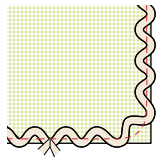
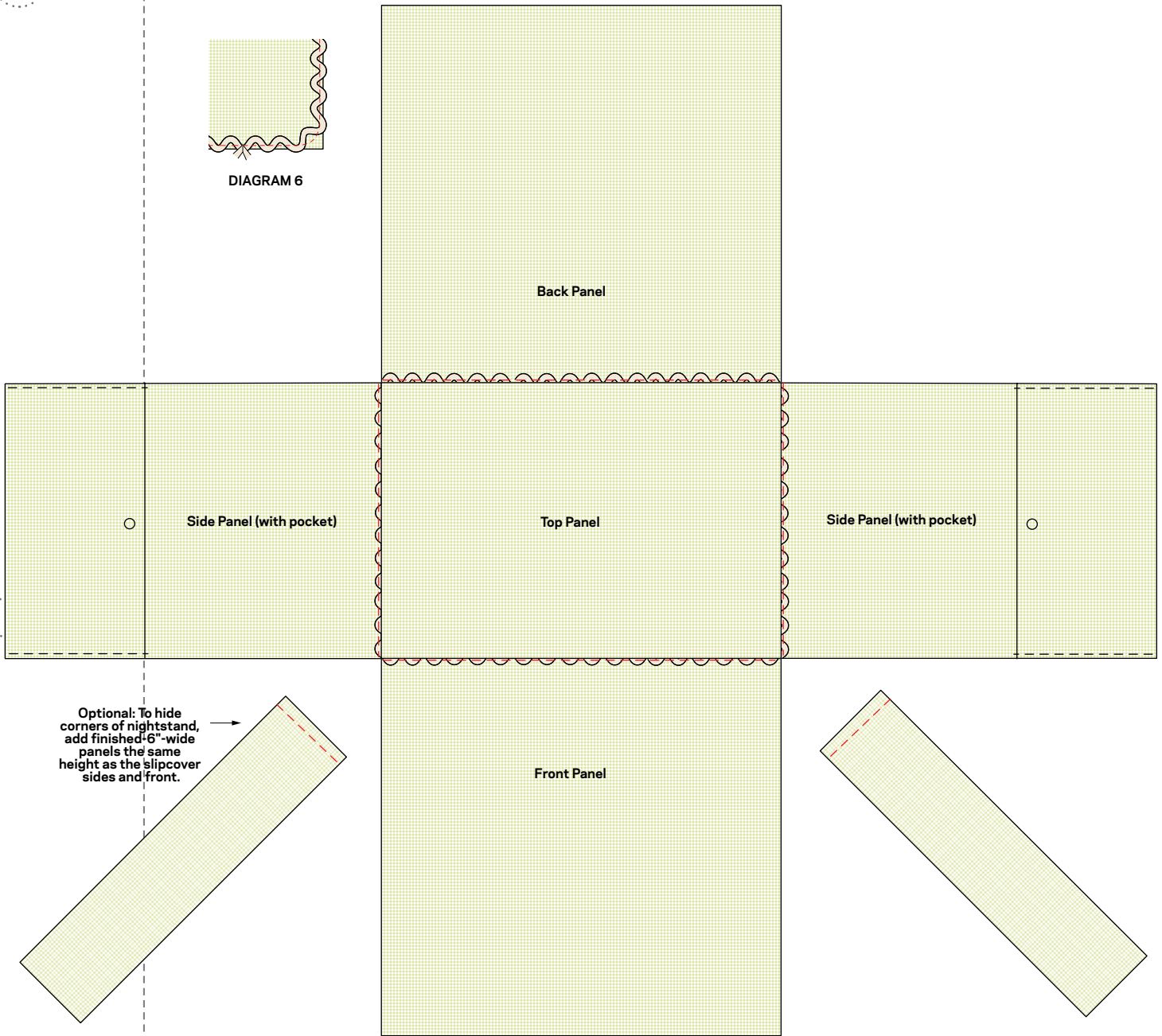


DIAGRAM 6



Back Panel

Side Panel (with pocket)

Top Panel

Side Panel (with pocket)

Front Panel

Optional: To hide corners of nightstand, add finished 6"-wide panels the same height as the slipcover sides and front.

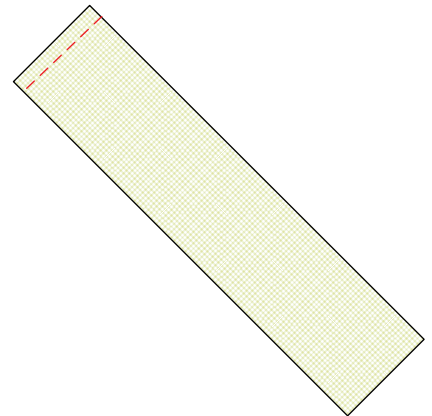
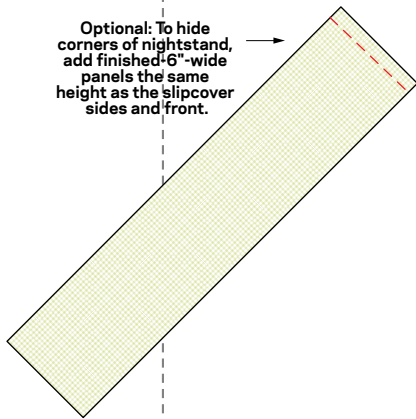


DIAGRAM 7

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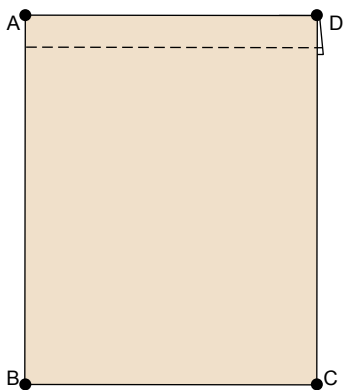


DIAGRAM 8

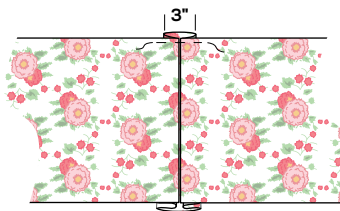


DIAGRAM 9

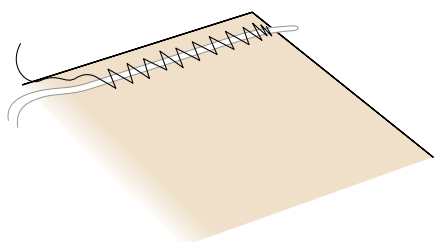


DIAGRAM 10

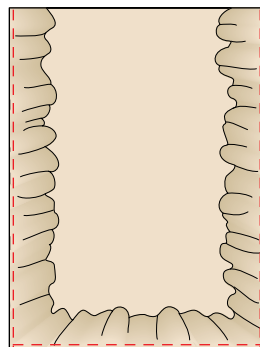


DIAGRAM 11