Fabric scrap pin cushions

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http://www.burdastyle.com/projects/fabric-scrap-pin-cushions

After my sewing and crafting projects, I have several fabric scraps, remnants and fat quarters left over. Rather than add them to a heap of unused scraps, they receive a second life as pin cushions. Just coordinate complimentary pieces for the top and bottom. (I typically use the printed/patterened fabric for the top and the solid/plain fabrics for the bottoms). They look like colourful little treats when stacked and displayed in your sewing room. cute

Materials

Scrap fabric, craft batting, needle & thread or sewing machine, ribbon (optional), buttons (optional).

Step 1 — Assemble materials.... Choose and cut your fabric

Select coordinating fabric of your choice. For the sake of this exercise, I chose a foral/geometric print with a coordinating solid for the bottom of the cushion.

Cut out one 5" x’ 5" square of each. If using a scrap of fabric that has a pattern or motif, I like to centre it as best I can so that I capture the nicest part of the design.

Step 2 — Pin your fabric pieces

(Pin fabric together if necessary) With right sides together, pin your fabric on 3 sides, leaving one side open and un-pinned.

Step 3 — Sew! Sew! Sew!

Position pinned fabric in sewing machine, and sew the 3 pinned sides, again, leaving one side open and un-sewn. I used a 1/4" seam allowance.

Step 4 — Clip

Clip corners of sewn square as illustrated. This will help the corners to sit properly once the fabric is turned right-sideout.

Step 5 — Turn and press

Turn fabric right-side out and press.

Fold top opened edges under approx 3/8" as shown and press. You are folding the edges inward, toward each other. It is important to press this BEFORE you stuff the pin cushion as it is very difficult to do so once it has been filled. You also do not want to run the risk of melting your craft batting.

Step 6 — Stuff

Stuff fabric pouch with craft batting. You want to press and compact the batting down as much as you can so that you can continue to fill the cushion as much as possible. I find that 3 good handfulls will suffice. Don’t worry, you will massage the batting to distribute it evenly once the cushion is completed.

Step 7 — Pin, insert ribbon and sew

Push batting down so that you are able to comfortably grip the opened edge. Remember, this is the edge that you had previously pressed inward in preparation for sewing. Work your way across and pin to secure. When you have reached the middle, insert a piece of folded ribbon (optional), creating a loop for your cushion. In this project, I used a 7" piece of coordinating folded ribbon, tucking the ends in approximately 1/2". This loop is useful if you decide to hang it off your sewing machine, craft apron, etc… Should you choose to not use ribbon, continue pinning to secure the opened edge. Position in sewing machine and sew to close top edge. Once again, I used a 1/4" seam allowance.

Step 8 — Tada!

And… you're done! If desired, add a contrasting button to create a tufted effect. Simply position a button in the centre, and sew through the top and bottom of the cushion, securing as required. Make as many as you choose from your fabric scrap pile.