

Embroidery Garden

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Couched Bird Pillow



Use a built-in couching design on the Brother Sews Luminaire to embellish this 'in the hoop' small pillow with envelope style back.

READ THROUGH ALL INSTRUCTIONS BEFORE BEGINNING

All pieces are lettered in the instructions. They are used in the order listed.

Two fabrics were used to make this project. My sample uses a solid for the background and a print for the borders and back.

- [Pellon 988](#) is used as the batting.
- We use and recommend [Transpore medical tape](#) for securing items in the hoop.
- We like to give our projects a final press using a [Tailor's Clapper](#) for a professional finish. Save 15% by using the link and the code **REEN15**
- Worsted weight yarn for the couching
- Upgrade kit for the Brother Sews Luminaire
- A plain bordered pillow is included for those who do not have the upgrade

SUPPLIES NEEDED

- 10.50 x 10.50 or larger hoop
- Lightweight cutaway stabilizer (no show poly mesh)
- 1 piece of [Pellon 988](#) (thin lightweight batting) 12"x12" **A**
- 1 piece of fabric for the background 8"x8" **B**
- 2 pieces of fabric for the border 8" x 2.50" **C, D**
- 2 pieces of fabric for the border 11.50" x 2.50" **E, F**
- 2 pieces of fabric for the back 12" x 14" **G, H** Fold each of these pieces wrong sides together to measure 12"h x 7"w and press.
- Optional: Make a small pillow insert to fit inside the finished pillow using white cotton fabric. Cut 2 pieces 10" x 10". Place the pieces right sides together and stitch around using ¼" seam leaving an opening for turning. Turn to the right side and stuff with [Polyfil](#). Stitch the opening closed.

Stitching the pillow

Hoop the stabilizer.

Center the batting piece **A** on top of the stabilizer.

Stitch step 1. This step stitches a placement guide.

Center fabric piece **B** right side up in the placement guide.

Stitch step 2. This step stitches the fabric in place and stitches the stippling.

Place border strip **C** right side down along the right hand side. Match the long edge of the strip to the edge of the background fabric.

Stitch step 3. This step stitches fabric **C** to the background fabric.

Place border strip **D** right side down along the left hand side. Match the long edge of the strip to the edge of the background fabric.

Stitch step 4. This step stitches fabric **D** to the background fabric.
Fold pieces **C** and **D** over so the right sides are visible. Press both borders.

Place border strip **E** right side down along the top edge. Match one long edge of the strip to the edge of the background and border fabrics.

Stitch step 5. This step stitches fabric **E** down.

Place border strip **F** right side down along the bottom edge. Match one long edge of the strip to the edge of the background and border fabrics.

Stitch step 6. This step stitches fabric **F** to the background fabric.
Fold pieces **E** and **F** over so the right sides are visible. Press both borders.

Stitch step 7. This step stitches the quilting in the borders. Make sure the borders have all been pressed flat.

Set the Luminaire up for couching. Attach the embroidery couching foot and side yarn attachment. Thread the machine with thread that matches your yarn. Thread the yarn through the top spool holders and the side attachment then through the hole in the couching foot.

You will need to exit the pillow design and load the bird from the Couching category on the Luminaire. Resize the bird as much as the machine will allow.

Stitch the bird leaving a long tail at the beginning and end. When finished stitching the bird thread the yarn ends through a large eye needle and pull them to the back side. Tie into a small know and trim the ends.

Remove the yarn and thread from the machine. Put the embroidery foot back on the machine and remove the side attachment. Thread the machine and load the pillow design. Advance the design to the last step.

Place piece **G** with the fold pointing towards the inside of the hoop and the raw edges even with the bottom edge of the fabrics in the hoop.

Place piece **H** with the fold pointing towards the inside of the hoop and the raw edges even with the top edge of the fabrics in the hoop.

The folds will overlap near the center of the hoop.

Stitch the last step of the design. This will stitch all the way around the pillow.

Remove the design from the hoop. Trim ¼" from the stitching all around. Clip the corners diagonally. Turn the pillow to the right side through the folds. Push the corners out well. Press the borders. Do not press over the yarn. Place the insert inside.

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