

Pin Cushion



Make a custom pin cushion to enhance your creative space! This one features a ring of fabric hexagons, stitched together using a technique called English Paper Piecing. Save time and money by cutting the EPP templates yourself from cardstock! This project file includes the template shape and also the fabric hexagon shape. A good scrap-buster project, too! Finished size of the pin cushion is approximately 5½" x 5½" (14cm x 14cm).

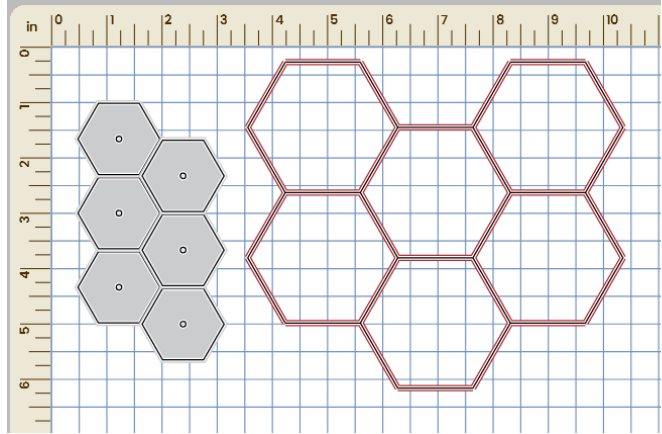
What you need

- Medium Cardstock (to create templates for English Paper Piecing)
- Cotton Fabric (for the hexagon fabric to cover the paper templates)
- Two 6½" x 6½" (16.5cm x 16.5cm) Pieces of Fabric (1 for Pincushion Front, 1 for Back)
- Two 6½" x 6½" (16.5cm x 16.5cm) Pieces of Low Loft Batting
- Light Grip Mat 12" x 12"
- Fabric Grip Mat 12" x 12"
- Basic Blade
- Rotary Blade
- Sewing Machine

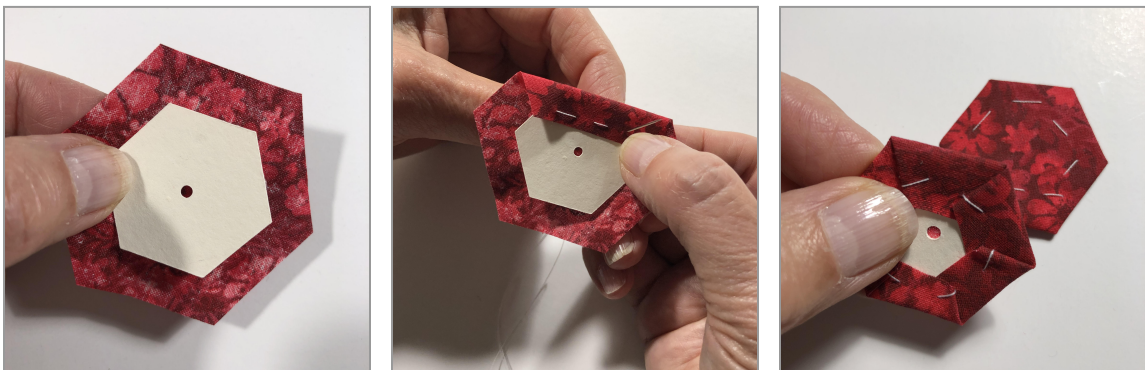
- Open Toe Foot (for sewing machine, optional)
- Thread
- Polyester Stuffing
- Hand Sewing Needle

Directions

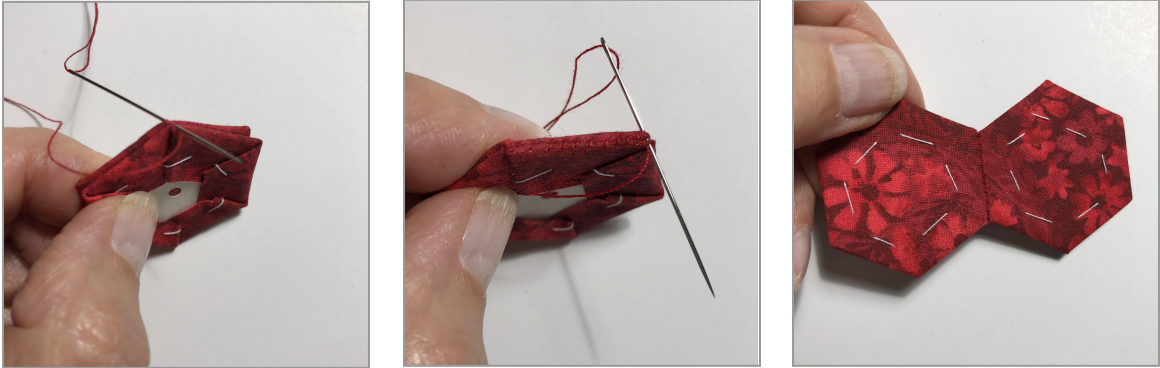
1. Open the project in Canvas. Place the cardstock for the paper hexagon templates onto the Light Grip Mat. The hole that is cut in the center of each template is there to make it easy to remove the template from the fabric when finished using it. *Note: the paper templates can be used over again for another project!*



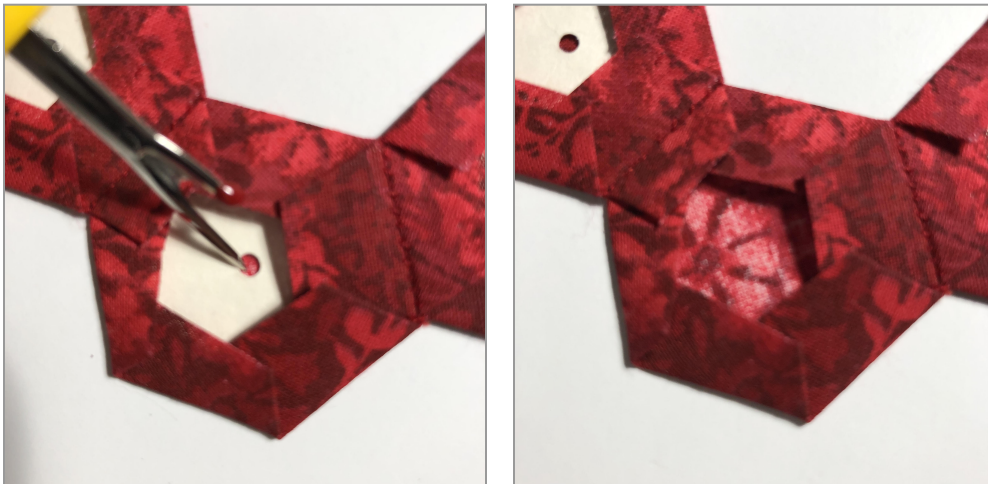
2. Using the Fabric Grip Mat, cut the hexagon fabric shapes. These cut fabric shapes have a seam allowance on all 6 sides that is $\frac{3}{8}$ " (10mm).
3. Start by placing one template onto the wrong side of one fabric. Fold one seam allowance over and finger press. Use a hand sewing needle to loosely baste the seam allowance, stitching through the fabric and template. Fold the next seam allowance over, finger press and baste in place. Continue until all sides have been basted, for all six templates.



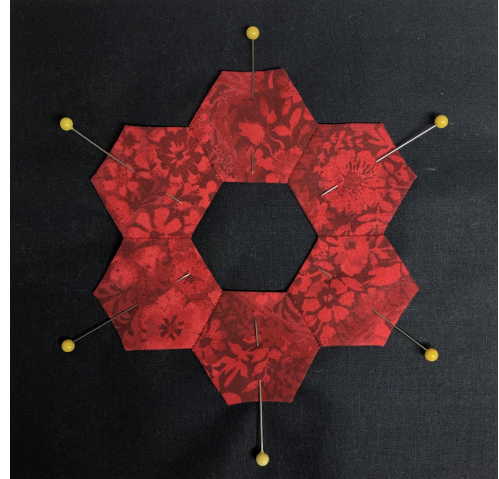
4. Press using a dry iron. Leave the templates inside the fabrics. Place two hexagons together along one side, right sides facing. Use a hand sewing needle to stitch together along one edge only, catching only a very slight amount of fabric with the needle and taking care not to stitch through the paper - stitch very near the edge, just enough to sew the two together. Repeat until all hexagons are stitched together, forming a ring.



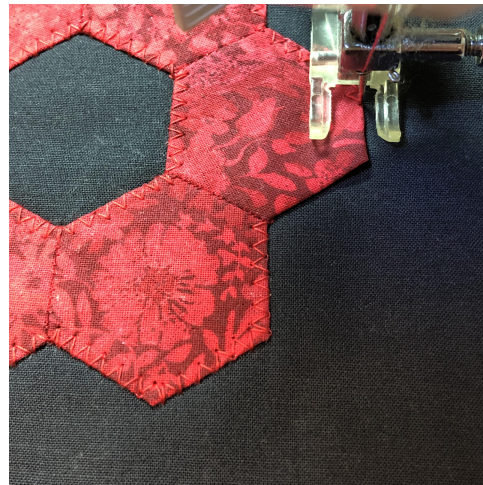
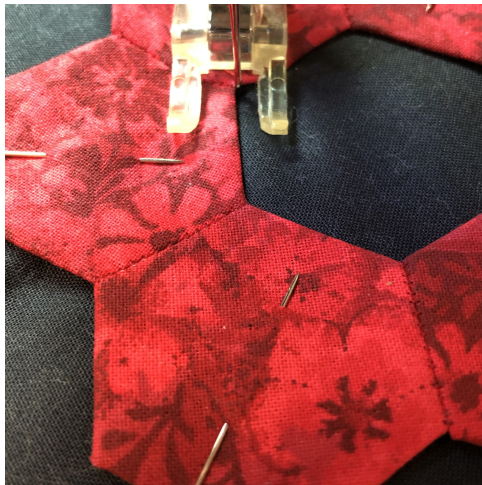
5. Remove the basting stitches from all six joined hexagon pieces. Once basting stitches are removed, you can remove the paper templates. The hole in the center of the template can be used to grab the paper and pull it out from behind the fabric.



6. Place the pin cushion top fabric over one of the batting pieces. Position the hexagon ring in the center of the pin cushion top, then pin in place all together.



7. Use a sewing machine to stitch around the hexagons, both inside and outside the "ring". It can be helpful to use an Open Toe Foot on the sewing machine because it offers a clear view of the stitching area. For our pin cushion, a zig zag stitch has been used, with the stitch width set at 2.5mm and the stitch length set at 2.0mm.



8. Place the pin cushion back fabric and remaining batting piece together. Set this on top of the stitched pin cushion front, with the right sides of the fabrics facing. Sew around the pin cushion with a ½" (12mm) seam allowance, leaving an opening about 3" (approximately 7.5cm) long on one side for turning the pin cushion right side out.

9. Fill the pin cushion with the fiberfill stuffing. Hand sew the opening closed to finish.

