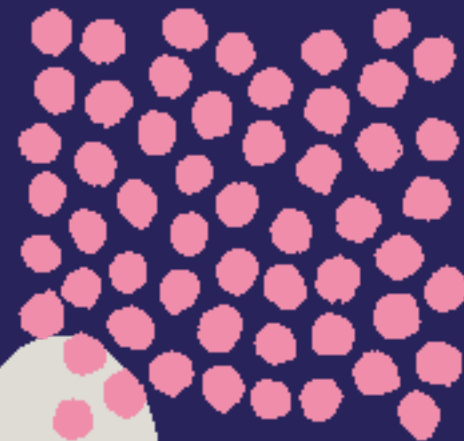


DEDICATION



Thank you to all the people who have supported me, bought my books and artwork, come to my workshops or just said nice things.



KANTHA PATCHED CUSHION

You will need

- * fabric for front (I used two main panels for the front and lots of scraps for the patches)
- * fabric for back
- * iron
- * pins
- * needle
- * thread (I used pale pink, pale blue, pink and gold)
- * sewing machine and thread
- * cushion stuffing

I've been to India for work and it's a pretty breathtaking place. During these travels my love affair with textiles reached giddy new heights. India is colour and pattern heaven and after visiting many textile retailers and manufacturers, I fell in love with kantha quilts. The quilts are made from layers of brightly coloured recycled saris, which are patched together and then stitched over the top with rows and rows of tiny running stitches. This creates a beautiful texture to the quilt, and no two are ever the same.

I bought a few quilts to keep for myself, but that wasn't enough to satisfy my obsession, so I started patching together some scraps of fabric to make my own. Perhaps I was blindly optimistic, but I didn't realise how time-consuming it would be. It wasn't long before the project was downsized to a cushion.

NOTE / My finished cushion is approximately 50 cm (19¾ in) square; make your cushion any size, to suit whatever fabric scraps you have.

DIFFICULTY
(MEDIUM)



LET'S GO

1/

Arrange your background fabric panels and fabric patches on a flat surface.



2/

Move the fabric pieces around until you are happy with the composition.

TIP / Take a photo of the arrangement on your phone, to use as a visual reference.



3

Iron down the hems of each of the fabric patches.



3/



4/

Pin together the two main fabric panels for the front. Sew the two pieces together using a tiny running stitch.



5/

Pin the patches in place on top of the front panels. Sew the patches in place with running stitch.

6/

Once all the patches are sewn in position, start sewing rows of running stitch over the whole panel. Stitch several rows using one colour of thread, then change the thread colour and sew several more rows. Continue in this manner, alternating the thread colour.



5/

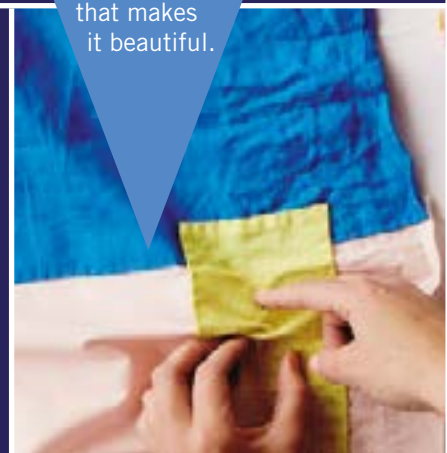


TIP /

Don't worry if the stitches aren't straight, it's the wonkiness that makes it beautiful.

7/

Push the needle in and out of the fabric several times before pulling the thread through. This speeds up the stitching process a little and also produces a nice texture.





PAPER PROJECTS

