

## Hidden Pocket Dorm Pillow by Sheila Reinke

30" pillow, using college themed fabric, a perfect gift for your favorite grad! Pillow has two hidden pockets (great for an MP3 player, cell phone, or the writing tools) in the side borders. A comfortable and practical pillow that can be used for relaxing, studying, or just lounging – what a great idea! You'll quickly be bombarded with requests for more of these great pillows!

*Please note, images used in this pattern are NOT to scale*



### Materials -

- 30" Pillow Form
- Coordinate 1 (yellow in example) – ¼ yard
- Coordinate 2 (purple in example) – 2 ¼ yards
- Black - ⅜ yard

### Suggested Tools

(beyond standard sewing supplies)

- 6 ½" square OLFA ruler
- 6" x 24" OLFA ruler
- 45mm Deluxe Rotary Cutter
- 18" x 24" Self Healing Mat

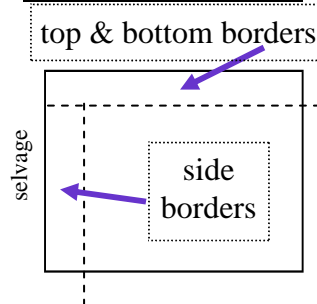
Note: in cutting the coordinate 2 fabric, I cut the top and bottom 5½" borders first. Next, I cut the two side 5½" borders parallel to the selvage. This was done because it was a directional fabric – see image below for proper layout for these cuts. The last thing I cut out of the coordinate 2 fabric was the 30" x 34" pieces that would be used on the back.

*You will likely have to make similar adjustments as college fabrics often have words or other directional elements on them.*

### Cut fabric as follows:

- 5 squares measuring 6½" (coordinate 1)
- 4 squares measuring 6½" (coordinate 2)
- 2 pieces 30" x 34" (coordinate 2)
- 4 strips 5¼" x 30" (coordinate 2)
- 2 strips 1½" x 18½" (black)
- 2 strips 1½" x 20½" (black)
- remaining black fabric used for binding

### Cutting Coordinate 2



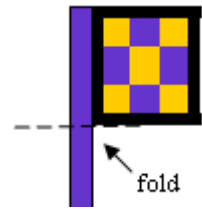
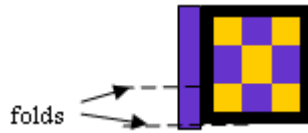
**Project Level:** Experienced Beginner

### Construction -

1. For this entire project, you will be using a standard ¼" seam allowance.
2. Make a 9-patch block using the 6½" squares – alternate the fabrics in a checkerboard pattern, with coordinate 1 in the center square. Resulting block will be 18½"
3. Border this block with the 1½" wide strips. Use the 18½" strips on either side of the block, with the 20½" length for the top and bottom borders. New block size is 20½"
4. Create second border using the strips cut from coordinate 2. Read carefully as this is where we will create the 'hidden' pocket.
  - Orient your block so the top edge is the furthest from you – pin one 5¼" x 30" strip along one side (left or right) of the block, starting at the top edge of the block and leaving a 10½" tail that will hang below the block (don't use pins for the bottom 6" of the block).



- Fold that tail up so the fold is even with the bottom edge of the block.
- Fold the tail again (down this time), at 5¼" inches. You should now have a section at the bottom of this border that is roughly 5¼" long and has three layers of fabric (not including the block), with one fold at the top and one at the bottom.



- Finish by pinning folded section and sewing border as normal.

5. Repeat step 4 for the opposite side, creating a second pocket, then add top and bottom borders as you normally would. This completes the front of the pillow.



6. For the back, use the 30" x 34" pieces folded in half (so they will be 30" x 17"), and overlap at the folds (do not sew together at this overlap). This creates an envelope opening for you to use to insert the pillow form – you will not need to use any type of button or other closure (although these can be added if you want).
7. Rather than sewing the back and front together with right sides facing as you would normally – sew with wrong sides together, then use the remaining black fabric to bind the pillow as you would a quilt.

Pattern designed and created by Sheila Reinke  
 Pattern can be reproduced for personal (not for sale) use.  
 If you want to use this pattern in a class, please contact Sheila.

For more patterns by Sheila, see her blog at:  
<http://sheilareinke.wordpress.com/>