



Bring a little happiness to your sewing space with the rainbow of flying geese in this paper-pieced pincushion pattern.

The **Circling Geese Squirle Pincushion** gives you plenty of practice with foundation piecing and offers three finishing techniques to fit your skill level: envelope, boxed bottom and the biscornu style.

Fabric Requirements

24 colors of scrap fabric (1" x 1")

One fat quarter background fabric

5½-inch square of muslin

Other Supplies

Polyfil

⅓ cup walnut shells

⅞ inch button



Circling Geese Squirle Pincushion

Item No. TLC-SS01

by Crinkle Dreams

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Circling Geese Squircle Pincushion

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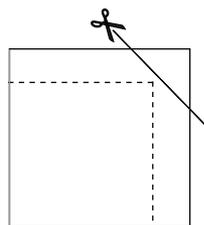
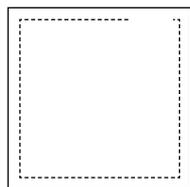
Make the Top

1. Cut a 5 1/2-inch square of background fabric and baste to square of muslin, matching raw edges. Set aside.
2. Organize colors in the order you prefer and separate into four piles of six. Piece each paper piecing template individually, working through each color. Be sure to shorten your stitch to 1.5 or 1.8 to make the paper removal easier.
3. Paper-piece patchwork top in numerical order. Press well and trim to outer line on template.
4. Sew together to create a circle, nesting the seams at the center.
5. Staystitch at a scant 1/4-inch around all four edges to secure patchwork. Remove paper and press again.

Make it Stuffable

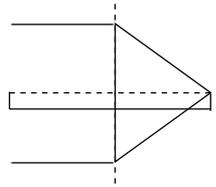
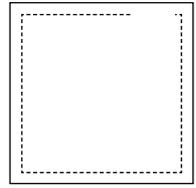
Easy: Envelope Style

1. Stack backing square on pieced front, right sides together, matching raw edges. Pin.
2. Mark a 1.5-inch gap for turning and stuffing, then sew all the way around, leaving gap open. Backstitch at ends.
3. Trim corners and turn, using a point turner to push out the corners.



More Steps: Boxed Corner Style

1. Stack backing square on pieced front, right sides together, matching raw edges and corners.
2. Mark a 1.5-inch gap for turning and stuffing, then sew all the way around, leaving gap. Backstitch at ends.
3. Trim corners.
4. Pinch corners side to side, making seams nest together. Pin.
5. Mark a 1" long seams, perpendicular to the nested seams and stitch, backstitching over each end of the seam. Do not trim.
6. Turn inside out, using a point turner to push out the corners.

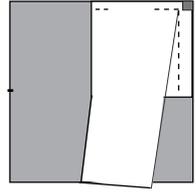


Challenge: Biscornu Style

1. Stack muslin/backing and top right sides together. Fold into quarters and press along raw edge to mark side centers.
2. Snip 1/8" in at each side center. Do not clip the staystitching.
3. Mark corners with 1/4" seam allowance.
4. Lay top and bottom right sides together, matching the center of the backing to the left side seam allowance of the top. Pin, right sides together, matching center to seam allowance mark, and stitching line to center.
5. Stitch from corner mark, with a short stitch, for about 1/4". Backstitch over entire seam.
6. Leave an approximately 1 1/2" gap and backstitch again, then continue stitching to center of top. Backstitch.



7. Leave needle in the down position at center snip and pivot top fabric to line up the raw edges again. Pin at corner, matching with the center snip.



8. Stitch to next intersection and pivot again. Repeat around all eight sides of the pincushion.
9. Trim corners to ease bulk, being careful to avoid clipping the stitches.
10. Turn right side out, using a point turner to push out the corners.

Finish it Up

1. Use a funnel to fill space between muslin and outer fabric with ground walnut seeds.
2. Stuff main body of pincushion with filling.
3. Hand-sew opening closed with a ladder stitch.
4. Use a long needle to sew button to middle of pincushion, through top and bottom. Make at least four stitches to secure. Knot and trim.

A Few Tips on the Paper Piecing

Use thin paper, such as Carol Doak's Foundation Paper or blank newsprint to make tearing out easier. Ricky Tim's Stable Stuff Poly works well, too, you'll just need to wet down the entire top and allow it to dry, then press, before completing the pincushion.

Have tweezers handy to get out the little bits of paper.

Make sure your stitch is small and extend the stitching past the line at least 5-8 stitches to secure it.

Trim after stitching each line to limit the bulk.

Consider adding a dab of Fray Check to each corner on the biscornu style pincushion, especially when using fabrics like linen that tend to fray more.

Take it slowly and find a method that works best for you. Personally, I check my construction with a color-side-side, color-side, side mantra as I assemble it to make sure I get them all in place.

Don't be afraid to pin your pieces while deciding placement, but never sew over your pins.

Don't skimp on the stay-stitching. It helps secure your paper piecing, especially for the end when you are stuffing it, then have to stitch the opening closed.



Circling Geese Squished Square Pincushion

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