

Belle and Bright

Dear Stitchers,

We love a pretty sewing accessory and even more so if it handmade. Our quilted needle book ticks both boxes and it's a great project for sewers of all abilities.

If you want to add detail, quilt the fabric as per the instructions, iron on one of the hearts, or pieces of fabric, add some stitching and then assemble the needle book.

In this month's kit, we have included a fabric marking pen by Collins. The marks from this pen should disappear within 24-72 hours. They can be removed with cold water, if you're impatient! This pen will be useful for creating lines on many other projects. To fill up your needle book, we have included a pack of Prym needles and beautiful pins.

We would love to see photos of your needle books! If you're on Instagram or Twitter please post a picture and use the hashtag #belleandbright

This month's box contains:

2 pieces of pre-cut fabric

Wadding

Pre-cut felt

2 pieces of ribbon

Hearts, pre-backed with iron on adhesive

Small pieces of fabric for appliqué

Collins vanishing fabric marker

Stitched with love ribbon

Needles

We hope you enjoy this month's treat: traditional fudge from Roly's Fudge in Devon - a Belle & Bright favourite.

Let's get sewing!

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Needle Book Tutorial

Introduction

We love a pretty sewing accessory and even more so if it handmade. Our quilted needle book ticks both boxes and it's a great project for sewers of all abilities.



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Needle Book Tutorial

Step 1

Using the removable pen, draw lines as a guide for quilting, on the piece of fabric you would like to be on the outside of your needle book. We chose a diagonal pattern with lines $\frac{1}{2}$ " apart. Centre the fabric on to the wadding and pin into place.



Needle Book Tutorial

Step 2

Quilt by hand or with a sewing machine. We did ours on a sewing machine, using a standard foot and a stitch length of 2.2. When you have quilted your fabric, trim away the excess wadding. A rotary cutter and ruler make it easier to be precise, but you can use scissors



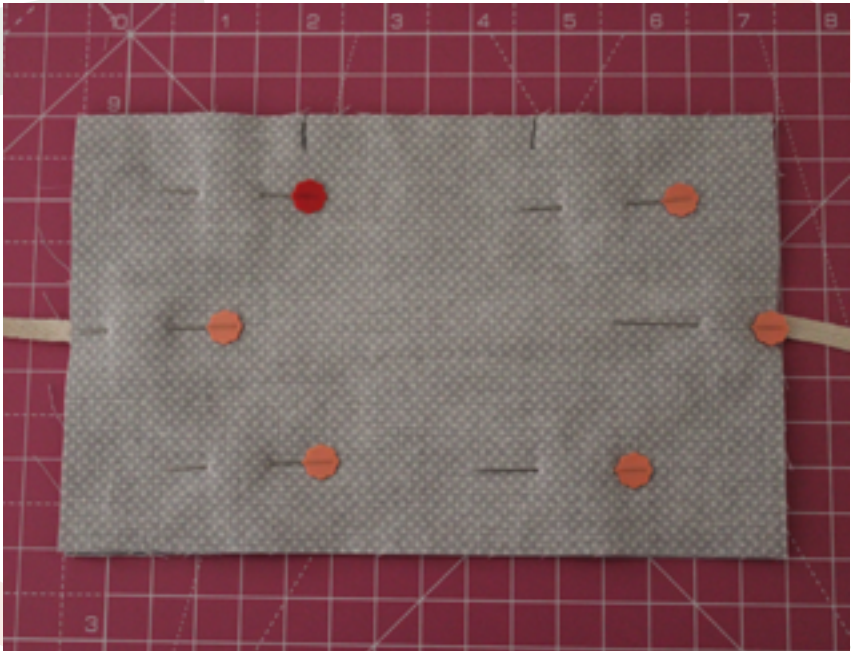
Step 3

Place the ribbon on each side. Take the time to ensure the ribbons are in the middle of the quilted piece. It is important that the length of the tie goes in towards the centre of the fabric.



Step 4

Place the other piece of fabric face down on top of the quilted pieces and pin into place. Draw two small marks two inches apart as a guide for where you will begin and finish stitching. You will not sew between these marks as the gap is for turning your case right side out.



Needle Book Tutorial

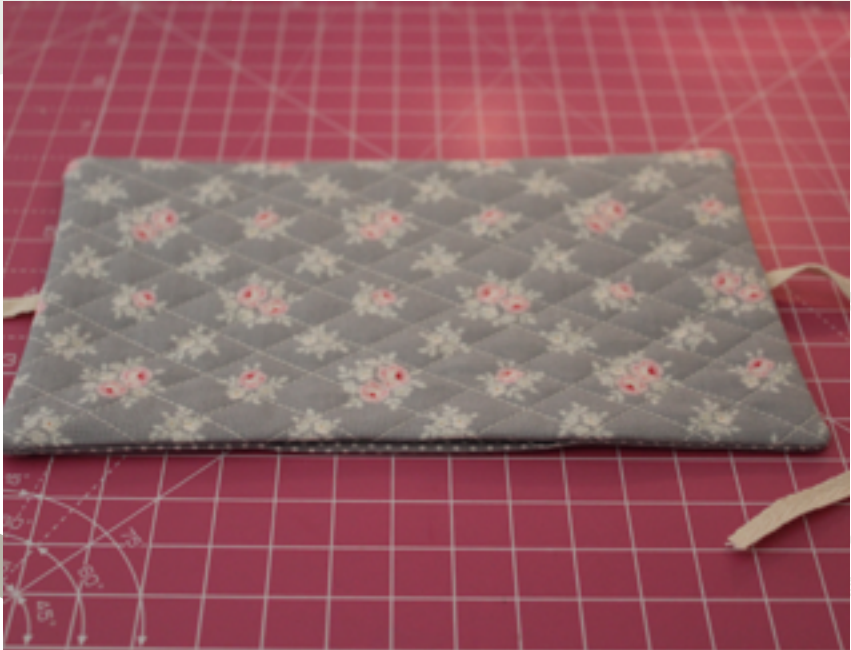
Step 5

Starting at one of the marks, sew around the entire piece using a $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam and stop at the second mark. Backstitch at the start, every corner and at the end.



Step 6

Clip the corners, press the needle book and turn the needle book right side out, press again making sure that the opening is neatly folded inwards.



Needle Book Tutorial

Step 7

Top stitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " all the way around your needle book, making sure the opening is closed completely. You can sew this by hand or machine.



Step 8

Fold your needle book in half and press and do the same to the felt pieces. Line up the two fold edges, pin and sew with a straight stitch the length of the felt. Fold your needle case in half and give it a good press.

