







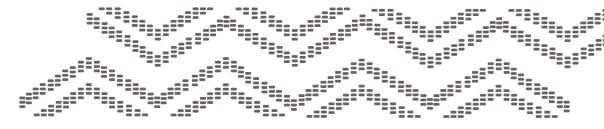
IT'S ALL IN THE DETAILS

Passementerie has the power to transform a simple pillow into a statement piece, adding personality, texture, and artistry to any space. Tassels, cords, borders, and fringes offer endless creative possibilities—whether through unexpected color combinations, layered textures, or bold plays on scale.

We've curated an inspiration guide in four key areas: **Adding color** to highlight existing key elements in a room, **layering** multiple trims to create unique combinations, **creating your own pattern**, whether geometric or organic, and having fun with **scale & unexpected details**, to demonstrate how even small details can elevate a design.

Alongside inspiration, this book also serves as a practical resource, providing essential information on terminology, tutorials, size specifications, and other fundamental details to assist your creative process.

With an extensive selection of over 15,000 trims, Samuel & Sons offers endless opportunities to elevate your designs. This guide is designed to help bring those possibilities to life!



CONTENTS

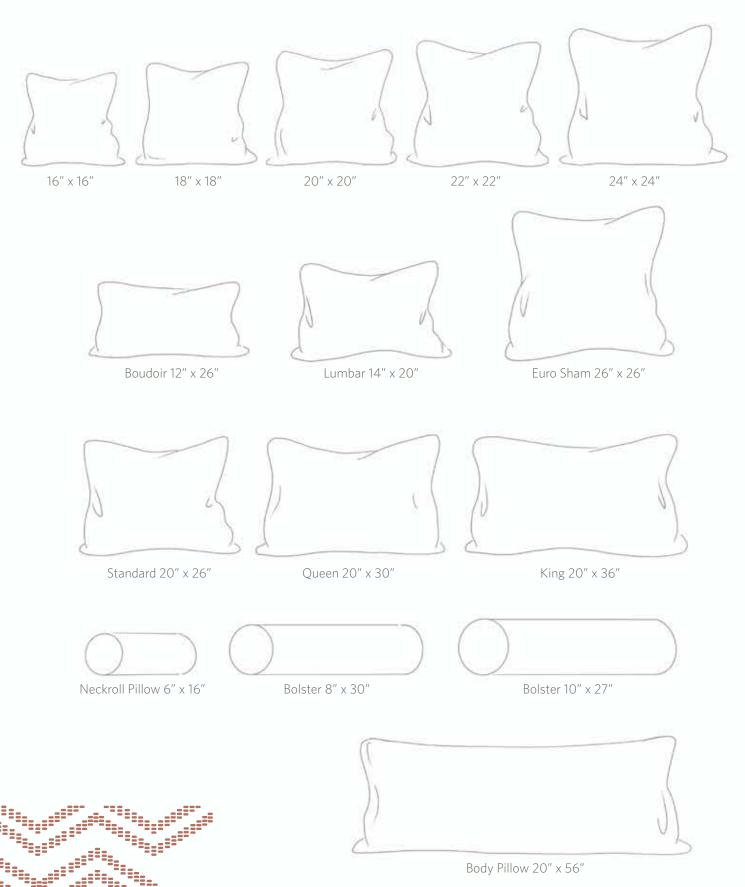
- **6.** Standard Pillow Sizes
- 8. Standard Pillow Applications
- **10.** Glossary of Passementerie
- **12.** Pillow Glossary
- **14.** To Chop Or Not To Chop
- **16.** A Guide To Pillow Fillers
- **18.** Adding color
- **30.** Layering
- **44.** Creating Your Own Pattern
- **54.** Having Fun with Scale & Unexpected Details





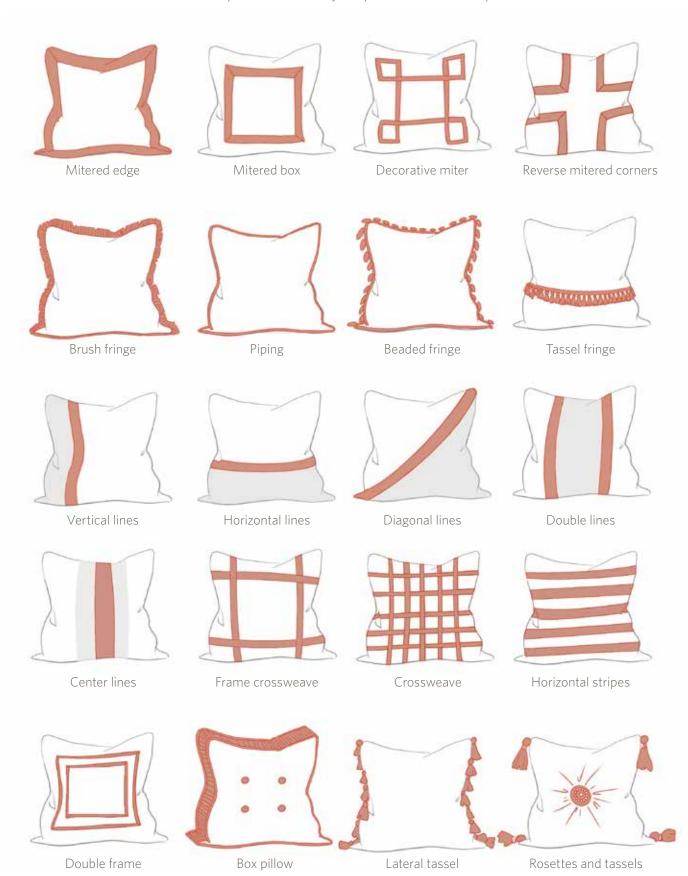
STANDARD PILLOW SIZES

The following is a guide to explore standard pillow sizes to assist you in designing your own decorative pillows with ease and precision.

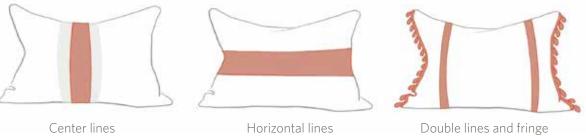


STANDARD PILLOW APPLICATIONS

Explore our guide on standard pillow applications. While design possibilities are endless, we've compiled the most common uses. Mix and match these versatile options to create your perfect decorative pillows.









Round Bolster

GLOSSARY OF PASSEMENTERIE



APPLIQUÉ

Refers to a form of embellishing in which individual pieces of fabric are layered on a ground cloth and then stitched in place using embroidery techniques. In French, appliqué refers to "put on,". Within the world of passementerie, appliqués can be individual decorative embroidered pieces, which can have a raised or flat profile and can be incorporated into drapery or upholstery applications similar to frogs and rosettes. Also, the technique of appliqué is often used to create patterning on trimmings borders by adhering layers of fabric with embroidery on top of a contrasting ground.



BEADED FRINGE

A trim characterized by small, spherical fabric or thread beads evenly spaced along a header.



BORDER / TAPE / BRAID

A flat trim. It can come anywhere from 3/8" up to 3" or wider in width. Often used as a decorative element of draperies, upholstered furniture, pillows, etc. This includes ribbons and other, heavier weight flat decorative trims.



BRUSH FRINGE

A fringe made of cut yarns with a flat header that is typically inserted into the seam of fabric. It is called a brush fringe because it looks like a brush after it is applied. Traditionally used on the edge of pillows and sometimes as a detail in place of cord on upholstery. (Sometimes also referred to as moss fringe or marabout).



BULLION FRINGE

A long fringe made up of hanging strands of twisted rope. A 3" fringe might be used to follow the lines of a sumptuous drapery swag, whereas a longer fringe would be used at the base of upholstered sofa, chair, ottoman or table skirts etc. Standard lengths are 4 1/2" (12 cm) and 8 1/4" (21 cm)



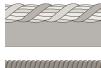
CHAINETTE

A fringe or trim that consists of a series of small, linked loops or chains made from materials like thread, cord, or beads.



CHAIR TIE

A decorative element composed of a rope with tassels on each end. Usually attached to a loose seat cushion and then tied around the back legs of the chair to keep the cushion in place on the chair.



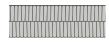
CORD / PIPING / WELT

decorative rope is then used as piping around edges of upholstered furniture, or as an accent to other soft furnishings. Cords come in a number of different widths from 1/8" - 1/2" or larger, depending on the application and desired style. It can come with or without a "lip" or tape (which allows the upholsterer to sew the cord into the furniture's seam easily). A cord that is

not twisted and is simpler in structure is

typically called a piping or welt.

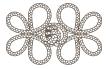
A cord consists of a mixture of yarns which have been twisted to form a rope. This





FAN EDGE

A decorative trim characterized by a repeating fan-shaped pattern, which often gives a scalloped effect to the edge of its application.



FROG

A two-piece closure used for decoration made of cord that is wound in a decorative manner. One half of the frog housed the loop; the other houses the knot.



GIMP

A narrow decorative braid used to cover seams, raw edges and/or furniture staples. It is most commonly used on upholstered furniture with a wood frame where the fabric is nailed or stapled to the frame. The gimp is then glued over the nails/staples to hide where the fabric was attached. Gimps are generally about 1/2" wide or smaller. The difference between a braid and gimp is that a gimp is narrow.



HOLDBACK

A large cord or braid used to hold back draperies to one side.



KEY TASSEL

A small decorative tassel used for accentuation. Often used as a decorative element attached to a key that is in a cabinet front or drawer front. Sometimes also attached to pillows.



ROSETTE

A small circular decorative medallion that is used to provide decorative interest. It is typically used on pillows or as a detail on the valence (top portion) of a window treatment.



SKIRT FRINGE

A fringe, typically at the bottom edge of upholstered furniture, attached by its header with a skirt hanging below. The skirt is typically comprised of decorative elements, such as tassels or beads, that add a finishing touch and visual interest to the lower part of the item.



TASSEL FRINGE

An ornamental border consisting of tassels hanging from a header.



TASSEL TIEBACK

Single or double tassels attached to a looped cord, used to dress and hold back curtains from the window.



TUFT

A bunch of threads tied together at the center. Used as a decorative element in place of buttons on tufted furniture.

PILLOW GLOSSARY

BOLSTER

A long, cylindrical pillow used for support or decoration, often placed on beds or sofas.

BOX PILLOW

A pillow with a flat top and bottom and gusseted sides, creating a box-like shape for added dimension and support.

EDGE

The outermost boundary or border of a pillow, where the fabric is sewn together.

FLANGE

A decorative strip of fabric extending beyond the edge of a pillow or sham, adding a tailored, finished appearance.

KNIFE EDGE

A type of pillow seam where the front and back panels are sewn together without any additional trim, creating a sharp, clean edge.

LAYERING

The process of stacking different fabrics, textures, or materials to create depth and visual interest in a design.

LUMBAR

A long, narrow pillow designed to support the lower back, typically used for added comfort and decorative purposes.

MITERED CORNER

A corner where two edges meet at a 45-degree angle, forming a 90-degree angle, often used for a neat decorative finish.

SHAM

A decorative pillow cover with an opening in the back, often used to cover bed pillows for a coordinated look.

TURKISH CORNER

A technique for finishing corners by folding fabric diagonally, creating a neatly tailored and decorative corner, often used in cushion and pillow covers.

Measurements

Millimeter Conversion

 $1 \, \text{mm} = 0.0394 \, \text{in}$

3 mm = 1/8 in

5 mm = 3/16 in

10 mm = 3/8 in

15 mm = 9/16 in

25 mm = 1 in

40 mm = 11/2 in

50 mm = 2 in

60 mm = 23/8 in

80 mm = 31/8 in

100 mm = 4 in

Metric Conversion Factors

1 in = 25.4 mm

1 in = 2.54 cm

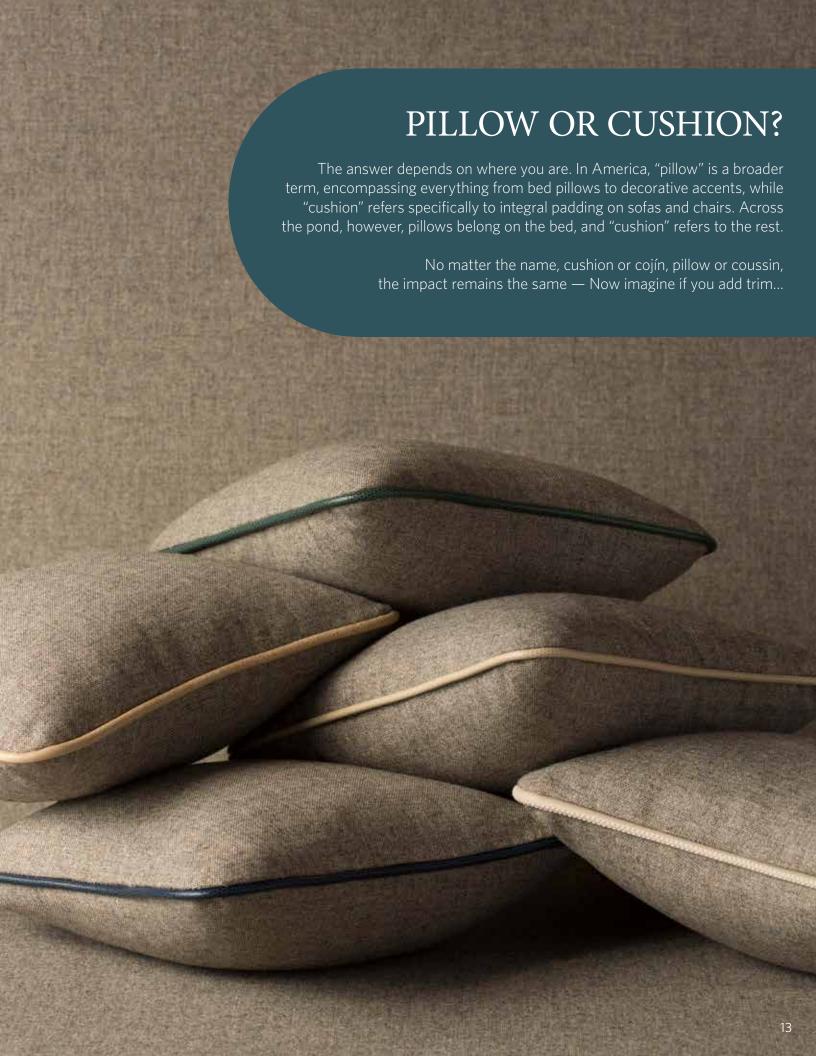
1 ft = 12 in

1 yd = 36 in

1 vd = 3 ft

1 yd = 0.9144 m

1 m = 1.0936 yd



TO CHOP OR NOT TO CHOP

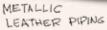
A simple source of endless debate, proving that the smallest details make the biggest difference. The same can be said for trimmings. Whether you're team chop or team smooth, here's why you'll always be team trim.

Traditional or contemporary? Bold or subdued? The choice is yours, and the possibilities are endless. Discover how we elevated three pillow fabrics in two distinct ways with transformative details that introduce instant character, from a playful beaded edge to a dramatic swath of cut fringe.



















A GUIDE TO PILLOW FILLERS

You've designed a stunning pillow cover with beautiful fabrics and perfect trims, but now it's time to choose the right filler. The filler you select is crucial not only for the visual appeal but also for the level of comfort it provides. Each type of filler comes with its own set of benefits and drawbacks, making the choice highly dependent on personal preferences and specific needs, such as allergies or support needs.

Here's a look at some of the most popular pillow fillers



Feather

Description: Made from the outer feathers of ducks or geese.

Feel: Soft but can be firmer and have a bit of a crunch due to the quills.

Best Uses: Good for those who prefer a firmer pillow with a bit of give. They retain shape well and are durable.

Pros: Long-lasting, moldable.

Cons: May poke through the fabric, not ideal for people with allergies.

Down

Description: Made from the soft, fluffy undercoating of ducks or geese.

Feel: Extremely soft, luxurious, and lightweight.

Best Uses: Great for people who want a soft, cuddly pillow. Offers excellent insulation.

Pros: Soft, long-lasting, and highly moldable.

Cons: Expensive, can cause allergies, needs frequent fluffing.

Feather/Down Blend

Description: A mix of feather and down, usually in varying ratios.

Feel: Combines the firmness of feathers with the softness of down.

Best Uses: Offers a balance of support and softness, suitable for different sleeping positions.

Pros: More affordable than pure down, versatile comfort.

Cons: May still poke, can trigger allergies.

Polyester (Polyfill)

Description: Synthetic fiber, usually hypoallergenic.

Feel: Soft and fluffy, mimics the feel of down but less luxurious.

Best Uses: Good for those with allergies or on a budget. Works well for decorative pillows.

Pros: Affordable, easy to maintain, hypoallergenic.

Cons: Tends to flatten over time, less breathable.

Memory Foam

Description: Made from viscoelastic foam, contours to the shape of the head and neck.

Feel: Firm but responsive to pressure, providing support and alignment.

Best Uses: Ideal for people needing neck or back support, especially side sleepers.

Pros: Excellent support, maintains shape, good for spinal alignment.

Cons: Can retain heat, heavier, not as soft.

Latex

Description: Natural or synthetic latex foam, offers a resilient and bouncy feel.

Feel: Firm but with a springy responsiveness.

Best Uses: Good for people looking for a natural, supportive pillow that retains shape.

Pros: Durable, hypoallergenic, retains shape well.

Cons: Expensive, heavy, can have a distinct smell initially.

Buckwheat

Description: Filled with buckwheat hulls, offers firm support.

Feel: Firm and supportive, moldable to fit the head and neck.

Best Uses: Great for those who prefer a firm pillow or need

support for neck pain.

Pros: Adjustable firmness, excellent airflow.

Cons: Noisy, heavy, and may require adjustment during sleep.

Each type has unique benefits and drawbacks, so choosing the right filler depends on personal preferences, sleeping position, and any specific needs such as allergies or support requirements.



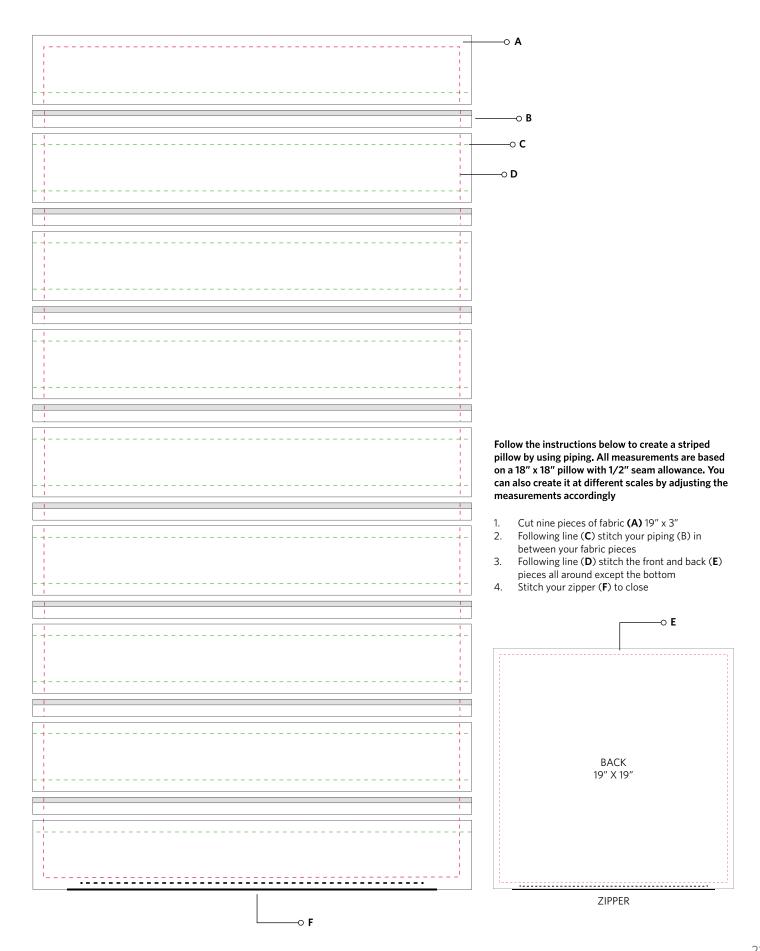
ADDING COLOR DETAILS

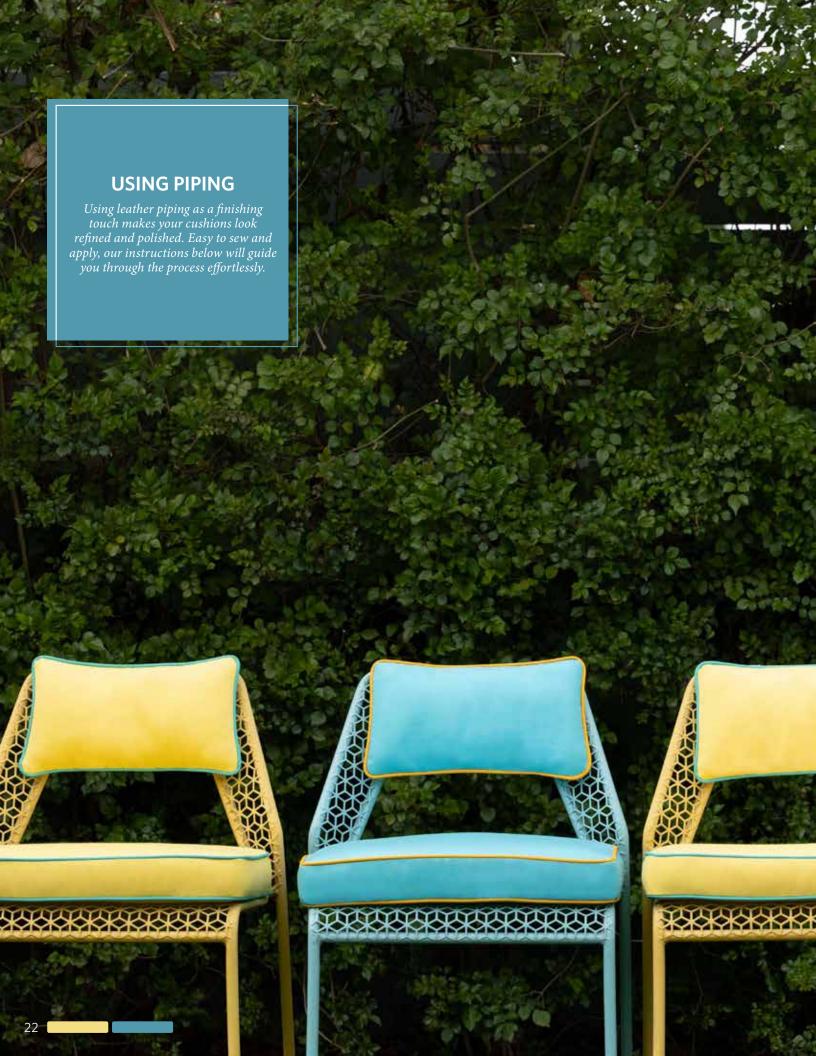
Add visual interest to a room by using trim on decorative pillows. Accentuate colors from other fabrics, artwork, or room elements to create a cohesive and vibrant look.





TAILOR MADE | PATTERNS: Piping Striped Pillow





HOW TO SEW LEATHER PIPING











HOW TO SEW ARIA

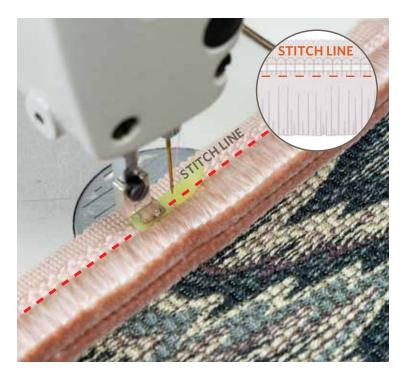
Add a full silk brush fringe for the ultimate bloom of lustrous color, from soft hues like Blush and Ecru to rich jewel tones like Ruby and Emerald.





STEP 1

Move brush fringe so edge of flange is aligned with raw edge of fabric. Flange should be placed in the area marked as the seam allowance. Seam allowance is approximately 1/2" - 5/8" (varies at workroom discretion)



STEP 2Once flange is aligned with raw edge of fabric, secure brush fringe to fabric by stitching along the indicated stitch line. This will create a secure seam.



STEP 4Pull the string to open up the brush fringe.



STEP 3Finish application by sandwiching trim between second layer of fabric and secure with another row of stitch.



STEP 5Steam and brush for a fuller finish.





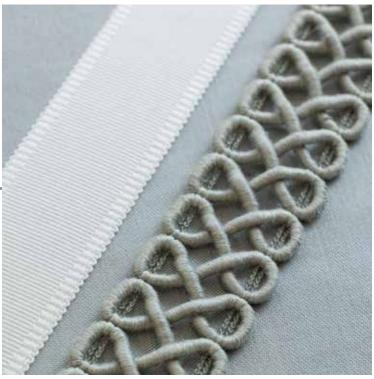


LAYERING

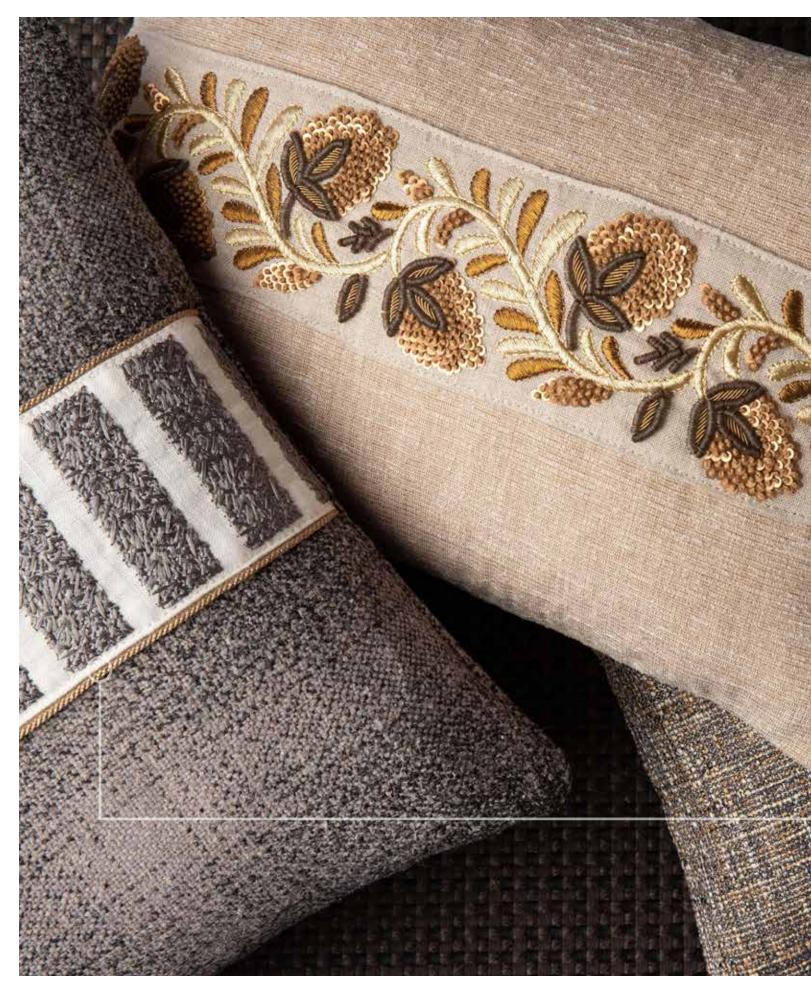
Have fun creating your own design by layering different trims. Choose from brush fringes, cords, borders, and everything in between, to achieve a unique and personalized look for your decorative pillows.



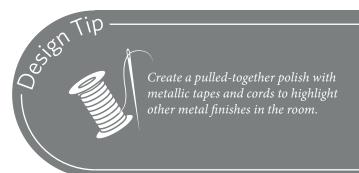




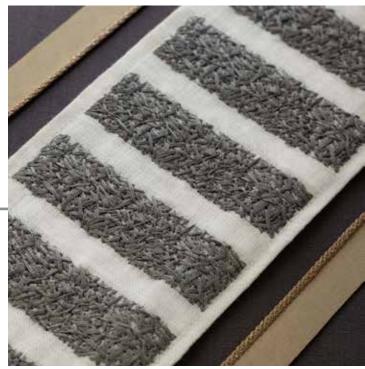








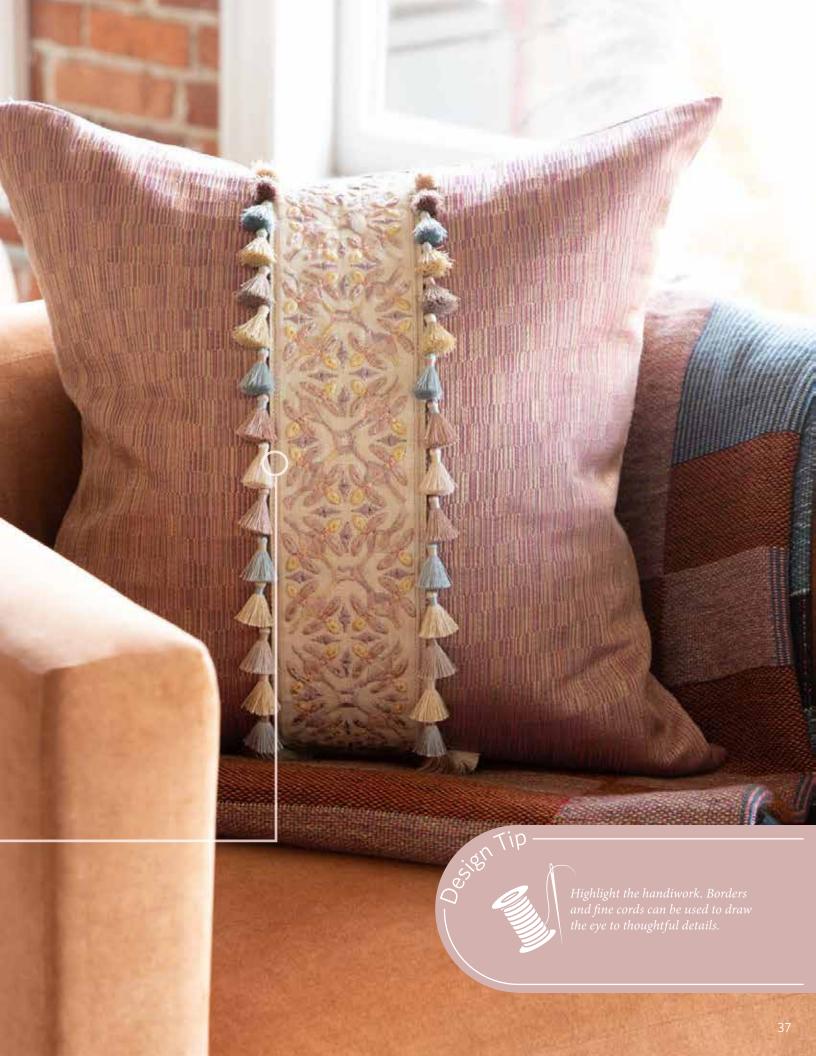








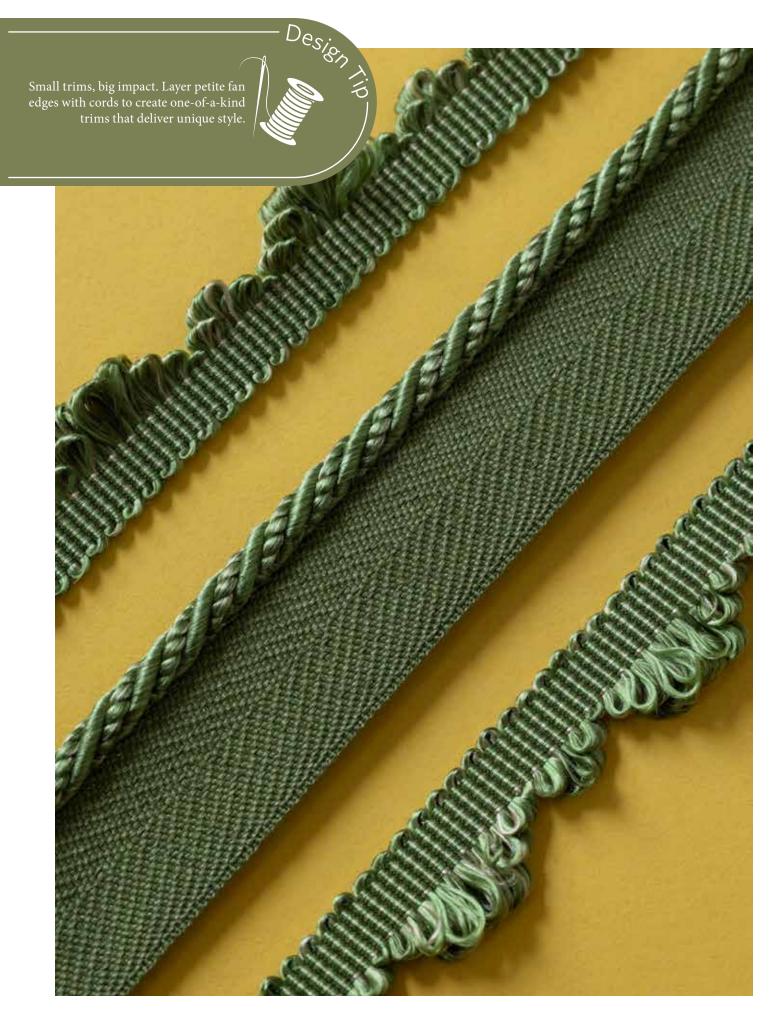




















CREATING YOUR OWN PATTERN

Create your own pillow design with trim. Playing with color and shapes allows for endless creativity, resulting in unique and fun patterns that add a personal touch to your home décor.

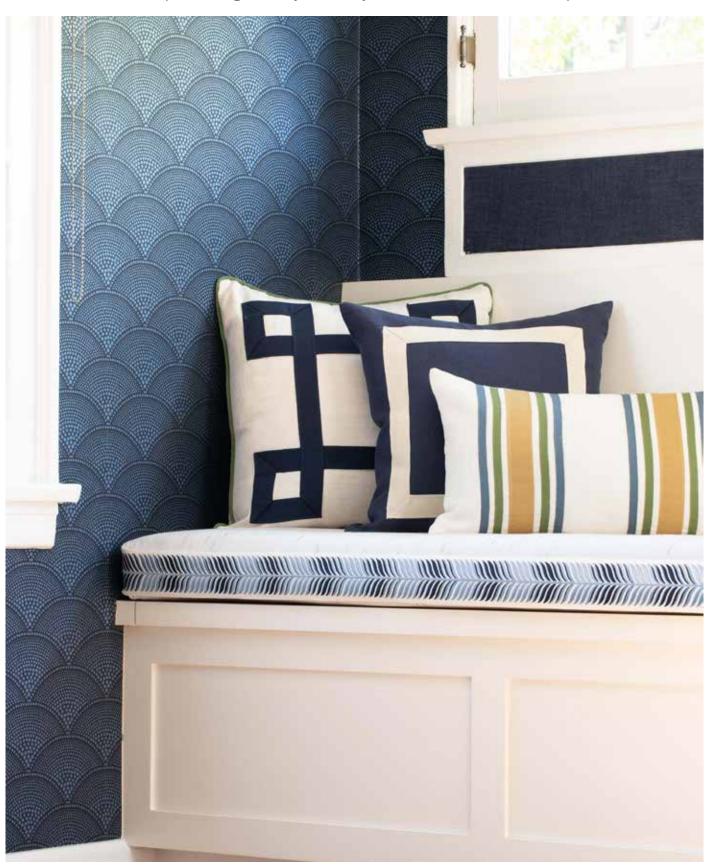






HOW TO MITER A CORNER

Mitered corners are a great way to create your own patterns. From basic box shapes to more complex designs, they are easy to sew and offer endless possibilities.





STEP 1

Iron your border to make sure your corners are clean and sharp. Double check the fiber of your border to select the right heat setting for your iron. For more delicate fibers you might need to place a cloth over your trip prior to ironing, always test before starting.



STEP 2Fold your border inwards where the face is touching



STEP 3Press to flatten



STEP 4Fold the top side to 45 degrees towards the side you ironed straight



STEP 5 press to lock the 45 degree angle



STEP 6Stitch along the 45 degree angle line



STEP 7Cut the excess at the corner



STEP 8 and 9 open the back side that you just cut and press open flat

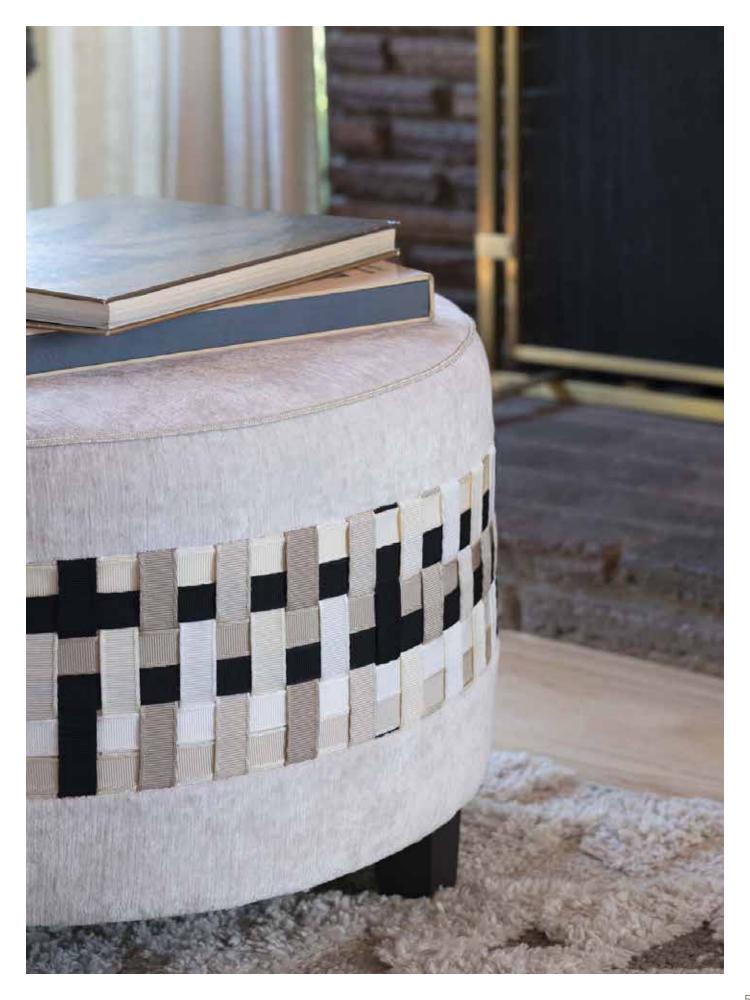


STEP 10 repeat for your other corners











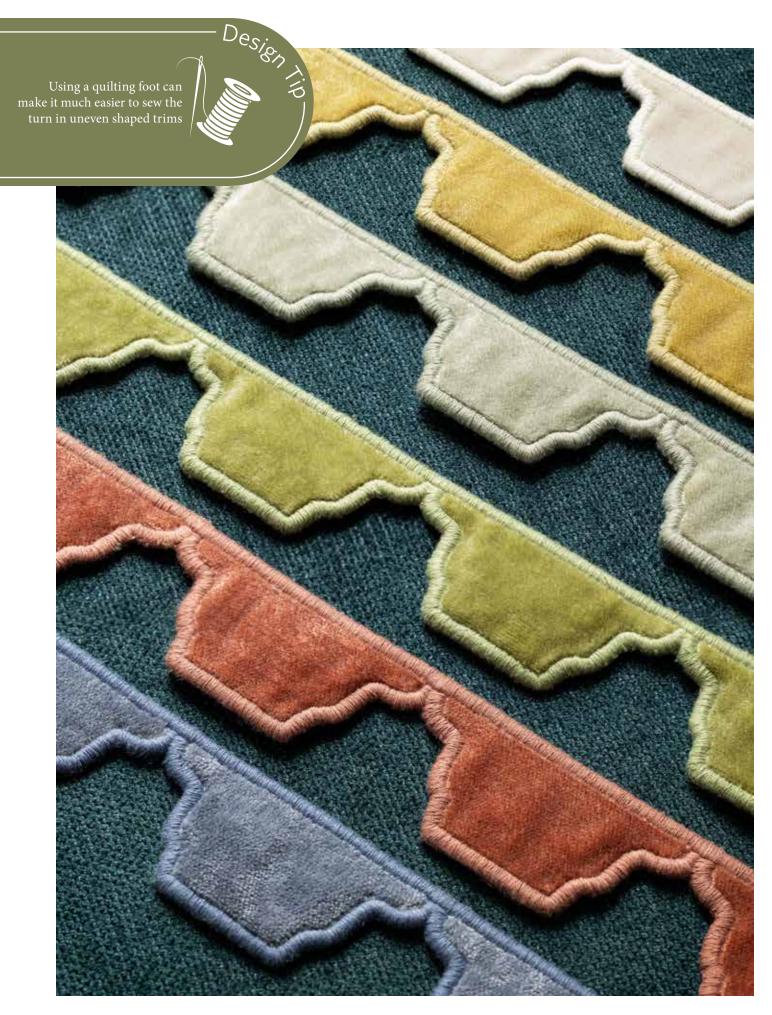
HAVING FUN WITH SCALE & UNEXPECTED DETAILS

From small touches that make a big impact to oversized trims that break the rules, playing with scale is a bold way to add personality. Thoughtful, unexpected trim choices can turn even the simplest pillow into a standout piece.









Scallops are a unique and versatile design element since they can be used as a border creating a scallop effect, or be sewing inwards/outwards. Combine with contrast color fabrics for an even more special effect.



STEP 1Sew along the straight like to secure your trim in place.



STEP 2
Turn any corners at the desired spot.
Sew the other side following the pattern.







HOW TO SEW LOOPED CORNERS

Finishing corners with a clean, decorative loop adds a soft, sculptural touch to any application.



STEP 1Start sewing your corn using a cord or zipper foot



STEP 2bClip where your loops will end



Step 2a
Stop right before you reach your corner and clip to mark where your loop start



STEP 2c
Estimate how hog big you loops will be and adjust your cuts as needed



STEP 3Using a seam ripper, carefully remove the tape within the marks you created



STEP 4Create your loops facing inwards



STEP 5Sew to secure your loops at the corner



STEP 6Continue sewing your cord until you reach the next corner and repeat



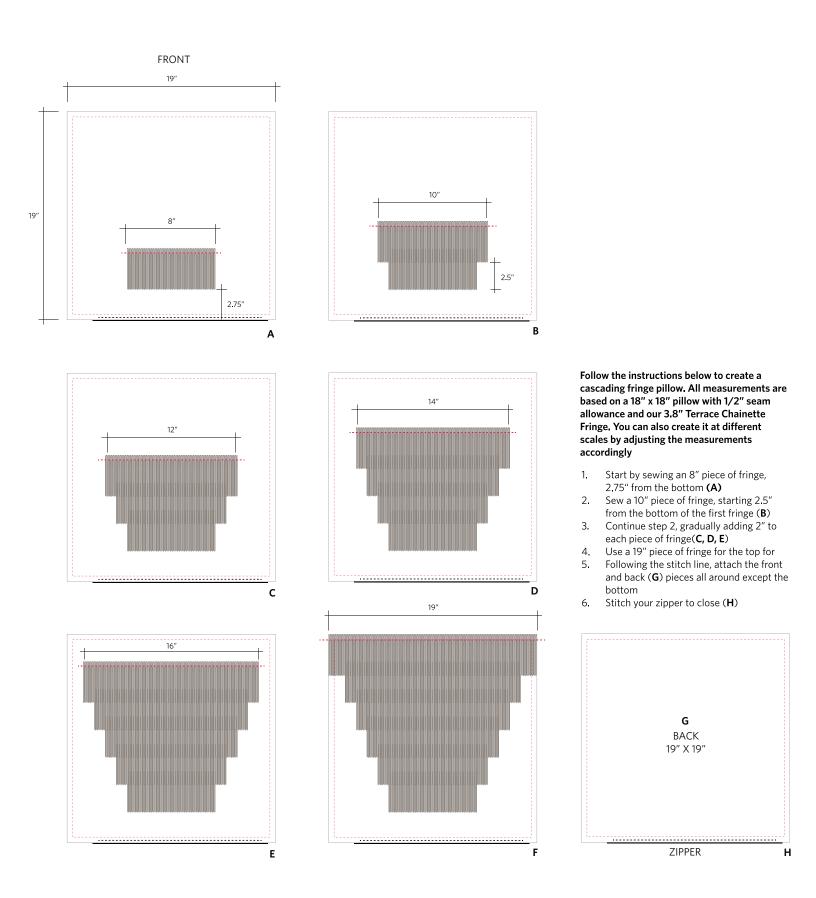
STEP 7
Sew your other fabric piece to close



STEP 8Flip your pillow cover inside-out and hand stitch your corner for a better finish.



TAILOR MADE | PATTERNS: Cascading Fringe Pillow





HOW TO SEW APPLIQUÉS









HOW TO SEW JUMBO BRUSH FRINGE

