

## Pillowcase Style Quilt Finishing

1. After pressing the entire quilt top (yes, again!), measure both the height and width along the center of the quilt. Adding 3” to 4” extra in both height and width, cut out your backing and batting according to those measurements. You may add more if you would like.
2. The next step is making the quilt ‘sandwich’. Lay the quilt top face up on a large table, put the quilt back face down (right sides together) on top of it, making sure the edges of the quilt top are *inside* the edges of the backing. The quilt back will be slightly larger than the quilt top. Then place the batting on top, aligning the edges with the quilt back.
3. Pin around the edges, with the pins on the underside of the ‘sandwich’, facing the table. When you’re done, carefully pick up the whole ‘sandwich’ and turn it over. Check to see if any of the pins are displaced, making sure everything is aligned properly, and there are no wrinkles. The backing and batting should be slightly larger than the quilt top.
4. Starting in the middle of the bottom edge of the quilt (not in the corner), sew through all layers around the edges with a ¼” seam, using the quilt top as your guide. Make sure to start and end your seam by backstitching at both ends of the opening. Leave an opening about 8” for turning when you’re done.
5. After you have sewn all around the quilt, here’s how to secure the batting to the quilt back (rather than having it loose). Fold the quilt top edge (the seam allowance) towards the quilt, and carefully stitch the quilt back and the batting together across where the opening is, being careful to not stitch into the quilt top.
6. Carefully clip the corners at a 45° angle, making sure to not clip any threads. If you do, just sew it again, starting the seam back a couple of stitches. Trim the excess backing and batting – I usually trim it to 1” from the seam line.
7. Turn the quilt right side out through the opening. Then push out the quilt corners to a nice point; you can use a knitting needle or a special tool for this.
8. Line up the two sides of the opening, and secure using pins parallel with the edges. Stitch the opening closed using a ladder stitch or other small stitch.