

## Jumper Lampshade



This lampshade came about by accident and disappointment – a favourite cashmere summer top fallen prey to moth, with six or seven really inconvenient holes. Well, I'd been thinking we needed a shade that gave out less overall light – i.e. sent light downwards for reading so I just tied it over the liberty print shade cover that was already there...

In effect, this cover is just a tube that happens to have been sleeveless and with straps that I could conveniently tie into a bit of decoration. So this one was pretty perfect really, but any knitted top – a T-shirt or jumper will work equally well, just as long as it has enough stretch to hold itself in place. Or it could of course be cut down and made narrower. Either take any sleeves off and stitch up the armholes – or just use the body, the section below the sleeves. To hold it in place at the top, any length of ribbon or cord or plaited wool, even an off-cut of the same top, can be used – whatever suits the room, in matching or in contrasting material.

The ruching hides a multitude of problems; this cover is tight enough for them to be left loose but the folds could be stitched down every so often, enough to hold them in place without spoiling the freedom of the form.

This is a really good way to re-use an old favourite anything - dress, skirt, scarf, that still has enough life left in if it for something, just not enough to wear respectably.

Or there's no reason at all why, for those handy with the needles, it couldn't be knitted or crocheted especially.

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The cover beneath the jumper is a simple slip cover over an open, bound lampshade frame, and is itself pretty straightforward to do, even without a sewing machine.

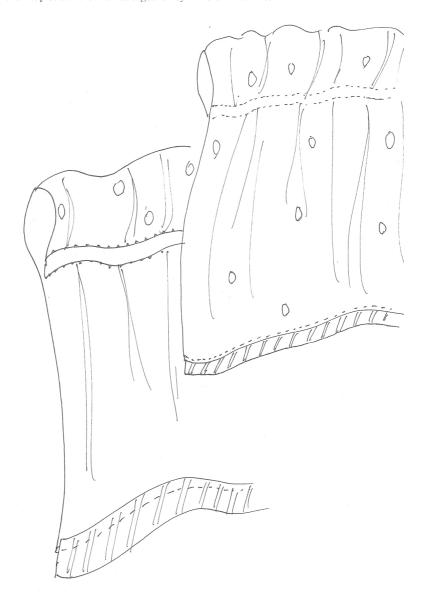
It's made of a Liberty Tana lawn, a dressmaking fabric that is tightly woven but very fine and soft to touch, fantastic to work with.

The lower edge is finished with a strip of strip of woven linen ticking from Nicole Fabre, but another Liberty print or off-cut of plain linen or simple ticking would be just as attractive. The edges can be neatened or left raw, frayed a little, finished with ribbon or self bound, whichever pleases you most.

This idea is around using something to pull over an existing slip over cover, however if you'd like to make the slip cover too, the quick instructions are as follows:

- 1. Cut and join ( with French seams ) a tube of fabric that is 20cms (8") longer than the frame and approx. one and a half times the circumference at the widest point.
- 2. Fold the top under by 7 cms ( $2 \frac{3}{4}$ ) and press.

- 3. Run two rows of gathering threads around, at 6.0 and 7.5 cms ( $2 \frac{1}{4} 2 \frac{5}{8}$ ") below the top fold.
- 4. Pull these up and cover the raw edge and the stitching with a flat heading tape that exactly fits around the top of the frame. Stitch this on with small stitches that hold every gather securely, then remove the gathering threads.
- 5. Make 4-6 short tape loops that will tie around each frame strut to hold the cover in place.
- 6. Slip the cover over the frame to check the length. Place the narrow strip of ticking beneath the lower edge of the print- then top stitch the fabrics together by hand or machine.







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Other lampshade projects with more detailed slip over covers are available on the site, perhaps especially projects. The boxed cushion shown on the bed is detailed in CU001, the Balotri skirt cushion on top of it is from CU001 and the upholstered bed head is from CU001.