



DESIGN & MAKE

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Marty

Marty: slip over lampshade



DESIGN

These little shades are made with French sheeting linen and a fun zebra print trimming, to slip over a card shade or a lined frame.

The method for these is straightforward and transferable to any size and shape. This is a standard pattern for us, that can be scaled and adapted time and again. We mostly use it, in this size and two sizes above, for dressing tables - in sprigged muslins, organdie, laces, double layers. They can be very pretty and much more complex with hand embroidery, lace trimmings, frills and furbelows or, as here, a single layer with an interesting bought trimming.

For those new to sewing or pressed for time the great advantage is that these edgings require no work from you, as they are bought. There are so many lovely flat trimmings to choose from as well - ric racs, ribbon and any number of braids from local shops, specialists like VVRouleau, department stores, card and gift shops, antique stalls or holiday markets - or just cut any fabric on the cross and leave it unfinished.

These take only a small amount of fabric and we're about to make one from a linen pillowcase that has worn through on the front - we might need to join it but that doesn't matter when it's a recycling project - we'll just have to make sure the French seams are as tiny as they can be.



make the stitching lines as neat as possible....

Make

MATERIALS

For this shade and for two other larger sizes. All are suitable for dressing tables in layers and linings, playing with sheer and semi sheer fabrics in mixed textures - silk, linen, organdie, lace, lawn.....

The important thing is that they can be washable- the whole point of slip covers is to be able to get rid of fly spots and general grime easily, and before it's too late.

Frame :	A	B	C
base	20 cm (8")	25 cm (10")	30 cms (12 ")
top	8.5 cm (3 1/4")	9.5cm (3 3/4")	10.5 cm (4 1/4")
slope	13.5 cm (5 1/2")	15 cm (6")	16.5 cm (7")

Fabric:	A - 82 cm x 18.5 cm (33" x 7 1/2")
	B - 102 cm x 20 cm (41" x 8")
	C - 122 cm x 21.5 cm (48" x 9 3/4")

There seems to be very little standard sizing between lampshade frames makers and department stores, and even from one year to the next, so your shade may well not fit any more than one of these dimensions. In any case you probably want to cover a shade you already have so, to scale this to your own shade - we allowed: for the width a fullness of approx. $1\frac{1}{3}$ x the diameter, plus 2 cms for the seam; for the depth we took the slope plus 2.5 - 3 cm (1- 1 1/4") extra length plus 1.5 cm (5/8") for the heading and 1 cm (3/8") hem.

Trimming band : The one we've used is 20 mm (3/4") wide. The heading is trimmed back to 1 cm (3/8") after gathering - i.e. to half of the depth of the trimming , so that it can be fully enclosed by the trimming. If you want to use one that is much wider then add a little more to the heading allowance.

base	82 cm (33")	102cm (41")	122 cm (48")
top	30 cms (12")	32 cm (12 3/4")	34 cm (13 1/2")
bow	100 cms (40")	100 cms (40")	100 cms (40")

Retaining loops

India tape:	approx. 10 cms
poppers	two small poppers

PREPARE

1. Cut and join the skirt with a neat French seam. Press. Fold the piece into four and mark each section with a coloured tack.
2. Hold the trimming band around the top of the shade and pin the ends so that fits comfortably about 1 cm (3/8") below the top of the shade. Join the ends with a flat seam and press open. Mark into four equal divisions with coloured tacks or pins.
3. Make the retaining loops. Cut the India tape in half to 5 cms (2") and hand stitch both of these in half lengthwise - so that there are two very narrow strips. Fold the ends up by just a few mm (1/8") and stitch one side of one of the poppers over each. Put the other sides of the poppers back on - just so that you know where they are. These are to hold the cover in place - they will be stitched into the heading to wrap around two fitting struts, then fixed back to a popper on the edge of the heading band.

TO MAKE THE SHADE

1. Place the skirt onto the worktable with the right side up and the seam where you can see it. Press the hem up by 1 cm (3/8") and pin it to the front of the skirt. Press the French seam to lie in opposite directions above and below the pressed edge.

2. Position the hem trimming all around, starting at the seam and pinning the bottom edge along the folded linen. Pin across the trimming so that as many pins as possible will stay in place, holding the fabrics together whilst you're stitching. Fold the ends under at the seam and ladder stitch to close the ends.

Tip! If your fabric is bit thicker than this linen, you could trim the last stitching line of the French seam away to help the trimming lie flattest.

3. Stitch it in place keeping the stitching lines as close to the outside edges of the trimming as possible - this not only looks neatest, it prevents the edges curling during laundering or with time.

4. Run a gathering thread around 1.5 cm below the top edge. * This will be trimmed back to fit half the depth of your trimming.

5. Pull the gathers up to approx. 30 cms. Pin the trimming band around, matching the seams and the division marks. Stitch around, close to the lower edge.

6. Remove the gathering threads and trim the edges back to 1 cm (3/8") - or exactly half the trimming depth. Press the gathers flat within the seam allowance only, using the toe of the iron.

7. Fold the trimming over and pin it all around.

8. Pop the cover onto the lampshade and mark where the tapes and the poppers need to be stitched so that the tapes can loop around the fitting struts- coming from within the trimming band on one side and back to a popper stitched to the bottom of the trimming on the other side. Take the cover off and stitch the non - popper end of the tapes securely to the seam allowance, so that they will be covered by the trimming.

9. Slipstitch neatly around the inside, enclosing all previous stitches. Stitch the other side of the poppers close to the bottom of the trimming band- stitching firmly but taking care not to let the stitches show through to the front.

10. Stitch the middle of the tie to the front, or side of the shade, and tie into a bow.

* We trimmed ours to half it's width, but that's not always possible, so either stitch it to make it narrower or leave it as it is ...

11. Fit the shade on, and enjoy it!



Zebra print, hand woven Mali mud cloth and basket.. the colours and textures of savannah....



An interior designers guide to home furnishings large and small, essential and ancillary, fun and serious. It's good to contribute to our own home furnishings however little time or expertise we have, so we try to create small patterns like this which are not so complicated, and where the effect far outweighs the effort. Choosing a good practical, washable fabric in the first place is the best starting point for this one, we used linen sheeting, and a trimming with attitude, that speaks for itself and gives real presence.

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