



Living in Stereo

Hardware Goes Softcore With These Low-Tech Pillows

by Adrian Van Allen

"Encounters with birds are often fleeting. Reproduce their silhouettes on fabric, however, and you can enjoy their presence all day long," chirps the August issue of *Martha Stewart Living*. To further enrich one's appreciation of Americana, Martha provides line drawings of state birds and suggests embroidering them on pillowcases or quilts. We at *ReadyMade* would never disparage a deep and abiding respect of regional fowl, but our daily lives are far more influenced by Taiwanese gadgets. To celebrate the objects that cup our ears, attract our eyes, and lard our imaginations, we offer templates of everyday media accessories. Honor them with a dainty line of embroidery thread. Know them through the cultivation of patience and skill. Love them as bedfellows.



GADGET PILLOW

\$10

INGREDIENTS:

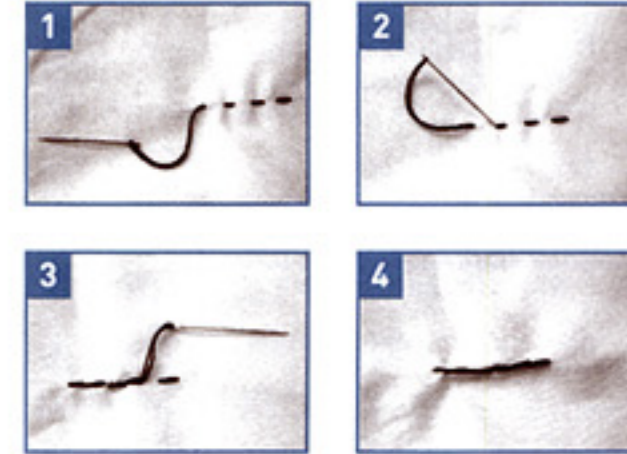
- Line drawing
- Linen or cotton cloth
- Transfer paper
- Embroidery thread

TOOLS:

- Embroidery needles
- Scissors
- Ballpoint pen
- Embroidery hoop (optional)

MAKE IT

1. Use a photocopy machine to blow up the size of your drawing.
2. Lay the cloth right side up, lay down the transfer paper, then place the photocopy over the transfer paper.
3. Trace the image with the ballpoint pen. Press hard, but be careful not to pierce the paper.
4. Remove both pieces of paper and secure the cloth in an embroidery hoop. This will make it easier to stitch cleanly and accurately.
5. Thread your needle and go to work, being careful not to smudge the transfer drawing. [See "How to Embroider" below.]
6. Turn your embroidered cloth into a pillowcase by sewing a matching piece to the back, or make a quilt by sewing together a series of squares and arranging them in a grid. You can also embroider curtains, hand towels, and T-shirts.



HOW TO EMBROIDER

1. Outline the entire design with a basic in-and-out stitch. Bring the needle through from the wrong side to the right side of the fabric.
2. Reverse direction and go back over your stitches, using the same holes.
3. As you go, you'll connect the spaces between the stitches you made in Step 1, making a solid line.
4. You've got yourself some embroidery.



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