

Pet Rescue Beds stuffed with Washable Fabric Scraps!



Rescues suffer from severe trauma when in transition – having a bed that smells like them that goes with them reduces this trauma. Rescues love these treasures for higher adoption success rates. Thank you for recycling your washable fabric scraps! Be sure to trim out shapes for appliques in other projects!



This guide shows how to make simple pet beds from various fabrics and pillow casings. There is an INSIDE casing to hold the stuffing and a strong OUTER covering. The beds need to be washable, yet durable so claws won't rip the fabric. Avoid light colors so dirt won't show to potential adopters, and avoid black or near-black colors to avoid highlighting the hair (shedding.)

The goal is to make the pet comfortable AND attractive for their new families!

Pet PADS: Some smaller or sickly pets only need a pad, often used with a heating pad. Attach MS Label to flannel piece 16x19". Layer 16x19" cotton batting under (2) of 16x19" flannel pieces, right sides together. Stitch all around leaving a 5" turnout opening. Trim around if needed but avoid stitches. Turn out. Sew opening closed. Quilt layers by stitching a 5x8" rectangle in center. See photo.



Recommended Fabrics (and don't forget your MS Label!):

Inside Casing: LIGHTweight fabrics, pillow shams or tablecloths, pillowcases that are thin cotton, polyester, microfiber, with or without zippers or sheer curtains. The inner lining can be any color. Stains, tears (that are stitched up!) or bleached spots on the fabrics are fine as inside casing.

Outer Covering: HEAVYweight fabrics like zippered shams with "home dec" decorator, upholstery, denim, or canvas fabric are ideal; Heavy duty table cloths, any size or shape; Curtains or shower curtains. The other covering can be **any** color except light that will show dirt, or too dark shows hair. **Medium colors with designs are best.** Fabrics need to be strong and "claw-proof" --- perform a scratch test with your nails! Fleece "no-sew" blankets are possible for small or elderly cats or dogs so long as not chewing or clawing. Attach a MS Label!

Sizing

- Small – Cats & small dogs 18 to 20 inches square or rectangle
- Medium – Medium, mid-weight sized dogs 20 to 24" square or rectangle
- Large – please make TWO Medium beds. *Too big is too hard on washers/dryers.*



Inside casing: Easiest - use a zippered, lightweight pillowcase. If no zipper, then sew shut.



Zip Up or Sew Shut



Or Make Your Own



Measure LIGHTweight casing fabric requiring sewing:

Determine the size required by measuring the finished size of the outer casing

- ♥ Finished inner casing should closely match the size of the outer covering
- ♥ Pillowcase – use existing size or resize by sewing length and/or width
- ♥ Fabric, curtain, table cloth, etc., Cut material and allow for roughly 1/2" to 1" seam allowances
- ♥ Sew three sides of the inner casing fabric together using your preferred method
 - RST (Right Sides Together), use a zig zag stitch, serge, or sew a parallel straight stitch
 - Hem sides by folding fabric 1/2 inch, then WST (Wrong Sides Together), stitch three sides
- ♥ Insert the washable scraps and sew up the opening. OPTION: Quilt 6" square sections to secure stuffing.

Outside casing: Easiest solution is to use a zippered, HEAVYweight pillowcase sham. If no zipper, then sew shut after placing inside casing inside. If you need to make your inner casing, make it 1" smaller around to fit inside. **NO-SEW fleece option** for small pets only who don't chew or claw. Cut desired size rectangle, fold, cut 2" fringe around 3 sides, tie knots to secure top to bottom! Stitch on a MS Label!



Zip Up



Sew Shut



Cut Fringe and Tie Knots

- If you don't have zippered sew-up shams, Make your own Outer casing using similar methods to the inner casing in the above section, BUT sandwich the inner lining and stitch as shown in the photo below. That will ensure the lining stays put on at least one end. Add MS LABEL!



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JEANS for Outer Case



Step 1. Cut off bottom hems



Step 2. Cut inseam



Step 3. Cut off pant leg



Step 4. Open up pant leg and cut off thick seam



Step 5. Repeat Step 2-4 for other pant leg



Step 6. Open up both pant legs, right sides together. Cut edges to straighten and align.

Step 7. Hem lower edge of both pieces. Fold over 1/2" and stitch a zig zag seam if available.

Step 8. Join the two legs pieces. Put right sides together and sew three sides together using 1/2" seam. Use a zig zag stitch if possible. Now it is ready for the stuffed lining. Stitch the top seam of the lining and jean bag together.

