



Pumpkin Pincushion

Here's a quick and easy pincushion shaped like a pumpkin. You could use different fabric prints to make a patchwork version, use red to turn it into an apple, or make a pumpkin patch for Halloween decorations.

Seam allowance: 1/4"

Finished dimensions: Small pumpkin 3" x 2"

Larger pumpkin, 4" x 3"

Supplies:

- » fabric scraps
- » matching thread
- » heavy-duty floral wire
- » brown embroidery floss
- » stuffing (polyfill or wool roving)

Step # 1: Choose whether you'll be sewing the small or larger pumpkin and cut out the template found on the next page. Cut six pieces of fabric according to the template.

Step #2: With right sides together, sew two pieces together beginning and ending 1/4" from the tips, shown in fig. A.

Step #3: Continue to sew additional pieces to this one, right sides together until you have sewn all six pieces forming a ball, but leaving one opening. Sew along the top and bottom of the opening as shown in fig. B. Next, sew an over-casting stitch along all the raw edges. Turn right sides out.

Step #4: Cut a piece of floral wire about 5" and bend one end several times. Thread the wire from inside the pumpkin casing and poke the straight end through the top, bend it over and bring the end back through the inside. Bend this end a couple of times to keep it in place inside the pumpkin. You will now have a wire loop on the top of the pumpkin. You can adjust this to determine the width of your pumpkin stem.

Step #5: Thread a needle with the embroidery floss, tie a knot at one end and bring it through the top of the pumpkin from inside. Wrap the floss around the wire, twisting until you reach the top, pull it through the top of the wire loop a couple of times and wrap it again working your way down. Pull the floss through to the inside of the pumpkin and tie it off.

Step #6: Fill the pumpkin with stuffing, spreading it evenly and poking with a dull object to fit in as much as possible.

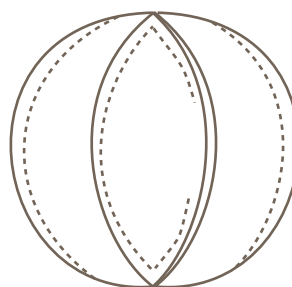
Step #7: Sew the opening closed using a hidden ladder stitch.

Step #8: If your pumpkin is looking too tall or round, you can bring a thread from the bottom to the top, make a few stitches and bring it back through again, pulling the pumpkin into a more puckered shape.

Figure A

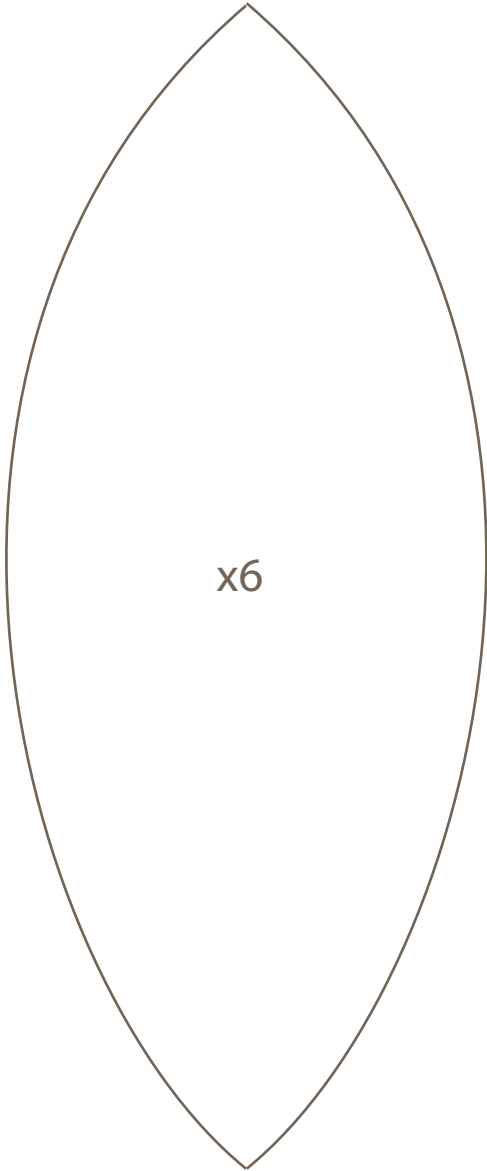


Figure B

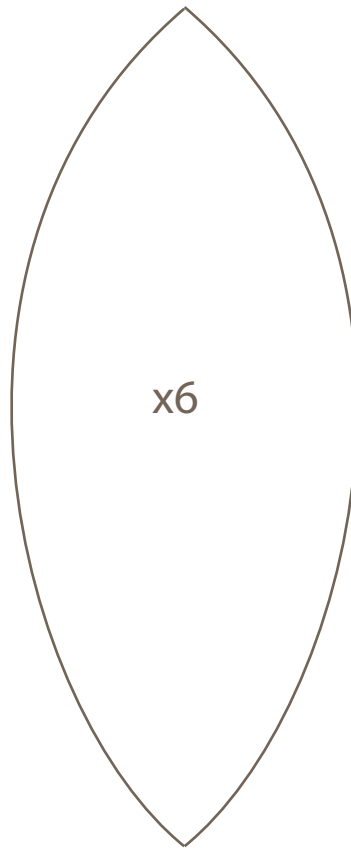


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TEMPLATE



Larger Pumpkin



Small Pumpkin