

# Repurposed Sweater Pillow



## **Introduction**

Give your old pillow a new lease on life by making it the snuggly center piece on your sofa or chair. No longer are cozy, chunky, colorful knitted sweaters relegated to just our bodies; the newest trend in throw pillows are repurposed chunky knitted sweater pillows. They are just the thing in your home, and would make wonderful gifts for friends and loved ones.

Plus, to spruce up your home décor even more, you now can wed your favorite sweater with your favorite number....

What is your favorite number? Your child's age? Your sports jersey number? The number of people in your family?

Whatever number you use: show it off with pride on this great up-cycled pillow.

## **Technique**

Wash your favorite old sweater at the warmest setting your washing machine has. Use a liquid laundry detergent. Add plenty of fragrant fabric softener to make your sweater nice and soft. Pull out your sweater and lay flat to dry. (Cotton will shrink up a bit; wool will shrink a lot.)

Measure to find the dimensions of the desired pillow form; add a half an inch to each side for seam allowances. Use these measurements to cut three pieces: one from the sweater, one from the cotton or muslin lining, and one from the vintage fabric for the back.

To keep the sweater from stretching out of shape when you add the number patch to the front (and when you have pillow fights with your kids....) we will add lining. Pin your sweater piece to your lining piece all the way around the edge. Trim any uneven edges. Then sew the two pieces together with a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch seam allowance. It helps to sew on the cotton lining side, to keep the sweater from puckering.

Print your favorite number onto the unbleached cotton. Press, fold under the edges of the fabric by  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch and sew onto the center of the sweater panel, using a very small seam allowance.

Place sweater front panel and vintage back panel right sides together. At the bottom, apply the zipper. (If you would like to skip this step, you could just leave an 8 inch opening instead, then stitch the pillow closed by hand at the end.)

Open the zipper and with panels right sides together, stitch along the sides. Trim the corners. Turn.

Insert pillow form, close the zipper, and voila! You are ready to enjoy your pillow, featuring your favorite sweater and number....

### **Tools and Materials**

- Old sweater
- Pillow Form
- Cotton Fabric or Muslin (for lining)
- Unbleached Cotton Canvas
- Vintage Fabric
- 12 inch Zipper
- Coordinating Thread

### **Tips**

- To avoid skin allergies and irritations, use only natural cleaning products.
- Please contact Marijke for a free PDF file with illustrated instructions on the number appliqué.

### **End Lines**

Growing up in the Netherlands, Marijke Mill [pronounced ma-RYE-ka] was raised on a diet of creativity. The family visited museums often, and artistic projects were found all over the house. Her educational and work experience lies in art and design, and she doesn't have enough time to let all her creative ideas come to fruition. She resides in Idaho with her husband and three children, a dog, cat, and lots of other big and little critters.

Email [CrystelleBoutique@gmail.com](mailto:CrystelleBoutique@gmail.com)

Website [www.CrystelleBoutique.com](http://www.CrystelleBoutique.com)

