Sew a Shaped Pillow: 8/29/17 with CBTV Live

Chapter 1 - Chapter 1
Sew a Shaped Pillow
^(lively instrumental music) - Hey everybody, it's Liana from Creativebug, and I'm here with Ashley Nickels. - Hi, everybody. - Hi, you guys. So, Ashley is one of our favorite sewing and quilting instructors on Creativebug. - Aww. - And you may have seen her here before. What did you do the last time you were here? - The last time I was here we did that shirring technique, - Oh, yes - that turned it into a dog cape for Charlie. - That's right, and we've also done, let's see, free-motion quilting. - We did a log cabin block, I think. - I know. - On live TV. - We love having Ashley here. So why don't you tell us a little bit about what we're going to be doing today? - So we are gonna make a pillow out of this amazing butterfly square. That's essentially what we're gonna do. - [Liana] We don't know what the exact name is for when you make a pillow that is the shape of an animal or of a silhouette. So if anybody knows what the official name of that kind of pillow is, we would love for you to write in the comments, because we've been wracking our brains. We're calling it a shaped pillow. - Right. - Yeah. And also, if you have any questions for Ashley as we go, also feel free to write in, and we will answer them live! - Yes. - So a little bit about this fabric that we're working with, it is called Square By Design, it's very handy. They tell you that right here. And, what they are, basically, is a lightweight upholstery fabric. I think it's a cotton-polyester blend, and they come with these awesome motifs that are woven into it, so it's like a woven tapestry kind of thing. And we thought it would be really fun, because a lot of people just take these and sew them into square pillows, which is, of course, a wonderful thing to do, nothing wrong with that, but why not turn them into a shaped pillow? - Exactly. And this is something that you can do, really with anything. You can take a blank piece of fabric and turn it into a butterfly pillow as well, but this just so happens to have the butterfly on it for us, so it's even easier. - [Liana] That's right. And we have two, identical pieces, so you can order these squares. We got them on joann.com, I think we're gonna post a link for you, if you are curious what other motifs they have. They're not all butterflies. - Some of them are fishes. - Some of them are fishes! Here's one that we have here. Ashley's been hitting me with this all afternoon. Can't wait 'til this butterfly pillow is done. But you could also probably do one with a solid color backside or something like that, if you wanted to just do one. - Oh, yeah. Totally. This is essentially just, also, you could call this a stuffed animal if you wanted to. - This is true. It's the easiest stuffed animal-- - Just so happens that these are, this is perfect for pillow, 'cause it's an upholstery fabric, so. - [Liana] All right, show me how you make a stuffed butterfly. - [Ashley] Stuffed butterfly. Never, I can say I've never made a stuffed butterfly before today. Happening on live TV. So these two pieces of fabric are mirror image, and so what I'm gonna do, just so that I make sure that they're the same, because I'm gonna sew them together and want them to be the same, is I'm actually gonna cut out one and then use that first one as a template to cut out the second piece. You could try to do them at the same time. That feels a little risky to me. - [Liana] 'Cause once you cut, you're in it. - (exhales) And, you know, if you didn't order double, then don't risk it. - That's right. - We're gonna start, and I'm just gonna do a very rough line around my butterfly. - [Liana] And she's not even measuring. - [Ashley] I'm not even measuring. I'm just using my eyes. - [Liana] She's a crafting daredevil here. - [Ashley] And-- - [Man] Ashley, lean back a little bit. Thank you. (Liana laughs) - [Ashley] I am leaving about an inch and a half because I wanna make sure that I'm allowing for seam allowance when I sew it. How does that look? - [Liana] I think it looks

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a little bit like it needs to come down a little bit right here, and then you're good. - [Ashley] Like that? - [Liana] Yeah. - [Ashley] Okay. So I'm just gonna go ahead and cut it, livin' on the edge. And I'm gonna use these really awesome sharp scissors, and I'm just gonna give myself a little bit outside of that line, just because it's my pillow. - [Liana] And what kind of fabric marker did you use to mark this? - I just used a crayon. This is like, I don't actually know what that is. - It's a cour. I'm not sure what a cour is. - I pulled it out of the set, actually. - Oh! (chuckles) - But you could use a piece of chalk, you could use an actual marking pen. - And it's gonna be in the seam length, so-- - Yeah. You're not gonna see it. - You won't be seeing it. - You won't see it. Okay, and then I'm gonna come back around here. - [Liana] So this is a really good gift, I think, if you are, like, going to, like say you're going to a baby shower. - [Ashley] Ooh, a baby shower, yeah. - And you wanted to make a handmade gift, but you had maybe one hour. (laughs) - Yeah. This is a really quick gift. - [Liana] You can pull this off. - [Ashley] Yeah. Now, one thing you could do at this point, I'm gonna lean back, is you could fold it and see how you did in terms of making the actual butterfly a mirror image. - [Both] Oh! - [Ashley] So I could say, like, oh, okay, maybe I want this to be a little-- Okay, you could do that, you could not, also. Totally up to you. - [Liana] Have this be slightly wonky. - [Ashley] Slightly wonky is fine, too. - [Liana] You did a pretty good job drawing around it though. - [Ashley] Woo, okay, so now what I'm gonna do. - [Liana] That's what I'm here for. - [Ashley] That's my lovely assistant. - [Liana] Throwing things on the floor. (laughing) - [Ashley] So now I'm gonna put right sides together. So I'm gonna take butterfly on butterfly, and I'm just gonna make sure that the top of my butterfly lines up on this side. I'm gonna pin it. - [Liana] Pins are your friends people. - [Ashley] Pins are your friends. - I'm just gonna make sure this is more or less even down here. Then I'm gonna pin it. And I'm gonna do the same on this side. - [Liana] I have to say this looks so cool on the backside, you could almost (Liana laughing) - [Ashley] I know. sew it the other way round. - [Ashley] It does look really cool. - [Liana] I know. It's almost like a Mexican blanket. - [Ashley] Totally, I know, with those stripes. It looks so good. - [Liana] Beautiful work, Square by Design. - [Ashley] Very good. Okay, so now I'm just gonna literally cut around this edge. Okay? - [Liana] Okay. - [Ashley] Really easy. - [Liana] Do you have any tips for what to do with this extra fabric? - [Ashley] Do I have any tips? Change purse, mini-pillow, tooth fairy pillow. - [Liana] Actually, yeah, you do have this fun kinda backside, - [Ashley] Yeah. - [Liana] If you wanted to play around with the Mexican style blanket, - [Ashley] Yeah. - [Liana] Scraps. - [Liana] Cool. - [Ashley] So we just keep going. And for those of you who are joining us, and aren't familiar with Creativebug, we do this every Tuesday and Thursday, on Facebook. We do a live demonstration for you. It's different every time, we never know what's going to happen. And we always do this at 4 p.m. for us in California. So 7 p.m. for you East-coasters, and everybody else can do their time-zone math for themselves. And this Thursday actually, we're going to have an amazing artist, her name is Pam Garrison. And she's gonna be here doing some painting demos for you also. - Oh you should definitely check that out. - [Liana] We hope you join us every time. Get outta here! - [Ashley] Okay, so now we are ready to sew these two sides together. - And conveniently it is pinned right sides together. - That was not on, it's not a coincidence Liana. - I, I just wanted, I want you to know, I noticed that. - Very nice. (laughter) Glad you're paying attention, good student. Okay, so what you have to make sure you do with this pillow is, leave an opening so that you can turn it. And you wanna pick a side that's relatively flat. Okay, so this has a lot of curves on it. So I'm probably not gonna choose any of these curvy sides. I'm probably gonna choose-- I might, what do you think? - [Liana] I think, like right there. - [Ashley] I was gonna say, I was gonna choose this side here. - [Liana] Looks like a nice straightaway. - And I'm gonna leave about four inches. I basically wanna be able to get my hand in.

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Because that's where I'm gonna, - [Liana] For stuffin'. - Both turn it and I'm also gonna stuff it. So I'm again, gonna leave about a four inch kick-out. - [Liana] Can you remember? Or you gonna pin it? - I'm gonna remember. - Oh, she's so good. (laughter) - Or maybe you're gonna help me remember. Okay, so I'm gonna bring this over to the machine. I also want to point out that the seam allowance is very loose. You don't have to keep the 3/8 seam allowance, which is the normal seam allowance, for patterns. You could use a quarter inch, it's really up to you. Because this is not a piece of clothing. Like, it really doesn't matter. You just wanna make sure that you don't leave any holes. Okay, so don't get too close to the edge. Is what I would say. - [Liana] Okay, good life lessons, from Ashley. - [Ashley] So here we go, yes. Life lessons. Okay and then I'm gonna start with a back stitch, because I'm gonna be messing with this opening a lot, with my hand, so I wanna make sure it's nice and secure. And then every time I get to a little corner, I get to pivot. And then when you're coming around these curves, depending on how confident you are at sewing, just stop and pivot, stop and pivot. But it's a big enough curve to where you don't necessarily need to, stop. But when in doubt, stop and pivot. - [Liana] So this is a good project for anybody who is new to sewing. - [Ashley] Agreed. - [Liana] And who maybe needs to practice sewing their curves, and pivoting with the needle down, and all that kind of stuff. - [Ashley] Yeah, and this material has a little bit of give, which means that it could stretch and pull, so try not to mess with it too much, while you're sewing. And then, this is, I'm gonna do a little pivoting here. Come around this curve. If it starts to get unruly, stop, okay, just chill. - [Liana] Now would you ever consider using a free-motion foot with something like this. Or is that movement, way better to have that kind of control? - [Ashley] Yeah, no you don't wanna, you don't need to use free motion for this, because you're just sewing a straight seam. And you want your feed dogs essentially, your feed dogs are what pulls the material. - [Liana] Okay. - [Ashley] Keep going. - [Liana] It's looking good so far. - [Ashley] Yeah I think so. Coming around the bend. (laughter) It's very exciting to watch someone sew, I'm sure. - [Liana] It is actually. It's quite mesmerizing. So I can see that you're always following the line of the one that is the furthest in. - [Ashley] Yeah, that's a good pointer. So this bottom one is a little bit bigger. Which is good so that way I know it's there. If you were ever in a situation where you couldn't see that bottom layer, you wanna double check to make sure that you're catching and you're not leaving a hole. My fish is getting in the way here. - [Liana] Uh oh. - [Ashley] Alright, so we're almost done, and I wanna make sure I don't stop on a curve. 'Cause that would be very problematic. I wanna make sure I'm stopping on this straight edge. And then I also wanna make sure I stop, again I wanna leave that hand length, and I wanna end with a back stitch. Now we are done. - [Liana] (cheering) - [Ashley] Okay, so a couple of things, that you can keep in mind. So we can take out our pins. And you know. - [Liana] I'll put these a way, I'll make myself useful. - Oh, amazing, you could trim some of this excess, okay, if there's a lot. Just be careful you're not trimming too close to the seam. And another thing you could do, maybe up here, this is kind of a tighter corner, so I might cut some little divots out. - [Liana] Clipping the curves! - [Ashley] Just clipping the curves, thank you. - [Liana] Just make sure you don't cut right through your stitch line. - [Ashley] Oh yeah, please don't do that. So those are all suggested things you can do. I'm gonna get rid of some of the bulk here. Especially because this is upholstery fabric, it's a little thicker, okay. - [Woman] The folks just joining us, can you tell them what we're making? - [Both] Yeah. - Yeah, so for anybody who is just tuning in, we are making a shaped butterfly pillow. Ah ah. We 're gonna turn it right side out in a moment. This is actually the wrong side. - This is the wrong side. - [Liana] And we just sewed around the edges. - [Ashley] Are we ready? - [Liana] I'm ready for the reveal. - Ready for the big reveal, okay. - Ta-da, it's always a very fun moment. - We're making a giant butterfly hand puppet. - Yeah. (laughter) -

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[Ashley] Haven't you always wanted one of those. - [Liana] For those who just wanna stop here. - Yep. - [Both] Ooh! - [Liana] Oh that's so cool. - [Ashley] Uh oh. - [Liana] I love it. - [Ashley] Yeah I see some of my red. - [Liana] You gotta little bit of red, you'll have to wipe that off. - [Ashley] Have to wipe that off. - [Liana] If you go that route, make sure you don't use a sharpie. - [Ashley] Yes. And it's looking good. - [Liana] It's so cute, ah, I love it. - [Ashley] It looks great. It looks great. - Cute! - [Ashley] Okay, so the second to last step, there's two more steps. Second to last step is to, take this lovely ball of stuffing, polyfill, and just start fillin' her up. - [Liana] Do you have any strategy for stuffing? - [Ashley] I like to do little chunks at a time, and push to the farthest reaches, first. - [Liana] You don't want big clumps. - [Ashley] You don't want big clumps, and actually the smaller pieces, are actually, are just fluffier in the end. And it makes it, it evens it out throughout. I teach, kids, to sew, and last year some of my kids did some stuffed animals, and that was the one lesson I learned. Was to tell them to take tiny pieces. - [Liana] We're they impatient? We're they just wanting to take like this entire thing and stuff it inside. - [Ashley] Yeah, and then like the poor little teddy bear's feet didn't have enough stuffing in them, (laughter) and they had like a big fat body. - [Liana] It's a lesson in patience. - [Ashley] It's a lesson. - [Liana] And do you need, you don't need to press this at all, so once you've sewn your seams. - [Ashley] No, you could though, I mean. - [Liana] But probably with all the stuffing, it kind of presses it all outward. - Yeah, I mean I've been using my hands to kind of make sure all the seams get pushed out in like a uniform way. So you could do that and you should be good to go. - Cool. - Yeah. - [Liana] Nice. Do we have any questions that have come in? - [Both] No questions! - [Liana] Well clearly you're doing such a great job teaching, that people, - [Ashley] Exactly. - [Liana] You're answering all their questions as you go. - [Ashley] Either that or I've put them to sleep. (laughter) - [Woman] They're very much not asleep. (laughter) They are saying, how beautiful and cool. - [Both] Aww - [Liana] That's nice. - Why thank you. - I will take this moment to tell you all, that if you enjoy Ashley's teaching style, then I really encourage you to take her classes on Creativebug. I think you have about ten or twelve classes, on our site now. - I think there's more than that. - They're great classes, especially for kind of like, for a nice medi, beginner, intermediate level in sewing and quilting. And some really quality instruction. - Why thank you. - [Liana] Yes. - [Ashley] Why thank you. - [Liana] I think the yoga mat bag is my favorite. - [Ashley] Oh man, yeah that was a good one. - [Liana] I know, I know. - [Ashley] That was a good one. - [Liana] So some very practical sewing projects, we have a dopp bag. What are some other ones? Potholders. - [Ashley] The wristlet clutch, is the newest one. My personal favorite though, is water-color quilting. - [Liana] Yes, where you paint on fabric, and then she teaches you how to free-motion quilt around the shape, and it's beautiful. And it will fulfill all of your artistic needs - It will. - [Liana] Yeah, how's that for an endorsement. You can put that on your website. - [Ashley] Pretty good, I will, can I quote you. - [Liana] Yes. - [Ashley] Great. - [Liana] And what is your website. - [Ashley] Oh my website, I have a new website, ashleynickles.co, make sure you spell nickles correctly like, the coin. - [Liana] (laughs) - [Ashley] Nickles like the coin. - [Liana] And you can find out all of Ashley's goings ons, there. - [Ashley] Yes, you can sign up for my news letter, you can see all my Creativebug classes, you can, find out where I'm teaching in-person classes, all of that good stuff. - All that good stuff. And for any of you who are not already Creativebug members, if you're curious about Creativebug, and you wanna give it a shot, and you want that shot to be a really long period of time. I really suggest you take us up on our one month free offer, which we give to our Facebook members. And so with that one month offer, I think Allie is gonna post a link for you now, you can watch all of the classes on Creativebug. So we have over 1000 classes in sewing, quilting, knitting, crochet, drawing, painting, like all sorts of good stuff. - So much good

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stuff. - And you can do that for one month, and you can access everything. - [Woman] And we have a comment, from Faith, - Yes, oh. - Ooh Faith. - [Woman] Who says I made a dopp bag, using Ashley's class for my fiance last x-mas, and he uses it all of the time. - Aww. - Thanks Faith, I'm glad you like it. Yeah that is a really fun project. - It looks really cool. - And its pretty easy, I teach that one at Craftcation. And it's always a big hit. - [Liana] It's a crowd pleaser? - [Ashley] A crowd pleaser. Okay, we're ready. - It looks like you have stuffed this pillow. - (gasping) okay so this is a pretty cool butterfly, don't you think? - I think it's gorgeous. - The only problem is that we have to, finish that. - Requires a little hand sewing. - It's a little bit of a tedious step, I'm not gonna lie. - But don't quit now. - Don't quit now, because it will look great. So what I did was I kinda hid, I kinda tucked it in and I hid all of that. - [Liana] Um-hmm - [Ashley] Okay, and I'm just gonna use one pin, from the moment to just secure that, while I get my hand needle threaded. - [Liana] Because, why not? - [Ashley] Because, why not? And then I'm gonna take my hand needle, and I'm gonna use this matching thread, because, it's really clever when you use a whip stitch, a hand stitch, and it's the same color thread, you can't even see it. - It's magic. - It's magic. - Do you wanna get in here so you can see it even better. - [Ashley] Here, I'm gonna sit so that. Okay, So, I'm gonna start, it's gonna be a little rough start here, just cause I'm on live pressure. - [Liana] Did you tie a knot in the end. - [Ashley] I'm gonna do it right now. - [Liana] Oh. - [Woman] Ah, so I've posted a link to where you can shop for fabric, at Joann, We've got a lot of people who may not be seeing that link. And they're wondering where can I buy this. So can you tell them? - [Liana] Yes, you can go to joann.com, and just search square by design, and you're gonna see all the options that they have. I believe, in addition to the fish, I also so an elephant, there was, a bicycle. It doesn't have to be an animal, you could have a stuffed bicycle. All sorts of really really cool motifs. I think there's a bird in there too. So take a look, and I believe, they are $15 a square, and it looks like they're on sale. - [Ashley] Aw wow, - [Liana] As a matter of fact. - [Ashley] Awesome. Last I checked. If you're watching this later I cannot guarantee it. - [Ashley] Okay, so I'm just going down the line. It's basically, you know some people call this the whip-stitch. You're just kinda like circling the hole closed. There are some more secure ways of doing this, but for our purposes this should be fine. - [Liana] What would be a more secure way of doing this? - [Ashley] Well just a much, I'm doing this really far apart, not really far apart, but pretty far apart. I would take more time and do my stitches, much closer together just to make sure. - [Liana] So if you're making this for a rambunctious child. - [Ashley] Yeah, you could just take more than two minutes. - [Both] (laughing) - [Liana] You're just giving them the idea. - [Ashley] Yeah, exactly. And I'm also using this really cool, self-threading needle. - [Liana] That is cool, I really need to get some of those. - [Ashley] Although people would warn me against using these for this kind of thing, because I don't have a thimble. And it hurts my finger. - [Liana] Oh really? - [Ashley] But I'm kind of a, kind of a glutton for punishment in that way. - [Liana] Because it has a little, like nubby thing on the end. - [Ashley] 'Cause it's, pretty, the platform here is pretty sharp to push against. - [Liana] Oh uh huh huh. - [Ashley] You know how when people play the guitar, they build up calluses, that's kind of what's happened to me. - [Liana] After a whole lifetime of stitching. - [Ashley] I had a whole thimble lesson once, and I just, couldn't wear any of them. - [Both] (laughing) - [Liana] You said no thanks, I'd rather build up calluses. - [Ashley] My mom gave me this one that she got, that was like super expensive too, and I was like, nope can't do it. - [Liana] You're either a thimble person, or you're not. - [Ashley] I guess so. - [Liana] The only times I've ever really used thimbles, is like when using like a doll needle, when you really when you have to go through, - [Ashley] Yes. - [Liana] like doing tufted pillows, or-- - [Ashley] Well and, it's just is proof that I don't do a lot of hand sewing, because, a real hand quilter,

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like Tara for example, she's gotta use a thimble. - [Liana] Oh Tara Faughnan, the quilter who was here on the live shoot last week. - [Ashley] Yes, yes. - [Liana] Okay. - [Ashley] Here we go, and we're done. - [Liana] And you just knot it off a couple times. - [Ashley] I'm just knotting it off a couple of times. And I can bury it, bury it by, just doing that, and snipping it. - [Liana] Oh my goodness! From beginning to end how long did that take. - [Ashley] â™« bom bom ba bom â™« I don't know how long did that take? 10 minutes? - [Liana] 20, 30? - [Woman] 20. - 20 minutes - Twenty? - And we had no swap outs, you literally cut and sewed that beginning to end. (laughter) Well done Ashley! - Thank you. Look they have friends, they're friends. - Awesome! We hope you really enjoyed, this little lesson, from Ashley. - Hopefully it was entertaining. - Thank you so much for coming by. - Thank you. - I heartily encourage you to check out her classes. And please, come join us, every Tuesday and Thursday. We love having you here. Bye. ^(lively instrumental music)

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