



# Sarah Payne

## Hexagon Heart Pin Cushion Kit

This is a fun and easy to use pattern which will show you how to create a beautiful pin cushion – perfect for a gift for a sewing friend, or as a treasured keepsake for yourself!

### Requirements

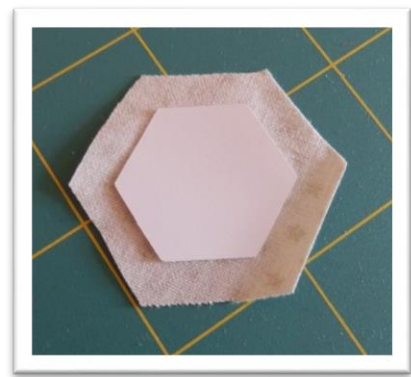
- 7 paper hexagons.
- Fabric for pin cushion backing and fabric for the hexagons.
- Handful of stuffing.
- Paperclip.
- Heart Template.
- Threads; contrasting for basting and a matching thread for sewing together.
- Needle.
- Small sharp scissors.



A traditional type of quilting that is certainly making a comeback – English paper piecing is often a starting point for new stitchers because it is simple and extremely portable. A pile of hexagons stuffed in a plastic folder take up no space at all in a travel bag - and is my holiday project of choice!

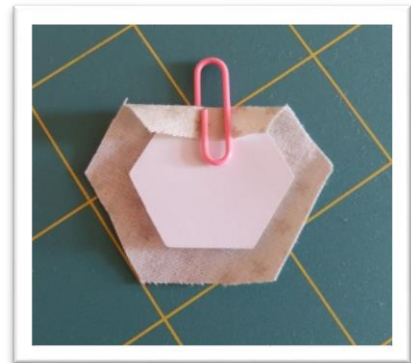
## Make the hexagons

1. Cut your fabric pieces at least  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch larger on all sides than the paper piece. This extra fabric will be folded over the paper pieces to make a hexagon exactly the same size (see Fig 1).



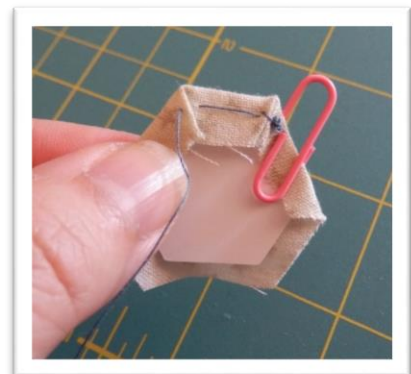
*Figure 1 seam allowance*

2. Baste your fabric around the paper. Use a paperclip to keep the first fold in place and then gently fold the fabric edge over the paper template (see Fig 2).



*Figure 2 fold edges*

3. Tie a big knot in the end of a contrasting thread (so you can easily see to remove it later) and place a stitch on the fold. Keep the thread taut as you stitch the corners – you want to keep the fabric tight to the template (see Fig 3).



*Figure 3 basting the hexagon*

4. Continue folding & stitching all the way around your hexagon until all the sides are secured (see Fig 4).
5. Baste 7 hexagons in total and lay them out as shown in the main image.



*Figure 4 Fully basted hexagon*

6. Now you are ready to begin sewing the shapes together. Take two hexagons and put them right sides together. Then, using a small whip-stitch in a matching thread, sew the pieces together. Be careful to just catch the very edge of each fabric piece with your needle. You don't want to sew through the paper templates.



*Figure 5 Whip stitch together*

7. Continue sewing all the hexagons together, one seam at a time. The stitches should not be visible from the front (see Fig 6).



*Figure 6 stitched together*

8. Once you have sewn all the hexagons together, press the blocks to set them in place. Carefully remove the basting stitches and take out the papers to use again.

## Making the Cushion

1. Cut out a paper heart shape large enough to fit the hexagon. Pin this to your fabric and cut round it. Do this twice to create the front and the back of the pin cushion. Using tiny stitches, sew the hexagon onto the centre of the heart.
2. Now place the right sides of the hearts together and sew all the way round leaving at least a  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch seam allowance. Leave a gap for stuffing where shown on the template.
3. Turn the pin cushion the right way out. Take a sharp pair of scissors and carefully snip the fabric outside of the sewn line. Take care not to snip through your stitching or your heart will come apart!
4. Stuff and then carefully stitch the opening closed. Now add fancy pins and enjoy!

**This pattern has been designed by Sarah Payne ©2015. Please feel free to post pictures of your finished Pin Cushions to Sarah's Facebook page – [www.facebook.com/sezpayne](http://www.facebook.com/sezpayne).**