

108-3

Pam Damour demonstrates how to create a custom headboard with fabric scraps and unfinished projects.



Please see page 2 for project instructions.

Partners

brother
at your side

<http://www.brothersews.com>

Quilted Head Board

Covering your headboard can be one of the trickiest of projects in this book, but at the same time can be the most rewarding. A custom upholstered headboard from a decorator can start well over \$600, and the bigger the headboard, the bigger the price. A quilted covering to your headboard can add a homey comfort to your bedroom, with out breaking the bank. The key is to use what you already have. I used an antique wooden headboard that I picked up in my neighborhood from my neighbor's bulk trash pile. (Yes, I have no pride). My first thought was, "hey I can do something fun with this!" (see before & after shots!!) **With my leftovers, I made a bed skirt and shams!**

If you have a headboard like this one, you'll need to cover it with some sort of padding. I used 2 layers of 1" thick upholsterers batting to smooth out the details, and give a soft look.



If your headboard has huge knobs or other protrusions, you may want to cut them off. (Only do this if the headboard has no sentimental or monetary value) You can also use 1" foam to smooth out the surface. Use a foam adhesive spray to hold the foam in place. This will damage any finish on the headboard, so again, don't try this with a valuable antique! Cover the entire front and sides with padding.

Measure your Headboard

After you've added your padding, you'll need to measure to see if your quilt top will be big enough. I had enough fabric to cover both the front and back.

105" of batting
98" of ruching



Ruching

To make a ruched edge, like this one, you'll need to cut your fabric 1" wider than the finished width, and at least 3 times the finished length.



Use your ruffler foot to gather your ruching. Gather both sides of fabric.

Add 1/8" micro welt cord, to stabilize the ruched edges. If one side your ruching is longer, sew welt cord to the smaller side first. Then, pin cord onto the other side, arranging gathers to keep them even.

Pin finished ruching onto headboard padding.

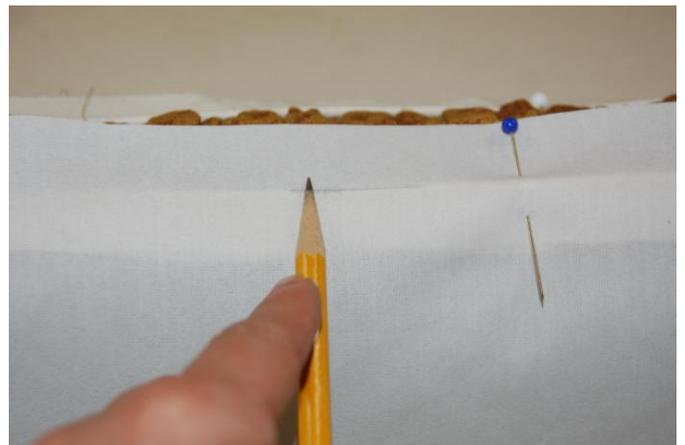
Now you're ready to make your pattern. Your pattern will also serve as a lining for your headboard cover. Using drapery lining, pin into place, and onto the edges of the ruching.



Using the side of a lead pencil, mark on the micro cord edge, to determine your pattern stitching line.

Trim pattern to 1/2" from the pencil line for your seam allowance.

Add extra length at the bottom to allow a 1" Velcro overlap



Cut your headboard fabric from this pattern.

Cut headboard backside to match.

Pin lining to quilt top to keep from shifting, or use a temporary quilter's basting spray.



Pin ruching to headboard front & back, starting in the center of the headboard and working out.

Line up the pencil mark on the lining (seam line) to the cord edge of the micro welt.



After both sides are sewn, roll bottom edge of ruching. Mark for cutting away for the leg of the headboard.

Depending on the size of your headboard leg, this will be custom fit. To determine the fit, put the cover on the headboard and mark your stitching line.



Trim to 1/2" seam allowance.



Fold edges to the inside, and pin into place.



Top stitch closed.



Serge or zig-zag to bottom edges. Serge or zig-zag seam allowance.

Add Velcro and you're done!

