

“Dog Kennel Décor”

Have an unsightly kennel in your house? Create a cute and functional kennel cover for man’s best friend that you’ll both love!

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Supplies:

Baby Lock Grace sewing machine
 Buttonhole foot and 1” button
 2 yards canvas
 ¼ yard coordinating canvas (optional)
 8 Pieces of coordinating ribbons cut to 10” lengths
 All-purpose thread
 Cutting mat
 Rotary cutter
 Iron
 Seam ripper



Instructions:

1. Measure your kennel; be sure to measure the height, width and depth of your kennel.
2. Cut the largest piece of you canvas first; the “top piece” x depth. To get the top piece measurement, add the following measurements: (height + height + 1”) + (width + 1”) = “top piece”.
3. Cut the front and back pieces from your canvas fabric. This measurement is height x width, add 1” to each dimension in order to create a nice edge. Don’t forget to cut two pieces—one for the front (where the door is) and one for the back.

You don’t want any raw edge of the fabric to show (you never know what your pup might start unraveling), so use the extra ½” on either side to make a finished edge.

4. Fold and press the raw edges of your “top piece” in ¼”. Set your machine up for a straight stitch with matching thread. While folding your ¼” pressed edge over another ¼”, stitch the finished edge.

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5. Repeat this same process for the height sides of front and back pieces. Use this same process for only one of the width sides (the other width side will be attached to the “top piece”).

If you would like to add any embellishments or decorations to the side of the kennel cover, now is the opportunity. Once you sew the front and back to the “top piece”, your canvas will be very large and hard to work with.

6. I added a pocket to one side of the kennel cover using the coordinating canvas. My pocket was 9” wide x 7-1/2” deep, so you could easily fit a leash or outside toy in it.
7. With embroidery software, I added several appliqués to the sides of the kennel cover.
8. You could cut a little window in the canvas, so your pup can see what’s going on. Be sure to finish the edges if you choose to make a window.

With your embellishments complete, it’s time to create buttonholes. We’ll pass the ribbon through the buttonholes to tie the sides of the kennel cover together. Depending on the size of your kennel, you may need more or less buttonholes.

9. Measure up from the short, finished edges of each piece about 6”. Using your buttonhole foot and the 1” button sew at button hole along the finished edge of the piece.
10. Measure up about 7” from the first buttonhole and sew another. Repeat these steps on each side of the canvas pieces. You should sew a total of 16 buttonholes.
11. Using your seam ripper open the buttonholes.

The last sewing step is to attach the front and back to the “top piece” of the kennel cover.

12. Find the middle of the “top piece” and mark it. Find the middle of the front and back pieces and make a mark.
13. Align the center marks from the “top piece” with the front piece. Pin the pieces together and stitch. Remember to have the front piece under the “top piece” so the finished edge shows.
14. Repeat these steps to attach the back piece to the “top piece”.

To finish it off, slide the kennel cover over the kennel and loop the ribbon through the buttonholes. Tie the ribbon in a nice bow and your decorative kennel cover is ready!

My pups love their kennels; it is their personal space where they go to relax or get away from our commotion.

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