



BOARD BEAUTIFICATION

IRONING BOARD COVER

Whether your ironing board cover is littered with fusible residue from one too many appliqué adventures or you just want to spruce up your quilting studio a bit, making a new cover is easy as pie.

Designer: *Linda Turner Griepentrog*

Skill Level: Beginner

Finished Size: Custom Fit

Find a fun cotton print at your local quilt shop, or head to the home décor department of the fabric store for a slightly heavier-weight cotton fabric; either weight works well, as do duck and poplin. Keep in mind that darker colors and prints look fresh longer than solid colors, because they hide specks of errant fusibles or sprays.

If your board's pad is a bit worse for wear, create a new pad from cotton or wool batting to cushion the new cover. Just trace the ironing board shape and add 1" all around, or use the old pad as a pattern.

The instructions on the next pages will allow you to create a cover for any size ironing board, from floor model to tabletop.

Fabric from the Makers Home collection by Natalie Barnes for Windham Fabrics (windhamfabrics.net) was used in the featured project.



Materials

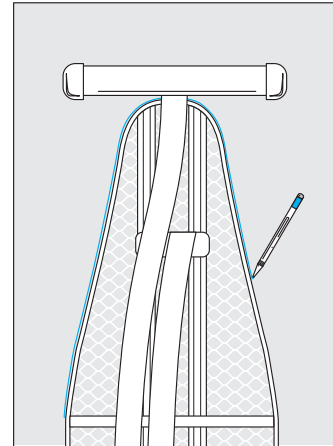
- 1¾ yards of 45"-wide fabric*
- 4 yards of single-fold bias tape in a color to coordinate with fabric
- 3 yards of ¼"-wide elastic or 4 yards of narrow cord/string
- Pattern tracing material or newspaper
- Small safety pin or bodkin

**This will actually make two standard-size ironing board covers, so make an extra one for yourself or one for a friend. If you're making a cover for a non-standard-size board, additional yardage and findings may be needed.*

Make the Pattern

1. Remove the old cover and any padding from the ironing board. Collapse the board, lay it upside down on pattern tracing paper or newspaper and trace around it using a narrow-tip felt marker. **(Figure 1)**
2. Add 2½" outside the traced line to accommodate the board thickness and some turn-under. Cut out the pattern.

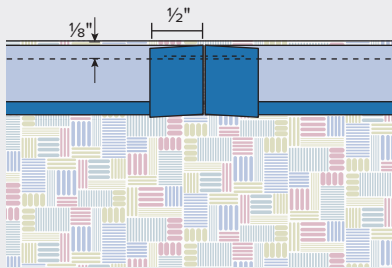
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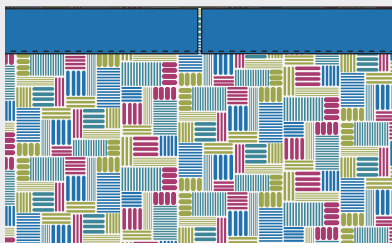
Cut and Assemble the Cover

3. Using the pattern created in Steps 1 and 2, cut out one ironing board cover. If your fabric is a one-way print, think about the direction the print will lie on the ironing board before cutting.
4. Open out one fold of the bias tape and press it flat.
5. Matching the right side raw edges of the bias tape to the wrong side of the ironing board fabric, and starting at the wide end of the board, pin the bias tape to the cover edge. Turn under the starting end of the tape approximately ½".
3. Sew the bias tape around the cover edge, sewing in the crease of the bias tape (about ⅛" from the edge). When you are about 6" from the beginning of the bias tape, stop with the needle down, and fold back the tape end onto itself so the folded ends meet. Trim away the excess length, leaving approximately ½" folded back. Continue stitching the bias tape in place, backstitching when you reach the beginning of the stitching line. **(Figure 2)**
4. Press the seam toward the tape and then press the bias tape to the right side of the ironing board cover. Edgestitch along the bias tape unstitched edge to form a casing, easing the tape around the curves. **(Figure 3)**
5. Thread the elastic (or cord) onto the safety pin or bodkin and thread it through the casing, leaving the ends extended. Yes, it's a long way around the cover! **(Figure 4)**
6. Center the pad on the ironing board, and then center the cover over the pad, right side up. Pull up the elastic to fit the ironing board snugly, and securely tie the ends together. The cover should be wrinkle free and taut. Tuck the excess elastic length under the cover edge or trim.

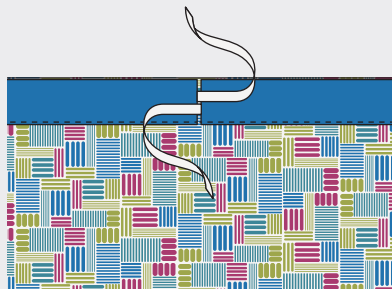
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3



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Linda Turner Griepentrog

Linda Turner Griepentrog is a writer, designer, and editor and embraces all things fabric related. She was the editor of Sew News magazine for many years and now owns her own business, G Wiz Creative Services. Linda lives in Bend, Ore., with her husband Keith, a longarm quilter, and their dogs, Frank and Yohnuh. In addition to her work with words, she escorts fabric shopping tours to Hong Kong.

✉ gwizdesigns@aol.com

📘 Linda Turner Griepentrog

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Zigzag Fade, designed by Sylvia Schaefer. From *Modern Quilts Unlimited*, Issue #22

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