

# gizmo cozy



shiny happy world

You can use these instructions to make a sleeve for any electronic gadget you have - MP3 player, cellphone, tablet, e-reader - even a laptop! You can sew by hand or by machine and you can embellish it with embroidery or applique - or nothing at all. This is a very open-ended project - have fun with it!

### Materials you'll need:

- wool felt - it's more expensive than craft (acrylic) felt but it will last WAY longer and wear better so it's worth it
- sewing thread or embroidery thread
- whatever you want to use for decoration (optional)
- sewing machine (optional)
- basic sewing tools

### Skills you'll need (links take you to video tutorials):

- [sewing a straight line](#) or
- [running stitch](#)
- embroidery or other embellishment skills (optional)

Ready? Let's sew!

**First we need to do a little math. All these gizmos are different sizes so you'll have to customize the pattern for each device.**

#### Step 1

Measure the width of your gizmo. You'll need to account for the thickness of it too - so measure up one edge, across the surface, and down the other edge. I use a flexible tape measure so I can do this all in one step, but you can use a regular ruler and add the three measurements together.

#### Step 2

To the width measurement you got in Step 1 you'll need to add some seam allowance. I like 1/4 inch on each side, so add a total of 1/2 inch to your width. Write it here.

\_\_\_\_\_ = cutting width

#### Step 3

Now measure the length of your device. It won't need to wrap around the top, so this time measure up the bottom edge (to get the thickness) and then across the surface to the top edge. This will be your length measurement.

#### Step 4

You won't be sewing the top or bottom edge, so no need to add seam allowance to this measurement. But we do need it to cover the front AND the back of your device. So multiply your length measurement (from Step 3) by 2. Write it here.

\_\_\_\_\_ = cutting length

#### Step 5

Now that you have your dimensions calculated, cut a rectangle of felt that is the cutting width x the cutting length.





Now - decorate it if you want to. Remember - the front of the cozy will be **the top half of the rectangle you cut**. You can, of course, decorate both the front and the back. But if you want an image centered on the front, fold your felt rectangle in half and center your image on the top half.

See where I put the image on my rectangle?

If you want to embroider on your cozy, here's how I did mine. . .

### Step 1

Choose an image to embroider. I used one of the **Rainbow Girls**, but any of the monsters from **Monster Mash** would also be good. Or come up with your own design!

Transfer the image onto a second piece of felt.

### Step 2

I like my embroidery to sink in around the edges and make the felt more three-dimensional - so I started by embroidering just the inside of the design on the small felt piece. For this design I stitched the French knots in her hair and on her dress, her eyes and her mouth. Nothing else - yet.

### Step 3

After I finished the "inside stitching" I centered the scrap of felt on the top half of the rectangle of felt I cut in Step 5 above. I attached the design to the cozy by embroidering the outline of the Rainbow Girl (the outline of her hair, her chin, the outline of her dress, and her legs and boots) through both layers of felt. Going through both layers for the outline makes her hair, face and dress all look slightly puffy and rounded - and it also attaches the two layers together. If you want to do all the embroidery before you attach the design to the cozy - you can do that. Just use fabric glue to attach them together after you're done stitching. If you want to do all the stitching through both layers - that's good too. It just gives you a subtly different look. Play around and experiment!







#### Step 4

Use a sharp pair of scissors to trim around the design, leaving a little extra around the edge. One of these days I'll get myself a pair of applique scissors (the bottom blade has a rounded tip so you can't accidentally cut through the bottom fabric) so I can do this without having a nervous breakdown, but for now I just go very slowly and very carefully.

**OK - you're done fancifying it. Now it's time to stitch it up!**

#### Step 1

Fold the cozy in half, carefully lining up the edges. Pin it together on each side, 1/4 inch in from the edge. Slide your gizmo in to make sure it fits. Fuss with the placement of the pins until you're happy with the fit on your device. You want it snug - but not too tight. The device should still slide out easily.



#### Step 2

Stitch up one side. I wanted big, chunky, visible stitches so I used fat embroidery thread and a running stitch by hand. You can use a sewing machine instead - with matching or contrasting thread.

Check the fit one more time before you sew up the other side. Make any necessary adjustments - and sew.

Trim away some of the seam allowance if you want to - but don't get too close to the stitching or your seam won't hold.

Enjoy!

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