

## WORKSHOP: “SETTING UP TO SEW” – PIN CUSHION



**Summary:** We created a pin cushion by tightly rolling a strip of scrap fleece fabric, stitching the end and tying it with wide colourful yarn.

### Materials and Equipment:

hand sewing needle (sharps)  
thread scrap – similar to fleece colour  
2 pieces of wide yarn about 12” long  
instructions/ideas sheet

fleece fabric to cut in long strips  
small fabric scissors  
sewing shears  
optional: chalk pencil or water soluble marker  
optional: ruler or measuring tape

### Class Plan: Making a Pin Cushion

1. Cut a strip of fleece fabric into a strip about 1.1/2” (~4 cm) wide and 50” (127 cm) long. This is even easier if your fabric has a pattern with lines you can cut along. You can measure and mark your fabric with a chalk pencil for an exact width but that is optional. It doesn’t have to be exact.



2. Roll up your strip of fleece fabric tightly. This is a great project to use up lengths of scrap fabric that are colourful but might not be useful to in larger projects (e.g. too itchy for a scarf, too narrow for clothing).



3. Secure the end to the roll by taking a few stitching in the same place.



4. Tie yarn in a knot around your fleece fabric roll to hold it together, keeping your fabric rolled tight.



- a. Optional: if you made your fabric strip wider, you can tie two lengths of yarn around spaced apart.
- b. Tie the ends in a bow so they don't get in the way.



5. Stick pins and needles in the roll side of your pin cushion to store them as you work.

**Useful Information/Adaptations/Variations:**

- Make your strip of fleece longer if you want a wider pin cushion. You can use two strips and just keep wrapping if your fabric isn't long enough. Make your yarn ties slightly longer to accommodate the extra width of the roll.
- Make your strip of fleece narrower if you want a shorter pin cushion.

**Trouble Shooting:**

- If your rolled fleece pin cushion comes apart, roll it again but tighter and retie it with yarn tightly.
- Add a few stitches through the layers of your rolled pin cushion to hold it together if desired.
- You can also use hot glue along the length of the fleece strip and roll it up to secure. We recommend wearing protective gloves for this method.