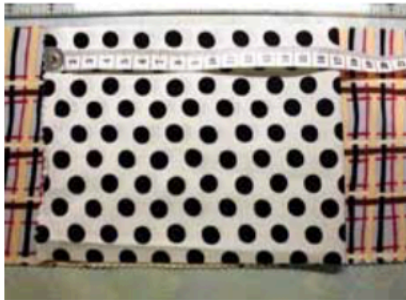


## Making the pocket...

- 1 Take the main background fabric and place it right side up, with a long edge facing you.
- 2 Measure 22cm from the right-hand edge and mark this point with a pin.
- 3 Take the inside pocket fabric and fold it in half (16.5 x 15cm).
- 4 Place the bottom raw edges of the folded pocket where you have placed the pin, line up the sides with the main background fabric and pin in place.



- 5 Sew the bottom edges to the main background fabric using a 1cm seam allowance.



- 6 Flip the pocket over to cover the raw edge and stitching, and pin the sides in place.

## ...and the needleholder and tie

- 1 Fold the felt in half and crease along the centre fold.
- 2 Open it out and place centrally on the background fabric, to the left of the pocket. Sew to the background along the line of the fold.



- 3 Fold the cord in half and place across the centre, with the fold aligned with the right-hand raw edge of the background fabric. Pin in place.



## Assembling your 'huswife'

- 1 Take the piece with the pocket and tie attached, and place it pocket side up.
- 2 Place the stripped piece, strips side down, on top. Line up all edges and pin together, enclosing the tie within the seam. (Be careful not to catch any other parts of the tie within the seams.)



- 3 Sew together along each edge using a 1cm seam allowance. Leave a 10cm gap along one of the long sides.
- 4 Snip a very small triangle off each corner. Take great care not to cut your stitching.
- 5 Turn your work through the gap, pushing out each corner (use the end of a pencil for this).
- 6 Pull the tie through, open out your 'huswife' and press.

- 7 Neatly sew the gap together. Your sewing case is now ready for use: place pins and needles in the wadding/felt, and scissors and threads into the pocket.



- 8 Fold into thirds (either side of the inside pocket) and tie with the ribbon.



This mosaic patchwork 'huswife' was made from printed and plain cottons in a diamond design. The patchwork was hand sewn by piecing over papers. There are three main compartments with semicircles of wool at the bottom to hold needles. A huswife was a cloth roll with different sections where various sewing tools could be kept.

Although the name 'huswife' suggests this would have been used by women, we know they were also made and used by men – usually members of the services, such as the navy and army.

