



Happy Valentine's Day

Well, I know it isn't quite the day for Celebrating with St. Valentine but it's coming up soon and I have made some rather romantic pin cushions some of you may like to make also. The larger one was intended as a pillow but after fulling it makes a nice fat pincushion or possibly a rather small pillow. It is 9 inches side to side while the small one is 5". This, of course, will vary depending on how you felt yours and what yarn you choose, but as pin cushions do not need to be any particular size it really isn't an issue this month!

But they are bright and romantic and I think you will enjoy making and giving them. I still have the heart-shaped pincushion my Grandmother crocheted for me many years ago. I've always treasured it. Lacy and pretty, just like Grandmother.

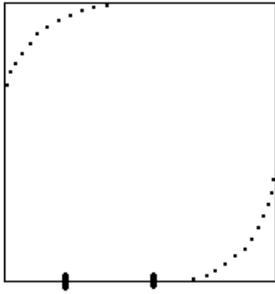
You'll need two squares of whatever size. I haven't made one with the tri loom but if you have the large loom one tri will make a small cushion. You know how to fold it into a square and the rest of the process will be the same as the ones starting from squares. You'll need a long yarn needle for this project, as well as lace, ribbon and other trims.



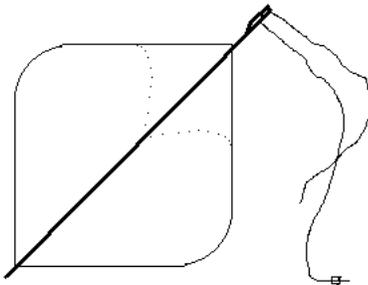
I used some hand spun for the small one and some unlabeled commercial stash wool for the larger. If you want to use acrylic you'll want to be sure you have a tight weave, even use a double

strand if need be. Same goes for using cotton, etc. tho some cottons will full.

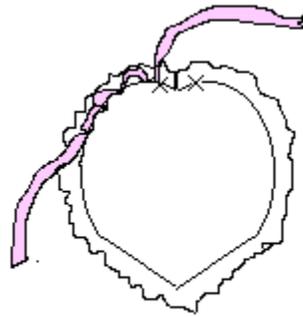
Weave the two squares and sew them together as in the illustration. Leave open between the dark lines.



Turn the square inside out and run thru the wash and dry cycle with the next batch of towels. Stuff the cushion moderately tight, pushing with your finger to push in the top corner to form the heart. Sew seam shut. Thread your needle with matching yarn and knot it into the pushed in end then run the needles thru the center of the heart to the tip, pulling the pushed in corner down into place. knot this yarn on the back side of the tip pushing the knot into the weaving to hide it. You are trying to keep the tucked in part of the heart tucked in without pulling up the tip of the heart so use the gentle touch!



Maneuver the stuffing around with your hand and the tip of the needle to smooth it all and shape it. This is the basic heart. I sewed lace around the seam edge of mine. The ribbon is tacked on at the X with about a 5" tail and then tack in the picots every half inch or so to make the loops of ribbon. Leave a tail at the end and tie the two into a bow.



The larger cushion I made the same way but added a bow which I sewed into the pushed in top. Then I embroidered the words and flowers. Some beadwork or silk ribbon embroidery would be very pretty if you can do that.



I am thinking of adding a page to my web site featuring pictures of projects made by loom owners. If you would be interested in having a picture of something you've made with the looms featured on this page, please send the picture and tell me something about the piece. I have pictures of two bears made by weavers and they are really cute. I would love to see what you are making!

I got only a few responses to my little survey last newsletter and most of the ones who did respond were interested in almost everything I put on the list! So I guess we are an eclectic and creative bunch of weavers!

Well, I hope you enjoy the Valentines and find it a useful project. Hope your winter isn't too gloomy and cold!

Thank you all for the nice things
you've been saying about the looms
of the fiber lists, too. It
really makes me feel good to know
others are also enjoying these
looms.



Hazel

