



HOMESPUN CREATIONS

Don't throw out those unwanted jumpers buried in the wardrobe. You can recycle them into these thrifty craft projects created by Kelly Doust.



You'll need three unwanted jumpers to create all three of the projects. Before you get started, prepare the jumpers by hand-washing them with a scented wool wash (try Martha Gardener Eucalyptus Wool Mix, available from most supermarkets) and then lay them out to dry.

HOT WATER BOTTLE COSY

Give this hottie a starring role – it makes a fantastic gift for a winter birthday.

YOU WILL NEED

- Two jumpers (if the jumpers have marks or holes, that's okay, as you will be cutting around them. You'll also have lots left over for the remaining projects)
- Hot water bottle
- Scissors
- Wool in matching shades, to be used as thread for stitching your project together
- Large needle

HOW TO MAKE

STEP 1: Lay one of the jumpers out in front of you and place the hot water bottle over it, upside down so the opening sits at the jumper's bottom hem.

STEP 2: Cut one layer of fabric only around it, leaving a 2cm seam allowance around the outside and 4cm around the neck of the hot water bottle. Put aside.

STEP 3: Lay hot water bottle upside down on your jumper again, this time leaving 6cm rather than 4cm at the bottom hem (this will create a pillowcase-style lip to tuck the hot water bottle in when you're done).

STEP 4: From your second jumper, cut out a star shape from the upper sleeve, where the arm meets the shoulder.

STEP 5: Use a blanket stitch to appliqué the star to the outside of your first layer of fabric using one of the coloured wool threads.

STEP 6: Put both layers of fabric together, right sides facing in and with the 6cm "lip" turned over on the outside, and backstitch together with wool thread.

STEP 7: Turn inside out so the star is on the outside. Pop your hot water bottle in (make sure it's empty – you might need to bend it in half to fit through the neck of the cosy) and you're done. When it's time for bed, all you have to do is fill it with hot water and cuddle up!



HEART-ON-YOUR-SLEEVE MITTENS

Make these cute winter mittens for yourself or a favourite little person. They're as easy as A-B-C.

YOU WILL NEED

- The sleeves of one jumper (with cuffs in relatively good condition) and two small pieces from another jumper
- Dressmaker's chalk
- Scissors
- Wool in a matching shade, to use as thread
- Embroidery thread in a contrasting shade
- Scissors
- Large needle

HOW TO MAKE

STEP 1: Turn one of your jumpers inside out.

STEP 2: Place your right hand on the cuff of one sleeve, with your fingers facing in the wrong direction up the sleeve and wrist positioned where the cuff ends. Keep your fingers together, but splay your thumb outwards slightly.

STEP 3: Leaving a 2cm seam allowance, trace a rounded line with your dressmaker's chalk around the outside of your fingers, and into the space between your thumb and forefinger. Keep tracing around the outside of your thumb and down the sides to the cuff or to the edges of the sleeve, if the jumper is already quite fitted.

STEP 4: Cut out your mitten shape with scissors (see picture, overleaf).

STEP 5: Use your wool >>>

thread to backstitch the outsides of the mitten together.

STEP 6: Turn inside out, so the right side is facing outwards.

STEP 7: Take your second jumper and trace a small heart onto it with your dressmaker's chalk before cutting out.

STEP 8: Place the heart on the mitten, so it sits in the middle of the top of your hand, and use the embroidery thread to appliqué the heart to your mitten with an overcast stitch. Repeat all the above steps for the left-hand mitten to match. Voila! You're done.



Let your imagination be your guide with the cushion's colour combinations.

PATCHWORK CUSHION

This is perfect for snuggling up with on the sofa on those chilly nights.

YOU WILL NEED

- Three jumpers
- 50cm square cushion insert
- Ruler
- Wool in a matching shade, to use as thread
- Large wool needle, for hand-stitching
- A button (it can also be recycled), optional

HOW TO MAKE

STEP 1: Measure and cut out four 13.5cm squares from the front of your jumpers for the front of your cushion.

STEP 2: Sew the four patches together using a backstitch with your wool thread, making sure the weave is all running in the same direction.

STEP 3: Measure a 50cm wide by 45cm high piece from the back of one jumper, from

the bottom edge up. Measure another 50cm wide by 15cm high strip from the back of another jumper, again from the bottom edge.

STEP 4: Lay the largest piece flat against the patchworked fabric (with the two outsides facing in), with the finished edge sitting 5cm down from the top of your cushion.

STEP 5: Sew into place around the three edges which have been cut.

STEP 6: Now place the smaller strip on the back of the cushion, overlapping the larger piece, and align the cut edge against the unstitched patchwork front. Sew into place for a cushion with a lapped back.

STEP 7: Turn inside out, pop in your cushion insert and fold over like a pillowcase – you're good to go!

For a cute addition, sew a large vintage button to the front and centre of your cushion.

STEP 1



STEP 4



STEP 5



STEP 7

