



## Smart Phone Stand using recycled coasters

An original craft activity for Juniors and Adults. (Designed by Cheryl Kemp)

A useful handmade gift for any smart phone user.

### Materials required:

- 3 recycled cork-based coasters, or 3 canvas panels approx. 10cm square.
- ½ of a fat quarter of fabric (or approx. 25 x 55 cm). A pure cotton or cotton blend fabric will be suitable.
- Pompoms, or other embellishments (available from craft stores or \$2 shops).

### Equipment:

- Scissors, iron, sewing machine (optional).
- Needle and thread to match fabric.
- Glue gun (optional)

### Instructions:

Cut three strips of fabric each 25 x 13 cm or size needed to cover coasters.

Iron.

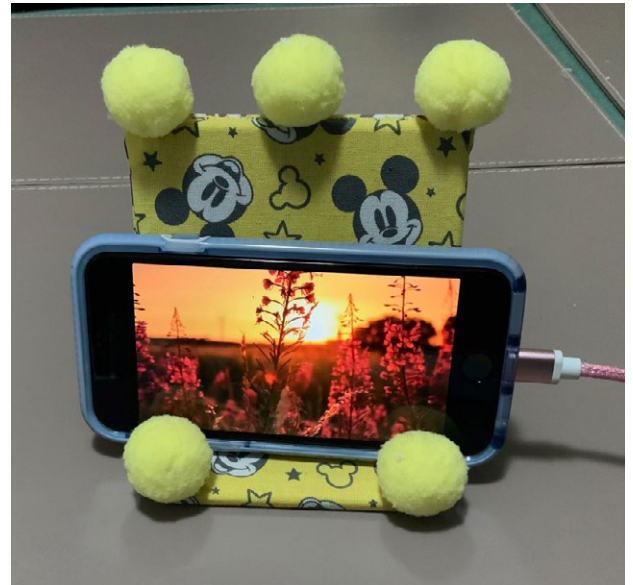
Fold each piece of fabric in half, right sides facing each other, so the double piece of fabric is almost square.

Using sewing machine (or back stitch by hand), sew a 1-1.5cm seam down both sides, checking the coaster will fit in pocket neatly. Cut small triangle at base corners before turning the right side facing. Use the tip of scissors or a knitting needle to ensure corner points are crisp. Press.

Place coaster into the made pocket. Turn under a narrow hem and slip stitch the coaster in place.

Repeat for each of the coasters.

With hand sewn edges facing, oversew each coaster to the next so you have three panels. Make sure the oversewing still allows for the panels to be angled into the shape for the phone stand.





# Week Twenty



Embellish as desired. A glue gun could be used instead of hand stitching the embellishments.

Pompoms sewn to each end of base make phone less likely to slip.

You could use only two coasters, making a “V” shape, but three coasters make a nicer gift.

You could use cork based place mats and make a matching iPad/tablet stand.



## How to sew a slip stitch

Slip stitch, also known as ‘invisible ladder stitch’ is a neat way to sew a seam which can’t be sewn by machine, such as the seam to close the fourth side on a cushion cover or on your phone stand.

1. Prepare your seam for stitching, by turning in the hem allowance and pressing it neatly, so you have two smooth sides to join together.
2. Thread your needle with matching sewing thread.
3. Double your thread, and knot the two ends together, trimming the tail to about 0.5cm.
4. Hide your knot: starting at one end of the seam, bring your needle from the inside of the article, out into the seam allowance and towards the centre of your seam. Gently draw the thread right through until the knot rests against the inside of the seam allowance, hidden from view.
5. Start stitching: put the needle into the folded seam allowance on the other side from where your knot is, and bring it out again, making a tiny stitch just 0.5cm long. Only go through the seam allowance, which will be tucked inside – don’t go through the fabric on the outside, or your stitches will be visible. Gently draw the thread right through to complete the stitch.
6. Continue stitching in this way, starting the next stitch on the opposite side, level with where your needle came out, and making alternating stitches on one side and then the other.
7. When you get to the end, finish your thread by starting to make a stitch, but not pulling it all the way through. Put your needle through the loop of thread, then gently pull it up so it forms a knot. Repeat this twice. Trim your thread so it won’t show outside the seam allowance.
8. Give the seam a final press.