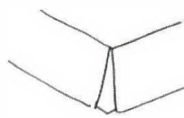


Creative Slipcover Skirts

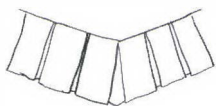
A slipcover skirt makes a style statement: it says tailored, feminine or shabby chic ... traditional, "cottagey," or funky. It's one of the few places on a slipcover where you can have some fun and give your customer unique design detailing which will make her slipcover one-of-a-kind. Let's take a look at some of the possibilities:

BASIC STYLES:

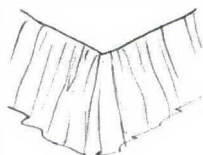
1. Tailored
2. Box pleated
3. Gathered



Tailored



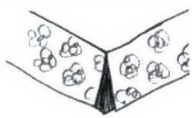
Box-Pleated



Gathered

SIMPLE CORNER VARIATIONS:

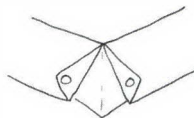
1. Contrast corner pleats
2. Double corner pleats
3. Buttoned-back corners
4. Gathered corners
5. Godet (a flared insert cut like a jabot or partial circle)



Contrast corner pleats



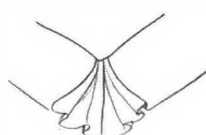
Double corner pleats



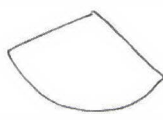
Button-back corners



Gathered corners



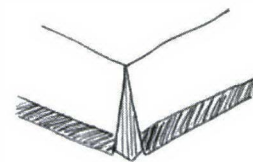
Circular insert or godet



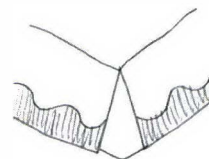
Godet pattern shape

BOTTOM EDGE VARIATIONS:

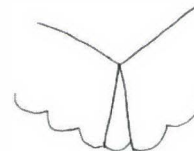
1. Straight banding
2. Shaped banding
3. Scalloped edge
4. Gathered ruffle
5. Pleated ruffle
6. Purchased trim



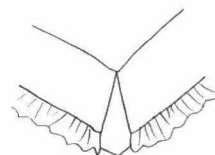
Straight banding



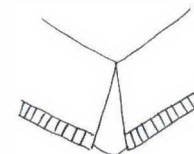
Shaped banding



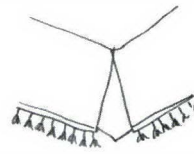
Scalloped edge



Gathered ruffle



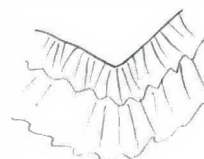
Pleated ruffle



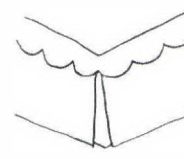
Purchased trim

MULTIPLE LAYERS:

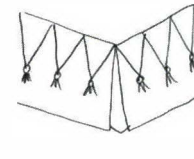
1. Double ruffle
2. Shaped band over tailored skirt
3. Shaped flat overlay



Double ruffle

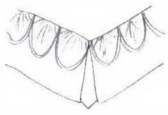


Shaped band over tailored skirt

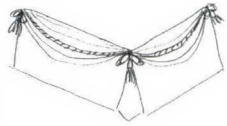


Shaped flat overlay

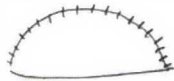
4. Gathered overlay pieces
 - A. Small, to resemble flower petals or leaves
 - B. Large, gathered swags



Gathered overlay pieces (small, such as flowers or petals)



Large, gathered swags with rope cord and tassels



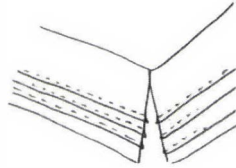
Pattern shape for gathered overlay pieces

OTHER DETAILS:

1. Tucks

2. Buttons

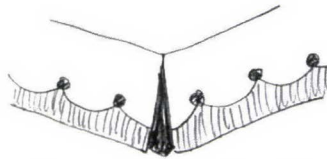
- A. Buttoned-down pleats
- B. Buttons on the face



Tucks



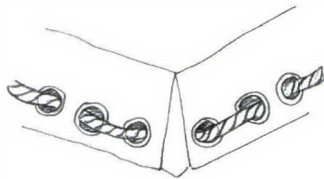
Buttons: Button-down pleats



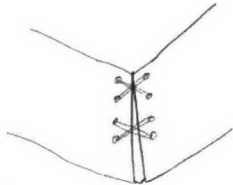
Buttons: Buttons on face with shaped banding

3. Grommets

- A. A large size to stand alone or use to weave rope or fabric tube through
- B. A small size to do lace-up detail on the corners



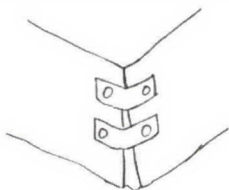
Grommets: Large size with rope woven through



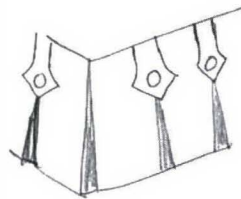
Grommets: Small size with cord lacing

4. Tabs with buttons

- A. Use as corner epaulets
- B. Use at the top of box pleats



Tabs with buttons (on corner)



Tabs with buttons (at the top of box pleats)

5. Trims

- A. Any type of trim may be used: bullion, tassel, pom-pom, brush, rope, braid, ribbon
- B. Use at the top or the bottom of the skirt, or set up a few inches from the bottom



Trims (low, medium, or high)

6. Rosettes

7. Bows and ties



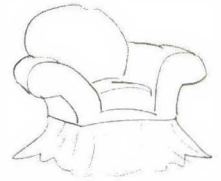
Rosettes



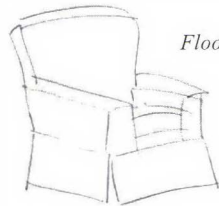
Bows/ties

SKIRT LENGTH:

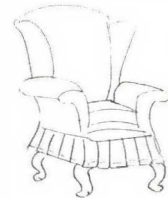
- 1. Puddled, for a luxurious look
 - Usually done in a gathered style
- 2. Floor length, the traditional choice
 - Any style is suitable
- 3. Mid-length, to expose a portion of the furniture legs
 - Usually looks best gathered or box-pleated



Puddled

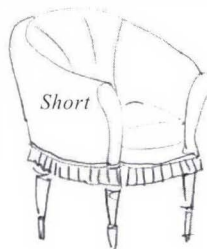


Floor length



Mid length

- 4. Short, to show off the entire length of the furniture legs
 - Add a bottom welt, mini-ruffle, or pleated edging



Short

Educate your customers on the possibilities of slipcover design. They'll only know that these custom details are available if you suggest them. You're the designer; the creative force behind your work. Show them what you can do! Although many people will still opt for a basic, traditional slipcover, some will be excited by all the options and will happily pay you to create something unique and beautiful just for them.



Leslie Fehling is the owner of Leslie Fehling Designs, a home-based workroom in Prosperity, PA, serving both retail customers and designers. Leslie holds a BA in art and has been sewing for most of her life. In addition to window treatments, her business offers custom slipcovers, pillows, bedding, and ottomans. She enjoys using her background in art and quilting to bring a unique touch to the soft furnishings she creates for her customers. Leslie is a frequent contributor to The Custom Home Furnishings Magazine.