How to Sew a Simple Pillowcase for a Standard-sized Bed Pillow  
(¼" seam allowance included)
Free pattern by Brooke of CustomStyle.wordpress.com

Supplies:

- 44" wide cotton quilting fabric
  (1 yard for non-directional print or 1 ¼ yards for directional specific print)
- large paper for drawing paper pattern—can use wrapping paper or brown craft paper
  (optional because you can also measure & draw directly on wrong side of fabric)
- ruler
- pencil
- fabric scissors
- straight pins
- trim (optional)

Steps:

1. Pre-wash in warm or hot water and machine dry fabric to pre-shrink to make your pillowcase
   “machine wash & dry” after construction. (If you have a serger, serge cut edges of fabric to keep
   fabric from fraying & knotting up during first wash.)

2. Draw rectangle measuring 19 ¾” x 31” on a large piece of paper (or draw directly on wrong side of
   your fabric with a pencil or chalk).

3. Pin pattern on fold of fabric (make sure fabric print is running in the direction you want), and cut
   through both layers around other three sides. Unpin from pattern.

4. If adding trim, unfold cut fabric and attach trim.
5. Using a ¼" seam allowance, pin folded fabric (right sides touching) and sew the long side and one (untrimmed) short side making an L-shaped seam.

6. Serge or zigzag seam allowance together to finish seam and to prevent fraying.

7. Turn pillowcase right-side out and press seams.

8. To hem open end, iron ¼" fold to the inside and then fold in another 1" and press.*

9. Pin (as much as necessary) to hold folded edge in place and stitch edge down.

10. Insert a pillow and enjoy your custom pillowcase! =)

Variation:

For a contrasting 4" wide hem, draw your pattern at 19¾" x 26" and cut a piece of contrast fabric at 8½" x 39½". Attach contrast strip as trim in step #4.

Hem the pillowcase by folding contrast inside ¼" and then another 4" and stitching. This completely encases the seam joining the two fabrics.

* If you would like a wider finished hem, add the amount of inches more you would like to your pattern before you cut your fabric.

To see photographic examples visit http://customstyle.wordpress.com/2012/06/14/make-your-own-pillowcases/