

Patchwork Memory Quilt

We have a large collection of quilts at St Fagans National Museum of History. We have quilts from the 1700s onwards and we also have a quilt club that meets each month and sews together. There are all types of quilts, some quite simple and some that are more complicated. It takes quite a long time to make a quilt but the process is easy enough.

For more information on our collection:

<https://museum.wales/articles/2009-04-17/The-Quilt-Collection/>



Patchwork bedcover, dated 1801.
Unknown maker

You will need:

- Cotton fabric – this could be anything – spare fabric, old clothes, clothes that are important to you that you no longer wear, or any fabrics that hold a memory for you.
- General sewing supplies – scissors, needle and thread, pins.
- Thin card or a shape to draw round.
- A plan! What shape are you going to use? A hexagon? A Square? Or you could just make it up as you go along!

Instructions:

1. Decide on the shape you are using and make a template out of card.
2. Draw around the template on the back of your fabric and cut out a few shapes.
3. With the front side of two pieces of fabric facing each other – sew one of the edges together about 5mm from the edge. Open up and then add another piece and repeat.
4. Keep going until the patchwork is the desired size. You can keep going until it's the size of your bed, or you could make a patch or a cushion cover.
5. Enjoy your patchwork – each time you look at the special fabric you can remember why you chose it.

