

"Sweet Owlie" Pattern & Tutorial

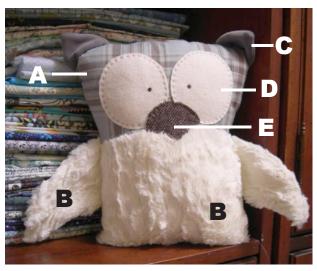






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"Sweet Owlie"

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Materials

This little guy is pretty easy to make, don't let all the pattern pieces fool you! You can mix and match fabrics as you like, but for the purposes of this tutorial, I will use fabric and felt as follows:

fabric A | Cotton fabric for face, back, and wing backs

fabric B | Plush/textured fabric for belly and wing lining

fabric C | Velvet/Heavier fabric for ears

felt D | White or Cream for the eyes (I prefer 100% wool felt)

felt E | Darker color for the beak (I used a felted wool herringbone)

In addition, you will need the following materials: Embroidery Floss in Dark Brown Embroidery Floss in Medium Gray Thread Filling/Stuffing Material

Pattern Pieces

Print out all pattern pages on 8.5° x 11" (letter) size paper set to Portrait orientation. Make sure your printer is <u>NOT</u> set to "Scale to Fit", it must print at 100%.

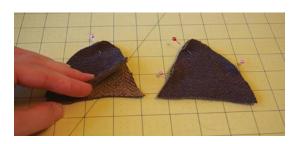
The two larger pattern pieces will need to be taped together as follows:

1. "back - a" and "back - b", tape together along edge that says "TAPE HERE". This pattern piece is also meant to be cut from a folded piece of fabric. The pattern is symmetrical, so it doesn't matter whether you fold your fabric with right sides or wrong sides facing when you cut. Just make sure you line up the words "FOLDED EDGE" on the pattern with the folded edge of your fabric.

2. "face - a" and "face - b", tape together along edge that says "TAPE HERE".

Pretty easy so far, right?











Instructions

Step 1. Cut out all the individual fabric and felt shapes using the paper pattern pieces (say that five times fast).

Step 2. Now we pin...

For the ears, place matching pieces right-sides together and pin.

For the wings, match one backer fabric and one lining fabric, right-sides together and pin.

For the front of the owl, pin top half to the bottom half, rightsides together as shown. Don't worry if the top half bunches a bit, the seam is on a slight curve and this normal.

Step 3. Using a 3/8 in. seam allowance, sew as follows:

For the ears, sew along 2 sides only, leaving the bottom open.

For the wings, sew along the two long sides only, leaving the short side open.

For the front of the owl, sew along the pinned edge.





Step 4. Turn ears and wings right side out and set aside for assembly later.



Step 5. Now we're going to give your owlie a sweet face...

Pin the felt eyes onto the front of the owl, aligning the bottom of the eye with the fabric seam as shown. Using three strands of embroidery floss, hand stitch around each of the eyes. (I used medium gray).

Next, pin on the beak and handstitch around the edges in the same manner as the eyes.



Lastly, using all six strands of embroidery floss in the color of your choice (I used dark gray), hand stitch the pupils.















Step 6. Your owlie is about to take shape! Place the ears and wings you previously sewed together and layer on top of the owl front as shown. The "open" ends should be toward the seam allowance. Make sure to line the top of the wings with the top of the belly, but not any higher.

Step 7. Place the back fabric piece right-side down, on top of what you've just assembled, like a sandwhich. Very carefully pin all the way around, taking special care that the ears and wings don't move. You will be sorely disappointed if you turn your owlie right side out to find one of the wings or ears is not fully attached. (I say this from experience!) If your nervous, you might let the wings and ears stick out a bit further than the projected seam to allow for movement during sewing.

Step 8. Using a 3/8 in. seam allowance, sew all the way around, leaving a small opening at center of the bottom.

Step 9. Turn your little guy right side out and you're almost done! Isn't he charming?









Step 10. Through the opening in the bottom, stuff with whatever filling you prefer.

Step 11. Okay, one more step to go! You're going to hand stitch the opening closed, and there's a reason why you left the opening in the *center* of the bottom. When you hand stitch it closed, fold the raw edges under a bit more than the surrounding edges which will give your little guy an oh-so-slight indentation in the center, or the slightest suggestion of legs. I know it's subtle, but I think worth it.

Well, now that you've made one, you can see how easy it would be to customize. Try mixing and matching fabrics and textures for different looks, or add your own embroidery and decorative stitching. These would make super sweet gifts for a baby shower, or anyone who loves owls.

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Thanks and have fun sewing!





