



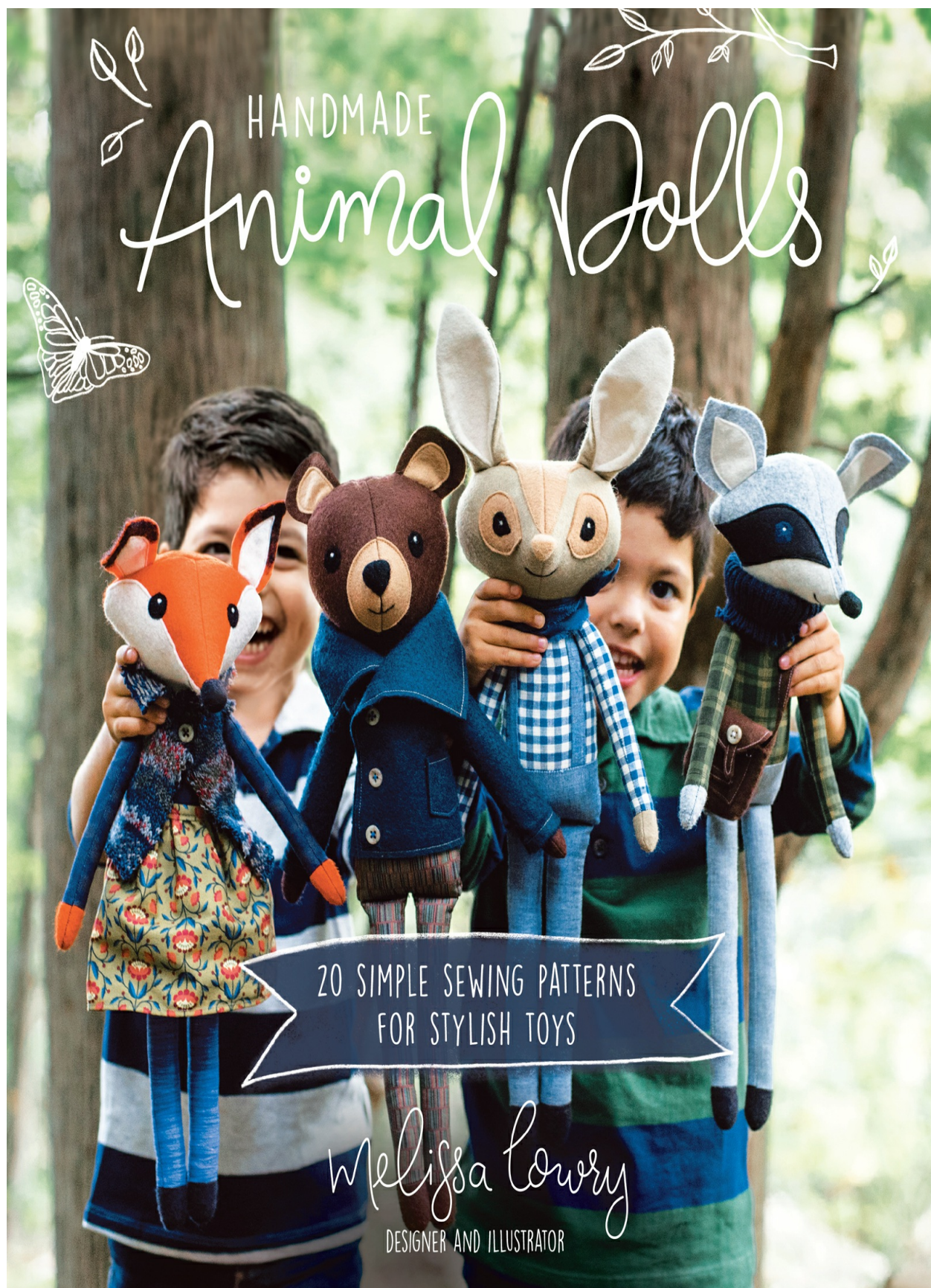
# HANDMADE Animal Dolls



20 SIMPLE SEWING PATTERNS  
FOR STYLISH TOYS

Melissa Lowry  
DESIGNER AND ILLUSTRATOR







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# DEDICATION

To my twin boys. You are the reason this came to life. You give me the inspiration and courage I need to keep chasing my dreams.

And to my husband for his never-ending support and belief in me.













# INTRODUCTION





The projects featured in *Handmade Animal Dolls* were born out of my original illustrations and my passion for creating. [Rupert Rabbit](#), [Oliver Raccoon](#) and [Harry Hedgehog](#) were just a few of the critters that lived in my sketchbook. Having always been a crafty person, it seemed natural to me to want to make them in three-dimensional form. [Patrick Penguin](#) was my very first needle-felted animal, and he sparked a series of tiny cuddly creatures that I made and shipped around the world. This is how my first business selling felted animals was born!

I soon realized that I wanted to create bigger, child-friendly dolls. So, I taught myself how to sew and designed [Madeline Fox](#). I gave all of my creations personalities and little backstories, so they all connect with each other in some way. I believe that knowing bits and pieces of who the characters are adds so much whimsy and sparks little ones' imaginations.

This book allowed me to combine my love for design, illustration and pattern-making and to put together easy-to-follow projects that I hope will inspire you to make your own. You'll use basic sewing and needle-felting techniques that will help you put together charming characters. They will inevitably have their own specific features; no two handmade dolls are alike! As you work on them you'll find that they develop their own personality—don't be afraid to re-name them and give them a story of your own.

You will have a different appreciation for fabrics as they will become part of your character's story. When I started making the patterns for these animals, I was in search of materials that would make the process easier and give me a variety of options from which to choose. After experimenting with several types of fabrics, I found that felt allowed me to keep the integrity of my characters' features and it was really easy to work with. Special and vintage fabrics (or even outfits) will gain more meaning as you repurpose them to dress your dolls. Some of the prints I used in this book are my own designs, available

through my website ([melissalowry.com](http://melissalowry.com)), and created to suit the personalities I gave the dolls. These are more than just dolls to me—they are memorable characters that, with a little imagination, can brighten anyone's day!

The most important thing to remember as you are working through the projects in this book is to take your time. Enjoy the process of making your animal dolls as they will be unique to you. You'll be giving them personality by the way you felt their eyes and by the fabrics you choose (this is my favorite part!). You don't need to be an expert sewer to make them; you just need a little bit of skill and imagination. Should you stumble, do not hesitate to pull out your seam ripper and start over. If something is not perfect, that's OK! Handmade dolls are extra charming because they are imperfect. You made them, and that in itself adds to their charm.

I hope this book gives you the necessary tools to venture into creating, and even designing, your own creatures. If you are making them for someone special, the love and attention to detail will come through. Happy making!

*Melissa Lowry*





# GATHERING TOOLS AND MATERIALS

I first taught myself how to sew on an inexpensive IKEA machine. You don't need a top-of-the-line machine to start; any entry-level machine will do the job. However, if you find that you enjoy sewing and would like to expand into more complicated projects, upgrading can save you some money in the long run. A machine that runs smoothly and doesn't need to be constantly adjusted can make or break a project, especially if you're a beginning sewer.

Taking the time to set up the machine before you start is very important. When you start a project it's also a good idea to read through the instructions, so you familiarize yourself with the steps and know what to expect. Have all your materials and tools handy before you start. There is nothing worse than being in the middle of a project and running out of thread.

All the patterns in this book include a seam allowance. A seam allowance is the space from the stitching line to the edge of the fabric, and it can vary from project to project. I prefer to work with a seam allowance of  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch (3.2 mm) because my patterns tend to be on the smaller side and it reduces a lot of bulk when turning your doll right-side out.

The book is divided into three sections, and each section requires a bit more skill and attention to detail. Don't feel like you have to start with the first section though! I consider all the projects to be easy to follow, even for a beginner.

## **Putting Together a Basic Sewing Kit**

Getting the right tools from the start can make a huge difference in



your workflow. These are the basic things you'll need to complete the projects in this book. I have these handy every time I put a doll together.

- Freezer paper to trace the templates
- Pencil or permanent marker to transfer the templates
- Water-soluble pencil to mark your fabric
- Sewing machine
- Seam ripper in case you make a mistake
- Iron and ironing board to press seams and to get rid of wrinkles
- Pins or sewing clips
- Scissors for paper and for fabric—you don't want to use the same scissors for both!
- Embroidery needle for hand sewing
- Doll needle to attach arms
- All-purpose thread in multiple colors
- Fusible web to make topstitching details easier
- Heavy-duty thread for ladder stitching to secure seam openings
- Ruler
- Hemostats for turning and stuffing

I also recommend getting a self-healing mat and a rotary cutter for cutting fabric. They're especially helpful when cutting the limbs, but not required. A large, clear acrylic quilting ruler is also handy when you're measuring and cutting material at the same time.

## **Putting Together a Needle-Felting Kit**

Needle felting is a technique that uses a sharp, barbed needle and wool roving. You're basically repeatedly poking the wool to form a solid shape or object. In this book, you'll use needle felting to make

the eyes, noses, mouths and other small details. It can also eliminate the use of safety eyes or extra buttons, making the animals safer for kids. You don't need very much wool roving to add the details in these projects; a little (a pinch!) goes a long way.

You can now find felting supplies at most craft stores. When I first started felting, the craft was practically unknown and I ordered my supplies online (and I still do). I love needle felting because it's a very forgiving craft. It allows you to experiment and add detail without worrying about making a mistake. If you do, you can just pull it off and start again. Combining this technique with sewing makes for a very special and unique doll. You can add expression, making your character come to life.

If you've never needle felted before, below is the basic information you need to know. Your basic needle-felting kit to complete the projects in this book should include:

## **Needles**

Felting needles come in a variety of sizes and styles. Some are specifically for finishing and adding details, while others are for deep and fast felting. I prefer to use an all-purpose needle with a triangle blade shape, as I find it does a great job grabbing all the little fibers.





*Choose a needle that feels comfortable in your hand. When felting for extended periods of time, try one with a rubber handle.*

## **Felting Block**

I recommend using a felting block whenever possible. It will prevent you from stabbing your fingers—it hurts, a lot! A felting needle is extremely sharp, and I can't tell you the number of times I made my fingers bleed from getting too excited and stabbing too fast, balancing my work in the air or my hand. As you practice it gets easier and you get a better feel for it, but it's still a good idea to have a surface to felt on. Although there are blocks and pads specifically made for felting, you can also use any regular big sponge that you have around the house. Rubber thimbles or finger guards are also great to use if you're feeling nervous about it.

## **Wool Roving**

My favorite to felt with is Corriedale wool. Its fibers have a crimp that allows it to felt quickly and can be quite dense. Half an ounce of wool roving of each color will be more than enough to complete any project in this book. In fact, half an ounce of black roving will cover you for all projects! Merino wool is my second favorite, but I only use it when I want to achieve the look of fur or hair. Merino can be quite

difficult to work with. Its fibers are long, thin and smooth, which can take a long time to felt and a lot of effort to achieve a dense “hard” look. I use Merino wool for [Noah Koala](#) and [Nigel Unicorn](#) to give the appearance of fur; Corriedale is usually my go-to for everything else.

## CHOOSING FABRICS

### Felt

The felt that I use is a Merino wool and rayon blend (see [Source List](#)). It’s resistant to pilling, soft and vibrant. It comes in a large variety of colors, and it has a medium thickness, which makes it perfect when working with a smaller seam allowance.



### Fabrics

For the patterned fabrics, you want to use quilting cottons, because smaller, modern prints are great for these projects. I like to put together outfits that I would wear myself; I feel that this makes the animals more stylish and current. Avoid any fabric with stretch for the main body. It makes it harder to close and stuff, and it can sometimes throw off the proportions of the body.

One of my favorite parts of the process is coordinating prints and fabrics—so many options! When working with small- to medium-size patterns sticking to a small print is a good bet. Because you use small



pieces of fabric with these patterns, you want to avoid awkward shapes that will be inevitably cut off and distracting.

## Coordinating Prints

A good rule of thumb is to choose a fabric you love. This is almost always the fabric with the busiest and loudest pattern. Use this fabric as the focal point on your doll.

For your next choice think of color, scale or pattern style. Don't get too hung up on the word "match." Fabrics don't have to be the same in order to work together. If your feature fabric has one or two prominent colors, look for another print that has that color. For [Olivia Owl](#) I picked up on the pink and light mint colors. Don't be afraid of choosing a solid! The fabric I chose for Olivia's legs has a very subtle pattern, almost like a solid. There are lots of lovely completely solid fabrics out there in practically every color imaginable that can still offer texture and interest. Linen is a great example of this.



Next, consider scale. There is nothing wrong with using pattern prints for all your choices, you just have to make sure they go together and they fit the size of your project. If your print design is so large that it doesn't fit entirely on say, the front of the body, then I would say it's probably too large for it. You want to get a general feel for the design when you're looking at your fabric on a cut pattern piece. Remember these are tiny outfits; you want to choose something that is

proportionate to the size.

Another thing to consider is the style of your pattern. If I'm using an organic repeat—a print that is free flowing with not much structure—I might throw in a stripe or geometric pattern to break it up. You can generally mix and match here if the color and scale go together. For my dolls, I prefer to keep the patterns at a general small scale, but I will vary it slightly from print to print. If my first choice has a smaller, saturated pattern, I might choose a “looser” pattern for my next option. You don't want your fabrics to clash and be visually competing for attention; you want them to accentuate each other.

## **Repurposing**

The last thing to take into consideration is repurposing old clothes, especially your kids' clothing. If you're making your kids or someone else a keepsake doll, there is nothing better than using that tiny baby onesie or flannel shirt that they wore (maybe only once!) when they were little humans. I have reserved some of my kids' clothing specifically for this; it makes the doll that much more special.

# **TECHNIQUES**

## **Fusible Web**

Fusible web interfacing was one of my most favorite tricks when I first started sewing. It's essentially double-sided tape for fabric, and it's extremely helpful when layering small pieces of felt. Choose a lightweight fusible web because you will be topstitching the pieces in these projects. Heavyweight fusible web can gum up your sewing machine needle.

You can fuse the web to your fabrics in two ways:

### **1. Fuse the web to the wrong side of your fabric.**



Take your fabric and iron the fusible web onto the back side. When you've completed this step, trace your template on top and cut it out.

## **2. Trace your template on both materials.**

**(This method gives you a bit of extra work, but you end up saving more fusible web.)**

Trace your template on both the web and the fabric, cut them out and then fuse together. When you have your fabric pieces backed with the fusible web, arrange them and check for placement. Carefully peel the backing, and fuse in place with a warm iron. Use a press cloth if you're working with delicate fabrics or fur.

Whichever way you choose to work with it, fusible web will save you lots of headaches trying to pin tiny pieces of fabric in place!



*Use fusible web to keep tiny pieces in place.*



*Sewing clips help hold multiple layers of material in place.*

## **Pinning**

When you are ready to sew your doll closed, start by pinning the neck and pant seams together so they are aligned. There's nothing worse than turning your doll right-side out only to find that your neck and pant seams are misaligned. Some dolls have stripes or markings that need to align to get a seamless look; pay close attention to the alignment before you turn.

Use as few pins as you can, but place them strategically. My preferred pins to use are dressmaker (or straight) pins and glass head pins. Straight pins are small and thin enough that they won't end up leaving large holes in your fabric. Glass heads are also heat safe, which means you can use the iron on them without concern. Because I iron my material before I use it, I rarely need to worry about my pins being around heat.

Sewing clips are my favorite to use. They don't pucker the fabric, and I find they do a better job at holding the fabric together if you're working with multiple layers. If you've never used clips before, I recommend giving them a try!

## **Stuffing**

There is no better feeling than getting to the end of the making process, stuffing your doll and seeing it come to life. Here are the steps I take when it's time to stuff my dolls:

### **1. Clip corners and curves.**

Clipping your seams beforehand allows for more flexibility when you turn and your curves will be smoother. This is especially important on the inner seams of pants and extremities.





*Using a hemostat for small pieces will make turning easier.*

## **2. Turn the doll right-side out.**

Push the fabric through the turning gap as much as you can. Avoid pulling (or yanking) because it can damage your fabric. If you are using hemostats, grab the fabric, clamp it down and pull carefully until it comes through the opening. If there's more to pull through, unclamp and start working from the other end, pushing the fabric through.

## **3. Use a hemostat to stuff.**

Hemostats are great to use for narrow limbs and long enough to be able to grab a large amount of stuffing. A stuffing fork will also work; they are long sticks with a tiny U-shape at the end. They are really useful for stuffing tiny areas such as snouts or extremities. If you have an old, thin paintbrush laying around you can use it as a fork. The stiff bristles will grab the fibers just as well!



*Hemostats can help you stuff hard-to-reach spots.*



*Stuff firmly until no puckering is seen.*

#### **4. Finish stuffing.**

Stuff your doll until no more wrinkles can be seen on the fabric; this is a medium-hard firmness. The amount you choose to stuff depends on your preference as well. A properly stuffed doll is firm to the touch and all the parts are filled out equally; there shouldn't be any empty spots or lumps.

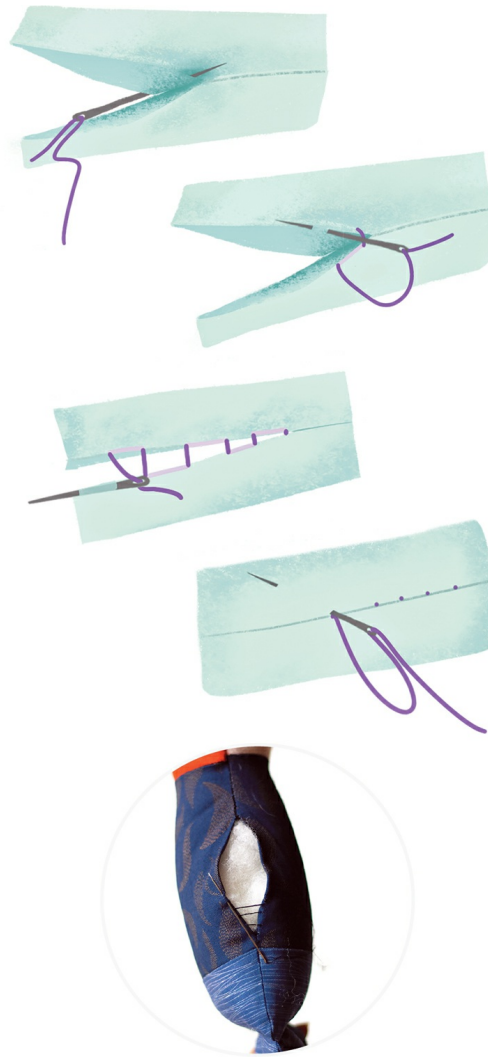
The best kind of stuffing to use is polyester. It's affordable and super lightweight, which is crucial if you're making these animals for little people. Always buy more than you think you need. Stuffing tends to

run out quite quickly when you are making a bunch of dolls. For reference, I use less than half a pound for my larger dolls in [Chapter 3](#).

## **Turning Gaps and Ladder Stitching**

When you've successfully turned and stuffed your doll it's time to close it up! A ladder stitch is the most common way of closing a seam because it disappears into the rest of the stitching. A ladder stitch is sometimes also called a blind stitch, slip stitch or an invisible stitch. I prefer to use heavy-duty thread for ladder stitching; you don't want the thread to break as you're pulling it through the fabric. You also want to use thread that matches your fabric as closely as possible. If you can't find thread that matches your fabric, choose one that is lighter in color as it will show less.





To sew a gap closed:

### **1. Pull the seam together.**

Hold the opening gap closed so that the seam is flat. Insert the needle under the seam to hide the knot.

You can pin the fabric closed if you're having difficulty holding it together. Check that the knot holds before you continue stitching.

### **2. Make the stitches.**

Insert the needle directly across from where you pulled out the needle and again to the side under the seam.

The closer you make your stitches the tighter and neater your

stitching will be (it will show less). Continue making vertical and horizontal stitches that are parallel to each other, forming a ladder. The horizontal stitches get hidden in the seam crease while the vertical stitches pull the fabric together. It's so satisfying when you've finished your doll and you pull the seam closed and ... it's hidden!

### **3. Finish the stitching.**

When you've finished closing and pulling your seam, knot the end twice close to where you finished. Before you cut the thread, insert the needle close to the knot and bring it out about 2 inches (5 cm) away. Pull it tight and snip the thread. The thread will retract and will be hidden inside—magic!







# Starting Simple

## SMALL AND SWEET CHARACTERS



The first doll I ever created was small, but he had a huge personality. Out of all the illustrations I had created, [Patrick Penguin](#) stood out to me as the first character I should make. His simple shapes and features allowed me, a novice doll maker, to enjoy the process from start to finish. Don't let size fool you—even small projects can give you enormous satisfaction to complete.

With the exception of the hedgehog, the animals in this section are all completely made out of felt. Felt was my favorite material to work with when I started making animal dolls as it's really easy to handle and doesn't fray. Having fewer seams to worry about makes for a great starter project.

Although the body shapes might be simple, needle felting really adds to a doll's personality. Feel free to add as many details as you like! You'll find yourself enjoying giving [Benito Bird](#) some extra feathers and [Stella Seahorse](#) more and bigger spots. You'll be comfortable working with felt and exploring the needle-felting technique in no time. Keep these small friends for yourself, maybe at your office! Or gift them to small hands to play with.



Toby



# TOBY TURTLE

Toby Turtle loves to be on time, but he's usually the last one to get places. He likes to wake up extra early to get ready for the day.

Routine is very important to Toby. If something doesn't happen as it normally does, it throws him off his game. He loves a good breakfast—his favorite meal of the day—before he heads out the door to meet [Stella Seahorse](#) to swim to school. Toby's favorite color is purple, and he enjoys collecting seashells that he keeps in a special treasure box that he found near his school.

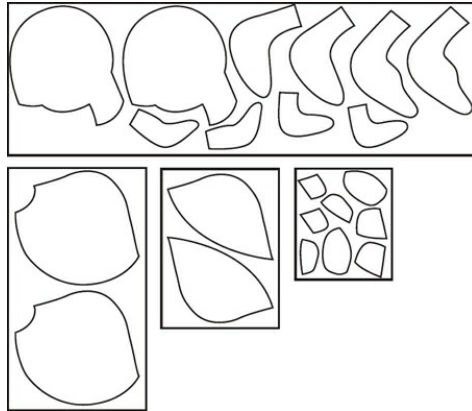
## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 17" × 5.5" (43 cm × 14 cm) green wool-blend felt for the head and legs
- 3.5" × 4" (9 cm × 10 cm) brown wool-blend felt for the scutes
- 5" × 8.75" (12.7 cm × 22 cm) light beige wool-blend felt for the body
- 4.25" × 5.75" (10.8 cm × 14.6 cm) darker beige wool-blend felt for the shell
- Matching thread
- Polyester filling
- Brown wool roving
- Black wool roving
- White wool roving
- Dark green wool roving



- Needle-felting needle
- Needle-felting block

## Templates ([here](#))



**Maker's note:** I stuffed the legs and head firmly so that they would retain their shape without puckering. For the body, I opted for a lighter stuff so that the shell wouldn't lose its shape. Feel free to experiment with how much stuffing you use.

1. Trace all the templates ([here](#) and [here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance. If you'd prefer to work with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.
2. Transfer the templates onto your felt using a water-soluble pencil.
3. Cut and iron all the pieces.



4. Layer the head pieces (A) together. Sew around the head, leaving the neck open for turning. Clip the nose-tip and neck and mouth corners for flexibility before turning.



5. Layer the leg pieces (B, C, D, E) together. Sew around the legs leaving the straight edges open for turning. Clip around the curves for flexibility before turning.



6. Turn the head and legs inside out. Stuff the head and legs with a medium firmness leaving a ¼-inch (6.4-mm) unfilled gap at the end.



7. Referring to the template, topstitch the belly markings on the body (H).



8. Pin or fuse together the scutes (G) on the shell pieces (F),



referring to the template for placement. Topstitch them in place. Repeat on the other side.



9. Pin the shell piece (F) on top of the body. Tuck the legs (C & E) in under the shell. Refer to the template for the leg placement.



10. Topstitch the shell to hold the legs in place. Repeat on the other side (without the legs), making sure it's a mirror image.
11. With wrong sides together, pin together the body pieces. Tuck in the head and the rest of the legs following the template for

placement.



12. Topstitch around the shell leaving a ½-inch (1.3-cm) opening for stuffing. Stitch as close to the edge as possible.



13. Trim the outer shell for a smooth edge.
14. Stuff the shell lightly (see Techniques, [here](#)), and topstitch the opening closed.

## Needle Felting the Details



- 15.** Roll the brown roving between your fingers to form a strip. Felt it down, forming a line across the bottom of the shell. Repeat on the other side.



- 16.** Felt some brown roving around the neck.





**17.** To felt the eyes, take some of the black roving and felt circles on each side of the head.



**18.** Felt the pupil in place using the white wool roving.



19. To felt the mouth, roll some of the black roving between your fingers to form a thin strip. Felt a curved line to form a smile.
20. With the green roving, felt some dots on the head. Feel free to play with the sizing and shape. You can add as many as you want!

Stella





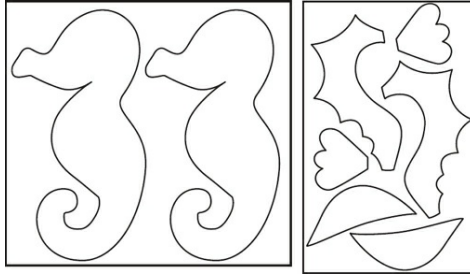
# STELLA SEAHORSE

Stella loves to race. She is very competitive by nature, but she understands that winning is not the most important thing. She'll race you to see who can get somewhere first, or who can finish their meal first or who can throw a rock the farthest. She's the captain of the chess team at school, and [Toby Turtle](#) is part of her team. She's very focused, which makes her a fabulous leader. She loves to improve her skills, and she doesn't give up when she's having a hard time doing something. Practice makes perfect! Stella lives near a coral reef with her parents and 15 siblings.

## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 9.5" × 8.75" (24 cm × 24.8 cm) mint wool-blend felt for the body
- 5.75" × 9" (14.6 cm × 22.9 cm) teal wool-blend felt for the fins
- Matching thread
- Polyester filling
- Yellow-green wool roving
- Light yellow wool roving
- Black wool roving
- White wool roving
- Needle-felting needle

## Templates ([here](#))



**Maker's note:** Don't let Stella's shape intimidate you; the pattern is very forgiving. If your stitching is not perfectly aligned when you close up the turning gap, don't worry. You will cover up the imperfections with the needle-felted details.

1. Trace all the template pieces for the body ([here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance. If you'd prefer to work with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.
2. Transfer the template pieces onto your felt using a water-soluble pencil.
3. Cut and iron all the pieces.
4. Layer the pieces for the belly (D) on top of the body pieces (A). Pin or fuse them together.





5. Topstitch the belly pieces in place, making sure they are mirror images of each other.
6. Position the fins (C) on each side of the body and topstitch them in place following the placement on the template.



7. When the fins are stitched in place, tuck them in and sew around the body pieces leaving the opening marked in the template.
8. Turn right-side out and set aside.



9. Take the crest pieces (B) and sew them together. Clip the points to eliminate excess. Turn right-side out.





**10.** Stuff the crest lightly (see Techniques, [here](#)), and topstitch the line details looking at the template for reference.



**11.** With the body turned right-side out, position the crest sandwiched between the two sides and pin in place.



**12.** Topstitch starting at the head, leaving a small gap for stuffing.



13. Stuff the body, being careful not to overstuff near the opening. If you find it hard to close, take some out around that area. Topstitch it closed.

## **Needle Felting the Details**





14. Roll a piece of yellow-green roving between the palm of your hands to make a strip.



15. Felt it in place covering the crest seam. Wrap it around the edges and continue on the other side. If you run out, roll another piece and continue felting.



- 16.** To add the detailing on the crest, repeat the same process with thinner pieces of roving. Cover the topstitching detail you made on the crest.



- 17.** Take small pieces of light yellow roving and felt spots on your seahorse. You can felt as many or as little as you'd like. Feel free to experiment with different sizes and colors.



**18.** Repeat the same process with black roving to make the eyes; use a little bit of white roving to add the pupils.

**19.** If you'd like to add a tuft of hair, take a small bit of yellow-green roving and felt it carefully at the start of the crest. Minimal poking does the trick!

**Tip:** Stop felting right before the seam. This will make it a lot easier for the needle to felt the roving in place.



Patrick



# PATRICK PENGUIN

Patrick Penguin is a fun little guy who likes long walks during especially cold days. He enjoys winter and is happiest when he's out throwing snowballs with his friends. Patrick is always looking for a new adventure and is a very curious penguin. He's always looking for places to visit and new things to try. Because he loves learning new things, Patrick asks a lot of questions. His friends often have to ask him to stop asking questions. Patrick loves to eat pie, and blueberry pie is his favorite. You can always count on Patrick to bring dessert to any get-together—he has a sweet tooth.

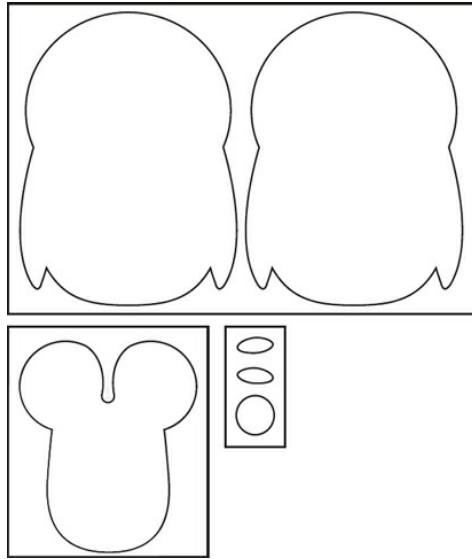
## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 11.75" × 7.75" (30 cm × 19.7 cm) black wool-blend felt for the body
- 5" × 5.75" (13 cm × 14.6 cm) white wool-blend felt for the belly
- 1.5" × 3" (4 cm × 7.6 cm) yellow wool-blend felt for the feet and beak
- 8.5" × 2.5" (21.5 cm × 6.3 cm) knit fabric or an old sweater to repurpose as a scarf
- Matching thread
- Polyester filling
- Black wool roving
- White wool roving
- Approximately 1½" (3.8-cm) ball of yellow wool roving (if

felting the beak)

- Needle-felting needle

## Templates ([here](#))



**Maker's note:** This project has the option of needle felting the beak or sewing it on. Choose whichever option will suit your Patrick better! If you opt to felt the beak, be sure to get some yellow roving.

1. Trace all the templates ([here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance. If you'd prefer to work with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.
2. Transfer the templates onto your felt using a water-soluble pencil.
3. Cut and iron all the pieces.





4. Layer the belly piece (B) on top of one of the body pieces (A) and topstitch it using white thread.



5. Pin or fuse the feet (C) and beak (D) pieces onto the belly piece. If you choose to needle felt the beak, only fuse the feet.



6. Topstitch them in place.



7. With right sides together and using black thread, sew the two body pieces together leaving a turning gap at the bottom of approximately 2½ inches (6.3 cm) wide.

8. Trim any excess fabric near the fins.

9. Turn the penguin right-side out.



10. Referring to the template [here](#), trace the fin lines using a water-soluble pencil.



11. Lightly stuff the sides where the fins are.



**12.** Topstitch with black thread following the fin markings you drew.



**13.** Stuff the rest of the penguin to a medium firmness (see



Techniques, [here](#)).

14. Finish your penguin by closing the bottom gap with a ladder stitch ([here](#)).

## Needle Felting the Details



15. Using the black wool roving, felt the eyes in place with the felting needle.



**16.** Take the white wool roving and felt the pupils in place.

**17.** If you're needle felting the beak, take the yellow wool roving and roll it in a ball.



**18.** Place it on the middle of the face, and start felting at the base to attach it.



**19.** When you've secured the beak all around the base, start shaping it. Felt the tip more to make a cone shape.

## Adding a Scarf

- 20.** This is a great easy accessory to make out of recycled material. For this scarf I repurposed an old sweater. You could also use a scarf or wool sock!



- 21.** With wrong sides together, fold the knit fabric in half and sew using a zigzag stitch along the short edge.
- 22.** Turn right-side out, and dress up your penguin.

Benito





# BENITO BIRD

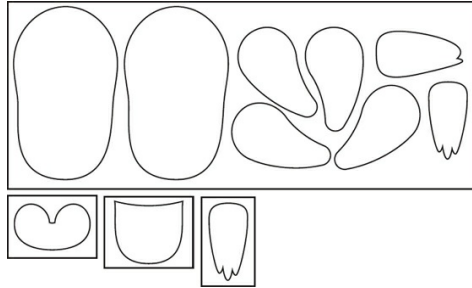
Benito loves taking baths. After a long day at school he looks forward to relaxing in his tub. His best friend is [Noah Koala](#), and he enjoys chasing him from tree to tree helping him collect wood for his projects. Benito loves to read; he will always ask for books instead of toys for his birthday. He likes reading fictional stories about faraway kingdoms that he can later daydream about. Benito loves imagining adventures that take him to magical places, and daydreaming is one of his favorite things to do! He will always have a story ready to tell, even if it means making it up on the spot.

## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 13.25" × 5.25" (33.6 cm × 13 cm) green wool-blend felt for the body, wings and tail
- 2.5" × 1.75" (6.5 cm × 4.5 cm) white wool-blend felt for the face
- 2.5" × 2" (6.5 cm × 5 cm) teal wool-blend felt for the belly
- Matching thread
- Polyester filling
- Black wool roving
- White wool roving
- Yellow wool roving
- Teal wool roving
- Needle-felting needle

- Needle-felting block

## Templates ([here](#))



**Maker's note:** Feel free to add as many markings as you'd like, even reference a real budgie! A felting block really makes a difference here; it will let you felt the details on the tail feathers with ease. As you felt you'll find the tail pieces getting fuzzy; you can leave them as is or trim the fibers.

1. Trace all the templates ([here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance. If you'd prefer to work with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.
2. Transfer the templates onto your felt using a water-soluble pencil.
3. Cut and iron all the pieces.





4. Layer the face (E) and belly piece (F) on top of one of the body pieces (A), and topstitch using coordinating threads.





5. Layer the tail pieces (C & D) on top of each other playing with height. Pin them together.



6. Clip or pin the tail pieces to the front of the body, right sides together. Place the back of the body on top.

**Tip:** I like to use the sewing clips for this as they are easier to remove when sewing smaller pieces.



7. Sew around the body leaving a turning gap on the side approximately 2 inches (5 cm) wide.



8. Turn the body right-side out and stuff.



9. Close the turning gap by using a ladder stitch ([here](#)).

## Needle Felting the Details

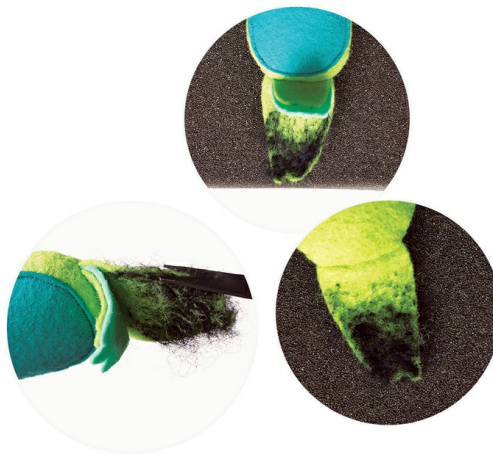




**10.** Take the top wing pieces (B) and place them on the felting block, making sure they're mirror images. Take some black wool roving and place it loosely on top; felt it down. If you'd like a bit more detail and depth on the wings, you can felt some white markings using a bit of the white roving. Set aside.

**11.** Take the body and place the biggest tail piece on the felting block. Felt the front and then flip it to felt the back.

**Note:** You can also do this to the tail piece before you attach it to the body. I chose to do it afterward so I could handle it better.



**12.** Trim the edge of the tail piece, cutting away all the loose fibers.

13. If you are unhappy with how fuzzy the tail is, you can trim the front and back, being careful not to cut the tail piece.

**Note:** The tail is fuzzy because you felted both sides. The wings in comparison are smooth because you only felted one side.



14. Take tiny bits of black roving and roll them between your fingers to form balls. Experiment adding stripes and tiny circles (markings) around the face.

**Tip:** If you don't like the way a marking has turned out, simply pull it out with your needle.



15. Fold the yellow roving into a triangle for the beak. Felt in place.



- 16.** To make the cere above the beak, take a pinch of teal roving and roll it between your fingers to make a strip. Place it above the beak and felt in place.





17. Take the black wool roving and felt the eyes in place.

## **Finishing the Wings**

18. Take the felted wing pieces and layer them on top of the plain pieces. Make sure the felted side is facing down and the wings are mirror images.



**19.** Sew around the wings leaving a turning gap at the back of the wing.





**20.** Turn, stuff the wings lightly and close the gap with a ladder stitch ([here](#)).

**21.** With matching thread, attach the wing to the body. Thread back and forth a couple of times.

**Tip:** Don't pull the thread after each time or you won't be able to see where you're threading the needle.



**22.** Pull slowly and tightly, putting the wing in place. Make a knot to secure it, and repeat if needed on the lower part of the wing.

**23.** Repeat on the other side.

**Tip:** You can skip this by hot gluing the wings!







Harry



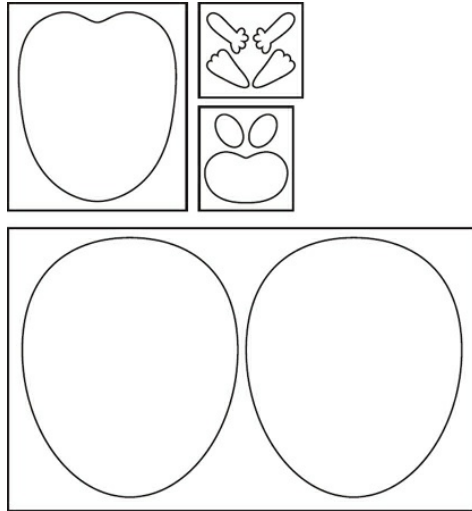
# HARRY HEDGEHOG

Harry likes flying kites. He loves running as fast as he can while watching his colorful kites take flight. Every morning he gets up and checks the wind conditions—he's definitely a morning person, unlike his family. Harry has always known he is different from them: He's up at the crack of dawn, and he likes to be out and about while the sun is out. They like to sleep in. He also loves to eat strawberries, and he often stops by [Rupert Rabbit's](#) garden to see if he has any.

## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 4.75" × 5.5" (12 cm × 14 cm) white wool-blend felt for the belly
- 2.75" × 2.5" (7 cm × 6.5 cm) pink wool-blend felt for the limbs
- 2.5" × 2.75" (6.5 cm × 7 cm) beige wool-blend for the ears and snout
- 12.5" × 7.5" (31.7 cm × 19 cm) brown faux fur for the body
- Fusible web
- Matching thread
- Polyester filling
- Black wool roving
- White wool roving
- Needle-felting needle

## Templates ([here](#))



**Maker's note:** Harry has small arms and using fusible web is great idea to secure them in place (see Techniques [here](#)). You want to avoid applying heat directly on faux fur as it will melt on your iron; use an ironing cloth on top if you choose to fuse the feet.

1. Trace all the template pieces for the belly and feet (A & C) ([here](#)) and the body (F) ([here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance. If you'd prefer to work with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.
2. Transfer the template pieces onto your felt and fur using a water-soluble pencil. Cut them out.
3. Trace the pieces for the arms (B) and face (E) on to the fusible web. Fuse them to the appropriate felt colors.





4. Cut out each piece and layer the face and arms on top of the belly (A). Fuse them together.



5. Topstitch all the pieces as close to the edge as possible using beige thread.



6. Position the belly on the fur body (F), and tuck the ears (D) under it, pinning everything in place. Topstitch around the belly using white thread, making sure the ears are attached.

**Tip:** Take a needle or comb and release any trapped fur under the belly before you attach the feet.



7. Pin the feet in place, and topstitch them. Don't fuse the feet as the heat will scorch the faux fur!



8. When the front of the body is finished, tuck in the fur around the edges and layer the back piece on top, making sure the right sides are together.
9. Sew around the perimeter leaving a gap for turning.



10. Turn right-side out and stuff.



11. To finish your doll, close the gap using a ladder stitch (see Techniques, [here](#)).

## Needle Felting the Details



12. Using the water-soluble pencil, mark the positioning and size of the eyes and nose.
13. Take the black wool roving and felt the eyes in place with the felting needle.



- 14.** Take the white wool roving and felt the pupils in place.  
Experiment with the sizing to get a different expression on Harry's face.



- 15.** Take a larger amount of black roving and roll it into an oval. Felt it in place, shaping the nose.

Noah





# NOAH KOALA

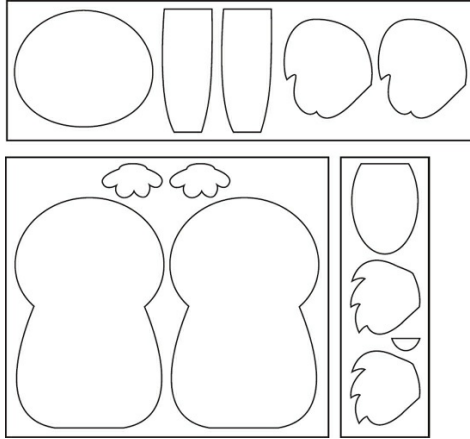
Noah's dad is a carpenter, so Noah grew up learning how to work with wood. Together they built his tree house, his favorite place to hang out. Noah likes collecting all sorts of branches that he can use for his projects. In his tree house, he keeps his favorite things: a box full of letters from his pen pal [Patrick Penguin](#) and a watch. He keeps a stash of snacks up there to eat with his friends. Noah's best friend is [Benito Bird](#). They met one afternoon on a tree. Noah was collecting sticks while Benito was looking for seeds to eat.

## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 11" × 9.5" (28 cm × 24 cm) dark grey wool-blend felt for the body
- 3" × 9.5" (7.6 cm × 24 cm) white wool-blend felt for the ears and belly
- 16" × 4.75" (40.6 cm × 12 cm) light grey wool-blend felt for the head, legs and ears
- Matching thread
- Polyester filling
- Grey Merino wool roving
- White wool roving
- Approximately a 2" (5-cm) ball of black roving
- Needle-felting needle

**Templates ([here](#))**





**Maker's note:** For a more realistic look, Merino wool is a great choice to use for the ears as it resembles wispy fur! If you don't have any on hand you can still use Corriedale roving. Take the time to comb through it and make it as “stringy” as possible.

1. Trace all the templates for the body ([here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance. If you'd prefer to work with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.
2. Transfer the templates onto your felt using a water-soluble pencil.
3. Cut and iron all the pieces.



4. Layer the legs (D) on top of the body (A). Align the straight edges to the bottom of the body. Fuse or pin them together.
5. Using a straight stitch, stitch the legs to the body.





6. Layer the white belly piece (F) on top of the legs. Pin or fuse it together, and stitch it in place.
7. Center the grey head piece (C) on top of the body. Pin and stitch it in place.

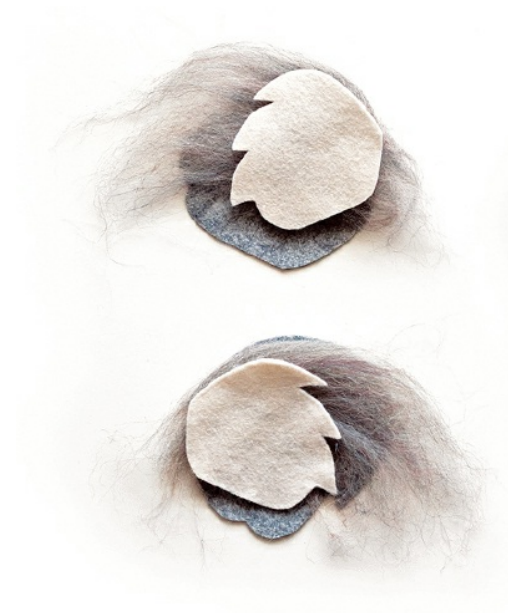


8. Take the white detail piece (H) and position it just below where you want your nose to be. Pin or fuse it together, and stitch it in place.





9. Stitch the top edge of the feet (B) to the legs, about ½ inch (1.3 cm) from the bottom edge. Set aside.
10. Divide the grey Merino roving in half, and pull it into pieces. Place the tufts of wool on the top half of the ear pieces (E). Don't worry about being too neat.



11. Pin the white inner-ear pieces (G) on top, making sure they are mirror images of each other.



**12.** Topstitch the inner-ear pieces, making sure the roving is sandwiched between both pieces.

**Tip:** Trim any extra thread or fur on the inside of the ears.



13. Center the ears on the head, right sides together. Baste in place inside the seam allowance.



14. With the right sides together, place the second body piece on top. Flip the feet up, making sure they are inside, and stitch around the perimeter of the body. Leave a turning gap at the bottom that is approximately 2½ inches (6.3 cm) wide.



**15.** Turn your koala right-side out and stuff.



**16.** Finish off your koala by closing the bottom gap with a ladder stitch (see Techniques, [here](#)).

## **Needle Felting the Details**





17. With some of the black roving, form an oval by folding or rolling it onto itself.



18. Position the nose on top of the white detail you stitched on the face. Secure it in place by felting around the base.
19. When secure, shape and mold the nose to the shape you want.
20. When the nose is in place, felt the eyes with the leftover black roving.



**21.** Felt the pupils in place using the white wool roving.





# Adding Details

## CHARMING AND CUDDLY DOLLS





The characters in this section feel like baby animals to me! Super cute creatures with sweet oversize faces. My favorite one in this section is [Bernadette Whale](#) even though she's the odd one out—perhaps that's why! She's a bigger size and her wavy details make her a fun project to make. She would make a great addition to any underwater-themed room or a great small pillow for little hands to cuddle.

[Leonard Lion](#) is a popular one with my kids; the movement of the mane makes him extra special. You'll enjoy giving a "haircut" and styling his long locks—it brought me back to my childhood years! The size of these dolls is great for little kids to carry around, not too small and not too big for stroller rides or diaper bags. [Bailey Bat](#) would make a terrific Halloween accent. And [Ray Reindeer](#) would give any place a fun holiday touch—a stocking stuffer perhaps?

This is a great section to practice adding more details. If you feel comfortable with your doll-making skills, feel free to add more charm by mixing and matching the accessories you'll learn to make throughout.

You'll also learn to incorporate different fabrics and yarn into your projects. Choose one or two fabrics to start with and go from there. Remember to look at [here](#) for tips on how to choose the best prints. Mimicking hair with yarn is extra fun because you get to style it! Do not underestimate the pleasure this gives you as a maker; adding the finishing touches to any project is a great accomplishment and the best part!

Bernadette





# BERNADETTE WHALE

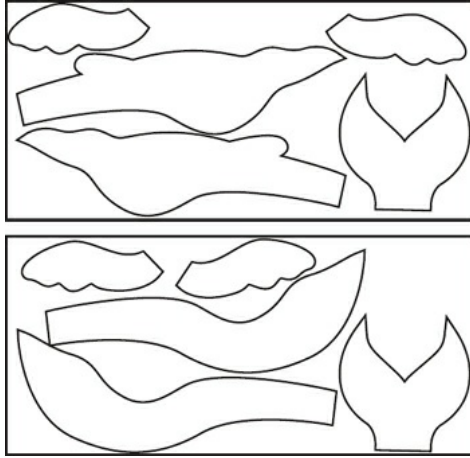
Bernadette is the coral reef's schoolteacher. She's very patient and kind with her students. She's particularly fond of [Toby Turtle](#) and [Stella Seahorse](#). Her favorite subject to teach is math, and she often takes her students on field trips to see how many fish traveling together they can count.

Although she's a little intimidating because of her size, Bernadette is a gentle giant. She gives the best hugs, making you instantly forget about your troubles. She loves to read books and keeps a large library at home. In her spare time, you'll find her singing karaoke with her friends.

## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 21.5" × 10" (54.6 cm × 25.5 cm) navy-blue wool-blend felt for the top of the whale
- 21.5" × 10" (54.6 cm × 25.5 cm) patterned fabric for the bottom of the whale
- Matching thread
- Polyester filling
- Black wool roving
- White wool roving
- Blue wool roving
- Needle-felting needle

## Templates ([here](#))

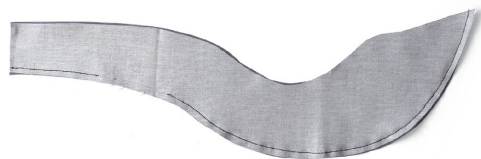


**Maker's note:** Don't let the waves on the pattern intimidate you. Take your time! Using extra sewing clips will help you keep your stitching straight. Don't forget to trim the corners of the fins before turning; if you don't, the fabric will pucker when you turn it right-side out. Check out more tips in the Techniques section [here](#).

1. Trace all the templates for the body ([here](#)) onto freezer paper. Bernadette's body templates are split into two pieces. Cut and tape them together to create one template. The pattern is designed to work with a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance. If you'd prefer to work with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.
2. Transfer the templates onto your felt and fabric using a water-soluble pencil.
3. Cut and iron all the pieces.
4. Layer the pieces for the top of the body (A) and pin them together.



5. Sew along the top using a straight stitch. Clip the corner seams on each side of the dorsal fin, being careful not to clip the stitching.
6. Layer the pieces for the bottom of the body (D) and pin them together.



7. Sew along the bottom, leaving a turning gap that is approximately 2½ inches (6.3 cm) wide.
8. Layer and pin the fin and tail pieces (B & C) together; felt on the top, fabric on the bottom. Make sure they are mirror images of each other.
9. Sew around the perimeter leaving the straight side open for turning.



- 10.** Clip the tips of the tail and all the curves on the fins, being careful not to clip the stitching. You should have a tail and two pectoral fins.



- 11.** Turn the fins and tail right-side out. Referring to the template for



placement, mark the stitch lines on the fins using a water-soluble pencil.



**12. Stuff lightly.**



13. Topstitch the details you marked with the pencil using contrasting thread, following the lines on the templates.



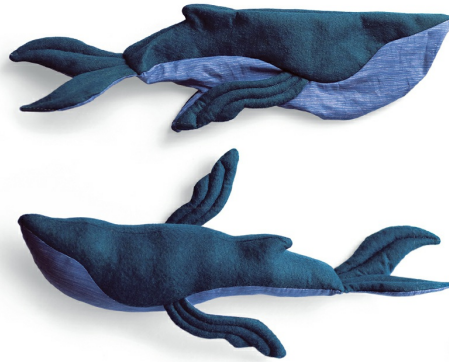
14. Position the pectoral fins on the bottom half of the body according to the template. Pin them in place, making sure the fabric sides are together and the felt side is on top. Baste in place.
15. Pin the tail to the top half of the body, fabric sides together, and baste in place.
16. Take the top and bottom halves of the whale and pin them in place, making sure the tail is tucked in,



17. Sew around the perimeter of the whale.

**Tip:** You can play with the angle of the fins as well as the positioning on the body, but make sure they are perfectly aligned with each other.

## Needle Felting the Details



18. Turn the whale right-side out and stuff the whale firmly.
19. Finish your whale by closing the belly gap with a ladder stitch.
20. Using the water-soluble pencil, mark the positioning and size of the eyes.
21. Take the black wool roving and felt the eyes in place with the felting needle.



22. Take the white wool roving and felt the pupils in place. Experiment with the sizing to get a different expression on Bernadette's face.



- 23.** With the rest of the white and blue roving, felt “spots” on the back of Bernadette. You can add as many or as few as you want.

Leonard





# LEONARD LION

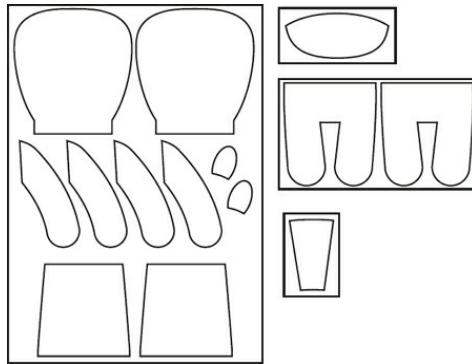
Leonard has a mane that everyone admires. He keeps it clean, shiny and knot-free. He aspires to be a hairstylist and own a hair salon one day. However, Leonard is very shy by nature, and he prefers not being around lots of people. He enjoys his friend [Penny Panda's](#) company, and they spend quiet afternoons together solving puzzles. The largest puzzle he has completed to date had 300 pieces. He's looking for a new one to tackle to beat his personal record. Leonard's favorite color is orange. He loves snacking throughout the day. He carries around almonds and sunflower seeds to eat whenever he gets hungry.

## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 9.25" × 13" (23.5 cm × 33 cm) yellow wool-blend felt for the body
- 4.25" × 2" (10.8 cm × 5 cm) white wool-blend felt for the body
- 2" × 3" (5 cm × 7.6 cm) beige wool-blend felt for the body
- 7.25" × 4" (18.4 cm × 10 cm) patterned fabric for the legs
- 15" (38 cm) any color ribbon
- 15–20' (4.5–6 m) medium-weight brown ombre yarn
- Matching thread
- Polyester filling
- Approximately ½" (1.25-cm) ball of black wool roving
- White wool roving

- Pink wool roving
- Needle-felting needle

## Templates ([here](#))



**Maker's note:** Take note of how much yarn you use for the mane. You definitely do not want to overdo it or it will be difficult to turn the head. If you are turning and it gets stuck, do not panic: Try to slowly pull strand by strand. Pushing from the opposite side instead of pulling will also help. Don't be afraid to push everything back in and start again; sometimes it's just a matter of rejigging the yarn strands. Experiment with different types of yarn—a roving yarn would be lovely!

1. Trace all the templates for the body and arms ([here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance. If you'd prefer to work with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.
2. Transfer the templates onto your felt using a water-soluble pencil.
3. Cut and iron all the pieces.





4. Pin or fuse the face stripe (F) on top of the head piece (A), and topstitch it in place.



5. Wrap the brown yarn around the width of your fingers multiple times until you cover the length of your fingers.

**Tip:** Do not overdo it! It should just be enough to cover the width of the neck without being bulky.



6. Place the yarn on the neck, leaving about  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch (3.2 mm) from each side.



7. Pin the white snout piece (E) on top, and stitch it in place.





8. Baste the ears (C) in place within the seam allowance, one on either side of the stripe. Refer to the placement on the template.
9. With right sides together, sew the finished head pieces (A) to the torsos (D).



10. With right sides together, sew the bodies to the legs (G).



- 11.** Take two of the arm pieces (B) and align the straight edges together. Sew them together, leaving the straight edge open for turning. Repeat with the two remaining pieces.



- 12.** Turn the arms right-side out. Stuff the arms with a medium firmness leaving a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) unfilled gap at the end.



13. Take the body with the face and position the arms on the chest facing down. Baste them in place within the seam allowance. Set aside.



14. To make the rest of the lion's mane, wrap the rest of the yarn around your hand and place it evenly on top of your ribbon.

**Tip:** Do this in sections! It will be easier to evenly space the yarn on the ribbon if it's not bulky. You also don't want to wrap too much as it will be difficult to turn.



15. Sew the yarn in place, making sure the strands are not overlapping too much. Don't worry about being too neat with it.

**Tip:** I used a different color for the thread so I could clearly see where I was stitching.



16. Continue wrapping and stitching until you've filled the length of the ribbon.





17. Take the finished mane and place it on top of the back body piece. Align the ribbon to the outside perimeter of the head. Tuck in all the yarn so that it's in the center and pin it in place so that it doesn't move.



**18.** Place the front body piece on top and pin in place. Fold up any ribbon so that it is not stitched with the yarn.

**Tip:** I prefer using sewing clips to secure the yarn. They are easier to position and get rid of as you sew.



19. With a straight stitch, sew around the body leaving a turning gap on the side of approximately 2½ inches (6.3 cm) wide.



- 20.** Before turning your lion right-side out, trim the excess yarn and ribbon to reduce bulk. Be careful not to trim your stitching.



- 21.** Clip the seam allowance at the corners of the pant inseam to allow flexibility.



- 22.** Turn the lion right-side out. If you're having difficulty turning the mane, a good tip is to pull it carefully in sections; it will slide

through easier.

**Tip:** I turn the legs first, the torso and arms second and the head last.



23. Stuff the lion to a medium firmness, and finish the body by closing the turning gap with a ladder stitch (see Techniques, [here](#)).





**24.** To trim the mane, clip the loops all around the head first. Comb your fingers through the yarn so you can see the length properly.



**25.** Give your lion a haircut as needed. I trimmed the mane following a triangle shape, leaving the beard a bit longer.

## Needle Felting the Details



**26.** Set aside some of the black roving for the eyes and mouth. With the rest of the black roving, form a triangle shape for the nose and felt it loosely at the bottom of the beige stripe.

**27.** When the nose is in place, felt the eyes with more black roving.



**28.** Felt the pupils in place using the white wool roving.



- 29.** To felt the mouth, roll the leftover black roving between your fingers to form a thin strip. Felt it right below the nose, down and outward forming a J-shape. Repeat on the other side.



- 30.** Form tiny balls with the pink roving and felt them on the cheeks. Feel free to experiment with the sizing!





Penny





# PENNY PANDA

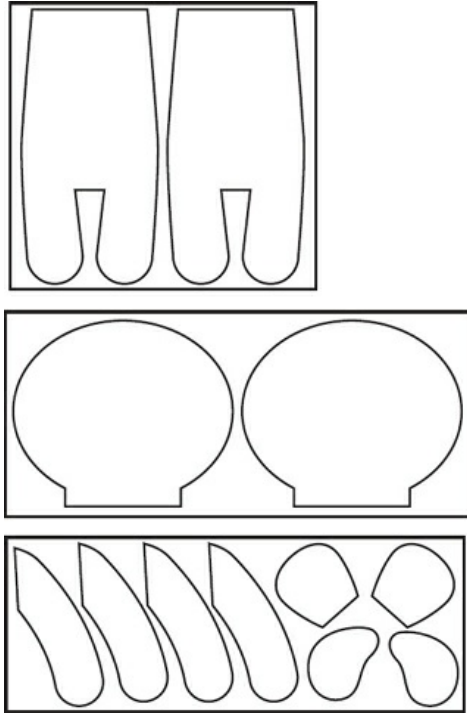
Penny Panda loves hosting parties, especially tea parties. She works hard to be the perfect hostess, always making sure her friends are comfortable and have everything they need. Penny serves tea on her best china set, which was a gift from her grandmother, and she treasures it dearly. Like any good tea party host, Penny has a large variety of loose leaf teas in her pantry. Her favorite is Earl Grey. She often collects herbs from her garden and makes her own tea. Penny also loves to bake and makes all kinds of biscuits for her parties. She dreams of being a pastry chef surrounded by puff pastry and clouds of sugar.

## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 11.5" × 5" (29.2 cm × 12.7 cm) white wool-blend felt for the face
- 11.25" × 4.25" (28.5 cm × 10.8 cm) black wool-blend felt for the arms and ears
- 7.5" × 7" (19 cm × 17.75 cm) patterned fabric for the body
- 40" × 4.5" (1 m × 11.4 cm) lace for the dress
- 15" (38 cm) coordinating ribbon
- Matching thread
- Polyester filling
- Dark blue wool roving
- White wool roving
- Black wool roving

- Needle-felting needle

## Templates ([here](#))



**Maker's note:** Feel free to experiment with eye color! Because Penny has black eye patches, a black eye will not show as well. You can also try a dark grey or dark brown. I loved not having to sew a proper seam for the dress. Working with fabric that allows for a raw edge is a favorite in my books! I added a few handmade pompoms, an easy optional accessory.

1. Trace all the templates for the body and arms ([here](#)) and templates A through C ([here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance. If you'd prefer to work with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.

2. Transfer the templates onto your felt using a water-soluble pencil.
3. Cut and iron all the pieces.



4. According to the placement on the template, layer the eye patches (B) on top of one of the head pieces (A). Pin or fuse together, and topstitch in place.



5. Position the ears following the ear placement on the template. Point them inward and baste in place inside the seam allowance. Trim any excess felt.



6. With right sides together, sew the finished panda face and head piece (A) to the bodies (BO).



7. Take two of the arm pieces (AR) and align the straight edges together. Sew them together leaving the straight edge open for turning. Repeat with the two remaining pieces.





8. Turn the arms right-side out. Stuff the arms with a medium firmness, leaving a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) unfilled gap at the end.



9. Take the body with the face and position the arms on the chest facing down. Baste them in place within the seam allowance.
10. With right sides together, take both body pieces and pin them together.



11. With a straight stitch, sew around the body, leaving a turning gap on the side of approximately 2½ inches (6.3 cm) wide.
12. Before turning your panda right-side out, clip the seam allowance at the corners of the pant inseam to allow flexibility.



- 13.** Turn the panda right-side out and stuff to a medium firmness. Finish the body by closing the turning gap with a ladder stitch (see Techniques, [here](#)).

## **Needle Felting the Details**

- 14.** Position the eyes and felt them in place with the dark blue roving. You can make them as big or as little as you want.



**15.** Felt the pupils in place using the white wool roving.



**16.** Take the black wool roving and form a triangle for the nose. Felt it to the face, carefully shaping the nose.





17. To felt the mouth, roll the leftover black roving between your fingers to form a thin strip. Felt a straight line below the nose curving it outward forming a J-shape. Repeat on the other side.

## Making the Dress

18. To gather the lace, adjust the stitch length to the longest your machine allows.
19. Stitch a straight line along the top of the lace.

**Tip:** If your lace is scalloped on both edges, trim one side so that it's a straight edge.



- 20.** Pull just one of the threads, either the top or the bottom, on either side of the dress and start sliding the fabric to the center. Make sure you're pulling the same thread on either side; if you don't, the thread will lock up and might break with force. This is where working with different color threads makes it easier!
- 21.** When the dress is gathered to be 6 inches (15.2 cm) wide, topstitch the gathers in place with a regular stitch size.



- 22.** To close up the skirt, fold one side in about a ¼ inch (6.4 mm) and overlap it with the other side. Topstitch it closed.



**23.** Put the dress on your panda and locate the arms. Trim a hole and slide the arms through.



**24.** The final step is to define the waist. Tie the ribbon around your panda as tight as you can. Make a bow on the back.

Bailey





# BAILEY BAT

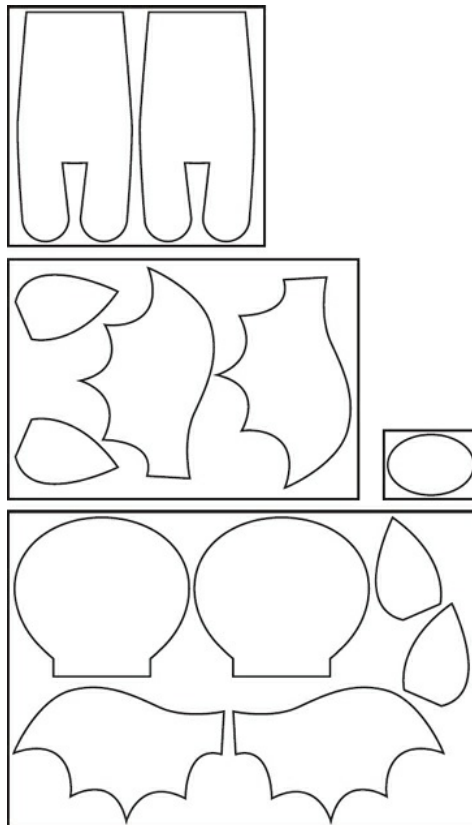
Bailey loves having sleepovers with his friends, although he is always the last one to fall asleep. He has trouble sleeping at night when everyone is sleeping, but he makes the most of it by keeping a journal of all his favorite things to do. One of them is to pick wild berries from the woods. Although they are too tart to eat, he enjoys making delicious jams to share with his friends. He knows every kind of berry and can tell which ones are poisonous. In his journal, he keeps a map of where he can find the most delicious ones. Bailey loves watching movies while snacking on popcorn.

## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 2.75" × 2" (7 cm × 5 cm) grey wool-blend felt for the face
- 13.75" × 9.25" (35 cm × 23.5 cm) black wool-blend felt for the head, ears and wings
- 7" × 10.25" (17.8 cm × 26 cm) purple wool-blend felt for the inner ears and wings
- 1" × 1" (2.5 cm × 2.5 cm) pink wool-blend felt for the nose
- 7.5" × 7" (19 cm × 17.8 cm) patterned fabric for the body
- 45' (13.7 m) yarn for the scarf
- Matching thread
- Polyester filling
- Black wool roving
- White wool roving

- Dark blue wool roving
- Needle-felting needle
- Needle-felting block

## Templates ([here](#))



**Maker's note:** I opted for a shorter scarf on Bailey because it was thick. If you'd like to wrap it around his neck a couple of times, opt for a thinner and longer scarf. Don't forget to clip the seams along the curves of the wings to prevent puckering.

1. Trace all the templates for the body ([here](#)) and templates A through E ([here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a 1/8-inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance. If



you'd prefer to work with a ¼-inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.

2. Transfer the templates onto your felt using a water-soluble pencil.
3. Cut and iron all the pieces.

**Tip:** To give the appearance of thicker, fuller ears, do not iron them.



4. Pin or fuse the snout piece (A) on top of the head piece (B), and topstitch it in place. Positioning the nose piece (E), pin or fuse it and topstitch it in place. Set aside.
5. Layer the black ear piece (C) on top of the purple piece and stitch along the edge, leaving the straight side open for turning. Repeat on the other side, making sure they are mirror images.



6. Before turning the ears right-side out, clip the excess ear tips to reduce bulk.



7. Turn the ears right-side out.



8. Fold in the inner corner of the ears and baste in place.





9. Position the ears following the ear placement on the template. Point them inward and with right sides together and baste in place inside the seam allowance. Set aside.



10. To make the wings, layer the black wing pieces (D) on top of the purple pieces, making sure they are mirror images of each other. Pin in place and sew around the edge, leaving the straight side open for turning.



- 11.** Clip the excess wing tips to reduce bulk. Being careful not to cut the seam, clip along each of the wing curves to allow for flexibility when turning.



- 12.** Turn the wings right-side out, and make sure to poke out the tips.



**13.** Using a water-soluble pencil, mark the stitch lines on the wings using the template as a guide.



**14.** Topstitch the lines using a contrasting thread.



15. With right sides together, sew the finished bat face and head piece (B) to the bodies (BO).



16. On the body with the finished face, place the wings with the purple-side down according to the wing placement on the template. Baste in place inside the seam allowance.





17. Fold the wings so that they fit inside the body, making sure they stay inside the seam allowance.
18. With right sides together, place the back body piece on top and pin or clip in place.



19. With a straight stitch, sew around the body leaving a turning gap on the side of approximately 2½ inches (6.3 cm) wide.
20. Before turning your bat right-side out, clip the seam allowance at the corners of the pant inseam to allow flexibility.
21. Turn the bat right-side out, and stuff to a medium firmness. Finish the body by closing the turning gap with a ladder stitch (see Techniques, [here](#)).

## Needle Felting the Details



- 22.** To felt the mouth, roll the leftover black roving between your fingers forming a thin strip. Felt a straight line that curves along the edges.



- 23.** Cut off the excess roving when you've reached the desired width.



24. Fold the white roving onto itself, forming a little triangle. Felt a fang just below the edge of the mouth. Repeat on the other side.



25. To felt the eyes, take some of the dark blue roving and felt circles just above the snout.



26. Felt the pupils in place using the white wool roving.

### **Making the Scarf**



27. Take the yarn and loop it onto itself multiple times until it reaches the thickness you want. The length of the loops should be at least 10 inches (25.5 cm) long.





**28.** Tie a knot at one end to secure the yarn.



**29.** Braid the yarn and tie a knot at the end to finish it.



**30.** Cut and fluff the ends.

**31.** To secure the scarf on your bat, sew it together with thread by passing a needle a few times through the center.

Emily



# EMILY MONKEY

Emily Monkey is a bright girl who loves to paint. At school, art class is her favorite. She enjoys making paintings that she hangs around her house. Although she's very good at it and they ask her all the time, she prefers not to paint her friends. Nature is what she prefers to paint. [Charlotte Cat](#) is Emily's best friend, and they enjoy picking flowers together and arranging bouquets. You can often see Emily's favorite flowers being featured in her paintings. Emily's favorite color is yellow, and she has a particular liking for yellow foods. You can find her snacking on pineapple and of course ... bananas!

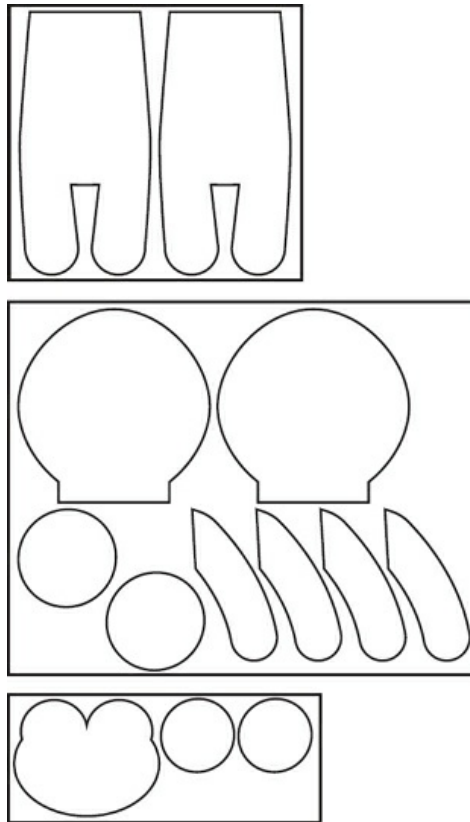
## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 8" × 3.25" (20.3 cm × 8.3 cm) beige wool-blend felt for the face and ears
- 12" × 9.5" (30.5 cm × 24 cm) brown wool-blend felt for the face, ears and arms
- 7.5" × 7" (19 cm × 17.75 cm) patterned fabric for the body
- 2.5" × 3.5" (63.5 × 8.9 cm) gauze cotton blend or lightweight fabric for the collar
- 6" (15.3 cm) ⅛" (0.32-cm)-wide elastic for the collar
- 20" × 0.75" (50.8 cm × 1.9 cm) linen cotton blend or lightweight fabric for the rosette
- Matching thread
- Polyester filling
- Approximately ½" (1.25-cm) ball of beige wool roving



- Black wool roving
- White wool roving
- Needle-felting needle
- Paper clip or safety pin

## Templates ([here](#))



**Maker's note:** Working with gauze is my favorite when fraying. It's a soft material that's very easy to pull apart. To fray, lay your piece of fabric on a table and use a pin to carefully separate threads running horizontally. Play close attention to the amount you pull—it's easy to get carried away!

1. Trace all the templates for the body and arms ([here](#)) and

templates A through D ([here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance. If you'd prefer to work with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.

2. Transfer the templates onto your felt and fabric using a water-soluble pencil.
3. Cut and iron all the pieces.



4. Pin or fuse the face (A) on top of one of the head pieces (C). Topstitch it in place with beige thread.



5. Align the beige inner-ear pieces (B) to the bottom of the brown ear pieces (D). Pin or fuse together, and topstitch in place.



6. With right sides together, sew the finished monkey face and head piece (C) to the bodies (BO).
7. Position the ears following the ear placement on the template or experiment with size and positioning. Point them inward and with right sides together, and baste in place inside the seam allowance. Trim any excess felt.



8. Take two of the arm pieces (AR) and align the straight edges together. Sew them together leaving the straight edge open for turning. Repeat with the two remaining pieces.



9. Turn the arms right-side out. Stuff the arms with a medium firmness leaving a ¼-inch (6.4-mm) unfilled gap at the end.



10. Take the body with the face and position the arms on the chest facing down. Baste them in place within the seam allowance.
11. With right sides together, take both body pieces and pin them together.





12. With a straight stitch, sew around the body, leaving a turning gap on the side of approximately 2½ inches (6.3 cm) wide.
13. Before turning your monkey right-side out, clip the seam allowance at the corners of the pant inseam to allow flexibility.



- 14.** Turn the monkey right-side out and stuff to a medium firmness. Finish the body by closing the turning gap with a ladder stitch (see Techniques, [here](#)).

### **Needle Felting the Details**



- 15.** Take the beige wool roving and form an oval for the nose. Felt it to the face, carefully shaping the nose.



16. When the nose is in place, felt the eyes with some of the black roving.



17. Add some pupils using the white wool roving.



18. To felt the mouth, roll the leftover black roving between your fingers to form a thin strip. Felt a straight line below the nose and then a curved line along the bottom.

## Making the Collar



19. To make the collar, take your fabric and bring the short sides together (right sides together) and sew.

**Note:** I went with a frayed look for the collar; if you'd like a more finished look, finish the bottom with a seam before you sew the short sides together. When you've done that and sewn the short sides together, finish the seam with a zigzag stitch to prevent fraying.

20. Fold the edge about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch (6.4 mm) in and press. This will be

the casing for the elastic.

**Tip:** Test the fold with your elastic to make sure it passes through freely and also accommodates for the seam allowance. You can have a neater inner seam if you do an extra fold to hide the raw edge. Be careful not to make it too bulky as it still has to be ruched.



21. Stitch around the perimeter of the fabric leaving a 2-inch (5-cm) gap unstitched.



22. With a paperclip or safety pin attached to one end of your elastic, thread it through the casing.





23. As you pull the elastic, the fabric will start gathering. Clip the end in place to prevent it from moving.

24. Stitch the two elastic ends together, and topstitch the gap closed.

25. Fray the fabric edge to add some interest to the collar.

## Making the Rosette

26. To make the rosette, take the strip of fabric and stitch along the edge using the longest basting stitch your machine has.

**Tip:** I used the raw edge of my fabric for added detail.



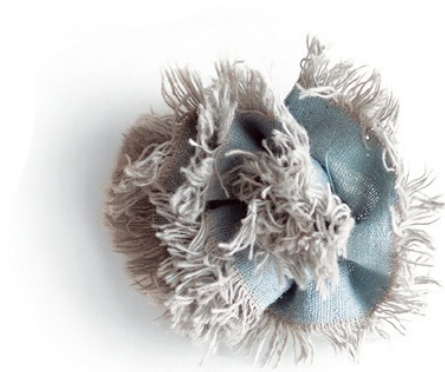
27. Pull just one of the threads, either the top or the bottom, and start sliding the fabric to the center.



**28.** When it's all gathered, roll the fabric onto itself, making a rosette.



**29.** Secure it in place by sewing through it from side to side, pulling tight as you push the needle through.



**30.** Fluff it up and sew it by hand on the head.

Ray





# RAY REINDEER

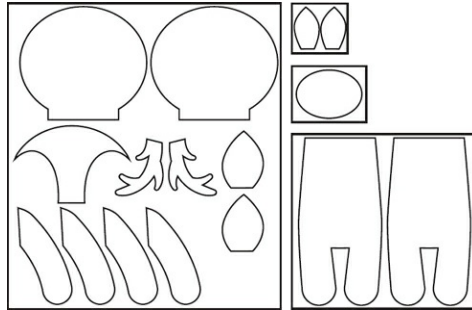
Ray's favorite holiday is ... you guessed it, Christmas! It's Christmas year-round at Ray's house. He loves collecting presents throughout the year and hiding them around the house, but he often forgets where he hides them! Ray is very forgetful; he writes to-do lists so that he doesn't miss a thing. If he doesn't have time to write a list, he ties a red string around his antler to remind himself of something, but most of the time he ends up forgetting what it was. Ray loves a warm bowl of soup any time of the year—it's his favorite comfort food.

## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 11" × 12.25" (28 cm × 31 cm) brown wool-blend felt for the head, ears and antlers
- 2.25" × 2" (5.7 cm × 5 cm) beige wool-blend felt for the ears
- 3" × 2.25" (7.6 cm × 5.7 cm) white wool-blend felt for the snout
- 7.5" × 7" (19 cm × 17.8 cm) patterned fabric for the body
- 6" × 4" (15.2 cm × 10.2 cm) knit fabric or repurposed sweater for the shawl
- Matching thread
- Polyester filling
- Approximately 1½" (3.8-cm) ball of red wool roving
- Black wool roving
- White wool roving

- Needle-felting needle
- Embroidery needle

## Templates ([here](#))



**Maker's note:** Cutting multiple pieces of felt exactly the same is nearly impossible regardless of the amount of experience you have working with fabric. If you find that your antlers are not matching up perfectly, don't worry; stitch them together and then trim around the edges. As long as no bits and pieces are missing no one will notice when you're done. You can use fusible web to make them extra stiff, but I find the two layers of felt are more than enough.

1. Trace all the templates for the body and arms ([here](#)) and templates A through F ([here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance. If you'd prefer to work with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.
2. Transfer the templates onto your felt and fabric using a water-soluble pencil.
3. Cut and iron all the pieces.



4. Layer the brown face detail (B) on one of the head pieces (A), and topstitch it in place with brown thread.



5. Layer the beige ear pieces (E) on the brown ear pieces (D), and topstitch in place.



6. To stiffen the antlers, sew two templates (C) together for each antler. Topstitch as close to the edge as possible.



7. Trim around the perimeter of the antlers so that the layers are even on both sides.



8. Pin or fuse the white snout piece (F) to the middle of the face. Topstitch it in place with white thread.



9. Referring to the ear placement on the template and with right sides together, baste the ears inside the seam allowance.



10. Repeat with the antlers, making sure they are pointing outward.





- 11.** With right sides together, sew the finished reindeer face to the body (B0) using a ¼-inch (6.4-mm) seam allowance. Repeat with the second body and head pieces.



- 12.** Take two of the arm pieces (AR) and align the straight edges. Sew them together leaving the straight edge open for turning. Repeat with the two remaining pieces.



- 13.** Turn the arms right-side out. Stuff the arms with a medium firmness, leaving a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) unfilled gap at the end.



14. Take the body with the face and position the arms on the chest facing down. Baste them in place within the seam allowance.
15. With right sides together, take both body pieces and pin them together.
16. With a straight stitch, sew around the body, leaving a turning gap on the side of approximately 2½ inches (6.3 cm) wide.
17. Before turning your reindeer right-side out, clip the seam allowance at the corners of the pant inseam to allow flexibility.



- 18.** Turn the reindeer right-side out and stuff to a medium firmness. Finish the body by closing the turning gap with a ladder stitch (see Techniques, [here](#)).

## Needle Felting the Details



19. With the red wool roving, form a ball between your palms. Place it in the middle of the face and start felting it at the base to attach it. Keep felting until it reaches the size you want.
20. To felt the mouth, roll a little black roving between your fingers to form a thin strip. Felt it right below the nose, forming a straight line.



21. Felt a curved line right below it, forming a smile.



22. With the black roving, felt the eyes in place.





23. Add some pupils with the white wool roving.

## **Making the Shawl**



24. Fold the knit fabric in half along the longest side and sew.



25. Turn right-side out.

26. Fold the neck over multiple times until you've reached the desired length.

27. Dress your reindeer.



28. Cinch the sides together just below the neck to expose the arms, using an embroidery needle and thread.

29. Optional: Fray the edges.

**Tip:** A sweater sleeve is great for this, no sewing required!

Charlotte





# CHARLOTTE CAT

Charlotte Cat is an avid camper, and she loves to be outdoors. Her parents always struggle to keep her at home because she prefers the sunshine and fresh air. She's happiest sleeping in a tent and eating s'mores while sharing stories with her friends around the fire. She's known for being very organized and the best packer. She never forgets anything! Charlotte likes to go on night walks and pays attention to the star constellations. Charlotte can always tell you what's going to happen based on your zodiac sign. She's a cautious kitty and takes the sun, the stars and the moon very seriously.

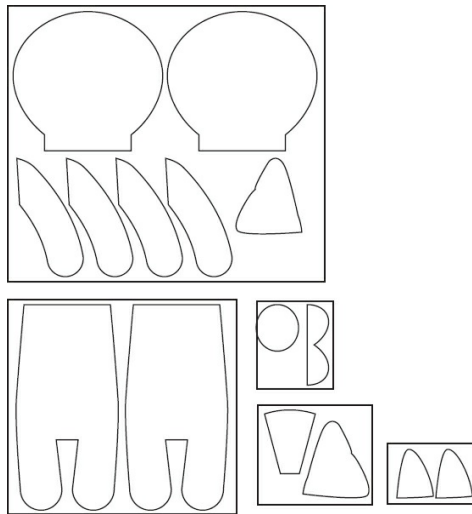
## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 10.38" × 9" (26.4 cm × 22.9 cm) grey wool-blend felt for the head and ear
- 3.75" × 3.25" (9.5 cm × 8.3 cm) dark grey wool-blend felt for the face stripe and ear
- 3" × 2" (7.6 cm × 5 cm) pink wool-blend felt for the inner ears
- 2.5" × 2.88" (6.3 cm × 7.3 cm) white wool-blend felt for the snout
- 7.5" × 7" (19 cm × 17.8 cm) patterned fabric for the body
- 16" × 4" (40.5 cm × 10 cm) patterned fabric for the skirt
- 6" × 2.5" (15.2 cm × 6.5 cm) patterned or solid fabric for the waistband
- Matching thread
- Polyester filling



- Pink wool roving
- Black wool roving
- White wool roving
- Needle-felting needle
- Needle-felting block

## Templates ([here](#))



**Maker's note:** Feel free to experiment with eye shape! Cats' expressions can be tricky as I find they often turn out looking angry. I opted for a round eye shape to avoid this, but feel free to give it a try. Felt lightly and you should be able to pull it right off if you don't like it—needle felting is very forgiving!

1. Trace all the templates for the body and arms ([here](#)) and templates A through F ([here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance. If you'd prefer to work with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.

2. Transfer the templates onto your felt and fabric using a water-soluble pencil.
3. Cut and iron all the pieces.
4. Pin or fuse the stripe (E) on one of the head pieces (A), and topstitch it in place with a contrasting thread.



5. Following the template for placement, topstitch two more lines on the stripe with the same contrasting thread.



6. Pin or fuse the white snout piece (C), covering the end of the stripe, and topstitch it in place.

7. Layer the inner-ear pieces (F) on top of the grey ear pieces (B). Pin or fuse together, and stitch it in place.



8. Position the ears following the ear placement on the template. Point them inward and with right sides together and baste in place inside the seam allowance. The light grey ear should be on the left and dark grey on the right.
9. Trim any excess felt.
10. Take the white collar piece (D) and place it on top of the body piece (BO). Align the straight edges together and baste in place inside the seam allowance.

**Note:** You can also fuse the collar in place!



11. Aligning the flat sides together, sew the finished cat face to the body and collar using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam allowance. Repeat with the second body and head pieces.





12. Take two of the arm pieces (AR) and align the straight edges. Sew them together leaving the straight edge open for turning. Repeat with the two remaining pieces.



13. Turn the arms right-side out. Stuff the arms with a medium firmness leaving a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) unfilled gap at the end.





14. Take the body with the face and position the arms on the chest facing down. Baste them in place within the seam allowance.
15. With right sides together, pin both body pieces together.
16. With a straight stitch, sew around the body, leaving a turning gap on the side of approximately 2½ inches (6.3 cm) wide.
17. Before turning your cat right-side out, clip the seam allowance at the corners of the pant inseam to allow flexibility.



18. Turn the cat right-side out and stuff to a medium firmness. Finish the body by closing the turning gap with a ladder stitch (see Techniques, [here](#)).

## Needle Felting the Details



19. Take the pink wool roving and form a triangle for the nose. Felt it to the face, carefully shaping the nose.



**20.** To felt the mouth, roll a little black roving between your fingers to form a thin strip. Felt it right below the nose, then down and outward, forming a J-shape.

**21.** Repeat on the other side.



**22.** Felt the eyes with some of the black roving.



**23.** Felt the pupils in place using the white wool roving.

## **Making the Skirt**

**24.** Take the rectangle that you've cut for your skirt and fold a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -

inch (3.2-mm) hem, and press to the wrong side.

**25.** Fold again onto itself and press flat.



**26.** Secure the hem using a straight stitch.

**27.** To gather the skirt, adjust the stitch length to the longest your machine allows.



**28.** Stitch a straight line along the top of your skirt.





- 29.** Pull just one of the threads, either the top or the bottom, on either side of the skirt and start sliding the fabric to the center. Make sure you're pulling the same thread on either side. If you don't, the thread will lock up and might break with force. This is where working with different color threads makes it easier!

**Tip:** You can knot one side so the fabric doesn't slide out and only pull on one side.

- 30.** Take the waistband fabric strip and fold in half. Press.
- 31.** Open it up and fold each side toward the centerfold you just made. Press.



- 32.** Take the gathered skirt and sandwich it between the waistband you just pressed. Pin or clip it in place.



**33.** Stitch the waistband in place using a straight stitch.

**34.** Fold the skirt, right sides together, and sew the edge.



**35.** Finish the seam with a zigzag stitch to prevent fraying.



**36.** Turn your skirt right-side out, and dress your Charlotte.

# Making Full-Sized Friends

## STYLISH PLAYMATES AND ACCESSORIES





After my twins were born, I found myself wanting to make them something special. A soft doll they could hug, with long skinny limbs that they could hold in their tiny hands, and bright faces with sharp features they could recognize. These dolls started my passion for developing patterns.

When I developed [Madeline Fox](#) I instantly fell in love with the process of putting shapes together. It's like solving a puzzle. I created these creatures with stylish clothes and accessories to be roughly 11 inches (28 cm) tall from ears to toes. If you'd like to make them extra special, it's a great idea to reuse those tiny baby clothes you just can't seem to let go of. The added sentimental value will make these cherished pieces for years to come.

In this section, you'll be learning to how make button joints, which allow for the arms to move. You'll find that all the projects, with the exception of the owl, use this method in addition to the same body and leg formats. It's a good idea to familiarize yourself with the process before you dive in.



Oliver



# OLIVER RACCOON

Oliver Raccoon is [Madeline Fox's](#) best friend. Growing up in the forest, they have always had lots of adventures from which to choose. Oliver loves the outdoors as well as finding new treasures during his walks. His favorite time to explore is just before supper. He and Madeline meet at their favorite spot—a huge tree trunk right in the middle of the forest. The log has a big trapdoor where they hide and share all kinds of stories. Sometimes during his walks, Oliver finds unusual rocks that he saves to add to Madeline's rock collection. His favorite color is green, and he lives with his parents and older brother Jake.

## Tools & Materials

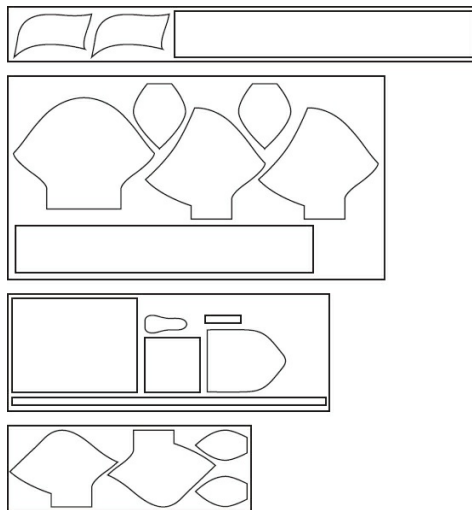
- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 9.5" × 10.5" (24 cm × 26.7 cm) patterned fabric for the shirt and arms
- 9.5" × 10.38" (24 cm × 26.4 cm) patterned fabric for the bottom half of the body and legs
- 12" × 6.5" (30.5 cm × 16.5 cm) grey wool-blend felt for the head, ears and hands
- 7.75" × 2.75" (19.7 cm × 7 cm) white wool-blend felt for the face and ears
- 1.75" × 15" (4.5 cm × 38 cm) black wool-blend felt for the stripes and feet
- 10.25" × 3.75" (26 cm × 9.5 cm) brown wool-blend felt for the satchel
- 10" (25.4 cm) knit fabric or an old sweater to repurpose as a



scarf

- Matching thread
- Polyester filling
- Three 1-cm buttons
- 25" (63.5 cm) black embroidery floss
- Navy-blue wool roving
- White wool roving
- Approximately 1½" (3.8-cm) ball of black wool roving
- Needle-felting needle
- Embroidery needle
- 5" (12.7-cm) doll-making needle
- Hot glue

## Templates ([here](#))



**Maker's note:** If you find your regular (standard) sewing needle is having a hard time sewing through the layers of felt, consider using a denim needle.

- 
1. Trace all the templates A through J ([here](#) and [here](#)) and S, P, L1 and L2 for the body ([here](#) and [here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a 1/8-inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance unless otherwise specified. If you'd prefer to work with a 1/4-inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.
  2. Transfer the templates onto your felt and fabric using a water-soluble pencil.
  3. Cut and iron all the pieces.
  4. Layer the white side piece (D) on top of the grey side piece (B). Pin it in place or fuse it with your fusible web. Repeat for the other side, making sure it's a mirror image.
  5. Layer and pin or fuse in place the white inner-ear pieces (E) on top of the grey ear pieces (C).



6. Using white thread, topstitch the ear pieces and side pieces together using a straight stitch. Sew as close to the edge as possible.





7. Layer and pin the black eye stripes (F) on top of the white pieces (D) you just secured in place. Using black thread, topstitch the stripes in place.



8. Pin both finished sides of the face together. Using grey thread, stitch from the top down to the side of the neck.
9. Turn the face right-side out, making sure the snout is fully turned.



10. Following the ear placement on the template, pin and baste the ears in place on the finished face.



11. With right sides together, sew the shirt pieces (S) to the pant pieces (P) found [here](#), using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam. Press them flat.



**12.** Aligning the flat sides together, sew the finished raccoon face to the body using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam. Repeat with the large head piece (A).

**13.** Referring to the instructions [here](#), make the limbs.



14. Take the stuffed legs and baste them to the body, leaving a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) gap from each side. Flip the legs up.
15. Take the other half of the body and pin it on top, making sure all the seams on the neck and pants align and that the ears and legs are tucked in.



16. When pinned, flip the body so you can see the stitching on the ears and legs while you're sewing. Starting just below the neck, sew with grey or matching thread all the way around the head and body leaving a 2½-inch (6.3-cm) opening along the side of the body.

**Tip:** If you're having a hard time sewing around the head with the legs tucked in, take the legs out and sew around the head first. When you're finished sewing around the head, tuck the legs back in and continue with the rest of the body.

## Needle Felting the Details



17. Turn the body right-side out. Poke out all the corners using the hemostat.





18. Stuff the body with a medium to hard firmness.
19. Using a ladder stitch, close the side opening.
20. Referring to the instructions [here](#), finish your doll by attaching the arms.



**21.** Using the water-soluble pencil, mark the positioning and size of the eyes.



**22.** Take navy-blue wool roving and felt the eyes in place with the felting needle.



23. Take white wool roving and felt the pupils in place. Experiment with the sizing to get a different expression on Oliver's face.



24. Take black wool roving and roll it in the palm of your hands. Felt the ball until you get a cylinder shape and minimal fibers sticking out. You can continue to work the ball by rolling it in your palms. This will help condense it.



25. With the embroidery needle and black thread, attach the nose to the snout.

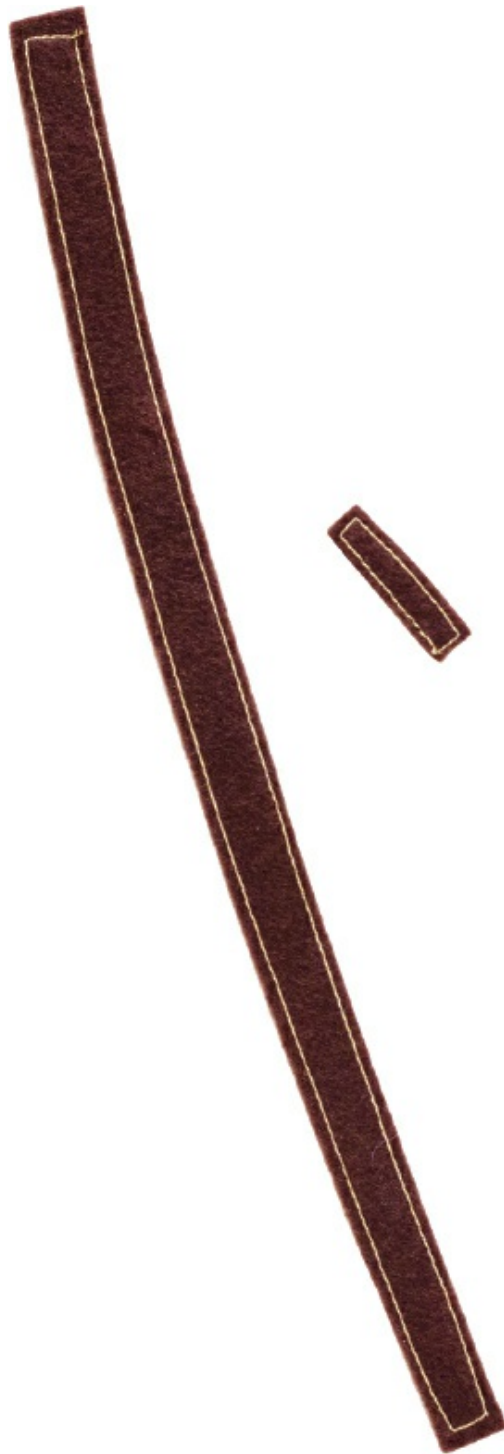
**Tip:** You can avoid this step by hot gluing the nose to the snout.

**26.** Finish reinforcing the nose by felting it with the needle to the snout.



**27.** Roll some black wool roving between your fingers to form a thin strip for the mouth. Place it under the snout and start felting from the middle seam outward.

## **Making the Satchel**



**28.** Cut a  $\frac{1}{4} \times 10$ -inch (6.4-mm  $\times$  25.4-cm) strap of brown felt and topstitch around the perimeter of it and the latch strap (H2). Set aside.





- 29.** Hot glue or sew the corners of the latch strap on the pocket.  
Refer to the template for placement.



- 30.** Align the pocket piece (I) to the top center of the main satchel piece (G). Topstitch using a straight stitch, leaving the top open.



- 31.** Referring to the flap (J) placement in the template, topstitch the flap in place. Continue topstitching around the perimeter of the flap.
- 32.** Refer to the placement of the latch (H1) in the template, and topstitch the latch in place.



33. Continue topstitching around the perimeter of the latch.
34. With right sides together, fold the satchel in half and press.



**35.** Sew along the short sides of the satchel.



**36.** To make the gusset, align one of the side seams with the fold line on the bottom of the satchel, making a triangle at the tip.



- 37.** Sew a perpendicular line to the seam. Repeat on the other side.
- 38.** Trim the excess felt at the corners, and flip the satchel right-side out.
- 39.** Hot glue the strap to the inside seam on either side of the satchel.





**40.** Sew a button on top of the latch for some detail.



## Adding a Scarf

41. This is a great accessory that can dress up any outfit. I repurposed an old sweater for this scarf. Feel free to make it as thick as you want.
42. Cut a  $7 \times 4$ -inch ( $17.8 \times 10$ -cm) strip.
43. Fold in half and sew using zigzag stitch along the short edge.
44. Turn right-side out, and fold to dress up your Oliver.

**Note:** The length will depend on the stretch of your fabric.

Madeline







# MADELINE FOX

Madeline is a quirky little fox who loves to be outside. She has a growing rock collection that she adds to every day. She and [Oliver Raccoon](#), her best friend, meet in the forest to plan their daily scavenger hunts. Madeline likes to dress according to her mood; when she's happy she wears bright, flowery dresses and when she's blue she prefers to wear muted colors. Don't let her dresses fool you though, Madeline is not afraid of getting dirty. She loves to play in the mud and chase down little chipmunks.

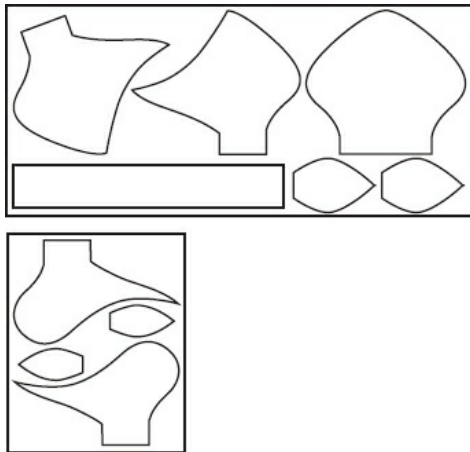
Madeline lives in a lovely fox den with her mom and dad and her younger brother Henry.

## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 9.5" × 10.5" (24 cm × 26.7 cm) patterned fabric for the shirt and arms
- 9.5" × 10.38" (24 cm × 26.4 cm) patterned fabric for the bottom half of the body and legs
- 16.5" × 7.25" (42 cm × 18.4 cm) orange wool-blend felt for the head, ears and hands
- 6.25" × 7.5" (16 cm × 19 cm) white wool-blend felt for the face and ears
- 9.5" × 1.5" (24 cm × 3.8 cm) black wool-blend felt for the feet
- 20" × 6" (51 cm × 15.5 cm) patterned fabric for the skirt
- 8" × 2.5" (20.5 cm × 6.5 cm) patterned or solid fabric for the waistband

- 8.5" × 5" (21.6 cm × 13 cm) repurposed sweater for the vest
- Matching thread
- Polyester filling
- Three 1-cm buttons
- 25" (63.5 cm) of blue embroidery floss
- Needle-felting block
- Approximately 2" (5-cm) ball of black wool roving
- White wool roving
- Needle-felting needle
- Embroidery needle
- 5" (12.7-cm) doll-making needle

### Templates ([here](#))



**Maker's note:** Felting the ears is my favorite part of the process. You will definitely need to have your felting block handy. You'll notice you'll get different looks and densities in the front and back. Don't hesitate to felt both sides to get them looking the same. Don't feel like you have to trim the ears smooth—if a little

fuzz suits your Madeline, better keep it!

1. Trace all the templates A through E for the head ([here](#) and [here](#)) and S, P, L1 and L2 for the body ([here](#) and [here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance unless otherwise specified. If you'd prefer to work with a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.
2. Transfer the templates onto your felt and fabric using a water-soluble pencil.
3. Cut and iron all the pieces.
4. Layer the white side piece (D) on top of the face piece (B). Pin it in place or fuse it with your fusible web. Repeat for the other side, making sure it's a mirror image.



5. Using white thread, topstitch the side pieces together using a straight stitch. Sew as close to the edge as possible.



6. Pin both finished sides of the face together. Using orange thread, stitch from the top down to the tip of the nose.



7. With white thread, finish stitching the face from the nose down to the neck.



8. With the orange ear piece (A) on your felting block, place a small amount of black roving at the tip, spreading it down half way through the ear.

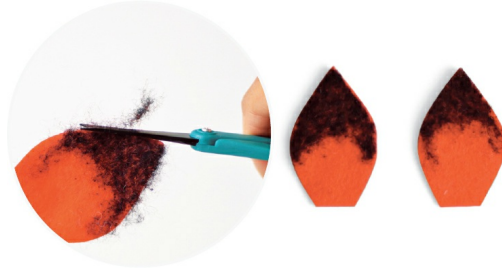


9. Felt the black roving on the ear. You can make it as dense (or dark) as you like. The idea is to make a black gradient detail on the ear. Repeat on the back and on the other ear.



10. When you are happy with the amount of black on the ears on both the front and back, trim the excess roving, following the curvature of the orange felt.





11. Layer and pin the white inner-ear pieces (E) on top of the orange felted ears. Topstitch with orange thread.
12. Turn the face right-side out, making sure the snout is fully turned.



13. Pin and baste the ears in place, right sides together, following the ear placement in the template.
14. With right sides together, sew the shirt pieces (S) to the pant pieces (P) found [here](#), using a ¼-inch (6.4-mm) seam.
15. Aligning the flat sides together, sew the finished fox face to the body using a ¼-inch (6.4-mm) seam. Repeat with the large head piece (C).
16. Referring to the instructions [here](#), make the limbs.



17. Take the stuffed legs and baste them to the body, leaving a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) gap from each side. Flip the legs up.
18. Take the other half of the body and pin it on top, making sure all seams on the neck and pants align and that the ears and legs are tucked in.
19. When pinned, flip the body so you can see the stitching on the ears and legs while you're sewing. Starting with the head, stitch around with orange thread stopping at the neck. Continue sewing with a matching thread all around the body leaving a  $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch (6.3-cm) opening along the side of the body.

**Tip:** If you're having a hard time sewing around the head with the legs tucked in, take the legs out and sew around the head first. When you're finished sewing around the head, tuck the legs back in and continue with the rest of the body.



**20.** Turn the body right-side out. Poke out all the corners using the turning tool.





**21.** Stuff the body with a medium to hard firmness (see Techniques, [here](#)).



**22.** Using a ladder stitch, close the side opening.



**23.** Referring to the instructions [here](#), finish your doll by attaching the arms.

## **Needle Felting the Details**



- 24.** Using the water-soluble pencil, mark the positioning and size of the eyes. Madeline's eyes typically overlap both the orange and white parts of the face.



- 25.** With the black wool roving, felt the eyes in place with the felting needle.





26. Take the white wool roving and felt the pupils in place. Experiment with the sizing to get a different expression on Madeline's face.
27. Roll some black wool roving between your fingers to form a thin strip for the mouth. Place it under the snout and start felting from the middle seam outward.
28. Roll some black wool roving into a ball. Felt the ball until you get a cylinder shape and minimal fibers sticking out. You can continue to work the ball by rolling it in your palms. This will help condense it.



29. With the embroidery needle and black thread, attach the nose to the snout.

**Tip:** You can avoid this step by hot gluing the nose to the snout.

30. Finish reinforcing the nose by felting it with the needle to the snout.

## Making the Skirt

31. Take the rectangle that you've cut for your skirt and fold a 1/8-inch (3.2-mm) hem and press.

32. Fold again onto itself and press flat.



33. Secure the hem using a straight stitch.

34. To gather the skirt, adjust the stitch length to the longest length your machine allows. Stitch a straight line along the top of your skirt.



- 35.** Pull one of the threads, either the top or the bottom, on either side of the skirt and start sliding the fabric to the center. Make sure you're pulling the same thread on either side. If you don't, the thread will lock up and might break with force. This is where working with different color threads makes it easier!

**Tip:** You can knot one side so the fabric doesn't slide out and only pull on one side.

- 36.** Take the waistband fabric strip and fold in half and press flat.



- 37.** Open it up and fold each side toward the centerfold you just made and press flat.



- 38.** Take the gathered skirt and sandwich it between the waistband you just pressed. Pin or clip it in place.

**Tip:** I prefer to use sewing clips for this. It makes it easier when I'm running it through the machine.



39. Stitch the waistband in place using a straight stitch.

40. Fold the skirt in half, right sides together, and sew the edge.



41. Finish the seam with a zigzag stitch to prevent fraying.



42. Turn right-side out. Madeline's skirt is done!

## Making the Vest

43. This is a great way to repurpose an old sweater or leftover knit fabric. No sewing required!
44. Wrap your fabric for the vest around Madeline, folding down the neck.



45. Mark where the arms are by making a line with the water-soluble pencil.



46. Cut the arm holes, being careful not to cut wider than you need.





47. Put the sweater on and close it, overlapping the neck.

48. Mark where the button should be and sew it in place.



49. Overlap it one more time, and cut a hole for the button to go through.

**Note:** You may zigzag the edges if you prefer a cleaner look. I like the contrast of the clean lines of the skirt with the fraying of the knit sweater.

Rupert





# RUPERT RABBIT

Rupert Rabbit lives in a farmhouse with his mom and siblings. He loves to garden and helps his mom keep the backyard lush and green. Come springtime, Rupert enjoys getting the garden ready to plant vegetables. He particularly likes celery and has a big stash of recipes he can make with it. Although he is not a great cook, he loves making food for his friends. Hosting big table dinners are his favorite, although he always gets in trouble for making a big mess of his mom's kitchen. Rupert loves pumpkin pie and carrot cake, of course. You'll find him wearing his favorite overalls looking for things to cook.

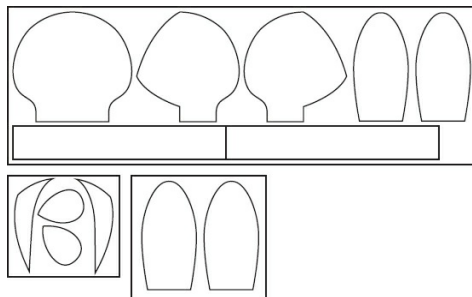
## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 9.5" × 10.5" (24 cm × 26.7 cm) patterned fabric for the shirt and arms
- 9.5" × 10.38" (24 cm × 26.4 cm) patterned fabric for the bottom half of the body and legs
- 21" × 7" (53.3 cm × 17.8 cm) beige wool-blend felt for the head, ears and limbs
- 6" × 5.5" (15 cm × 14 cm) white wool-blend felt for the ears
- 5" × 4.5" (13 cm × 11.5 cm) darker or different shade of beige wool-blend felt for the details
- 1.25" × 17" (3.2 cm × 43 cm) fabric (could be the same as the pant fabric) for the suspenders
- 6.5" × 8" (16.5 cm × 20 cm) fabric for the bandana



- Fusible web
- Matching thread
- Two 1-cm buttons
- 25" (63.5 cm) black embroidery floss
- Polyester filling
- Black wool roving
- White wool roving
- Approximately ½" (1.3-cm) ball of pink wool roving
- Needle-felting needle
- Embroidery needle
- 5" (12.7-cm) doll-making needle

## Templates ([here](#))



**Maker's note:** Rupert's ears can be easily positioned by ironing them. If you'd like to have an ear that's folded part way, simply fold it down and iron. It will give him extra character!

1. Trace all the templates A through E for the head ([here](#) and [here](#)) and S, P, L1 and L2 for the body ([here](#) and [here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a ⅛-inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance unless otherwise specified. If



you'd prefer to work with a ¼-inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.

2. Transfer the templates onto your felt and fabric using a water-soluble pencil.
3. Cut and iron all the pieces.
4. Referring to the template for placement, layer the eye piece (E) and middle stripe piece (D) on top of the face piece (B). Pin it in place or fuse it with your fusible web. Repeat for the other side, making sure it's a mirror image.



5. Using beige thread, topstitch all the pieces using a straight stitch. Sew as close to the edge as possible.



6. Pin both finished sides of the face together. Stitch from the top down to the neck.



7. Pin together the white and beige ear pieces (C). Stitch around the ears, leaving the bottom opening for turning.
8. Turn right-side out and press the ears.



9. Fold in the bottom corners of the ears, meeting the edges in the center. Press and baste in place.
10. Turn the face right-side out, making sure the snout is fully turned.



11. Following the ear placement on the template, pin and baste the ears in place, right sides together.

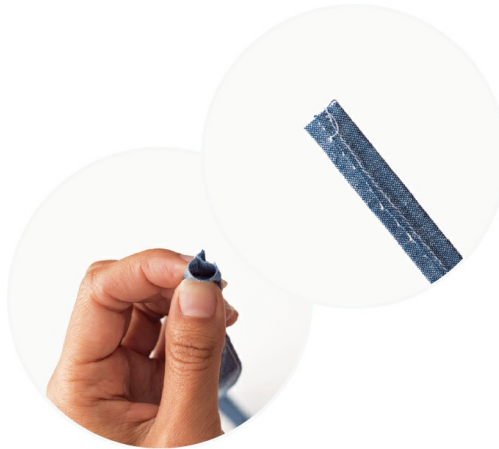
Set aside.

12. Take the fabric you are using for the suspenders and fold it in half lengthwise, wrong sides together.



13. Stitch a straight line as close to the edge as possible.

**Tip:** Trim any excess fabric or unraveling threads to get a smaller seam.



14. Squeeze open the strip, positioning the stitching in the middle and press flat.
15. Cut the strip into four equal parts. You should have strips that match the length of the shirt piece.



- 16.** Place the fusible web on the side that has the stitching and attach two strips to the shirt, roughly  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (1.3 cm) from the sides of the neck. Repeat on the other side.



- 17.** Aligning the flat sides together, sew the shirt pieces (S) to the pant pieces (P) found [here](#), using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam.





**18.** With right sides together, sew the rabbit face to the body using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam. Repeat with the large head piece (A).

**19.** Referring to the instructions [here](#), make the limbs.



20. Take the stuffed legs and baste them to the body leaving a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) gap from each side. Flip the legs up (figure 20).
21. Take the other half of the body and pin it on top, making sure all seams on the neck and pants align and that the ears and legs are tucked in.



22. When pinned, flip the body so you can see the stitching on the ears and legs while you're sewing. Starting with the head, stitch around with beige thread stopping at the neck. Continue sewing with a matching thread all the way around the body leaving a 2½-inch (6.3-cm) opening along the side of the body.

**Tip:** If you're having a hard time sewing around the head with the legs tucked in, take the legs out and sew around the head first. When you're finished sewing around the head, tuck the legs back in and continue with the rest of the body.

23. Turn the body right-side out. Poke out all the corners using the hemostats.

24. Stuff the body with a medium to hard firmness (see Techniques, [here](#)).
25. Using a ladder stitch, close the side opening.



26. Referring to the instructions [here](#), finish your doll by attaching the arms.

## Needle Felting the Details

27. Using the water-soluble pencil, mark the positioning and size of the eyes. Rupert has tear-shaped eyes; play with the size and positioning.



**28.** Take the black wool roving and felt the eyes in place with the felting needle.

**29.** Take the white wool roving and felt the pupils in place.  
Experiment with the sizing to get a different expression on Rupert's face.



**30.** Take the pink wool roving and roughly make a triangle shape for the nose. Felt at the tip of the snout where the middle stripe ends.



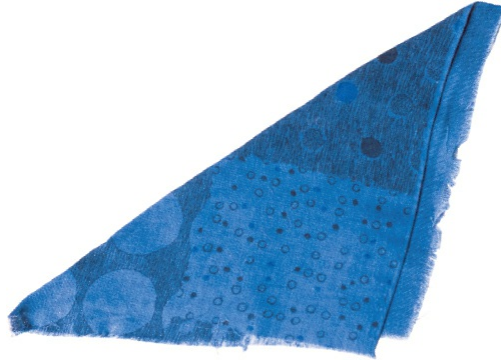


- 31.** Roll some black wool roving between your fingers to form a thin strip for the mouth. Place it under the snout and start felting from the middle seam outward.



- 32.** When you are happy with the length and shape of the mouth, trim the extra wool.

## **Making the Bandana**



**33.** A bandana is an easy accessory to add to any outfit. I purposely left the raw edges of the fabric to add some interest. Simply fold the fabric into a triangle and tie the ends behind the neck.

Sasha



# SASHA SLOTH

You can find Sasha in the studio most of the time practicing her form. She's sweet and loveable, but gets easily frustrated because it takes her so long to perfect things. Her dream is to be in the ballet someday. She aspires to be a great dancer and perform in front of large crowds. Whenever music comes on, she can't help but tap her feet. It's in her blood! If she's not sleeping, she's dancing, but she tries to keep up with her friends. She often suggests to playing hide-and-seek so she can take a little nap while she's "hiding."

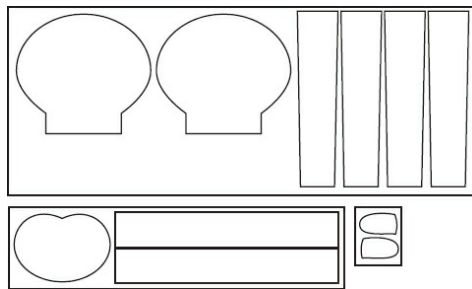
## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 20" × 8" (51 cm × 20 cm) faux fur for the head and arms
- 9.5" × 4.75" (24 cm × 12 cm) patterned fabric for the shirt
- 9.5" × 10.38" (24 cm × 26.4 cm) patterned fabric for the bottom half of the body and legs
- 14.25" × 3.5" (36.2 cm × 9 cm) grey wool-blend felt for the face and limbs
- 2" × 2.5" (5 cm × 6.5 cm) grey wool-blend felt for eye stripes
- 18" (45.75 cm) ribbon
- 13.5' (4.2 m) 4.5" (11.5-cm)-wide tulle
- 7.5" × 1" (19 cm × 2.5 cm) knit fabric or sweater edge
- 5" × 6.5" (13 cm × 16.5 cm) jersey knit fabric
- Matching thread
- Polyester filling



- Two 1-cm buttons
- 25" (63.5 cm) black embroidery floss
- Approximately 1½" (3.8-cm) ball of black wool roving
- White wool roving
- Needle-felting needle
- Embroidery needle
- 5" (12.7-cm) doll-making needle

## Templates ([here](#))



**Maker's note:** When looking for a faux fur to use for Sasha, look for one that has a short nap and almost “knotty.” Sloths have thick fur and can have an “unkempt” appearance, so make sure the fur you select is not too shiny or long. Bonus: It will be easier to work with!

1. Trace all the templates A through C for the head ([here](#)) and S, P, L1 and L2 for the body ([here](#) and [here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a ⅛-inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance unless otherwise specified. If you'd prefer to work with a ¼-inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.
2. Transfer the templates onto your felt and fabric using a water-

soluble pencil.

3. Cut and iron all the pieces.
4. Layer the face piece (C) on the head piece (A). Pin it in place.

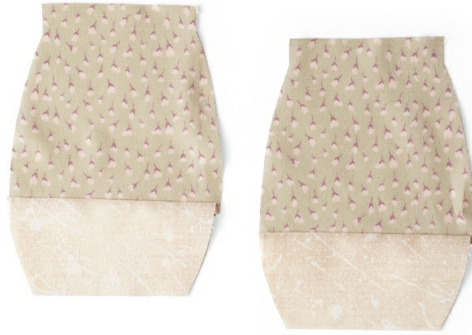


5. Using grey thread, topstitch using a straight stitch as close to the edge as possible.
6. Layer the eye stripes (D) on top of the face. Pin or fuse them in place.

**Tip:** If you're fusing the pieces in place, do so before you attach the fur head to the felt face. If you choose to do so afterward, use a cloth in between the face and the iron to prevent the fur from being scorched!



7. Topstitch using a straight stitch as close to the edge as possible.



8. With right sides together, sew the shirt pieces (S) to the pant pieces (P) found [here](#), using a ¼-inch (6.4-mm) seam.



9. Aligning the flat sides together, sew the finished sloth face to the body using a ¼-inch (6.4-mm) seam. Repeat with the large head piece (A).



**10.** Referring to the templates [here](#), sew the limbs. Do not sew the bottom edge of the claws.

**Note:** Make sure to use fur for the arms and fabric for the legs.



**11.** Turn the limbs right-side out. Topstitch two equidistant lines on each claw.

**Tip:** Secure your stitches by backstitching at each end.



12. Stuff the legs and baste them to the body, leaving a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) gap from each side. Flip the legs up.
13. Take the other half of the body and pin it on top, making sure all seams on the neck and pants align and that the legs are tucked in.





14. Starting with the head, stitch around with grey thread stopping at the neck. Continue sewing with a matching thread all the way around the body leaving a 2½-inch (6.3-cm) opening along the side of the body.
15. Turn the body right-side out. Poke out all the corners using the hemostats.



**16.** Stuff the body with a medium to hard firmness (see Techniques, [here](#)).

**17.** Using a ladder stitch, close the side opening.

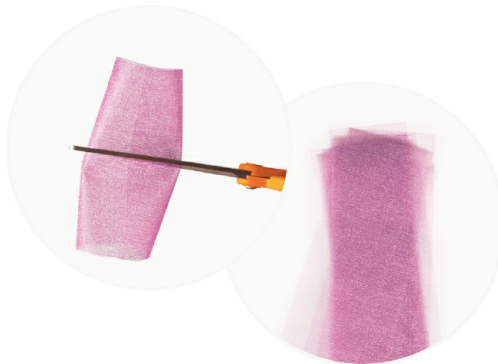


**18.** Referring to the instructions [here](#), finish your doll by attaching the arms.

## **Making the Tutu**



**19.** Cut 16 strips of tulle that are  $4\frac{1}{2} \times 10$  inches ( $11.5 \times 25.5$  cm).



**20.** Fold the strips in half and cut lengthwise.

**Tip:** If you have a rotary cutter you can cut all of them at once.

- 21.** Measure 5 inches (12.5 cm) from each end of the ribbon you're using for the tutu, and make a mark with the water-soluble pencil. This will be your starting point.



- 22.** Take a strip of tulle and fold it in half. Place the ribbon over it.

- 23.** Take both ends of the tulle and pass them through the loop.



- 24.** Pull and tighten over the mark you made.

- 25.** Continue using all the strips until you reach the second mark on the other end.

**Note:** As you make the knots, push them tightly against each other.

- 26.** Make a knot with the ribbon at each end to prevent the tulle from moving.



- 27.** Fluff and arrange the tulle strips to your liking.

### **Needle Felting the Details**

- 28.** Using the water-soluble pencil, mark the positioning and size of the eyes.
- 29.** Take the black wool roving and felt the eyes in place with the felting needle.





- 30.** Take the white wool roving and felt the pupils in place.  
Experiment with the sizing to get a different expression on Sasha's face.
- 31.** With some black wool roving, make the rough shape of a diamond. Position it on the face and felt it in place.



- 32.** When you are happy with the shape, felt indents on either side of the nose forming the nostrils. The more you poke, the deeper they will be.
- 33.** Roll some black roving between your fingers to make a long strip.



34. Fold it in half and felt the middle right under the nose.
35. Continue felting either side of the mouth until you are happy with the shape.

**Tip:** Trim any extra roving you have; you don't have to use it all.

## Adding a Scarf

36. This is a great easy accessory to make out of recycled material. I repurposed an old sweater, which can easily double as a scarf.
37. Cut a  $7 \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ -inch ( $17.8 \times 3.8$ -cm) strip.

**Note:** The length of the scarf will depend on the stretch of your fabric.

38. Fold in half and sew using a zigzag stitch along the short edge.
39. Turn right-side out, and dress up your Sasha.





Morris







# MORRIS BEAR

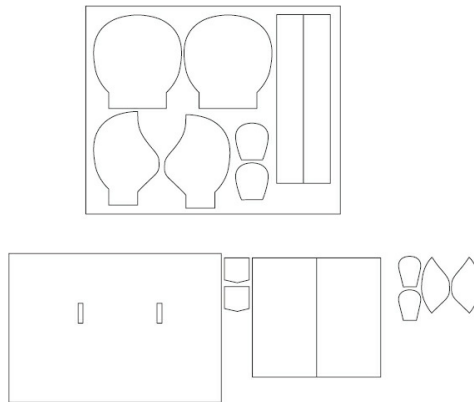
Morris Bear loves to dress up and always wants to look his best. He's not a huge fan of playing outside because he hates getting dirty. Whenever [Rupert Rabbit](#) invites him to one of his special home-cooked dinners he spends hours in his closet looking for the perfect outfit. He definitely dresses to impress! His favorite season is autumn—he loves wearing his favorite blue coat and going for walks in the forest, admiring all the leaf colors. Morris recently started collecting bow ties, and he hopes to have one of every color!

## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 9.5" × 10.5" (24 cm × 26.7 cm) patterned fabric for the shirt and arms
- 9.5" × 10.38" (24 cm × 26.4 cm) patterned fabric for the bottom half of the body and legs
- 13.75" × 11.25" (35 cm × 28.5 cm) brown wool-blend felt for the head, ears and limbs
- 4.38" × 3.38" (11.12 cm × 8.6 cm) beige wool-blend felt for the snout and ears
- 19.25" × 7.5" (49 cm × 19 cm) blue wool-blend felt for the coat
- Matching thread
- Five 1-cm buttons
- 25" (63.5 cm) of black embroidery floss
- Polyester filling

- Approximately 1½” (3.8-cm) ball of black wool roving
- White wool roving
- Needle-felting needle
- Embroidery needle
- 5” (12.7-cm) doll-making needle

## Templates ([here](#) and [here](#))



**Maker’s note:** Pay close attention to the alignment of the snout on Morris’s face. If it’s misaligned the oval will look off. Pin or clip it carefully before you sew to avoid disappointment.

1. Trace all the templates A through H ([here](#) and [here](#)) and S, P, L1 and L2 for the body ([here](#) and [here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a ⅛-inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance unless otherwise specified. If you’d prefer to work with a ¼-inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.
2. Transfer the templates on to your felt and fabric using a water-soluble pencil.

3. Cut and iron all the pieces.
4. Layer the snout piece (E) on top of the face piece (B). Pin it or fuse it in place. Repeat for the other side, making sure it's a mirror image.



5. Using beige thread, topstitch the snout pieces using a straight stitch. Sew as close to the edge as possible.



6. Repeat with the ears, layering the beige pieces (D) on top of the brown pieces (C).
7. With right sides together, join the two face pieces sewing from the top down to the neck.

**Note:** Make sure the snout pieces align so that you get a seamless

oval on the face.



8. Pin and baste the ears in place, right sides together, following the ear placement on the template.



9. With right sides together, sew the shirt pieces (S) to the pant pieces (P) found [here](#), using a 1/4-inch (6.4-mm) seam.



10. Aligning the flat sides together, sew the finished bear face to the body using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam. Repeat with the large head piece (A).
11. Referring to the instructions [here](#), make the limbs.





12. Take the stuffed legs and baste them to the body, leaving a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) gap from each side. Flip the legs up.
13. Take the other half of the body and pin it on top, making sure all the seams on the neck and pants align and the ears and legs are tucked in.



14. When pinned, flip the body so you can see the stitching on the ears and legs while you're sewing. Sew all around the body, switching the thread to match if you need to, leaving a 2½-inch (6.3-cm) opening along the side of the body.

**Tip:** If you're having a hard time sewing around the head with the legs tucked in, take the legs out and sew around the head first. When you're finished sewing around the head, tuck the legs back in and continue with the rest of the body.



15. Turn the body right-side out. Poke out all the corners using the

hemostats.

**16.** Stuff the body with a medium to hard firmness.





17. Using a ladder stitch, close the side opening (see Techniques, [here](#)).



18. Referring to the instructions [here](#), finish your doll by attaching the arms.

## Needle Felting the Details



- 19.** With the felting needle, felt the eyes in place using some black wool roving.



- 20.** Take the white wool roving and felt the pupils in place. Experiment with the sizing to get a different expression on Morris's face.



- 21.** To make the nose, take the majority of the black roving and form a triangle shape with the roving. Position it on the snout and felt it in place. Keep felting until you get a shape you like.



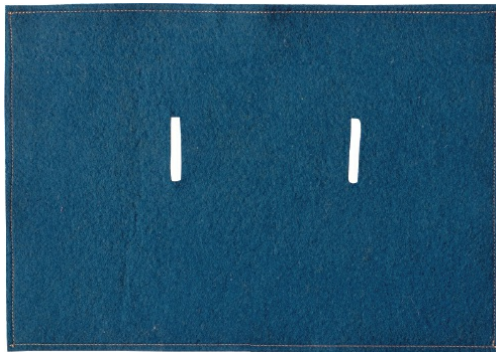
- 22.** Roll the rest of the black roving between your fingers to make a long strip. Following the seam on the snout, felt a vertical line starting right under the nose.



**23.** When you get to the middle point, continue the line diagonally to the left. Trim the excess roving.

**24.** Repeat on the other side.

## **Making the Coat**



**25.** Topstitch around the perimeter of the main coat piece (F) in a contrasting thread. Set aside.



**26.** Topstitch one of the short sides on both of the sleeves (H).





**27.** To make the cuffs, fold the stitched edges up, about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch (6.4 mm) on each sleeve.



28. Fold the sleeves vertically, keeping the cuffs inside, and sew along the longest side.
29. Turn the sleeves right-side out, and mark the trim lines on the sleeves, following the placement on the template.



30. Place the sleeves through the marked slits on the coat. Test the positioning to make sure they align properly.



**31.** Trim the sleeves.



**32.** Align both openings and sew them together by hand using a straight stitch.



33. Topstitch the top of the pocket pieces (G) with the same contrasting thread.
34. Following the placement on the template, topstitch the pockets in place, leaving the top side open.
35. Transfer the markings indicated on the template for the button placement and buttonholes using a water-soluble pencil.



36. Hand sew the three buttons on the coat.



**37.** Put the coat on Morris to test the markings for the buttonholes, making sure they align.



**38.** Cut your buttonholes.

**Note:** If your felt has a bit of stretch, you might want to make your buttonholes a bit smaller.

**39.** Your coat is done. Dress Morris!



Olivia



# OLIVIA OWL

Olivia loves school; she is at the top of her class. She loves learning as much as she can about all the different places around the world.

Olivia has visited many places with her parents and every time she visits a new place she brings back a souvenir to remember it by. She has a map in her room where she keeps track of the places she's been and the ones she wants to visit next. She dreams about meeting new people and trying different foods. She often gives [Rupert Rabbit](#) meal ideas for his dinner parties, even though she knows there's a big chance he won't get them right.

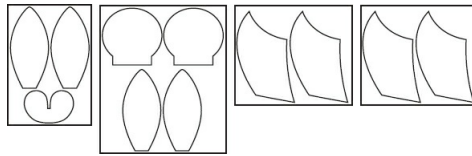
## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 11.25" × 13.25" (28.5 cm × 33.6 cm) faux fur for the head and wings
- 7.5" × 10.75" (19 cm × 27.3 cm) beige wool-blend felt for the face and wings
- 10.5" × 8.88" (26.7 cm × 22.5 cm) teal wool-blend felt for the outside of the bonnet
- 10.5" × 8.88" (26.7 cm × 22.5 cm) pink wool-blend felt for the inside of the bonnet
- 17" (43 cm) pink or coordinating ribbon
- 9.5" × 4.75" (24 cm × 12 cm) patterned fabric for the shirt
- 9.5" × 10.38" (26.4 cm × 16.5 cm) patterned fabric for the bottom half of the body and legs
- 9.5" × 1.5" (24 cm × 3.8 cm) brown wool-blend felt for the feet



- 20" × 6" (51 cm × 15.5 cm) patterned fabric for the skirt
- 8" × 2.5" (20.5 cm × 6.5 cm) patterned or solid fabric for the waistband
- 2.25" x 2.5" (5.7 cm × 6.4 cm) patterned or solid fabric for the skirt pocket
- Matching thread
- Polyester filling
- Approximately 1½" (3.8-cm) ball of yellow wool roving
- Black wool roving
- White wool roving
- Needle-felting needle

## Templates ([here](#))



**Maker's note:** When looking for faux fur to use for Olivia's "feathers," try to find one that has multiple shades of colors in it and is thicker. This will offer more depth and mimic feathers a little more. A medium length will work great, and don't be afraid to trim it after your doll is done if you find it too long.

1. Trace all the templates A through D ([here](#) and [here](#)) and S, P, L1 and L2 for the body ([here](#) and [here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a ⅛-inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance unless otherwise specified. If you'd prefer to work with a ¼-inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.

2. Transfer the templates onto your felt and fabric using a water-soluble pencil.
3. Cut and iron all the pieces.



4. Layer the face piece (C) on top of the head piece (A), pin it and topstitch it in place.

**Tip:** Use lots of pins to secure the face piece in place. Faux fur can be very slippery and will move a lot as you're sewing.





5. Take the wing pieces (B) and layer the felt pieces on top of the faux fur pieces with right sides together.
6. Stitch around the wing, leaving the straight edge open for turning.
7. Before turning the wings, clip the excess material at the tip. This will reduce bulk and allow for a sharper wing tip.



8. Turn the wings and press the felt side.



9. With your felting needle, pull out the fur that has been trapped in the seam.

**Note:** Do not put the iron on the wing directly—it will scorch the

fur! Place a thin cloth on top as a barrier between the wing and the iron.



10. Aligning the flat sides together, sew the shirt pieces (S) to the pant pieces (P) found [here](#), using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam.



11. With right sides together, sew the finished owl face to the body using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam. Repeat with the large head piece (A).



12. Place the wings felt-side down on the front body just below the neck seam. Baste in place within the seam allowance.
13. Referring to the instructions [here](#), make the legs.



14. Take the stuffed legs and baste them to the body leaving a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) gap from each side.
15. Take the back body piece and place on top of the front body piece with the wings attached. With right sides together and the wings tucked in, pin or clip all around the body and head—making sure the neck and pant seams align on the sides.



**16.** Start by sewing just below the left wing and all around the head, finishing below the right wing.

**Note:** Always secure your beginning and end stitches so that they don't become undone.





17. When the top half is sewn together, push the wings and legs up inside the head and stitch around the rest of the body leaving roughly a 2½-inch (6.3-cm) gap on one side.
18. Turn the body right-side out. Poke out all the corners using the hemostat.
19. Stuff the body with a medium to hard firmness.
20. Using a ladder stitch, close the side opening (see Techniques, [here](#)).



- 21.** Continue to pull out any fur that has been sewn in around the head using your felting needle.

### **Needle Felting the Details**



- 22.** With the yellow wool roving, roll a ball between your palms, place it in the middle of the face and felt it at the base to attach it.
- 23.** When you've secured the beak all around the base, start shaping it. Poke the tip more times to make a cone shape.



24. To make the eyes, take the black wool roving and felt circles on either side of the beak. Owls have large eyes; experiment with the sizing!



25. Use the white roving to felt the pupils.

## **Making the Skirt**

26. Take the rectangle that you've cut for your skirt and fold a  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) hem and press.
27. Fold again onto itself and press flat.

28. Secure the hem using a straight stitch.
29. To gather the skirt, adjust the stitch length to the longest length your machine allows. Stitch a straight line along the top of your skirt.
30. Pull one of the threads, either the top or the bottom, on either side of the skirt and start sliding the fabric to the center. Make sure you're pulling the same thread on either side; if you don't, the thread will lock up and might break with force. This is where working with different color threads makes it easier!
31. Take the waistband fabric strip and fold in half. Press.
32. Open it up and fold each side toward the centerfold you just made. Press.
33. Take the gathered skirt and sandwich it between the waistband you just pressed. Pin it in place.
34. Stitch the waistband in place using a straight stitch.
35. Fold the skirt in half, right sides together, and sew the edge.
36. Finish the seam with a zigzag stitch to prevent fraying.



37. Turn your skirt right-side out.
38. Take the fabric for the pocket and fold the shortest side  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch

(6.4 mm) down. Press.

**39.** Straight stitch the fold you just made.



**40.** Continue folding the sides and press them in place.



**41.** Place your pocket on the skirt, and pin in place when you are happy with the placement.





**42.** Stitch around the pocket, leaving the top side open.

**Tip:** Refer to Madeline's skirt [here](#) if you'd like to see more visuals.

## **Making the Reversible Bonnet**



**43.** Take the bonnet pieces (D) and stitch along the top and back sides. Clip the corner seam to reduce bulk when turning.



**44.** Take the green sewn piece and baste the ribbon to the bottom corners inside the seam allowance.



- 45.** Turn the pink piece right-side out and tuck it inside the green piece. Be sure to also tuck in the ribbon away from any seams.



**46.** Sew around the perimeter of the bonnet leaving a bottom opening of approximately 1½ inches (3.8 cm) wide.



**47.** Clip the corner seams to reduce bulk. Turn your bonnet right-side out.



**48.** Tuck in the felt around the bottom opening, mimicking the seam allowance you just created, and press.



**49.** Topstitch around the whole perimeter of the bonnet. This will close the opening and give it some nice detailing.



Nigel





# NIGEL UNICORN

Nigel Unicorn loves to eat oatmeal with cranberries. When he's not running around in the forest with his friends he can be found napping by a tree. Nigel is gentle and down to earth, and makes his friends feel special and heard. Whenever they have a problem, Nigel is the first one they go to for comfort. His favorite game is hide-and-seek, and he's very good at it! He almost always wins because of how softly he walks—his friends can never hear him coming! He loves secrets, but he's not very good at keeping them. If you tell him something in confidence, expect that soon everyone will know.

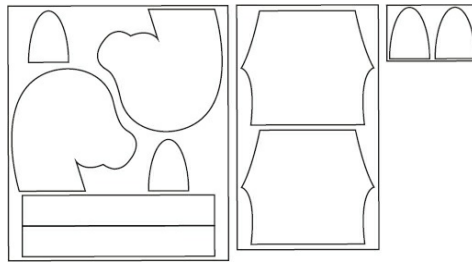
## Tools & Materials

- Basic sewing kit ([here](#))
- 9.5" × 10.5" (24 cm × 25.4 cm) patterned fabric for the shirt and arms
- 9.5" × 10.38" (24 cm × 26.4 cm) patterned fabric for the bottom half of the body and legs
- 10.88" × 12.5" (27.6 cm × 31.7 cm) grey or light blue wool-blend felt for the head, ears and limbs
- 7" × 12" (17.8 cm × 30.5 cm) denim for the shorts
- 4.5" × 2.75" (11.4 cm × 7 cm) white wool-blend felt for ears
- 10' (3 m) yarn in different weights and textures
- 8" (20 cm) any color ribbon
- 19" (48.3-cm) strip of 1/8" (0.32-cm)-wide elastic for the suspenders
- Matching thread



- Six 1-cm buttons
- 25" (63.5 cm) white embroidery floss
- Polyester filling
- Black wool roving
- Approximately a 2" (5-cm) ball of white wool roving
- Some strands of blue wool roving
- Needle-felting needle
- Embroidery needle
- 5" (12.7-cm) doll-making needle

## Templates ([here](#))



**Maker's note:** Making the mane is the best part of this project—lots of fun! Merino wool roving is a good option here if you'd like to use it (not required). It works great for braiding. You can also find several kinds of roving yarn that can give you the same look if you unravel them. You can use metallic yarn, cotton yarn, even ribbon. Go nuts, anything goes!

1. Trace all the pattern templates A through C ([here](#) and [here](#)) and S, P, L1 and L2 for the body ([here](#) and [here](#)) onto freezer paper. Cut them out. The pattern is designed to work with a 1/8-inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance unless otherwise specified. If you'd prefer to

work with a ¼-inch (6.4-mm) seam, add to the pattern as necessary.

2. Transfer the templates onto your felt and fabric using a water-soluble pencil.
3. Cut and iron all the pieces.



4. Wrap the yarn around your hand, roughly making loops that are about 6 inches (15 cm) long. Do not overlap too much.



5. Place the yarn on the ribbon and sew in place. Continue for the rest of the length of the ribbon, making sure the strands are not overlapping too much. Don't worry about being too neat with it.

**Tip:** If you are using wool roving in the mane, layer the wool pieces on top of the yarn. Merino wool works best for this as it mimics hair. Don't forget to set some aside for the details.



6. Layer the head pieces (A) together, and sew from the forehead down to the neck using a straight stitch.



7. Take the finished mane and tuck it inside the head, making sure the ribbon is outside the seam allowance. Pin or clip in place.



8. Finish sewing around the perimeter of the head leaving the straight edge open for turning.



9. Trim the excess yarn and ribbon.



10. Turn the head right-side out and set aside.
11. With right sides together, sew the shirt pieces (S) to the pant pieces (P) found [here](#), using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam.
12. Referring to the instructions [here](#), make the limbs.





**13.** Take the stuffed legs and baste them to the body leaving an  $\frac{1}{8}$ -

inch (3.2-mm) gap from each side.



14. Take the other half of the body and pin it on top, making sure all seams on the neck and pants align.
15. With a straight stitch, sew 2 inches (5 cm) down from the top of the neck on either side.



**16.** Tuck the head inside, aligning both neck openings. Align the middle head seam to the middle of the shirt so that the snout is facing forward when turned.



**17.** Sew around the neck opening.



**18.** Turn the body right-side out and check that the head is aligned properly. It's much easier to undo and readjust at this stage!



19. Turn the head and body inside out, tucking the yarn and legs in. Pin in place, aligning the pant seams.





**20.** Sew around the rest of body leaving a 2½-inch (6.3-cm) opening along the side of the body.



21. Turn the body right-side out. Poke out all the corners using the turning tool.
22. Stuff the body with a medium to hard firmness.
23. Using a ladder stitch, close the side opening.
24. Referring to the instructions [here](#), finish your doll by attaching the arms.



25. Layer the white ear pieces (B) on the grey ear pieces. Pin and sew

together leaving the straight edge open for turning. Turn the ears right-side out.



**26.** With your embroidery needle, bring the corner edges together.



**27.** Referring to the template for ear placement ([here](#)), attach the ears on either side of the head using a ladder stitch (see Techniques, [here](#)).



**28.** Give Nigel a haircut! Braid a few of the yarn strands together to create some interest.

## **Needle Felting the Details**



**29.** With some of the black wool roving, felt the eyes in place with the felting needle.



- 30.** Take some of the white wool roving and felt the pupils in place. Experiment with the sizing to get a different expression on Nigel's face.



- 31.** Roll the rest of the black roving between your fingers to make a long strip. Felt the mouth on the underside of the snout.





**32.** Shape and felt the white wool roving into a cone shape. The longer you felt it the stiffer and denser it will become.

**Tip:** When felting the horn, use a felting block underneath to make it easier—and safer—on your fingers.



**33.** Trim the excess roving to make a flat bottom on your horn.

**34.** Attach the horn to the forehead by felting in place or by using a glue gun.



- 35.** Roll some of the blue roving between your fingers to make a long strip. Felt the beginning of the felt strip to the top of the horn and twist it wrapping it around, forming a spiral. Felt in place as you go down.



- 36.** Take a pinch of the leftover blue yarn and felt some nostrils on the snout.

## **Making the Pants**



**37.** Fray the bottom of the short pieces (C). You can fray as much or as little as you want.



- 38.** With right sides together, sew the top center seam only using a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-mm) seam allowance.



- 39.** Open up the shorts and press the center seam flat.
- 40.** Referring to the template ([here](#)), make the front darts. Be sure to mirror the dart placement on the second side.



- 41.** Fold over the waist seam, approximately  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch (1.3 cm) down and stitch around the waist.
- 42.** Cut the elastic piece in half—these will be your suspenders.

43. Referring to the placement in the template, hot glue or stitch one of the elastic suspenders to the front. Place the suspender under the arm and cross over to the back. Glue or stitch it in place.



44. Repeat for the other side.



45. With the shorts off your unicorn, attach two buttons at the start of each dart on either side.



**46. Dress your Nigel!**

# ADDING ARMS AND LEGS

For all the dolls in Chapter 3, the body, arms and legs are made with the same method. Once you make one, you'll find the process much simpler. Definitely have your hemostats handy!

## Cutting the Pieces

1. Take your pieces of patterned fabric ( $9\frac{1}{2} \times 10\frac{1}{2}$  inches [24 cm  $\times$  26.7 cm] for the shirt and arms and  $9.5 \times 10.38$  inches [24 cm  $\times$  26.4 cm] for the pants and legs) and make sure the pattern is in the direction you want. Iron out any wrinkles.
2. Cut the strips of felt for the hands and feet. Each strip of felt should be  $9\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$  inches (24 cm  $\times$  3.8 cm).
3. Sew the felt strips to the bottom of each piece of fabric using an  $\frac{1}{8}$ -inch (3.2-mm) seam allowance.
4. Transfer the templates ([here](#) and [here](#)) onto your sewn felt and fabric using a water-soluble pencil. Be sure to align the limb seams to the pattern.
5. Iron and cut all the pieces.



## Making the Arms and Legs



1. Sew all the way around the arms and legs, leaving the straight edge open for stuffing.



2. Turn the arms and legs right-side out and stuff them with a medium to hard firmness, leaving a ½-inch (2.5-cm) unfilled gap at the top.





3. The legs are ready to attach to the pants (P).

**Tip:** Use a rotary cutter to cut the limbs—much faster and easier!

## Finishing the Arms



4. Fold in a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch (6.4-cm) seam from the top of the arm.



5. Bring the side seams together. When the seams come together they will form a figure 8. Using an embroidery needle and matching thread, stitch the side seams together.
6. With the side seams now sewn in place, press the loops that you've created together to create a straight edge.



7. Using a ladder stitch, close the arm opening. Repeat for the other arm and put the arms aside.

### **Attaching the Arms**

1. Take the 5-inch (12.5-cm) doll-making needle and thread it with the black floss.



2. Using only a single strand, go through the right side of the doll to the left side. Attach the left arm. Leave 3 inches (7.5 cm) of floss hanging on the right side.



3. Being careful not to go through the same holes twice; go back through from the left side to the right and attach the right arm. Pull tight.



4. Go back through to the left side, this time going through the button.



5. Do the same on the right side.





6. Repeat once more on each side, going through all the buttonholes.



7. Your needle should end up on the right side. Thread it through one last time to the left side (you will be going through two holes of the left button twice), and finish on the right side, this time coming through under the arm close to where you started.



8. Cut the embroidery floss and finish by knotting it three times as close to the body as possible. Cut off the excess.

# TEMPLATES

All the templates in this book are to scale, which means that you don't need to resize them. My preferred method for transferring patterns is to trace them onto freezer paper. Freezer paper is commonly available at grocery stores, and is excellent to work with as it's translucent and thicker than the average tracing paper. It has a coated side that can be adhered to the fabric by pressing it with a warm iron—it won't damage it or leave any residue. This eliminates the extra step of having to trace it to the fabric. Just press, cut the pattern and peel.

When you've traced the templates, label each piece and store them in zip-top bags or in a binder with plastic sheets if you're super organized. If you take care and handle your templates properly they should last you a long time!

To access the templates used for these dolls visit:

<https://www.melissalowry.com/hadtemplates>

Password: handmadefriends

Here are the steps to follow when starting a project:

## **1. Prepare and gather your materials.**

Iron all your fabric beforehand, and make sure you have enough freezer paper to trace all the templates. Have your scissors and fabric (water-soluble) pencil handy.

## **2. Trace the templates.**

Hold the book open and carefully trace the templates onto the paper. To prevent the paper from moving around, wedge it into the spine of the book. Label them accordingly and cut them out.

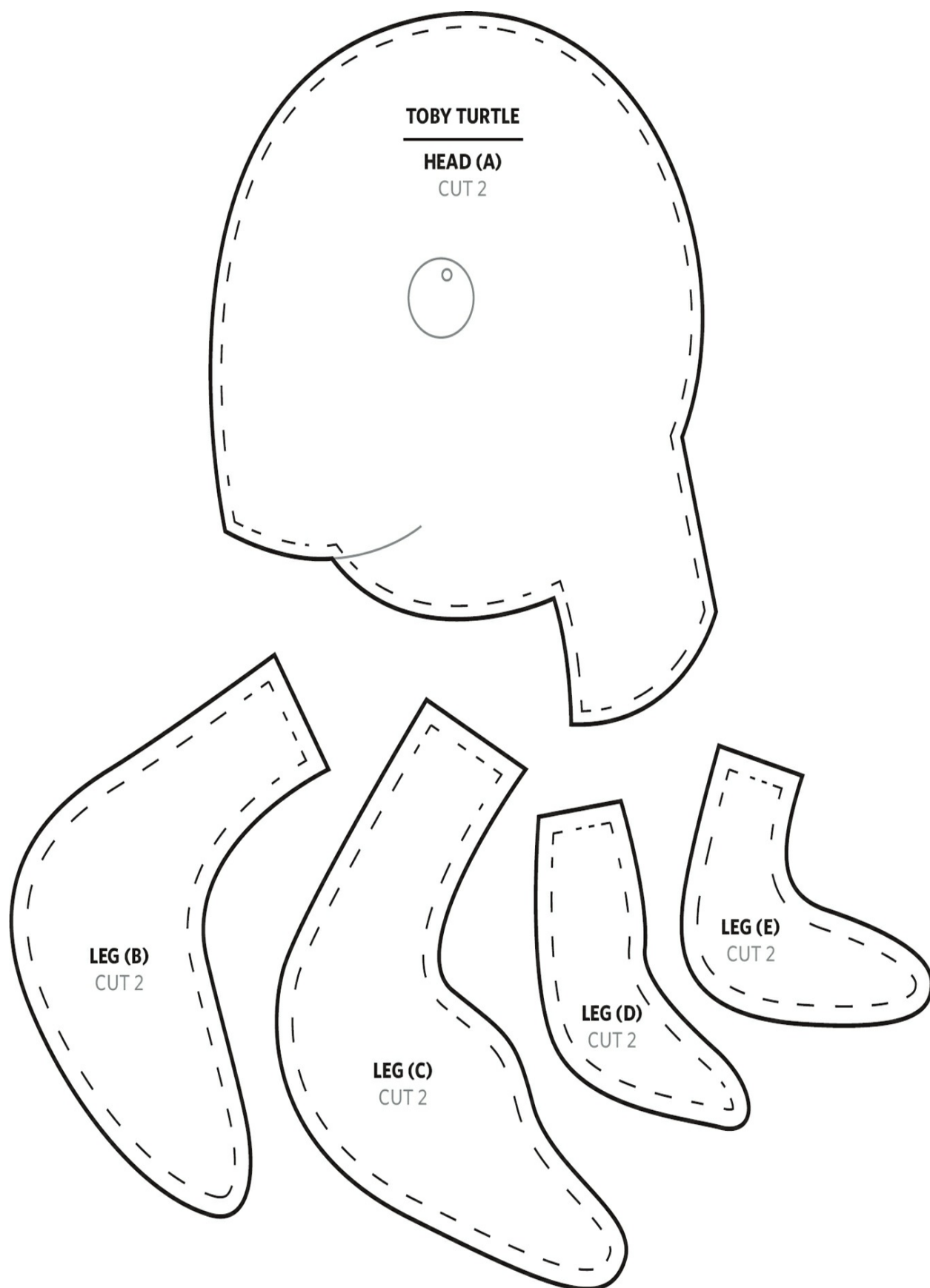
### **3. Transfer the templates.**

When you are ready to transfer the pattern, hold the template down on the fabric without pinning it. Pinning the fabric can cause it to pucker, making the transfer inaccurate. You can also iron it on the fabric if you're using freezer paper. My templates are small enough that holding them down is sufficient to keep them in place. Use a water-soluble pencil to make the markings as it can be washed away quite easily, often by just rubbing the fabric or misting it lightly with a spray bottle.

Because the template lines are not your stitching lines, you can use a pencil if you're in a bind. Be careful not to use something like permanent marker unless you are tracing a template on a thick material such as faux fur.

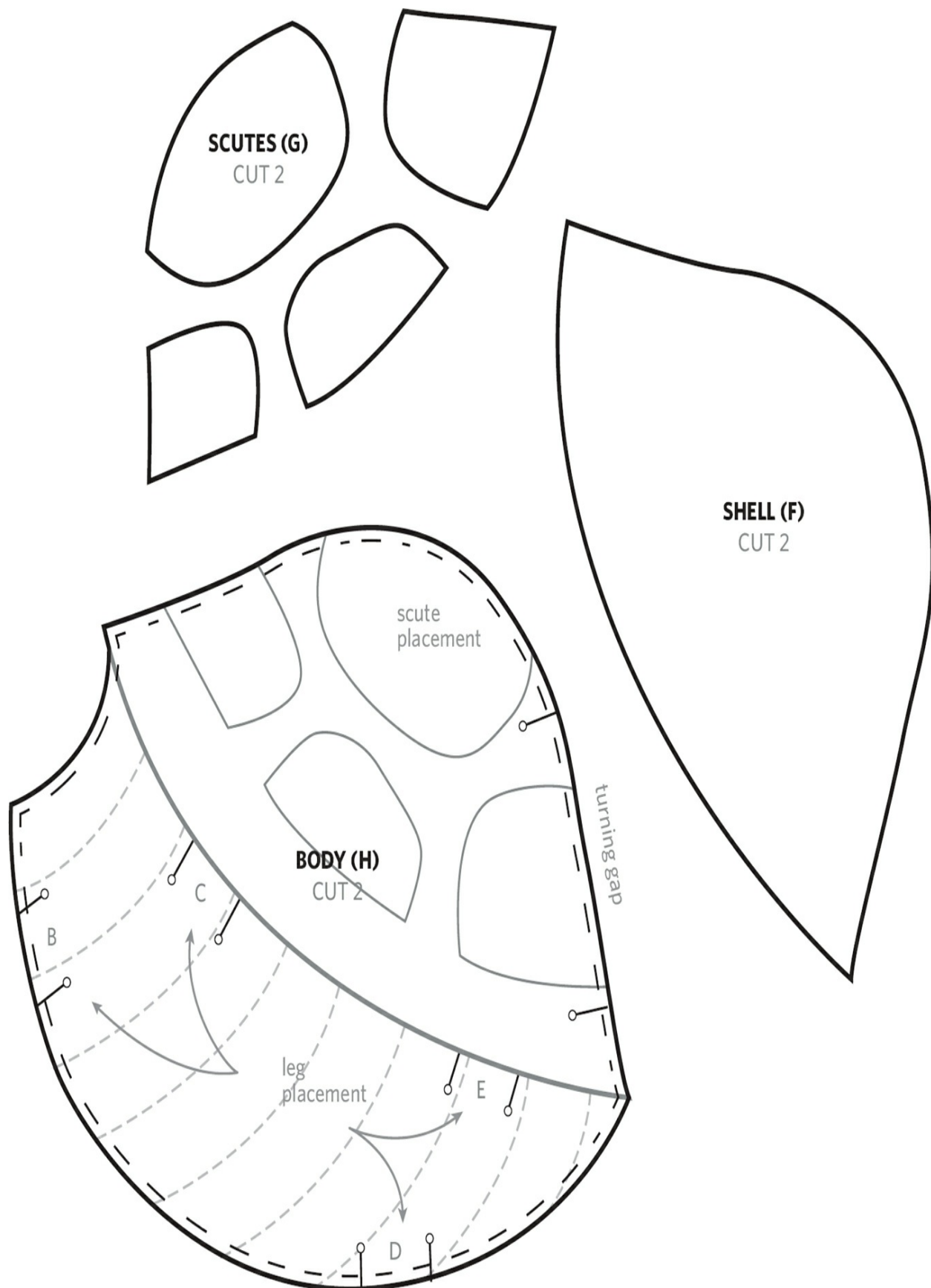
When tracing the templates, always remember to reverse the second piece, making sure it's a mirror image of the first. When you're working with felt this doesn't matter as much as both sides are the same, but always pay close attention when working with patterned fabrics.

## **TOBY TURTLE**

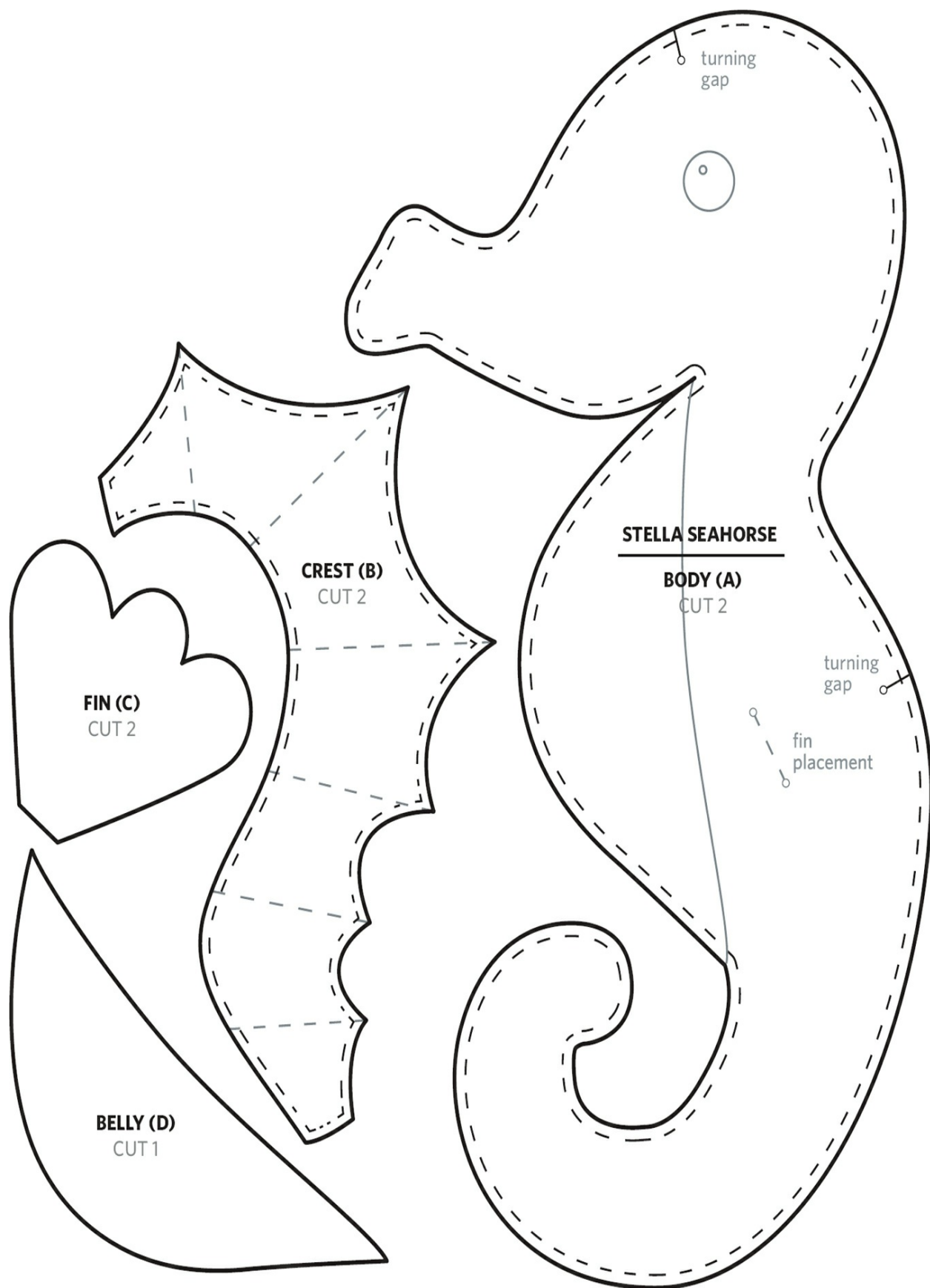






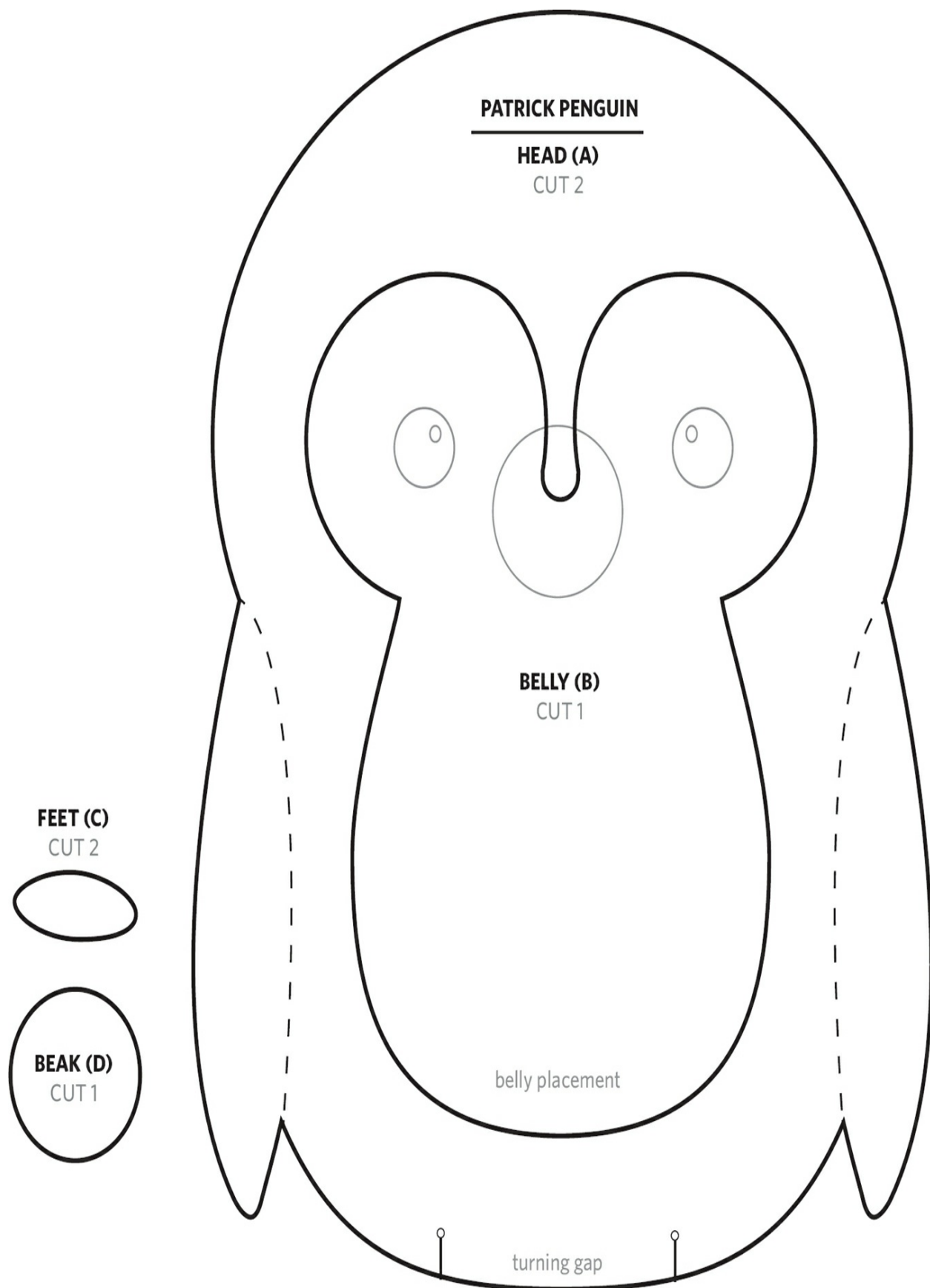


# STELLA SEAHORSE

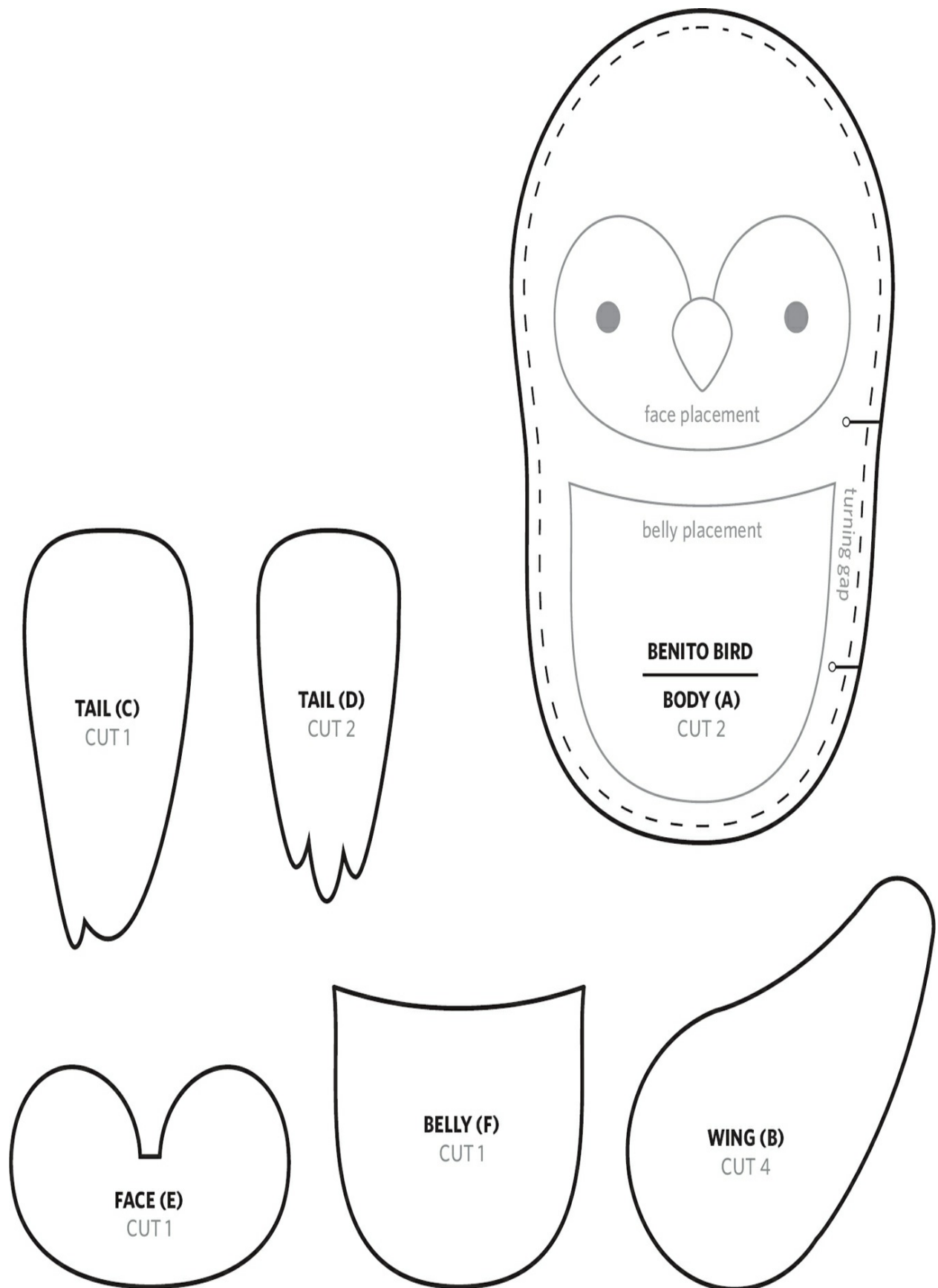


# PATRICK PENGUIN





# **BENITO BIRD**

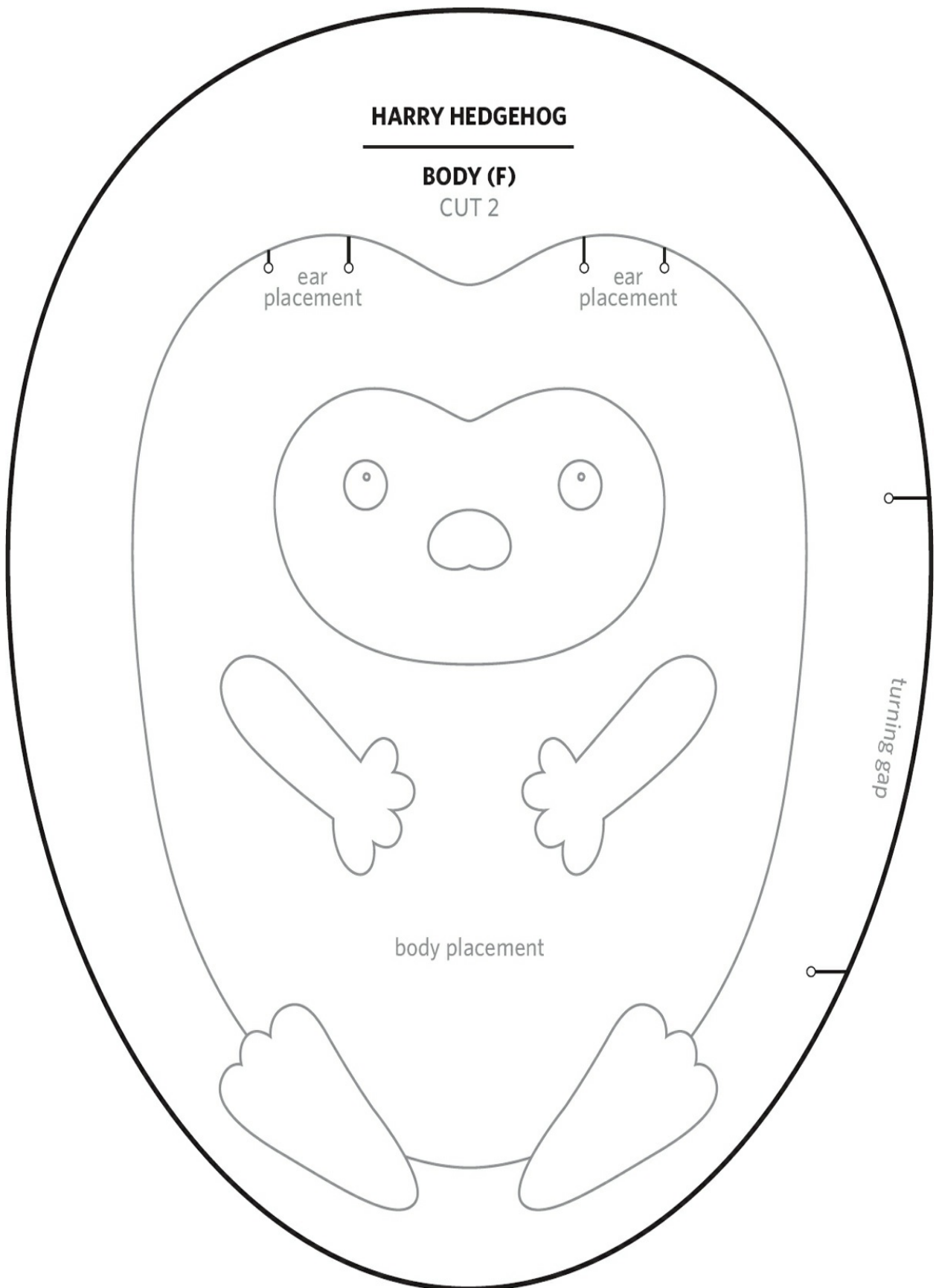


# HARRY HEDGEHOG

**HARRY HEDGEHOG**

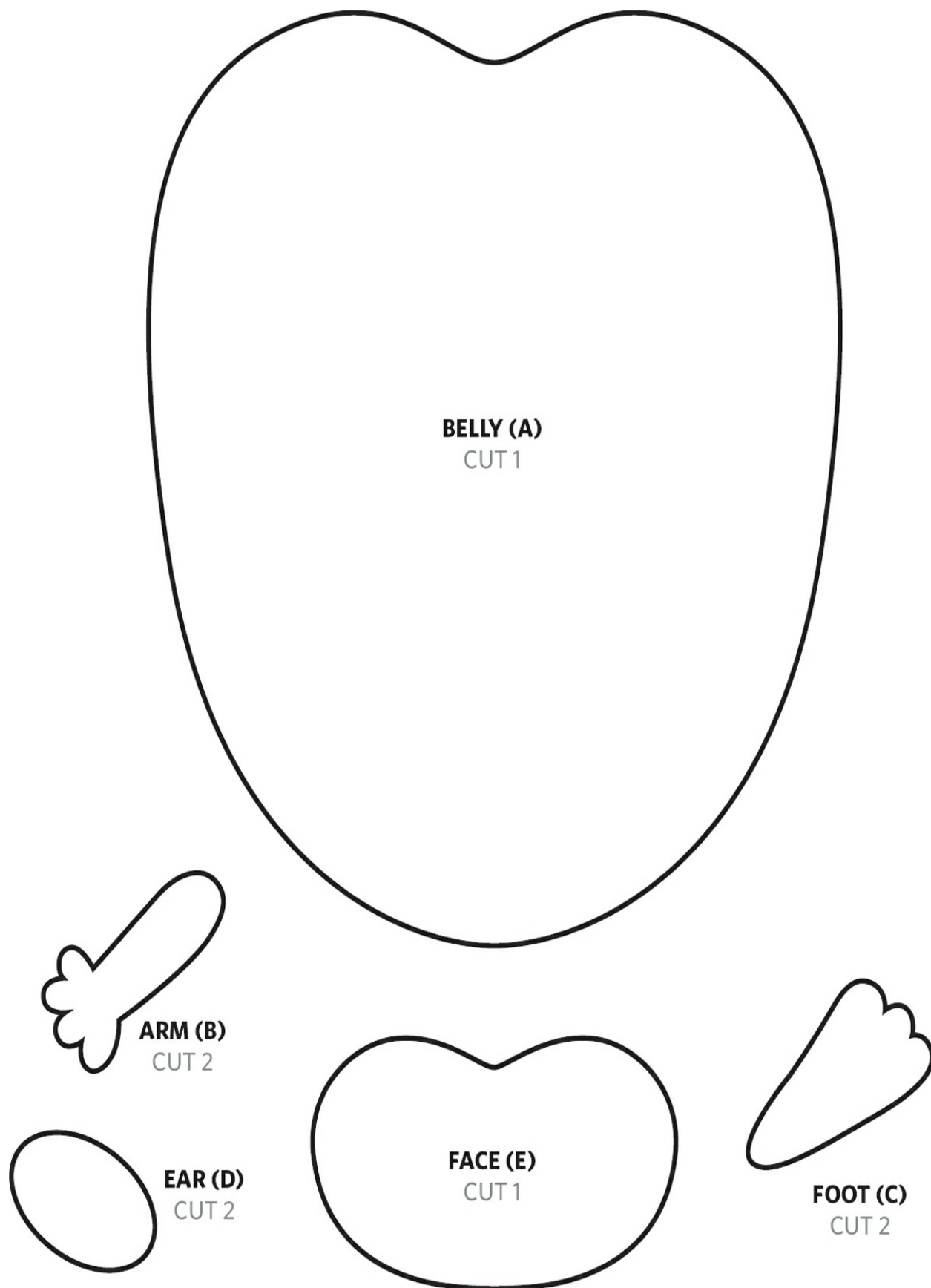
**BODY (F)**

CUT 2

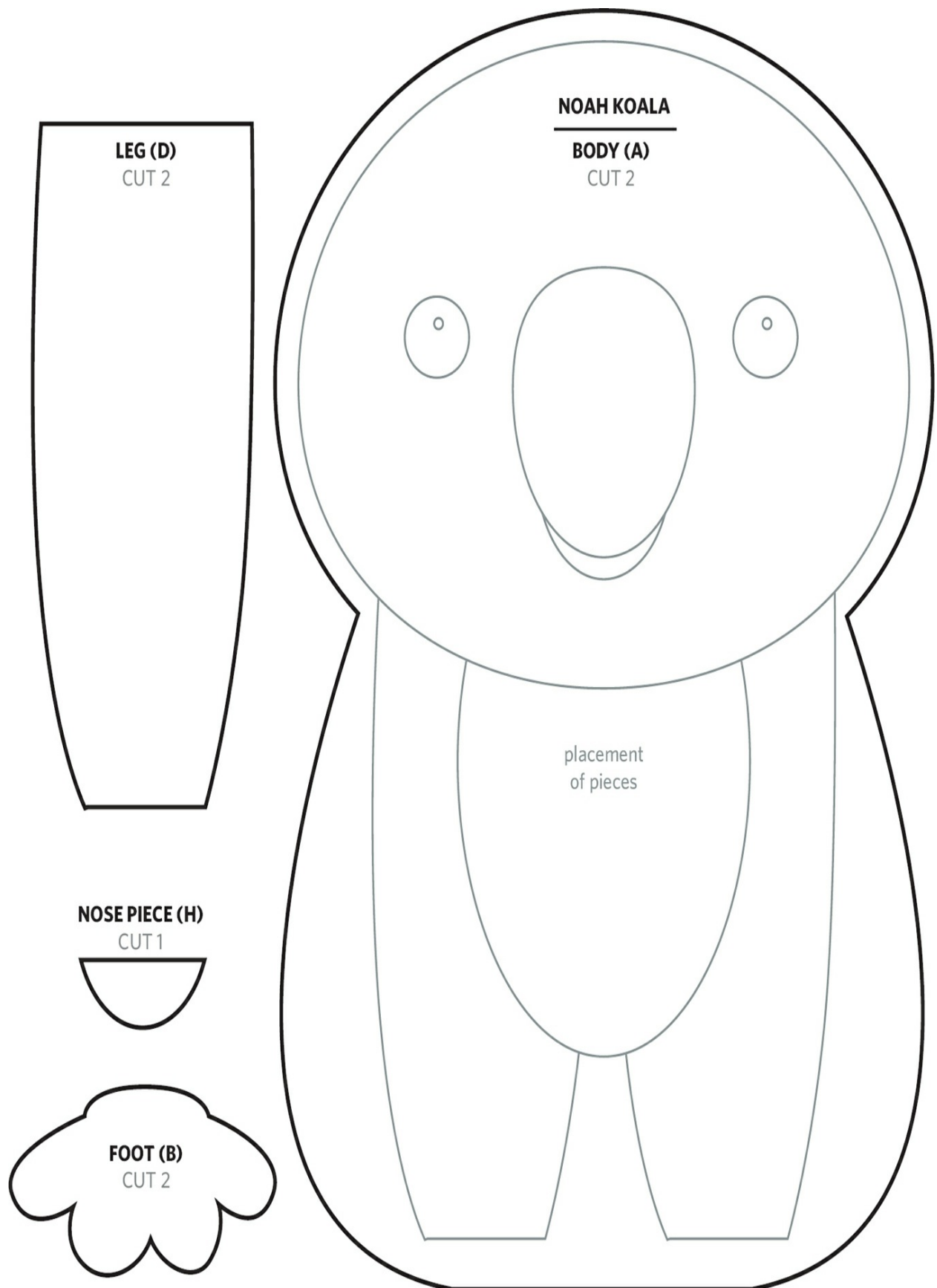






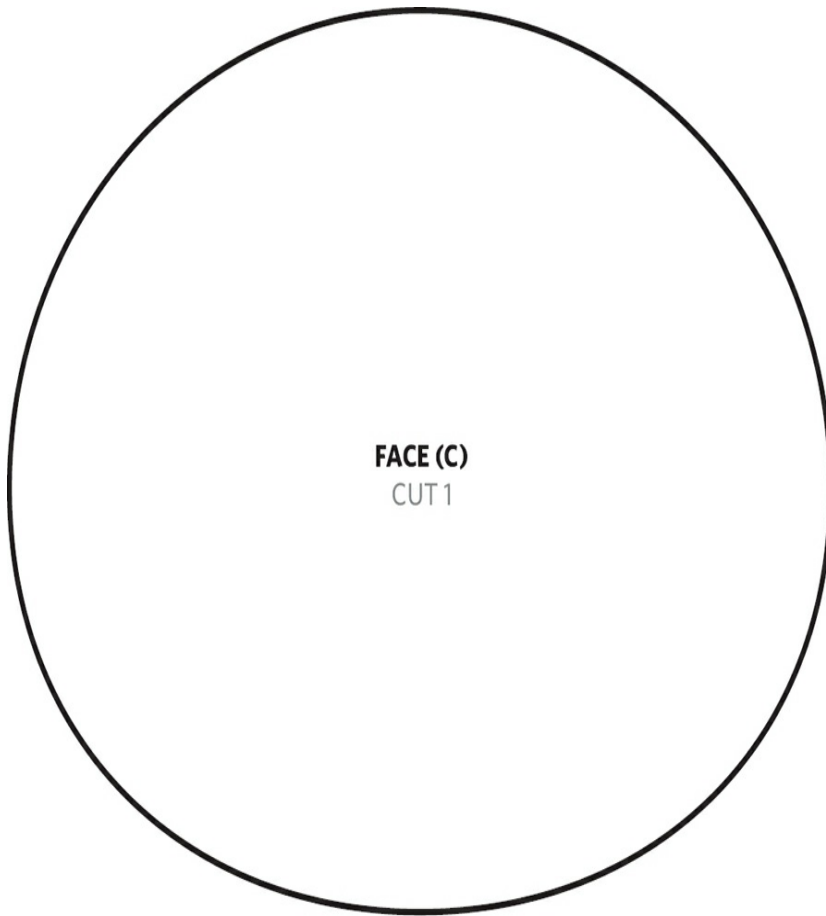


# NOAH KOALA

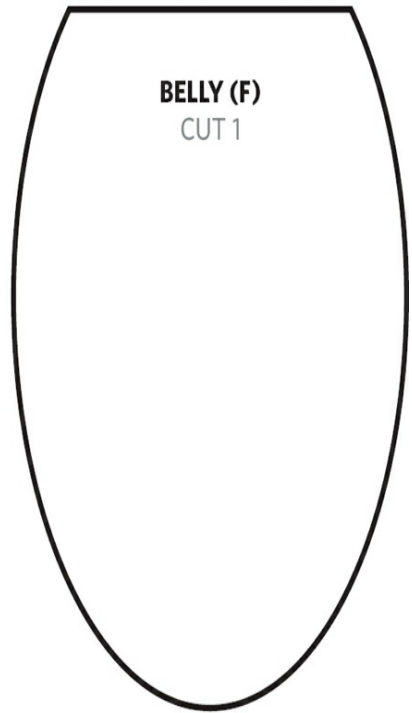




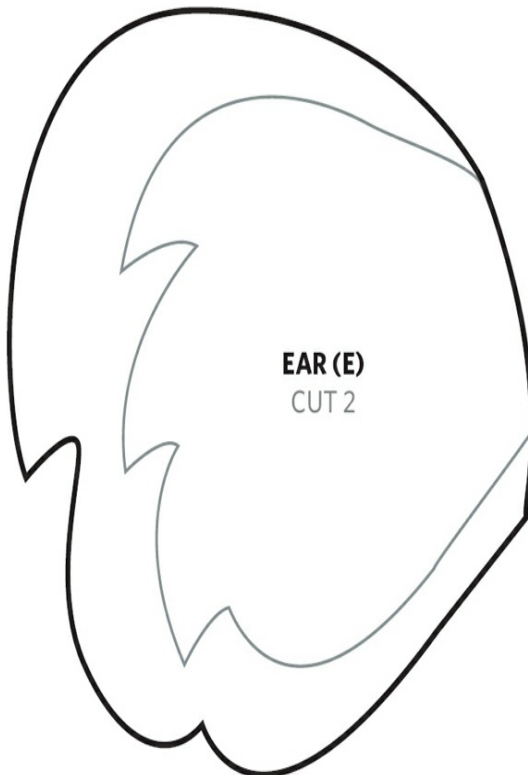




**FACE (C)**  
CUT 1



**BELLY (F)**  
CUT 1

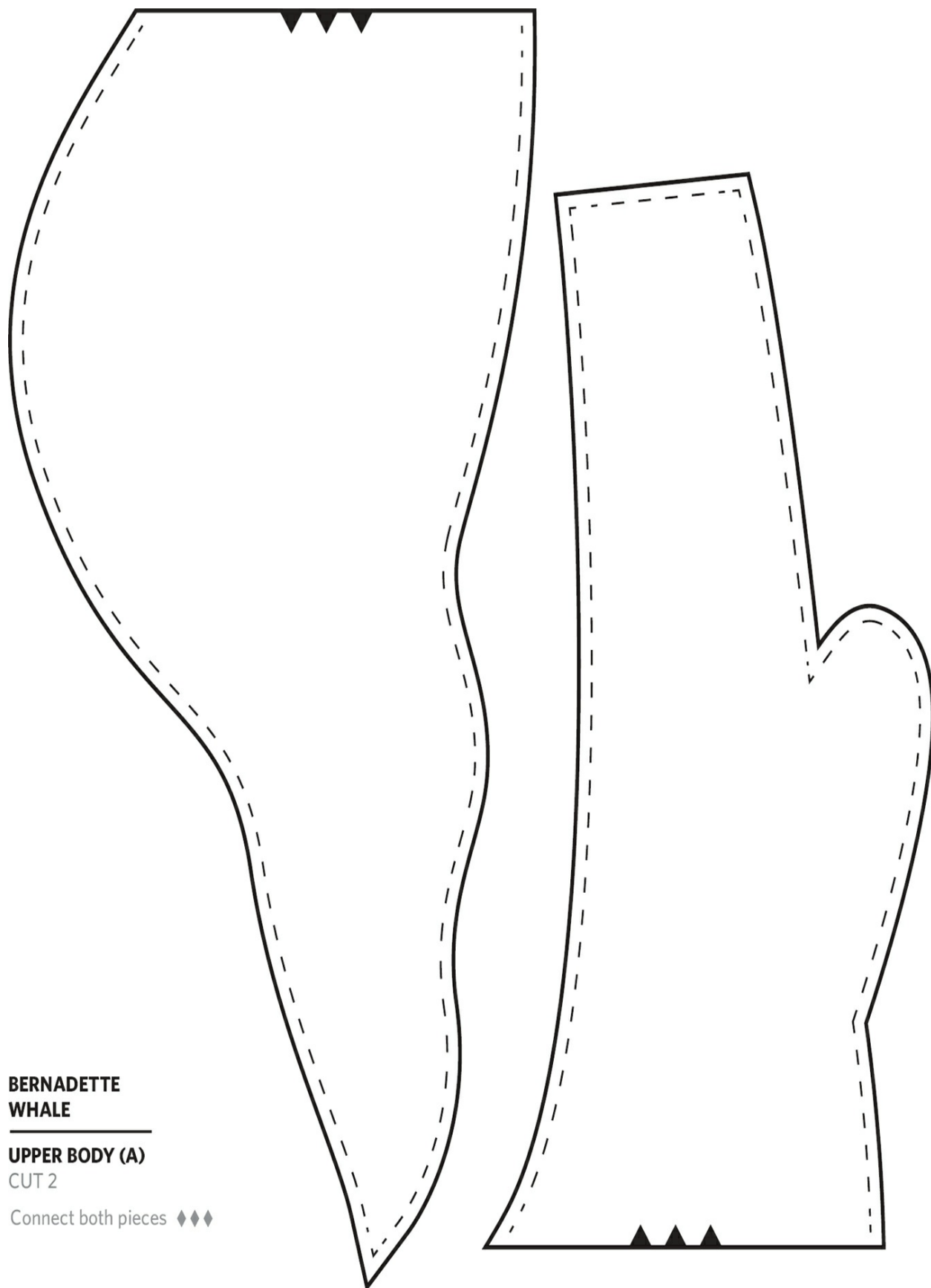


**EAR (E)**  
CUT 2



**EAR (G)**  
CUT 2

# **BERNADETTE WHALE**



**BERNADETTE  
WHALE**

**UPPER BODY (A)**  
CUT 2

Connect both pieces ♦♦♦

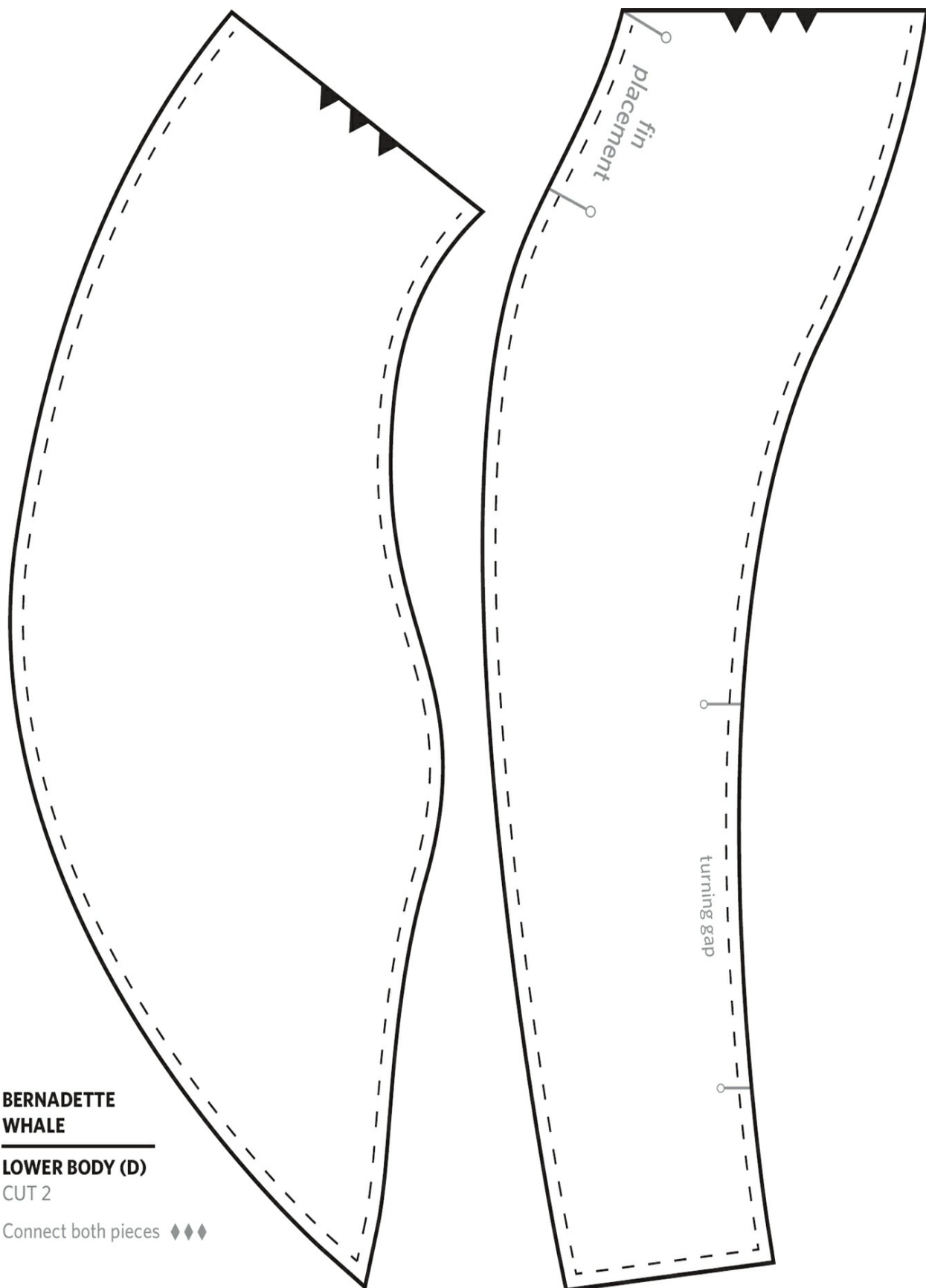


**BERNADETTE  
WHALE**

**LOWER BODY (D)**

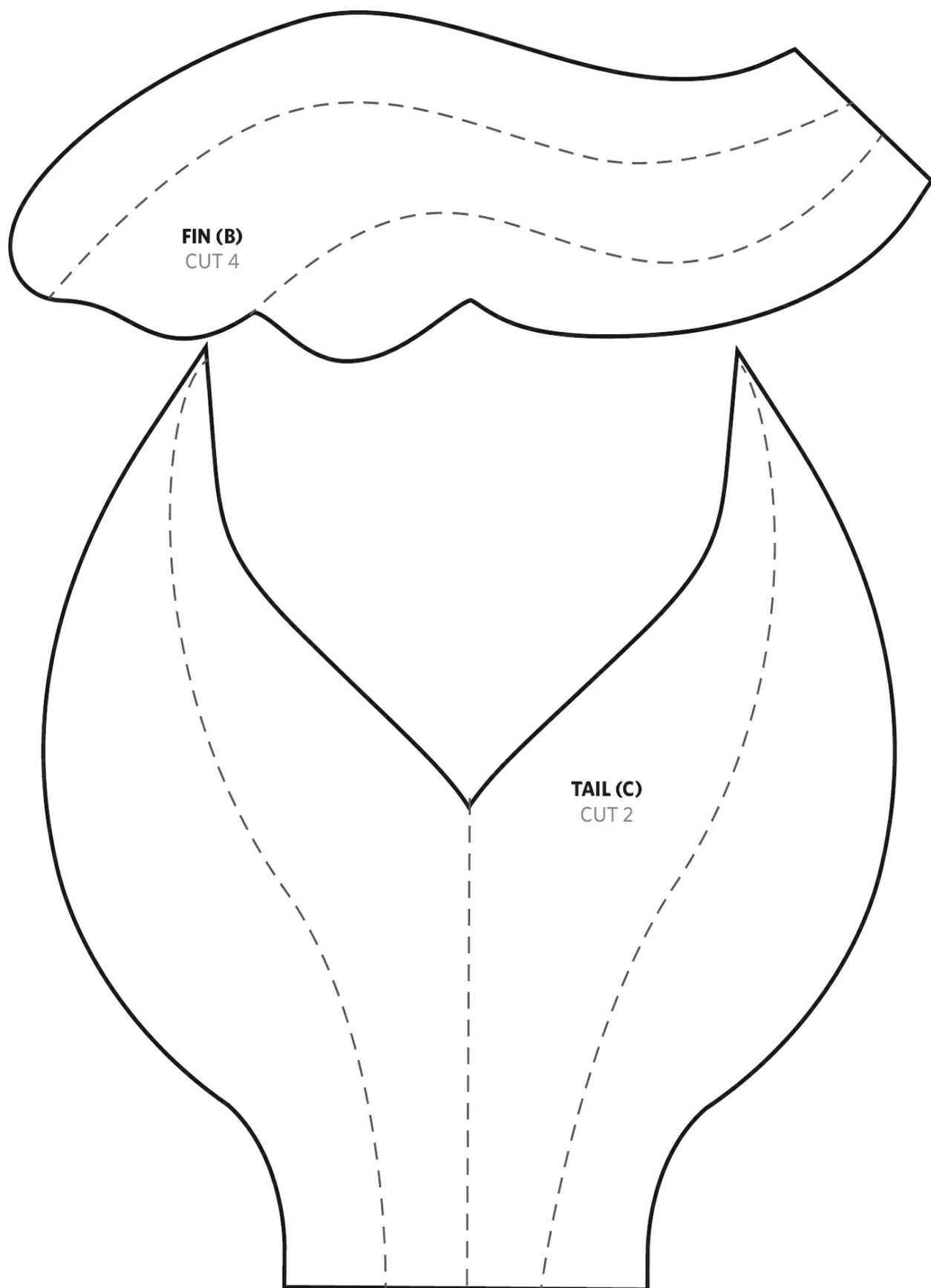
CUT 2

Connect both pieces ♦♦♦

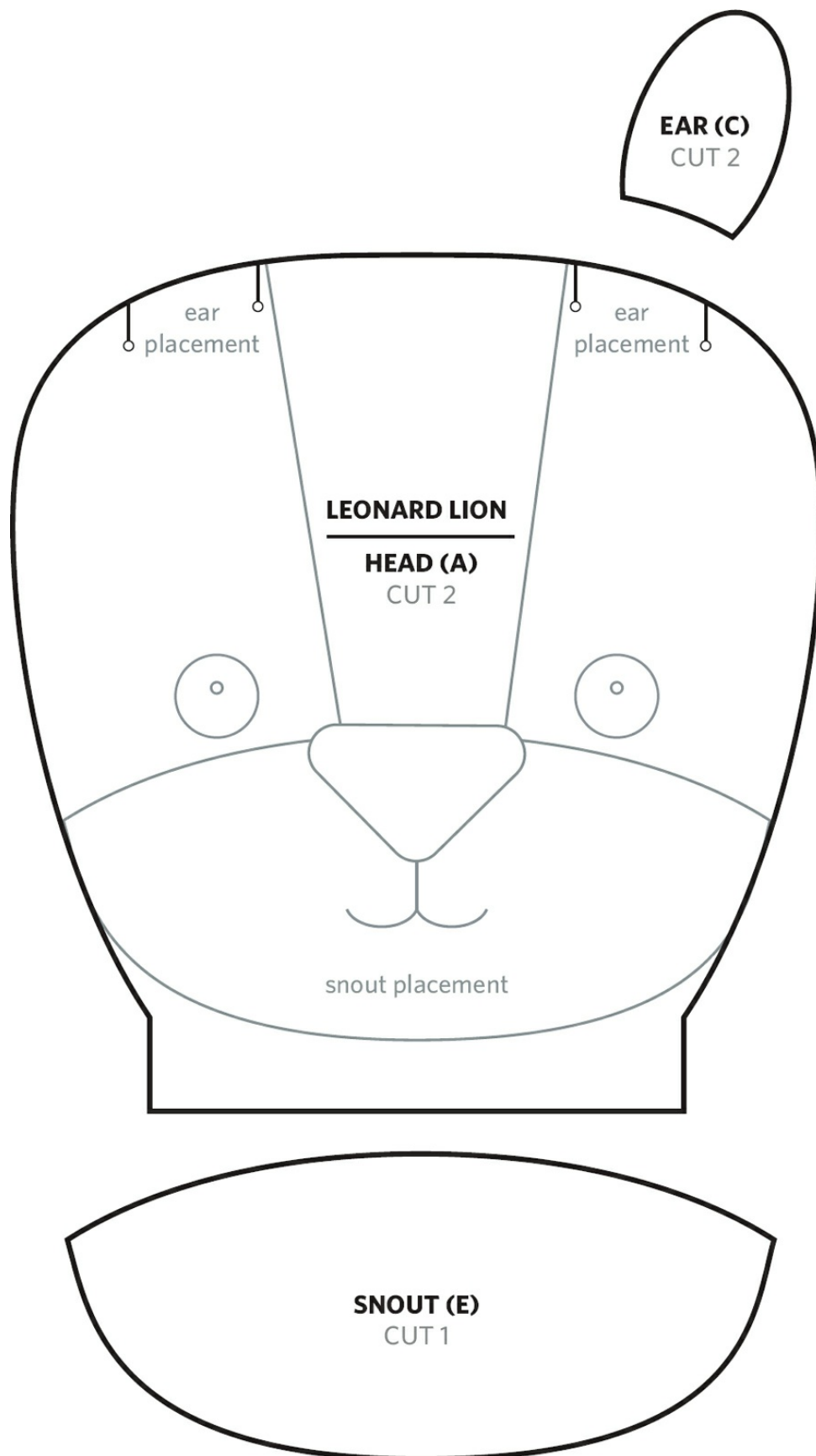






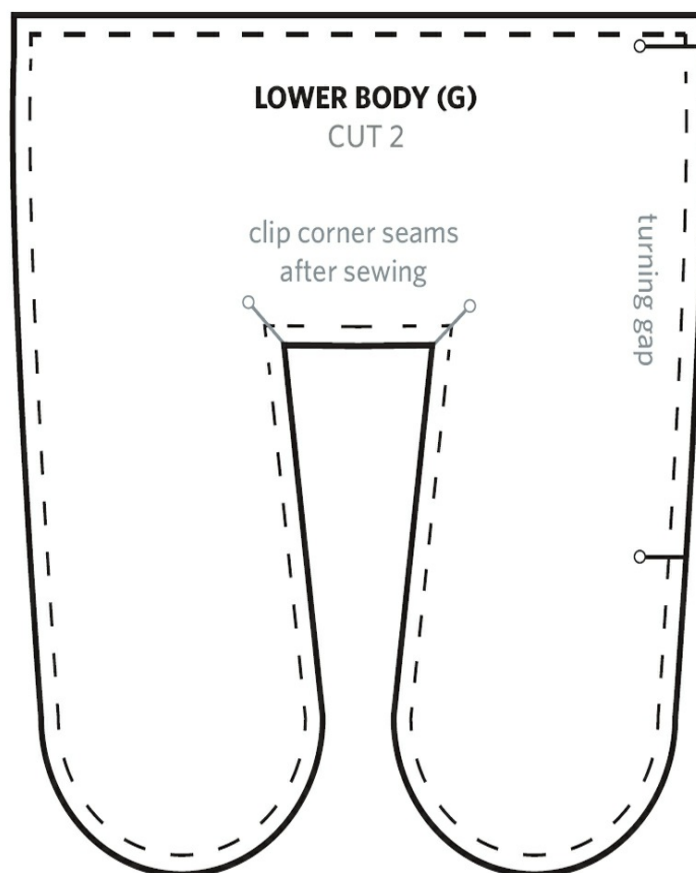
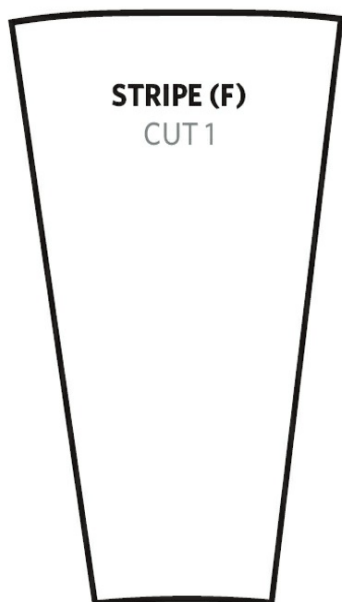
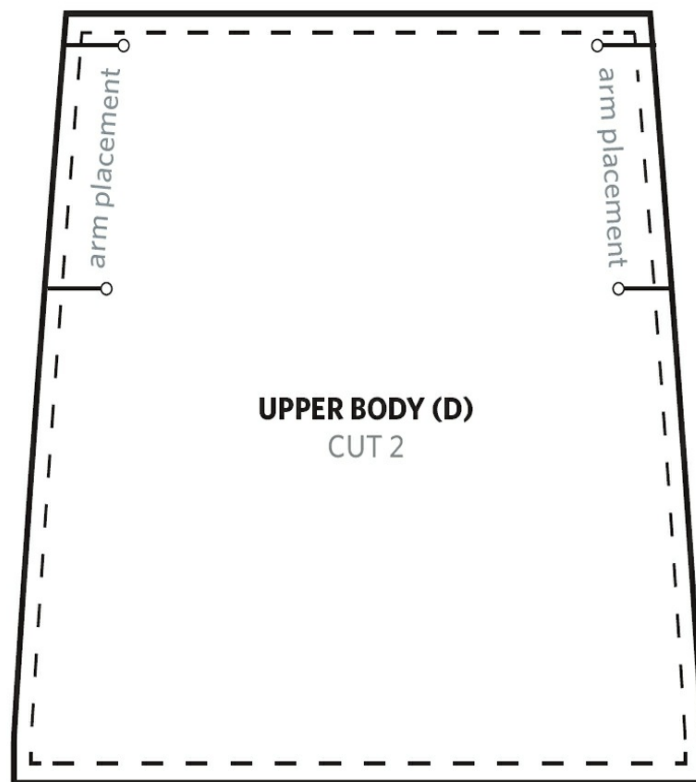
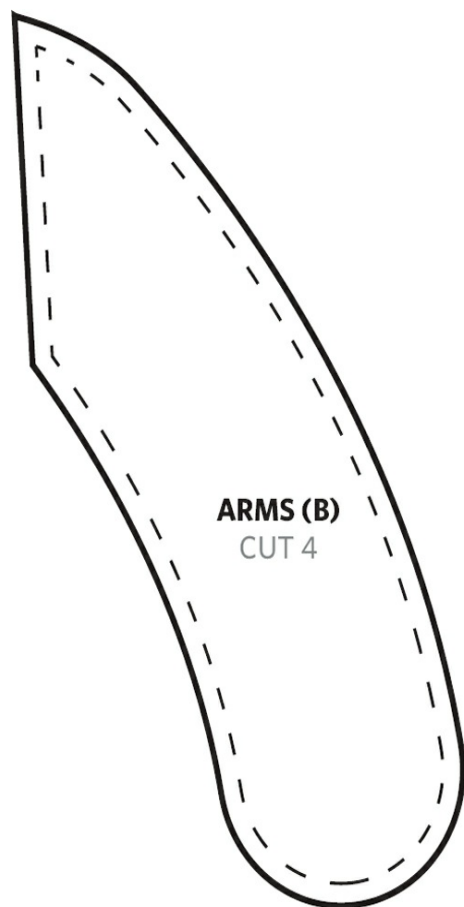


# LEONARD LION

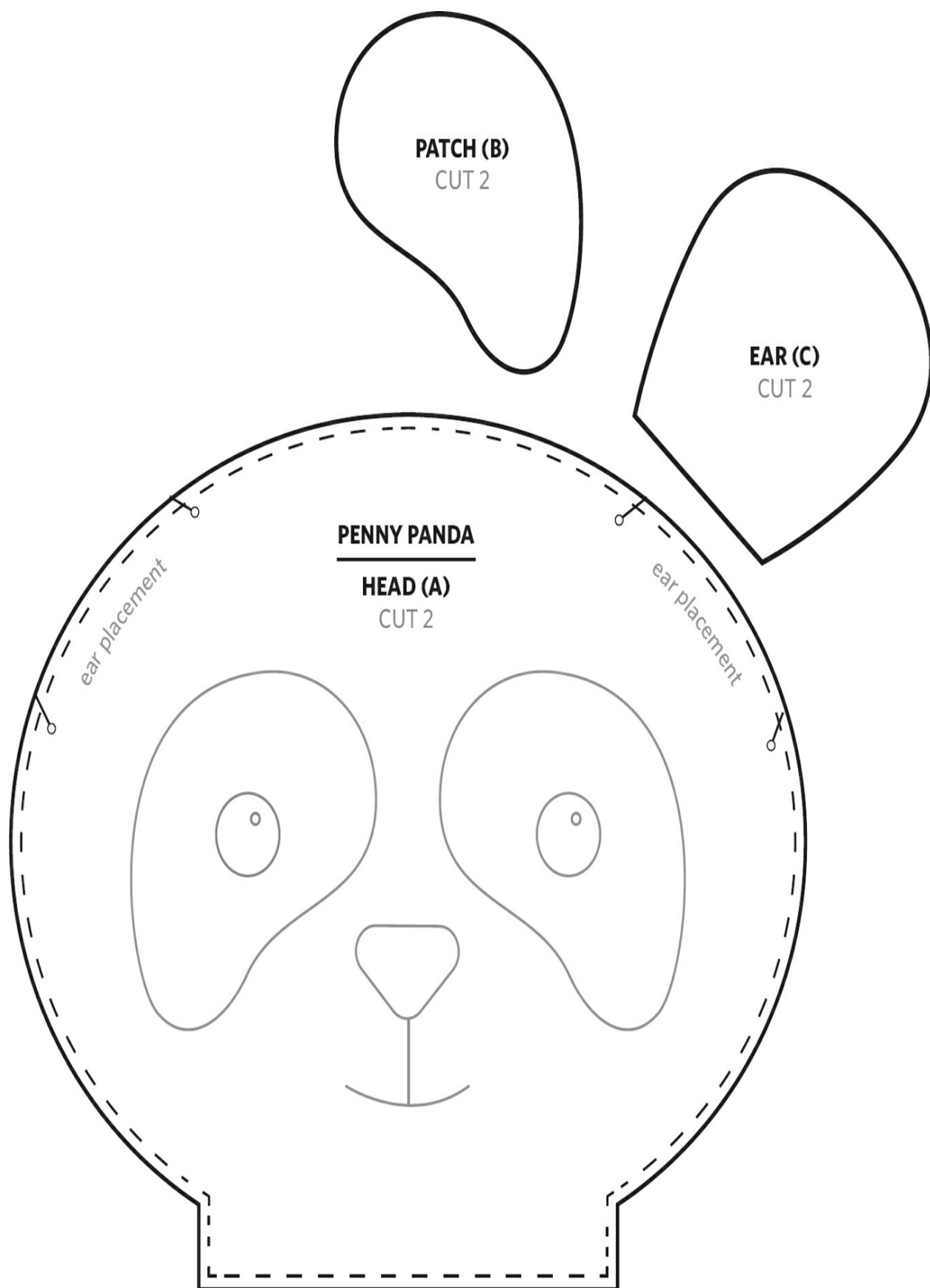




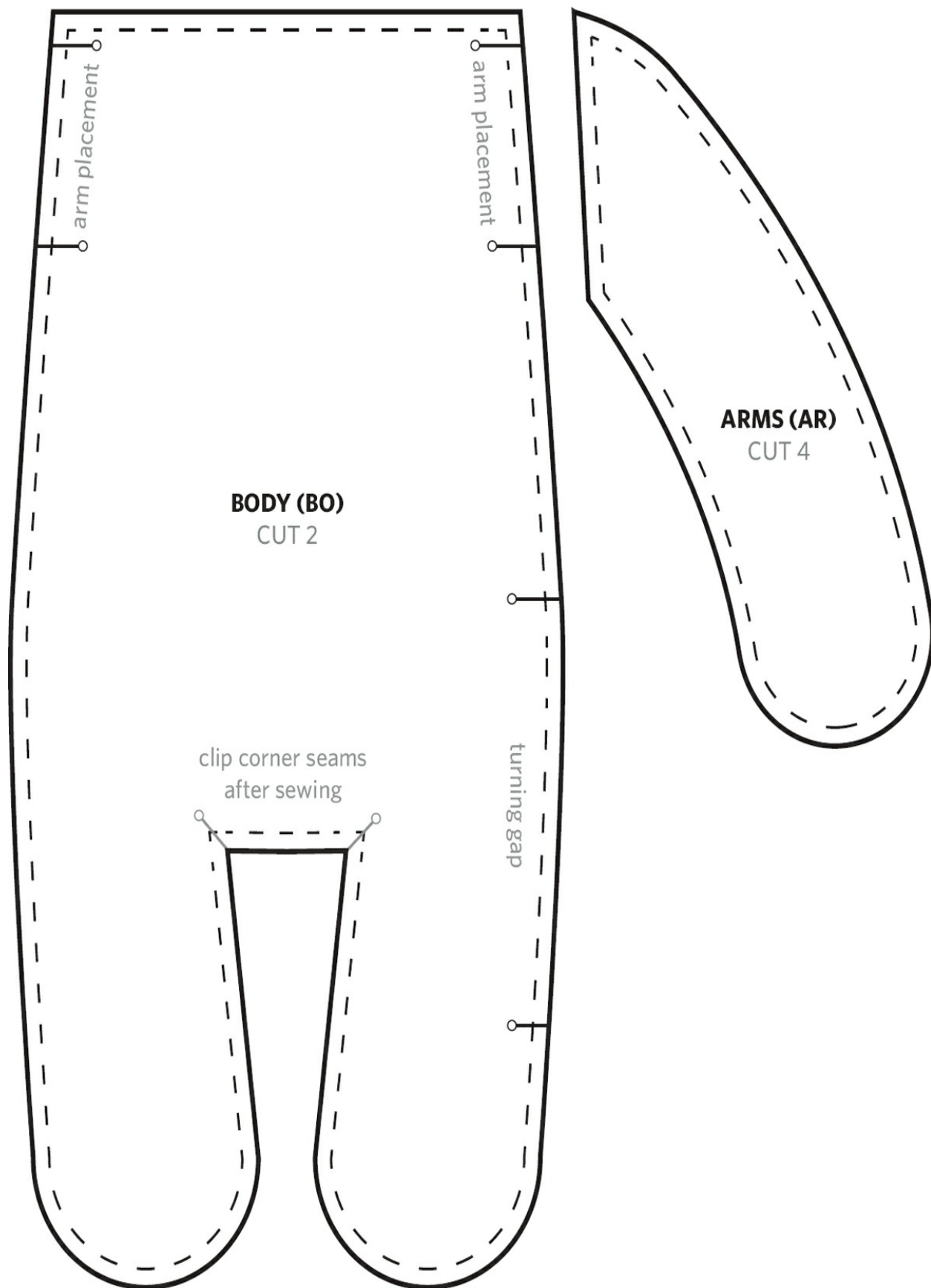




# **PENNY PANDA**

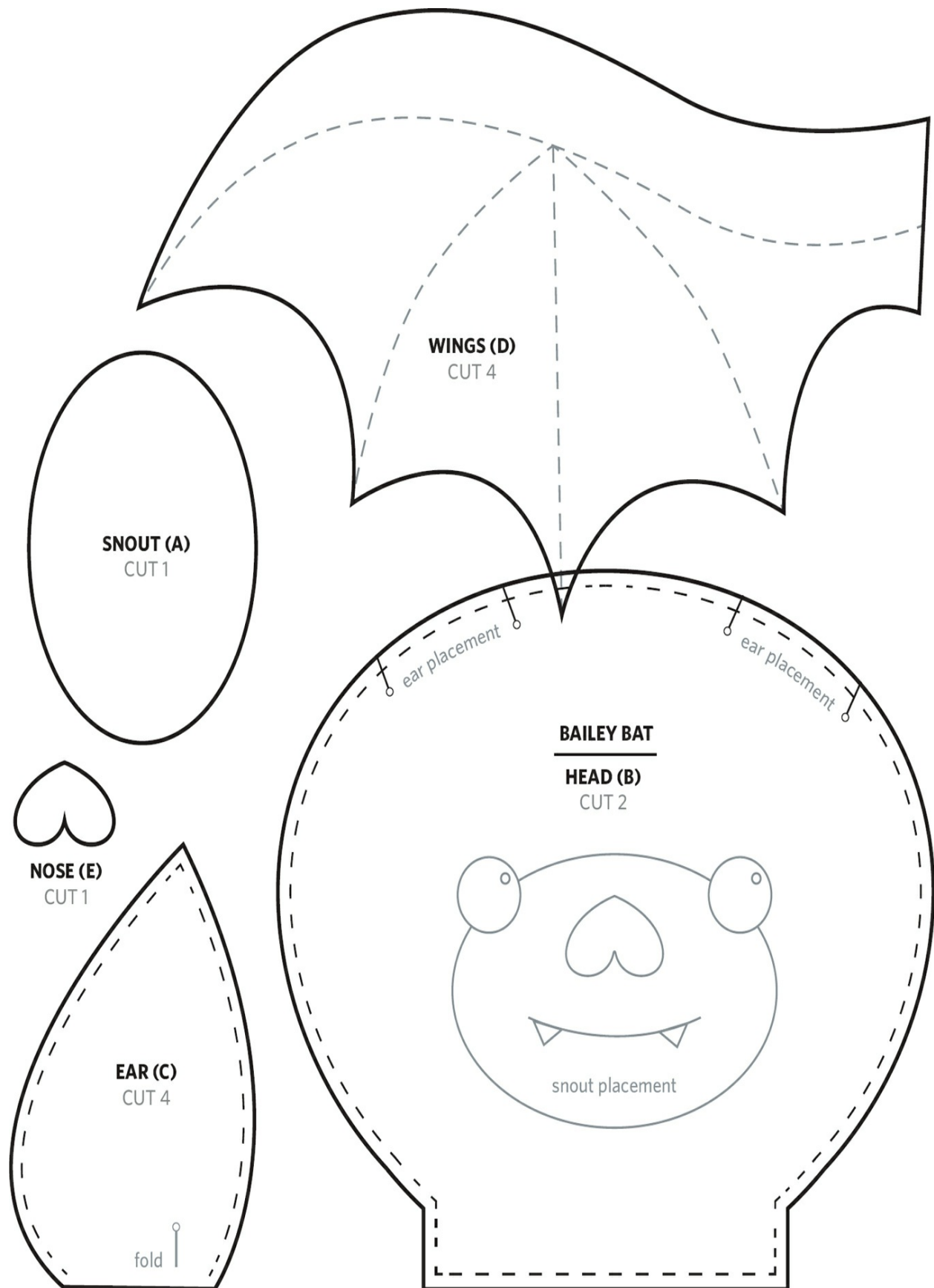




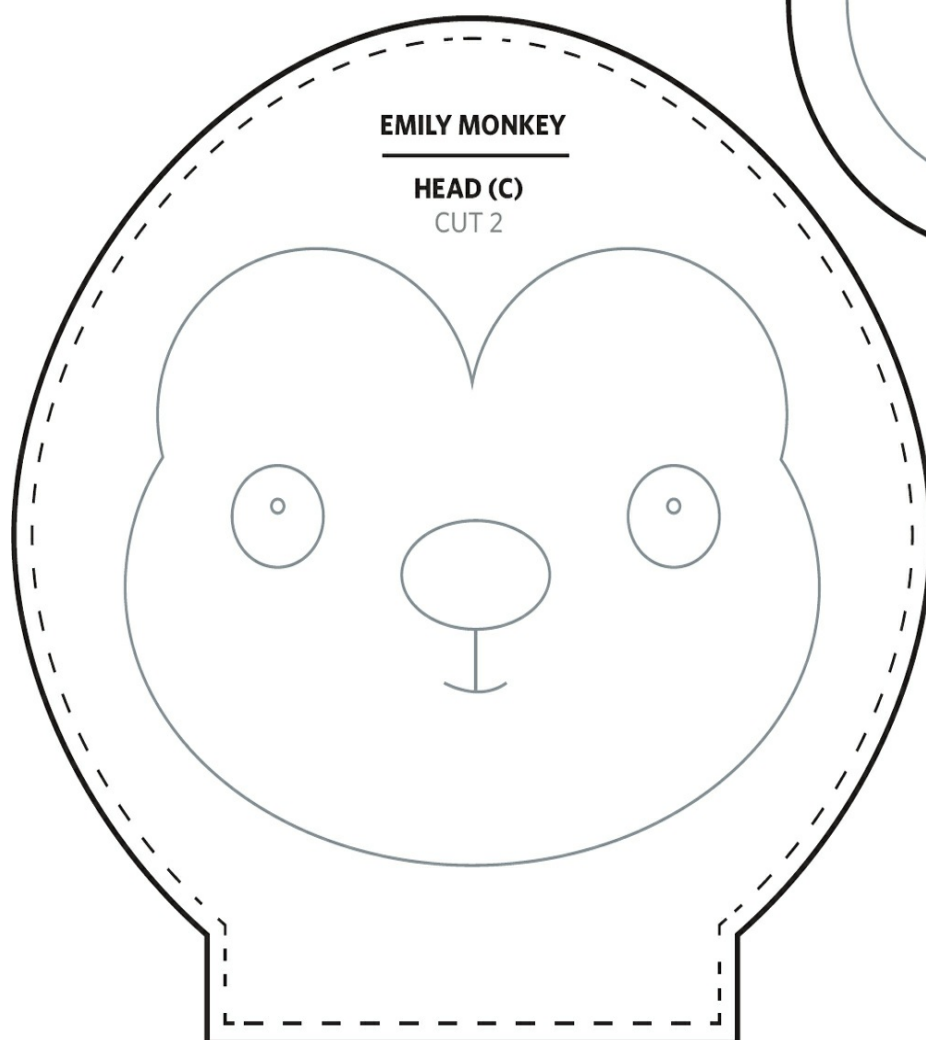
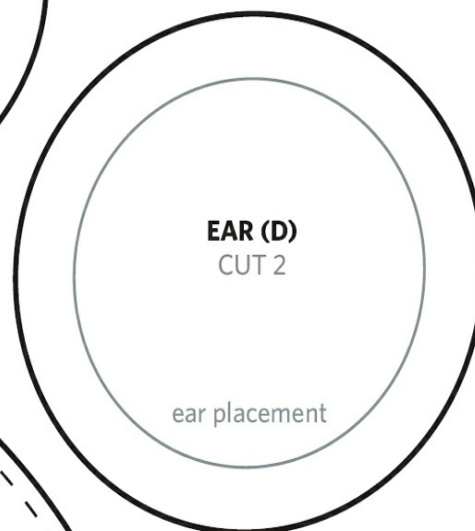
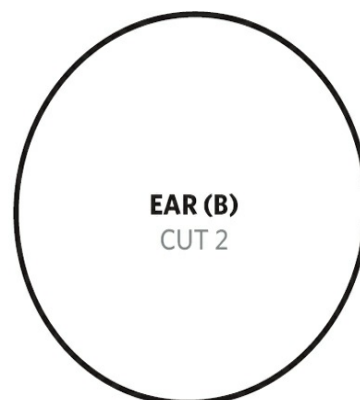
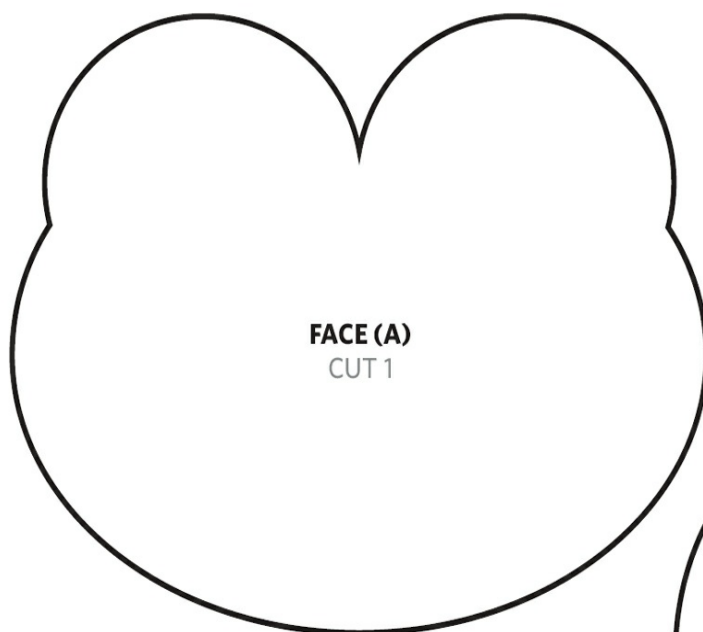




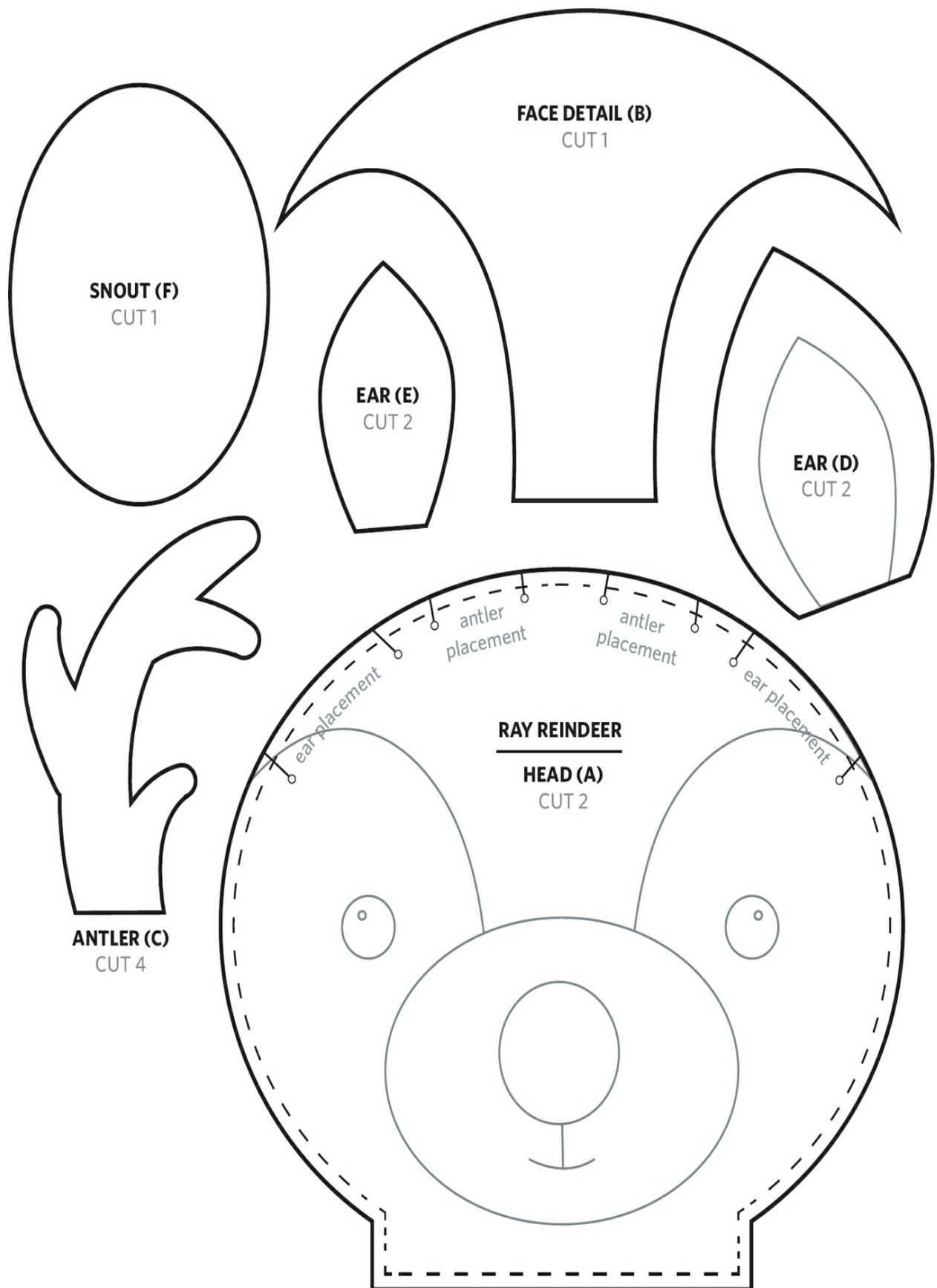
# BAILEY BAT



**EMILY MONKEY**

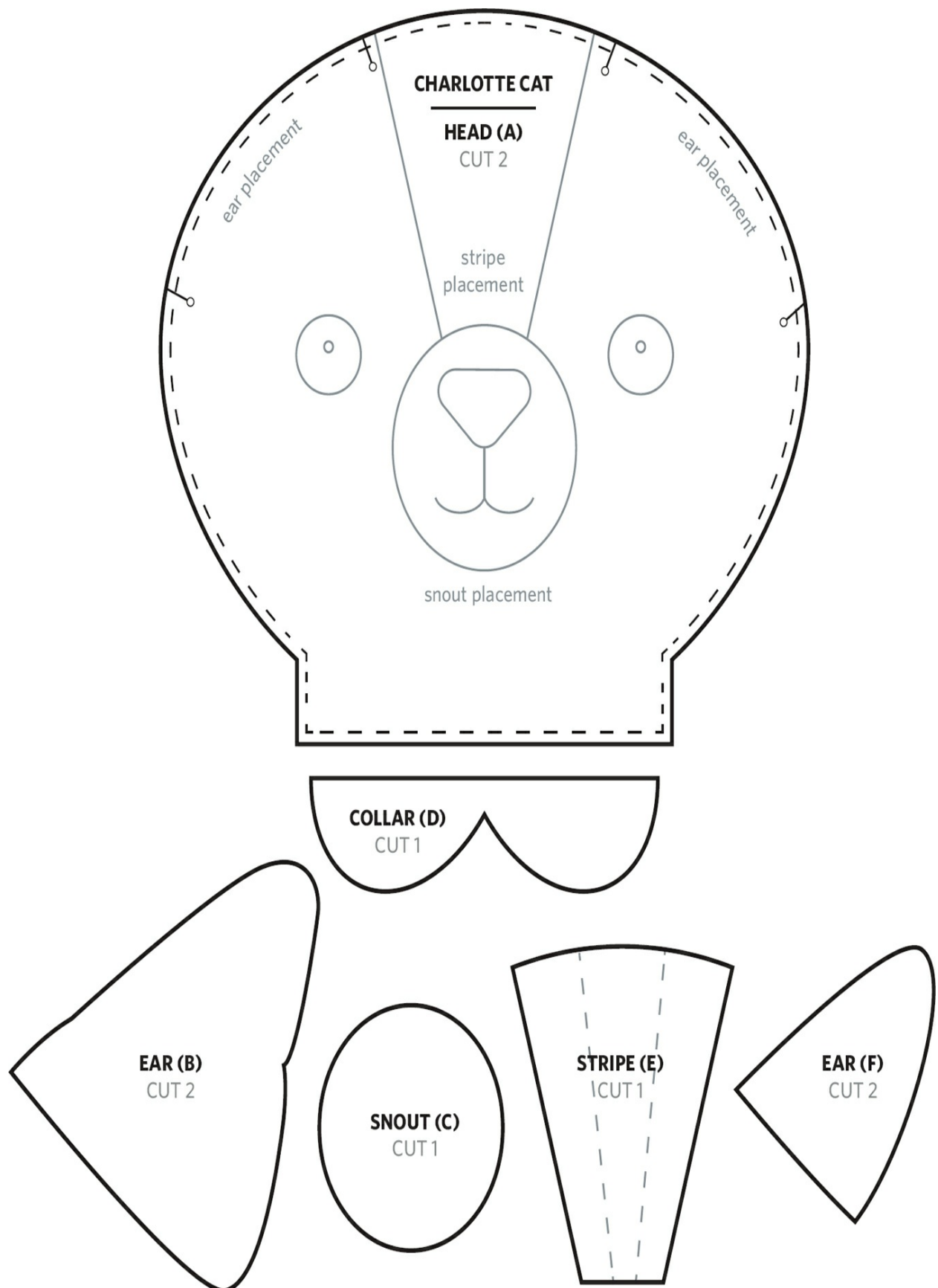


# RAY REINDEER

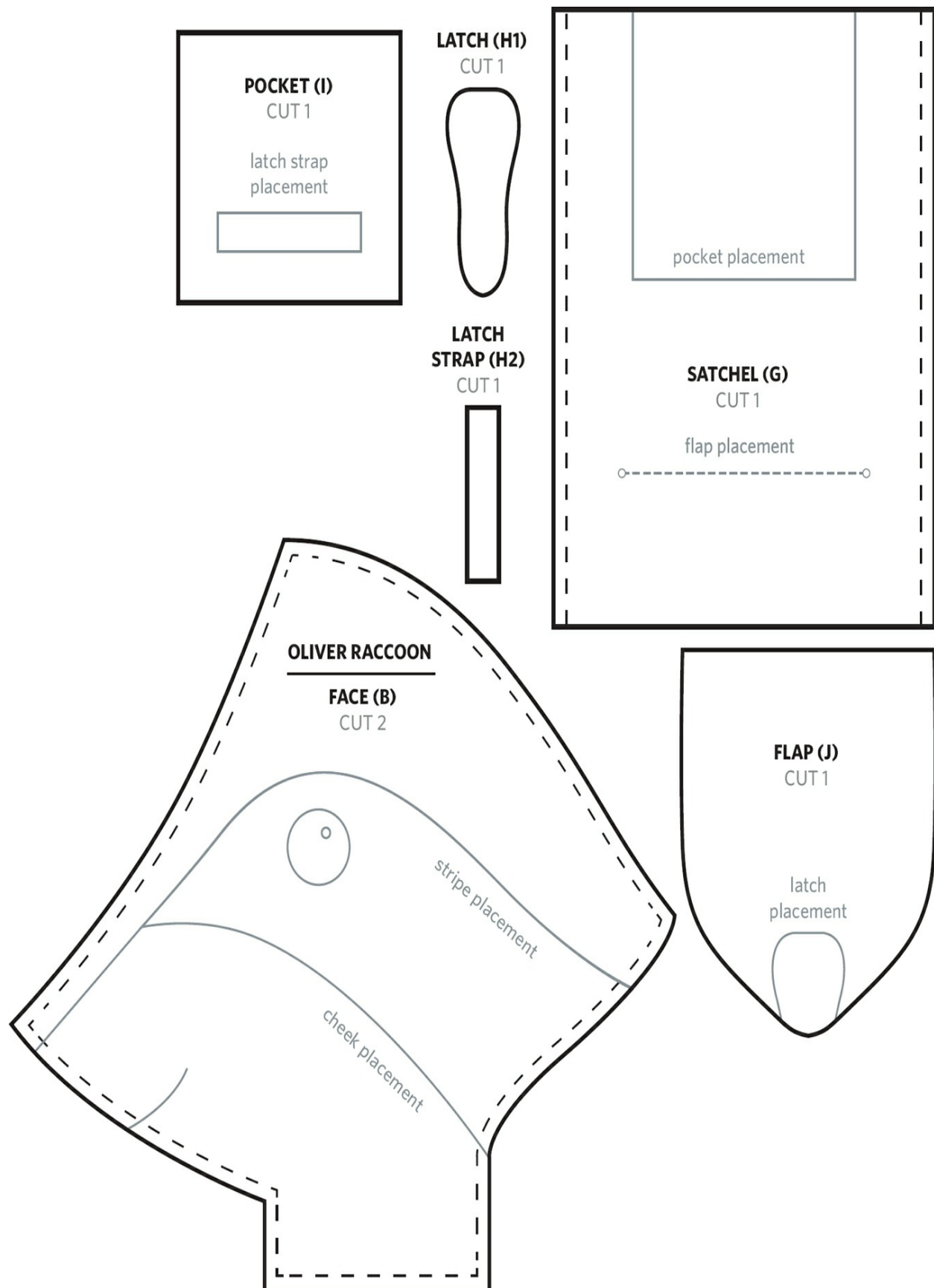




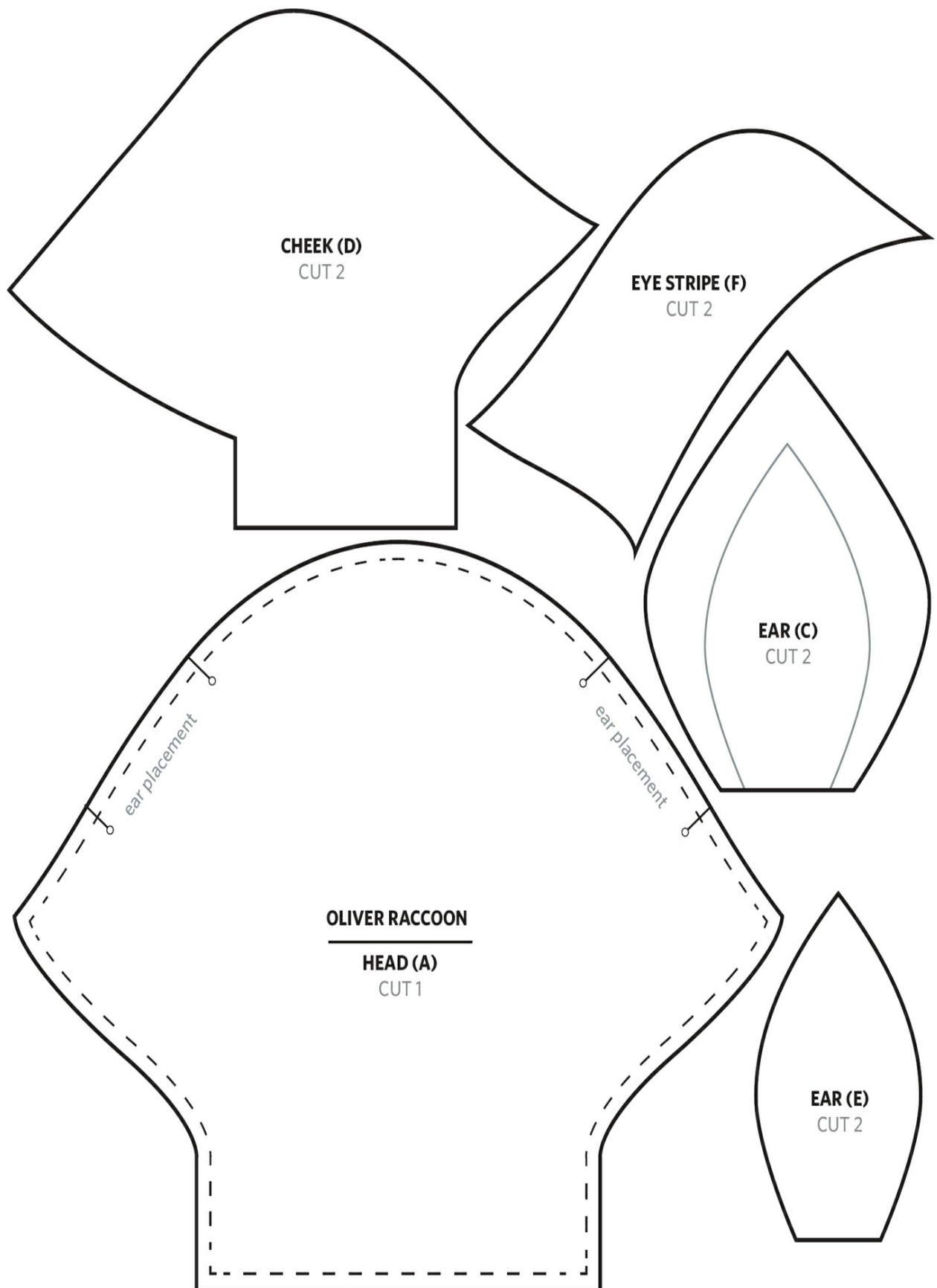
# CHARLOTTE CAT



# OLIVER RACCOON

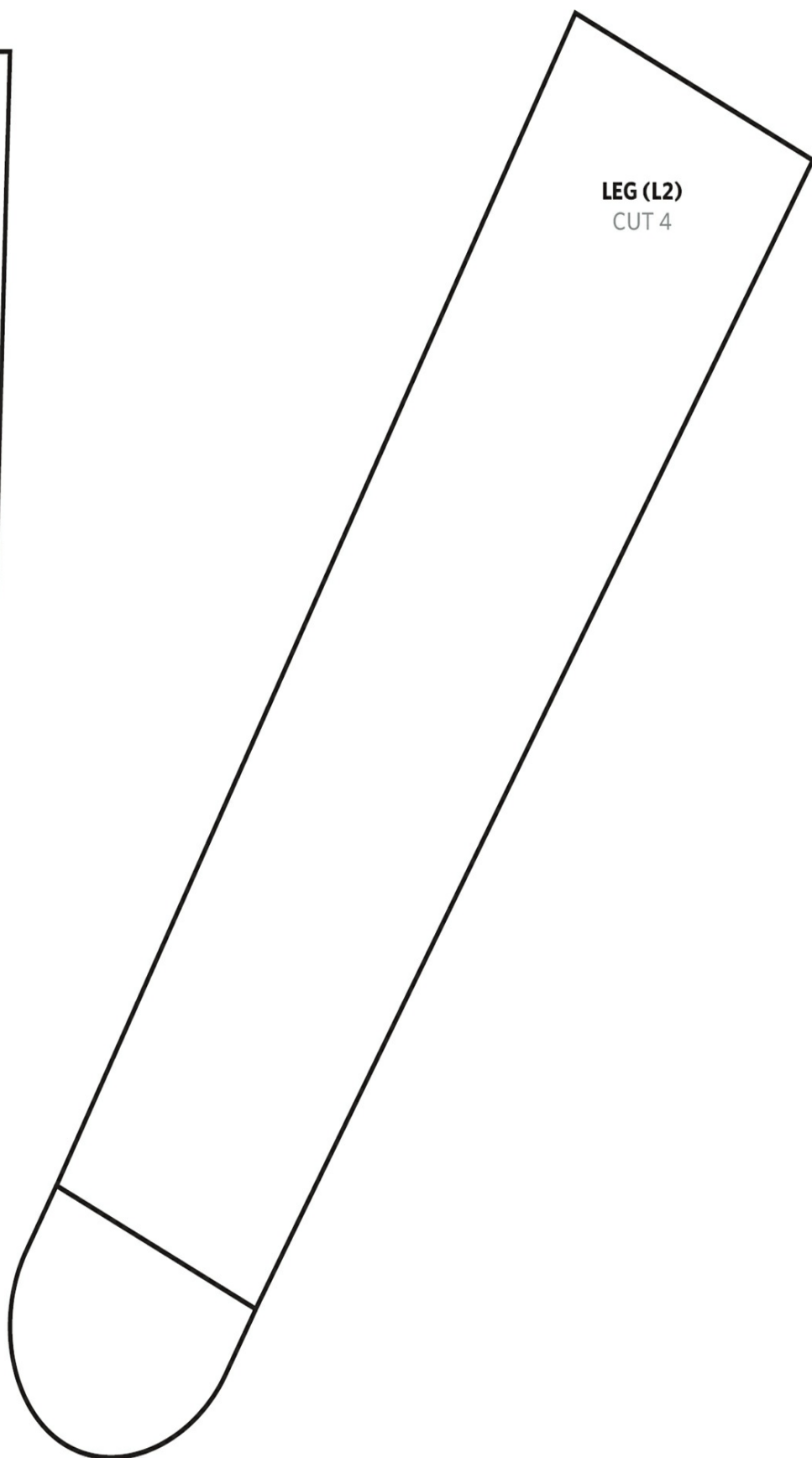
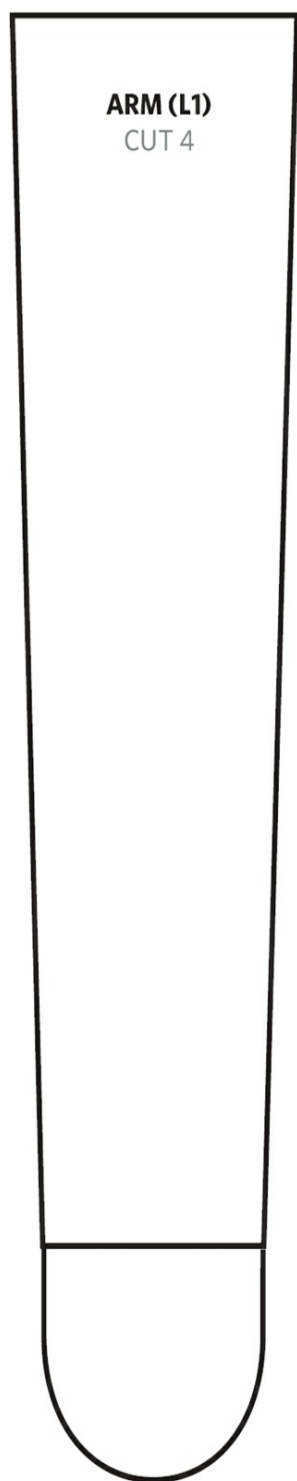




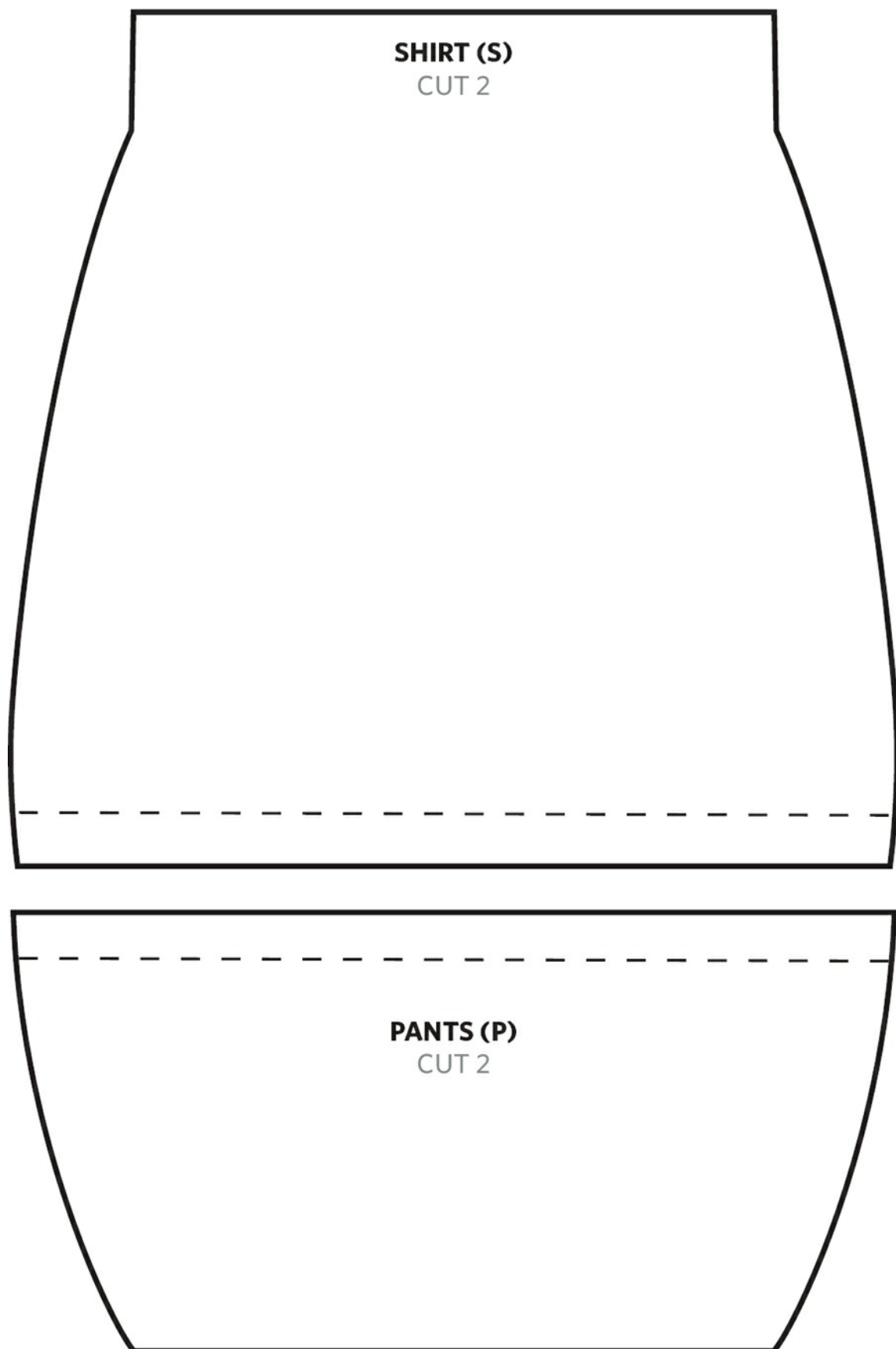




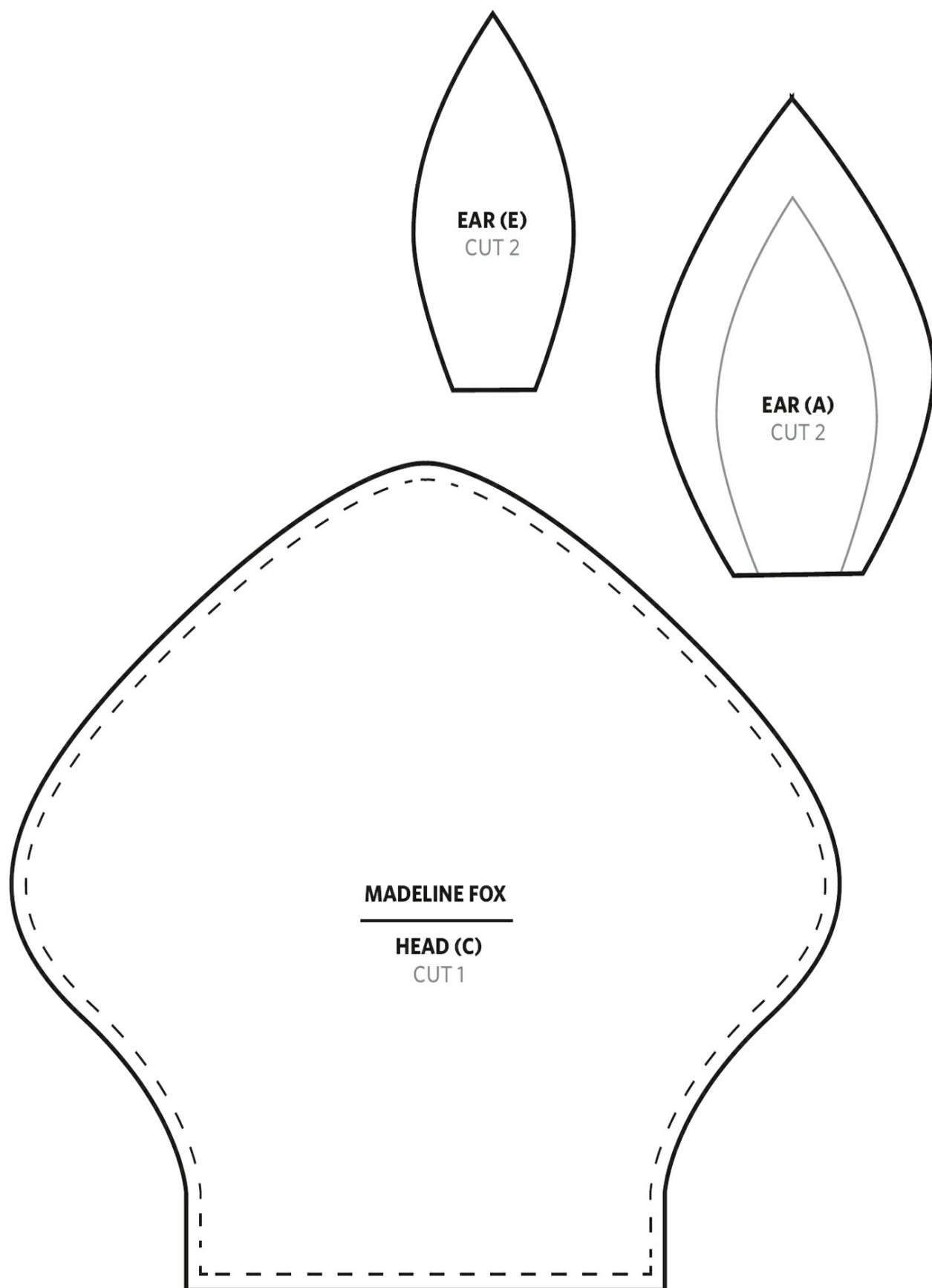






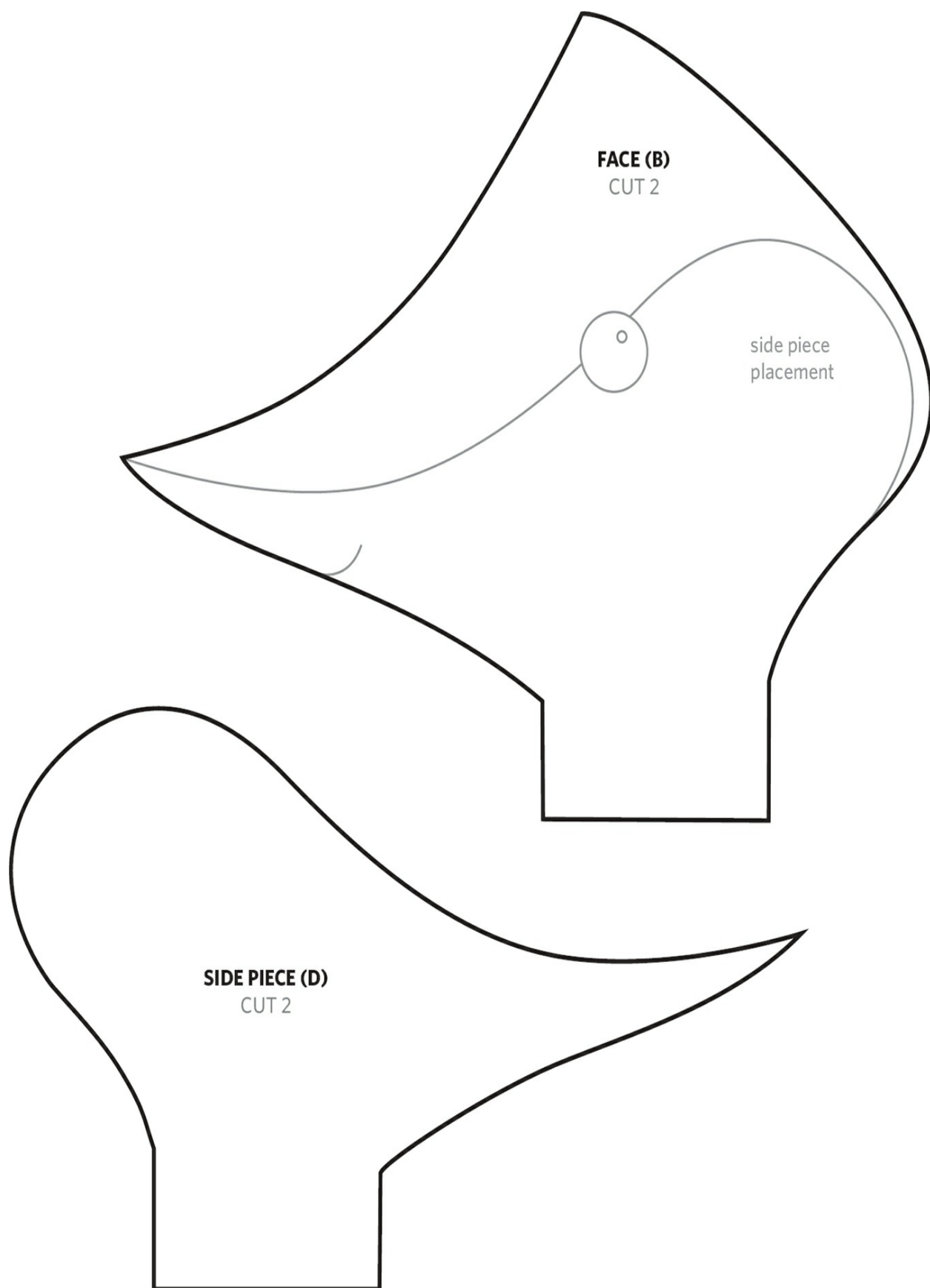


**MADELINE FOX**

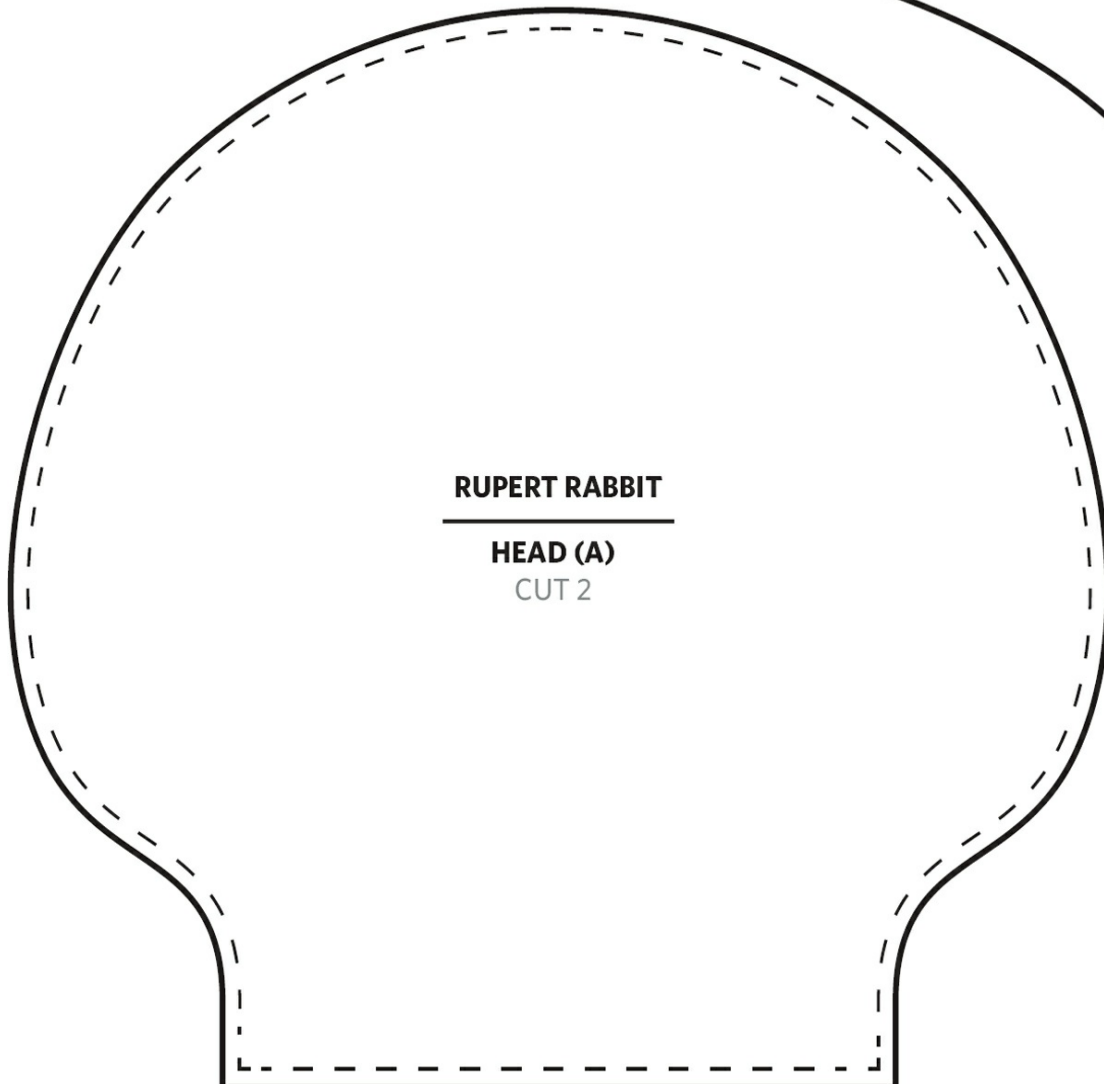
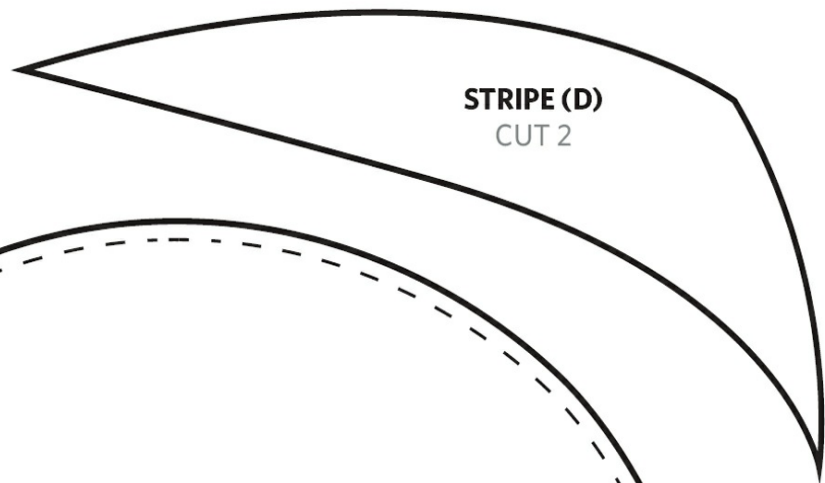
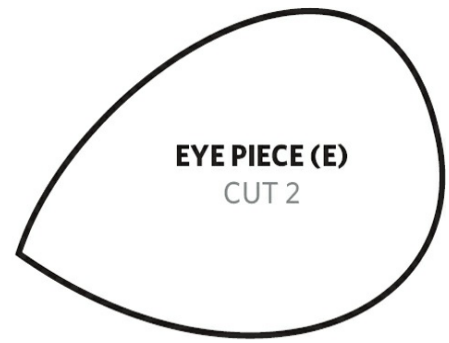




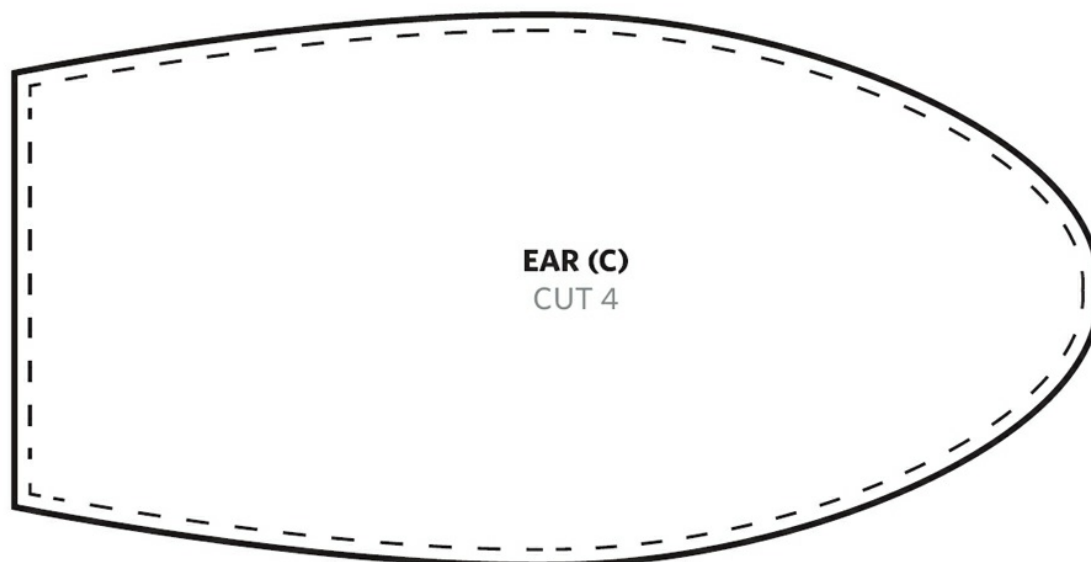
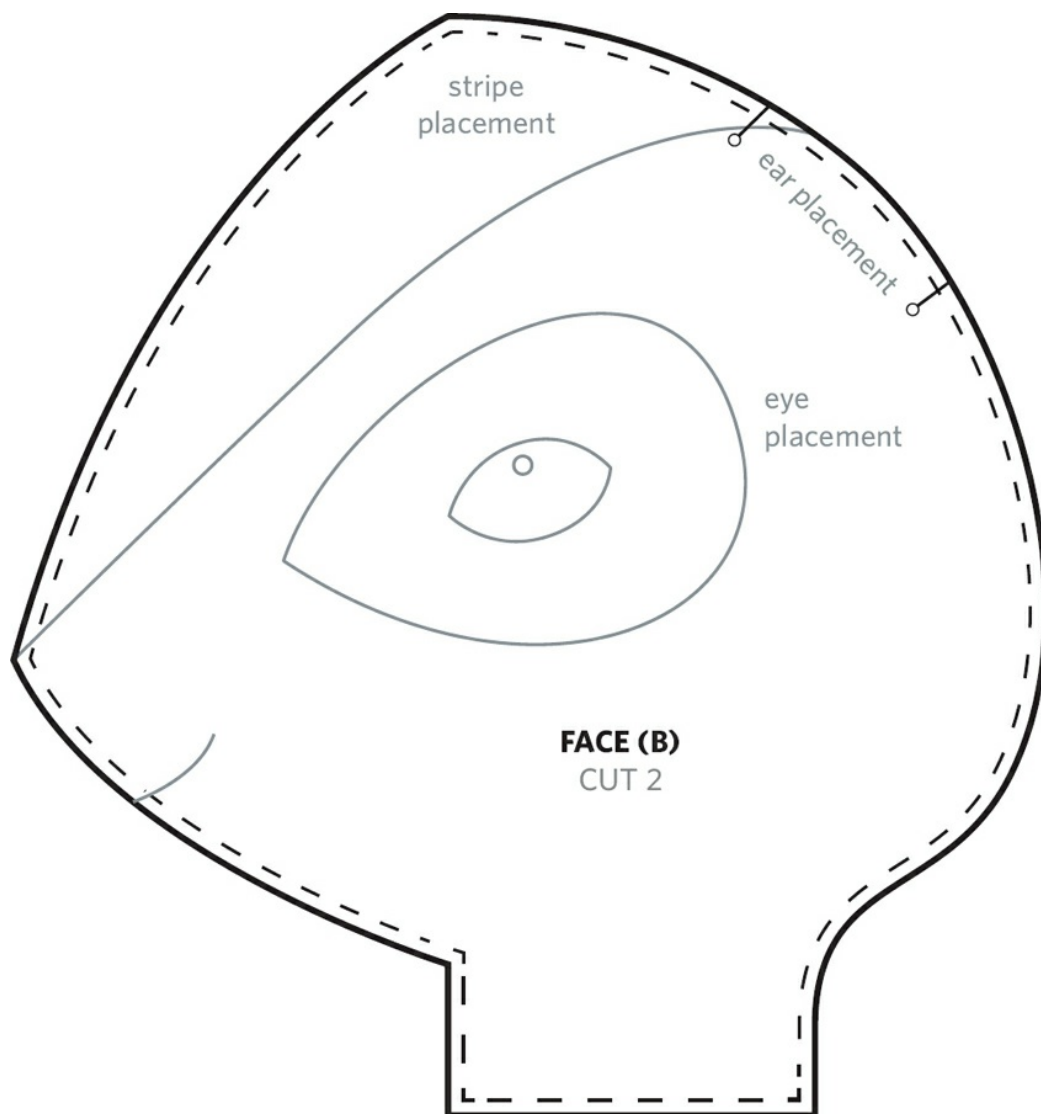




# RUPERT RABBIT

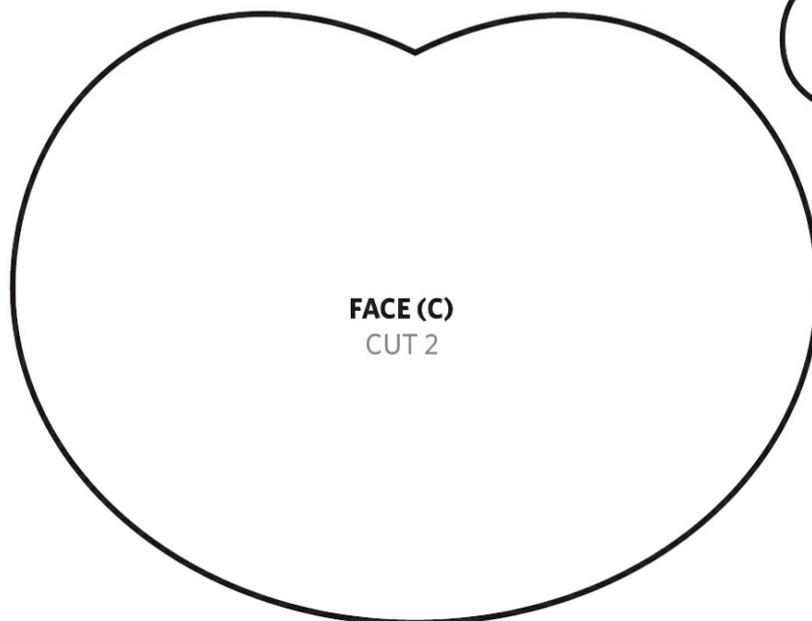
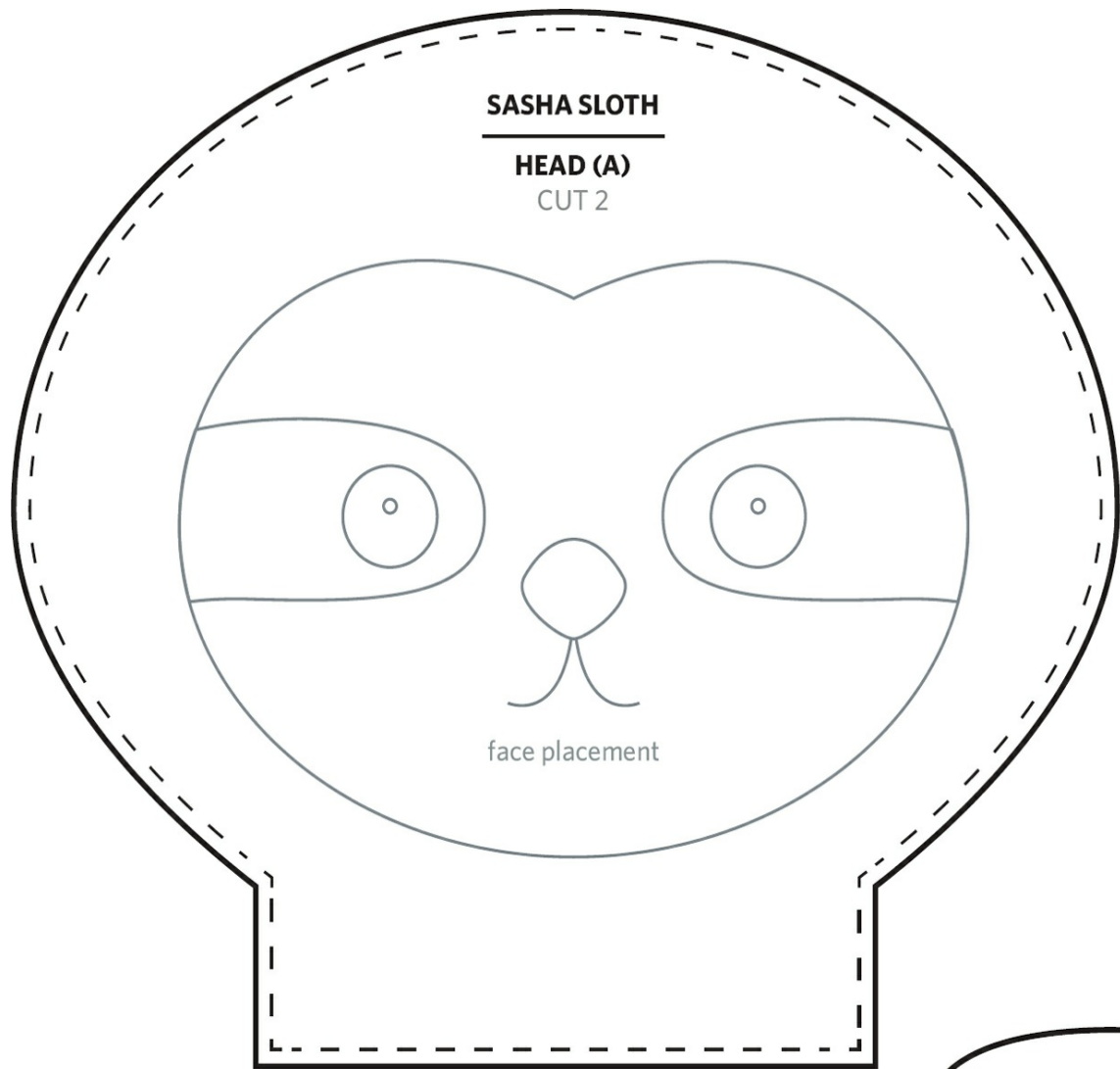




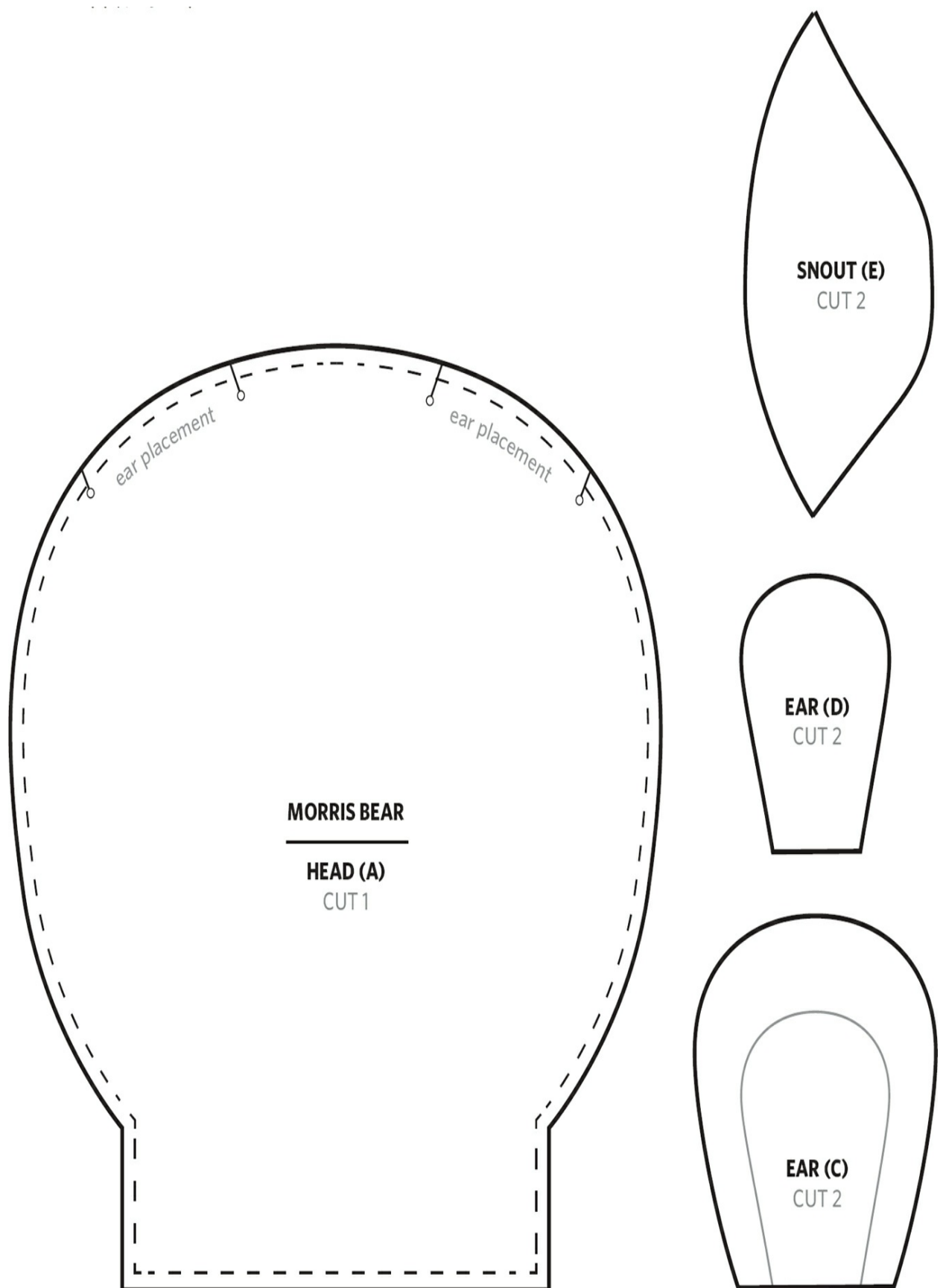




# SASHA SLOTH



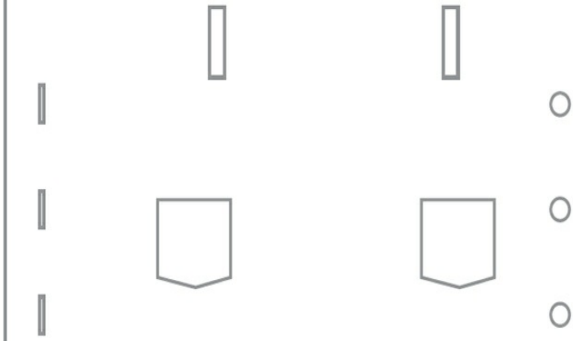
# MORRIS BEAR





10.75" x 7.5" (27 x 19 cm)

MAIN COAT (F)  
FOR PLACEMENT REFERENCE ONLY



trim line

**SLEEVES (H)**  
CUT 2

**MORRIS BEAR**

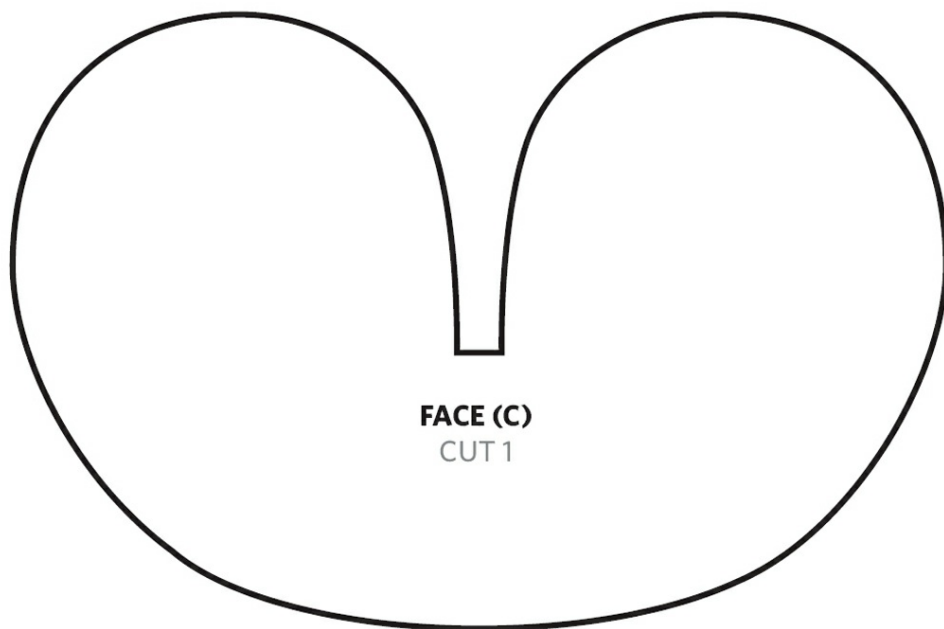
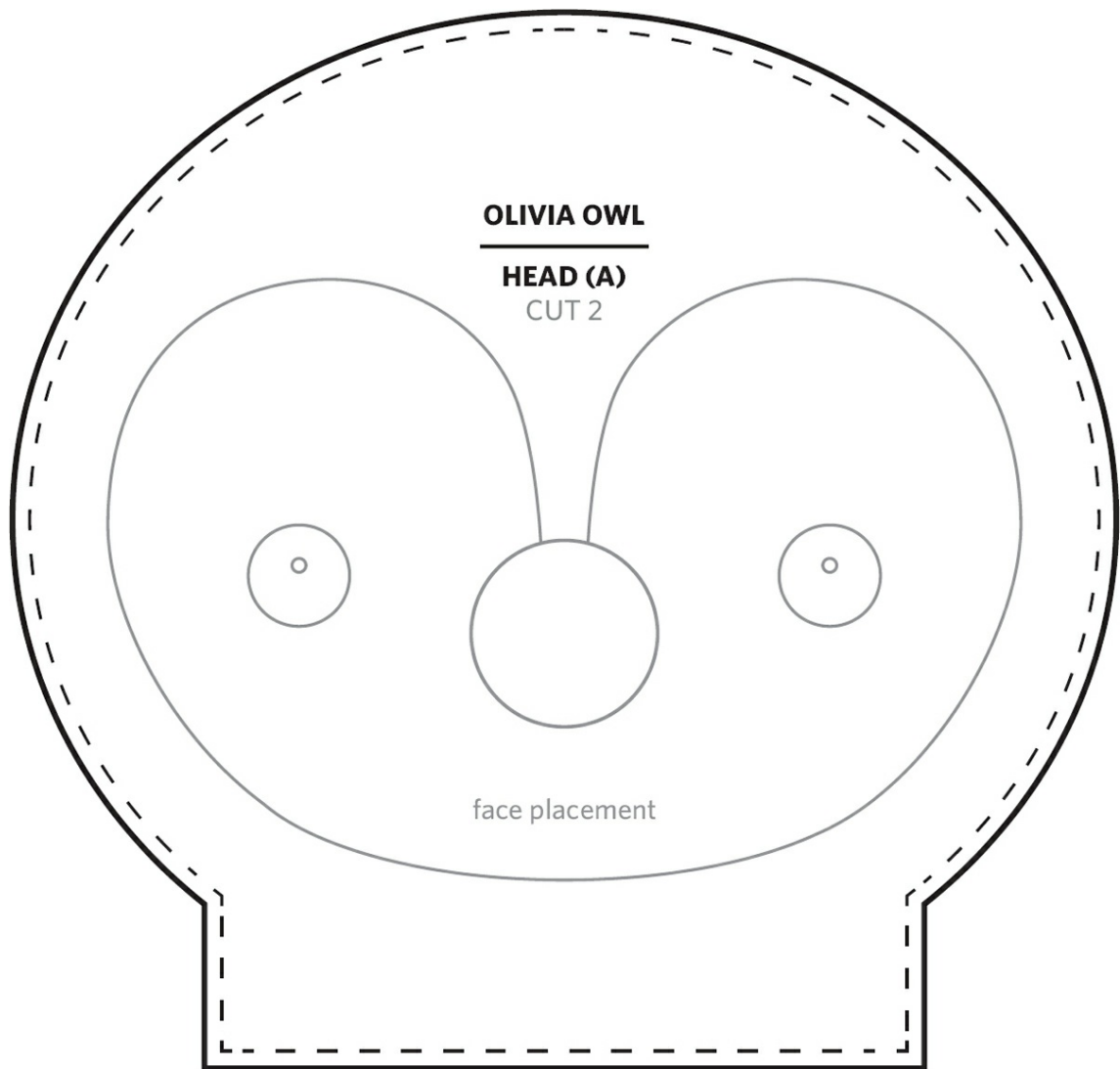
**FACE (B)**  
CUT 2

snout  
placement

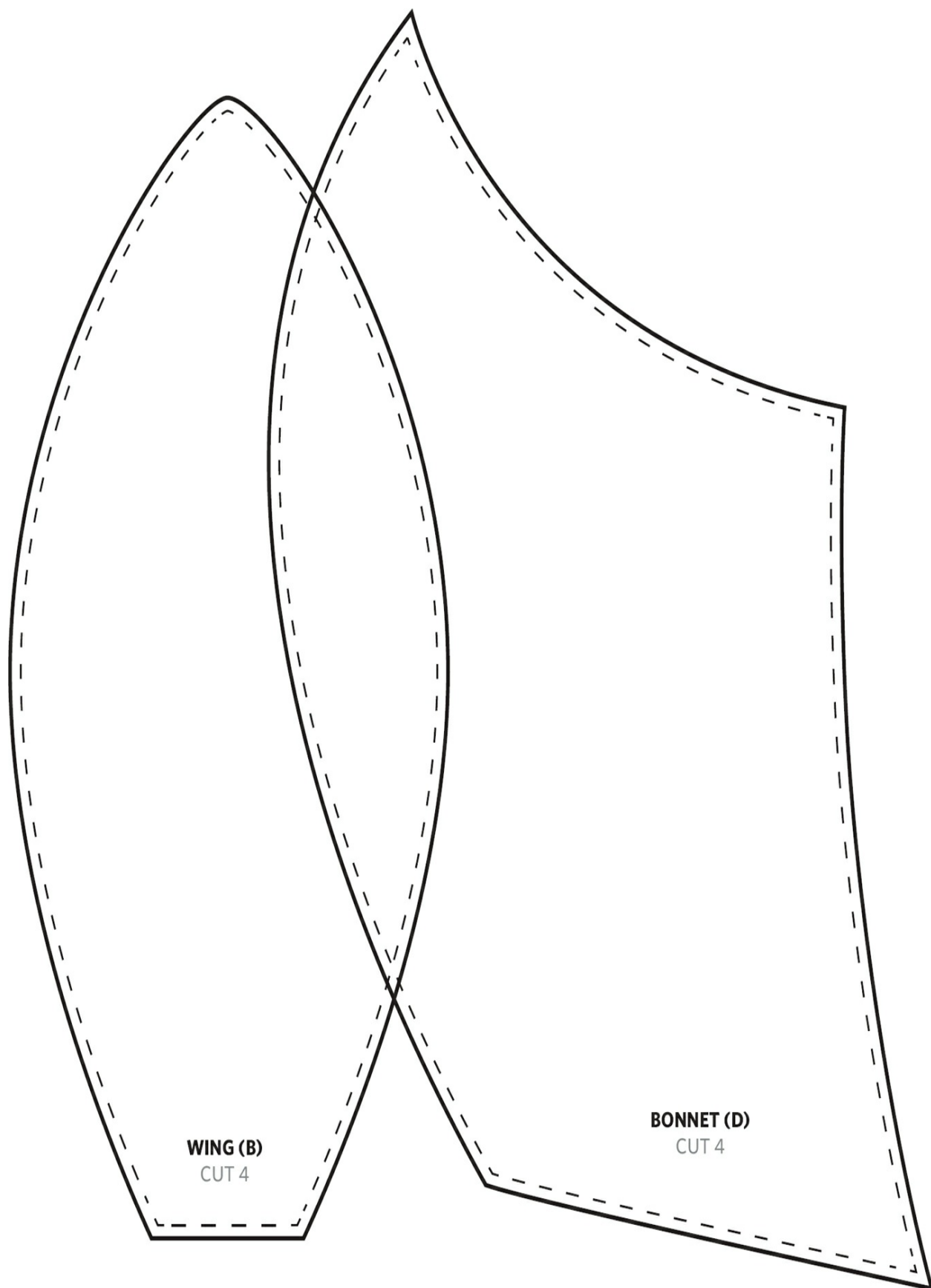
**POCKET (G)**  
CUT 2



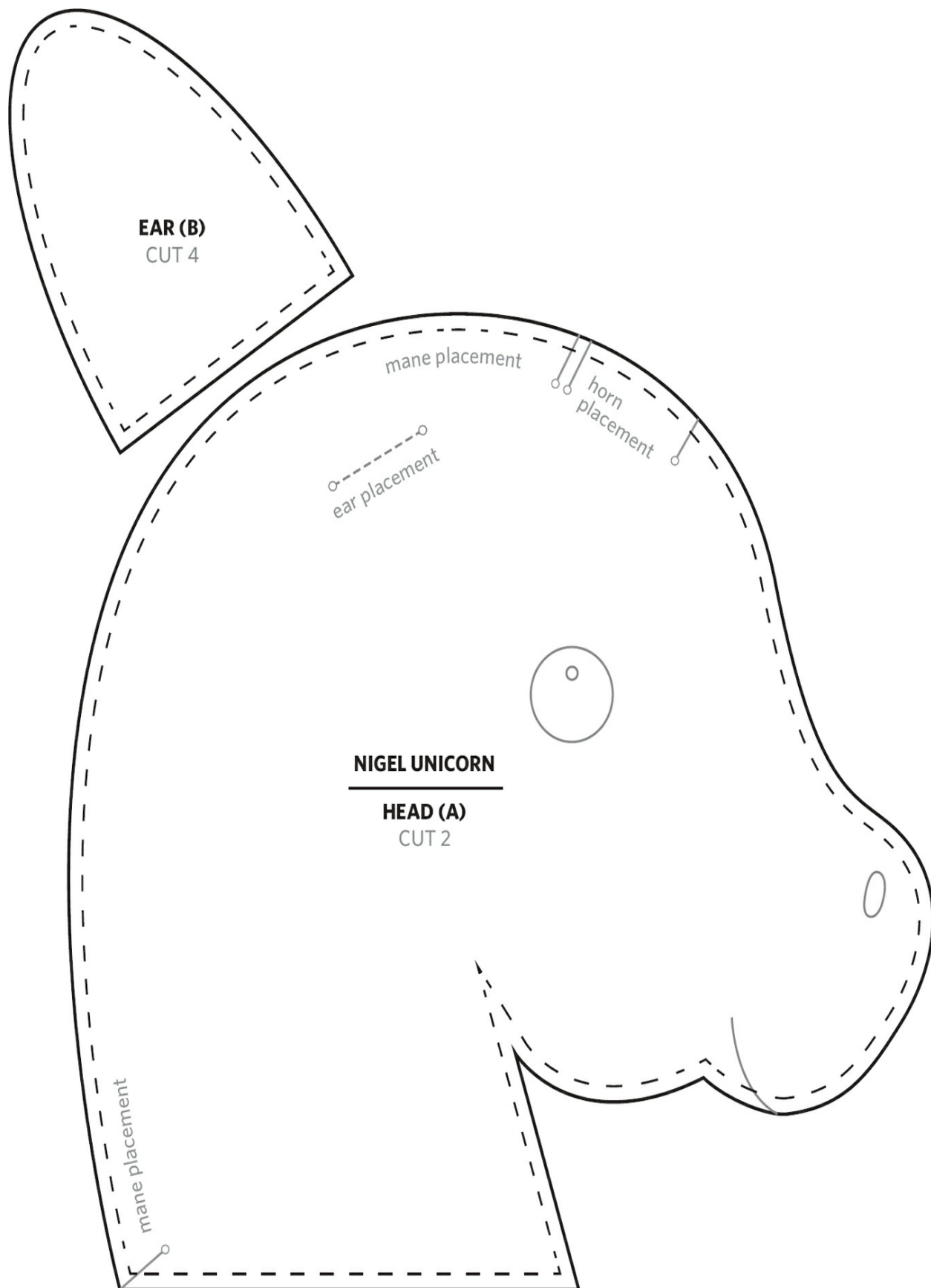
# OLIVIA OWL





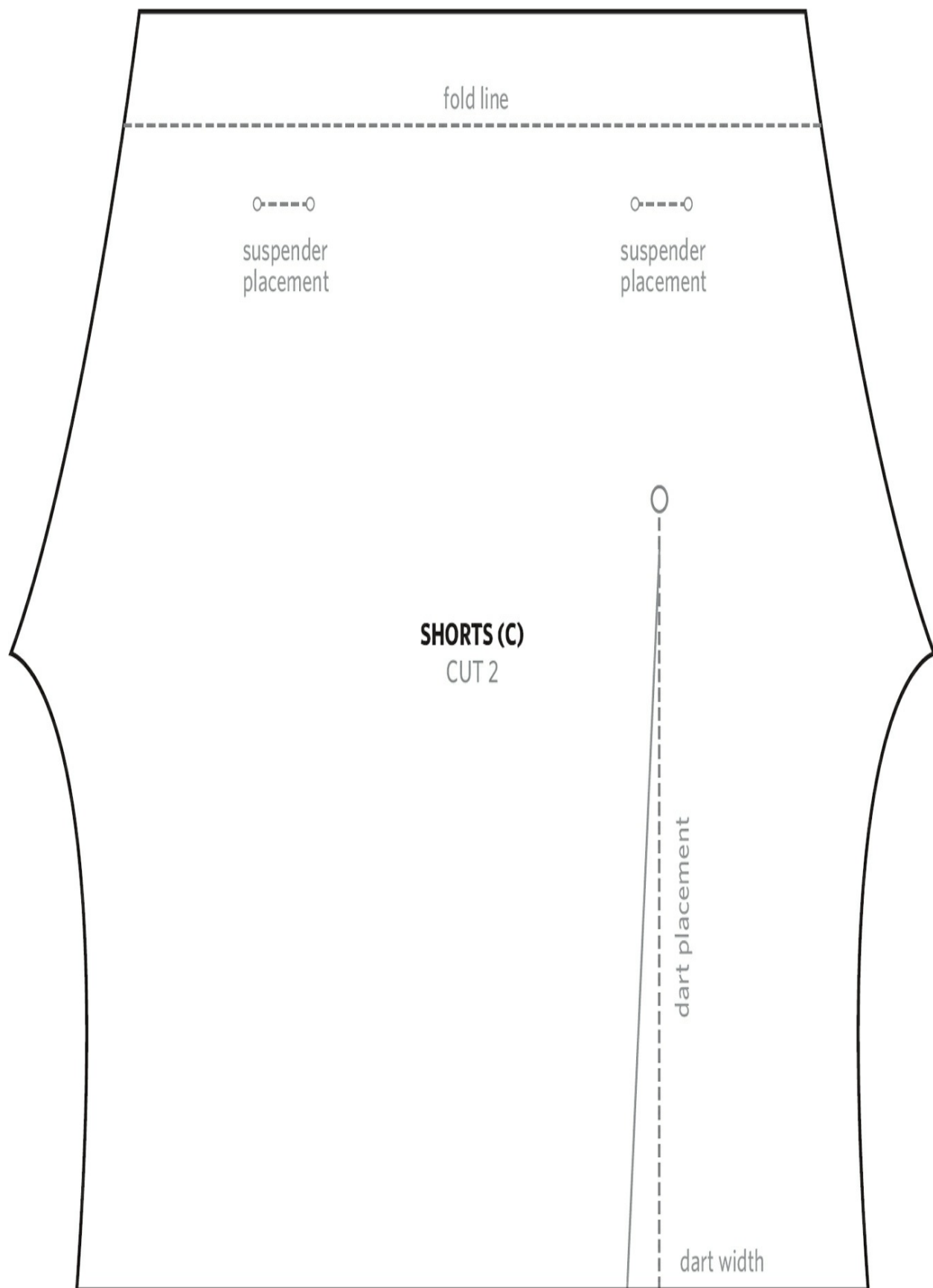


# NIGEL UNICORN













# MATERIALS SOURCE LIST

Here is a list of my favorite places to find doll-making materials.

## Felt

- [benziedesign.com](http://benziedesign.com)—amazing variety of wool-blend felt
- [etsy.com](http://etsy.com)—you can find numerous suppliers here

## Fabric

- [Melissalowry.com](http://Melissalowry.com)—fabrics used in the following projects are my own designs and available through my website: [Bernadette Whale](#), [Leonard Lion](#), [Emily Monkey](#), [Charlotte Cat](#), [Madeline Fox](#), [Sasha Sloth](#), [Morris Bear](#) and [Olivia Owl](#).
- [fabric.com](http://fabric.com)
- [fridaysoff.ca](http://fridaysoff.ca)
- [ohlookfabric.com](http://ohlookfabric.com)
- [spoonflower.com](http://spoonflower.com)
- [joann.com](http://joann.com)
- [michaels.com](http://michaels.com)
- [hobbylobby.com](http://hobbylobby.com)

## Needle-Felting Supplies

- [feltalive.com](http://feltalive.com)—the most comfortable felting needles for my hands.
- [etsy.com/shop/zavesfelt](http://etsy.com/shop/zavesfelt)—they carry the best quality Corridale wool I've worked with—lots of colors as well.
- [fibrecraft.ca](http://fibrecraft.ca)

- [feltingsupplies.livingfelt.com](http://feltingsupplies.livingfelt.com)
- [etsy.com](http://etsy.com)—you can find numerous suppliers here
- [michaels.com](http://michaels.com)
- [deserres.ca](http://deserres.ca)



# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This book wouldn't have been possible if it wasn't for the support of my husband and family. Thanks to my husband for being my sounding board, for keeping me in check when I had doubts and for reminding me of my purpose. To my mom and mother-in-law, for taking care of the kids so I could work on this book.

Thank you to my friends who constantly cheered me on and gave me feedback. I'm super grateful for my friend Lorrie Everitt and her constant support and guidance throughout my creative journey. Her help and creative input during the styled shoot was much appreciated! Thanks to Charlotte Madge for being an amazing model. Thanks to Christina Taptelis who helped me name the animals and took this job very seriously (as she should!) and Mayra Sorc for helping me develop my character stories. Janet Kwan, thank you for following us around in the woods taking some beautiful photographs.

The biggest thank you to Page Street Publishing for reaching out to me and allowing me to keep my dolls alive. To my editor, Rebecca Fofonoff, for her advice and direction throughout the process.

## **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**







Melissa is a graphic designer, illustrator and event planner who is passionate about all things handmade. She is originally from Monterrey, Mexico, and is deeply influenced by its rich culture and history. She currently lives in Milton, Ontario, with her husband, Tom, twin boys, Wesley and Elliott, and two cats, Milo and Benjamin.

Always having a passion for the visual arts, Melissa received an honours bachelor's degree in graphic design from the joint program at York University and Sheridan College. She pursued her passion for handmade crafts with her first business Milo&Ben, creating sewn and needle-felted animals based on her illustrations. After winding down Milo&Ben, Melissa regained her love for illustration and pattern design. Designing patterns and working with various crafts and mediums has become her passion.

Melissa is also the founder of Makeology, a growing community of artisans that supports makers and small business owners.

Melissa currently enjoys documenting her own process of making. You can find her and her current projects on Instagram @melissalowrydesign. Please tag her and @handmadeanimaldolls during your animal-making journey!

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