



IMPORTANT: This project is not for beginners, and if you have never made stuffed animals and are not familiar with patterns, I would recommend you to start with a more simple project and attempt this teddy bear once you have the skills and patience to put together pattern pieces and are familiar with your sewing machine (if you are not fully hand-stitching it). I have added extra instruction and updated this post Feb 20th 2012. So hopefully now it will be easier for all of you to follow. I have no extra instructions or images but what I am sharing here. I am unable to give personalized help with this project, Thank you for understanding!

First you need the pattern in the back of this PDF:

Click HERE to go there now.

(I printed my pattern on cardboard so that way the process of tracing to the fabric will be easier.)

Once you have all of the pieces of the pattern printed you are ready to start!

MATERIALS:

- 1 yard of fabric for the body (I used cream color fleece*)
- 1/2 yard of fabric for the color details (I used light brown)
- 1 set of animal eyes 18mm
- small piece of felt for the nose
- Stuffing material (I used polyester filling)
- Sewing machine or thread and needle for hand-stitching
- * You can use normal hairy fur fabric too, I used fleece because these are for a little boy and girl, so I wanted the bears to be as soft as possible =)

THE PROCESS:

[Click on image to enlarge]



First you need to trace all of your pieces on the fabric. Cut out all pieces adding a 1/4 inch seam allowance.

Note: If you are doing a two-toned bear, as shown, you will need contrasting fabric and these pieces will be used: #1 (ear, 2 only), #2 (forehead), #4 (mouth), #8 (arm front, hand) and #15 (feet bottom).



For all of those pieces that say you need "2, 1 reverse" after tracing the front, turn the pattern and trace the second piece. Cut out the pattern and pin on to your fabric. When only one piece is necessary (#2, forehead and #4 mouth) place pattern on right side of fabric.

HEAD ASSEMBLY: Pieces #1-5

- Sew ear (contrasting) pieces (#1) right sides together, leaving straight portion open. Turn right side out.
- Sew forehead (#2) and side head (#3) together making sure ears are in place (A2), see picture.
- Attach mouth (#4) to forehead piece matching "B" and center.
- Sew mouth center seam to close.
- Sew center seam of back of head (#5).
- Attach head back to front making sure ears are pinned in place (A1) and center of forehead matches the center seam.
- Turn head right side out



I recommend to start with the ears, once you have them done attach them to the front and side part of the face.



Repeat and make sure the color of the ears is on the inside part.



After attaching the back, proceed to sew the mouth, first to the head piece and after that sew the front.

Front body assembly: Pieces #6-10

- Sew belly (#6) center seam.
- Attach hand front (#7) to arm front #(8)
- Attach leg top (#9) to foot top (#10)
- Connect leg and arm pieces to belly according to letters on pattern, making sure the outside edge of the leg is on the outside (this can be an easy mistake).



Then sew the body as marked on the pattern.



Sew the arms before attaching to the body, then pin the parts to make sure everything fits properly.

Back body assembly: Pieces #11-14

- Sew tail (#11), right sides together, leaving straight portion open. Turn right side out.
- Sew back (#12) center seam with tail in place.
- Sew bottom leg (#13) center seam together from point S to K.
- Attach bottom leg to back, matching letters on pattern.
- Attach arm back (#14) to back (#12), matching letters on pattern.
- Sew your front piece to the back piece leaving neck open and feet open.

Attach feet bottoms (#15) to leg openings, matching points Q and R to leg seams. Turn bear right side out.



Make sure you assemble the tail and place it before closing the back.



For the feet repeat the process and pin all the pieces together before sewing, sometimes it can be an overflow of fabric in this area depending on the kind of fabric you are using.



The body of your Teddy Bear is done!

Finish face details:

- Attach eyes
- Cut a nose out of felt, put in place and hand sew all around.
- Fold mouth as shown, pin and tack into place.
- Hand sew head to body with an invisible seam.



Proceed to attach the eyes, and pin the mouth to stitch it together.



I folded the very bottom of the mouth to shape a lip and then made two stitches on each side (Same place the pin is)



After that, mark his nose with a stitch from the lips to the nose, this is how the inside looks like after being done.



For mine I used a piece of felt to shape the nose, sew all the way around and your Teddy Bear's face is done.

Sew the head and the body together: What I did was, I sew the back of the neck and the back of the head first, I place them with the wrong sides to the outside (before stuffing, so you can fold them inside out easily) and sew all of the back of the head to the back body piece, then turned the bear inside out (right side facing out) stuff the bear and hand-sew the rest trying to make the stitch as hided as possible.

If you finish without any trouble, pad yourself on the back because YOU ROCK! The finished Teddy Bear is about 16" inches tall (From his bottom to his ears), so if you need it to be bigger or smaller you can enlarge or scale down the pattern =]



EXTRA TIPS:

Some of the best hints I can share:

- Each pattern piece is labeled with a letter (and in some cases with a letter and number), so take each step in alphabetical/numerical order. As the instructions state, start with the ear first, this is pattern piece "A".
- Keep your pattern pieces handy so you can refer back to them for placement during the process.
- Different parts need to be attached to each other, so letters need to be matched up together.
- If you already cut your pieces without adding seam allowance, it's not a big deal, it will just be a tiny bit smaller.
- If you want to make a smaller or bigger bear, use a copy-machine make the pattern bigger or smaller, magic!! =]
- Are you using a sewing machine? If you are, then know that some of the sewing involved will be too hard to do on the machine and will need to be hand stitched. With sewing experience you will know when this is necessary.
- This is NOT a beginner project so in order to avoid the frustration, try something easier before attempting this =]



For the Bears I made for our photographer's babies, I changed the pattern a little bit and made different backs. So that they could use their bears as a backpack for the little girl, and for stuff pijamas for the little boy =] I am super happy of how they end up, so I just hope they like it as much as I do hehe



you can see in the top image that the pink it has ribbon strings that work as handles to be a backpack and the brown has buttons that make a pouch for the pijamas =] If you want to see all the rest of the pictures for the two very special bears, you should visit this post.

Hope you enjoy this project! It's very fun!

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