DelilahIris DESIGNS

FELT DEER SEWING PATTERN

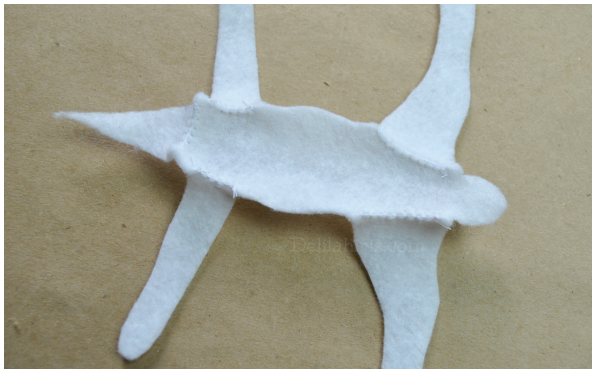


Recommended Tools And Supplies:

felt
toy stuffing
doll eyes or embroidery thread
wire or pipe cleaners
needle and thread
small scissors

Make Your Own Family of Felt Stuffed Deer

Begin by cutting all of your felt pieces as directed by the last page of the pattern. The easiest way to cut felt is with a small sharp pair of scissors. For the greatest precision you could choose to trace the pattern pieces onto the felt, iron some wax paper to the felt then trace onto that and cut, or tape the pattern pieces to the felt with some wide clear tape, cutting through both tape and felt simultaneously.

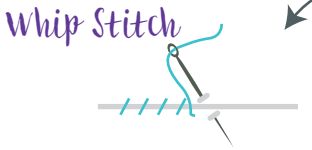


Step One!

Cut all of the pattern pieces from felt. The underbody pieces are meant to be cut on the fold as indicated by the pattern pieces.

To begin cut the darts from the tops of the legs and front of the underbody piece, then sew those edges back together as shown in the figure to the left.

DEER TUTORIAL CONTINUED...



I like to use the blanket stitch or whip stitch for sewing my felties!





Step Two

Trim the outer edges of the ear as indicated by the gray lines on the pattern pieces. Fold the edges of the ears inward and place a stitch or two to hold them into place.

Install doll eyes or sew in eyes with embroidery thread. I've installed 3mm safety eyes as shown. To install safety eyes poke a hole where you would like to install the eye. Place the eye post through the hole and fit a washer over the post from the inside of the felt, holding the eye in place.

Step Three

Match the under body piece to one of the main body pieces. Pin in place and begin sewing starting your stitching at the back tip of the tail and ending at the chest of the deer.

Pin the opposite Main Body piece in place. Begin sewing again at the top of the deer about 3/4 of the way down the back. Stitch the edges together moving towards the tail, past both legs and up the front of the chest once again. Continue sewing up to the face.





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DEER TUTORIAL CONTINUED...



Step Four

Next we'll insert wire into the legs for armature support. I like to use pipe cleaners as they are easy to work with and inexpensive.

Fold the wire in half and open again. Hold it in place so that the middle of the wire is matched to the middle of the deer's body.
Fold the ends of the wire up at the ends making it just long enough to insert down to the feet.
Bend the wire inward at the top of the legs.
Insert the wire into the body of the deer pushing it down into the legs. Do this for both sets of legs.

Step Five

To return to the stitching, match the front of face piece to one side of the deer's face and stitch into place. Switch to a running stitch across the ears, continuing to the end of the front face piece. Return back to the front of the face and stitch the opposite side of the face into place, stopping just behind the ear, but do not tie off the thread just yet.

Use the opening to stuff the inside of the deer. Start by stuffing all four legs. The best way to stuff the legs is to insert small bits of stuffing at a time and pushing them into place with a stuffing tool (or something simple like a dowel or chop stick). Stuff the head and body after the legs.





Continue sewing once again from the back of the ear towards the back of the deer. When there is only a small opening left use it to stuff the rest of the body. Sew the opening shut.



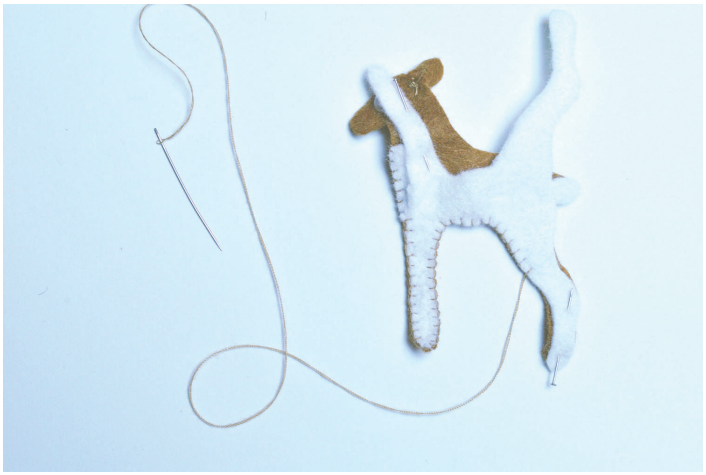
Next, to make the baby deer. These are made almost exactly the same way but at much smaller scale and ommiting the darts on the underside of the legs.

Begin by installing eyes and adding spots. To add the spots simply add scattered tiny stitched with embroidery thread. Trim the bottom of each ear by about a 1/4" on both sides. Fold the edges of the ear inward and place a stitch to hold the fold in place.





Match one side of the fawn body piece to the underside, pinning at the legs. Begin sewing the two pieces together beginning at the tip of the tail and ending at the chest.





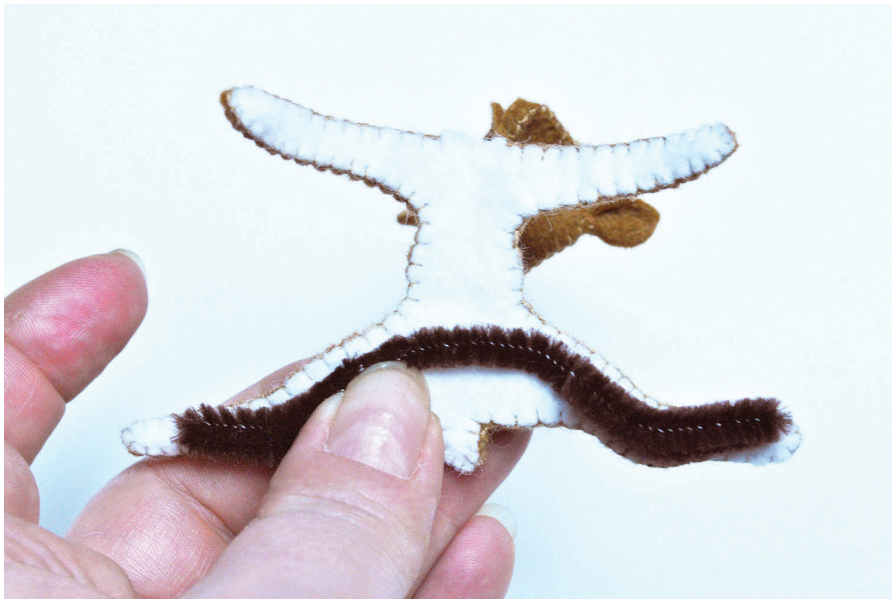
Match the opposite side of the body to the underside. Begin sewing at the top back about 1/2" an inch from the tail. Sew moving towards the back, down the back leg and past both legs. When you reach the chest continue on sewing the two body pieces together at the neck and head.

Attach the front face piece at the bottom of the face and stitch to one side of the body.





Begin stuffing the legs, just at the bottoms, by pushing very small bits of toy stuffing into the legs with a toothpick. The trick is to ball up small bits so they are easier to push into the skinny legs.



Cut some wire to the length of the legs and fold the ends up about 1/4" so that it will not catch when sliding into the legs. Insert the folded wire into each of the legs. Stuff the remainder of the leg with bits of stuffing filling the legs to the top.

Begin stitching the opposite side of the face onto the body. When you reach the bottom of the neck, stuff the face full, then into the front of the body. Continue stitching until there is only about a 1/4 - 1/2" opening left. Stuff the body completely full. Sew the opening shut.

