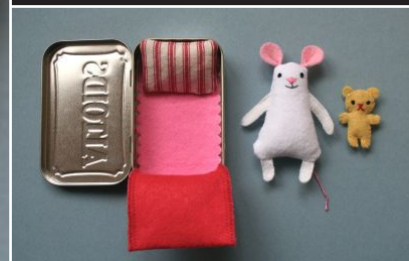




Make and take a tiny friend with you wherever you go!



This pattern is written for folks who have some basic sewing and embroidery experience, and who are familiar with common sewing terms. Ready? Ok!

To make this pattern you need:

- One empty, clean and dry 1.76 oz Altoids Curiously Strong Mints® tin
- 6 x 4 inch scrap of cotton corduroy OR cotton annel for mouse body
- scraps of coordinating wool felt or wool-blend felt for mouse ears, arms and legs
- 4 x 3 inch scrap of striped cotton ticking for mouse pillow
- scraps of coordinating wool felt or wool-blend felt for blanket and mattress
- scrap of wool felt or wool blend felt for mouse's teddy bear
- Air soluble fabric marker for pattern tracing
- Coordinating embroidery loss for eyes, nose, mouth and tail.
- Coordinating sewing thread
- Fabri-Tac or similar type of fabric glue
- Poly st u n g
- Scraps of freezer paper for tracing and sewing
- Optional pinking or scallop shears for mattress

Please Note:

- Don't be afraid of tiny! I've included lots of tips for easy construction. You can do it!
- This pattern is for a toy with very small parts that may pose a choking hazard. I do not recommend making this for any child under the age of three.
- I recommend you read through the pattern before you start to cut.
- Seam allowances are included in the pattern pieces and all seam allowances are **1/4 inch**, unless noted.
- Always backstitch at the beginning and end of your machine stitching to secure the seams, unless otherwise noted.
- This pattern uses freezer paper to aid in sewing tiny pieces. Be sure to use a medium temperature to iron the freezer paper to the wool felt.
- **RST** = Right Sides Together
- Check the Resources section at the end of the pattern for helpful vendor and technique links.

Wee Mouse Tin House

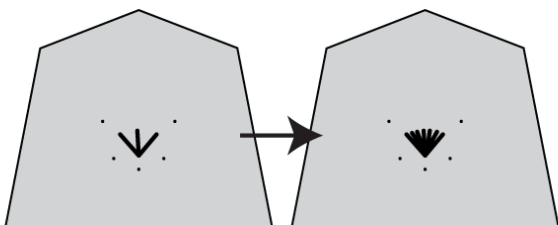
By Larissa Holland, mmmcrafts.blogspot.com

Get Started:

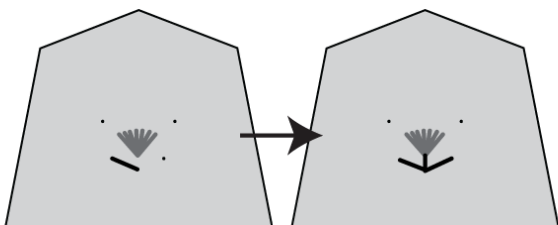
1. Print pattern pieces on card stock. Cut out the body, pillow, blanket and mattress pattern pieces. Leave the rest of the pattern pieces uncut.
2. Use a large needle to poke holes in the body pattern piece at the tail, eyes, nose and corners of the mouth so that when you are tracing the body pieces you can mark the face on one and tail placement on the other through the holes.

Make The Face:

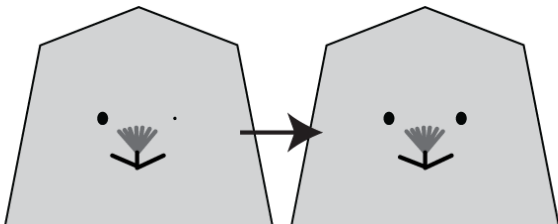
3. Using the air soluble marker, trace and cut out two body pieces from corduroy orannel. On the front body piece, embroider the nose using a satin stitch* and three strands ofloss.



4. Embroider the mouth using three stitches and three strands ofloss.

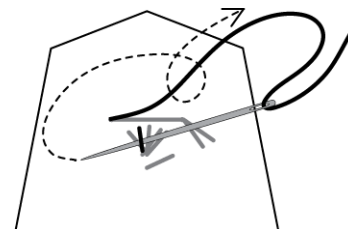


5. Embroider the eyes using two french knots* and four strands ofloss.



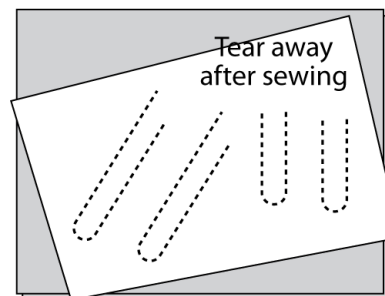
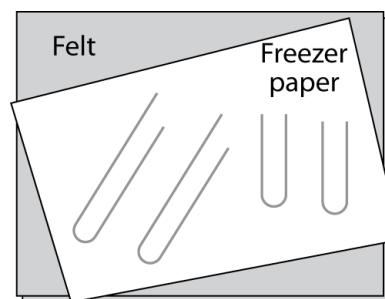
TIP: When you are done embroidering in each color, knot your thread on the wrong side of the fabric by bringing your needle under an already existing stitch and then bring your needle back through the loop you just created before you tighten the stitch to create a knot, then repeat. Trim the ends. See diagram.

*See Resources section for embroidery link

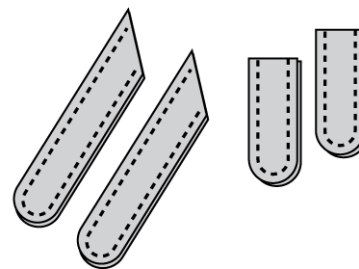


Make The Arms And Legs:

6. Trace two arms and two legs onto the dull side of a scrap of freezer paper. Gently iron the freezer paper (shiny side down) to wool felt. Pin another layer of wool felt underneath. Sew directly on your lines through the paper and both layers of felt with a small stitch length. Gently tear away the freezer paper.



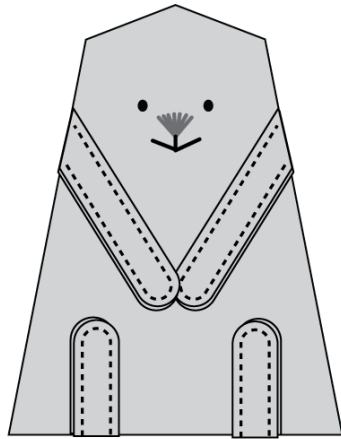
7. Using small, sharp scissors, trim around the arms and legs a scant 1/16 inch from the stitching.



8. Use dots of fabric glue in the seam allowance to position the arms and legs on the front body piece.

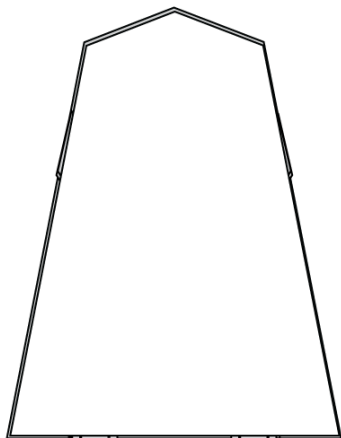
Wee Mouse Tin House

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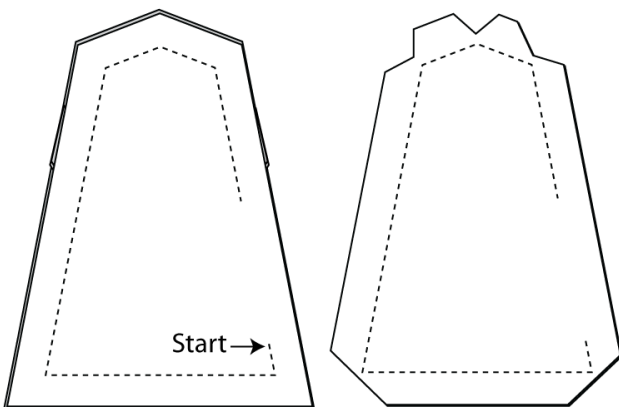


Sew It All Together:

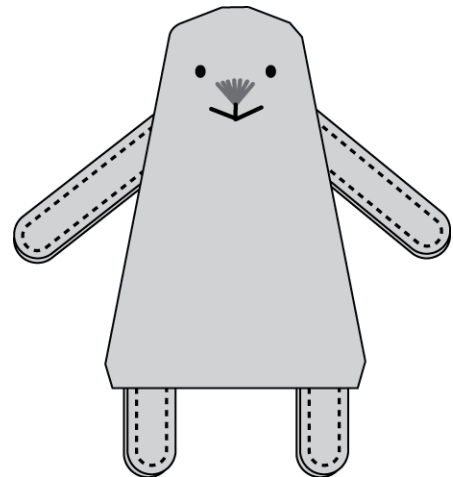
- Position the back body piece RST with the front body piece. Use small dots of fabric glue in the seam allowance to tack it together.



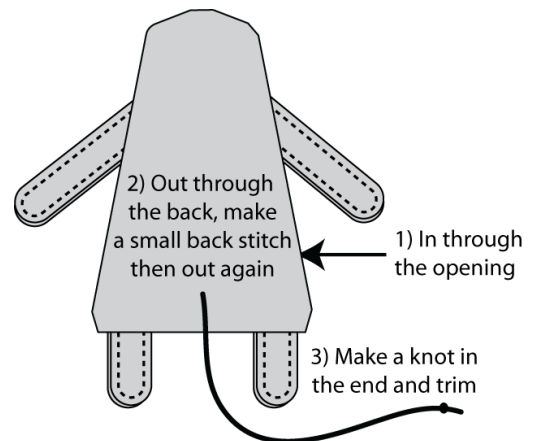
- Starting where shown, sew all the way around, leaving an opening for turning. Snip the corners.



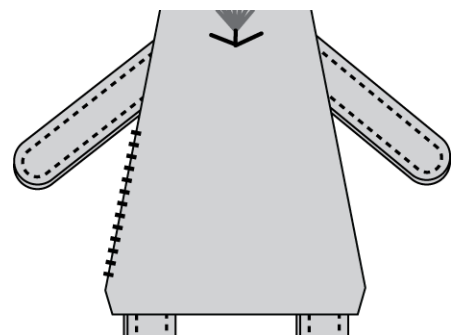
- Turn the mouse body through the opening. You can gently use a crochet needle or similar blunt point to help it through the hole and fluff it out.



- Stuff the body using a dowel to help place the stuffing in the head. Don't overstuff. And don't sew it closed just yet!
- Create a mouse tail with all six strands of embroidery floss. Stick your needle through the opening left for stuffing and come out at the spot marked for the tail. Sew one tiny backstitch underneath to keep the tail in place. Make a knot in the end of the tail and trim.

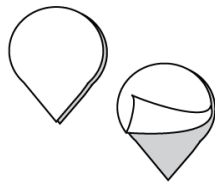
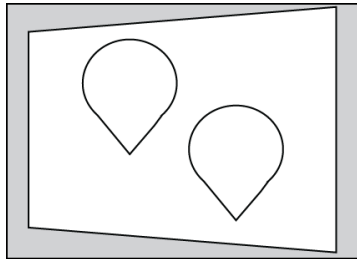


- Fold in the seam allowance on the opening and sew it closed using matching thread and either a whip stitch or a ladder stitch.

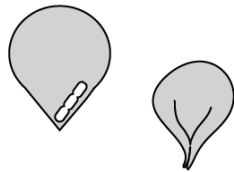


Attach The Ears:

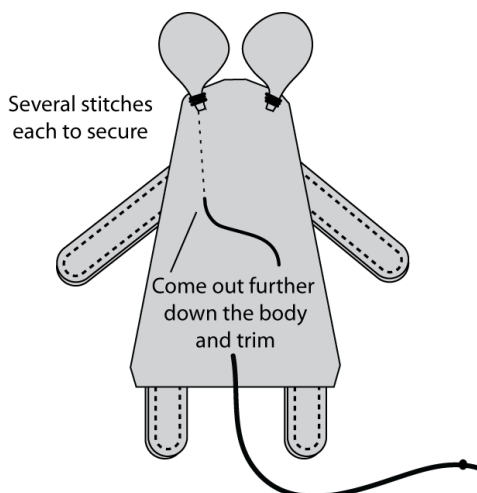
15. Trace two ears on the dull side of freezer paper. Gently iron the freezer paper (shiny side down) to the wool felt. Cut out the ears on the outline and peel away the freezer paper.



16. Put a dot of fabric glue along the edge of both ears as shown and fold them in half vertically.

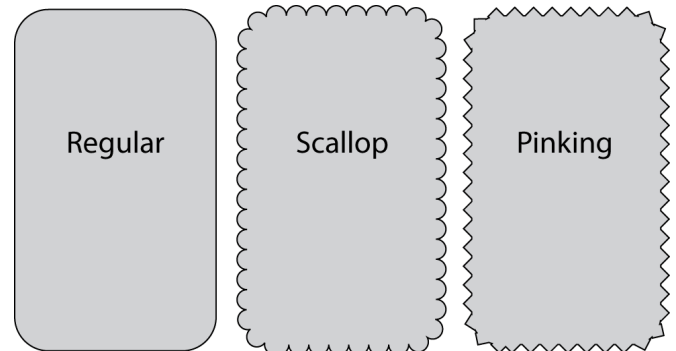


17. Tack them in place on the back of the mouse's head with two more dots of glue, then use matching thread or loss to sew them to the head. Hide the tail end of the thread by going in again at the side of the ear and coming back out midway down the body and trim the end. Your wee little mouse is finished!

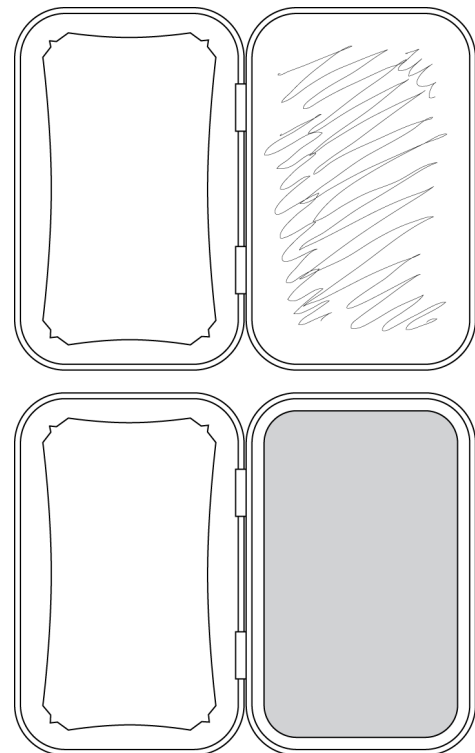


Make The Mouse Bed:

18. Trace the mattress piece on wool felt and cut it out using regular, scallop or pinking shears.



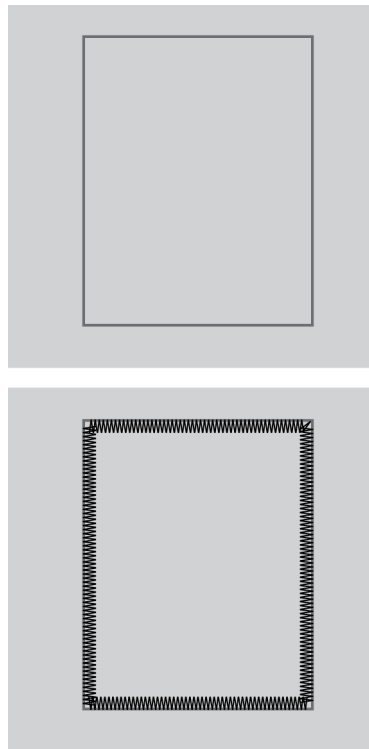
19. Rough up the bottom of the tin using a nail or the point of some scissors to scratch it. This will create a better bond with the glue. Glue the mattress securely to the bottom of the Altoids tin using Fabri-Tac.



20. Trace the blanket pattern piece on wool felt. Using matching or contrasting thread and a zig zag stitch (very short stitch length), sew all the way around your traced rectangle so that the outer edge of the zig zag falls on your line.

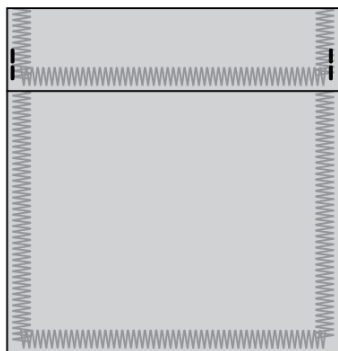
Wee Mouse Tin House

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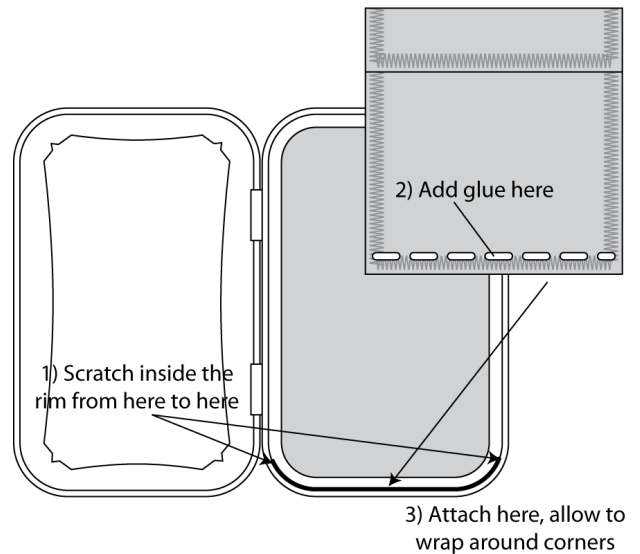


TIP: To turn corners neatly with a zig zag stitch, always end on the outer edge, not the inner edge. Leaving the needle down, turn the blanket and continue to sew.

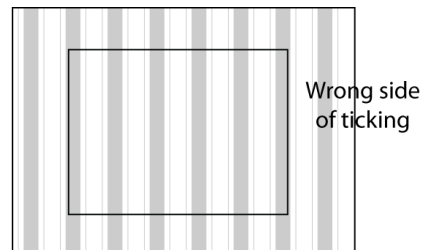
21. Trim out the blanket by cutting as closely to the stitching as you can but taking care to not cut the stitches themselves.
22. Fold over 1/2 inch of the top of the blanket, iron, and tack down on either edge with one or two stitches.



23. Scratch up the inside bottom rim of the Altoid tin to prepare it for glueing. Glue about 1/4 inch of the bottom edge of the blanket to the inside end of the Altoid tin, allowing it to wrap slightly around the corners of the tin.



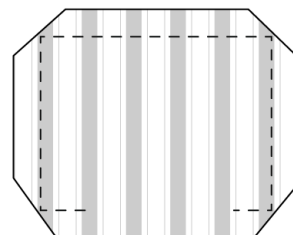
24. Trace the pillow piece on the wrong side of a scrap of cotton ticking with the stripes running parallel to the short side.



25. Lining up the stripes, place it RST with another scrap of ticking and pin. Sew directly on your line all the way around, leaving the opening for turning as shown.



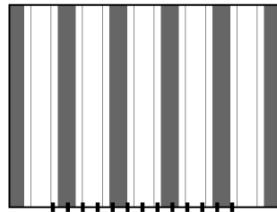
26. Trim it out with 1/4 inch allowance all the way around. Snip all four corners.



Wee Mouse Tin House

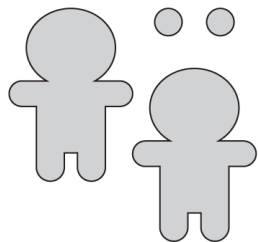
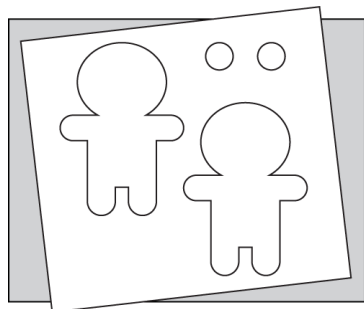
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- Turn it right side out and gently push out the corners using a crochet needle or cap of a pen.
- Stu it **lightly**. You don't want it to be tightly stu ed at all, just very squishy.
- Fold in the seam allowance and hand sew the opening closed using matching thread and a whip stitch or ladder stitch. You just nished the mouse's bed! Tuck him in. Wait, he needs his bear so he'll have good dreams.



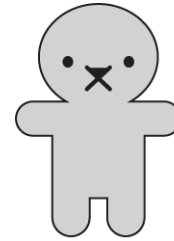
Make Wee Mouse An Even Teeny Tinier Teddy Bear (Aw!):

- Trace the outline of the teddy bear and ears twice on the dull side of freezer paper. Iron the freezer paper shiny side down to wool felt. Use small, sharp scissors to cut out the teddy bear and ear shapes. Peel o the freezer paper.

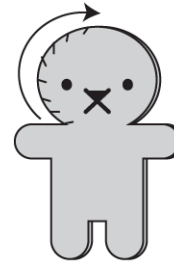


- Embroider a bear face on one of the bear body pieces using four strands of loss and a french knot* for each eye. Using two strands of loss, stitch an X for the nose and mouth and ll in the nose with one or two additional stitches.

*See Resources section for embroidery link



- Using matching loss, whip stitch the bear pieces wrong sides together starting with the neck and going around the head.



- Once you get around the head to the other side of the neck, stop stitching for a moment and push a tiny amount of stu ng into the head through the neck. Keep whip stitching around the arm and then around both legs. Pause to push a small amount of stu ng into the belly and then continue stitching until the whole bear is sewn together. Take a couple extra stitches to secure and then go in again and come back out at the spot for one of the ears.



- Stitch the ears on the back of the head with a single stitch repeated a few times. Hide the end of the loss by going inside the body on the last stitch and out further down the bear. Trim the end. Your teeny little bear is nished! Now tuck in Wee Mouse with his little friend.



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Resources:

WOOL FELT: If you are looking for a source, I've had great experiences with all of the below:

<http://www.feltonthey.etsy.com/>
100% wool felts, domestic and international shipping

<http://www.etsy.com/shop/BenzieBazaar>
wool felt blends, domestic and international shipping

<http://www.prairiepointjunction.com/12x18.html>
wool felt blends, domestic shipping only

EMBROIDERY STITCHES: If you would like to brush up on the basic embroidery stitches, a great resource is: <http://www.sublimestitching.com/stitches>
I've included some photos of how to do a french knot to the right.

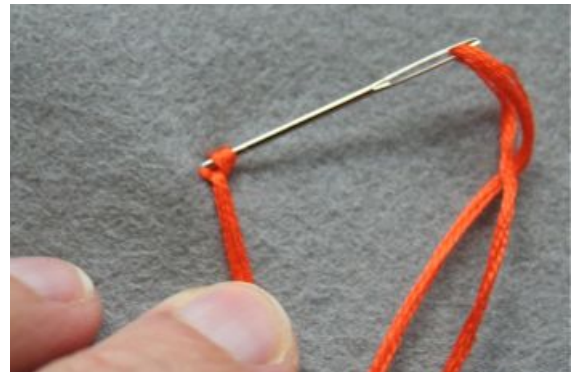
Find a mistake? Great care has been taken to provide an accurate pattern, but if you should find a mistake I'd appreciate it if you would contact me at: me@larissaholland.com

FRENCH KNOT:

1. Come up where you want the knot and wrap your thread around the needle twice.



2. Pull the thread tight around the needle as you go back in very close to where you came up.



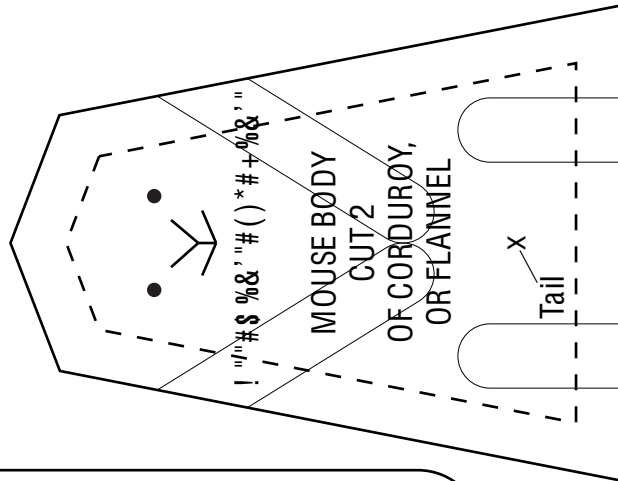
3. Pull taut and you have a cute little round knot.



! " " # \$ % & ' " # () * # + % & ' "

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Cut these patterns pieces out.
See instructions for details.



! " " # \$ % & ' " # () * # + % & ' "

BLANKET

Do not cut material.
See instructions.

! " " # \$ % & ' " # () * # + % & ' "

MATTRESS

CUT 1

OF WOOL FELT

USE SCALLOP
OR PINKING SHEARS
IF DESIRED

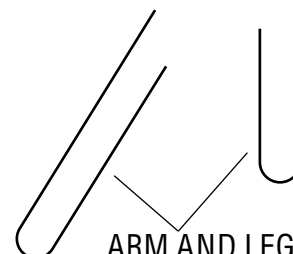
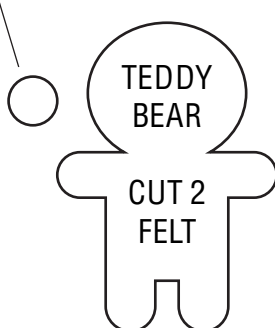
! " " # \$ % & ' " # () * # + % & ' "

PILLOW

Do not cut material.
See instructions.

Do not cut these pattern pieces out.
Instead, trace them each twice onto
the dull side of freezer paper.
See instructions for details.

EAR, CUT 2 FELT



ARM AND LEG
DO NOT CUT
See instructions.