

Memory Bear

Sewing Instructions



This pattern makes a 9-inch, 3-dimensional bear.

Skills required are at a beginner level and can be completed within a couple of hours.

SUPPLIES

Fabric garment provided by the family

Buttons for the bear's eyes, such as a pair of flat buttons in a color that matches the fabric. Buttons measuring $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, $\frac{5}{8}$ inch, or $\frac{3}{4}$ inch are about the right size. Flat buttons with four holes look very eye-like, but see if other buttons will look natural. If the bear will be given to a toddler or infant to play with, then buttons cannot be used. Eyes can be embroidered onto the bear's face.

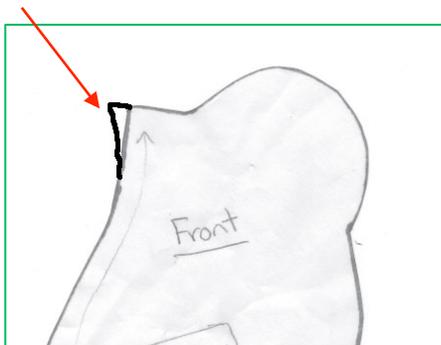
Thread matching the fabric and the eye buttons

Stuffing, about 2 oz. per bear

The pattern (read below)

PATTERN PREPARATION

When you print out the pattern on your computer's printer, that's the correct size of the pattern. Print the two pages TWICE. Before you cut out the piece for the front of the bear, we recommend that you draw on it to add a $\frac{1}{4}$ inch to the top of the bear's center forehead. This will enable you to match the bear's front and back more easily, giving you "wobble room" when you sew.



You will need to cut two front pieces and two back pieces. Tape the two back pieces together so you are looking at a full bear. It's easier to have the whole back piece when you're laying out the pieces on the fabric garment.



If you are making more than one bear from a single clothing item, then print extra pattern pieces for the additional bears. It helps to label the pieces for bear 1, bear 2, etc. so you don't miss a piece. For example, a single shirt, size 2XL, had enough fabric for ten bears (yes, 30 pattern pieces).

SEWING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Lay out and pin the pattern pieces on the garment. Keep in mind special pieces you might want to include (pockets, special design, etc) or exclude (stains, holes)



2. After triple-checking that all bear pieces have been accounted for on the garment, cut out the fabric pieces. To stay organized if you are making more than one bear, keep the pattern pieces pinned to the fabric after cutting.

3. Bear sewing: Sew $\frac{1}{4}$ inch seams.

a. Pin the two front pieces right sides together and sew the center front seam of the bear. Clip the curves, and clip and trim the snout of the bear so the seam won't be a problem when the bear's head is stuffed.

b. Pin the bear front to the bear back, right sides together, leaving an opening inside one leg. Sew around, leaving the opening.

c. Clip the curves.

d. Turn the bear right-side-out.

e. Stuff the bear. Start with the ears and snout first so you can determine if you want to sew any adjustments, such as making sure the ears look alike. The head will require more stuffing to support the snout area.

f. Sew the leg opening closed.

g. Sew on the button eyes. If you need to embroider eyes, one way is to use embroidery floss. Hand-stitch a circle, then fill it in with parallel lines across the eye.

Optional accessories: Bear could be holding certain items that might be memorable or important (pillow, flowers, ball, etc) or have an eye-color that is significant. The bears can be accessorized for more creativity and detail.

