

Making your African style bear

To find everything you need to create your bear within our pre-filled packs visit

Alternatively, you can choose to get your own fabric you will need www.kilimatindetrust.org.uk

Materials Needed

Plain calico, African print, Fabric for nose - felt or leather in dark colours, Black leather or like (see pattern) 10" x 10" (25cm), 10" x 10" (25cm)

Take time to look at the pattern pieces and identify them as arms legs ears body etc

Cut out all paper pattern pieces along the black solid line. Then pin onto the chosen fabric and cut the fabric pieces







Ears 4 pieces

Cut 2 pieces of plain fabric and 2 patterned African fabric. With right sides together pin and sew around leaving the lower edge open. Turn right side out and stuff with thin layer of stuffing (put to one side)



Head 5 pieces

Front 2 pieces - With right side together sew along the front seam which will sit underneath the nose



The nose section (a triangular piece) sew a piece of felt /leather along the nose line (set aside)



With right side together, pin the front side sections to the triangular nose section (start with the tip of the nose and make sure your happy the centre matches the centre seam of the chin section then sew



Now that the front of the head is securely sewn Pin and sew. the inner ears and right side of head front together



Back of head - 2 pieces with right side together pin and sew the back of the head down the centre seam.



With the right side together, sew head front with head back, making sure the ears are sandwiched in between. Stitch carefully, leaving neck area open. Press seams. Turn head right side out and set aside.







With the right side together, pin and sew 2 body back/bottom sections together along the centre back seam. With the right side together, pin and sew the 2 body front/tummy pieces together along centre front seam. With the right side together, pin front body and back body along the side seam. Turn body right side out. Set aside.



Make sure you cut left and right arms so that the curve of the arm faces front on each piece and the African fabric will show in the inside of the arm. With the right side together, pin and sew arm around and leave the top edge open. Repeat procedure for the other arm. Set the arms aside



Fold fabric right side together and cut 2 legs by placing the long back section to the fold of the fabric. Sew together the open long edge of each leg and leave the top and bottom end open.



Foot cut 2 pieces using African fabric with the right side together, pin foot section to bottom edge of leg.



Turn leg right side out and stuff with polyester fibrefill until leg is well shaped but still squeezable. Stop stuffing leg about 1 ½" from the opening then sew across the opening as shown.

Repeat procedure for the other leg. Set aside



With the inner arms and right sides of the body together, pin right and left arms to sides of body at the neck,



Turn body the wrong side out, with arms inside the body cavity. With right side together, insert head into body cavity at neck opening. (Head will be upside down). Match centre front seams, centre back seams and side seams with head front, head back. head to body at neck seam and sew together.



Turn body right side out. Legs: Match two legs top raw edge to front body bottom edge. Sew together.



Fold the back-body/bottom raw seam inside and hand stitch it to close the seam.

Stuffing body and head: Stuff head and body with polyester fibrefill from the body back opening until well-shaped but still soft. Body will need to be a bit firmer than the arms and legs to have proper shape. Turn the back opening seam allowances to the insid and slipstitch to close it.

Stuff arms: Stuff each arm properly. Turn the arm opening seam allowances to the inside and slipstitch to close it.

The Last step is to add 2 black buttons to eye position to finish this lovely stuffed Teddy Bear



Who are the bear ladies

We are a newly founded small group who enjoy creating and sharing bears, our aim is to share skills, encourage each other in the art of bear making and other related sewing and artistic projects. We all have different levels of experience, from cutting out, hand sewing, machine stitching, following a pattern, creating features and choosing colours and fabric types.

To find out more visit

www.kilimatindetrust.org.uk