We’ve all got a favourite toy from our childhood, whether it’s a battered old doll or a well-worn teddy. These beautiful bears really encapsulate the magic of days gone by, with their soft shape and friendly faces ensuring they’re just perfect as a gift for a child. Simple stitching techniques combined with bright, retro-style fabric make this project a real joy to put together, especially if these cute little fellows are set to become a much-loved keepsake!

TeddyBag

Both designs are made in the same way, so for either one cut out two front pieces (a) and two back panels (b) using the template provided on the pattern pages. Trim two ear patches and two hand patches (d) from pink or blue felt.

1. Start by stitching the darts on the head, using a 5mm seam allowance, then sew the two darts on the back panels at the base of the body. Press these seams open.
2. Match the seams at the top of the head on the front two pieces and pin along the centre front seam. Stitch until you get to the base of the belly, leaving a 5mm seam allowance, and clip into the end of the seam. Stitch the centre back seam together, matching the top of the head to the base of the back and leaving a gap in the seam between the two notches marked on the pattern provided. This is where the teddy will be filled. Clip into the seam at the base of the back.

3. Position and pin the ear patches to the ears on the front pieces and the hand patches to the ends of the arms. Edge stitch in place. Now the front and back pieces can be stitched together. Match the seams at the centre top of the head, with right sides facing, and pin.
4. Carefully match and pin all the way around the outer edge of the teddy. Start stitching at the base of the belly and back, sew along the legs, body, arms and head until you return to where you started.
5. Clip all the seams, make straight cuts into all the concave curves and take out tiny ‘V’ from the convex curves, so straight clips under the arms and ‘V’s around the hands.
6. Turn the teddy through to the right side through the gap in the centre back seam. Tease out all the seam allowances, using your fingertips to achieve smooth curves.
7. Push the shank of the eyes and nose through the holes, then press on the backs to secure them in position. To fill the teddy, start by stuffing the legs. A knitting needle helps to get the wadding in place. Move on to the arms and head, leaving the ears empty.
8. As each limb is stuffed, don’t push wadding into the joints as this will prevent the arms and legs from moving. Fill the body last. When you’re happy with the shape of the bear, slip stitch the gap in the centre back seam closed. To finish, tie ribbon in a bow around the neck. CB
Use a knitting needle to help position the filling. It will also help to smooth the curves—try running the needle around the seams from the inside.

**Amanda’s tip**

To hold the hand and ear patches in place before stitching them, try using spray adhesive.

**Checkout**

Spotty and floral fabric, Dunelm Mill. For your nearest stockist, 0845 165 6565, see www.dunelm-mill.com.

Felt, eyes and noses, Franklins. For your nearest store, see www.franklinsgroup.com.
toy story

Making a traditional teddy with hinged arms and legs is easier than you’d think – Amanda Walker shows us how
With the right sides of the fur fabric facing, stitch two pairs of legs together from the front base, then up and around the top and down the back of the leg to the base. Leave a 3cm gap in the back of the leg and use a 3mm seam allowance.

Clip the seam allowance around the top of the foot. Match the notch in the soles of the feet to the front and back seams in the base of the legs, then pin and stitch the soles into place. Turn the legs to the right side through the gaps.

Match the notches in the hand pads to the right sides of the end of the two of the arm pieces; stitch across the felt pads, then fold them back to fall in line with the ends of the arms. Position and pin the two remaining arm pieces over the two with hand pads and stitch around leaving a 3cm opening. Turn the arms to the right side through the gaps.

Stitch the front and centre-back body seams together, leaving a 3cm gap the centre-back seam. Match the front and back bodies together. Stitch from the neck edge, down the side and across the base matching the centre front and back seams together, then back up to the opposite side of the neck. Divide the ear pieces into pairs and pin, then stitch around the edges and turn out.

Position the ears at either side of the outer edge of the top head. Place the back head over the front head, matching the top of the centre back seam with the centre notch on the top head and sandwiching the ears between the two edges; pin, then stitch around the seam. Turn the head to the right side. Make a small hole in the seam and attach the eyes and nose as indicated on the pattern; the head can now be stuffed with the filler.
**legs and arms**

1 Make a small hole on the top of the inner leg and the base of the side seam, then attach with the plastic hinge pieces. Repeat the process for the arms. For ease, this can all be accessed through the gaps left in the centre-back seam and the arms and legs.

2 Carefully stuff the arms and legs, closing the gaps with hand slip-stitch. Now stuff the body and close the gap in the centre-back seam. Hand stitch to the neck of the body; place the head over the neck, then turn under the raw edges of the fur and stitch into place. Finish with a length of ribbon tied around teddy’s neck.

**DESIGN DETAIL**

Fur fabric is great for soft toys as it has a light stretch making the toy plump and rounded, with the added benefit that any hand stitching disappears into the pile.

Carefully stuff the arms and legs, closing the gaps with hand slip-stitch. Now stuff the body and close the gap in the centre-back seam. Hand stitch to the neck of the body; place the head over the neck, then turn under the raw edges of the fur and stitch into place. Finish with a length of ribbon tied around teddy’s neck.

**STOP AND SHOP**

Fun fur fabric, Franklins of Colchester, 01206 563955

Bear making materials, Bear Basics, 01963 345000, www.bearbasics.co.uk

Join our online crafting community today! www.busymitts.com
Soft heritage teddy

Project designer:
Amanda Walker

CB page: 110
Template no: 2
Two A4 pages

TEDDY
Back Body
Cut one pair

TEDDY
Hand Pads
Cut one pair
in felt

TEDDY
Arm
Cut two pairs

TEDDY
Sole
Cut one pair
in felt

TEDDY
Leg
Cut two pairs
TEDDY
Ears
Cut two pairs

TEDDY
Top head
Cut one only

TEDDY
Lower Head
Cut one pair

TEDDY
Back Head
Cut one pair

TEDDY
Front Body
Cut one pair
PINK TEDDY

body

Using 3.5mm needles and Peony Pink cast on 34 sts

Rows 1-16: starting with a k row work in st st

Row 17 (shape hind leg): cast off six sts, k to end. 28 sts

Row 18: cast off six sts, p to end. 22 sts

Row 19 (tummy flap): cast on three sts, k to end. 25 sts

Row 20: cast on three sts, p to end. 28 sts

Rows 21-28: starting with a k row work in st st

Row 29 (end of tummy flap): cast off three sts, k to end. 25 sts

Row 30: cast off three sts, p to end. 22 sts

Row 31 (shape front leg): cast on six sts, k these six sts, k2tog, (k2, k2tog) to end

Row 32: cast on six sts, p to end. 28 sts

Rows 33-44: starting with a p row work in st st

Row 16: k10, (k2tog) ten times, k to end. 30 sts

Row 17: p

Row 18: (k1, k2tog) to end. 20 sts

Row 19-20: starting with a k row work in st st

Rows 21-20 of Pink Teddy. 24 sts

Rows 21-24: starting with a p row work in st st

Rows 29-32 of Pink Teddy. 25 sts

Rows 25-32: starting with a k row work in st st

Cast off, leaving a long tail

head

Using 3.5mm needles and Peony Pink cast on ten sts

Row 1 (WS) and every odd-numbered row: p

Row 2: (kfb) to end. 20 sts

Row 4: (k1, kfb) to end. 30 sts

Row 6: (k2, kfb) to end. 40 sts

Rows 7-15: starting with a k row work in st st

Rows 11-14: rep Rows 1-4 of Pink Teddy Head

Rows 15-19: starting with a p row work in st st

Row 20: k2tog, (k1, k2tog) to end. 13 sts

Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off

FLEECY TEDDY

body

Using 3.5mm needles and Tulip Teal cast on 30 sts

Rows 1-10: starting with a k row work in st st

Row 11-14: rep Rows 17-20 of Pink Teddy

Rows 15-20: starting with a k row work in st st

Rows 15-20 of Pink Teddy. 24 sts

Rows 21-24: rep Rows 29-32 of Pink Teddy. 25 sts

Rows 25-32: starting with a k row work in st st

Cast off, leaving a long tail

head

Using 3.5mm needles and Tulip Teal cast on ten sts

Rows 1-4: rep Rows 1-4 of Pink Teddy Head

Rows 5-11: starting with a p row work in st st

Rows 5-11 of Pink Teddy Head

Rows 12: k8, (k2tog) seven times, k to end. 23 sts

Row 13: p

Row 14: k7, (k2tog, k1) three times, k to end. 20 sts

Change to Leafy Green

Rows 15-19: starting with a p row work in st st

Rows 15-19 of Pink Teddy. 24 sts

Rows 20: k2tog, (k1, k2tog) to end. 13 sts

Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off

BOTH TEDDIES

ear

Make four (two in each colour)

Using 3.5mm needles and Poppy Red (Leafy Green) cast on ten sts

Row 1 (WS): k

Row 2: p

Row 3: (k2tog) to end. Five sts

Cut yarn leaving a long tail, thread tail onto tapestry needle and thread through rem sts, fasten off

scarf

Make two

Using 3.5mm needles and Periwinkle Blue (Sunflower Yellow) cast on five sts

K until piece meas 22cm

Cast off

to make up

Thread tapestry needle onto cast-off tail of one hind leg. Fold hind leg in half lengthways, work a gathering thread to close tip. Sew up hind leg to top then cont sewing to attach one tummy flap to cast-on edge. Rep with second hind leg then front legs. Stuff legs. Connect flap ends tog on underside with a st then ease rem cast-on edge forwards and sew edges tog to make allowance for bottom. Connect tummy flaps tog at chest, leaving gap for stuffing.
Stuff then sew closed. With fastened-off tail of Head, sew seam, leaving gap to stuff Head and insert safety eyes before closing. With cast-on tail work a gathering thread around cast-on edge and draw up tightly. Cut brown felt in oval shape and sew to muzzle. Sew sides of Ears tog to make semi circles, sew to Head. Sew Head to Body. Tie Scarf around neck. Pom-poms: wind Sunflower Yellow (Periwinkle Blue) around two fingers 30 times and tie centre with strong cotton thread. Make two in each colour. Cut loops and trim. Sew pom-poms to ends of Scarves. Weave in all ends.

GREAT ADVICE

FLUFFY FIX

When using Tulip Teal keep count of your stitches to ensure that you haven’t dropped or increased any by mistake. If you have, it can easily be fixed with a k2tog or kfb on the next row.

USE ALL SIX YARN COLOURS!

LET’S SHOP

Yellow house box with drawer, dotcomgiftshop.com
Bedtime Ted
Quick cuddles for kiddiewinks with this sweet bear and mini quilt
Teddy Bear

1 Trace the bear template and cut out. Place two layers of striped fabric, 18cm x 23cm, right sides together, with the stripes running horizontally, then draw around the template.

2 Stitch along the bear outline, then trim the excess and make a small slit in the back for turning. Turn out, making sure you push out the limbs and ears fully. Stuff with polyester toy filling, then sew the back closed.

3 Embroider the face using three strands of black embroidery thread and tie a gingham ribbon around the neck into a bow.

Fabric love

Kids will adore these fun animal prints, especially for tucking up teddy! Swap the cheater for their favourite animal pattern, or create a patchwork top with all three!

Crafts Tip

If you prefer, try making the quilt top from patchwork squares instead of a cheater print.

“To personalise your bear, appliqué a little heart or embroider a child’s initial onto the front”

Helen Philipps, Designer

Start with...

- Cotton fabric: blue stripe, cheater print, backing print
- DMC stranded thread, Natura blue
- Embroidery thread, black
- Ribbon, gingham, black and white
- Polyester toy filling
- Wadding
Stitching

1. Place cheater cotton and backing fabric, both 19cm x 21cm, right sides together. Sew around the edges using a 6mm seam, leaving a small gap at one side for turning.

2. Trim the corners, then turn the quilt out, pushing out the corners. Fill with wadding, 17cm x 19cm, smoothing it into the corners.

3. Machine stitch around the quilt, close to the edge. Using the thick cotton thread, sew at regular intervals across the quilt, securing all three layers. Tie in a knot each time, trimming to 12mm long.

Go Shopping

Cheater prints, sewandso.co.uk
Gingham ribbon, craftyribbons.co.uk
Easy Teddy
Quick cuddles for kids
with this sweet bear
Designer: Helen Philipps
Page 85 in magazine
1 A4 page
bear essentials

Transform your pre-loved knit into Lucinda Ganderton’s friendly felted teddy
What You Need
Felted jumper; dark fabric, 10cm square
Toy filling, polyester
Thread, sewing, matching; embroidery stranded, brown
Toy safety eyes
Toy joints, 20mm, four
Needles: sewing; tapestry

Skill Level EasyIntermediateAdvanced

teddy’s head
1 Join the v-shaped darts on each side of the head. Oversew the gusset to one side, matching point A to the tip of the nose to point B at the back of the neck. Sew the other side of the head to the other side of the gusset, then join the seams from A to C and B to D.

2 Sew the inner ears centrally to the outer ears. Pin and stitch them to the head, so that the outer edges lie over the dart seams. Sew the nose to the end of the snout. Using all six strands of the embroidery thread, sew three straight lines for the nose and mouth.

3 Attach buttons or fix safety-eyes in place. Take time to find the best position, as their beady look is what gives character and individuality to your bear. Stuff the head firmly.

Making up the bear
1 Push the pointed halves of the joints through the holes at the top of each limb, then through the matching hole in the

Be sure to sew embellishments and threads tightly, if the bear is for a small child
felting jumpers

The garments will need to be 100% wool or cashmere and not be pre-treated as this will stop them from shrinking – check the label first. Cut them apart along the seams. Set to a 90° wash cycle, adding detergent as usual, and zip the woollies into a nylon bag to prevent the fluff from blocking the machine. You can felt two or three woollies at a time, but use a ‘colour catcher’ if they are different shades as the hot temperature will cause the dyes to run. If desired, finish by tumble drying to help the fibres melt together.

STOP AND SHOP

Toy making materials, E-Crafts, www.e-crafts.co.uk
General sewing items, Hobbycrafts, 0845 051 6599, www.hobbycrafts.co.uk
Skill Level Easy Intermediate Advanced

YOUR READY-TO-USE TEMPLATES

LEG
CUT 4, 2 REVERSED

ARM
CUT 4, 2 REVERSED

HEAD
CUT 2, 1 REVERSED

NOSE
CUT 1

INNER EAR
CUT 2

EAR
CUT 2
CRUNCH THROUGH THE SNOW WITH

Bruno bear

HEATHER GIBBS’ winter bear has been created with all the colours in the kit, making him a vibrant addition to your crochet to-do list. He has playtime written all over him, and would pal up nicely with our robins (p38) and ice-skating goat (p50) for a frolic in the forest. Want to make him a bear for all seasons? Just switch up the colours on his outfit!

SIZE

Height: 14cm (excl pom-pom)
Length: 20cm

PLUS

stitch markers, tapestry needle, stuffing, two 9mm black safety eyes, small length of black DK, pom-pom maker (optional)

TOP TIP

Sections are worked without joining in continuous rounds – place a stitch marker in the top of the first stitch to indicate the start of each round.

Perfect for beginners

USE YOUR FREE Merry YARN KIT

LETSGETCRAFTING.COM | LGC Knitting & Crochet
**BRUNO BEAR**

**head & body**

Using 5mm hook and Christmas Pud make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Six sts

Rnd 1: (2dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 12 sts

Rnd 2: 1dc in each st to end. 18 sts

Change to Robin Red

Rnd 3: 1dc in each st to end. 18 sts

Change to Evergreen

Rnd 4: (2dc, dc2tog) to end. 12 sts

Rnds 5-7: 1dc in each st to end. 18 sts

Join Christmas Pud to back loop of any st

Rnd 8: working in back loops only, 1dc in each st to end. Ten sts

Rnd 9: working in back loops only, 1dc in each st to end. Four sts

Fasten off, leaving a long tail

**hat**

Using 5mm hook and Robin Red make a magic ring, work 6dc into ring. Five sts

Rnd 1: 1dc in each st to end. Six sts

Rnd 2: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 12 sts

Rnd 3: 1dc in each st to end. 18 sts

Rnd 4: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 24 sts

Fasten off, leaving a long tail

**to make up**


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**TRY THIS TEDDY BEAR RATTLE**

It’s a great stocking filler for a newborn baby. Search ‘Bear’ at TOPCROCHETPATTERNS.COM

Love this pattern? Use all six yarn colours!
Cuddly teddies
Felt your old woolly jumpers into cute bear toys for your little ones to love

"Charity shops and car boot sales are great places to pick up inexpensive knitwear to recycle"
Ellen Kharade, Designer

Crafts Tip
For best results, use pure wool jumpers or ones with a higher mixed content
**Start with...**
- Wool knitwear, plain, patterned
- Fabric, patterned
- Embroidery thread, grey, black, brown
- Toy filling
- Iron-on fusible interfacing

**See the templates on our pattern pages**

**Teddy**

1. Felt your chosen jumpers by putting them through a 60 degree wash cycle with a pair of jeans to help the process. Create teddy templates from our pattern pages or print them out. Pin the templates for the arms, legs, and ears to the plain jumper fabric and cut out four of each. Reverse the pattern for backs of arms and legs. From the plain jumper fabric, cut out two heads and one nose. Make two body pieces from the patterned sweater.

2. Iron fusible interfacing onto the back of colourful fabric. Pin the templates for the ear and body patches to it and trim out two circles and one body piece. Peel off the backing paper and position the patches onto the corresponding jumper pieces, then iron on. With right sides facing, pin the leg and arm pieces together and sew with a 6mm seam allowance. Turn out each one and stuff. Stitch to make two ears.

3. Baste the nose onto the face, leave a 10mm gap for stuffing, then stitch around it. Push a little wadding into the nose until rounded, then sew up the gap. Using four strands of embroidery thread, create a brown nose and black eyes. Fix the ears into place. With right sides facing, pin the head together and stitch, then turn out and stuff until rounded.

4. Pin the arms and legs to the inside of the body and sew into place. Pin the body sections right sides facing and stitch around it. Attach the head and stitch around the front of the neckline. Turn the body out and stuff until nicely plump. Sew up the gap at the back. Cut a length of ribbing from the jumper and hand sew around the neck.

5. Using four strands of embroidery thread, add three claws onto each paw. Create other teddies using different jumpers. You can also re-size the templates to make a teddy bear family.

**Go Shopping**

Fabric and toy filling, thevillagehaberdashery.co.uk

**Teddy Bear Time!**

12th October is Bring Your Teddy Bear To Work & School Day, so to celebrate we’ve put together a few fun bear facts for you to share!

- The name teddy bear comes from former U.S President Theodore "Teddy" Roosevelt, who inherited the nickname after an incident with a real bear. After reading about it in the paper, Morris Michtom was inspired to create a toy bear after him. The Steiff company in Germany also made a stuffed bear around the same time.

- The popularity of the teddy inspired John Walter Bratton to compose ‘The Teddy Bears’ Picnic’ in 1907. The lyrics were added in 1932.

- The term ‘Teddy bear’ wasn’t used until 1906. Before then, they were referred to as ‘bruins’.

- Walt Disney produced the first colour animation film in 1924, called Alice and the Three Bears.

**Cuddly teddies.indd   3   05/08/2016   10:10**
Woodland Friends
Sophia Palmer, p66
Shown at 75%

Cuddly Teddies
Ellen Kharade, p112
Shown at 90%
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