



LEARNING TO SEW FOR BEGINNERS

Rainbow pillow

AN ORIGINAL DESIGN

CREATED BY SEWTOY, 2020

Hi there!

Welcome. Thank you for purchasing the Rainbow pillow tutorial & pattern.

They say that after every storm there rainbow of hope comes. With this pattern, I am sending happy colors your way to brighten your life and the lives of people around you.

I have designed this joyful rainbow cloud to be as easy to make as possible, so don't worry, even if you are a beginner. While making the cloud, you will learn the basics of how to make your own simple stuffed toys, and you will pick up a few tips & tricks on the way too.

I hope you will enjoy sewing this rainbow cloud as much as I enjoyed making it.

Maja

p.s. As SewToy customer, you have my full support. If you get stuck for any reason, just message me on Etsy and we'll find the solution together.



Finished size

32 cm x 20 cm / 12,5 in x 8 in

STEP 1: Prepare all materials

- **7 rectangles**, size 6 cm x 25 cm (2.5 in x 9.9 in), for the front of the cloud, one for each color of the rainbow (**violet, dark blue, light blue, green, yellow, orange, and red**). Choose fabrics of your choice, cotton, flannel or fleece, you can use scraps from other projects too. If you are making the rainbow cloud for a baby or a child, choose washable materials (100% cotton is the best).
- **Dark blue rectangle**, size approximately 40 cm x 30 cm (16 in x 12 in), for the back of the cloud
- Dark blue embroidery thread for eyes and mouth
- Dark pink embroidery thread for the cheeks
- Light pink wool felt for the cheeks
- White and dark blue sewing thread
- Toy or pillow stuffing
- Pattern - print it and tape it together



General requirements: sewing machine, pins, needles, scissors, trick marker, or chalk.

Prewash the fabric before you start. If you are making the cloud for a child, wash the finished cloud before giving it to them. Wash on low temperatures and use a gentle cycle.

STEP 2: Sew the front part

- A. 7 rectangles position in the right order (violet, dark blue, light blue, green, yellow, orange, and red) right side up.
- B. Sew the first two rectangles together (violet and dark blue), put them on top of each other, right sides facing, and sew one side together using the white sewing thread and 0,6 cm (1/4 in) seam allowance. Open. The right side is now up again.
- C. Place the next rectangle on last last rectangle that was sewn to the rainbow right sides together. Sew. Open. Repeat until you get to the red color, and you have one big colorful piece.



A



B



C

- D. Turn the fabric right side down. Iron the backside, make sure all the edges are facing the same direction.
- E. Sew a seam from the back by sewing over the fold and parallel to the existing seam. This seam is called **topstitch** and will be visible on the front side.



E

BACKSIDE

SEAM OVER THE FOLD
PARALLEL TO
EXISTING SEAM



BACKSIDE
FINISHED



FRONTSIDE
VISABLE SEAM



THE TOPSTITCH

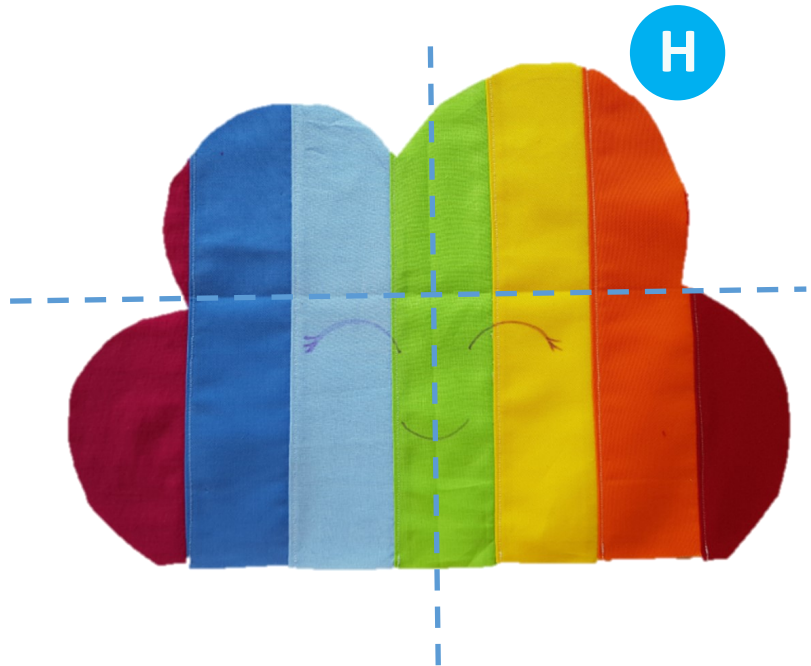
The topstitch has several functions: it holds facings, closes gaps from turning the right way out, looks decorative, strengthens seams and holds seams in place so they sit flatter.

STEP 3: The face

F. Position the cloud pattern on the backside of the rainbow fabric you have just created and pin it.

G. Cut out the cloud from the rainbow fabric, add 1 cm (1/2 in) for seam allowance.

H. Mark central lines with a simple fold. Draw eyes and mouth with trick marker or chalk.



Eyes and mouth embroidery

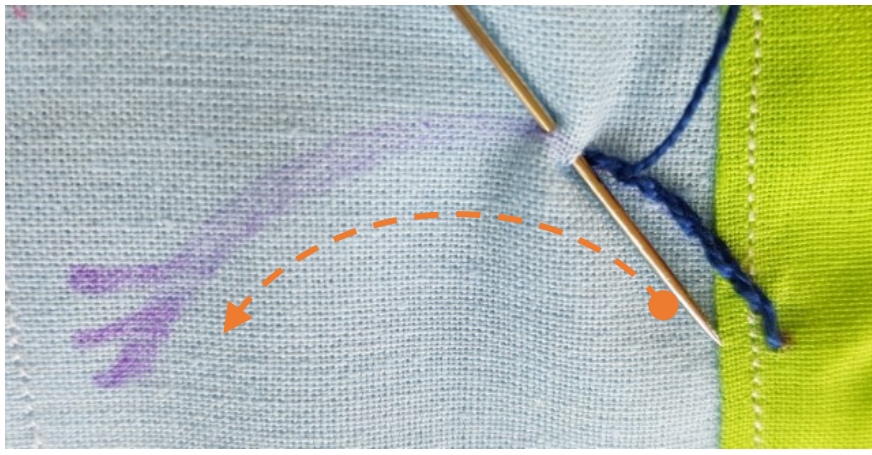
For embroidery of the mouth and eyes, you will use the **stem stitch**.

THE STEM STITCH

The stem stitch is an embroidery stitch in which each stitch overlaps the previous stitch to one side. You start on one side and each time return back to the previous stitch, the thread being on outside (above the eyes/ below the mouth) all the time:



To start embroidery, make a knot on the embroidery thread. When you finish embroidery, go around the stitched line on the inside a few times back to the beginning, and then cut the redundant thread.



Make a knot on the embroidery thread.
Cut off the redundant thread.

Start eye embroidery on the inside of the eye and proceed toward the lashes. Keep the thread above the eye (below the mouth).

For the lashes, make two stitches.



When you finish the eye, go around the seams on the backside a few times and then cut the redundant thread (or make a small knot).

This is how the finished eye looks from the back.



This is how the finished eye looks from the front.

IMPORTANT. Do each eye and mouth separately, don't go directly from one to another with the same thread. Also, make sure you don't have any loose ends inside the fabric because this might cause the dark embroidery thread to be visible through the lighter-colored fabric.

Cheeks



Pin both cheeks to the right position.

Sew them on fabric with dark pink embroidery thread using the regular running stitch. Hide all the ends on the backside.

STEP 4: Sew the cloud together



Position rainbow cloud on the blue fabric right sides together. Pin.



Sew together using 1 cm (1/2 in) seam allowance. Leave the opening at the bottom. Cut excess blue fabric.



Make small cuts where shown on the picture (black lines) - all the way to the seam, be careful not to cut it.

Cut off the fabric at the points (black line).



Turn the cloud around through the opening for stuffing. Position all edges nicely. Iron well everything on the place.



Stuff the cloud with a toy stuffing through the opening. Use smaller pieces and distribute them evenly. Massage the cloud to position everything into the place. Make sure you have put in enough stuffing - there is always a place for some more. :)

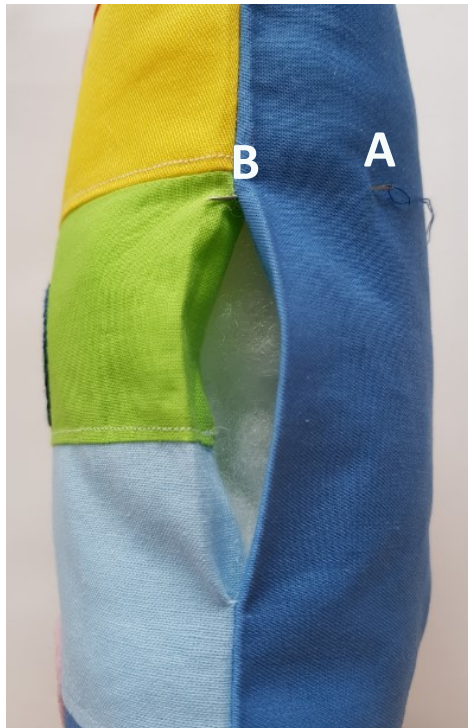
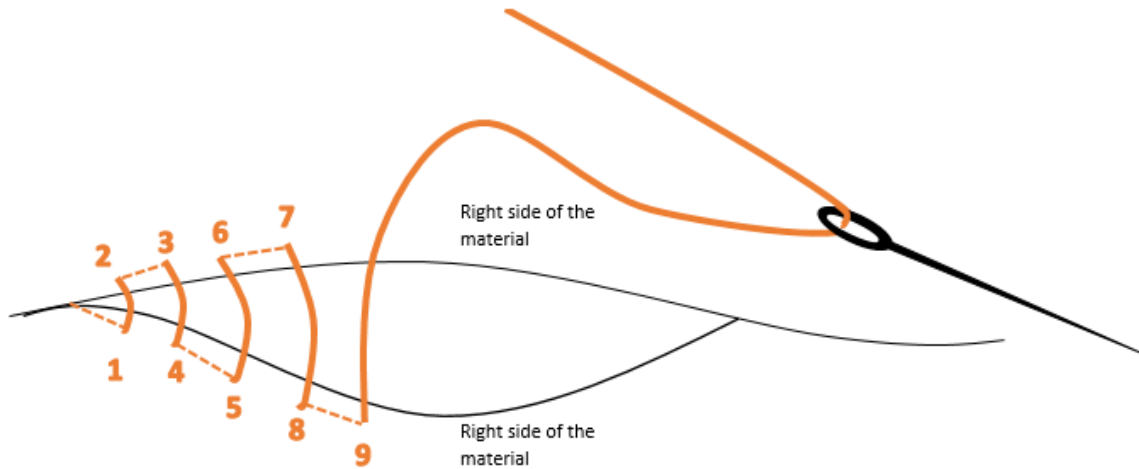
Hooray! You are almost done. Only one more step left to do, closing the opening.

STEP 4: Closing the opening

Close the opening with the **ladder stitch**.

THE LADDER STITCH

Ladder stitch is the best way to close the openings when sewing toys.



Stab the needle a few cm (inches) away from the opening (point A) and come out at the beginning of the opening (point B). Make three very little stitches there (instead of a knot) and cut the excessive thread at point A.

Close the opening using the ladder stitch, follow the diagram above.

When you reach the end of the opening, do three little stitches, the same as you did at the beginning of an opening. Hide the thread ending in the cloud. Give a cloud another good massage to reposition the stuffing nicely.

Congratulations!

You have made your first rainbow cloud. Do you like it? I would LOVE to see how it turned out.

Let's connect & sew together!



Rainbow pillow

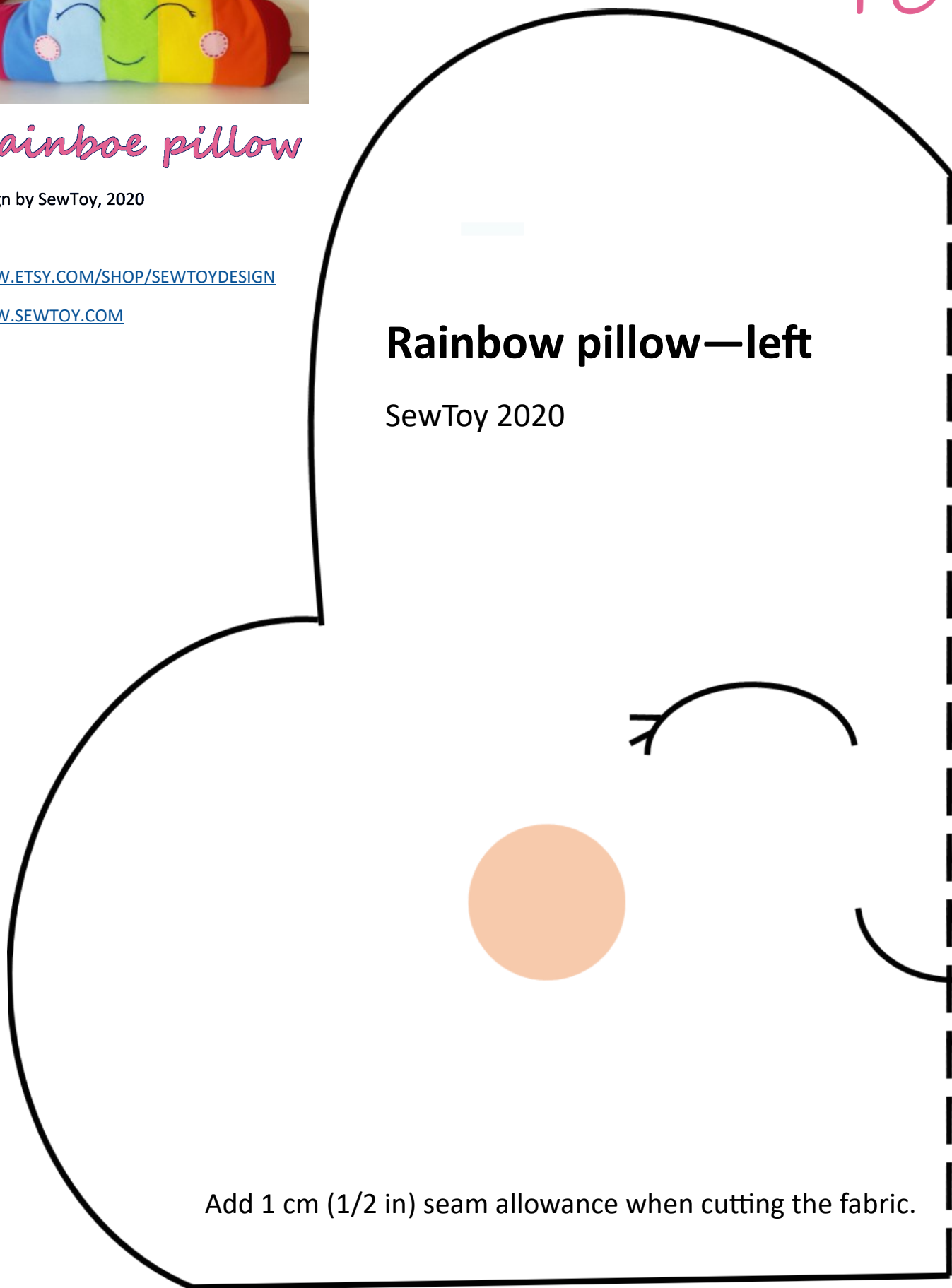
Design by SewToy, 2020

WWW.ETSY.COM/SHOP/SEWTOYDESIGN

WWW.SEWTOY.COM

Rainbow pillow—left

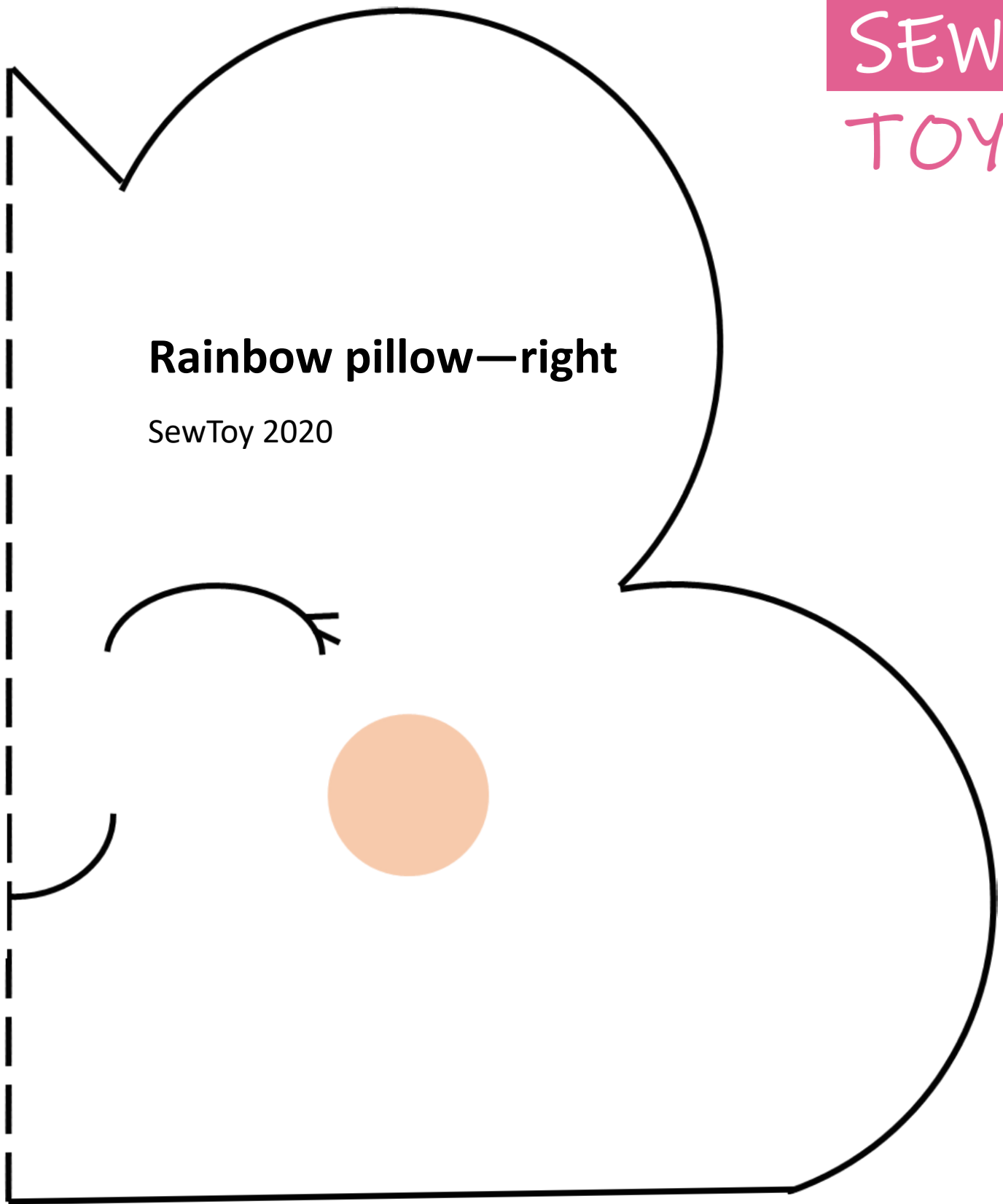
SewToy 2020



Add 1 cm (1/2 in) seam allowance when cutting the fabric.

Rainbow pillow—right

SewToy 2020



Cut 2 cheeks from wool felt