



LEARNING TO SEW FOR BEGINNERS

Easy & cute dog pillow

AN ORIGINAL DESIGN

CREATED BY SEWTOY, 2016

Hi there!



Welcome. Thank you for purchasing the Cute Dog Pillow tutorial & pattern!

Dog pillow was inspired by my dog's infectious positive energy, his playfulness, and unconditional love for us. We got him right after Christmas in 2015. He is a mixed breed dog, partially Labrador, partially Golden retriever, and partially ... well unknown. :) He is dark as night and only has a white spot on his chest. He is very smart and goofy.

The first pillow was made for his best friend, my older son. I hope, you will enjoy sewing this cute dog pillow as much as I enjoyed designing it.

Maja

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

Finished size

Aproximately size: 38 cm x 30 cm / 15 in x 12 in

STEP 1: Prepare all materials

- ☐ Two pieces approximately 40 cm x 32 cm (15 1/2 in x 12 1/2 in) for the body, choose a soft fabric of your choice, I have used a soft wool fabric left from some other project
- ☐ Fleece in matching color for the spot around the eye
- ☐ White and black felt for the snout and eyes
- ☐ Cotton fabric for the bottom part of the ears and tongue
- ☐ Black and white fleece for upper part of the ears
- ☐ White & black sewing thread
- ☐ Toy or pillow stuffing
- ☐ Pattern (on the last page)



General requirements:

sewing machine, pins, needle, scissors, trick marker, or chalk.



WHY I RECOMEND USING WOOL AND NOT ACRYLIC (CRAFT) FELT?

Wool felt is the most durable type of felt, has less fuzz than other felts, and it will not pill. Under the fingers has soft, luxurious fill. It is thicker, has a slight elasticity, so it can be manipulated and shaped. 100% natural wool is stain and water-resistant, flame resistant and self-extinguishing, anti-bacterial, anti-bacterial, ecologically and animal friendly. Although it is more expensive than acrylic (craft) felt, in my opinion, wool felt is in a long run totally worth a bit higher investment, especially if you are making toys, pillows, or other stuff for kids with it.

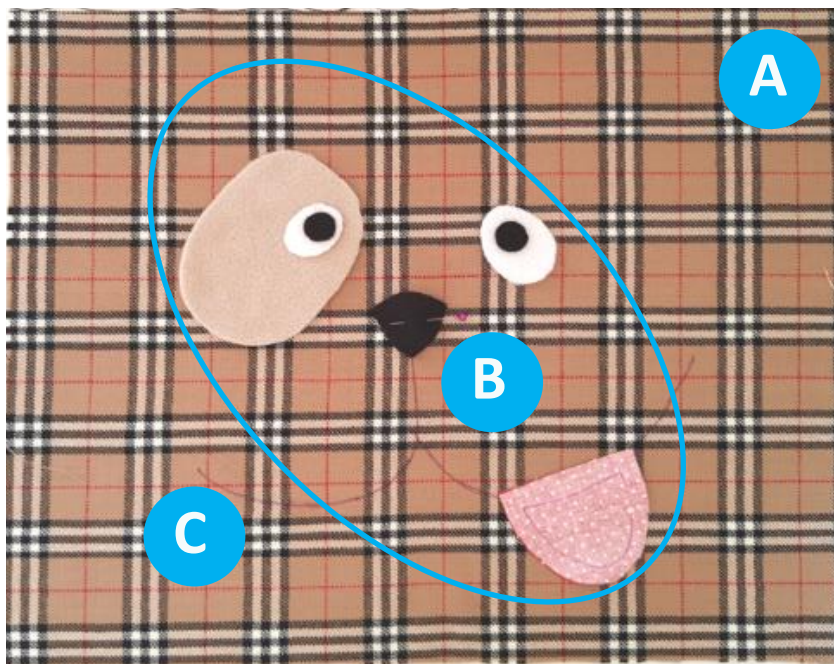
STEP 2: Prepare the body parts

- A. **THE BODY**—prepare two pieces approximately **40 cm x 32 cm (15 1/2 in x 12 1/2 in)** big. If you are using fleece, check the direction to which the material stretches (see the pattern for the direction).
- B. Print the Cute dog pattern on the last page and cut out all the pieces. Then cut all the pieces from the fabrics:
- **THE SNOUT** from the black felt. No seam allowance needed!
 - **THE WHITE PART OF THE EYES:** 2 pieces from the white felt (one big, one smaller). No seam allowance needed!
 - **THE BLACK PART OF THE EYES:** 2 pieces from the black felt. No seam allowance needed!
 - **THE EARS:** 1 piece from the white fleece (left), 1 piece from the black fleece (right), 2 pieces from the cotton (one left, one right). Add seam allowance: 0,5 cm (1/4 in).
 - **THE TONGUE:** 2 pieces from the cotton (fold the fabric and cut the two pieces at the same time). Add seam allowance: 0,5 cm (1/4 in).
- C. **THE MOUTH:** draw the mouth with the chalk or trick marker on to the fabric.

PIN everything to the place.

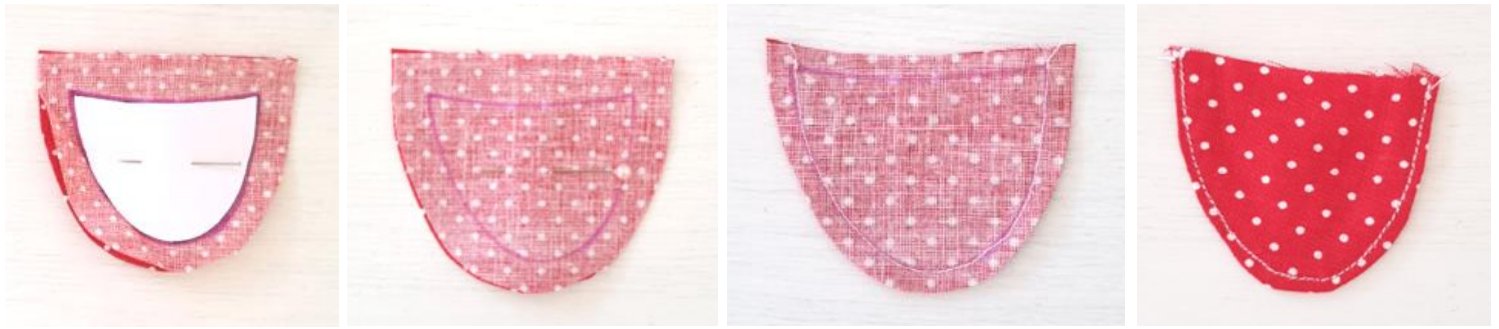
*This is what you should have
after completing step 2*

+ the ears cut out



STEP 3: The tounge

Sew together both parts right side together, leave the upper part open. Turn around and topstitch close to the edge (see the picture).



STEP 3: The eyes

- Sew black felt eye part to the white felt part with black sewing 5thread. You can hand sew using the running stitch or use a sewing machine—use very small stitches and go very slowly.
- Sew the white eye part with the black eye part you just made on to the eyespot.

Repeat for the smaller eye without the spot.



STEP 3: The ears

- Assemble left and right ear, felt on one side, cotton fabric on the other. Place the right sides together. Pin and machine sew, leave the opening at the top of the ear.
- Turn around through the opening at the top. Align all the inside edges nicely. Press the edges together with pins or crocodiles like mine. Topstitch close to the edge.



Let's connect & sew together!

STEP 4: The face

THE MOUTH

Follow the line for the mouth with a zigzag stitch, using the black sewing thread—the stitches should be very narrow, almost as you would be making a buttonhole.

THE SNOOT

Sew the snout to the place slightly covering the end of the mouth with the straight stitch using the black sewing thread.

THE TOUNGE:

- Place the tongue so that the top part will be almost covering the mouth line.
- Sew over the tongue following the mouth line with the same zigzag stitch you used for the mouth.
- Iron the mouth and tongue.

THE EYES

Sew the eyes to the body with the running stitch. Use white sewing thread, and make small stitches close to the edge of an eye. Go very slowly.

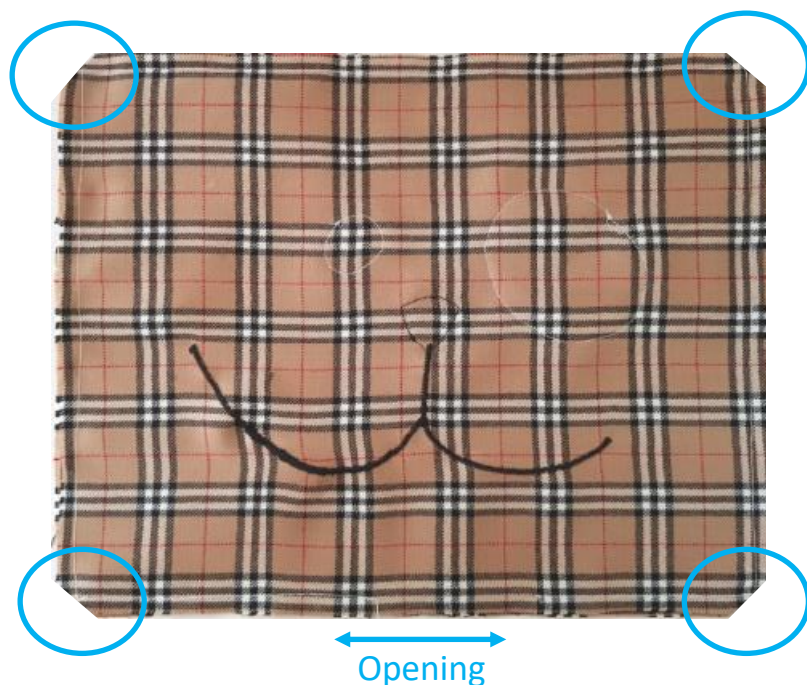


STEP 5: The magic—Putting everything together

- Position the ears on the top of the body a little less than 2 cm / 1 in from the edge. (see the picture)
- Cover the front part of the pillow with the face with the back part right sides together.
- Pin all around.



- Sew the pillow together approximately 1 cm / 0.5 in from the edge. Leave an opening at the bottom, approximately 10 cm / 4 in wide.
- Cut off the edges all the way to the seam.
- If you want you can make zigzag stitches on the edges to keep them from fraying.



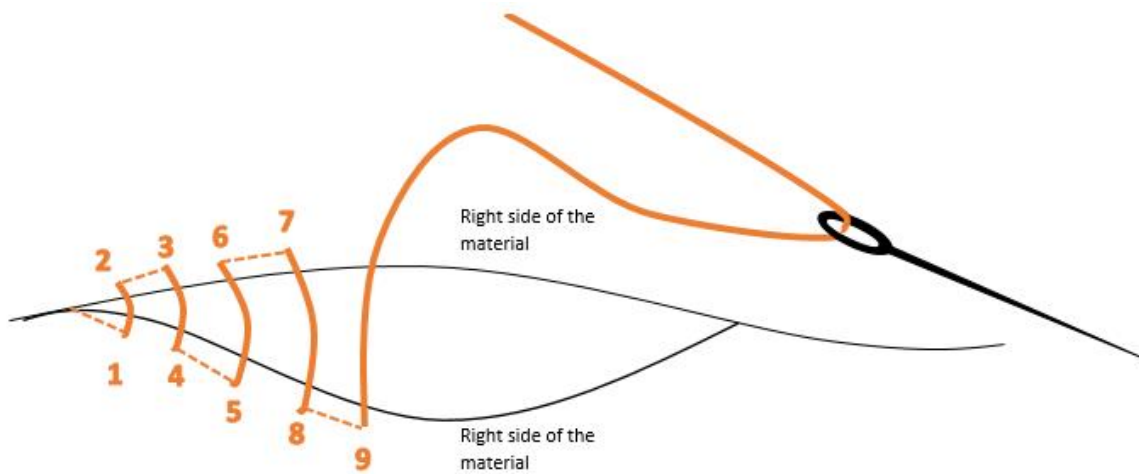
- Turn the pillow around through the opening. Position all the edges nicely from the inside.
- Stuff the dog pillow through the opening tightly, you can not overstuff, promise. Push tightly especially into the corners.



- 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 the point A.

Close the opening using the ladder stitch, follow the diagram above. When you reach the end of the opening, finish with three little stitches and hide the thread ending in the pillow (the same as you did at the beginning). Give a dog pillow a good massage to reposition the stuffing nicely.

See, nobody will know the opening was here! :)

Congratulations!

You have made your very first playful & cute dog pillow. Do you like it? I would LOVE to see how it turned out.

Let's connect & sew together!



Dog pillow

Design by SewToy, 2016

WWW.SEWTOY.COM

WWW.ETSY.COM/SHOP/SEWTOYDESIGN



Let's connect & sew together!

