

# SEW IT! WORKSHOP

## Hand Sewn Cat Stuffies

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another cool project for the 'me made' life

Ellen Lumpkin Brown

8/1/2020



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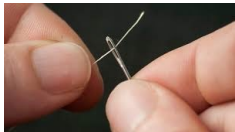
# Hand Sewn Black Cat Stuffies

To make any of these Back Pack Tags you will need:

- One 9x11 Felt Square plus one 6" square in black or whatever main color you'd like for your cat
- Three 5" square pieces of felt for the features. See the layout on page 3.
- A small amount of fiberfill stuffing or old thin plastic grocery bags
- Black Thread or floss or other color if you like
- Needle
- Scissors
- 20" of ½ inch ribbon

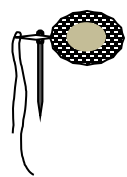
You'll need to thread a needle and sew the Running Stitch to make this Project:

## Threading Your Needle



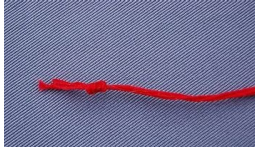
This very first step in sewing can be a little intimidating - the eye of the needle looks so small! But it's easy, especially if you begin with a needle with an elongated eye like an embroidery or chenille needle. Make sure you have good light. Use black all-purpose thread and a piece of white paper to act as a background. Cut a piece of thread that is about as long as your arm. Remove any frayed thread by snipping a fresh tip on the end. Dampen the tip of the thread with water or saliva to seal and stiffen as you guide it into the eye of the needle. Now, hold the thread between your forefinger and thumb with about 1/2 inch of thread showing. Hold the needle in your other hand near the eye. Then, gently push the thread through the eye of the needle. It may take a couple of tries. Once the thread goes through, pull it so that you have two equal lengths of thread.

## How to Use a Needle Threader



The needle threader is a cool little tool. Just push the flexible wire loop through the eye of the needle. This is very easy to do because the wire and the holder give you plenty of stability. Put your thread through the wire loop and pull it back through the eye of the needle and presto! Your needle is threaded

## How to Make a Knot



To secure your hand stitching just make a simple knot at the end of one or two strands of thread by making a loop around your index finger and bring the thread ends through the loop and pull gently to form the knot.

## Sewing the Running Stitch

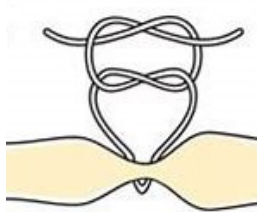


You may already know this stitch even if you don't know it by name.

Make a Stitch Practice Line: Draw a straight line on a piece of paper with the pencil and ruler. On top of that line, draw about 10 dashes that are  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch long and  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch apart. Thread your needle. Push the needle from underneath the paper and pull gently until the knot catches beneath. Push the needle down at the end of the dash and pull again until the stitch is nice and flat. Continue for the remaining dashes.

## Knotting Off - How to Finish a line of Hand Sewing

When you are just beginning, always make sure you have at least 5 inches of thread on your needle as you sew. This will make it easy to secure your sewing with a knot at the end of your stitches. To make the knot, cut your thread about 3 inches from the fabric. Tie the two ends pulling the thread so that the knot goes down to the fabric. Tie a second time for extra security.

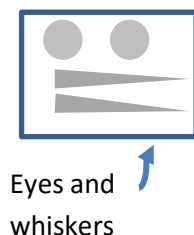
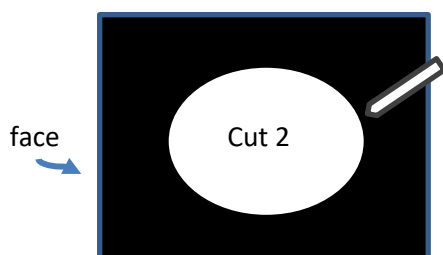


Try making stitches on a small piece of fabric just like you did on paper knotting off at the end of the stitch line. Now you are ready to sew by hand!

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## Let's Get Started!

Step 1. Cut out the pattern pieces from the last pages of these instructions.



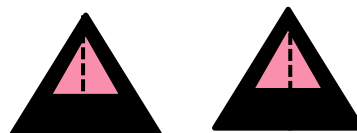
Pupils, lids and ears



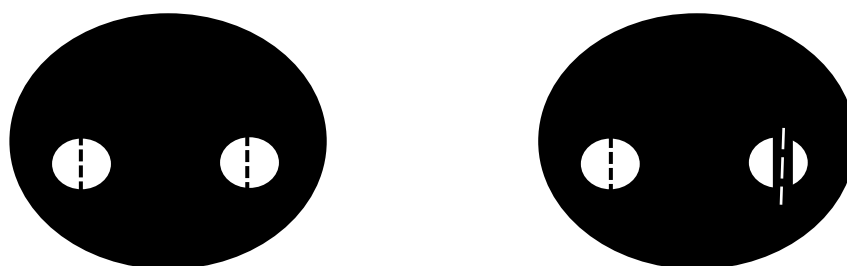
Inside ears,  
cheek dots,  
nose, tongue

Step 2. Trace the pieces with a pen, chalk or pencil. Cut out. If you are using a different color for the eyes, cut 2 eyes from that. Position the features on the face until you like it. Have fun!

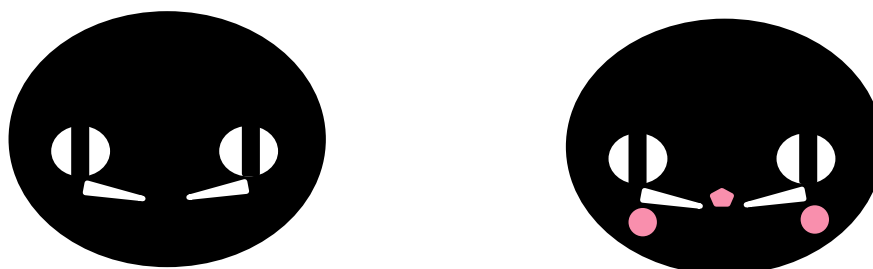
Step 3. Make the ears. Stack the ear center on top of the ear back near the upper edge as shown on the pattern piece. Sew in place.



Step 4. Create the face. Position Eyes on the face. Stitch in place sewing right down the middle of the eye. Place the rectangular pupil on top of the stitching. Sew in place stitching down the middle of the pupil (white stitching on this diagram is for clarity – pls use black thread).



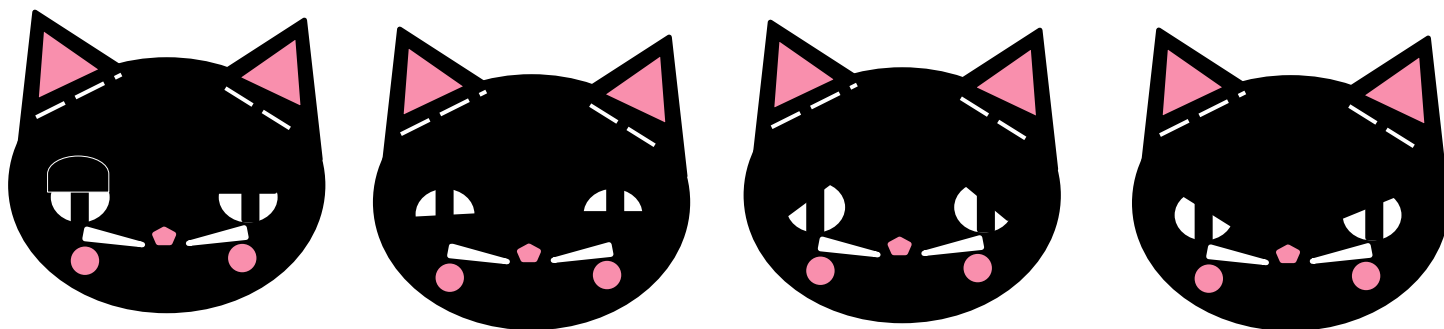
Step 5. Sew the Facial Features. Position the whiskers the Cat Face. Stitch in place. If you are making cheek dots, sew them in place with a line of stitching down the center of each dot.



Step 6. Sew the Ears to the Cat Face. Position the ears beneath the cat face. Sew in place with a few long stitches.



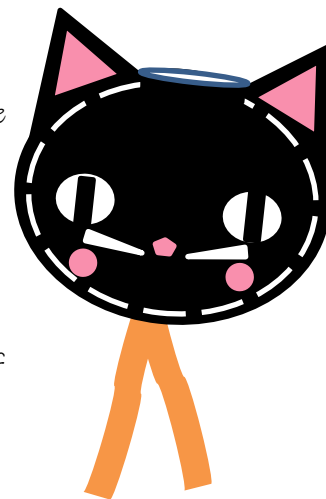
Step 7. Add expression with eyelids. This is optional but totally fun!! Position the eyelids over the eyes and see all of the different moods you can create! Once you find a combination you like, stitch in place across the straight edge of the eyelid. Then stitch around the lid as shown in the video.



Step 8. Add the Ribbon Bow. Fold the ribbon in half. Position the folded ribbon underneath the cat face. Sew in place with one or two stitches.



Step 9. Sew the back and the Front of the Face together. Stack the front and back of the face. The Ribbon should be sandwiched in between the front and back of the face. Sew all the way around leaving an opening between the ears. Be sure to check that you are sewing through all the layers with a couple of stitches in the ribbon as shown in the video



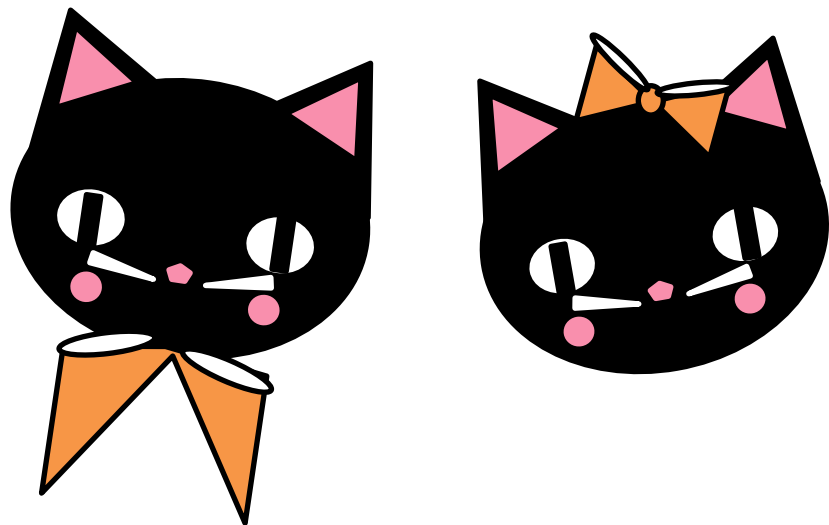
Step 9. Stuff the Bag Tag. Insert small amounts of polyfill stuffing into the opening, or make DIY stuffing by using a discarded plastic shopping bag (the type you get from a grocery store, Target, or Walmart, etc.). Gently stuff the stuffie until it is nice and firm.

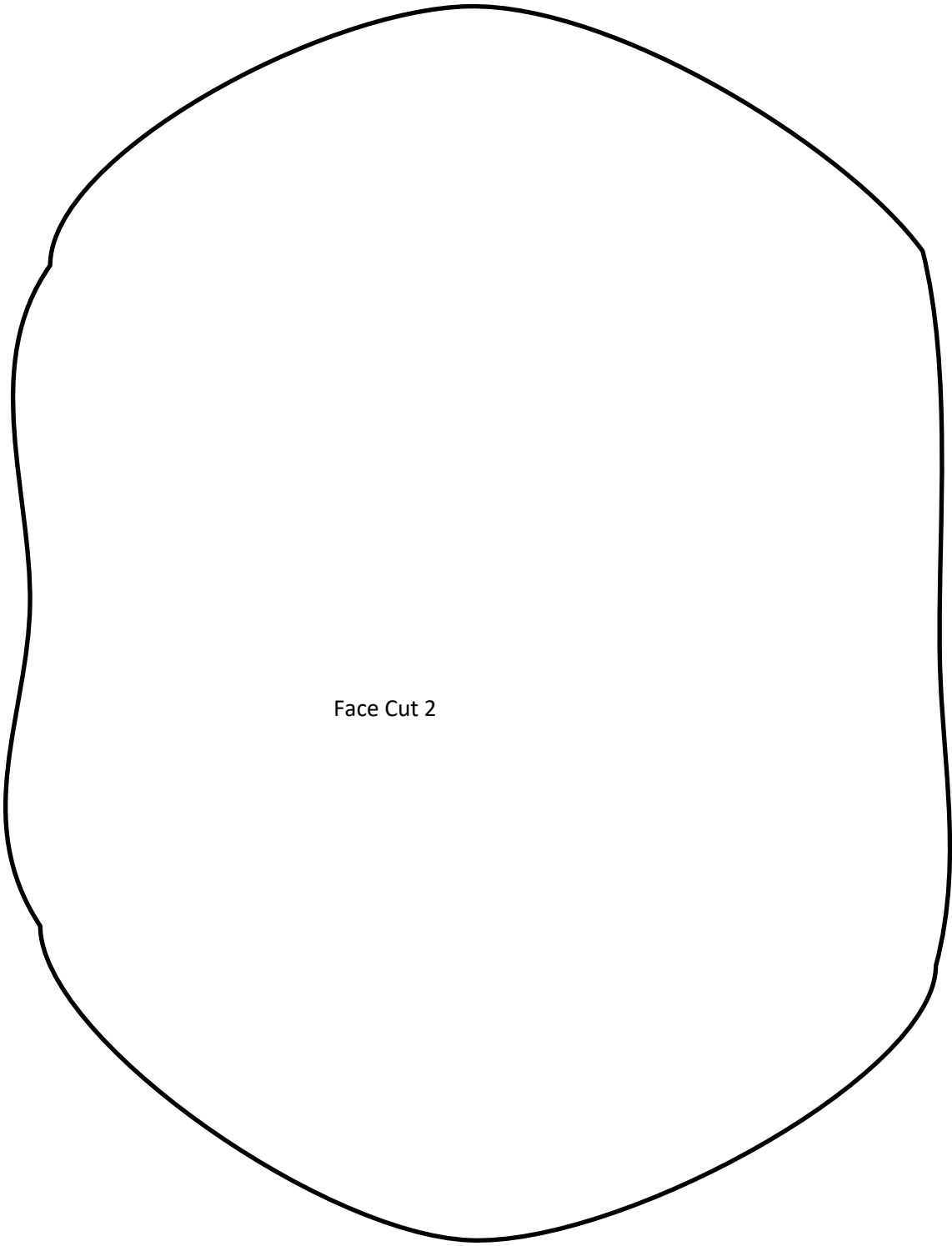


Sew the opening closed. Remove the long stitches at the ears and the tie.



Tie your ribbons into a bow.  
That's it!!





Face Cut 2

# Pattern Pieces



Whiskers – cut 2 or 4



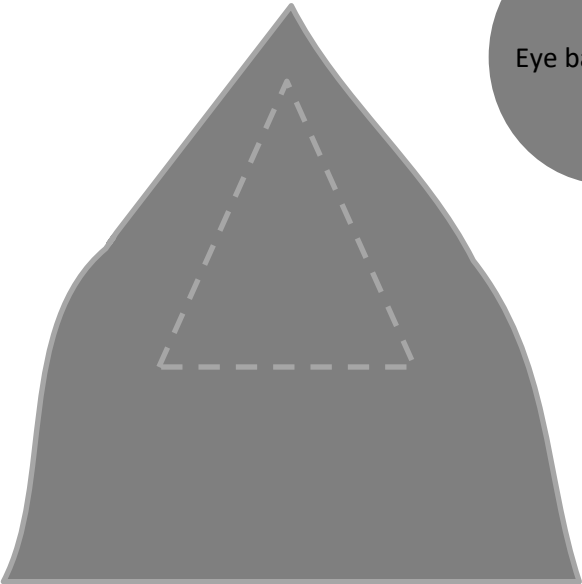
Eye back – cut 2



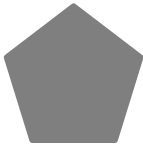
Cheeks – cut 2



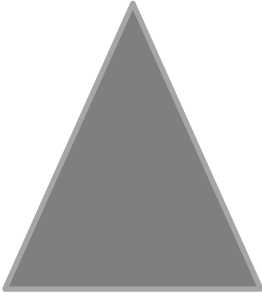
Pupil – cut 2



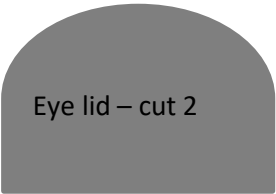
Ear – cut 2



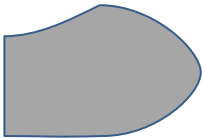
Nose – Cut 1



Inner Ear – cut 2



Eye lid – cut 2



Tongue – Cut 1