

opening for head joint

HEAD
Cut 2-1 Reverse

Top

Sew this seam 1st

Tack arms in this position

Neck opening

Sew this seam 1st

FRONT OF BODY

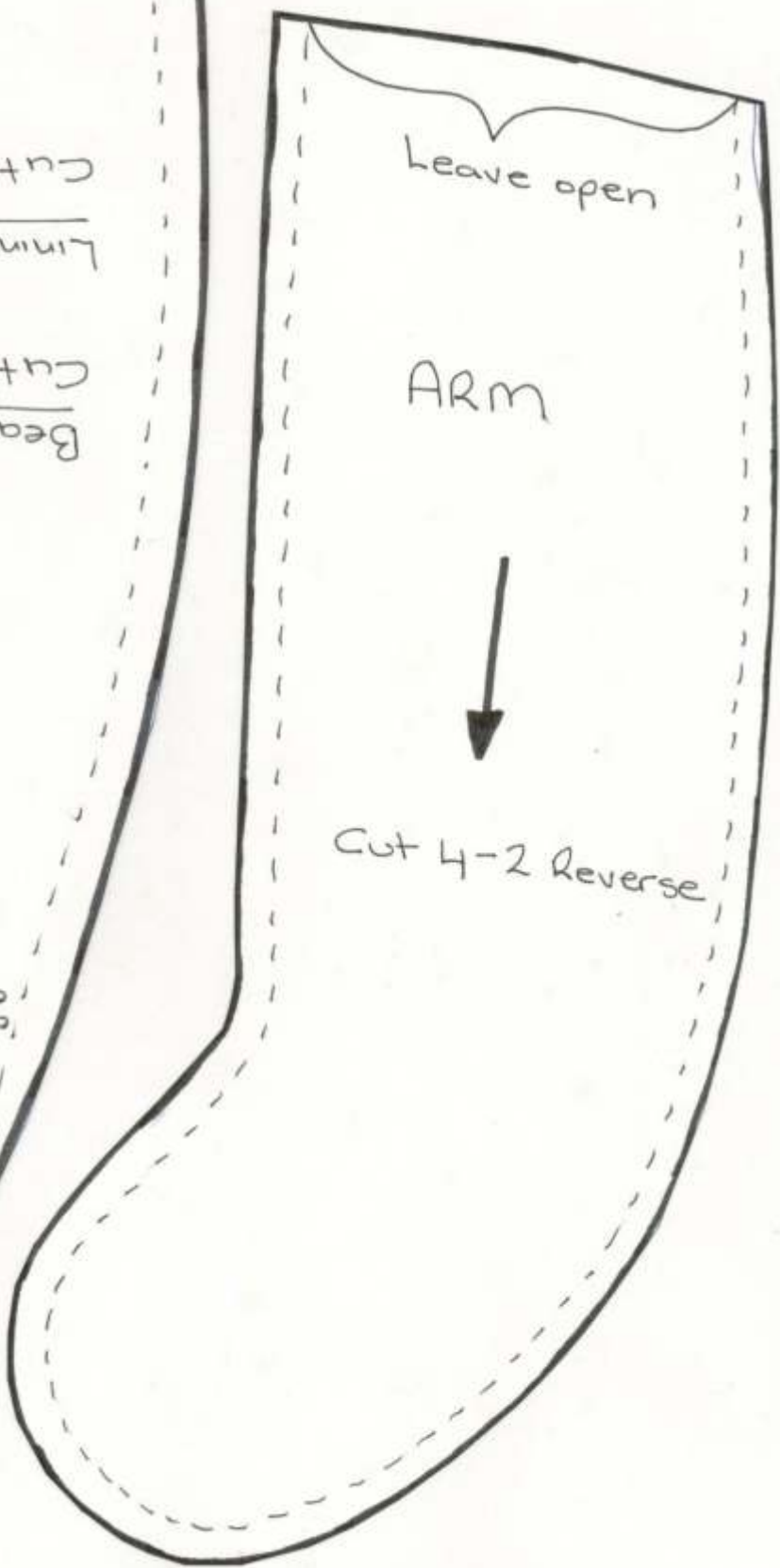
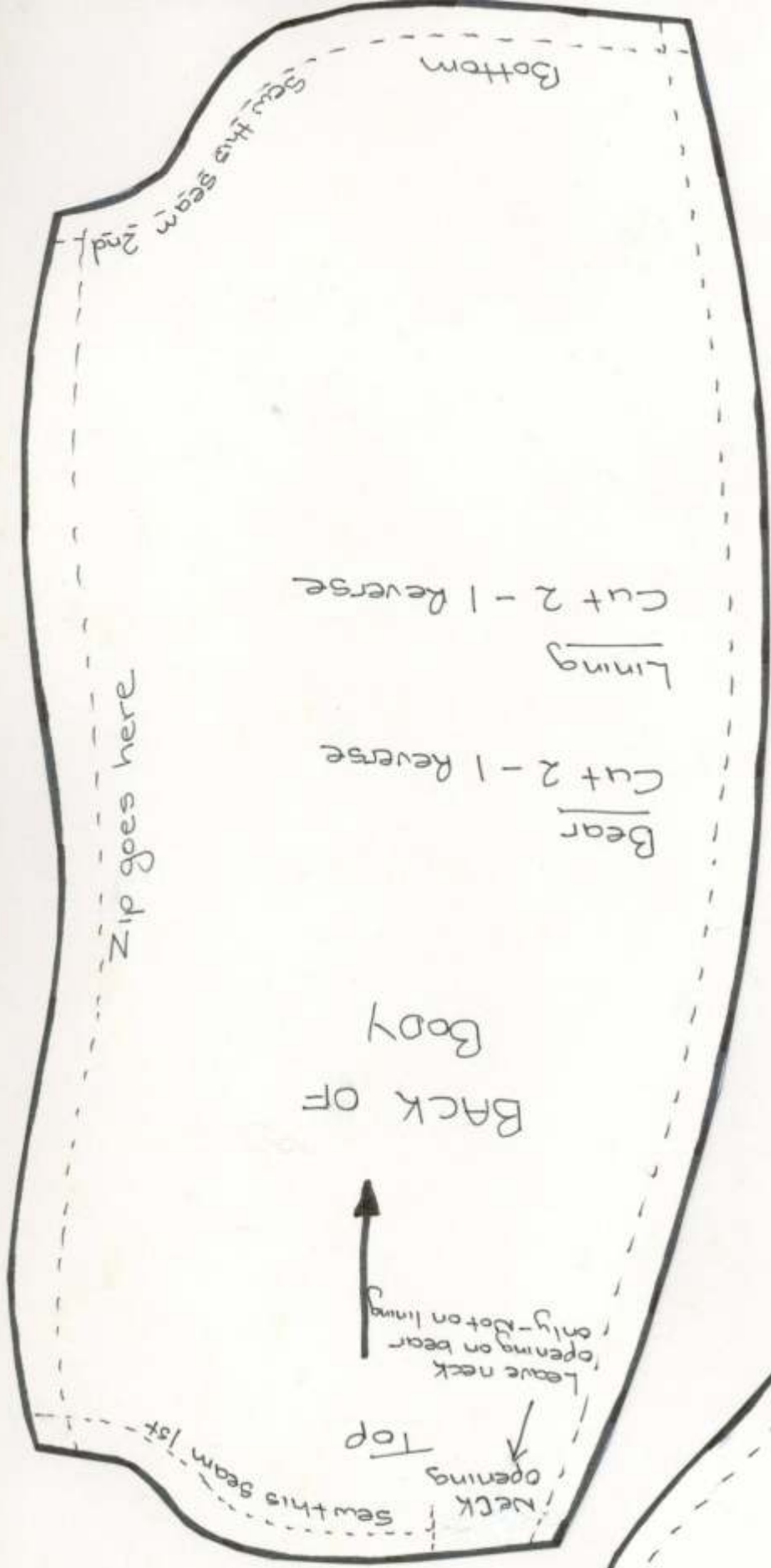
Sew this seam when joining front & back of body

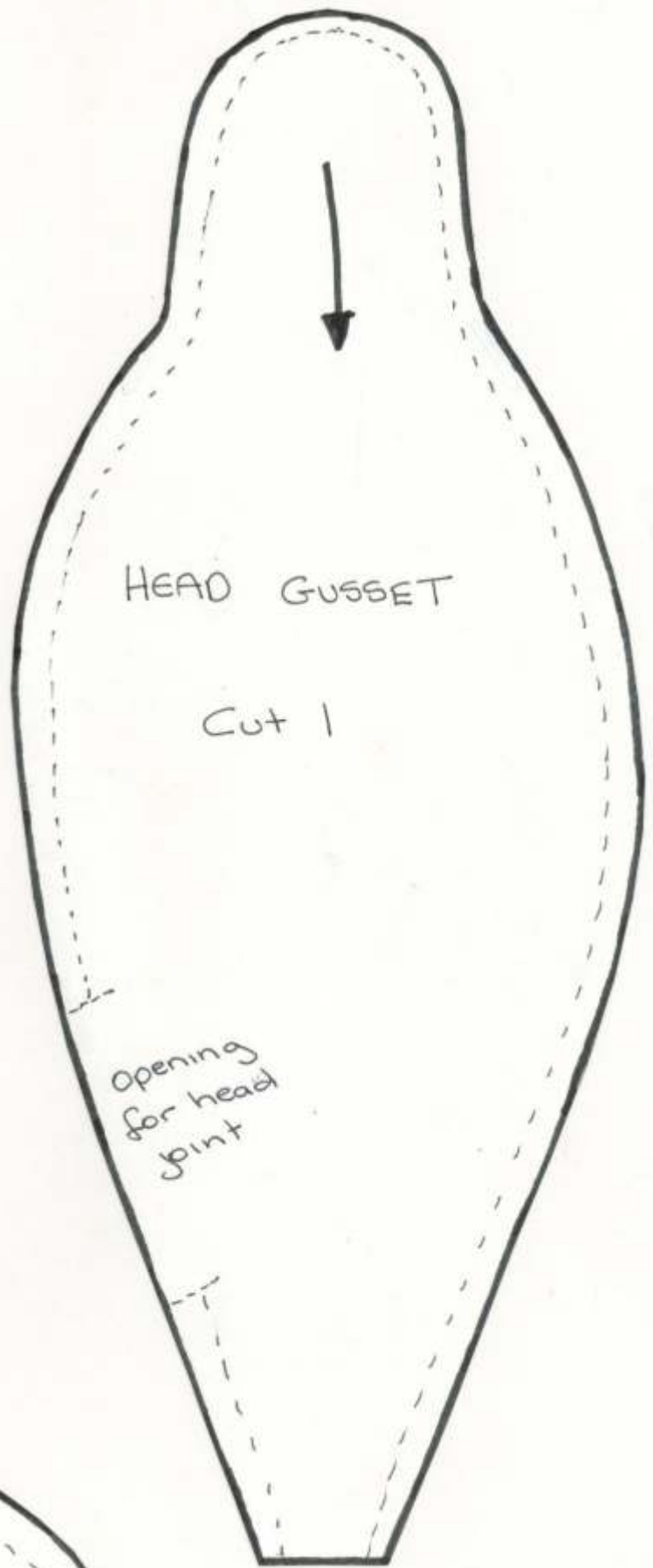
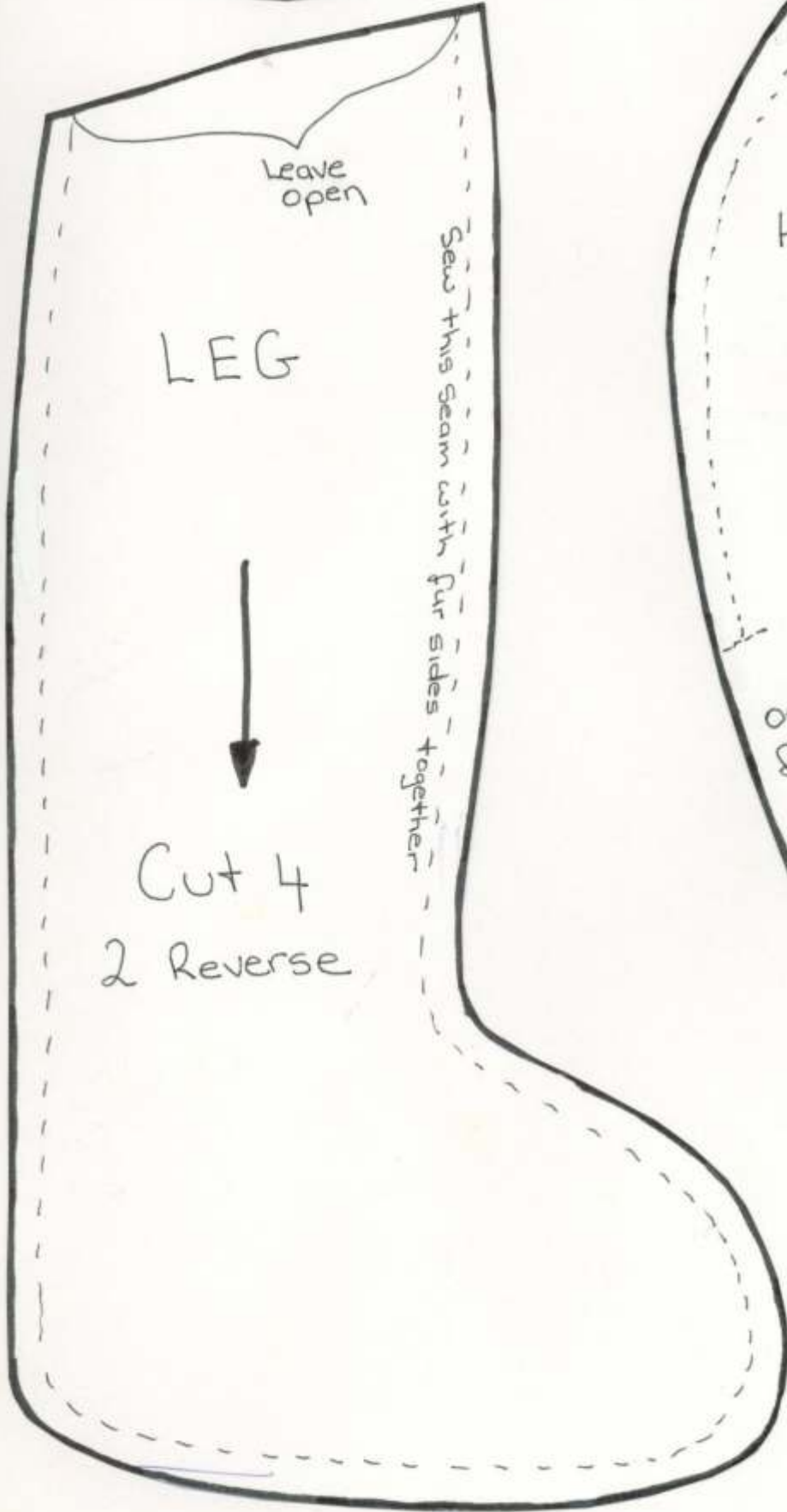
Bear
Cut 2-1 Reverse

Lining
Cut 2-1 Reverse

Tack legs in this position

Bottom





TEDDY BEAR BAG

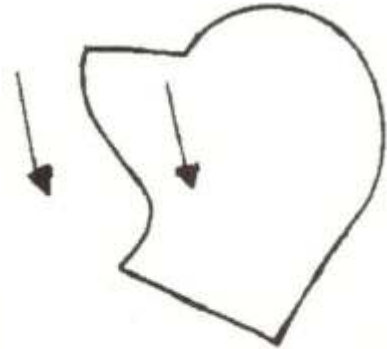
Assembly Instructions

Laying out Pattern

First check that all the contents of your kit are present (as per contents list).

Cut out the paper pattern and lay all pieces on the reverse side of the mohair fabric. Make sure that you have marked the direction of the nap on the reverse side of the material and that the arrows on the pattern are pointing in the same direction.

Draw around the pattern pieces using a soft pencil or fine marking pen. Make sure you have marked the right number of pieces and that where necessary, they have been reversed. Double check that you have the right number of arms and legs etc, and that you have a left and right of each - **BEFORE YOU START CUTTING!**



Sewing

Make sure you have a good quality cotton in a colour that matches the fabric. Make sure the tension on the machine is not too tight and that the stitches are neither too small or too large. It is a good idea to use some fragments of your material to check that the machine is set properly before you commence sewing.

You should also ensure that the presser foot on your machine is correctly adjusted for the fur fabric. If it is too tight, the fabric will move out of alignment during sewing and you will not get an even finish. If it is too loose, you will not be able to control the feeding adequately.

Whether you are sewing your bag by hand or machine, it is advisable to either pin or tack the pieces together first, before final sewing. On areas such as the muzzle and zip, hand tacking is recommended before sewing.



If stitching by hand, use backstitch or reverse stitching for seams using the thread double.



Lining

Using body parts of pattern, cut out the lining making sure you reverse pattern as necessary.

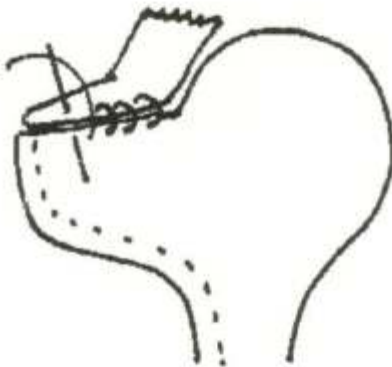
Sew front body lining together, sew from zip opening to neck and from zip opening to base of body. Now sew front and rear lining together. Turn front lining right way out and position it inside rear lining, which should be right side in. Now pin and sew two halves together.



Head

First, place the two sides of the head (fur sides together) and stitch from the tip of the muzzle to the base of the neck. Make sure that the seams are as clear of fur as possible by brushing the pile away from the seams before sewing. Then place the head gusset between the two head sides and hand tack the muzzle section in place before sewing.

Now pin the remaining gusset section to the head pieces from the neck edge to the muzzle. This should then be sewn in by gently easing the fabric to fit, ensuring that the neck seams are even. Leave joint opening in side seam (as marked on pattern) to install neck joint.



Note: If you sew any parts together incorrectly, carefully unpick them and re-stitch the correct way.

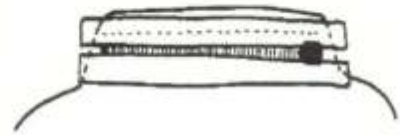
Arms & Legs

Pin arms and legs together then sew (leave ends open). Turn inside out and brush any fur out of the seam. Stuff arms and legs with poly fill stuffing. They should have sufficient stuffing to fill out limbs but should not be stuffed hard, they should be soft filled. Leave the top 1" (5cm) of both arms and legs empty, so that they will be easy to sew into the body.

Inserting Zip

Place zip on fur side of one back body section as shown. Make sure fabric is fur side up and zip is right side down. Zip should be placed so that the fabric extends 1cm past both ends of zip mechanism and top of zip is at neck end. Tack zip into place, then hand sew or using a zipper foot machine zip into place. Make sure stitches are secure at start and finish of sewing, so that they will not come loose with use.

Now attach other side of zip by laying out as shown. Make sure the section to which zip is already attached is turned fur side down with zip folded out on top of other back section in the fur side up position. Pin or tack zip to lower fabric, then sew or machine into place.



Body

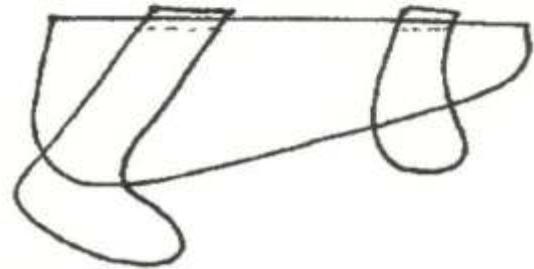
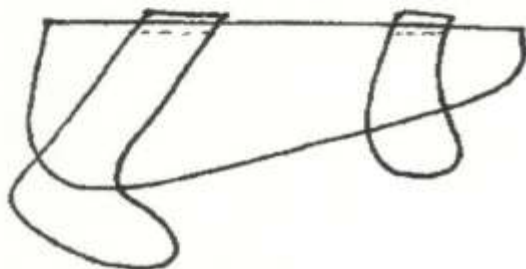
Pin the two front sections of the body together and sew from neck to the base of the body (marked 1st on pattern), turn right way out and brush away any fur that is caught in seam.

Pin the two back sections together, sewing from neck opening down to the zip opening (marked 1st on pattern). Sew from zip opening to base of body (marked 2nd).



With front of body fur side out, place arms and legs on body in position as shown. Tack arms and legs into place on both sides of body.

Turn back of body inside out through zip opening and place over arms and legs so that fur sides are together. Pin into place then sew around whole of body, ensuring that you secure back and front body fabric and that arms and legs are securely sewn in.

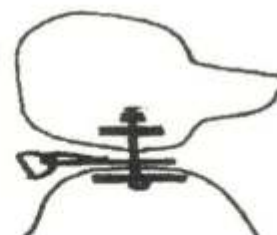


Attaching Head to Body

Using strong thread double thickness, slip stitch around neck opening in head and , draw the threads tightly and tie off. Slip stitch around the neck opening in body and tie off.

Push a knitting needle or awl through the closed neck opening in body, taking care not to break the tie off thread. Through zip opening insert base of head joint and pass bolt through gap in neck seam made by knitting needle. Now place leather strap over bolt, pass bolt through base of head by inserting a knitting needle or awl through spot on head where fabric was drawn closed.

When bolt is inside head, place on other wooden disk, washer and lock nut. Tighten as tight as possible then loosen 1/2 a turn.



Stuffing

Through opening in back of head, start stuffing. It is important to fill the nose first as it is impossible to pack it firm once the rest of the head is stuffed. Pack stuffing in the head as firm as possible. If the head is not stuffed hard, you will find it difficult to embroider the nose on afterwards. When it is as hard as you can get it, you need to close the seam in the head using ladder stitch.

Fitting Lining

Turn lining wrong side out and push lining inside bag, line it up so that it's shape fits the shape of the bear's body. Now using ladder stitch, stitch the lining into bear so that no loose ends are showing. Turn the top of the lining over to hide the raw edge. Work your way round making sure the lining is evenly spaced around the zip opening.

Eyes

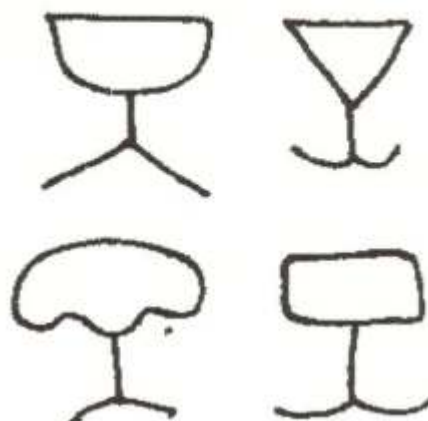
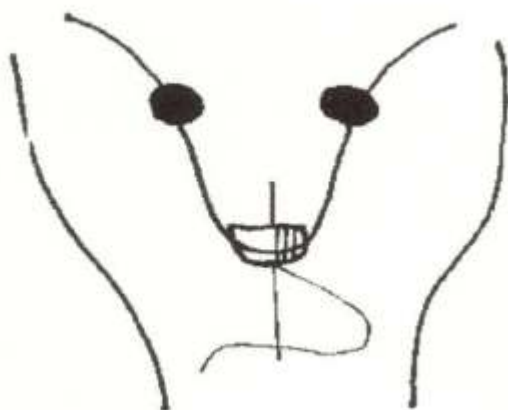
Placement of the eyes is critical to the finished look of your bear. Be careful not to place the eyes too high on the bear's head or too far apart. Generally speaking, the closer together your bear's eyes are placed, the younger he will look.

Using a doll needle (i.e. about 4" long) make a hole in the fabric where the eye is to go and enlarge the hole with a knitting needle or similar. When the hole is large enough to fit the shank of the eye, thread the eye onto the long doll needle using strong thread double thickness. Push the needle through the hole made for the eye, passing it through the head until it comes out as close to the neck joint as possible, and directly alongside one of the rear head seams. Do the same with the other eye, making sure that it comes out as close as possible to the neck joint on the opposite side of the head seam. (The two threads should only be 2-3mm apart). If you are satisfied with the eye placement, it is time to tie them off. Whilst someone pushes the eyes into the head, tie off both threads in a double knot. Check that the eyes are in the right place, if you are not happy with them, remove and try again.

Nose

The embroidering of the nose is probably the most difficult part of your bear. Included in the kit is a small piece of felt to match the embroidery thread. Cut out a nose shape from the felt and tack on with matching cotton. Then make a knot in the end of the embroidery thread and pass the needle under the felt so that the knot is sunk under the felt and bring out where you want to commence the first stitch of the nose. Embroider the nose by making very even stitches close together. If you are not happy with a stitch you have just made, take it out and do it again. When you reach the other end of the nose, take the thread underneath the nose to the tip of the nose and stitch the mouth. This can be two or three single strands. Finish off by passing the thread from the mouth under the nose, coming out at the edge of the nose. Pass the thread under the nose again and then pull tight and snip the thread off.

Below are some nose shapes you may like to try.



Ears

You may find the ears a little difficult to sew on. Just take your time and remember they do not have to be perfectly placed, as a slightly twisted ear often adds to a bear's appeal.

Pin the ears to the head first to determine their position. Using double thread, sew the ear to the head taking a small piece of head fabric each time you make a stitch. Try to turn under a tiny section of the ear fabric as you go, so as not to get a raw edge.

Finish off by tying a knot in the thread and sinking the knot into the head underneath the ear.

Finishing

Attach the "D" ring at the end of the leather strap to the bear's body about 5cm below the end of the zip. Using strong thread double thickness, sew the ring to the body making sure you go both sides of the body seam to ensure the ring is securely attached.

When your bear is complete it is important to make sure that all fur has been brushed out of the seams, as if it is left it, will detract from the overall look of the bear.

Using a large darning needle, pick out any fur which has been trapped in the seams and any tacking thread which may still be caught in the seams. You may then like to brush your bear with a soft brush.