Birdie Pincushion

Materials List

» Assorted scrap materials

» non-permanent, non-bleeding marking tool

» 4" x 4" piece of lightweight, non-fusible interfacing or lightweight fabric

» 1/4 cup dry lentils or craft pellets (to make a weighted base)

» Poly-fill stuffing

» Embroidery floss, beads, felt or buttons for eyes

» Needle and thread

All template pieces have the seam allowances already added. Use 1/4" seam allowance when sewing this project. Have printer set to Scaling: None when printing out the template sheet. Print out the template page at 100% onto card stock or glue paper print out onto card stock to make a sturdy template. Make small holes in templates where the dots are to make the transferring of these marks onto fabric easier.

Cut it Out

Cut out all pieces needed to make the birdie, have fun and mix and match prints. Observe cutting instructions on the different pieces. The body, tail and wings need to have reverse pieces cut as well as pieces cut with the template right side up. Transfer seam intersection marks with a dot on the wrong side of the fabric. Transfer the eye placement dot onto the right side of the fabric of both body pieces.

Start Sewing

Use a 1/4" seam when sewing all pieces. Sew with needle in the down position to keep your position when easing and pivoting during sewing.

Body and Tummy

Pin in two places: One pin at the seam intersection dot of the beak and the tummy piece beak point and the second pin at the seam intersection dot of the tail end of the body side to the seam intersection dot on the tail end of the tummy piece. Start sewing at the beak and ease around the curve of the body stopping at the tail end dot with a back stitch.

» Repeat for other side, start sewing at the beak

» Clip curves

Body and Back

Pin in two places: One pin at the seam intersection dot of the beak and the back piece beak point and the second pin at the seam intersection dot of the tail end of the body side and the seam intersection dot on the tail end of the back piece. Start sewing at the beak and ease around the curve, stopping and pivoting at mid-back. Stop at the tail end dot and back stitch.

» Repeat for the other side, start sewing at the beak

» Clip curves

The area where the tail goes should be left open for turning. Turn the birdie right side out.

Pellet Pouch

Fold the 4" x 4" piece of non-fusible interfacing or lightweight material in half and sew along two sides with a 1/4" seam. Do not turn right side out. Fill the pouch with dried lentils or craft pellets, leaving enough space to sew the opening shut. Coax the pouch inside the tail opening and let rest on the tummy inside

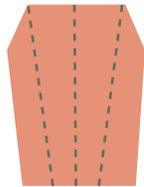so that the bird will sit flat. Firmly stuff the rest of the bird with polyfill stuffing and set aside.

The Tail

Sew together the two tail pieces leaving the small end open.
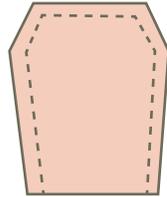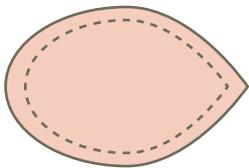
»   Clip and turn.

Stuff lightly and sew 3 lines to give the tail definition.

Place the raw edge of the tail into the birdies tail end opening, turning under the raw edges of the opening 1/4". Hand sew the tail in place and the opening shut with a running stitch.

The Wings

Sew wing sets. With right sides together, sew all the way around the wing shape. Clip curves.

When both sets of wings have been sewn this way, lay the wings down on either side of the bird's body to determine direction of wings and which side of the wing will go against the bird body. The side of the wing that will go against the body will have a small slit cut in it for turning and stuffing. This will not show after being sew onto body. Wings should be mirror images on either side of the body. Stuff lightly and whip stitch on body by hand.

Make slit, turn & stuff
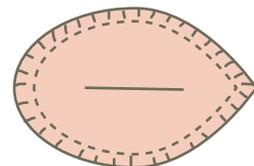
The Eyes

Make french knots with embroidery floss for eyes at eye placement dots. Other options for eyes are: buttons, beads, embroidery, felt circles, felt circles and beads, etc.

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eye placement

beak

tail

Birdie Body - Cut 2

(1 right side up, 1 reverse)

beak

point

Birdie Tummy

Cut 1

beak

point

Birdie Back

Cut 1

Birdie Tail - Cut 2

(1 right side up,

1 reverse)

Birdie Wings

Cut 4

(2 right side up,

2 reverse)

tail end

tail end