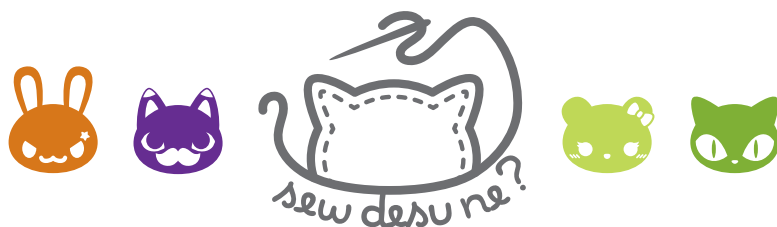


T-REX PLUSH



A FREE SEWING PATTERN BY



T-REX PLUSH

If you know someone who loves dinosaurs, they will not be able to resist the smile on this little cutie!

This tiny tyrannosaurus rex has stubby arms, an oversized head, and a big goofy grin. It sits nicely on its own thanks to a long tail and flat bottom. You can make yours with classic round eyes or cheeky mischievous eyes to match the smile!

SKILLS USED:

- Fusible web applique
- Curved sewing
- Basting
- Darts; double-ended darts
- Ladder stitch

DIFFICULTY:



The hardest part of this plush might be sewing the teeth if you've never sewn a double-ended dart.

The head can pose some challenges if you're not familiar with curved sewing. And the neck can be troublesome if you're not used to ladder stitching. Take it slowly and carefully at these parts and note the extra tips in the instructions if they're new territory for you.

MAKES:

One plush: about 6½" tall, 6" long, and 4" wide



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materials & tools:

- ¼ yd. of fabric for main body
- 5" x 5" piece of accent fabric for belly
- 1/8 yd. or 10" x 4" piece of white fabric for teeth
- 3" x 3" piece of black applique fabric (such as cotton, felt, or flannel) for pupils and nostrils
- 3" x 3" piece of white applique fabric for eyes and eye shines
- optional 2" x 2" piece of pink applique fabric for blush
- sewing thread to match main fabric and applique fabrics
- poly-fil stuffing
- basic sewing tools (sewing machine, scissors, iron, needles, pins, fabric marker, seam ripper)

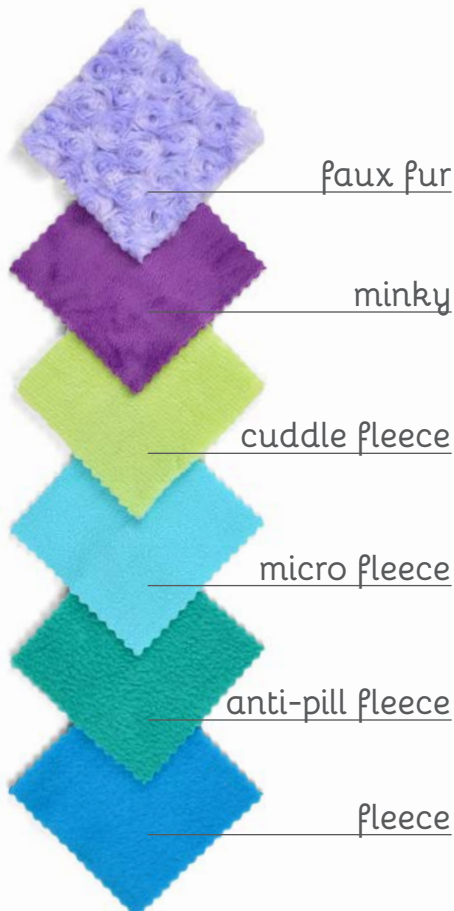


SUGGESTED FABRICS:

Plush, stretchy fabrics such as fleece or minky are suggested. The variations of fleece and minky mentioned to the left would work well, but really any plushy fabric with a bit of stretch on the cross-wise grain would be well-suited.

Stretch fabrics like **FLEECE** or **MINKY** will create a more squat, round shape when stuffed.

Non-stretchy fabrics, like **FELT** or **COTTON**, won't stretch when stuffed so the resulting plush will look elongated as shown.



MINKY

VS.

FELT

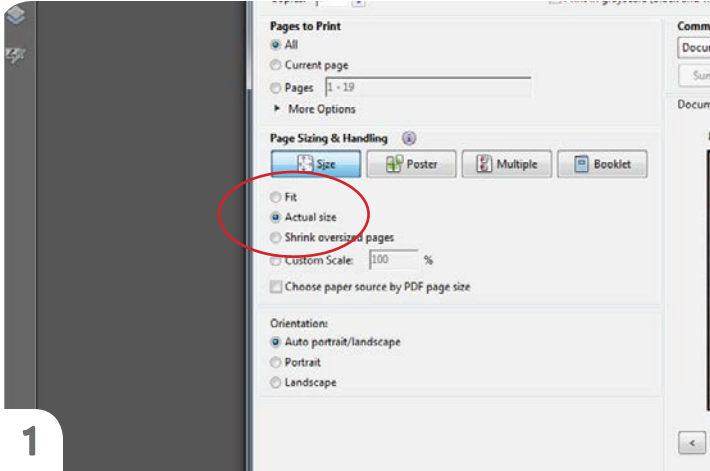


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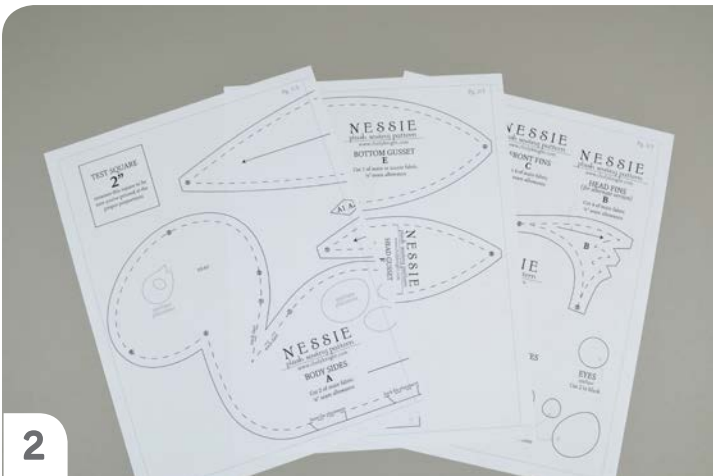
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printing the pattern:

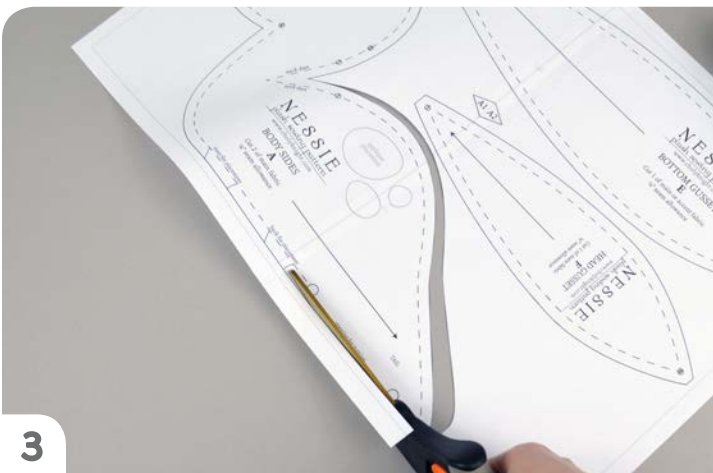
To print the pattern, set your computer to print **PAGES 17-18**. If you're unfamiliar with printing and assembling a .pdf pattern, read the steps below.



At the print dialog box, check the box that says print at “Actual Size” or 100%. Any other selection (such as “Fit to page”) will distort the pattern so it's slightly larger or smaller and we don't want that.



Print the pages needed for the file. You might have one or more. Either way, be sure you have the full collection by noting the page numbers in the corner.



You can trace the patterns onto a different paper, or you can also just cut them straight from the printer paper. They might be a little hard to pin through, so you might want to use your longest pins. But you could also use pattern weights or trace the outlines onto the fabric with a washable marker and cut them out from there.

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cutting the fabric:



1

Place pattern on the fabric, and make sure the stretch line matches the stretch of the fabric. The nap line should go in the direction of the fur.



2

Pin the pattern in place, use pattern weights, or trace the outline of the pattern with a washable marker.



3

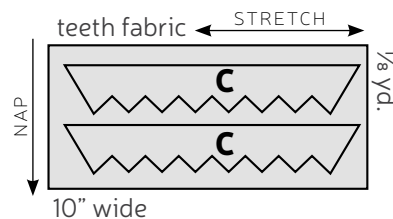
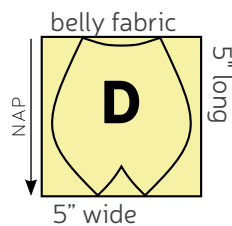
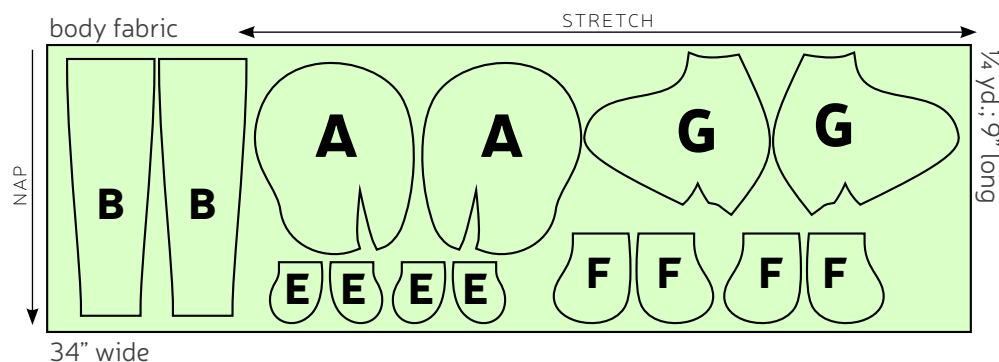
Using the paper as a template, cut out the fabric. Cut the required amount according to the pattern.



4

For all fur fabrics, shake the excess fuzz away.

cutting layout:

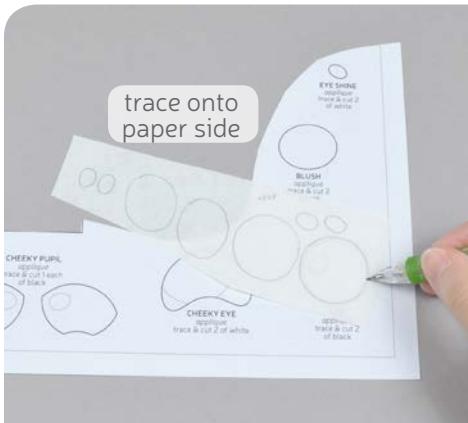


BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

- Briefly read the project instructions so you know what to expect.
- If desired, mark the cut fabric pieces with the markings and symbols from the pattern. Or wait until the applicable step before transferring.
- Note that the seam allowance used is $\frac{1}{4}$ " throughout the project.

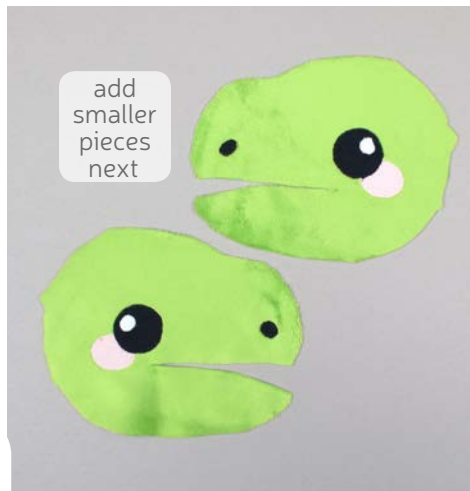
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1. PREPARE THE FACE APPLIQUE

- Grab your fusible web and trace all of your applique pieces onto the smooth (paper) side. You should have two eyes, two eye shines, and two nostrils. Pupils and blush are optional.
- Fuse the bumpy (adhesive) side onto the wrong side of your applique fabric. The eyes and nostrils should go onto black, the eye shines on white, and the blush (if using) on pink.
- Cut out the eyes and arrange them on the **HEAD SIDE (A)** piece. Set your paper pattern on top of the fabric piece (right sides up). Align the eye piece on top where the placement markings are. Then carefully pull the paper pattern away while holding the applique piece in place.

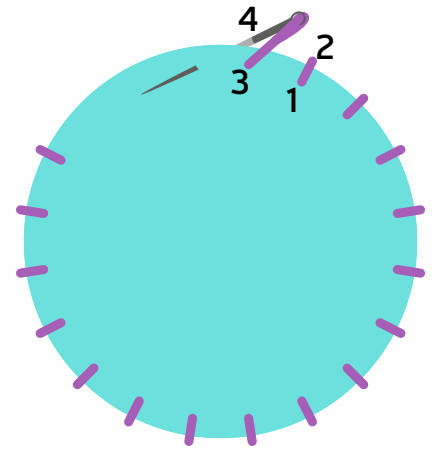
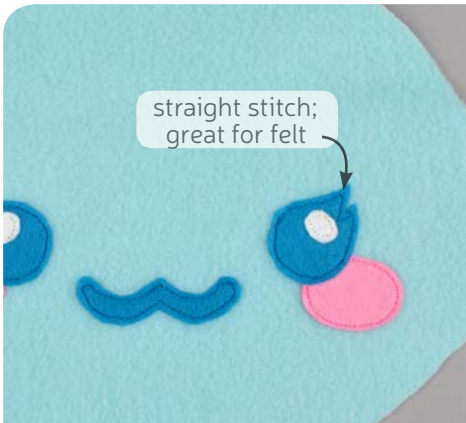


2. FUSE THE APPLIQUE

- Fuse the eye piece in place with your iron.
- Next, move onto the smaller pieces. Fuse them much the same way as you did the eyes, using the paper pattern and photos as a guide. Repeat with the other head side piece so you have both sides of the head.
- If you used heavy duty fusible web, you can keep the pieces fused without sewing, or you can sew them in place a number of ways. I've used a zigzag stitch here.
 - Refer to the next step for some other applique options.

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2a. OTHER APPLIQUE OPTIONS

- Other good options for applique include a straight stitch, which involves sewing around the edge of the applique pieces with a straight stitch using matching thread -- about 1/8" in from the edge.
- You can also applique by hand; I prefer a whipstitch. Thread a hand-sewing needle with some matching thread and knot it. Bring the thread up from the back of the project; about 1/8" in from the edge of the applique shape. Bring it down perpendicular from the curve, just outside of the applique shape. This completes one stitch.
- For the next stitch, bring the needle back up about 1/8" away from the previous stitch and 1/8" in from the edge just as in the first stitch. Once again, bring it down just outside the applique shape. Continue this way until you've sewn around the shape.

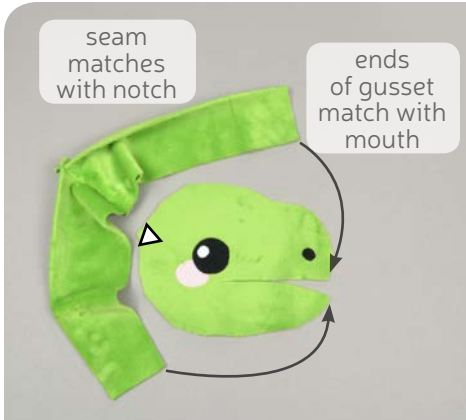


3. SEW THE HEAD GUSSET

- Grab your **HEAD GUSSET** pieces (B). Align them so right sides are facing and raw edges match up.
- Sew the gusset pieces together along the wide end so it makes one long strip when complete.

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4. SEW THE GUSSET TO THE HEAD

- Grab your sewn **GUSSET** (B) and one of your **HEAD SIDE** pieces (A). The goal is for one long edge of the gusset to wrap around the head, starting and stopping at the opening of the mouth. The **seam** of the gusset (from step 3) lines up with the **notch** on the head side.
- Wrap the gusset around the edge of the head. Start and stop at the corners of the mouth and pin as you go.
 - **TIP:** if you have trouble getting the gusset to fit, cut tiny 1/8" long clips into the seam allowance. This will help the gusset stretch around the curves of the head.
- Sew the gusset to the head all around the edge.



5. SEW THE REMAINING SIDE

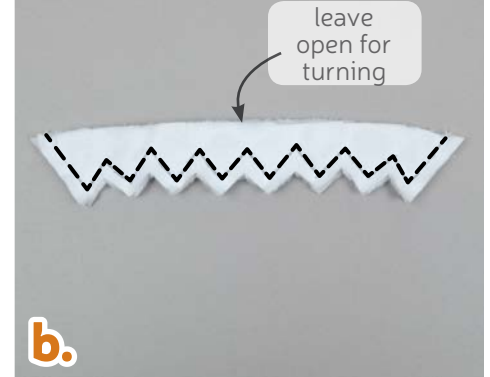
- Open up the pieces when complete and line up the other long edge of the **GUSSET** (B) to your remaining **HEAD SIDE** piece (A). Pin the fabrics together.
- If you haven't already, note the **opening for turning marking** found on the paper pattern for the head side. Mark it on your fabric as well, either tracing directly or using it as a rough guide for a 2-3" space around the bottom of the head. Sew the remaining edge of the gusset to the other head side, but leave this opening for turning.

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- a. Grab your **TEETH** pieces (C). Align them with right sides facing and raw edges matching.
- b. Sew them together along the pointed edge. Leave the straight edge free for turning the teeth later.
- c. Trim the excess seam allowance at the inner and outer corners of the teeth. This will reduce bulk and increase flexibility when the teeth are turned next.
- d. Turn the teeth right side out. Define the corners with a chopstick or similar turning tool.

6. SEW THE TEETH



7. FLIP THE HEAD



- a. Retrieve your head again and focus on the mouth opening. Place the head so the mouth opening is facing up.
- b. Turn the head right side out and find the bottom edge of your mouth opening. This is where your teeth will be attached next.

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8. BASTE THE TEETH

- Grab your **TEETH** (C) from before. Take the open edge and align it over the **bottom mouth edge** from the previous step. It should go from corner to corner of the mouth opening and across the **GUSSET** (B).
- Baste the teeth to the mouth within the seam allowance to hold it for the next step.
- Turn the head back wrong side out. For the next step, align the lower edge of the mouth with the upper edge while the teeth are tucked inside. The seams from the head gusset should match up between the lower and upper half of the mouth.

basting:

A form of temporary sewing meant to hold pieces in place. A long stitch length is often used for this reason. The finished result is not meant to be seen and sometimes is even removed later (depending on your project).



9. SEW THE MOUTH

- With the **TEETH** securely inside the mouth, sew the mouth seam. Start at the edge of one corner of the mouth and merge into the fabric using the regular $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance. Keep going across the mouth until you reach the other corner and veer off the edge to complete. This is something like a double-ended dart as you're sewing into the fold on both sides.
 → **TIP:** double check your corners from both sides to be sure the teeth are securely sewn.
- Turn the head right side out and check that the teeth in the corners don't have any holes or gaps.

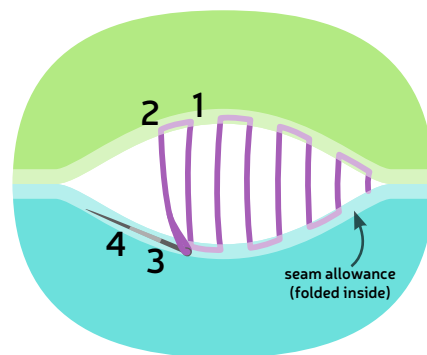
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10. STUFF AND SEW THE HEAD

- Stuff the head firmly with stuffing through the opening in the bottom of the head. Stuff it enough so there are no wrinkles in the fabric, especially around the seams.
- Make sure the seam allowances in the opening are tucked inside and prepare to ladder stitch it closed. Thread a hand-sewing needle and knot it at the end. Insert the needle from the inside of the opening and out of the plush near one edge of the opening. This will leave the knot inside the plush.
- Continue from here doing a ladder stitch. Take a 1/8" stitch into the fold of one side of the opening, then go across and take another. (See illustration at the right). Keep going down the opening until you reach the end.



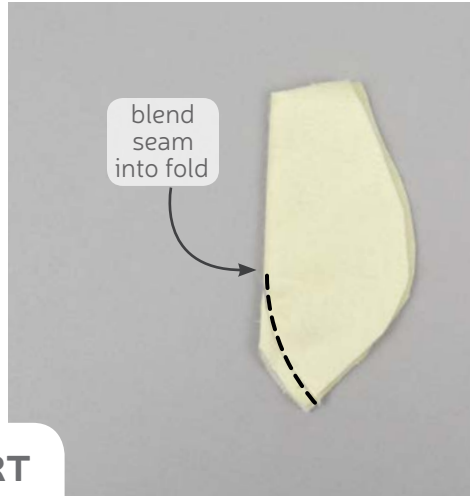
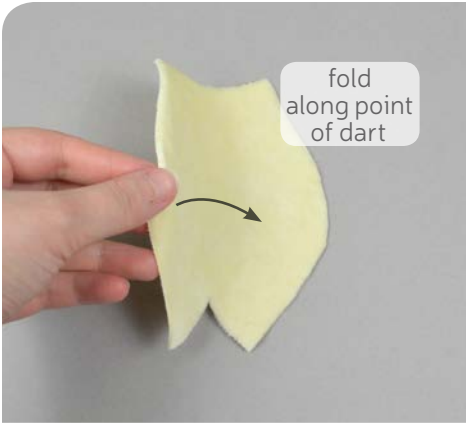
11. TRIM THE THREADS

- When you're finished, stitch a knot into the end of the seam. Then insert the needle near the finished knot and out of the plush about 1-2" away.
- Pull the thread through and hold it taut while snipping the thread. The excess thread should sink back inside the plush -- all hidden!

→ Set the head aside while we work on the body.

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12. SEW THE BELLY DART

- Find the small open wedge shape at the bottom of the **BELLY** (D) piece. This is a **dart**. To sew it, fold the belly along the point of the wedge to match up the short slanted lines.
- Next, sew along this edge. Start at the opening of the dart and move down to the point.
- Try to blend the seam into the fold of the fabric for a smooth transition and a rounder finished plush.

darts:

A wedge-shaped gap found in a pattern. When sewn in fabric, it creates a tuck in the fabric and develops a 3D shape. The diagonal sides of the wedge are the **LEGS**; these are matched up and sewn to the **POINT** of the dart.

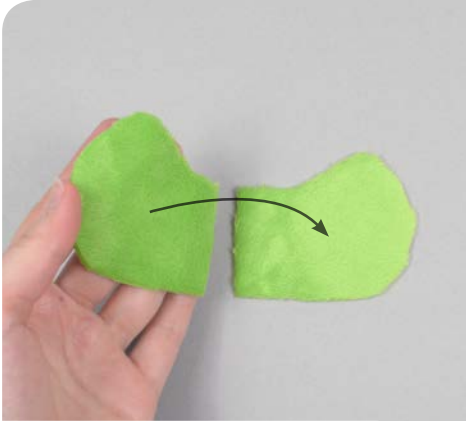


13. SEW THE ARMS

- Grab your **ARM** pieces (E). Take two of them and align them with right sides facing and raw edges matching up.
- Sew them together around the curved edge. Leave the straight edge free for turning the arm right side out.
- Turn the arm right side out and repeat with the other arm pieces for two complete arms total.

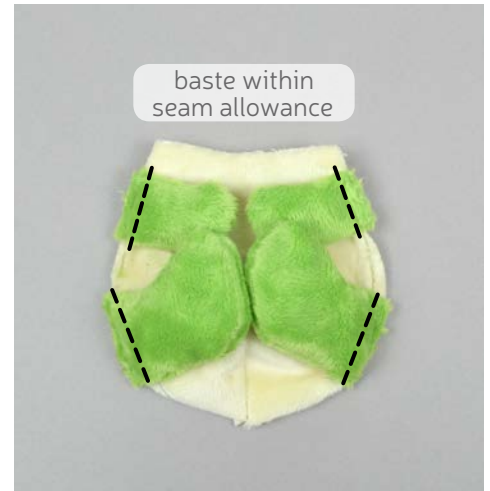
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14. SEW THE LEGS

- Grab your **LEG** pieces (F). Take two of them and align them with right sides facing and raw edges matching up.
- Sew them together around the curved edge. Leave the straight edge free for turning the leg right side out.
- Turn the leg right side out and repeat with the other leg pieces for two complete legs total.

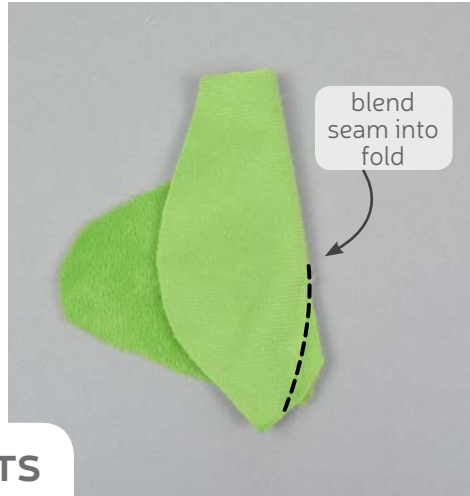


15. BASTE THE ARMS AND LEGS

- Stuff each of the **ARMS** and **LEGS** with stuffing. Keep it light near the opening as we'll be sewing it to the belly next.
- Grab your **BELLY** piece from before. If you haven't already, locate the arm and leg placement lines found on the paper pattern for the belly. Transfer them over to the right side of the fabric. Align the open end of the arms and legs within these placement lines. Note that they should curve upward.
- Flip the arms and legs toward the inside and baste them to the edge of the belly within the seam allowance. This will hold them in place for future steps.

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16. SEW THE BACK DARTS

- Grab your **BACK** pieces (G). Take one and find the **dart** along the bottom. Sew it much the same way as the **belly dart**. Fold the piece along the point and match up the slanted lines.
- Sew starting at the opening of the dart and blend the seam into the fold.
- Open up the piece when complete, and repeat with the remaining back piece for two sides.



17. SEW THE BACK

- Take both **BACK** pieces and align them with right sides facing and raw edges matching up.
- Sew the two together along the longer of the two curved edges. This longer curve is the tail.
- Before turning the piece, make small clips into the seam allowance of the curve above the tail (behind the neck). This will help increase flexibility when the body is turned right side out later.

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- a. Take the **BACK** piece and align it over the **BELLY** you have so far. Make sure the **LEGS** and **ARMS** are tucked inside and pin the edges together.
- b. Sew the back to the belly around the curved edge. Leave the straighter edge at the top free for turning the body next.



- a. Turn the body right side out through the opening in the neck.
- b. Stuff the body firmly with stuffing. Start at the tail and work up to the neck area. Be sure to put plenty in areas near the seams and darts so there are no wrinkles in the fabric.

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20. ATTACH THE HEAD

- Grab your head from before. Prepare to attach it to the body. For extra help, the pattern has a **neck placement guide** on the **GUSSET** (B) piece. You can transfer it over by cutting a hole in the guideline and tracing it onto the fabric.
- Align the head over the body so both are facing forward. Get a hand sewing needle and thread it. Begin ladder stitching the head to the body by taking one stitch in the center back seam ($\frac{1}{4}$ " in from the edge) and another in the back of the head guideline.
- Keep taking stitches around the opening of the body until you reach the back again.

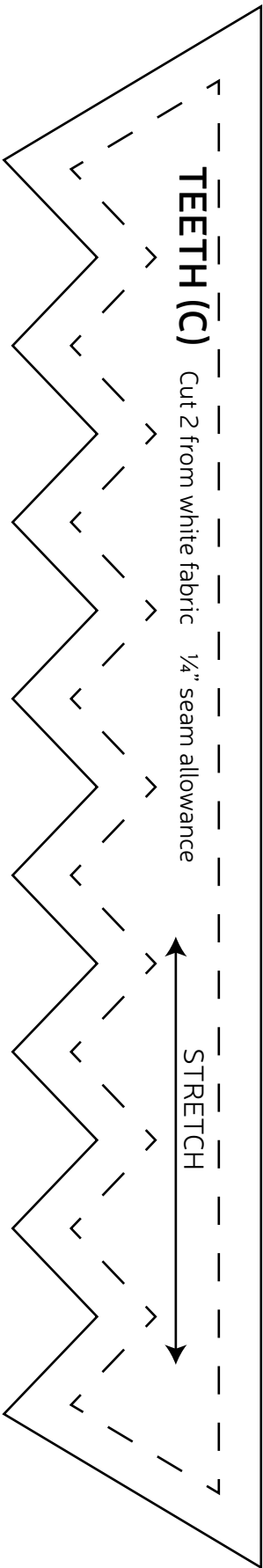
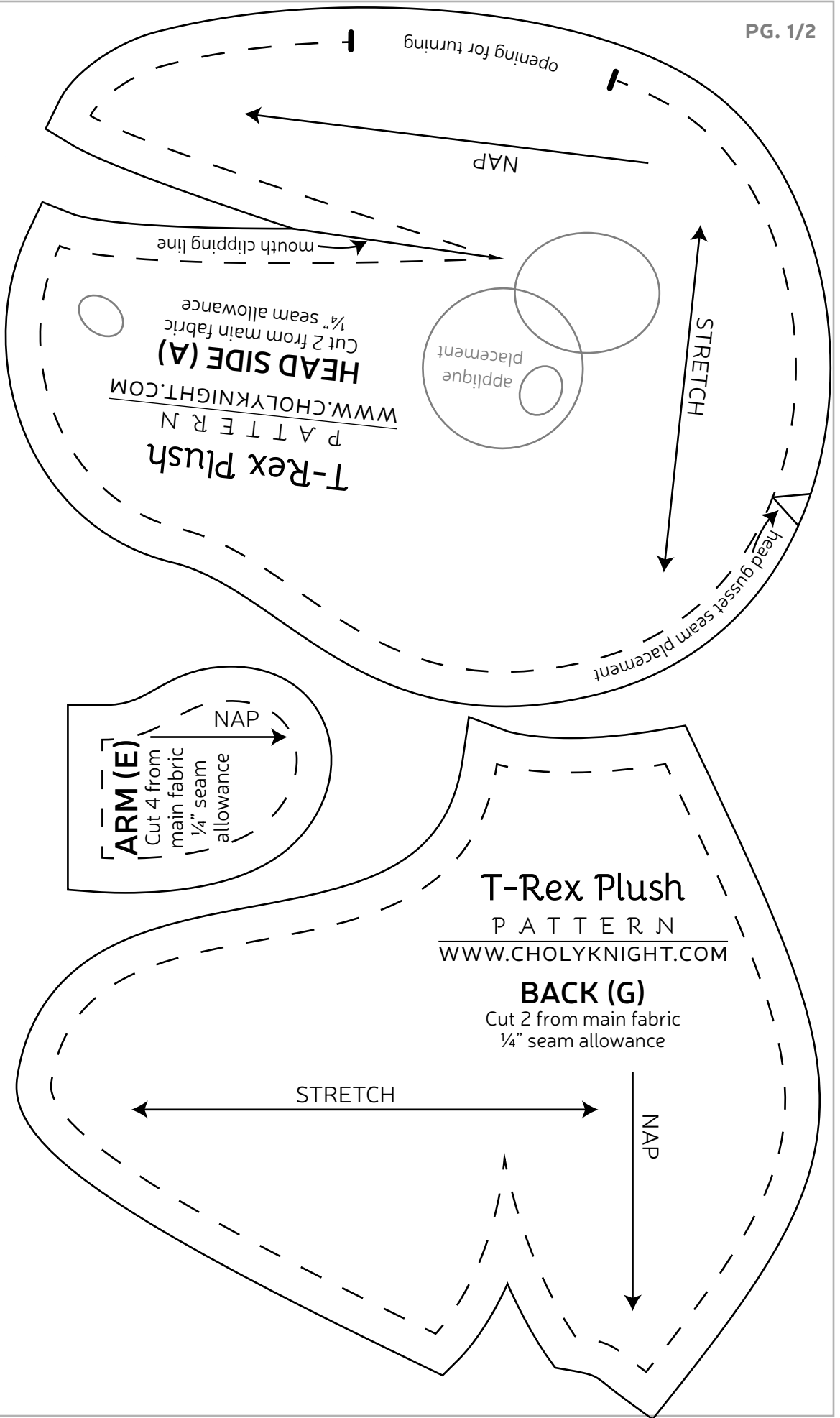
→ **TIP:** take big basting stitches around the neck for the first time. Then check the whole plush to be sure you like the placement of the head. If you do, go around again with tinier, neater stitches just outside of your first stitches.

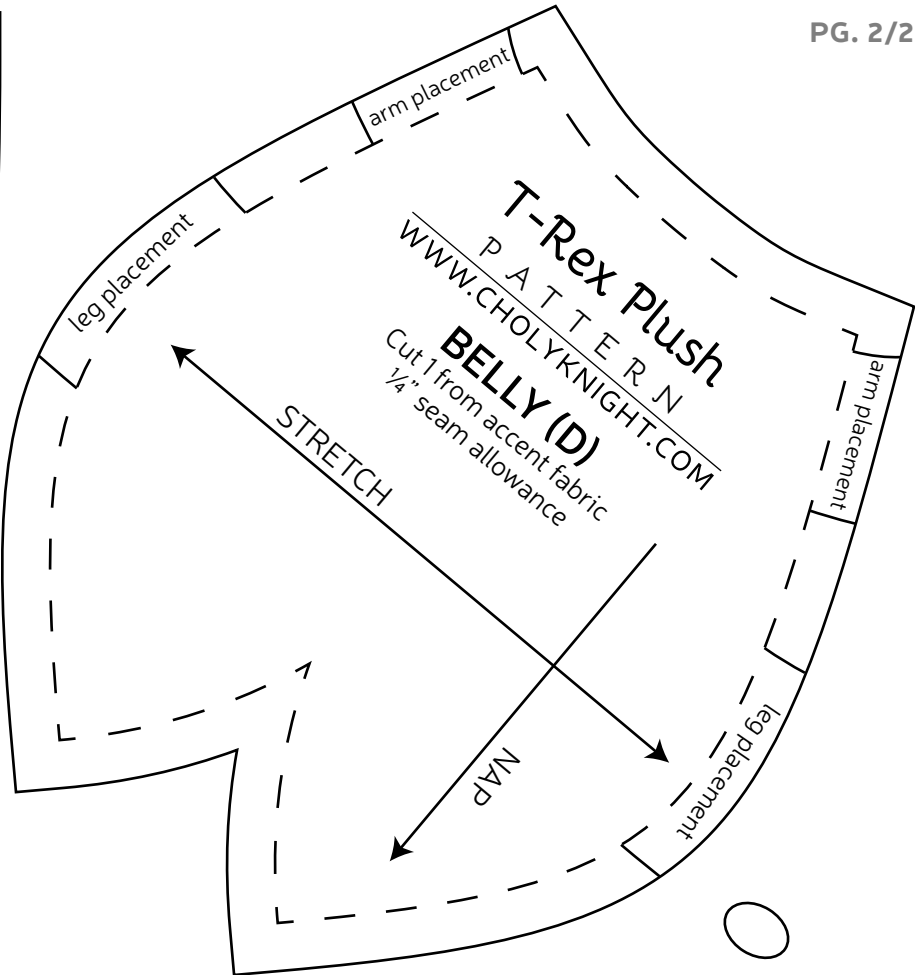
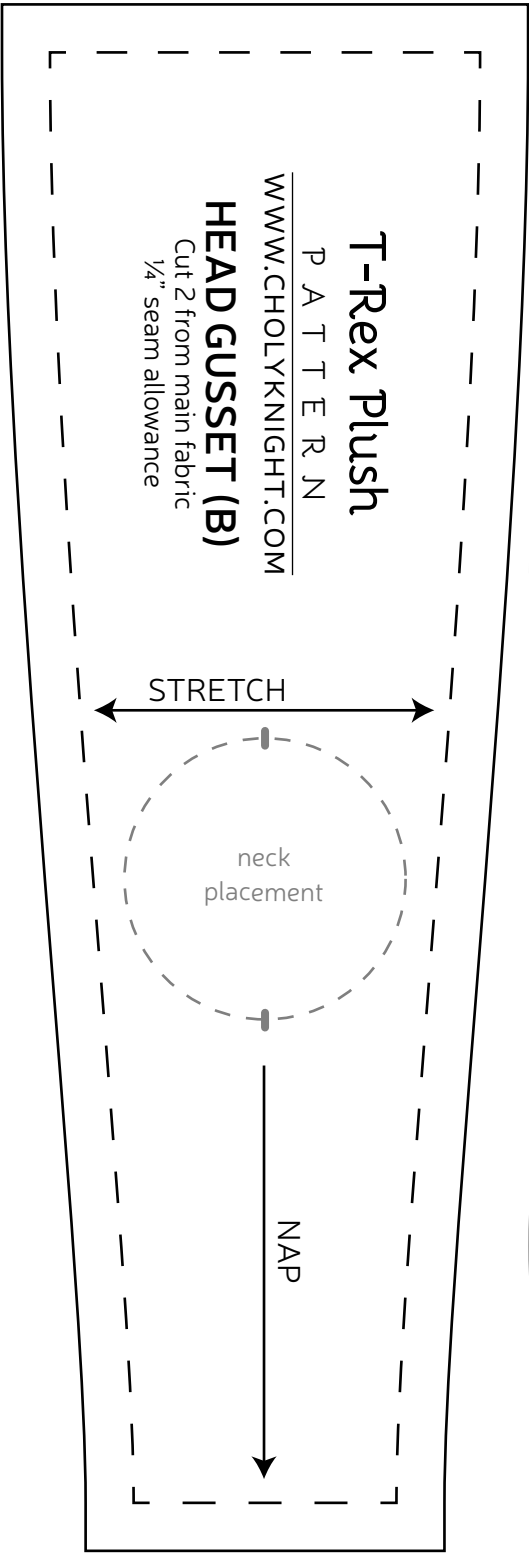
congrats!
this completes
your plush! Now
give it a big
hug!



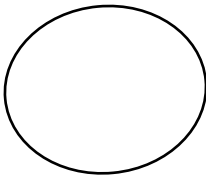
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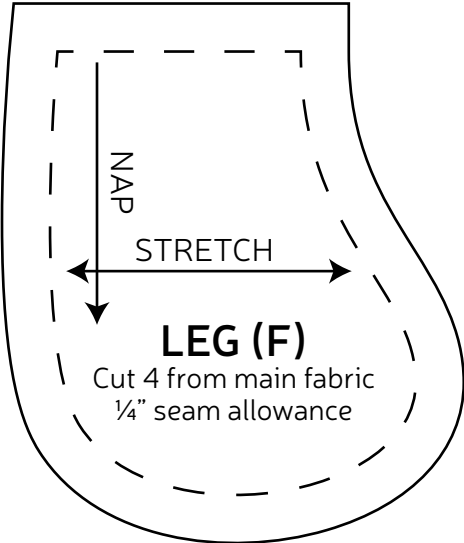




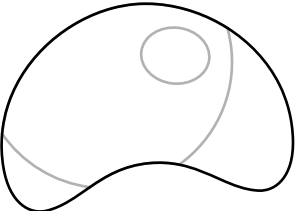
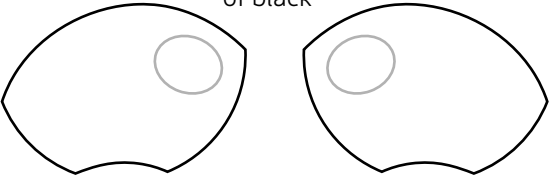
EYE SHINE & NOSTRIL
applique
trace & cut 2 of
white and black



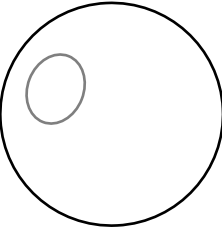
BLUSH
applique
trace & cut 2
of pink



MISCHIEVOUS PUPIL
applique
trace & cut 1 each
of black



MISCHIEVOUS EYE
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trace & cut 2 of white



EYE
applique
trace & cut 2
of black