

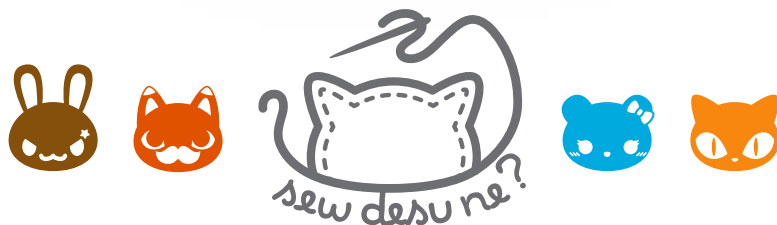
MOTHTRA

moth & butterfly plush

PATTERN HACK



a free sewing pattern add-on by



MOTHRA PLUSH PATTERN HACK

This pattern hack is meant to work alongside my **MOTH & BUTTERFLY PLUSH SEWING PATTERN**. It's a set of extra templates that replace some of the original moth pattern. Inside you'll find a guide for changing the flying moth into the imposing Mothra! It includes new head front pieces, antennae, and stinger. And for the rest of the transformation you'll find new applique pieces for her wings and back. If you're very skilled at frankensteining patterns, you could use these new templates to add onto your own personal favorite bug pattern!

start with this pattern & add on the new pieces!



LARGE WINGS:

SMALL WINGS:



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DIFFICULTY:



The construction of the new face adds a little bit more complexity to the project, and all the added applique and hand sewing adds more time.

MAKES:

ONE PLUSH: about 8" long from mouth to back of body, 4" wide from each side of head, and 3½" tall from bottom to top of head. Large wings have about a 13" wingspan, small wings have about an 8" wingspan.

SKILLS USED:

- fusible web applique
- sewing curves (straight to curved pieces, inner to outer curves, outer to outer curves, etc.)
- sewing tiny pieces
- basting
- top stitching
- matching notches and points
- ladder stitch
- working with wire

SUGGESTED FABRICS:

MINKY OR FLEECE

Medium weight, plush fabrics with about 20%-30% stretch along the crosswise grain work best for this project. The varieties shown to the left are some good options and names to look for. Try to avoid heavyweight versions of fleece that are intended for outdoor apparel or they may cause trouble for the detailed areas.

You can also use non-stretch fabrics (such as felt), but be aware that the curves will be more difficult to sew and the result will look different. The plush will become more elongated and the edges will look harder.



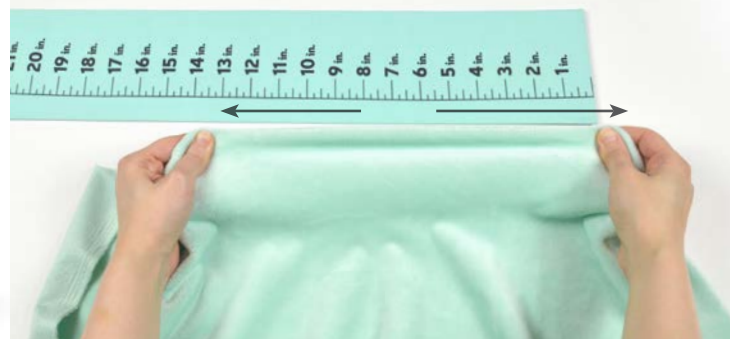
MINKY

VS.

FELT



10" of minky
stretches to 13"
= 30% stretch



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MATERIALS & TOOLS:

- ¼ yd. of white fabric for **BODY, LEGS, and ANTENNAE**
- **OPTIONAL:** ¼ yd. or 7" x 7" of fluffy white fabric for **HEAD SIDES** and **BODY SIDES**
- ¼ yd. or 5" x 8" of brown fabric for **BELLY** and **STINGER**
- ¼ yd. or 9" x 8" of orange fabric for **HEAD BACK** and **FOREHEAD**
- ¼ of red/orange fabric for **FOREWINGS**
- ¼ of black fabric for **HINDWINGS, MOUTH, and CHIN**
- **APPLIQUE SUPPLIES:**
 - **HEAD & BODY APPLIQUE**
 - 3" x 3" piece of blue applique fabric for *eyes*
 - 3" x 3" piece of light blue applique fabric for *eye highlights*
 - 2" x 2" piece of powder blue applique fabric for *second eye highlight*
 - 2" x 2" piece of white applique fabric for *eye shines*
 - 4" x 4" piece of orange applique fabric for *body markings*
 - 7" x 7" piece of light or heavy duty fusible web
 - **SMALL WINGS**
 - 5" x 5" piece of white applique fabric
 - 4" x 8" piece of yellow applique fabric
 - 3" x 3" piece of red/orange applique fabric
 - 3" x 3" piece of orange applique fabric
 - 5" x 7" piece of black applique fabric
 - 8" x 12" piece of light or heavy duty fusible web
 - **LARGE WINGS**
 - 7" x 7" piece of white applique fabric
 - 9" x 9" piece of yellow applique fabric
 - 3" x 3" piece of red/orange applique fabric
 - 4" x 4" piece of orange applique fabric
 - 8" x 8" piece of black applique fabric
 - 12" x 15" piece of light or heavy duty fusible web
- 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)
- optional wiring supplies (*see main instructions for more information*)
 - about 50" of 1" wide scrap fabric
 - jewelry pliers
 - wire cutter
 - hot glue
 - **jewelry wire or pipe cleaners:**
 - **LARGE WINGS:** 14" piece and 10" piece
 - **SMALL WINGS:** two 8" pieces

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FABRIC CUTTING GUIDE:

Follow the cutting guide below for what colors to cut from the **FLYING MOTH** pattern pieces from the original **MOTH & BUTTERFLY PATTERN**. First are the original pieces, then down below are the new pattern hack pieces for the new face.

PATTERN LABEL	NAME	COLOR
ORIGINAL PATTERN PIECES		
G	HEAD BACK	ORANGE
H	BODY BACK	WHITE
I	BODY SIDES	FLUFFY WHITE
J	BELLY	BROWN
L	ARMS	WHITE
N1 or P1	FOREWINGS	BLACK
O1 or Q1	HINDWINGS	RED/ORANGE

PATTERN HACK PIECES

1	HEAD SIDE	FLUFFY WHITE
2	UNDER EYE	ORANGE
3	HEAD TOP	ORANGE
4	FOREHEAD	BLACK
5	NOSE BRIDGE	ORANGE
6	CHIN	BLACK
7	ANTENNAE	WHITE
8	MANDIBLES	WHITE
9	MOUTH	BLACK
10	STINGER	BROWN



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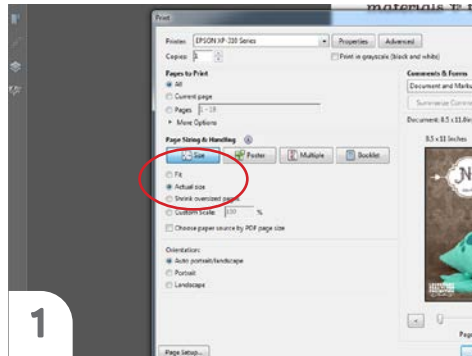
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PRINTING THE PATTERN:

Set your computer to print **PAGES 18-22**.

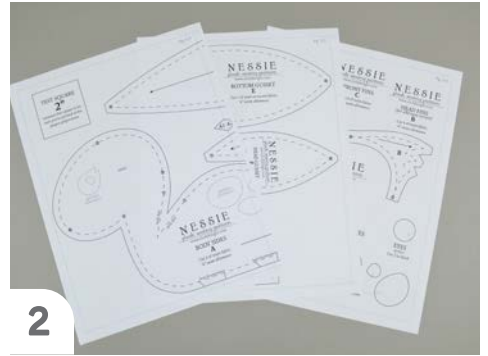
If you're unfamiliar with printing and assembling a .pdf pattern, read the steps to follow.

For the best results, use a .pdf reader like **ADOBE READER**. That's what is shown here and will give you the most control over the settings.



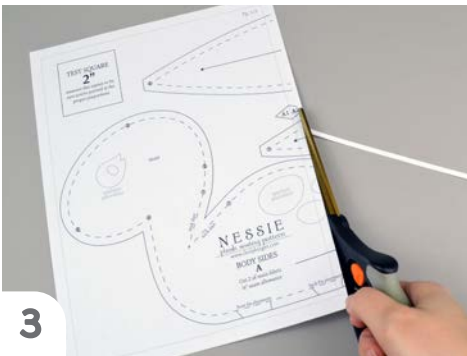
1

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.



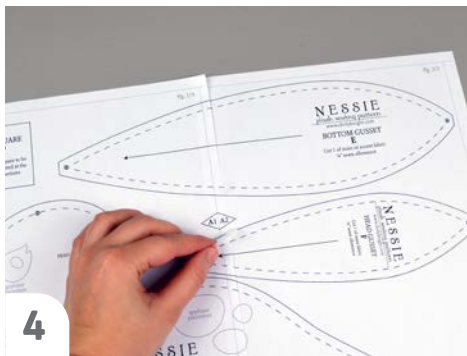
2

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.



3

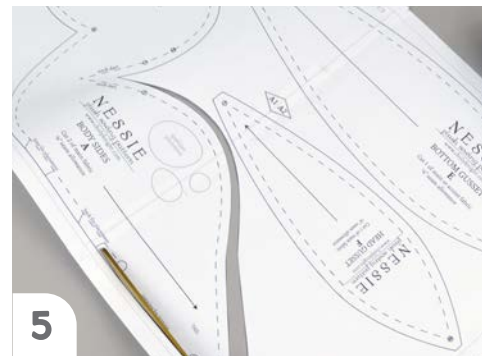
It's likely your printer will have a margin that ensures your image doesn't print to the very edge. Assembly will be easier if you trim off this blank margin edge. This will give you pages that overlap slightly during assembly. If you trim across the gray outline boxes, this will give you pages that don't overlap but rather butt against each other.



4

To line up the pattern pages, match up the corresponding diamond shapes. Each diamond will have a letter, so it's simply a matter of matching A1 to A2, B3 to B4 and so on. The faint gray lines indicate the border of every page, you should be able to line those up as well. When the diamond goes together, tape it in place.

If you have many pages, it's easier to tape up the pages into rows first. Then tape the rows together into a full block.



5

You can trace the patterns onto a different paper, or you can also just cut them straight from the printer paper -- be sure that each piece is fully taped together along the joins so they don't fall apart when you cut them.

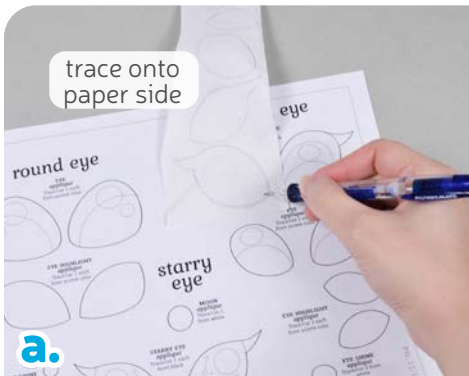
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PART 1: THE APPLIQUE

Use the new applique templates found on page 19 to replace the **eyes** from the original **MOTH & BUTTERFLY PLUSH PATTERN**.

We'll also be adding the new body and wing markings to the corresponding pieces as well.



1. PREPARE THE FACE APPLIQUE

- a. Follow the steps from the original pattern for tracing, fusing, and appliqueing the new face for Mothra. For the face, you'll need:
 - **eyes** (2)
 - **eye highlights** (2)
 - **second eye highlight** (2)
 - **eye shines** (6)
- b. Fuse the bumpy (adhesive) side of your fusible web onto the wrong side of the applique fabrics. Follow the color guide on the paper templates. There's:
 - **eyes** (blue)
 - **eye highlights** (light blue)
 - **second eye highlight** (powder blue)
 - **eye shines** (white)
 Cut out the face applique and grab your **HEAD SIDE** (1) piece.
- c. 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 slide the paper pattern away while holding the applique piece in place.
- d. Fuse the **eye** in place with your iron. Use a press cloth if you're using a polyester or fuzzy fabric like minky. A scrap piece of cotton works as a press cloth, and will help prevent the fabric from melting. Continue adding the **eye highlights** and **eye shines** until you have both eyes complete.



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back
markings
for body
back



wing markings
for forewings



wing markings
for hindwings

2. APPLIQUE THE OTHER PIECES

- a. Take this time to also applique your body and wing pieces using the same method. For the body back, you'll need one of each of the shapes:
- **top, middle, and bottom stripes** (orange; 3 total)
 - **top oval** (orange; 1)
 - **semicircle** (orange; 1)
- b. For the wings, you'll need 2 of each of the shapes (4 total for both sides):
- **inner stripes** (white; 8; or 4 for small wings)
 - **outer circle** (orange; 4)
 - **center circle** (red/orange; 4)
 - **inner circle** (red/orange; 4)
 - **outer stripe** (yellow; 4)
 - **middle circle** (white; 4)
 - **hindwing markings** (black; 4)

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.

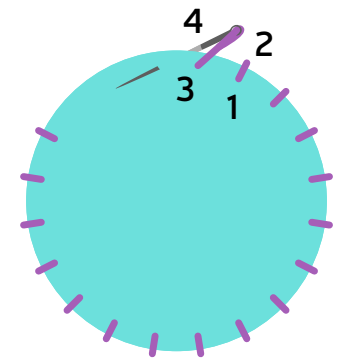
→ Refer to the next step for some other applique options.



straight stitch;
great for felt



applique
whipstitch



2a. OTHER APPLIQUE OPTIONS

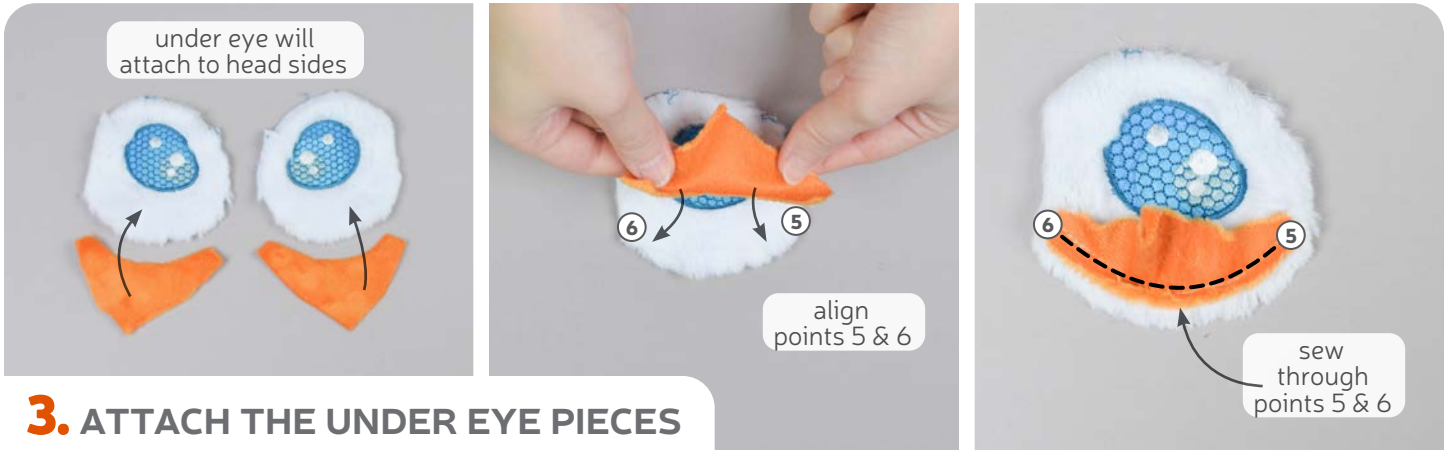
- a. Other good options for applique include a straight stitch, which involves sewing around the edge of the applique pieces with a straight stitch using matching thread -- about 1/8" in from the edge.
- b. You can also applique by hand; I prefer a whipstitch. Thread a hand-sewing needle with some matching 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.
- c. 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.

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PART 2: THE HEAD FRONT

Mothra has a different head front than the original **MOTH & BUTTERFLY PLUSH PATTERN**. It's assembled with two eye panels and a head center piece that goes around them.



3. ATTACH THE UNDER EYE PIECES

- Grab your **HEAD SIDE** pieces (1) and **UNDER EYE** pieces (2). We're going to attach the under eye pieces underneath the head side pieces. These pieces have **numbered points** for extra help; **points 5 and 6**.
- Stretch the inner curve of the under eye piece to align with the head side. Match up **points 5 and 6** so the right sides are facing and the raw edges match up.
- Sew the head side to the under eye from **points 5 to 6**. Repeat with your remaining head side and under eye pieces so you have two total. Set them aside for a moment while we sew the head center sections.

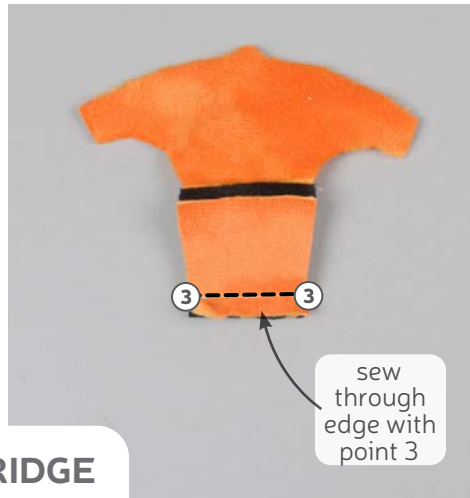


4. SEW THE HEAD TOP AND FOREHEAD

- In the next few steps, we're going to create the full head center section. This is made up of the **HEAD TOP** (3), **FOREHEAD** (4), **NOSE BRIDGE** (5), and **CHIN** (6). They're joined together in a column as shown and have **numbered points** to help with alignment, **points 2 through 4**.
- Take your head top piece and align it with the forehead piece so right sides are facing and **point 2** matches up on both sides.
- Sew the forehead to the head top along this edge with **point 2**.

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5. ATTACH THE NOSE BRIDGE

- Open up your pieces from the previous step, then add the **NOSE BRIDGE** piece (5) next. Align them with right sides facing, matching up **point 3** on each side.
- Sew the nose bridge to the **FOREHEAD** along this edge.
- Open up the pieces when complete.



6. ATTACH THE CHIN

- Grab your **CHIN** piece (6). Align it with the **NOSE BRIDGE** piece (5) so right sides are facing and **point 4** matches up on each side.
- Sew the chin to the nose bridge along this edge.
- Open up the pieces and your full head center piece should look like the third photo.

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- a. Grab your **HEAD SIDE** pieces from before (1). The head center piece you just finished will be sewn around the head sides. The head sides share the same **numbered markings** to help with alignment. They also ensure the center piece is attached evenly; **points 1 through 7**.
- b. Transfer the **numbered markings** from the paper pattern onto your head side piece, **points 1 through 7**.



7. ALIGN THE FOREHEAD AND HEAD SIDES



8. ATTACH THE FOREHEAD TO THE HEAD SIDES

- a. Grab your head center piece and align it around the head side so **points 1, 2, 3, 4, and 7** match up. The right sides of the fabric should be facing and the edges should align.
- b. Sew the head center to the side from **points 1 through 7**.
- c. The third photo shows what this might look like with the head side fabric on top.

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- a. Open up your head side and head center pieces and they should look something like the first photo.
- b. Repeat step 8 with your other head side piece on the other side of your head center piece. Once again, line up **points 1, 2, 3, 4, and 7** and sew them together.



9. ATTACH THE OTHER HEAD SIDE



10. SEW THE ANTENNAE

- a. Grab your **ANTENNAE** pieces (7). Take two of them and line them up with right sides facing and the raw edges matching.
- b. Sew them together around the long curved edge. Leave the short straight edge free for turning them right side out. Repeat with both sets of antennae pieces for two total.
- c. Turn the pieces right side out through the opening for turning.

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11. BASTE THE ANTENNAE

- Stuff the **ANTENNAE** (7) lightly with stuffing.
- If you haven't already, locate the **antennae placement lines** found on the paper pattern for the **HEAD TOP** (3). Align the open end of the antennae within these lines.
- Then flip the antennae downward so they're pointing toward the center of the face. Baste the open edges of the antennae in place along the edge of the fabric.

- Lastly for the head front, finish up by sewing the small dart found in the center bottom of the **CHIN** piece (6).
- Fold the fabric along the point of the dart so right sides are facing and the edges match up. Then sew from the opening into the fold of the fabric as close as you can for the roundest finish.



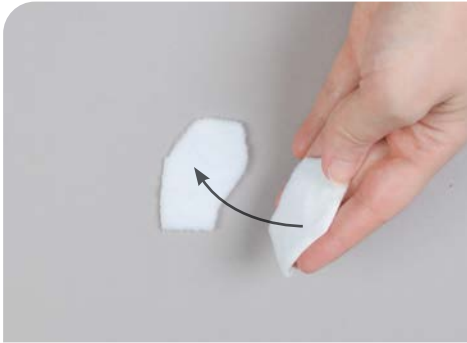
12. SEW THE BOTTOM DART

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PART 3: THE HAND SEWN EXTRAS

You can now continue the **MOTH & BUTTERFLY PLUSH PATTERN** as usual. This starts with sewing the arms for steps 10-11. Then assemble the **FLYING MOTH** style body, steps 23-32. Next, stuff it and attach the wings. Come back here after the wings are attached. This next section will finish off the plush with the **MANDIBLES** (8), **MOUTH** (9), and **STINGER** (10).



13. SEW THE MANDIBLES

- Grab your **MANDIBLES** pieces (8). Take two of them and align them with right sides facing and raw edges matching up.
- Sew the mandibles around the long curved edge. Leave the short straight edge free for turning the piece right side out later.
- Turn the mandible right side out through the opening, then repeat with your remaining mandible pieces so you have a finished pair as shown.



14. ATTACH THE MANDIBLES

- Take your **MANDIBLE** (8) and stuff it lightly with stuffing. Then take the raw edge and tuck it in by about ¼".
- Take this piece and align it over the front of Mothra's face, around the nose bridge seam (**point 4**). The pieces curve slightly upwards.
- Use a hand sewing needle to ladder stitch the mandible to the head front around the base of the mandible.

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15. SEW THE MOUTH

- Grab your **MOUTH** pieces (9). Align them with right sides facing and the raw edges matching up.
- Sew the pieces together around the curved edge. Leave the straight edge free for turning the piece right side out.
- Turn the mouth piece right side out, then stuff it lightly with stuffing.
- Sew a gathering stitch around the outer edge of the mouth piece, about ¼" away from the edge.



16. ATTACH THE MOUTH

- Pull at the gathering stitch thread from the previous step and this should cinch up the opening of the **MOUTH** (9).
- Take the mouth and align it over the front of Mothra's face, centered between the two mandibles. For best results, make sure the seam (from step 15) is **vertical** to imitate the look of bug jaws.
- Ladder stitch the mouth to Mothra's face around the base of the piece.

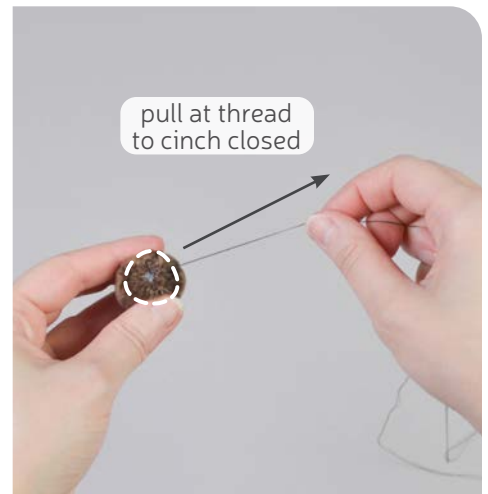
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17. SEW THE STINGER

- Grab your **STINGER** piece (10). Fold it in half lengthwise with the right sides facing so it makes an even skinnier triangle shape.
- Sew the piece along the straight edge. Leave the curved edge at the bottom for turning the piece later.
- Turn the piece right side out through the opening in the bottom.



18. CLOSE UP THE STINGER

- Stuff the **STINGER** (10) lightly with stuffing. Be sure to get a good bit into the tip so it doesn't look deflated.
- Thread a hand sewing needle and knot the end. Use it to sew a gathering stitch around the opening of the stinger, about $\frac{1}{4}$ " away from the edge.
- Pull at the thread to cinch the stinger closed.

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- a. Take the **STINGER** (10) and align it over the end of Mothra's body, where the body pieces converge at the end. Place it so the cinched end is facing down.
- b. Ladder stitch the stinger in place around the base of the piece.



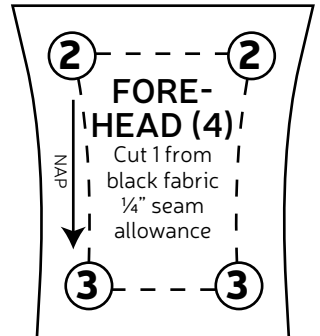
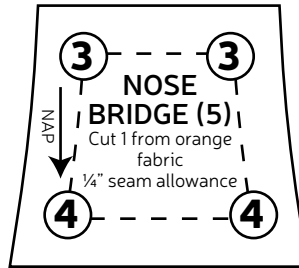
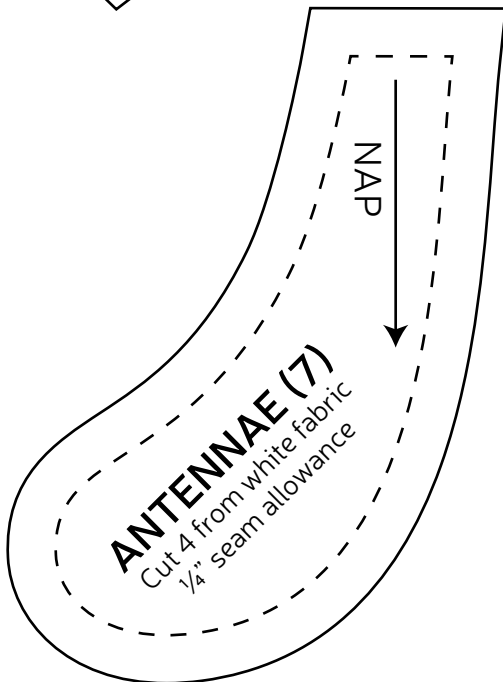
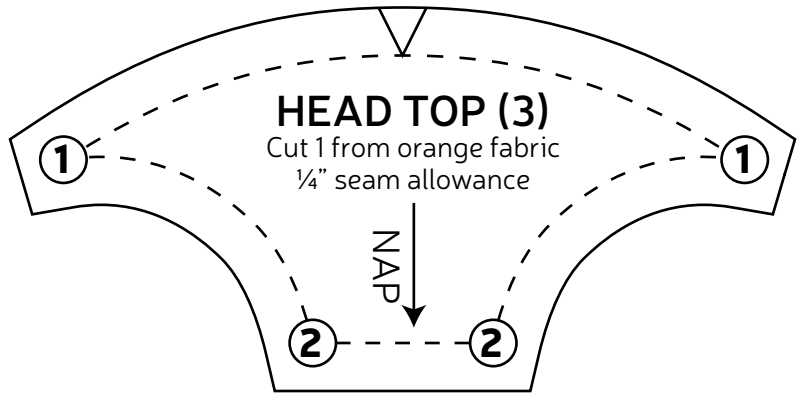
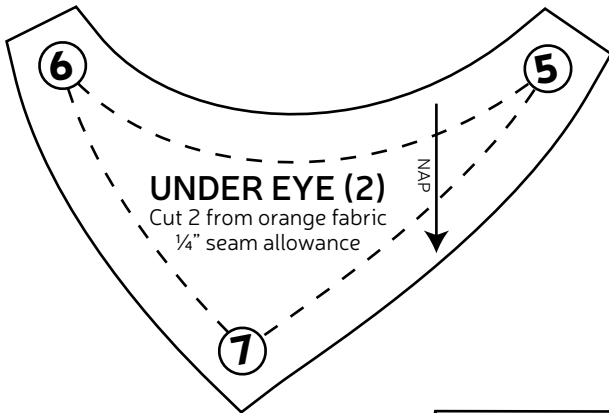
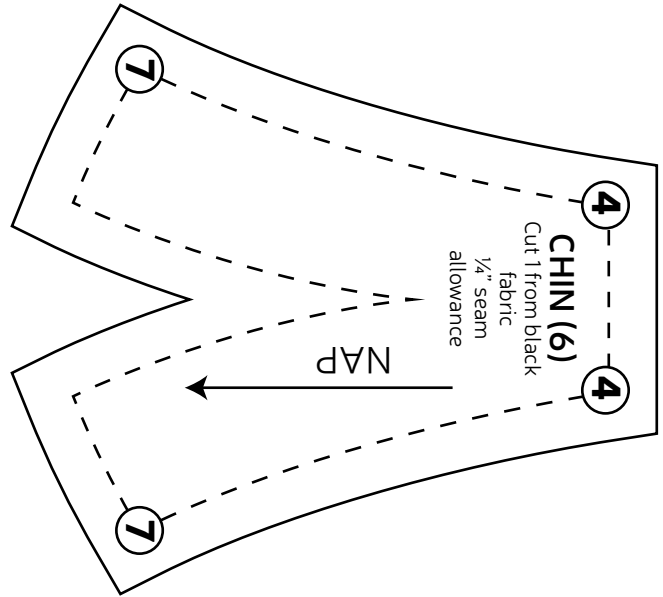
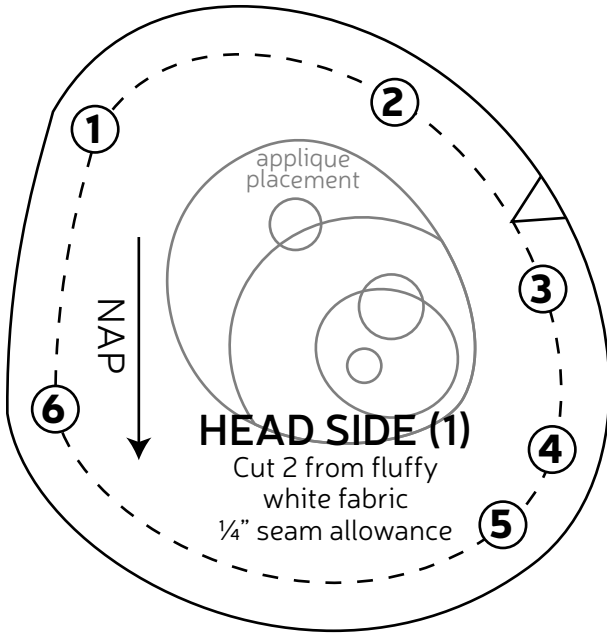
19. ATTACH THE STINGER



CONGRATS!
This completes your
plush! Now give it a
big hug!

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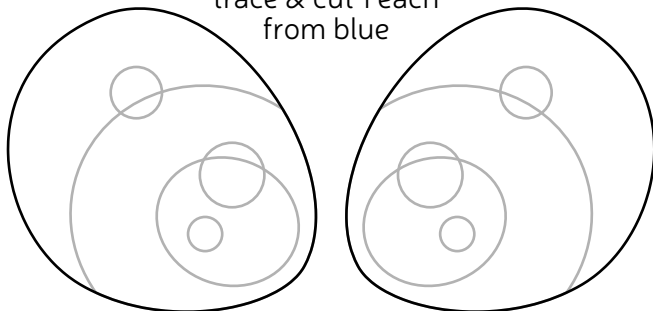
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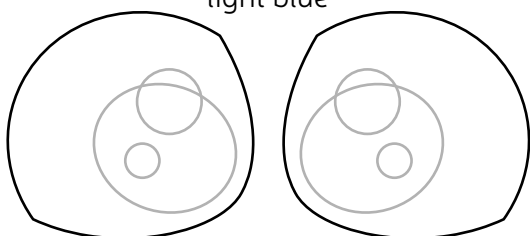
TEST SQUARE
2"

measure this square to
be sure you've printed
at the proper
proportions

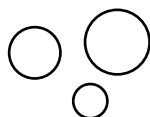
EYES
applique
 trace & cut 1 each
 from blue



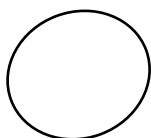
EYE HIGHLIGHTS
applique
 trace & cut 1 each from
 light blue



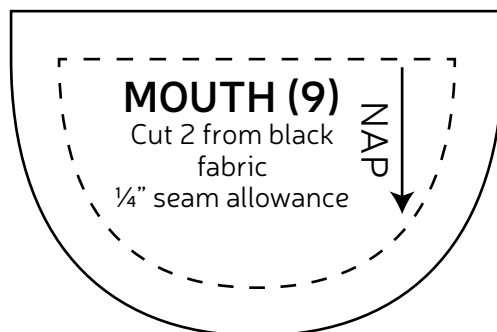
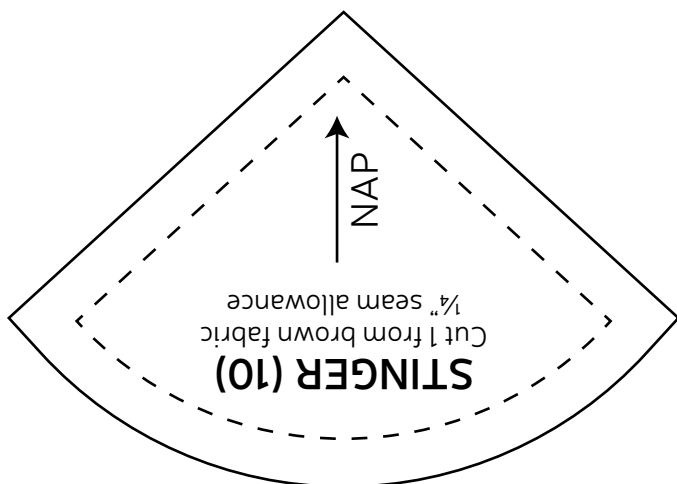
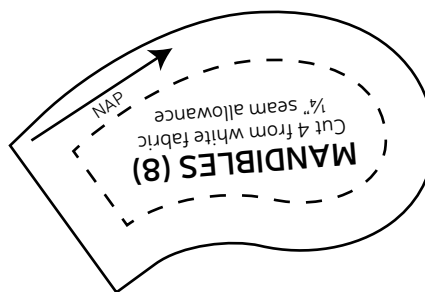
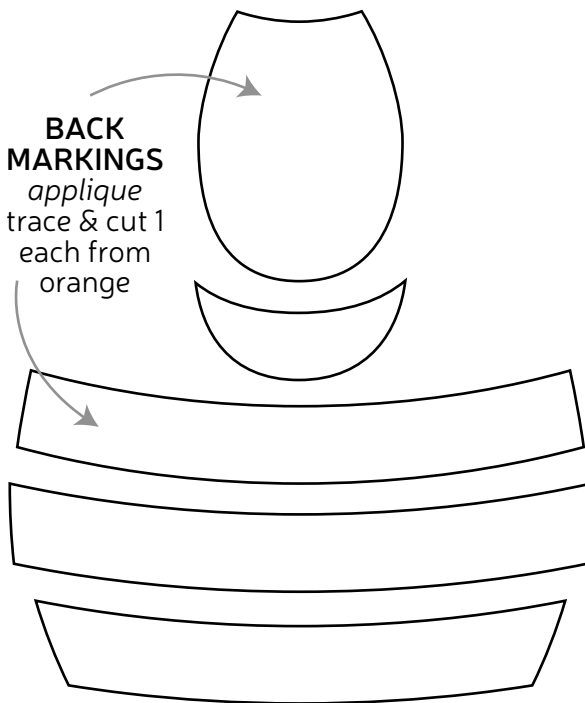
**EYE
 SHINES**
applique
 trace & cut 2 each
 from white



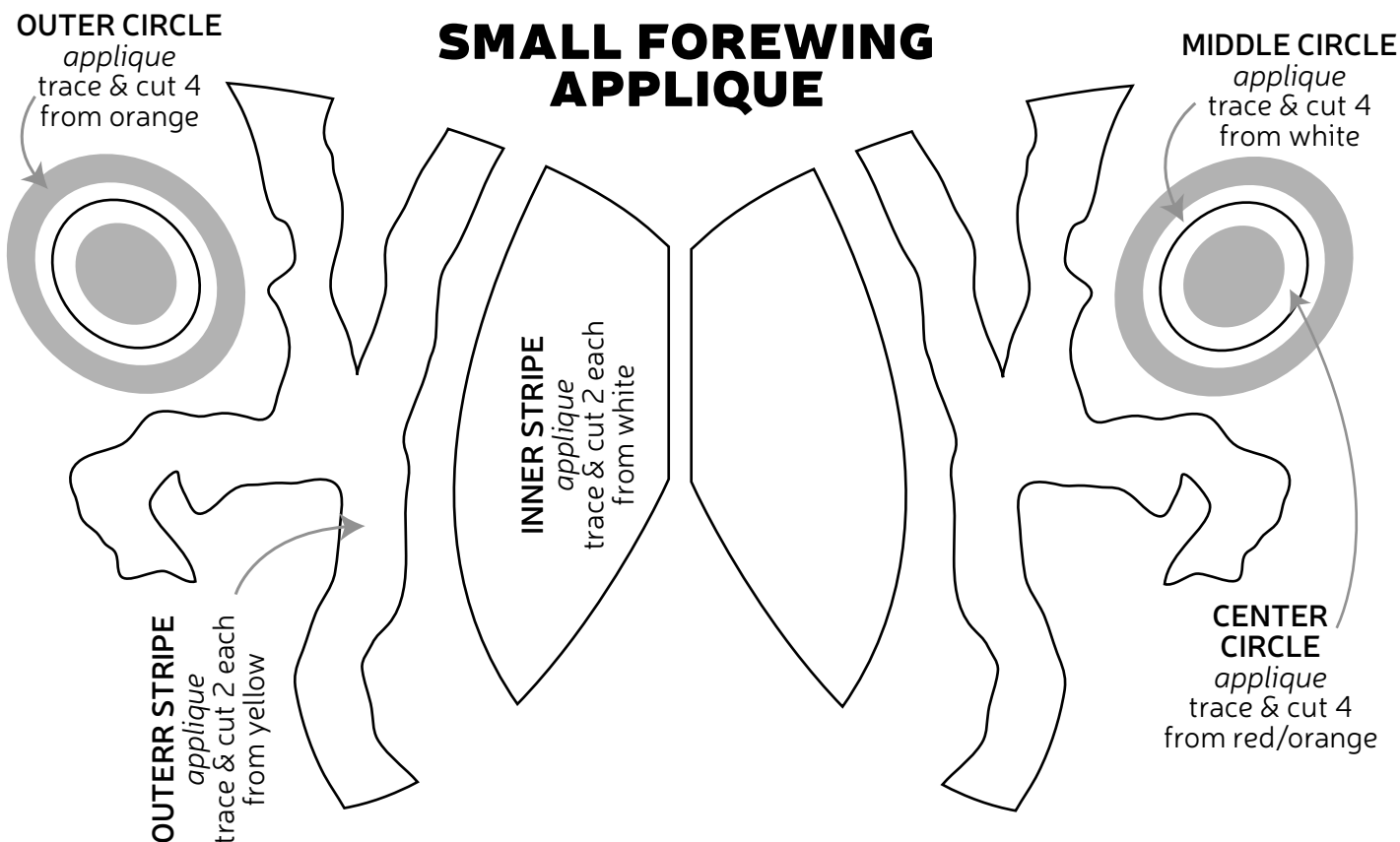
**SECOND EYE
 HIGHLIGHT**
applique
 trace & cut 2 from
 powder blue



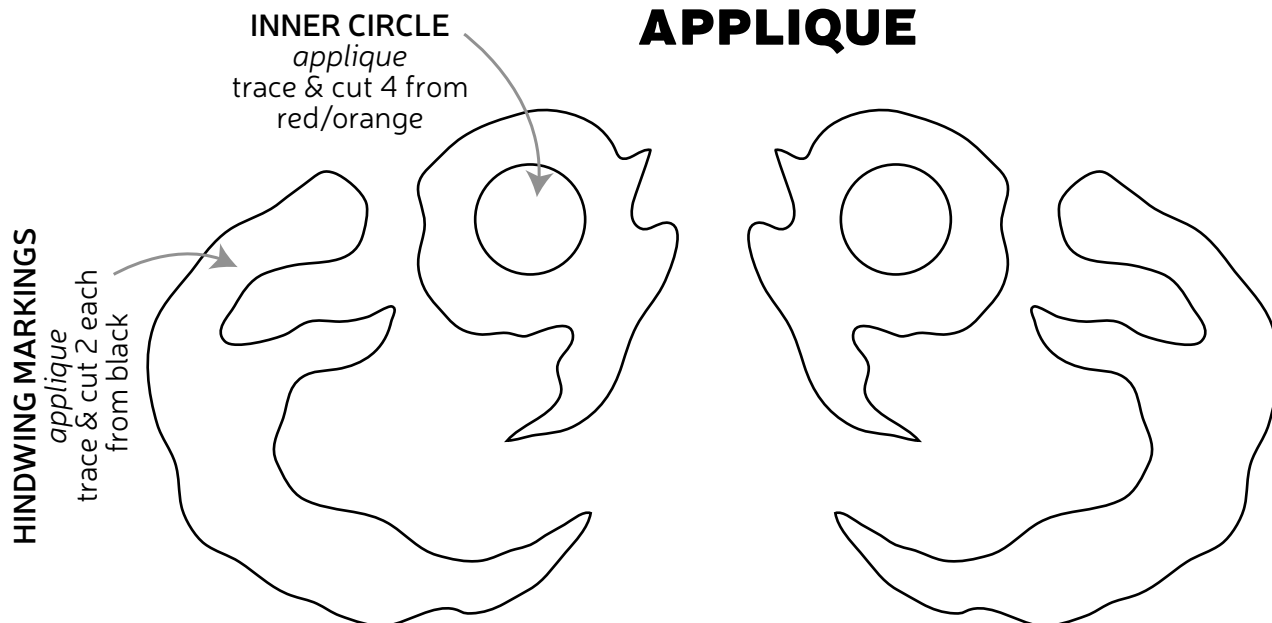
**BACK
 MARKINGS**
applique
 trace & cut 1
 each from
 orange

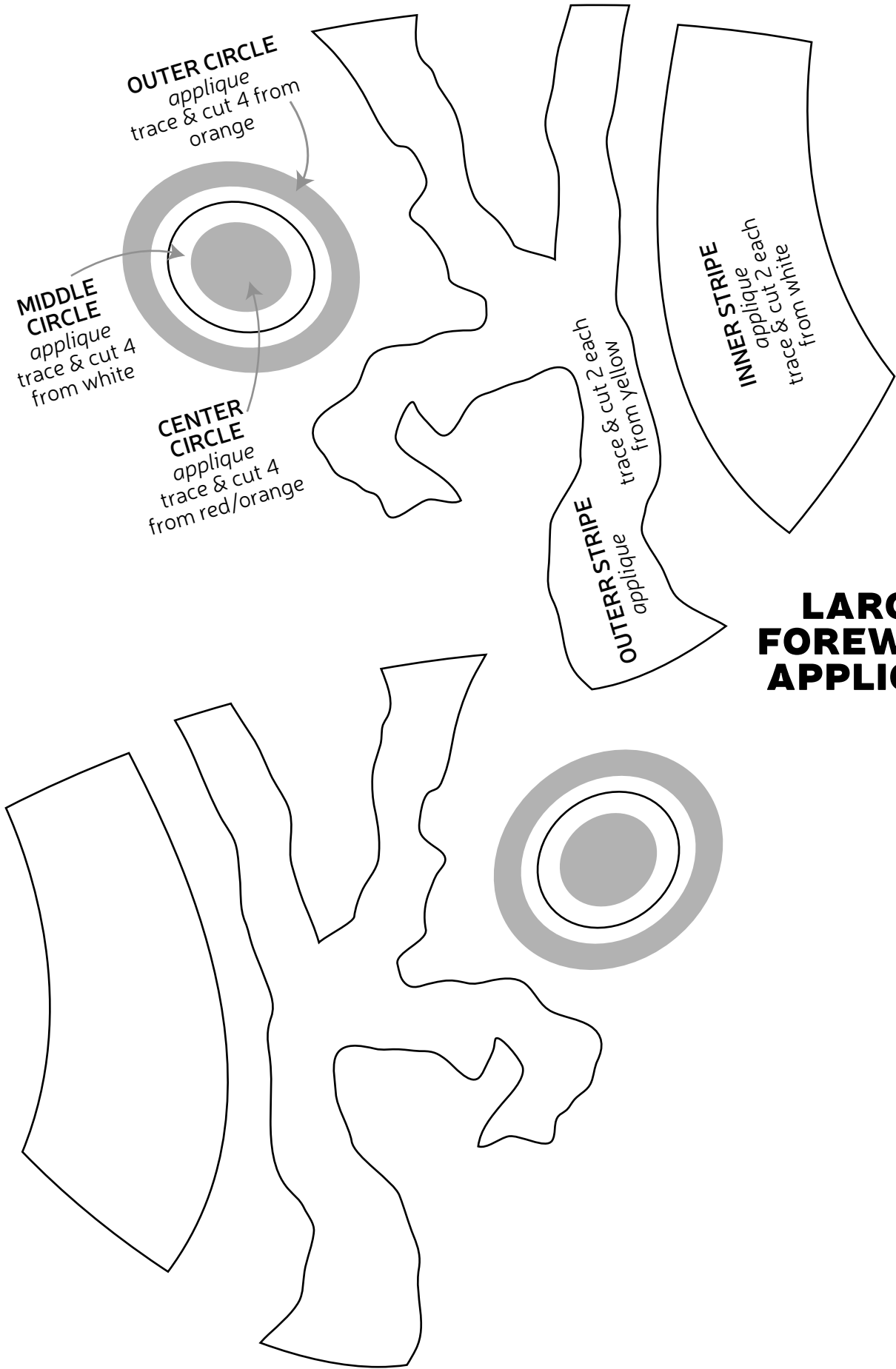


SMALL FOREWING APPLIQUE



SMALL HINDWING APPLIQUE





**LARGE HINDWING
APPLIQUE**

