

The Bunny Lovey



a pdf sewing pattern

by Unlikely Handmade

The Bunny Lovey is a sweet little blanket doll. It would be a lovely gift for a newborn! And it is quick to make if you have a sewing machine and some basic sewing skills.

Materials:

--1/4 yard or a fat quarter of your main fabric. I used an organic cotton fleece, but this could be any fabric that is soft and snuggly. It would be lovely in a french terry or a velour, or a snuggly fleece!

--A very small amount of contrast fabric. I used colorful quilting cottons.

--Embroidery floss for the eye.

--Stuffing for the head and tail. I use wool batting or roving, but you could also use cotton batting or poly fill.

Instructions:

Sew all seams with a 1/4 inch seam allowance.

1) Print out the PDF pattern on letter sized paper. Make sure scaling is set to 100% on your printer. Measure the scale boxes on the pattern with your ruler or tape measure to make sure the pattern printed at the right size.

2) Cut out the paper pattern pieces, and lay them out on your fabric. Make sure the arrows on the pattern pieces align with the grain of your fabric. If you are using napped fabric like velour, the arrow should point in the direction that the fibers naturally lay down. Cut your pieces from your fabrics, as indicated by the directions on the pattern pieces. Transfer markings for the placement of the ears, eye, and tail. (I used a pencil, but you could also use chalk or a fabric marking pen that is washable or has disappearing ink).



3) Sew together the two tail pieces, right sides together. Leave an opening at the base of the tail for turning and stuffing. Sew together the ears with each ear having one piece of main fabric and one piece of contrast fabric, right sides together.



4) Clip the point of the ear straight across, close to but not touching the stitching.



5) Turn the ears and the tail right sides out. If you have hemostats, use them to grab the tip from the inside and pull it through. Otherwise, use your fingers and a stick (like a chopstick). Press them flat.



6) Put the head pieces right sides together. Sew around the head leaving the neck open. Clip the curves, being careful not to cut your stitching.



7) Cut a slit in the head for the ears, where indicated by the pattern. Cut through both layers of the head.



8) Fold the ears in half, with the contrast fabric on the inside.



9) Stick the ears up through the neck into the head and through the holes you made. The fold should be to the back of the head.



10) Arrange the head so that the seam allowance is in the center, and the ears sit flat. The folds of the ears should point towards each other. Sew across the top of the head from ear to ear, catching the raw edges of the slits you made.

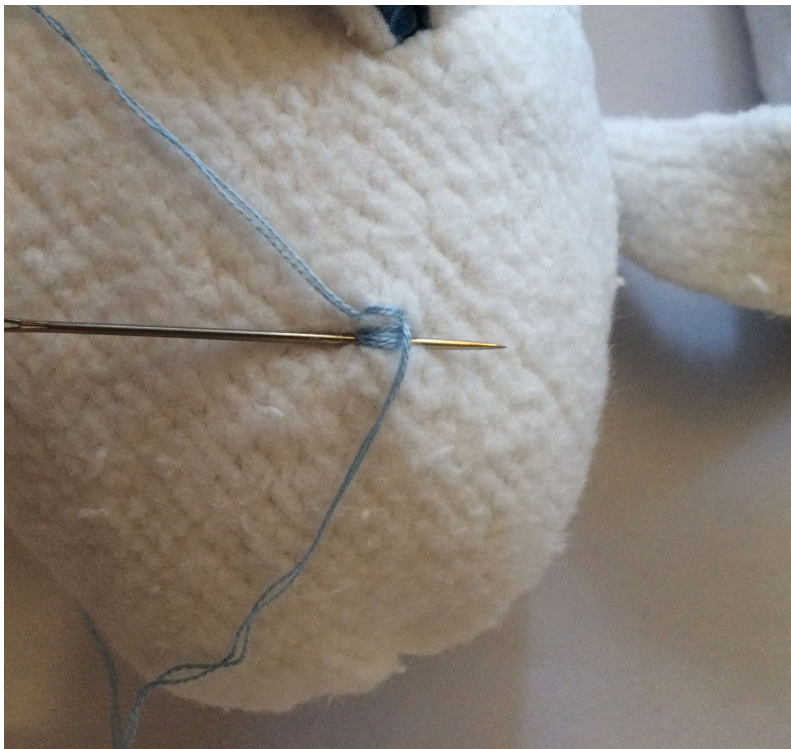


11) Pull the ears to turn the head right side out. Smooth the seams flat with your fingers. Stuff softly with wool (or your choice of stuffing).



12) Sew the bunny nose and mouth. I used a double strand of white sewing thread to give just the shape of bunny cheeks and nose. You could also use pink embroidery thread to give a stronger impression of the face. Hide your knots inside the head.

Decide where you want the eyes. Use the markings on the pattern as a guide, but make sure it looks right for your bunny, with the personality you want to give it. I use a pin with a colored head to make sure I like the placement.



13) Sew the eyes with embroidery thread. I used blue on this bunny, but I also use brown or pink (albino bunny!). You could also just leave the eyes off to make a super minimal bunny.



14) Attach the tail to the body. Cut a slit where indicated on the pattern, about two inches from the bottom of the bunny. Stuff the tail.



15) Slip the tail through the slit, with the tail of the tail on the inside. Sew across the base of the tail from the inside, catching the raw edges of the slit. Taper to nothing on either side of the tail.



16) Sew the body together. Leave about two inches open at the center of the neck for turning and inserting the head. Clip curves.



17) Insert the head into the body. Push the stuffing up into the head so that the neck is as flat as possible. Make sure that the raw edges of the body pieces are turned to the inside.



18) Starting about 1/2 inches before the opening in the neck, sew across the base of the neck, catching the turned under edges of the body and the neck. Sew past the opening by 1/2 inch. I use a zipper foot on my machine to get as close to the head as possible.

And you are done! You now have a beautiful toy that you can feel totally good about giving to some little person you love.

I would really enjoy seeing your creations! Post on Instagram or Twitter with hashtag #bunny-lovey