



Sewing With Kids: Curious Mr. Fox Tutorial

Description

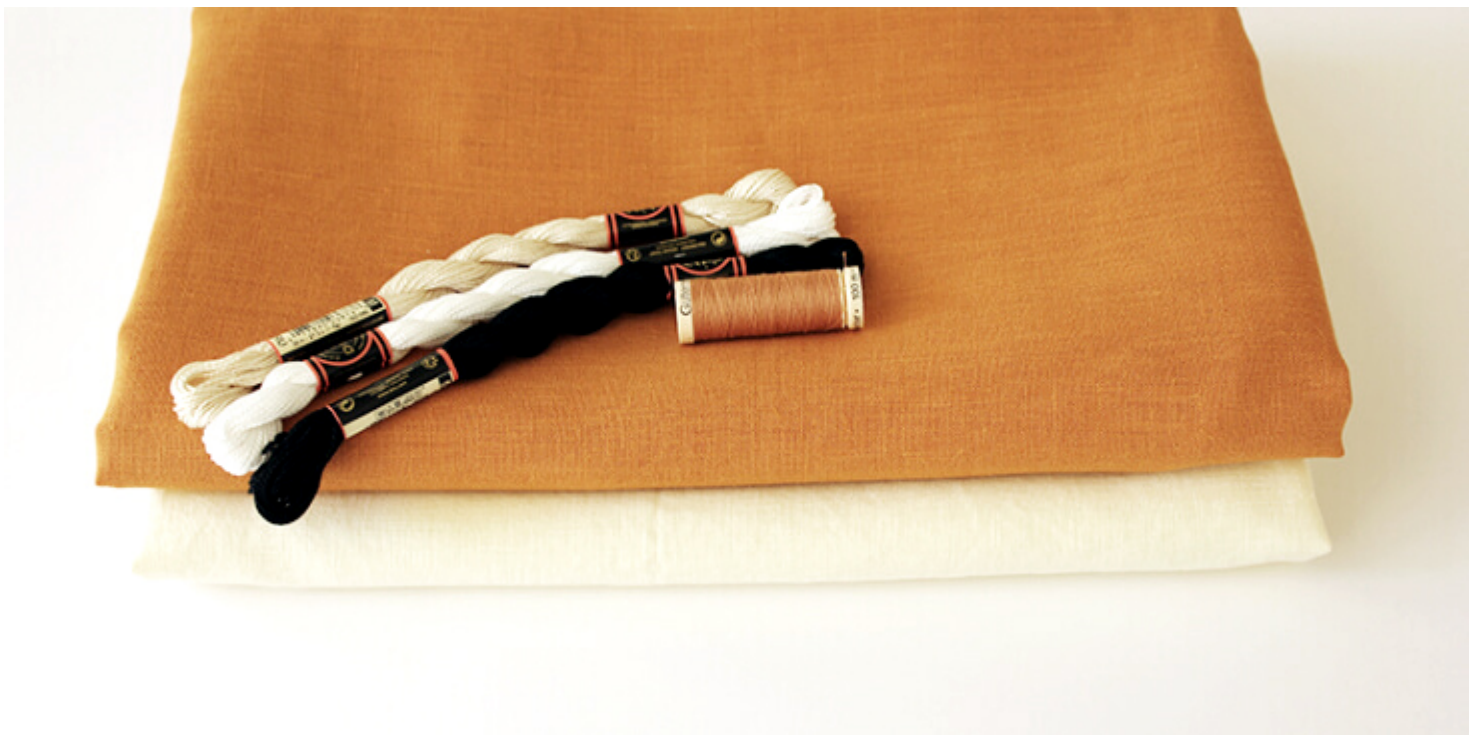


This is a great project to try out with younger kids, and a handy way to use up your scraps of left over fabric. You can encourage your child to come up with their very own character and help them make it into a DIY pattern, by simply drawing it out on a piece of paper, adding the seam allowances, and cutting it out together.

Otherwise, you can also download our Mr. Fox Pattern below.

For detail, we used DMC pearl cotton (size 5), the twisted effect doesn't unravel or split like an embroidery floss so it's great for beginners. That doesn't mean you can't use your favorite embroidery floss, play around with using different amounts of strands to create more texture or detail. Learn the basic sewing and embroidery stitches listed at the end of the tutorial.

Materials



For our Mr Fox, we used 1/2 yard of [IL019 APRICOT Midweight Linen](#) and a small piece approximately 4 square of [IL019 KRISTA NATURAL Midweight Linen](#)

Matching sewing thread, and cotton embroidery threads.

Tools



Scissors, pins, ruler, fabric marker, sewing machine, and/or embroidery needle.

Difficulty

Beginner

Sewing Time

3-5 hours.

Pattern

Ask your child to draw out the shape of their toy on a large piece of paper depending on how big or small they want it to be. For a toy like Mr Fox, draw

out the body, then separately trace the body and the tail. Add seam allowances to both. Cut them out and these are your pattern templates!

You can access FS printable PDF pattern by following this link [HERE](#). All seam allowances are included and are 1/4" (6 mm) unless otherwise specified.

Remember to transfer all the notches and markings onto your fabric.

Steps

Note: Prewash your fabric and tumble dry it until it is still slightly moist, dry at room temperature. Iron the fabric so it is easier to work with.

1. Fold the bottom end of the tail tip under 1/4" and press. Place with the wrong side down, on top of the right side of one of the tail pieces. Pin in place.



2. Topstitch in place with a backstitch or machine stitch $\frac{1}{8}$ from the edge. You can use the embroidery thread or matching sewing thread.



3. Add the tail 'hairs' by hand sewing with a basic running stitch in the cream embroidery thread.



4. To sew the tail together, place the tail pieces right sides together and sew a $\frac{1}{4}$ seam, leaving the short end open. Use a backstitch or running stitch with small stitches if working by hand, using matching sewing

thread. Clip the seam allowances around the curves, making sure to not cut your line of sewing.

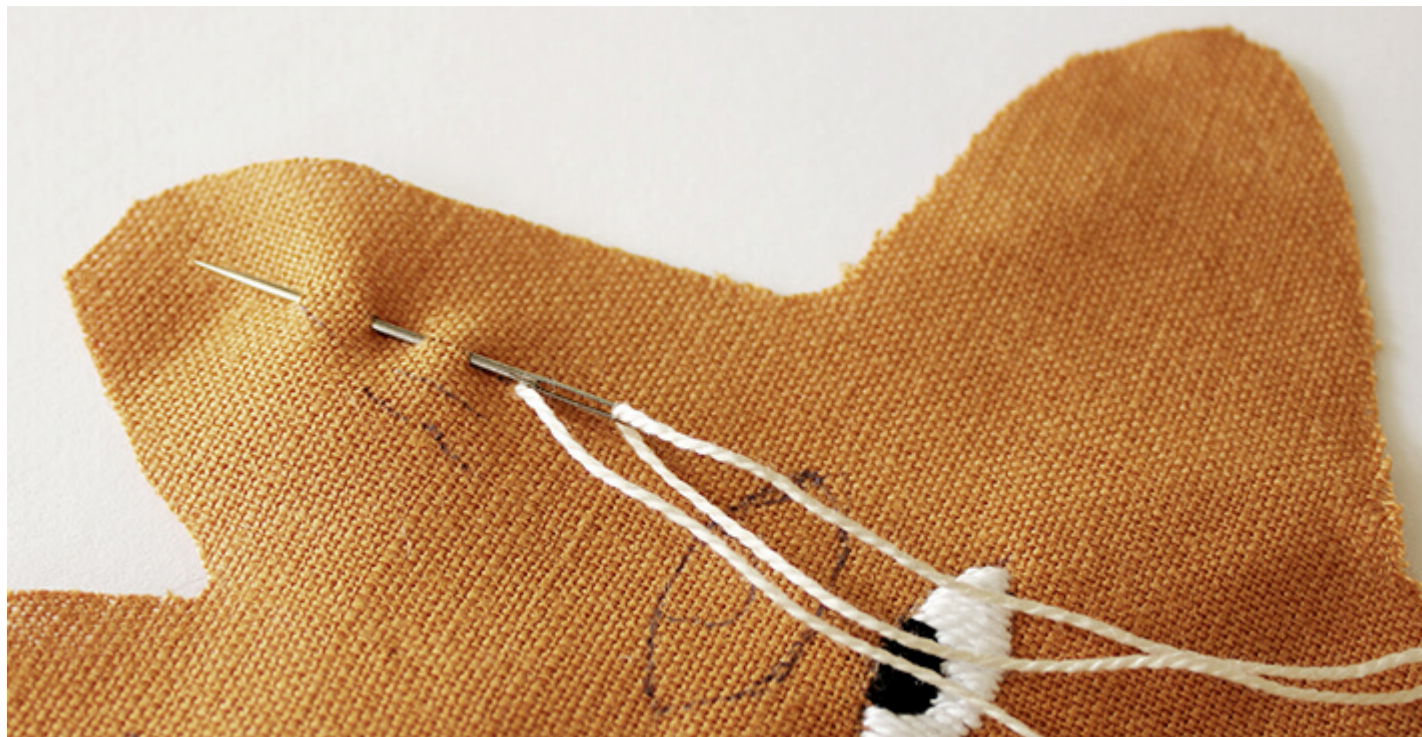


5. Turn right side out and stuff. Do not close the end.



6. Begin embroidery on the main body. On the right side of one of the body pieces, use a running stitch and cream embroidery thread to sew on the hairs of the ears and belly. Using a satin stitch, embroider the eyes.

Optional: Add small squares of fusible interfacing on the wrong side of the fabric behind each eye to stabilize your stitches and help them lay flat.



7. Sew the body together. place the body pieces right sides together and pin. Sew a 1/4 seam leaving a gap between the notches. Use a backstitch or running stitch with small stitches if working by hand, using matching sewing thread.



8. Clip the seam allowances around the curves, making sure to not cut your line of sewing. Turn right side out carefully. Fill with stuffing.



9. Embroider the hands and feet with long stitches using the black

embroidery thread, beginning in the ditch of the seam. Using a satin stitch, sew the nose, again starting in the seam ditch.

10. Place the open end of the tail inside the opening of the body and pin in place, tucking the seam allowance of the body to the inside. Sew through all layers to close the gap using a neat running stitch in one direction, then back in the other direction sewing over the gaps. this will make your stitches look like a backstitch on both sides.



How to Running Stitch

The running stitch is the most basic stitch, you simply insert your needle in and out of the fabric at your chosen distance.



How to Backstitch

To backstitch, begin sewing as you would a running stitch. Insert the needle from the back to the front of the work, and make one stitch.



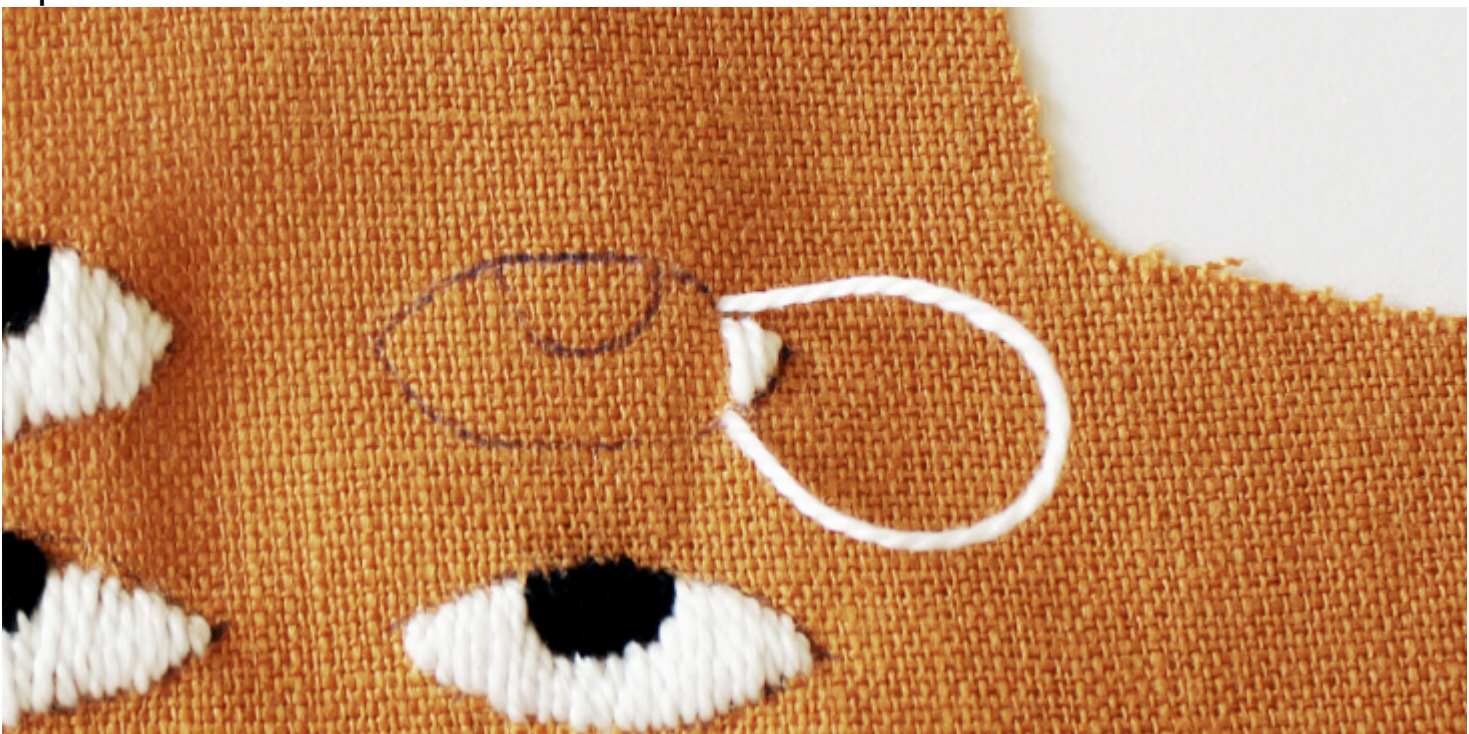
Insert the needle into the same place the last stitch ended. Bring the thread back up leaving a gap for the next backstitch.



How to Satin stitch

Using a satin stitch, embroider the eyes. A satin stitch is created by using long straight stitches.

Satin stitch from one side of the eye to the other with stitches close together, don't worry if there are small gaps. Work from the bottom of the eye, to the top with each stitch.



When you have done one pass of the eye, begin working in the opposite

direction, use shorter satin stitches to fill in the gaps between your first set of stitches.



CATEGORY

1. TUTORIALS

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