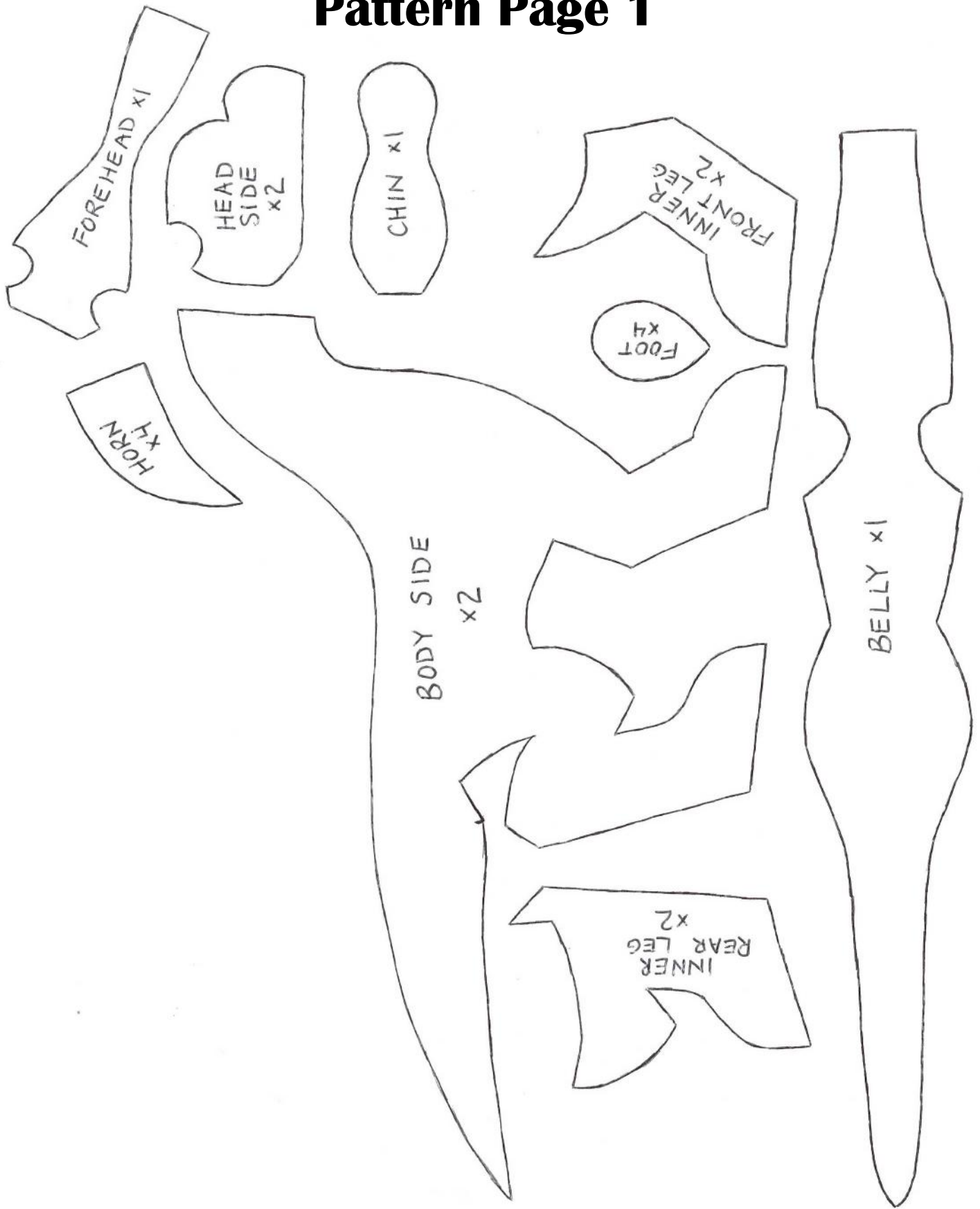


Free Dragon Plushie Sewing Pattern and Tutorial



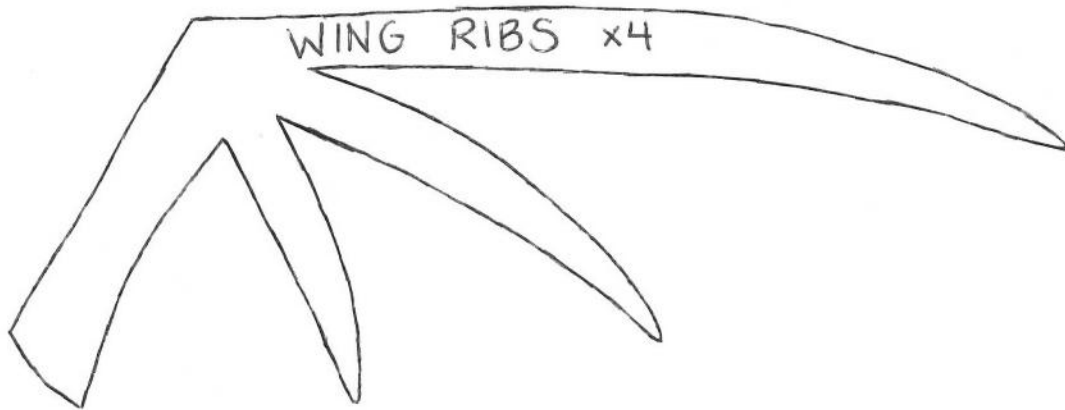
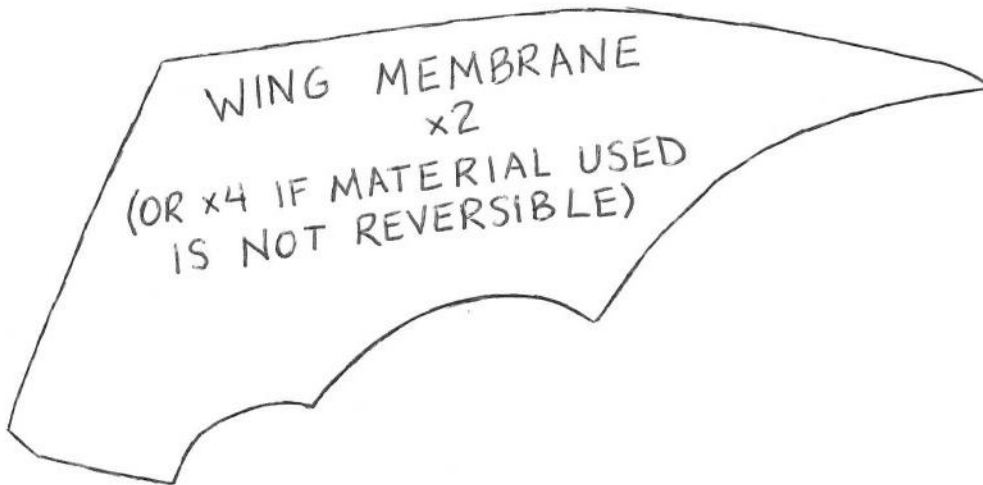
By Nerdy Rabbit Creations 

Pattern Page 1



Please use this pattern for personal-use only!

Pattern Page 2



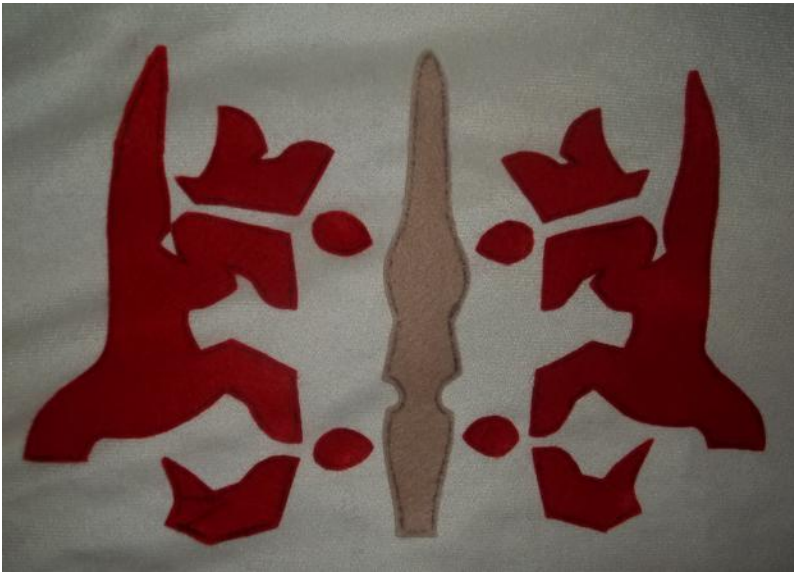
Please use this pattern for personal-use only!

Tutorial

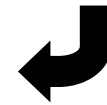
1. Print and cut out the pattern in your desired size (the pattern is scaled to make a plush approximately 7.5 inches/18.5 cm in length, so if you want to make a plush of a different size, adjust accordingly).
2. Trace the pattern pieces **EXCEPT FOR THE WING PIECES** onto your material, leaving enough room around each piece to cut the appropriate seam allowance. Make sure to flip the pattern to trace the second (or fourth) copy of pieces that require multiple pieces. (Note: you should have 2 more horn pieces than shown in the picture below...)



Making the Body



For this section, you will need these pieces



1. Take one of your body side pieces, and sew the top of the hind leg to the thigh (illustrated in yellow and green on right), using a straight seam on the wrong sides (the sides you marked with the lines), as shown below.

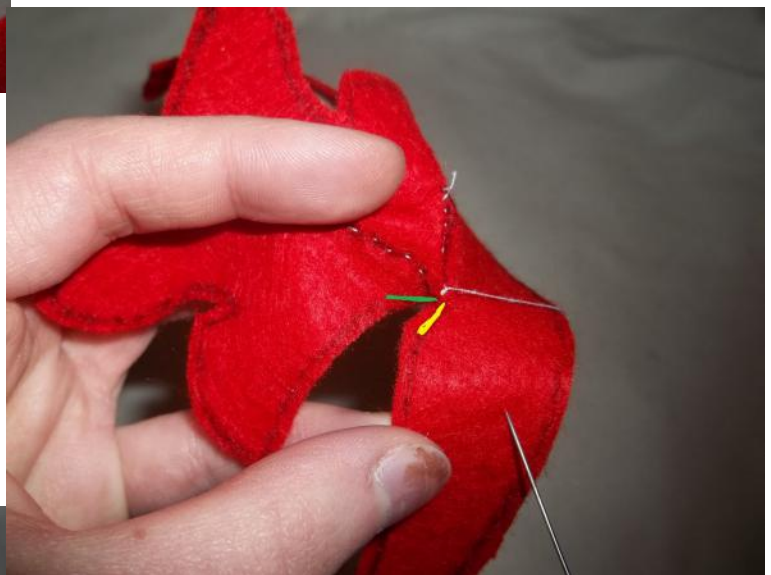
* unless otherwise indicated, all seams in this tutorial should be sewn in this way



2. Now sew the back of the corresponding inner hind leg piece to its mirror on the body side piece, beginning at the ankle and ending at the tip of the triangle.



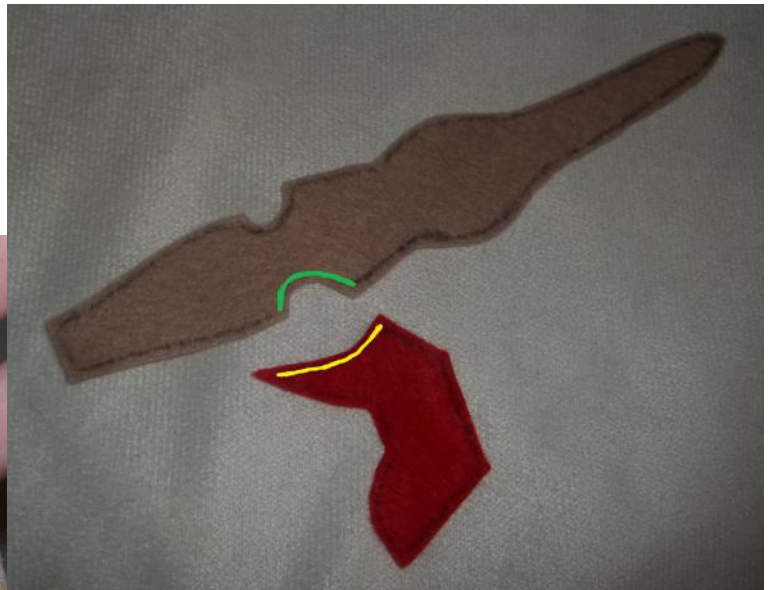
3. Next, sew the other side of the triangle on the inner hind leg piece to the corresponding edge on the body side piece, tying off your thread afterwards.



← This is where you should stop sewing for this step.

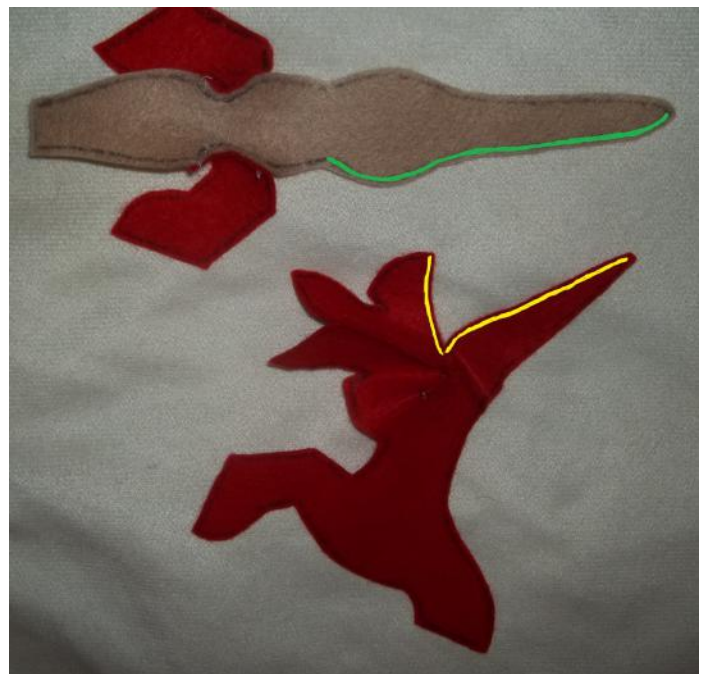
4. Repeat steps 1-3 with the pieces for the other side.

5. Sew the curved sides of the belly piece and one of the inner front leg pieces together.



6. Repeat step 5 with the other inner front leg piece.

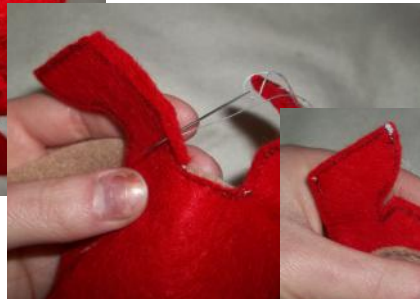
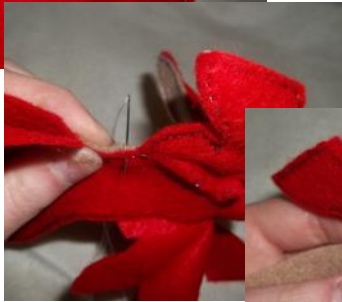
7. Next, sew the top of the inner rear leg and tail part of the body side piece to the corresponding side on the tail end of the belly piece, beginning just after the straight line on the belly piece, and ending at the very tip of the tail.



8. Repeat step 7 on the other side, with the other combined side and inner rear leg piece.



9. Sew one of the side pieces to the inner leg pieces and belly, in the center of the body.



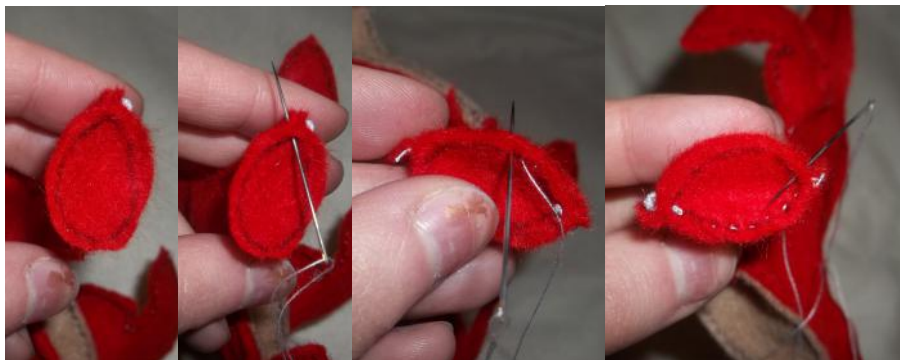
10. Repeat step 9 on the other side.

11. Next, sew the front part of the body side piece to the corresponding inner front leg and neck part of the belly piece.



12. Repeat step 11 on the other side.

13. Sew one of the foot pieces into the space at the bottom of one of the feet. Lightly pinching the front and back of the leg at the very bottom can help to open up the gap.



14. Repeat step 13 for the other 3 feet.

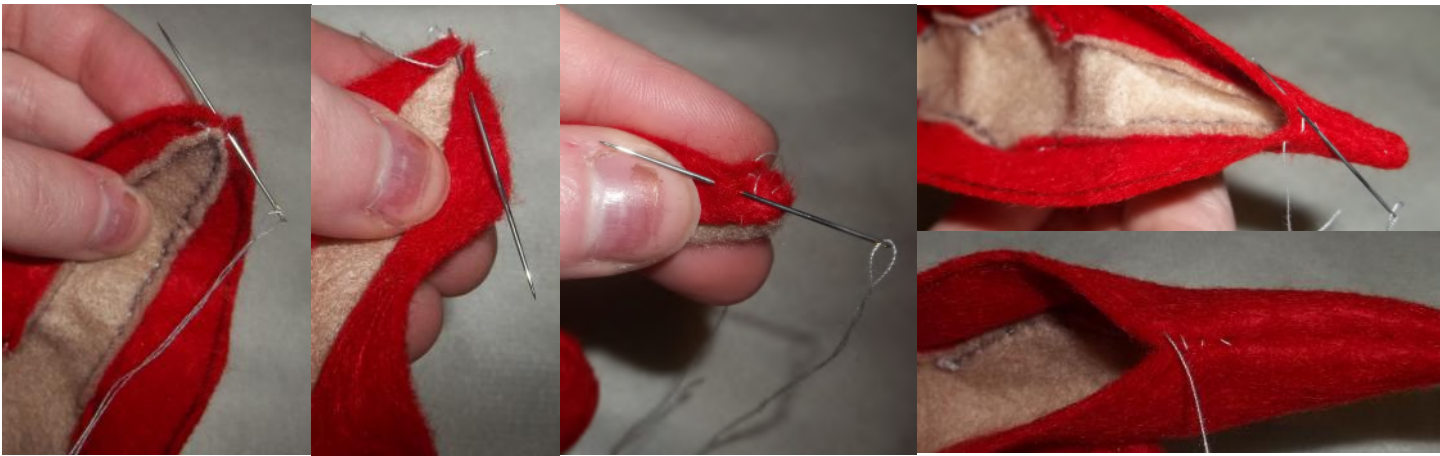
The body should look like this when you are done.



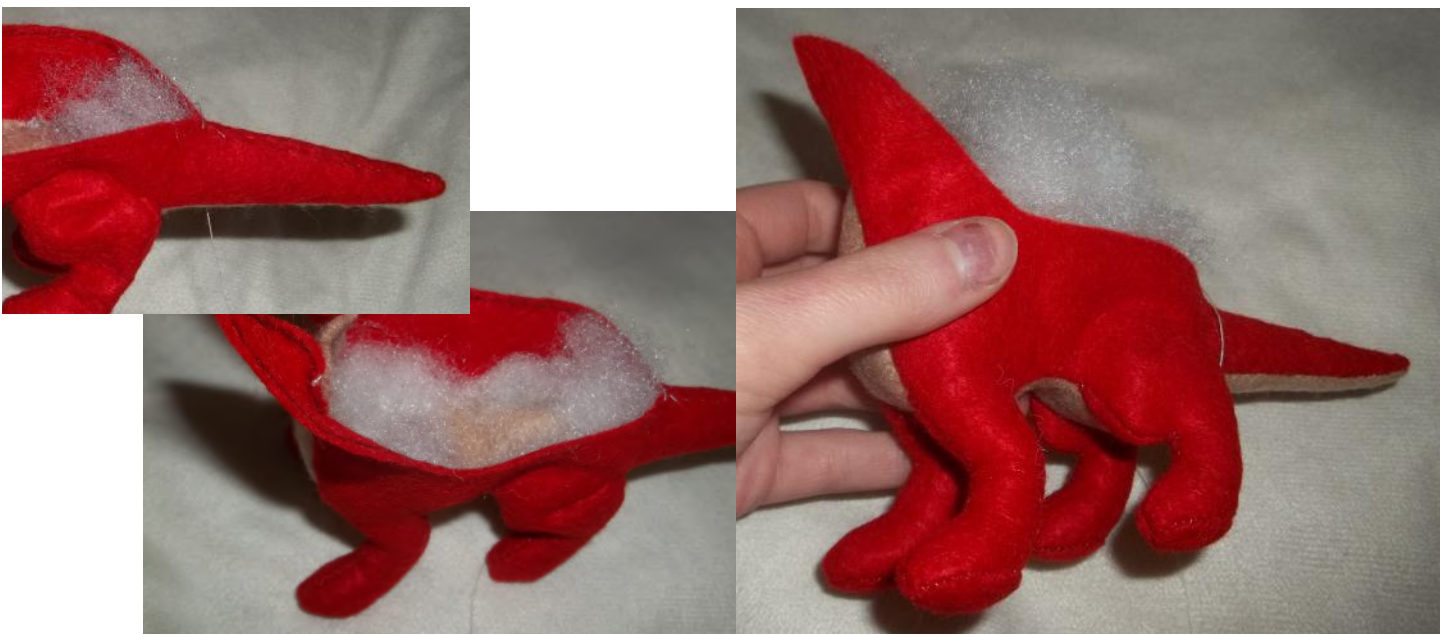
15. Now, turn the body right-side-out. A thin stick like a chopstick is quite helpful for poking out the legs. Just be careful if it is pointy that you do not accidentally poke holes through the fabric.



16. Beginning at the tip of the tail, use ladder stitch to close up the top of the body. If you don't know how to do the ladder stitch, you basically make a small stitch on one side of the gap you want to close, then a small stitch on the other side, and you tuck the ends of the material into the gap when you pull the stitches tight. Before you pull it completely tight, the thread should make straight lines across the gap, like rungs on a ladder. If I haven't made it completely clear, look on YouTube... there's probably a good tutorial for it there.



17. Once you have sewn most of the tail together, stuff the tail and legs and begin stuffing the inside of the body as well. A thin stick is helpful for stuffing the legs. Make sure to get some stuffing in the upper joint of the rear legs, as that is a spot that's easy to miss.

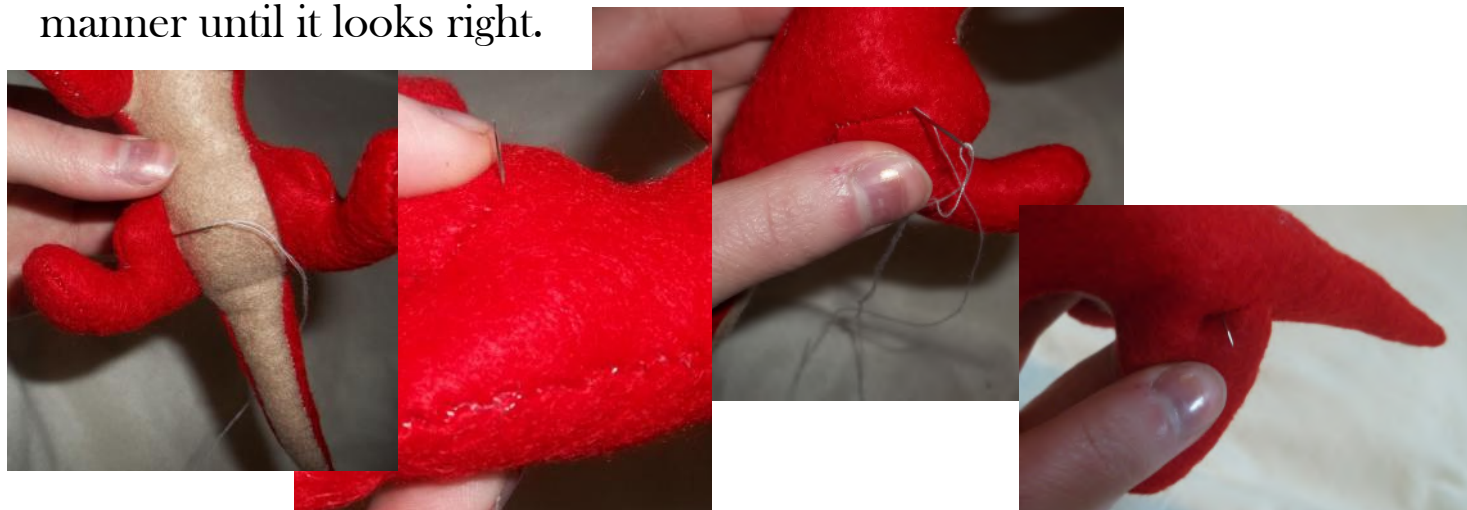


18. Continue to close up the back using ladder stitch, and add more stuffing where it is needed in the body and legs as you go.



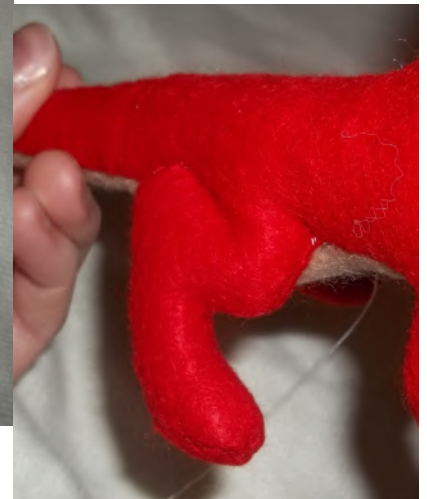
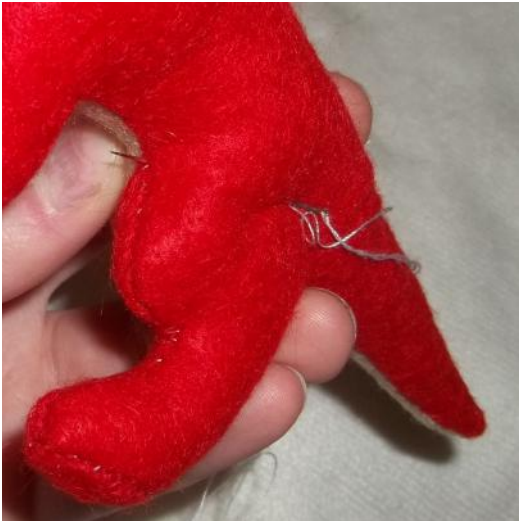
19. (Optional) Use thread-sculpting to define the rear and front legs.

To do this in the back, first start on the inside of the leg and push your needle through the inner corner of the seam where the thigh meets the leg. Make a tiny stitch ending in the same spot on the other side and pull gently so that the material pulls in slightly. Repeat, going back and forth until the point is pulled in to your liking. Then, continue down the seam in the same manner until it looks right.

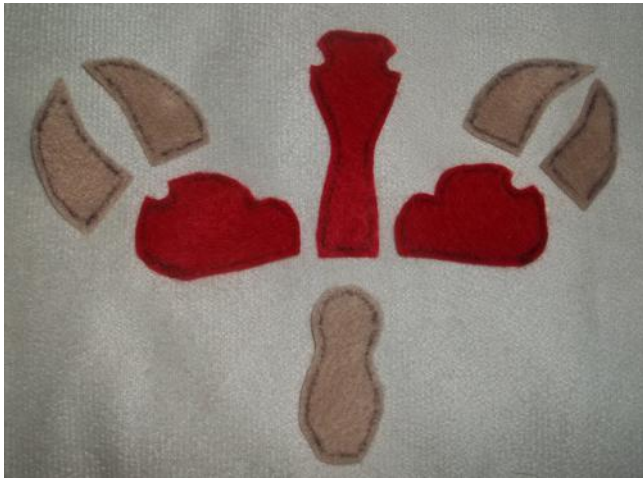


19. (Continued) When you finish thread-sculpting the first line, it should look something like this 

If you want, you can also use this same technique to make slight indentations in front of the rear legs and on either side of the front legs, as shown below.



Making the Head



For this section, you will need these pieces



1. Take two corresponding horn pieces and sew them together along the two longer, curved edges, keeping the short straight edge open. If your dragon is not enlarged a bit from the pattern given, you will probably have to use ladder stitch to sew the majority of one of the sides.

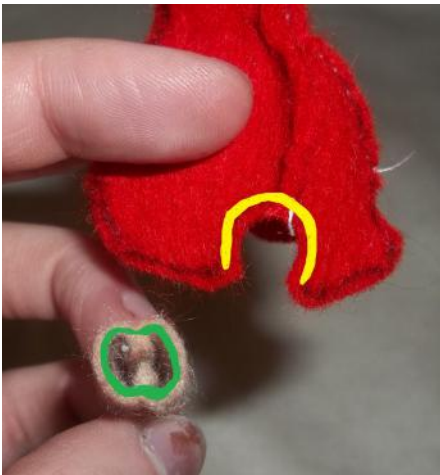
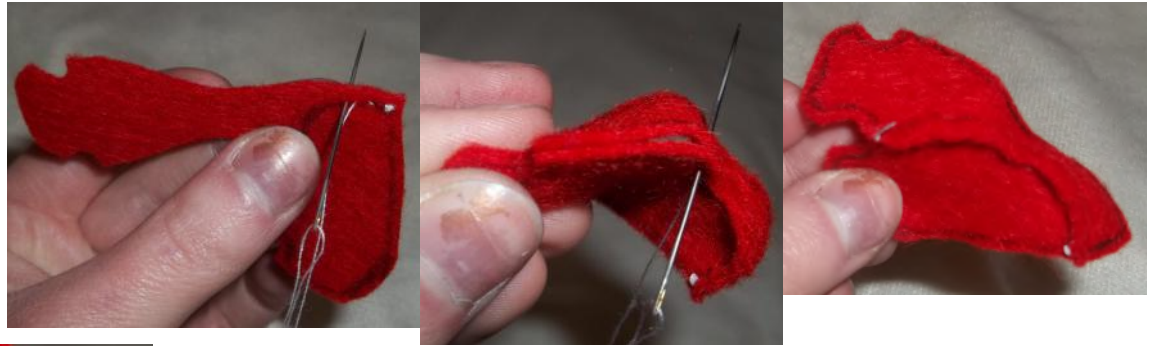


If you have to use ladder stitch, sew just past the point using running stitch, then make a stitch through just the first layer of material and turn the horn right-side-out. Then make small stitches on alternating sides as you continue and push the sides inward, pulling the thread tight.



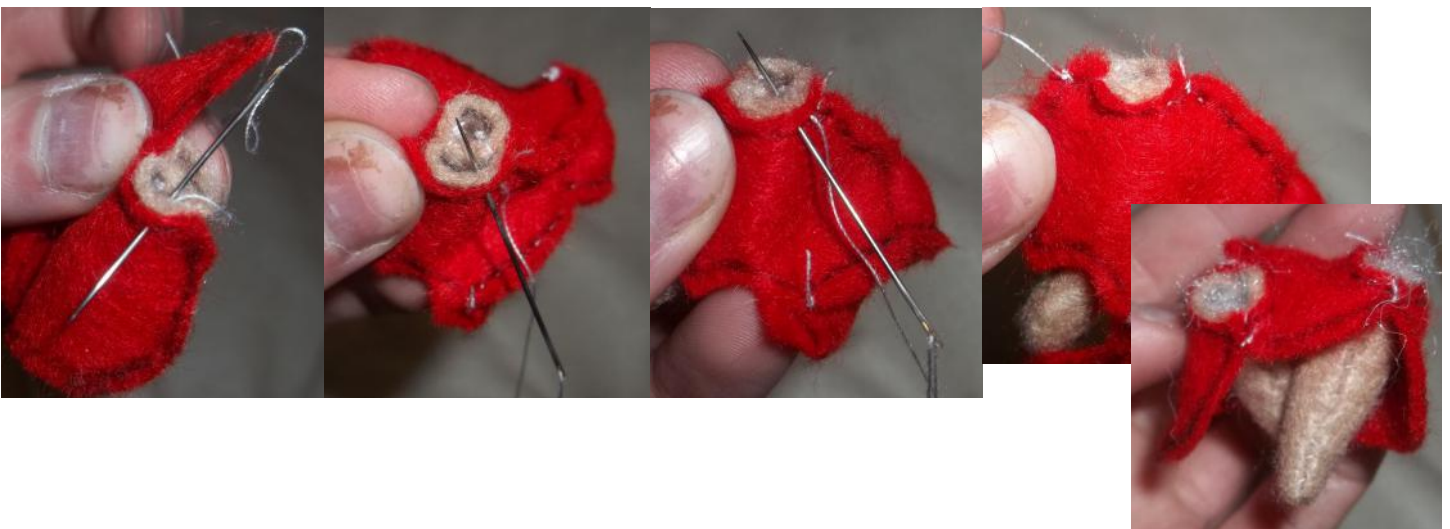


2. Attach one of the long curved edges of the forehead piece to the bumped edge of the corresponding head side piece, so that the semicircles line up at the top and the flat edges line up at the bottom. Repeat for the other side.



3. Now attach one of the horns to one of the circles on the back of the head piece, lining up the seams and angling the horn so it points toward the back of the head. I like to start at one end of the circle on the head piece and line up the material so the first two seams meet, halfway around, and then line up the other half once I have gotten halfway. Tie off

your thread and sew the little seam behind the horn, connecting the forehead piece and head side piece, until you reach the corner at the back of the forehead piece. Repeat on the other side, and stuff the horns.





4. Sew the chin piece to the bottom edge of the other head pieces, leaving the flat edge in the back open, where the neck will attach. As you sew around, the horns will tend to sort of squish out the back, which will make it easier to turn it right-side-out when you are finished.



5. Turn the head right-side-out and stuff it. Depending on how you are going to attach your eyes and other facial details, you may want to or have to do that during this step. I also used some thread-sculpting to make the head a more pleasing shape (though I forgot to take pictures of the process I used), both around the horns and along part of the snout. You can see the difference it made between the last two pictures below.



Making the Wings

The way you make your wings will vary widely depending on the materials used and the methods you are comfortable with. This is the method I personally use to make the wings, but if you don't like it, feel free to make your dragon's wings differently! If you want to be creative, altering the wing pattern is also an easy way to change how your dragon looks!



1. If you have not already done so, cut out your wing membrane and rib pieces. If you want your wings to have ribs on both sides, cut 4 rib pieces. You could also cut only 2 if you only want the ribs to be on one side of the wings. Make sure to leave

a seam allowance around the rib pieces. I prefer to cut these out without tracing, just in case, but the wings would turn out fine either way. For the membranes, cut out 2 without a seam allowance (at least on the bottom scalloped edge) if the material you are using is double-sided and won't fray (these are the pieces you probably will want to cut out without tracing). Otherwise, cut out 4 and add a seam allowance. As this tutorial was made with just felt, many of the techniques used are designed for using just felt, so if you are using other materials, look at the following steps as simply guidelines.





2. Sandwich the membrane piece between two of the wing rib pieces, lining up the ends of the ribs so that they extend out from the points on the membrane somewhat. If you are using two pieces of material for the membrane of each wing, you should sew the scalloped edges together and turn it right-side-out before sandwiching it between the rib pieces.

3. Pin the ribs in place except for the two longest ones at the top edge. Fold these outward and pin them such that when the seam allowance is accounted for, the bottom edge of the rib will be parallel to the top edge of the membrane and end just underneath the point at the tip of the wing. Beginning at the junction of this top rib with the other ribs, sew along this line through all 3 layers, being sure to end underneath the point at the end.



4. Repeat this process with the thick rib on the side, which will become the limb that connects the wing to the dragon's body, lining the bottom edge up with the spot where you want the membrane to end. For this dragon, I chose to line it up just above the angle on the bottom edge of the membrane.





5. For the middle 4 edges of the ribs, I used a modified version of the ladder stitch to attach the rib pieces to the membrane on both sides. To do this, start at the junction between two ribs,

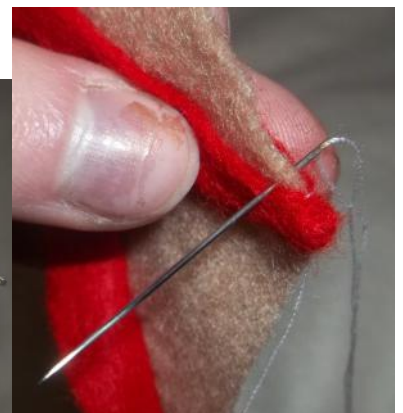


and pull your needle through one of the rib pieces at the very top of this junction, where the seam ended from attaching the topmost rib. Poke the needle down through the membrane piece, in the same amount that the previous seam was, so that the rib piece folds inward to



the same distance. Be sure to poke the needle only through the membrane piece when you do this. Then, on the reverse side, make a small stitch like you would in ladder stitch. Continue around the joint and down the side of the rib in this manner, alternating stitches on the rib piece on either side with poking the needle straight through the membrane to get to the reverse side.

6. When you reach the corner of the membrane, use ladder stitch to fold the end of the rib in on itself, forming a slight bump, and tuck the very end of the corner of the membrane into this bump, continuing a stitch or two around the corner. Then poke your needle straight through the membrane as in step 5, and continue to sew up the other edge of the rib in the same manner as you had sewn the first edge, as in step 5.



7. When you reach the junction of the rib with the next one, continue in the same way as the first, as in steps 5 and 6, until all of the ribs are attached to the membrane.



8. (optional) You may want to trim the top corner of your membrane on the inside of the wing before continuing, so that the stuffing is more even later.

9. Now, beginning at the tip of the wing, use ladder stitch to create a slight bump, as you had done previously on the ends of each rib in step 6. Continue along the top in ladder stitch, trying to keep the top rib around the same thickness as the other ribs.



10. When you reach the corner, stuff the junction of the wing lightly and use a thin stick to push some of the stuffing into the top of each rib to make it look smooth. If you want your wing to be bendy, try not to stuff the junction too much, as stuffing makes it harder to bend.



11. Continue along the outside edge of the wing with ladder stitch. The limb of the wing should be wider than the ribs. Then stuff the wing limb as well.



12. Repeat steps 2-11 for the second wing, attempting to make it as close to a mirror image of the first as possible.

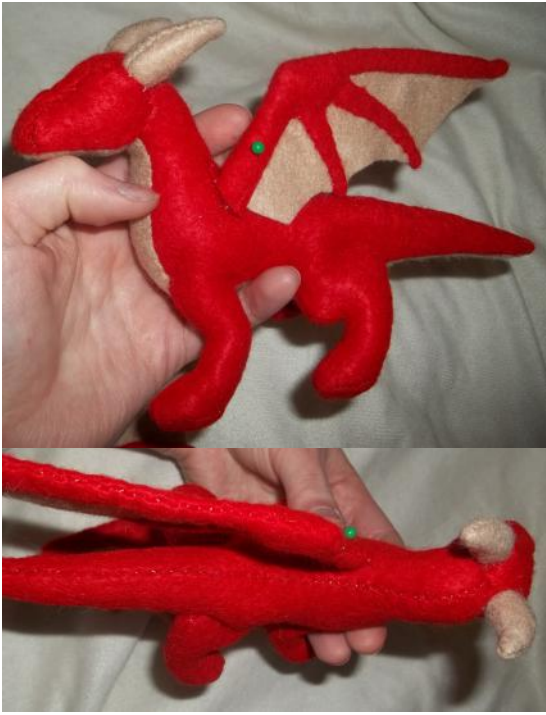
Assembly



1. First, pin the head in place, making sure to line up the strip of the belly with the chin. Ensure that the head and body are stuffed enough that the junction is smooth, and if you need to, add more stuffing and repin the head.

2. Now use ladder stitch to attach the head all the way around, pulling tight as you go to make sure no stitches show.

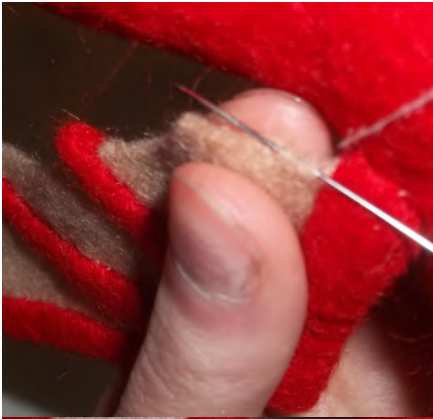




3. Next, pin the first wing to the body, wherever it looks best to you. I like to make it so the wing's limb attaches just behind the neck and as far away from the spine as is possible while keeping the wing on the back. However, feel free to position your wings however you like. You may find it helpful to pin both wings at once to make sure it looks good, but if so you may want to unpin one of them at first to make it easier to sew on the first wing.

4. Using ladder stitch, sew the limb of the wing to the body. If you made your membrane with two layers, you may want to continue and attach the membrane as well. If your membrane is a single layer, you will probably want to attach the whole limb first.





5. If you haven't already done so, sew the wing membrane to the body. I think it looks best to have them either parallel to the spine or angled slightly in, but again, it's up to you. Since I used felt for this dragon, I did this by making curving stitches into the felt from the bottom, so that the stitches went through the edge of the felt only and didn't go through the sides. I alternated these with stitches resembling the ladder stitch in the body to attach the membrane to the back. Afterwards, I made two longer diagonal stitches through the middle of the membrane piece, to give it a little bit more structure. If this is too complicated for your liking or you used a material that this method doesn't work with, feel free to use whatever other method you want to attach the wings and membranes to the body.

6. Repeat steps 3-5 to attach the other wing to the other side of the body. Try to make it as symmetrical as possible, mirroring the angle and distance from the spine that you attached the first wing at.



7. Now add any other details that you want to, like eyes (if you didn't add them earlier), extra horns/spikes... I don't know, be creative! :)



If you make a dragon with this pattern (or a modified version of it), I'd love to see a picture of it! Also, if you are still confused about something, feel free to ask me any questions on [DeviantArt](#) (my username is [RBoy42](#)), or send me an email at rebekahboy42@gmail.com.