

pinningZOO



Soft, charming, and simple, these embroidered, line-drawn animals are a great addition to a basic sewing kit. Without pins, they'd make an adorable accent for a baby's nursery.

DESIGNER

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WHAT YOU NEED

Basic sewing tools

Muslin

Water soluble marker or pencil

Embroidery hoop

Embroidery floss, various colors

Twill tape, natural color

Sewing machine (optional)

Iron

WHAT YOU DO

1 Draw or trace one of the template designs (page 298), or a design of your own, for embroidering onto the muslin with a water-soluble marker or pencil. Make sure the design falls within a 4 x 6-inch area.

2 Using an embroidery hoop and embroidery needle, embroider the design using one or two colors of floss and a simple outline stitch, backstitch, or stem stitch.

3 Measure a 4 x 6-inch section of the muslin, centered on the embroidered work. Cut it out, and also cut one plain 4 x 6-inch piece of muslin for the back.

4 Fold the twill tape in half with its ends matching. Pin it to the right side of the back piece at the top center. Match the ends of the tape to the raw edges of the muslin. The loop will be sandwiched between the front and back pieces when you sew.

5 With right sides facing, pin the front and back pieces together, and sew all around with a 1/2-inch seam allowance. Leave a 1 1/2-inch opening at the bottom for stuffing.

6 Before turning the fabric right side out, press back the unsewn seam on the seam line to make hand sewing easier later.

7 Turn the fabric right side out. Use the eraser end of a pencil, or another tool, to push out the corners. Press the fabric, keeping the unsewn seam folded inside.

8 Stuff the fabric firmly with polyester fiberfill. Use the eraser end of the pencil to move stuffing into the corners.

9 Hand sew the opening closed, following the pressed edge of the seam line.

GENTLE STUFFING

Stuff the pincushion firmly, but don't overstuff or the seams may buckle.

