

Leprechaun Finger Puppet

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This wee leprechaun comes with his own pot of gold and rainbow—whipstitch him up and you're sure to have good luck.



WHAT YOU NEED

Templates (page 118)

Basic sewing kit (page 9)

Light green wool felt, 4 x 4 inches
(10.2 x 10.2 cm) (body and hat band)

Dark green wool felt, 2 x 2 inches
(5.1 x 5.1 cm)

Tan wool felt, 3 x 3 inches (7.6 x 7.6 cm)

Rust wool felt, 3 x 3 inches
(7.6 x 7.6 cm)

Black wool felt, 3 x 4 inches
(7.6 x 10.2 cm)

Yellow wool felt, 1 x 2 inches
(2.5 x 5.1 cm)

White wool felt, 3 x 4 inches
(7.6 x 10.2 cm)

Red, orange, yellow, green, blue,
indigo, and violet wool felt strips,
each 1½ x 4 inches (3.8 x 10.2 cm)

Dark green, light green, rust,
brown, red, and black
embroidery floss (or thread)

Clear thread

WHAT YOU DO

(to make the leprechaun)

1 Use the templates to cut two body pieces and one hat band from the light green felt, two arms from the dark green felt, one head piece from the tan felt, one beard and one head piece from the auburn felt (this is for the back of the head), and two hat pieces from the black felt.

2 Use two strands of floss for all stitching. Using the dark green floss and the photo for placement, whipstitch the arms onto one of the body pieces.

3 Use the light green floss and the satin stitch to embroider a four-leaf clover onto the body, right above the hands.

4 With brown floss and the backstitch, embroider the eyes and eyebrows onto the face. Use the red floss to backstitch the mouth.

5 Place the beard onto the face and use the rust floss and the whipstitch to attach the upper part of the beard.



6 Using the photo for reference, place the embroidered face piece so it just overlaps the top of the body. Whipstitch through the bottom edge of the beard and face with the rust floss to attach the head to the top of the body.



7 Turn the body over and place the rust back of the head onto the backside of the face, making sure the head front and back match up. Whipstitch the front and back of the head together, starting at one side of the neck, going around the top of the head, and continuing on to the other side of the neck.

8 Match body pieces, sliding the top of the back body under the backside of the head, and pin. Whipstitch the bottom of the head to the top back of the body with rust floss. (Slide your finger into the leprechaun's head to hold the felt together as you stitch this part.) Use light green floss to whipstitch the body sides together, leaving the bottom open.

9 Attach the light green band to the front of one hat piece by embroidering a buckle with the yellow floss (four simple stitches: two vertical going across the band, one horizontal going above the band, and one horizontal going below the band). Use the black floss and the whipstitch to begin stitching the hat together, starting at point A and stitching over the hat's top to point B, leaving the bottom open.

10 Place the hat onto the leprechaun's head at a jaunty angle, and continue stitching through both layers of hat and head until you are back to point A.

(to make the pot of gold and rainbow)

1 Use the templates to cut two cloud pieces from the white felt, one gold piece from the yellow felt, and two pot pieces from the black felt.

2 Stack the rainbow strips in ROYGBIV order. Use clear thread to hand stitch through all layers. (About six running stitches roughly 1/2 inch (1.3 cm) long, straight down the middle should do it.)

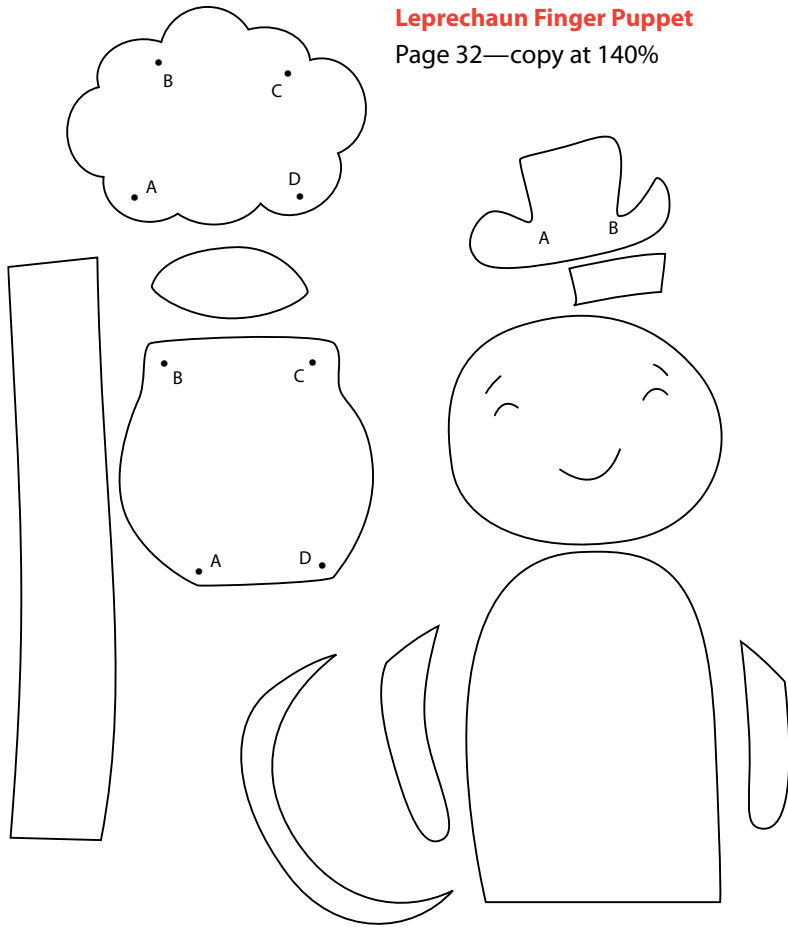
3 Place the cloud pieces together. Whipstitch from A to B with the white floss. Insert one end of the rainbow (red side up) between B and C, and then whipstitch the top of the cloud to point C, securing the top of the red strip inside the cloud with your stitches as you do so. Continue stitching the cloud pieces together from C to D. Then turn the cloud over and stitch the back (from C to B), this time securing the top of the violet strip inside as you do so.

4 Use six strands of yellow floss and French knots (see page 12) to attach the gold piece to the front of one pot piece. Use the black floss to whipstitch the pot together in the same manner as you did the cloud, inserting the rainbow inside the layers of the pot and leaving the bottom of the pot open so a finger or two can fit inside.



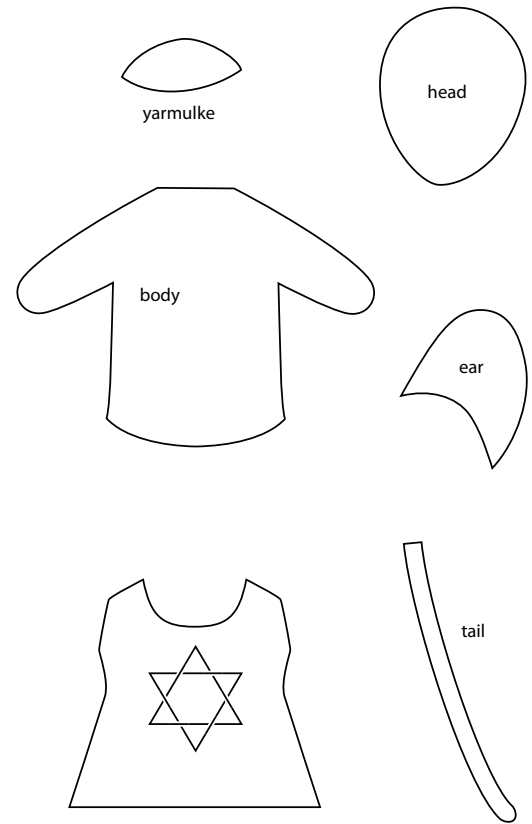
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Page 32—copy at 140%



Happy Hanukkah Mice

Page 87—copy at 150%



July 4th Bunting

Page 66—copy at 200%

