

sloth plush



A FREE SEWING PATTERN BY



sloth plush

Bask in your lazy side with this adorable and interactive sloth plush. The claws have Velcro so it's able to hang on anything at the ready like the corner of a door, towel hook, or your arm!

The head can be sewn so it's facing forward or sideways. This way it can look like it's peeking at you while it hangs. It's also a great time to bring out your faux fur fabrics as they look amazing for this fluffy friend.

SKILLS USED:

- Fusible web applique
- Basting
- Darts
- Sewing small pieces
- Sewing Velcro
- Ladder stitch
- Top-stitching
- Sewing curves

DIFFICULTY:



This plush is pretty simple on its own. What bumps it from a 2 to a 3 is the face applique and the neck seam. The large arms are tricky to stuff into the body while the neck is being sewn, so that takes some patience.

MAKES:

One plush with body measuring 9" tall, 6" wide, and 5" long. Arms and legs measure 7" long each (not including claws).

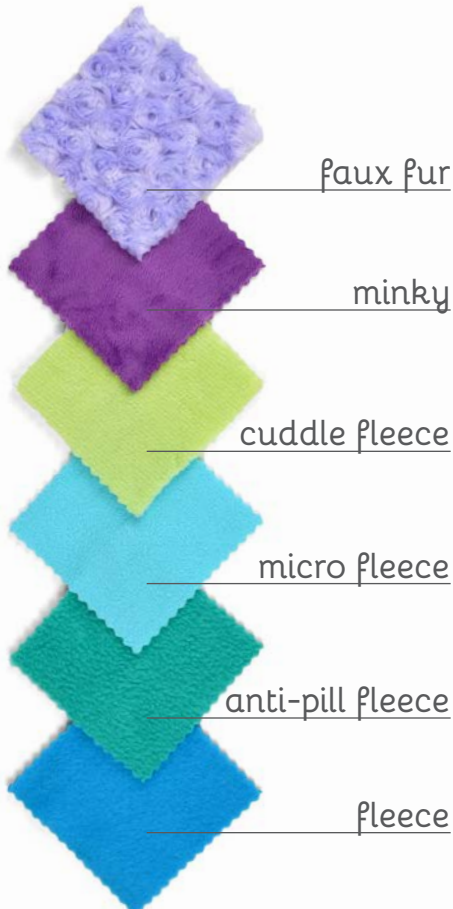


sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |

materials & tools:

- ½ yd. of fabric for main body
- ⅛ yd. of accent fabric for claws
- ⅛ yd. or 5" x 7" piece of accent fabric for face
- 4" x 6" piece of accent applique fabric for face markings
- 3" x 3" piece of black applique fabric (felt, cotton, etc.) for eyes and mouth
- white fabric paint for eye shines
- 3" of Velcro matching your claw fabric
- 6" x 6" piece of light or heavy duty fusible web
- sewing thread to match main fabric and applique fabrics
- poly-fil stuffing
- basic sewing tools (sewing machine, scissors, iron, needles, pins, fabric marker, seam ripper)



SUGGESTED FABRICS:

Plush, stretchy fabrics such as fleece or minky are suggested. The variations of fleece and minky mentioned to the left would work well, but really any plushy fabric with a bit of stretch on the cross-wise grain would be well-suited.

Stretch fabrics like **FLEECE** or **MINKY** will create a more squat, round shape when stuffed. Non-stretchy fabrics, like **FELT** or **COTTON**, won't stretch when stuffed so the resulting plush will look elongated as shown.

MINKY

VS.

FELT

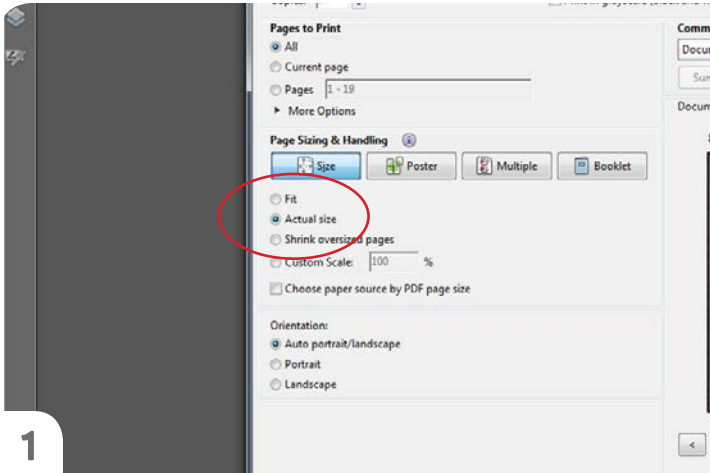


sew desu ne?

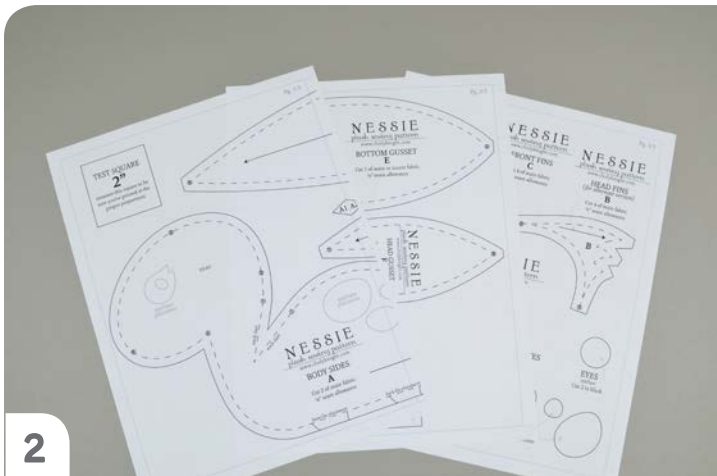
| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |

printing the pattern:

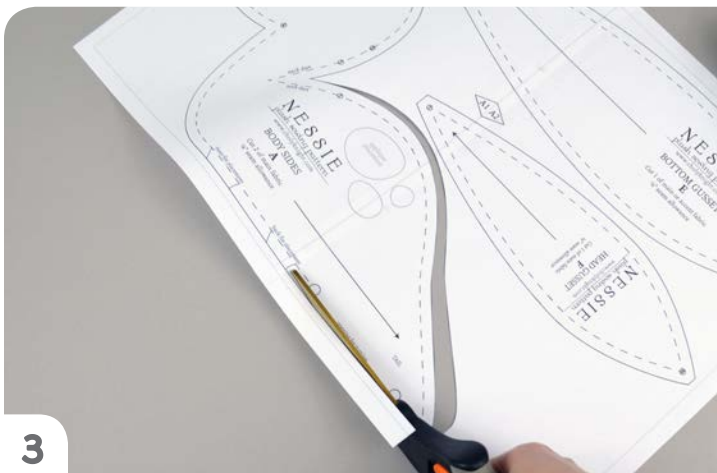
To print the pattern, set your computer to print **PAGES 15-17**. If you're unfamiliar with printing and assembling a .pdf pattern, read the steps below.



At the print dialog box, check the box that says print at “Actual Size” or 100%. Any other selection (such as “Fit to page”) will distort the pattern so it's slightly larger or smaller and we don't want that.



Print the pages needed for the file. You might have one or more. Either way, be sure you have the full collection by noting the page numbers in the corner.



You can trace the patterns onto a different paper, or you can also just cut them straight from the printer paper. They might be a little hard to pin through, so you might want to use your longest pins. But you could also use pattern weights or trace the outlines onto the fabric with a washable marker and cut them out from there.

sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |

cutting the fabric:



1

Place pattern on the fabric, and make sure the stretch line matches the stretch of the fabric. The nap line should go in the direction of the fur.

2

Pin the pattern in place, use pattern weights, or trace the outline of the pattern with a washable marker.

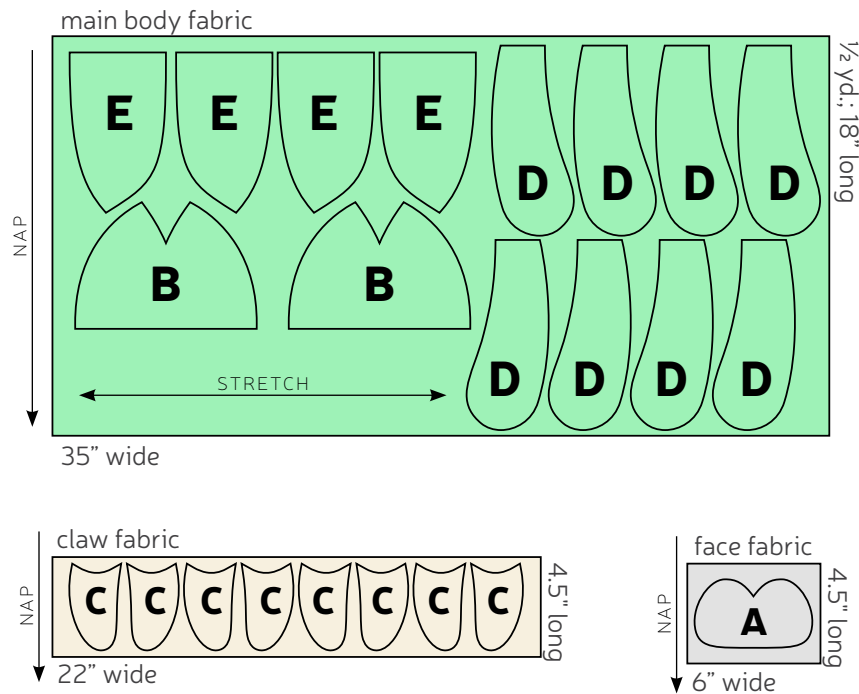
3

Using the paper as a template, cut out the fabric. Cut the required amount according to the pattern.

4

For all fur fabrics, shake the excess fuzz away.

cutting layout:



BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

- Briefly read the project instructions so you know what to expect.
- If desired, mark the cut fabric pieces with the markings and symbols from the pattern. Or wait until the applicable step before transferring.
- Note that the seam allowance used is $\frac{1}{4}$ " throughout the project.

sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |



1. PREPARE THE FACE APPLIQUE

- Take your fusible web and trace all your applique pieces onto the smooth (paper) side. You should have 2 eyes, 2 eye markings, 1 mouth, 1 nose, and 1 muzzle
- Fuse the bumpy (adhesive) side onto the wrong side of your applique fabric. The eyes, mouth, and nose go onto black, and the eye markings and muzzle go onto your accent color.
- Cut out the eye marking pieces and arrange them on the **FACE** (A) piece. Set your paper pattern on top of the fabric piece (right sides up), align the eye marking piece on top where the placement markings are, then carefully pull the paper pattern away while holding the applique piece in place.

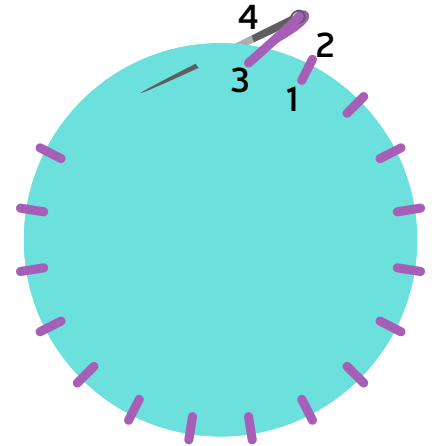
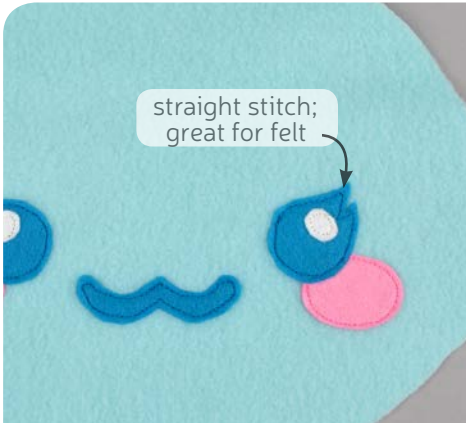


2. FUSE THE APPLIQUE

- Fuse the eye marking pieces in place with your iron (use a press cloth -- such as a scrap piece of cotton -- if you're using a polyester or fur fabric like minky).
- Next, move onto the smaller eye, nose, mouth, and muzzle pieces. Fuse them much the same way as you did the eye markings, using the paper pattern and photos as a guide. If you used heavy duty fusible web, you can keep the pieces fused without sewing, or you can sew them in place a number of ways. I've used a zigzag stitch here.
 - Refer to the next step for some other applique options.
- Place the **FACE** piece onto the **HEAD** (B) and align it much the same way as you did with the face applique.

sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |

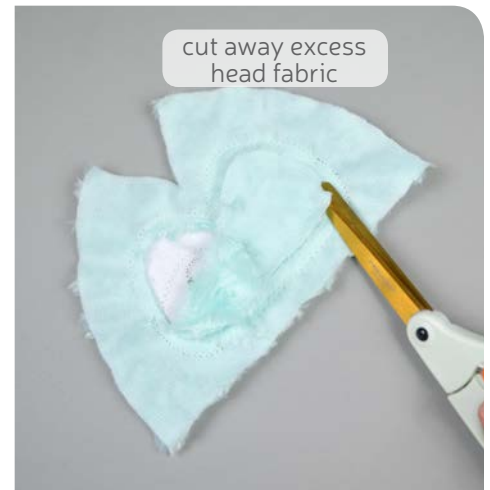


2a. OTHER APPLIQUE OPTIONS

Other good options for applique include a straight stitch, which involves sewing around the edge of the applique pieces with a straight stitch using matching thread -- about 1/8" in from the edge.

You can also applique by hand; I prefer a whip stitch. Thread a hand-sewing needle with some matching thread and knot it. Bring the thread up from the back of the project; about 1/8" in from the edge of the applique shape. Bring it down perpendicular from the curve, just outside of the applique shape. This completes one stitch.

For the next stitch, bring the needle back up about 1/8" away from the previous stitch and 1/8" in from the edge just as in the first stitch. Once again, bring it down just outside the applique shape. Continue this way until you've sewn around the shape.

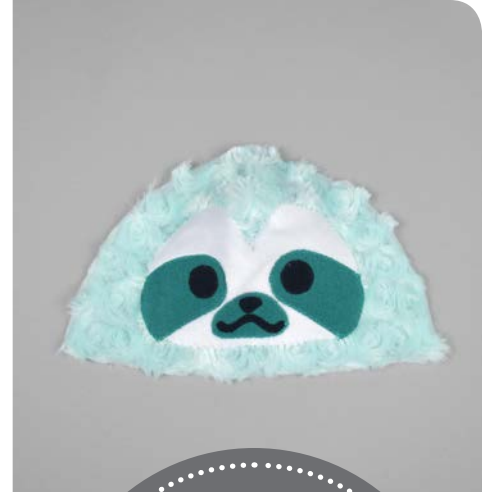


3. SEW THE FACE TO THE HEAD

- Pin the **FACE** in place, or use a bit of glue stick if you prefer for another alternative.
- Use a medium-width zigzag stitch to sew around the edge of the face. A straight stitch would work as well.
- Flip the **HEAD** piece over and cut away the excess head fabric behind the face panel, about 3/8" from the seam you've just sewn. This will reduce bulk and allow your fabric to stretch more. Be sure to cut through the head fabric only, and not the face fabric. If your fabric has gotten a little warped from the stitching, give it a light press to smooth it out.

sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |



4. SEW THE HEAD DART

- Locate the open wedge found on the top of the **HEAD (B)** piece -- this is a dart. To sew it, start by folding the head piece in half along the point of the dart and match up the slanted lines that make the wedge shape.
- Sew the dart by starting at the opening and moving down to the point. When sewing the point, try to blend the seam in with the fold so it makes a smooth transition and a rounder finished plush.
- When complete, the head should look rounded off as shown. Repeat this step with the remaining head piece for two complete head pieces total.

darts:

A wedge-shaped gap found in a pattern. When sewn in fabric, it creates a tuck in the fabric and develops a 3D shape. The diagonal sides of the wedge are the **LEGS**; these are matched up and sewn to the **POINT** of the dart.



5. SEW THE HEAD

- Align the blank head piece with the appliqued one. Face right sides together and match up the raw edges and dart seams.
- Sew the head pieces together along the curved edge. Leave the straight edge along the bottom for the neck seam later.
- Set aside the head for now while we work on the arms and body.

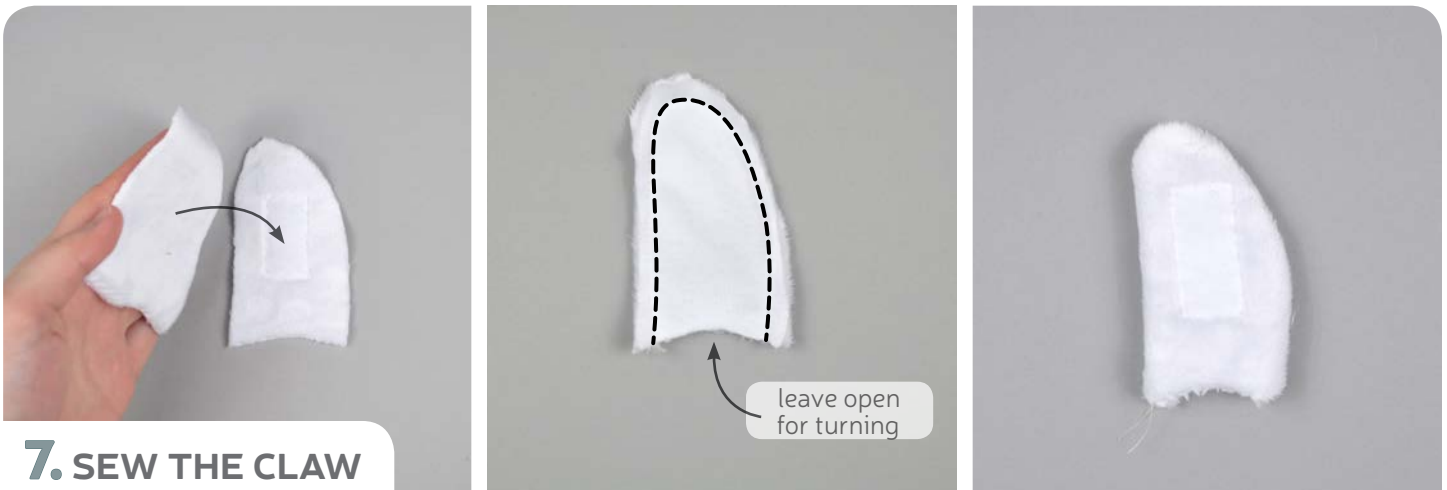
sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |



6. APPLY THE CLAW VELCRO

- Cut your Velcro in half so you have two 1½" pieces. Each piece should have a hook (scratchy) and loop (fluffy) side. There should be 4 separate pieces total -- 2 hook pieces and 2 loop pieces. Take one of the pieces and align it on one of your **CLAW** (C) pieces, right sides facing up. The paper pattern has a guideline for help, but it's basically just centered in the middle of the shape.
- Sew the Velcro to the claw along the edge of the Velcro with a medium-width zigzag stitch for extra security.
- Grab 3 more of your claw pieces that are **curving in the same direction as the first (right sides facing up)**. Sew the remaining 3 Velcro pieces to those 3 claw pieces.



7. SEW THE CLAW

- Grab one of your blank **CLAW** pieces (without Velcro) and align it to one of the claws that has Velcro attached. Face right sides together and match up the raw edges.
- Sew the claw pieces together along the longer curved edge. Leave the shorter curved edge free for turning right side out.
- Turn the claw right side out.

sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |



8. SEW THE CLAW LINES

- The claws have top stitching lines to simulate each individual claw. Locate them on the paper pattern and transfer them over to the right side of the fabric. You can also freehand them if you're confident.
- Stitch over each of the two lines to complete the top stitching. Repeat with the remaining 3 claw pieces.
- Grab two of your **ARM/LEG** (D) pieces that curve in opposite directions as shown (right sides both facing up). Match them up with two claws (1 hook and 1 loop) that also curve in the same direction (one will be Velcro side down). If you haven't already, locate the **claw placement lines** on the paper pattern for the arm/leg. Transfer them over to the right side of the fabric.

top stitching:

one or several lines of stitching done on the right side of a project to serve a decorative purpose



9. BASTE THE CLAWS

- Stretch the open end of the **CLAW** to fit within the placement lines on the **ARM/LEG**. Pin the claw in place.
- Baste the claws within the seam allowance to hold them in place for the next part. You'll know you have it right if one Velcro side is facing up and the other is facing down.
- Take another two arm/leg pieces and match them up to these current pieces. Align them with right sides facing and raw edges aligning.

basting:

A form of temporary sewing meant to hold pieces in place. A long stitch length is often used for this reason. The finished result is not meant to be seen and sometimes is even removed later (depending on your project).

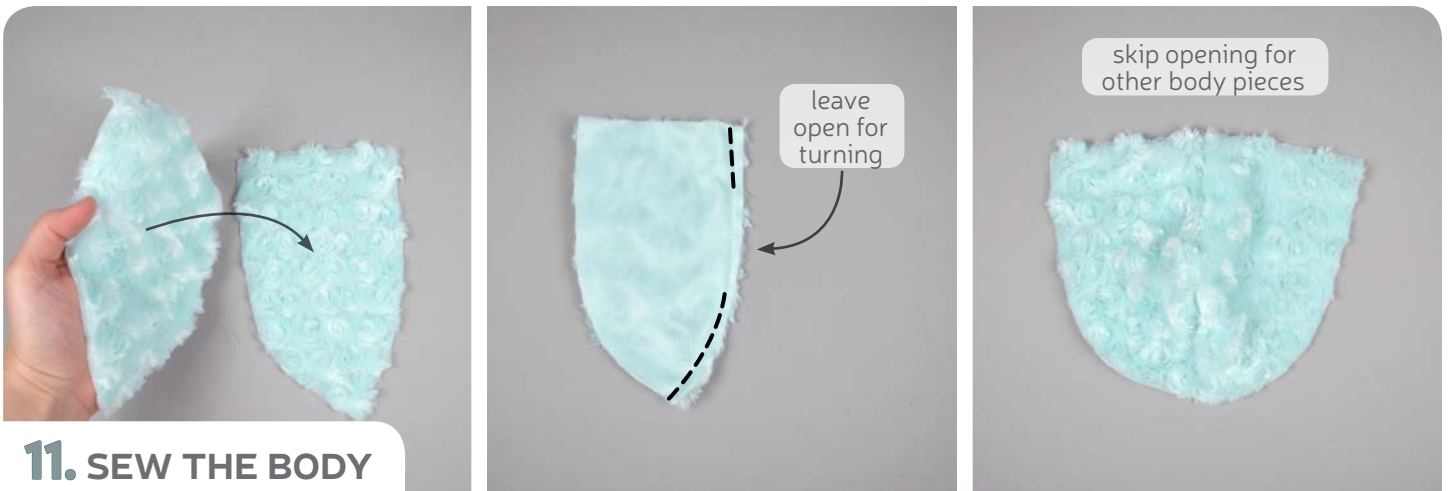
sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |



10. SEW THE ARMS/LEGS

- Sew the **ARM/LEG** together around the long curved edge. Leave the short straight edge free for turning right side out.
- Turn the arm/leg right side out through the opening. Make sure the claw was sewn fully into the seam.
- Stuff the end of the arm/leg with stuffing. Leave the opening end lightly stuffed so it doesn't get in the way later.



11. SEW THE BODY

- Take two of your **BODY** pieces (E) and align them with right sides facing and raw edges matching up.
- If you haven't already, locate the **opening for turning marking** on the paper pattern for the body. Transfer it to the wrong side of the fabric. Sew the body pieces along this edge only, but leave the opening that you marked before. This will later become the body back.
- Repeat with the remaining two body pieces, but skip the opening for turning. This will later become the body front.

sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |



12. BASTE THE ARMS

- If you haven't already, locate the **arm placement lines** on the body paper pattern. Transfer them over to the right side of the **BODY FRONT** fabric (the side without the opening for turning). Align the open end of the arms you've just sewn within these placement lines. Pin them in place. Be sure that the arms are curving toward the center.
- Baste the arms in place within the seam allowance to hold them for future steps. At this time, go back and repeat steps 8-10 with your remaining **CLAW** and **ARM/LEG** pieces to complete the legs.
- If you haven't already, locate the **leg placement lines** on the body paper pattern. Transfer them over to the right side of the fabric. Align the open end of the legs you've just sewn within these placement lines. Pin them in place. Be sure that the legs are curving toward the center.



13. SEW THE BODY

- Baste the **LEGS** in place within the seam allowance to hold them for future steps.
- Get your remaining **BODY BACK** piece (the side with the opening for turning). Align it over the body piece with the limbs attached. Match up the raw edges and center seam.
 - You may need to fold the arms out of the way while you do this.
- Sew the body pieces together along the curved edge (the edge with the legs attached). Leave the straight edge (the one with the arms attached) free. This is for the neck next.

sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |



14. SEW THE HEAD

- Make room for the neck by pushing the legs through the **opening for turning** and pushing the arms down into the body of the sloth.
- Retrieve your **HEAD (B)** piece from before. Align the center of the face (marked with a notch) at the **center seam between the arms**. The back notch should match up with the back body seam (which has the opening). The side seams from the head and body should also match up. Pin this whole edge in place.
- Sew around the neck completely.

for a turned head:

Match up the front and back notches to the side seams instead of the body seams.

The side seams of the head will now match up with the body seams. This will give your sloth head a 90 degree turn.

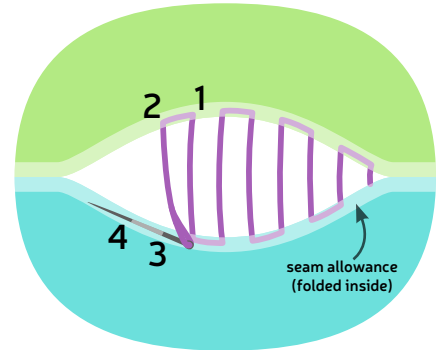
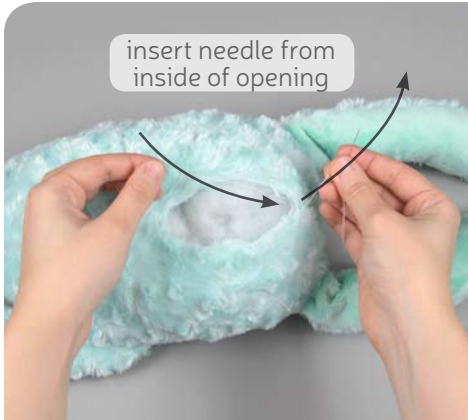


15. TURN AND STUFF THE SLOTH

- Turn the sloth right side out through the opening for turning in the back. Pull out the limbs first to make turning easier.
- Stuff the sloth through the opening. Fill it fully with stuffing, focusing on the face first until it no longer wrinkles. Then fill the rest of the body.

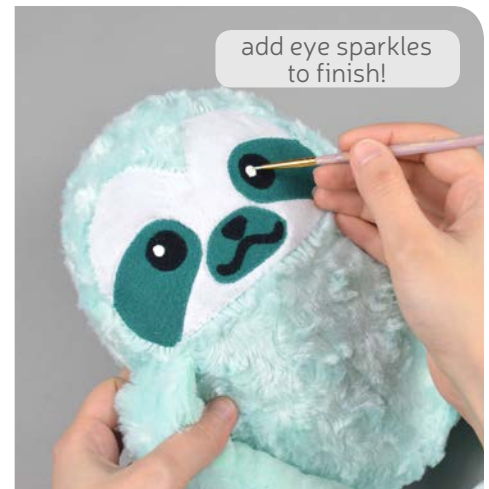
sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |



16. STITCH THE OPENING CLOSED

- Once the plush is stuffed, make sure the seam allowances in the opening are tucked inside and prepare to ladder stitch it closed. Thread a hand-sewing needle and knot it at the end. Insert the needle from the inside of the opening and out of the plush near one edge of the opening. This will leave the knot inside the plush.
- Continue from here doing a ladder stitch. Take a $\frac{1}{8}$ " stitch into the fold of one side of the opening, then go across and take another. Keep going down the opening until you reach the end.



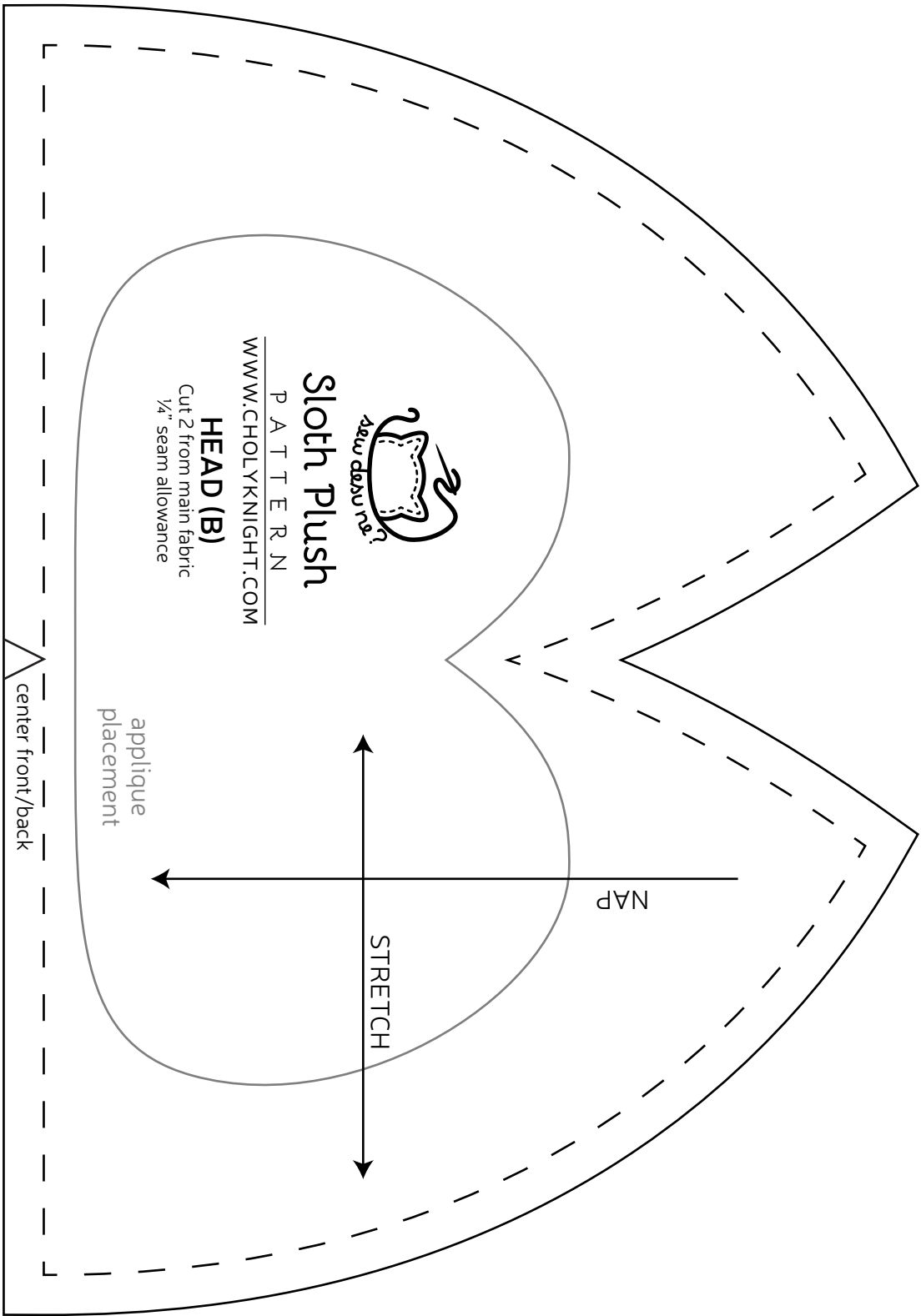
17. SNIP THE THREADS

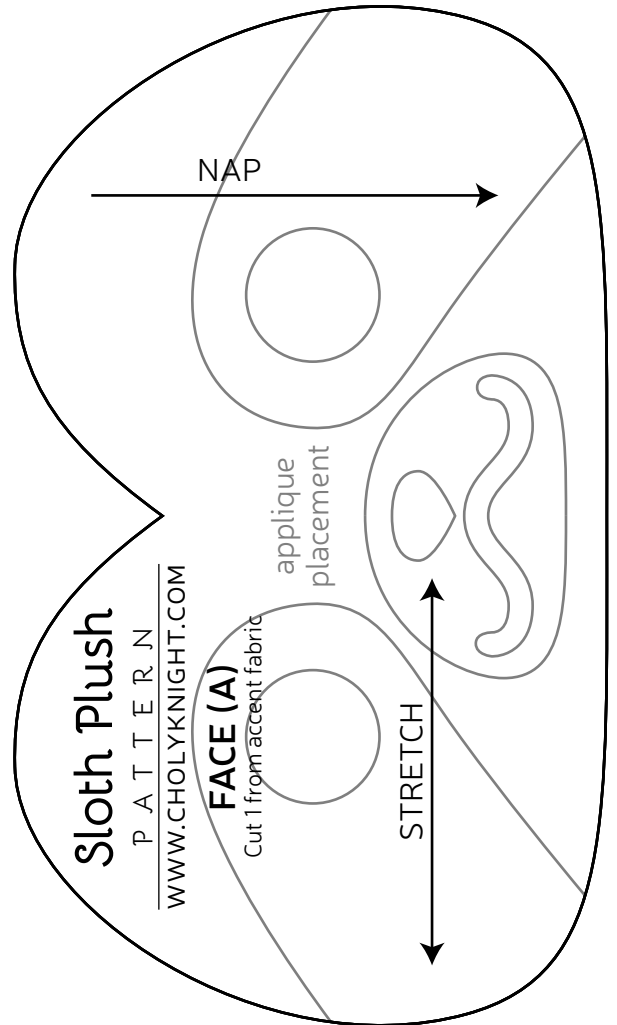
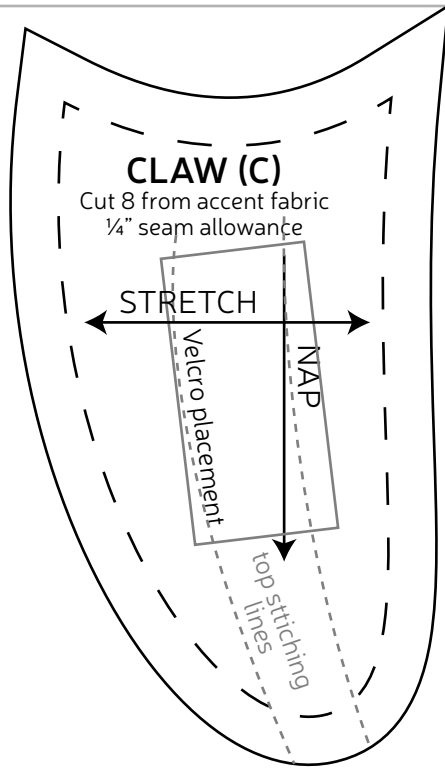
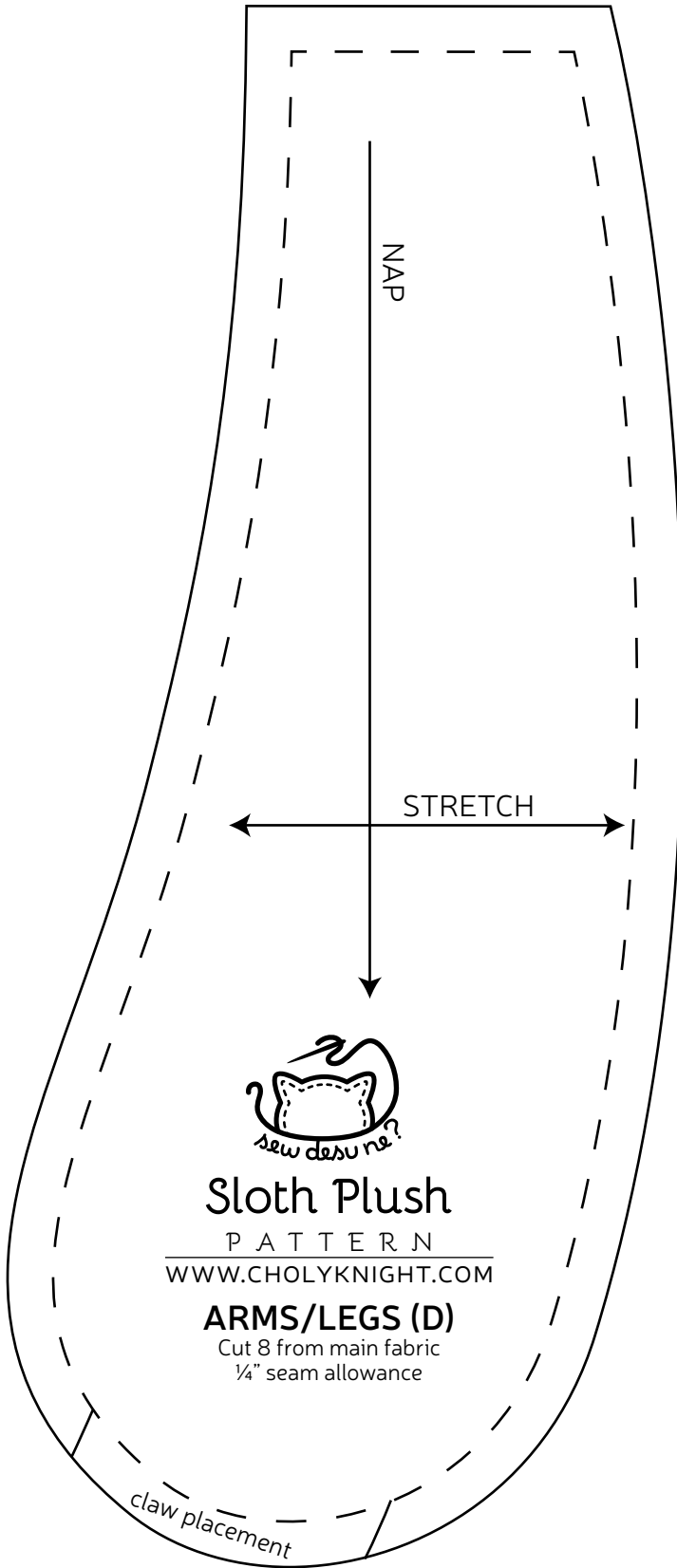
- When you're finished, stitch a knot into the end of the seam. Then insert the needle near the finished knot and out of the plush about 1-2" away.
- Pull the thread through and hold it taut while snipping the thread. The excess thread should sink back inside the plush -- all hidden!
- For that special finish, dab a bit of white fabric paint into the corner of each eye to serve as an eye sparkle.

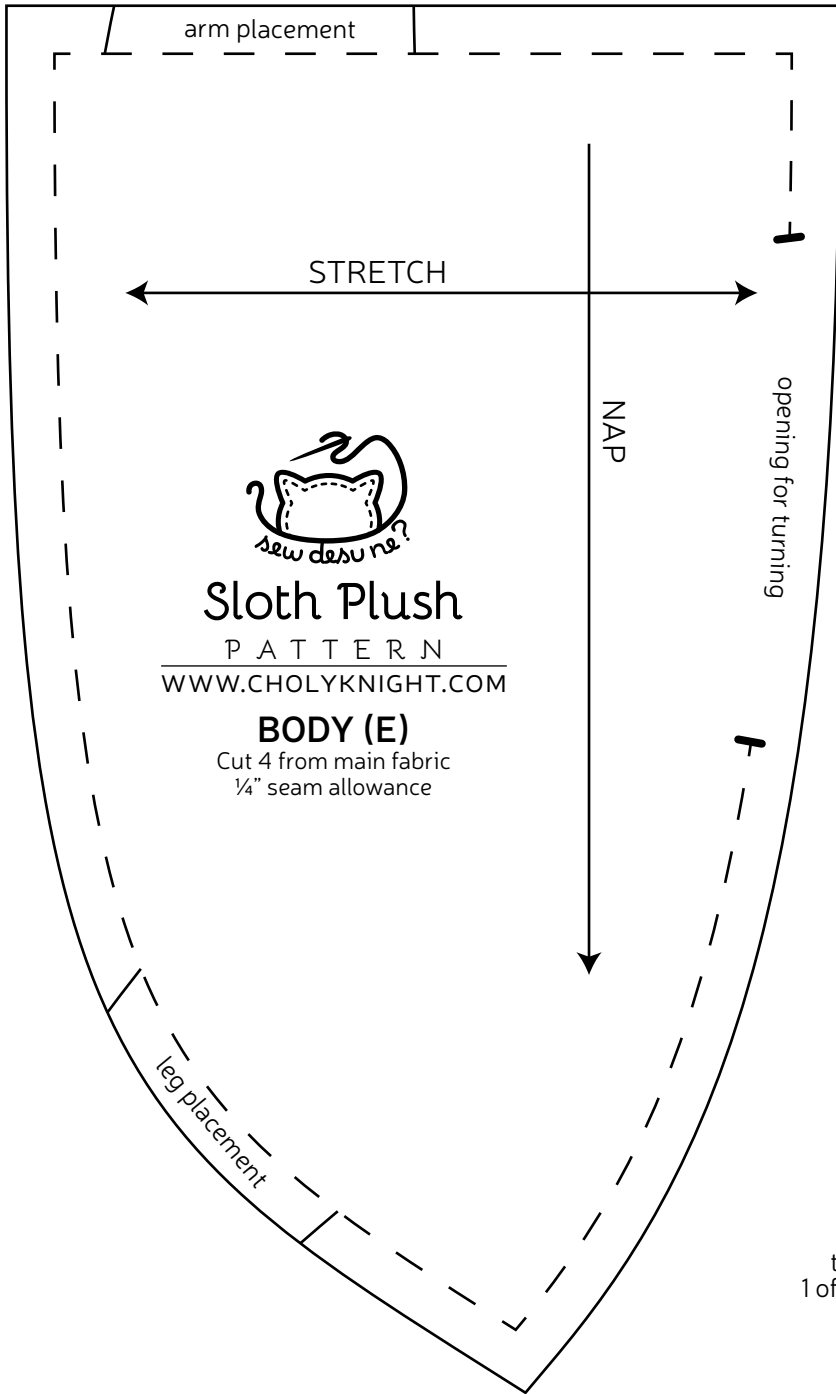
congrats!
this completes
your plush! Now
give it a big
hug!

sew desu ne?

| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |







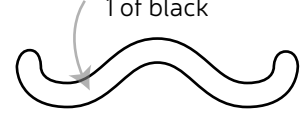
Sloth Plush

P A T T E R N
WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM

BODY (E)

Cut 4 from main fabric
1/4" seam allowance

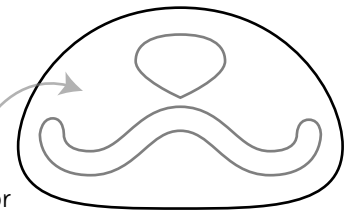
MOUTH
applique
trace & cut
1 of black



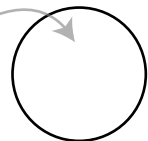
NOSE
applique
trace & cut
1 of black



MUZZLE
applique
trace & cut
1 of accent color



EYES
applique
trace & cut
2 of black



EYE MARKINGS
applique
trace & cut
1 each of accent color

