



Bliss



Materials: 8" bear
Recycled mink from coat
Suede for paws
5 x T or cotter pins
10 x 16mm fibre joints
8-10mm deluxe glass eyes and sinew
Brown Pearle cotton for nose
Super glue and polymer clay (optional)
Matching thread (strong upholstery thread for closing)
Majestic Merino Wool Noil
Steel shot and a toe of a stocking for weight (optional)
Sewing, doll needle, Pen, Awl
Haemostats or stuffing tool
Cotter pin turner
Sharp scissors
Copic pens to match fur (optional)
Ribbon (optional)
General sewing requirements

*Best wishes & Much Success!
Helen Gleeson*

Real Fur

This pattern is for real fur (mink) or can be created from Alpaca if you prefer.

If you are making this pattern from real fur, i.e. recycled mink coat etc, follow the instruction in the same way you would for a normal bear fabric, however there are a few additional step as follows. When using leather I always line the leather. This is a simple step that will give the leather strength when stuffing and make sure your cub lasts a lifetime. Lay the piece fur on the table so you can see the leather, make sure the fur is running down (towards you)

Place the pattern pieces on the leather, checking the fur each time to make sure the fur direction is ok (remember this is not man made, it is real and has imperfections.)

When happy trace the pattern on with a marker.

Using a glue stick, cover the pieces (out outside the marked lines as you do not want the edges to lift.)

Lay a piece of this cotton or muslin over the glued areas. You should still be able to see the lines.

Cut around the marked lines being careful not to cut the fur pile.

Please note:

When sewing real fur make sure your stitches are slightly further apart than normal, you do not want extra holes in the leather as you will perforate it and it may rip.

Be very careful when turning and stuffing as to not rip the leather.

Want more detailed instructions? Take a look at the Bare Cub Designs guides, there are 12 patterns and 12 guides, including a “bumper mink issue” Volume 8 Hershy with 150 step by step photos on how to make a mink bear from the lining of the coat to trimming the face!



Access your member area to view and download the guides visit the website at www.barecubdesigns.com

Preparation:

Read through the instructions before you begin. As this pattern is supplied on card, cut pattern out. There should be 21 pieces. Place the fabric, fur side down onto your work area, making sure the pile runs down towards you. Place the pattern pieces onto the back of the fabric so that the arrows are facing the same direction as the fur pile. Check you have all the pieces; there should be 15 pieces in total (remember 2 inner ears and 4 paws are in suede or suede). Cut out all the pieces carefully as to not cut the fur pile. Trace the 2 inner ears, and 4 paw pads onto the suede or suede, all facing the same direction. Cut out. A 3 mm seam allowance has been included in the pattern.

Body:

Sew all four darts on the body first. Placing the two body pieces together, using a firm small backstitch, sew around the tummy, leaving the opening. Using the awl pull the trapped fur out of the seams. Turn right side out.

Arms:

Sew the paw pads onto the bottom of the inner arms. Place the inner and outer arm together and sew all the way around. Knot and finish off. Clean the seam by using a awl and trim off the excess fur. Cut a slit in the inner arm towards the top where the joint and disc will be placed. Using haemostats, turn the arm the right way out. Using the haemostats or stuffing stick gently fill the arms. Insert the cotter pin (with a disk) Using a ladder stitch and strong thread close opening, with cotter pin protruding. Repeat for other arm.

Legs and paw pads:

Placing the legs right sides together, sew around from the toe, to to the heel. Lining up the toe and heel with the middle of the footpad, start at the toe and sew the paw pad in place adjusting as you go to make sure the heel is centre as you sew around the footpad. Clean the seams and, cut a slit where the joint and disc will go towards the top of the inner leg and turn through, right sides out. Using the haemostats or stuffing stick gently fill the legs. Insert the cotter pin (with disk) Using a ladder stitch and strong thread close opening, with cotter pin protruding. Repeat for other leg.

Head:

Place the two head pieces right sides together. Sew from the nose down the chin to the neck opening. Place the gusset (rounded end) where the nose pieces meet, making sure you start in the middle of the gusset sew the left side first adjusting as you go to make sure the end of the gusset meets the neck opening. Starting back at the middle of the head gusset work around to the right ending at the neck. Leave the neck open. Turn head right sides out. Using the haemostats or a stuffing tool, gently stuff the head making sure that you pay particular attention to the nose area making it firm, as this will help when you are sewing the nose. Insert a cotter pin into a disc. Insert the disk into the bottom of the neck opening, with the ends of the pins coming out of the bottom of the neck. With sinew thread, gather the neck hole around the cotter pin and knot the end off, sink the knot into the head.

Eyes:

Using pins or test eyes and the photo as a guide decide where you want to put the eyes. Make sure they are even. I insert them just a few mm down from the gusset line on either side. Thread the eyes onto sinew. Thread the other end of the sinew through the eye of a doll needle. Insert the needle where the eye will go and exit at the back of the head near the neck. Bring both threads out close together and tie a reef knot, sink into the head. Alternatively use the “button method” as explained in the Bare Designs Club.

Nose:

Using sharp scissors, trim the fur from the nose area and down the centre of the face off to both sides forming the mouth. Thread the Pearle cotton onto a doll needle and entering the back of the head come out at the centre of the nose forming the septum go back into the head a few mm below, coming out at the bottom left hand of the mouth, pull thread through but not tight. Threading the needle underneath the septum to the right hand side pull the thread tight and enter the head at the bottom right hand side of the mouth, exit the head at the back, tie off and sink knot into the head. Make a nose from polymer clay, following directions on the packet, attach with strong glue or by attaching a wire loop into the back of the clay and attach in the same manner as the eyes. A free step by step photo guide to [create clay noses](#) can be found at www.barecubdesigns.com under “Bear Making”

Ears:

Placing a suede ear with a fur ear right sides together and sew around the curved edge, remove trap the fur from the seams. Turn through. Ladder stitch the ear opening closed, leaving the hanging thread attached. Repeat other ear. Attach the ears to the head using ladder stitch and the hanging thread, use the photo as a guide or place with pins first to make sure you are happy with them and that they are even.

Jointing:

Attach the head by inserting the cotter pin front the head into the top of the body. From the inside of the tummy thread a disk onto the cotter pin and using the cotter pin turner, roll down the pins. Following the same manner attach the arms and the legs. Gently fill the top and bottom of tummy where the joints are with wool. Fill a stocking foot with steel shot, tie off with a knot and put into tummy for weight (optional) finish filling with wool. Using ladder stitch, sew up the back opening of the body. Clean all the seams by using an awl to pull out any trapped fur on the outside of the bear

Shading:

Shade around the nose and eyes with copic markers and blender as desired for that finishing touch and give your bear a name. Your bear is now ready to love!

Helen Gleeson can be contacted on:
0400 797 700 or email helen@barecubdesigns.com
www.barecubdesigns.com