



Sleeping Cat with Heart Felt Wall Panel

Finished size: 18 cm x 18 cm

Materials

- Felt sheets (various colors)
- Buttons
- Embroidery thread
- Stuffing (for cat - optional)

Templates (with seam allowance)

Cat Body
(white)
14 cm x 10 cm
(cut 1)

Heart
(red)
8 cm x 7 cm
(cut 1)

Ear (inner)
(pink)
3 cm x 3 cm
(cut 2)

Patch 1
(brown)
5 cm x 4 cm
(cut 1)

Patch 2
(orange)
4 cm x 4 cm
(cut 1)

Patch 3
(brown)
4 cm x 3 cm
(cut 1)

Leaf
(green)
3 cm x 2 cm
(cut 2)

Flower
(orange/red)
3.5 cm x 3.5 cm
(cut 2)

Flower Center
(yellow)
2 cm x 2 cm
(cut 2)

Rectangle Panel
(background)
18 cm x 18 cm
(cut 1)

Stitch Guide

- Running Stitch (assembly)
- Back Stitch (outlines - face)
- Blanket Stitch (edges and heart)
- Cross Stitch (border)
- French Knot (optional - flower center)

1 Cut the Pieces



Using the templates, cut all felt pieces in the indicated colors and sizes. The measurements include seam allowance (0.5 cm).

2 Prepare the Cat



Position the ear pieces and body patches on the cat body. Pin in place and stitch with a blanket stitch or running stitch.

3 Make the Heart



Sew the heart pieces together with a blanket stitch, leaving a small opening. Add a little stuffing (optional) and close the heart.

4 Add the Facial Details



Embroider the eyes, nose and mouth using back stitch. Add whiskers with straight stitches.

5 Sew the Heart to the Cat



Position the heart on the cat's body and sew it in place. Add the front paw over the heart.

6 Make the Flowers and Leaves



Sew the flower center to the flower and add a button. Make the leaves with a simple running stitch in the center.

7 Prepare the Background Panel



Make the border around the panel using cross stitches or embroidery as shown. The panel size is 18 cm x 18 cm.

8 Assemble the Panel



Position the cat, flowers, leaves and buttons on the background panel. Pin everything in place.

9 Sew All Pieces

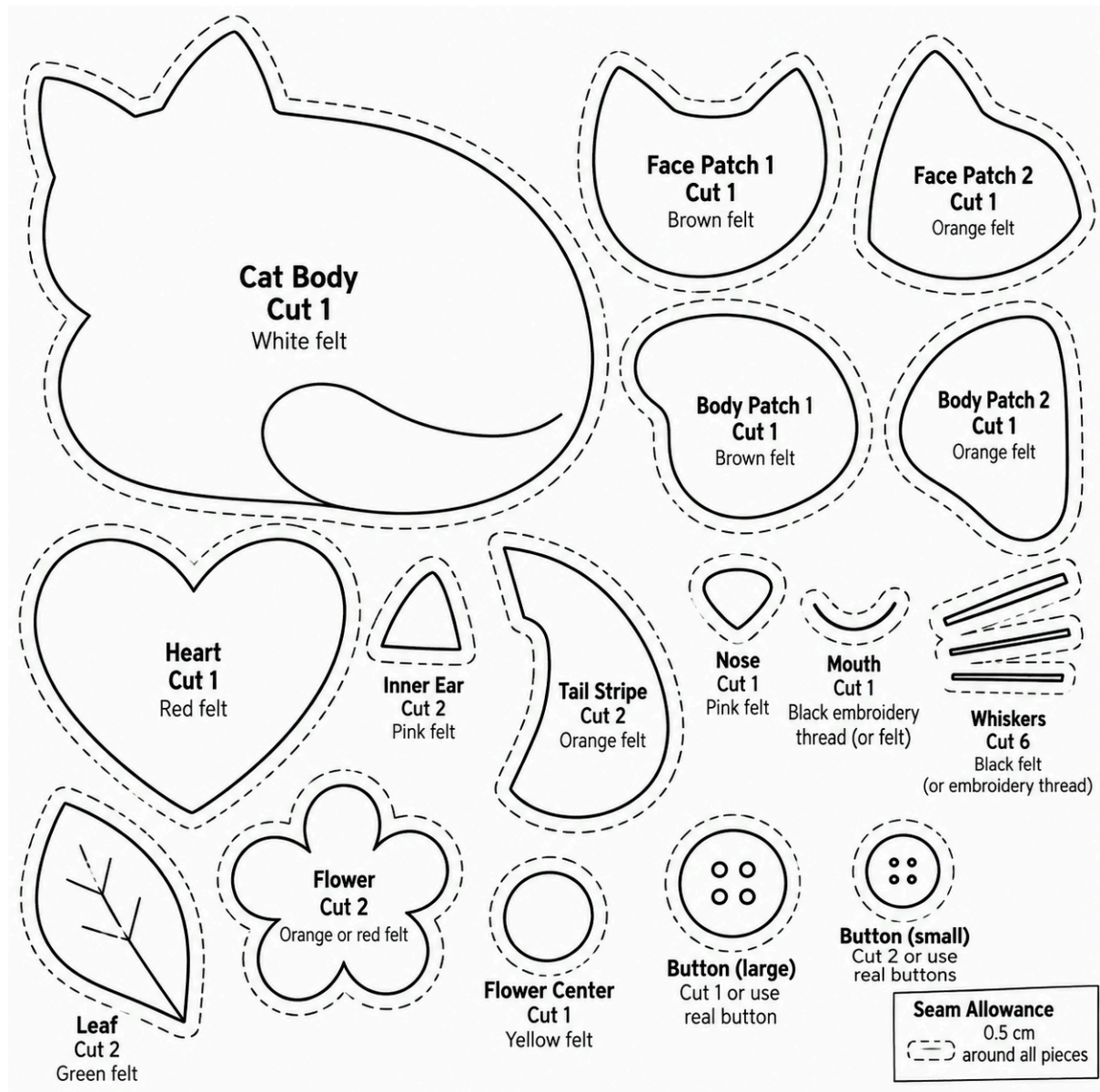


Sew all elements securely using blanket stitch or running stitch.

10 Finished Panel



Your Sleeping Cat with Heart Felt Wall Panel is ready!
Finished size: 18 cm x 18 cm



Sleeping Cat with Heart Felt Wall Panel – Complete Sewing Tutorial

The Sleeping Cat with Heart Felt Wall Panel is a charming hand-sewn project made with layered felt, simple embroidery, decorative buttons, and a warm square background. The finished panel measures approximately 18 cm × 18 cm (7.1 × 7.1 inches) and features a sleepy patchwork-style cat cuddling a bright red heart.

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This tutorial follows the supplied graphic closely. The project uses familiar hand-sewing techniques commonly used in U.S. felt crafts, including the running stitch, backstitch, blanket stitch, cross stitch, and optional French knots. Because most pieces are small and can be sewn by hand, you do not need a sewing machine.

The measurements below are given primarily in centimeters, as shown in the tutorial graphic, with approximate inch equivalents where they are especially useful. Since handmade felt pieces can vary slightly, treat the measurements as practical guides rather than requiring millimeter-perfect cutting.

Step 1: Gather the Materials and Cut All Felt Pieces

Before sewing, prepare your workspace and gather all the materials. Using good-quality craft felt will make the appliqué pieces easier to cut and help the finished cat maintain its shape.

You will need white, brown, orange, pink, green, red, and yellow felt. You will also need black embroidery thread for the facial details and whiskers, coordinating embroidery floss for the decorative stitching, a hand-sewing needle, fabric scissors, straight pins or sewing clips, and several small wooden-style buttons.

For the optional dimensional version shown in the graphic, have a small amount of polyester fiberfill available. This can be placed inside the cat and heart before closing their seams. If you prefer a completely flat wall panel, simply omit the stuffing.

Prepare an 18 × 18 cm (approximately 7.1 × 7.1 in) square for the background panel. The example uses a warm brown

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surface that gives the finished project a rustic appearance. A firm brown felt, wool-blend felt, fabric-covered stabilizer, or another sturdy textile backing can be used.

For the main cat, cut one white body approximately 14 × 10 cm (5.5 × 3.9 in). Cut the colored patches separately. The tutorial graphic suggests approximately 5 × 4 cm for the brown patch, 4 × 4 cm for an orange patch, and 4 × 3 cm for another brown patch. Cut two pink inner-ear pieces measuring about 3 × 3 cm.

Cut the heart from red felt at approximately 8 × 7 cm (3.1 × 2.8 in). Also prepare two green leaves of approximately 3 × 2 cm, two flowers of approximately 3.5 × 3.5 cm, and small circular centers around 2 × 2 cm. If you are using the printable pattern with a 0.5 cm seam allowance, keep that allowance consistent around the applicable sewn pieces.

Step 2: Prepare the Main Cat Body 🐱

Place the white cat body flat on your work surface. Before sewing anything, arrange all the colored patches over it. This dry layout is important because it lets you check the proportions and placement against the reference image.

Position the dark brown patch over the left side of the cat's head. Place the orange patch over the upper center portion of the head, creating the distinctive calico appearance. Additional brown and orange patches can be positioned along the back and right side of the body.

Place the small pink inner-ear pieces inside the larger ear areas. Pin or clip them carefully. Because felt does not fray easily, the edges can remain exposed, making this project particularly approachable for beginners.

Attach the appliqué patches with a small running stitch or blanket stitch. Try to maintain even spacing between stitches.

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A stitch length of approximately 0.3 to 0.5 cm works nicely for small felt appliqué pieces.

If you want the cat to have the softly raised appearance shown in the finished project, prepare a second simplified backing layer in the same overall cat shape. Sew around most of the outside edge, leaving a small opening.

Insert a modest amount of fiberfill through the opening. Avoid overstuffing—the cat should appear softly padded rather than firm. Once the shape is even, close the opening securely with small hand stitches.

Step 3: Make the Red Felt Heart

The heart is the visual focal point of this panel. Cut the heart carefully from red felt, aiming for a finished size of approximately 8 × 7 cm.

For a flat appliqué version, one heart layer is enough. For the dimensional heart shown in the tutorial, cut two matching red heart pieces and place them together with their edges aligned.

Sew around the heart using blanket stitch. Keep the stitches evenly spaced so they become part of the decorative design. Contrasting light-colored thread creates the dotted handmade appearance visible around the heart in the reference project.

Leave a small section unstitched if you want a padded heart. Add a very small amount of polyester stuffing, concentrating it toward the center rather than forcing it into the edges.

Continue the blanket stitch until the opening is completely closed. Check the shape as you work so that both rounded lobes of the heart remain symmetrical.

Set the completed heart aside temporarily. It will be attached after the cat's facial details have been embroidered, which

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makes it easier to handle the face without the heart getting in the way.

Step 4: Embroider the Sleeping Cat's Face 🧵

The simple expression gives this project much of its personality. Use black embroidery floss and a backstitch for the eyes, mouth, and other dark facial lines.

Create each closed eye with a gentle curved line. Because the cat is sleeping, the curves should point slightly downward or follow the relaxed shape shown in the graphic. Keep both eyes similar in thickness.

Cut a tiny rounded triangular nose from pink felt and position it near the center of the white facial area. Secure it with tiny stitches around the edge.

Below the nose, embroider two short curved lines to form the mouth. A backstitch works well because it produces a smooth, continuous outline.

Next, make the whiskers. You can embroider them directly using long straight stitches with black floss. The reference design uses several whiskers extending from each side of the face.

Secure every thread end on the back of the work. Avoid pulling embroidery stitches too tightly, since excessive tension can distort felt and cause puckering around the face.

Step 5: Attach the Heart and Make the Cat Hug It ❤️🐾

Place the finished red heart across the lower front portion of the cat. Refer to the tutorial image for positioning: the heart should cover part of the body while leaving the face clearly visible.

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Pin the heart temporarily and check the composition before sewing. The top of the heart should sit below the mouth, while its lower point extends toward the lower body.

Hand-sew the heart securely to the cat. If the heart is padded, stitch mainly around its outer edge so you preserve the raised center.

Create the front paw from white or cream felt. Position it so that it crosses over the lower-right portion of the heart. This overlapping layer is important because it creates the impression that the cat is actually cuddling the heart.

Secure the paw with running stitch or blanket stitch. If desired, place a tiny amount of stuffing underneath before completing the seam to create a gentle three-dimensional effect.

Finally, inspect the heart and paw from several angles. The heart should look naturally nestled against the cat rather than simply attached on top.

Step 6: Create the Tail, Flowers, Leaves, and Buttons



The curved tail wraps around the lower part of the cat. Use white or cream felt for the main tail and add orange and brown patches or stripes to coordinate with the body.

Secure the colored tail sections with small running or blanket stitches. Position the completed tail around the lower edge of the cat so that it curves naturally toward the heart.

For the flowers, cut simple five-petal shapes approximately 3.5 × 3.5 cm. The reference design uses orange and red flowers, but you can stay strictly with those colors to maintain consistency with the tutorial.

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Add a small circular felt center or a wooden button to each flower. Sew the button firmly through the center, making sure the thread is securely knotted on the reverse side.

Cut two green leaves measuring approximately 3 × 2 cm. Add a central vein and smaller branching veins using a simple running stitch or backstitch. This small embroidery detail makes the leaves look much more finished.

Arrange the flowers, leaves, and additional buttons around the cat rather than attaching everything immediately. The graphic places decorative elements mainly near the upper-right and lower-left corners, creating visual balance.

Step 7: Prepare the 18 × 18 cm Background Panel

Cut or prepare your background to 18 × 18 cm. If you are using fabric rather than thick felt, consider adding lightweight interfacing or stabilizer to the back so the panel remains flat.

The reference uses a warm brown background with a handmade stitched border. Mark a guideline slightly inside the outer edge using a removable fabric-marking pen or tailor's chalk.

Create the decorative border using cross stitches. Work evenly around all four sides. Keeping approximately the same distance between each crossed section will produce a much cleaner frame.

At the corners, adjust your stitch spacing slightly if necessary rather than forcing an extra stitch into a small area. The important goal is a continuous-looking border.

If the panel will eventually hang on a wall, you can add a small hanging loop to the back. Sew it securely into the upper

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portion of the backing before attaching any optional rear finishing layer.

Press the finished background gently if needed. Follow the felt or fabric manufacturer's temperature recommendations, and protect synthetic felt from direct high heat.

Step 8: Arrange the Cat and Decorations on the Panel

Place the finished cat near the center of the prepared background. Do not sew it immediately. First, reproduce the balanced composition visible in the tutorial.

Position the cat so that there is enough space around it for the stitched border to remain clearly visible. The body can sit slightly lower than the exact center because the flowers and leaves occupy the surrounding space.

Place one flower and leaf grouping toward the upper-right area. Add decorative buttons nearby, varying their positions rather than creating a perfectly straight row.

Place another flower and leaf arrangement near the lower-left area. This diagonal distribution balances the composition and naturally draws the eye toward the central cat and red heart.

Once you are satisfied, secure each element temporarily with pins. Take a moment to check the complete panel from a short distance before stitching.

Make small adjustments now if necessary. It is considerably easier to reposition pinned felt than to remove finished embroidery stitches later.

Step 9: Sew All Elements Securely to the Panel

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Begin by securing the main cat to the background. Use a running stitch for a subtle attachment or a blanket stitch if you want the stitching to become a visible decorative feature.

Work slowly around the body. When you reach the tail, ears, or other narrow areas, use shorter stitches to follow the curves accurately.

Attach the flowers and leaves individually. Small running stitches work well for the leaves, while the flower centers can be anchored through their buttons.

Check each button carefully. Decorative buttons should be sewn securely, particularly if the panel may be handled frequently.

The tutorial also lists the French knot as an optional technique. Small French knots can be used for flower centers or tiny decorative accents when you prefer embroidery instead of buttons.

After attaching everything, inspect the reverse side. Tie off loose threads securely and trim excess floss without cutting too close to the knots.

Step 10: Finish and Display Your Felt Wall Panel ✨

Your completed Sleeping Cat with Heart Felt Wall Panel should measure approximately 18 × 18 cm and feature a softly layered calico cat, a prominent red heart, colorful felt flowers, green leaves, buttons, and a decorative stitched border.

Check the panel for loose edges. If any felt piece lifts noticeably, add one or two discreet stitches rather than relying on adhesive. Sewing provides a more durable handmade finish.

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Gently reshape padded areas with your fingers. Redistribute the fiberfill until the cat, heart, and paw look smooth and softly rounded.

For wall display, add a fabric hanging loop, ribbon, small sleeve, or another lightweight textile hanging method to the back. Because the project is relatively small, it can also be displayed inside a suitable craft frame.

The finished project combines several useful American sewing and felt-appliqué techniques in one beginner-friendly design: running stitch for assembly, backstitch for facial outlines, blanket stitch for exposed felt edges, cross stitch for the border, and optional French knots for embellishment.

Most importantly, maintain the layered order shown in the graphic: background → cat body → colored patches and facial details → heart → overlapping paw and tail → flowers, leaves, and buttons → final securing stitches. Following this sequence will help you reproduce the original design consistently from beginning to end.