



Felt Owl Plush Sewing Tutorial

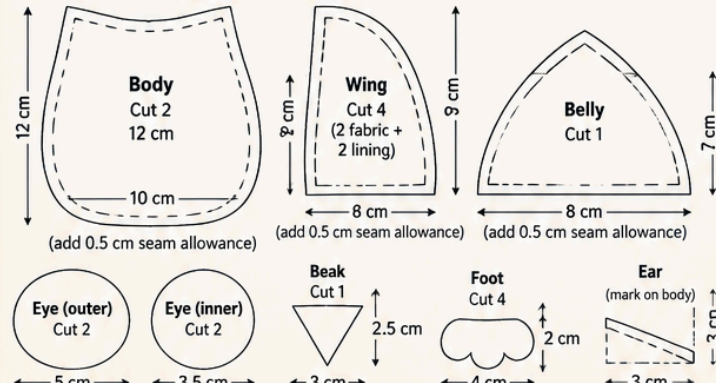
Finished Size
 Height: 12 cm
 Width: 10 cm
 Depth: 8 cm



Materials


- Felt or cotton fabric in brown, orange, cream, yellow and printed fabric
- Fiberfill stuffing
- 2 safety eyes (12 mm) or buttons
- Matching thread
- Hand sewing needle
- Fabric scissors
- Pins or clips
- Chalk or fabric marker

Templates (size in cm)



Main Stitches Used (U.S. terms)

Running Stitch

 Used for general sewing and applique.

Whip Stitch

 Used to join pieces.

Blanket Stitch

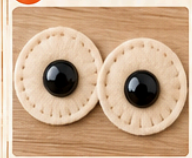
 Used for applique edges.

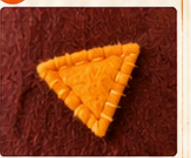
Ladder Stitch

 Used to close the opening with invisible stitches.

1 Cut the pieces

 Use the templates to cut all pieces from felt or cotton fabric. Add 0.5 cm seam allowance.

2 Make the eyes

 Sew the inner circles onto the outer circles. Attach the safety eyes or sew buttons.

3 Sew the beak

 Fold the triangle and sew it closed. Position below the eyes and stitch in place.

4 Attach the belly

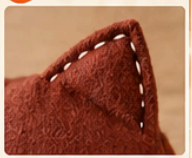
 Place the belly piece on the front body and sew with blanket stitch or running stitch.

5 Make the wings

 Pair each wing fabric with a lining piece. Sew around, leave a small opening, turn right side out and stitch the edge.

6 Attach the wings

 Position the wings on the sides of the front body and sew in place.

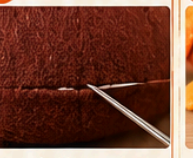
7 Sew the ears

 Fold the top corners to form the ears and stitch.

8 Join the body

 Place the front and back body pieces together, right sides facing. Sew around, leaving a 2 cm opening at the bottom.

9 Turn and stuff

 Turn the owl right side out and stuff firmly with fiberfill.

10 Close the opening

 Use a ladder stitch to close the opening invisibly.

11 Attach the feet

 Sew the feet to the bottom of the owl.

12 Finished Owl

 Your beautiful felt owl plush is ready! Perfect for autumn decor or as a handmade gift!

Different Views





Front View
Side View
Back View

Tips for Success

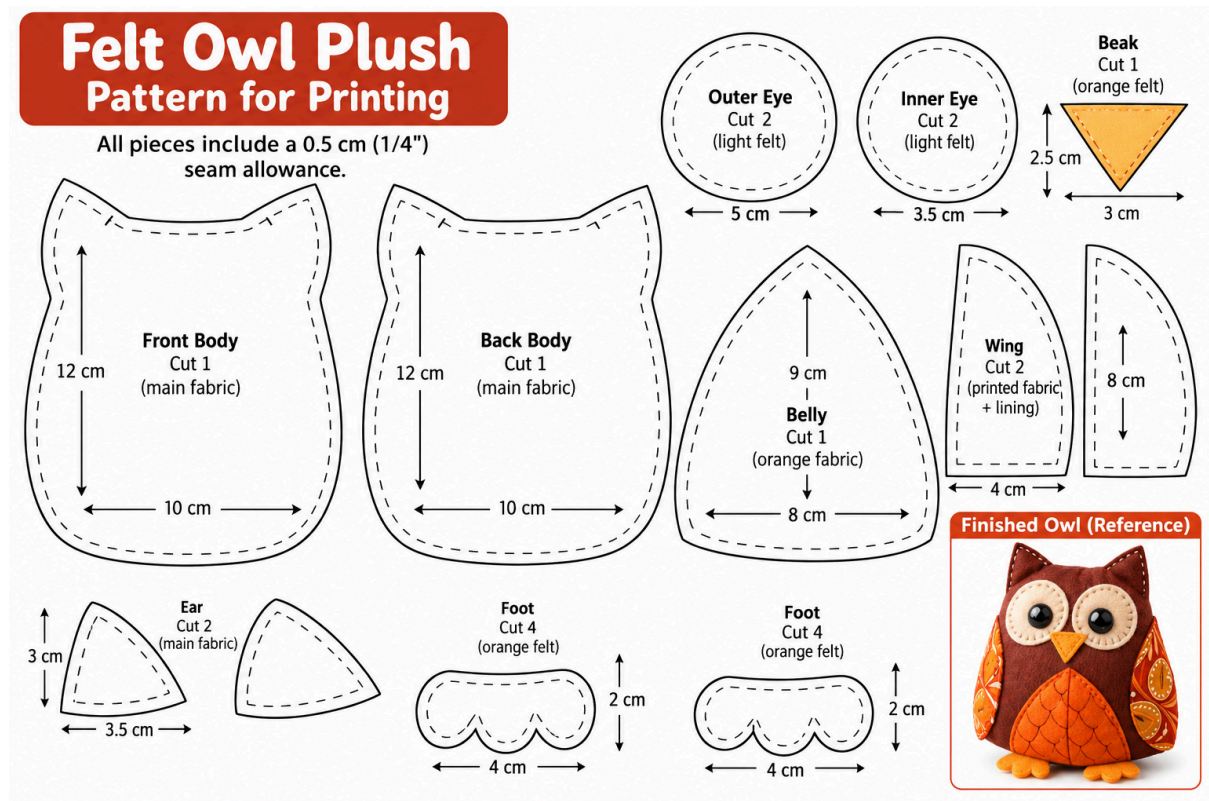
- ✓ Use felt or cotton fabric for easy sewing.
- ✓ Keep stitches even for a neat finish.
- ✓ You can use fabric glue to hold small pieces before sewing.
- ✓ Replace safety eyes with embroidered eyes for a child-safe version.
- ✓ Try different fabrics to create unique owls!

Optional Embellishments





Add extra embroidery, buttons or decorative stitches to personalize your owl.



Felt Owl Plush Sewing Tutorial – Complete Step-by-Step Pattern for Beginners 🦉

The Felt Owl Plush Sewing Tutorial is a charming, beginner-friendly sewing project that transforms colorful felt, patterned cotton fabric, and simple hand stitches into an adorable handmade owl. With its warm brown body, bright orange belly, oversized cream-colored eyes, decorative wings, and tiny feet, this plush owl makes a beautiful autumn decoration, thoughtful handmade gift, or delightful addition to a craft collection.

This complete tutorial follows the provided sewing diagram, including the fabric templates, measurements in centimeters, cutting instructions, U.S. sewing terminology, embroidery techniques, assembly process, and finishing details. Each

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stage is explained carefully so that beginners in the United States can follow the project from the first fabric cut to the final stitch.

The finished owl measures approximately 12 cm tall, 10 cm wide, and 8 cm deep, depending on the fabric thickness, seam allowances, and amount of stuffing. The project uses basic hand-sewing techniques, including the running stitch, whip stitch, blanket stitch, and ladder stitch. You do not need a sewing machine, although one may be used for joining the main body pieces.

Beginner-friendly

Hand sewing

Autumn craft

Estimated time: 2–4 hours | All measurements in centimeters | U.S. sewing terminology

Step 1: Gather All Materials and Prepare Your Sewing Workspace 🧵

Before beginning your felt owl plush pattern, organize your materials and prepare a clean, well-lit workspace. Having everything ready makes the sewing process smoother and helps prevent mistakes when cutting small decorative pieces.

Materials and supplies

Material	Purpose
Dark brown felt or cotton fabric	Main owl body

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Orange felt

Belly, beak, and feet

Cream felt

Outer eye circles

White or light cream felt

Inner eye circles

Orange patterned cotton fabric

Decorative wings

Brown or coordinating cotton fabric

Wing lining

Polyester fiberfill

Stuffing

Two 12 mm safety eyes or black buttons

Owl's pupils

Brown, orange, and cream thread

Sewing and embroidery

Hand-sewing needle

Joining and decorating pieces

Fabric scissors

Cutting felt and cotton

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Straight pins or sewing clips

Holding fabric together

Fabric chalk or washable marker

Transferring templates

Ruler or measuring tape

Checking dimensions

Optional materials include embroidery floss, fabric glue for temporary positioning, lightweight fusible interfacing, and decorative buttons.

Understand the finished measurements

The completed plush owl should measure approximately:

- Height: 12 cm
- Width: 10 cm
- Depth: 8 cm

The body template is approximately 12 cm high and 10 cm wide. Its finished dimensions may be slightly smaller after sewing, while stuffing gives the owl its rounded appearance.

The diagram specifies a 0.5 cm seam allowance. Add this allowance around pieces that will be sewn together, unless your printed template already includes it.

For pieces such as the eyes and belly, which are attached directly to the surface, the visible template shape can serve as the finished appliqué outline. You do not need to add an allowance when using non-fraying felt with exposed decorative edges.

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Prepare the fabric

If you are using cotton fabric, prewash and press it according to the manufacturer's care instructions. This reduces the chance of unexpected shrinkage.

Felt usually does not require washing or ironing. If it has wrinkles, press carefully using low heat and a protective pressing cloth, provided the felt manufacturer's instructions allow it.

Arrange your fabric colors before cutting. For a result similar to the reference, choose chocolate brown for the body, pumpkin orange for the belly, cream for the eyes, and patterned orange fabric for the wings.

Beginner tip: Use sharp fabric scissors to cut clean, smooth curves. Avoid stretching the felt while cutting because this may distort the pattern.

Step 2: Trace and Cut Every Owl Pattern Piece

The next step is preparing the fabric components. Accurate cutting is important because the body, eyes, belly, wings, and feet must fit together proportionally.

Pattern cutting chart

Pattern piece	Quantity	Template dimensions
Body	2	12 cm high × 10 cm wide

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Wings	4	Approx. 9 cm high × 8 cm wide
Belly	1	Approx. 7 cm high × 8 cm wide
Outer eye circles	2	5 cm diameter
Inner eye circles	2	3.5 cm diameter
Beak	1	3 cm wide × 2.5 cm high
Feet	4	4 cm wide × 2 cm high
Ears	2 marked positions	Approx. 3 cm high

The wing dimensions in the reference indicate the overall template area; preserve the curved wing outline rather than cutting a rectangle.

The ears are formed from the upper corners of the body and do not require separate stuffed pieces.

Cut the main body

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1. Place the brown fabric on a flat surface.
2. Trace the owl body template twice.
3. Mark the pointed upper corners where the ears will form.
4. Add a 0.5 cm seam allowance around the outer edge if it is not already included.
5. Cut both body pieces carefully.
6. Mark the front and back pieces on their wrong sides.

The upper corners should remain pointed while the bottom of the owl has a gently rounded shape.

Cut the wings

Cut four wing-shaped pieces in total:

- Two outer wings from orange patterned cotton fabric.
- Two matching wing linings from coordinating fabric.

Each patterned wing should have a matching lining. You will sew the pairs together to create two finished wings.

If the patterned cotton is lightweight, consider adding thin interfacing to help the wings maintain their shape.

Cut the belly

Trace the pointed, rounded triangular belly template onto orange felt.

Cut one piece measuring approximately 8 cm wide and 7 cm high.

The belly should have a pointed upper section and a gently curved bottom. This creates the distinctive feathered chest appearance shown in the reference.

Cut the eyes

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Cut two outer eye circles from cream felt, each measuring 5 cm in diameter.

Cut two inner eye circles from a lighter cream or white felt, each measuring 3.5 cm in diameter.

Keep the circles smooth and symmetrical.

Cut the beak and feet

Cut one orange triangular beak approximately 3 cm wide and 2.5 cm high.

For the feet, cut four matching orange pieces using the rounded, three-toed foot template. Two pieces will be sewn together for each finished foot.

Important: Keep all small pieces together in a labeled tray so that none are misplaced during assembly.

Step 3: Make the Large Expressive Owl Eyes 🦉

The oversized eyes are one of the most recognizable features of this plush owl.

They give the finished project its friendly, playful personality.

Position the eye layers

Place one smaller cream circle in the center of each larger cream circle.

Check that the smaller circles are evenly positioned and that both eyes match.

Use a tiny amount of fabric glue or a few temporary stitches to hold the layers in place.

Sew the inner circles

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Thread a hand-sewing needle with cream-colored thread.

Use a running stitch around the smaller circle, approximately 0.3 cm from its edge.

To make a running stitch:

- 1. Bring the needle up through the fabric.**
- 2. Move forward approximately 0.3–0.4 cm.**
- 3. Insert the needle back through the fabric.**
- 4. Bring it up again after a similar distance.**
- 5. Continue around the circle.**

Keep the stitches evenly spaced.

You can also use a blanket stitch for a more decorative finish.

Attach the pupils

Position one 12 mm safety eye in the center of each layered eye.

If using safety eyes, install them through the felt layers and front body fabric before sewing the front and back body together. Secure the washers firmly according to the eye manufacturer's instructions.

If using buttons, sew them securely through the layered eye pieces after positioning them on the front body.

Child-safety note: Plastic safety eyes and buttons are not suitable for every child, and small parts may become choking hazards. For an owl intended for a baby or young child, use securely embroidered eyes instead.

Attach the eyes to the body

Position both completed eyes near the upper section of the front body.

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Allow a small gap between them, leaving enough room underneath for the beak.

Pin them in place and use cream thread to sew around the outer circles.

A running stitch or blanket stitch works well.

The eyes should appear large and close together, as illustrated in the reference image.

Step 4: Fold and Sew the Orange Felt Beak 🧡

The owl's beak is a small but important detail that helps define its expression.

Prepare the triangle

Take the orange felt triangle measuring approximately 3 cm across its base and 2.5 cm high.

Fold the triangle gently to create a slightly raised, dimensional beak.

You may place a tiny amount of polyester fiberfill inside the fold if you want a fuller appearance.

Sew the edges

Use orange embroidery thread and a blanket stitch to secure the folded edges.

A blanket stitch is made by inserting the needle near the fabric edge and passing the working thread beneath the needle before tightening.

This creates a decorative line of loops along the edge.

Position the beak

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Place the finished beak between the eyes, slightly below their centers.

The pointed tip should face downward.

Sew the upper edges securely to the brown front body.

Keep the lower point slightly raised to create a three-dimensional effect.

Step 5: Create and Attach the Decorative Orange Belly



The owl's bright orange belly adds color and gives the plush its autumn-inspired appearance.

Prepare the belly appliqué

Place the orange belly piece on your work surface.

If you want to recreate the feather-like texture from the reference, use dark brown embroidery floss or a fabric marker to create overlapping curved lines.

Start near the bottom and work upward in staggered rows.

Each curved line should resemble a small feather or scallop.

For a handmade embroidered appearance, use a backstitch along the curved feather outlines.

Position the belly

Place the decorated belly onto the lower center of the owl's front body.

The pointed top should sit directly beneath the beak.

The curved bottom should follow the rounded lower edge of the owl.

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Leave enough space around the belly for the body seam and the decorative wings.

Sew the belly

Thread your needle with orange or coordinating embroidery thread.

Use a blanket stitch around the entire belly edge.

Keep the stitches approximately 0.3–0.4 cm apart.

Alternatively, use a running stitch for a simpler finish.

Avoid pulling the thread too tightly because this can cause the felt to wrinkle.

Once attached, the belly should lie flat against the brown body.

Step 6: Sew the Patterned Fabric Wings

The colorful wings are one of the most decorative elements of this owl.

The reference uses orange patterned fabric with contrasting motifs.

Prepare the wing pairs

Take one patterned wing piece and one lining piece.

Place them together with their right sides facing each other.

Align the edges carefully and pin them in place.

Repeat with the second wing pair.

Sew around each wing

Using a 0.5 cm seam allowance, sew around the curved edges of the wing.

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Leave a small opening of approximately 2 cm along a less-visible edge for turning.

Use a short running stitch, backstitch, or sewing machine straight stitch.

Repeat for the second wing.

Trim and turn

Carefully trim excess seam allowance around tight curves without cutting through the stitching.

Turn each wing right side out through its opening.

Use a blunt turning tool to gently push out the curved edges.

Do not use sharp scissors to push the fabric because they may puncture the seam.

Finish the wing edges

Fold the opening's raw edges inward by approximately 0.5 cm.

Close the opening with a ladder stitch.

Press the wings gently if your fabric allows.

For a decorative effect similar to the reference, sew a line of contrasting cream or orange running stitches around the wing edges.

Both wings should now have a clean, rounded shape.

Step 7: Attach the Wings to the Owl's Body 🦉

The wings are attached to the sides of the front body before the owl is completely assembled.

Position the wings

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Lay the front body flat with the eyes, beak, and belly facing upward.

Place one wing on each side of the owl.

The rounded tips should point downward, and the upper ends should begin below the ear area.

Adjust the position so the wings are symmetrical.

Sew the wings in place

Pin the wings to the front body.

Using brown or orange thread, sew along the inner attachment edge of each wing with small whip stitches or backstitches.

A whip stitch is made by passing the needle through the fabric layers and wrapping the thread around the edge.

Keep the stitching secure but flexible.

The outer portion of each wing should remain slightly raised from the body to give the owl a dimensional appearance.

Make sure the wings do not extend into the main body seam unless you deliberately want their edges caught in that seam.

Step 8: Shape and Sew the Pointed Owl Ears

The owl's ears are formed by the pointed upper corners of the body pattern.

These are decorative ear tufts rather than separate anatomical ears.

Mark the ear positions

On the front and back body pieces, mark the upper corner sections approximately 3 cm high.

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These marks help identify where the pointed ear shapes will form.

Add decorative stitching

Before joining the body, you can sew cream-colored running stitches near the outer ear edges.

Follow the triangular contours shown in the diagram.

Leave enough space for the main body seam.

Maintain the ear shape

When joining the body, sew carefully around the pointed corners.

After turning, use a blunt tool to push the ear points outward.

If the ears look too rounded, add a few small stitches near their bases to define the triangular shapes.

Do not overstuff the ear tips because the finished ears should remain relatively flat and pointed.

Step 9: Join the Front and Back Body Pieces

Now that the decorative front is complete, it is time to assemble the owl's main body.

Align the body pieces

Place the decorated front body and plain back body together with their right sides facing inward.

Ensure that the eyes, beak, belly, and wings are safely positioned away from the sewing line.

Align the upper ear points, side curves, and bottom edges.

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Pin the layers together.

Sew the body seam

Beginning near the lower edge, sew around the body using a 0.5 cm seam allowance.

You may use a backstitch by hand or a straight stitch on a sewing machine.

Follow the curved sides and pointed ears carefully.

Leave an opening approximately 2 cm wide along the bottom edge.

This opening will be used for turning and stuffing.

Reinforce the seam

Sew a few extra stitches at the beginning and end of the seam to prevent it from opening.

Check the entire seam for gaps.

Trim excess fabric at the pointed corners and clip the curved seam allowance where necessary.

Be careful not to cut the stitches.

Construction note: The diagram shows two main body panels but does not include a separate gusset. The rounded depth comes from stuffing the sewn body. To achieve the illustrated 8 cm depth more precisely, you may need to adjust the body shape or add a side gusset, which would be a modification of the original pattern.

Step 10: Turn the Owl Right Side Out and Add Stuffing



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This step transforms the flat fabric shape into a soft, rounded plush owl.

Turn the body

Carefully pull the owl through the 2 cm opening.

Turn the body right side out so that all decorative details are visible.

Use a blunt turning tool to gently shape the ears and curved edges.

Smooth the fabric with your fingers.

Begin stuffing

Take small pieces of polyester fiberfill and insert them through the opening.

Start by filling the upper body and the areas near the ear bases.

Continue adding stuffing gradually.

Distribute the fiberfill evenly to prevent lumps.

Shape the body

Fill the center of the owl until it becomes softly rounded.

Add enough stuffing to support the eyes and belly without stretching the seams.

The owl should feel firm enough to hold its shape but remain soft when gently squeezed.

Check the side profile as you work.

If the owl appears uneven, redistribute the stuffing before closing the opening.

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Step 11: Close the Stuffing Opening with an Invisible Ladder Stitch

The ladder stitch creates a neat, nearly invisible closure.

It is particularly useful for stuffed animals and plush sewing projects.

Prepare the opening

Fold the raw edges of the opening inward by approximately 0.5 cm.

Hold the folded edges together.

Thread a hand-sewing needle with matching brown thread and knot the end.

Sew the ladder stitch

1. Insert the needle from inside the opening so the knot is hidden.
2. Bring the needle out along one folded edge.
3. Insert it directly opposite into the other folded edge.
4. Travel approximately 0.3 cm inside that fold and bring the needle out.
5. Repeat on the opposite side.
6. Continue alternating between the two folded edges.

After several stitches, gently pull the thread to bring the edges together.

The stitches will disappear between the folds.

Secure the thread

Once the opening is fully closed, make a small securing stitch.

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Pass the needle through the plush body and bring it out a short distance away.

Pull gently and trim the thread close to the fabric.

The thread end should disappear inside the stuffed owl.

Step 12: Sew and Attach the Little Orange Feet 🐾

The owl's feet are made from orange felt and add a playful finishing touch.

Prepare the foot pieces

Take the four orange felt foot shapes.

Each template measures approximately 4 cm wide and 2 cm high.

Pair the pieces together to create two feet.

Align their rounded toe shapes carefully.

Sew each foot

Use orange thread and a blanket stitch or small whip stitches around the exposed edges.

If you want lightly padded feet, add a tiny amount of fiberfill before closing each pair.

Keep the stuffing minimal so the feet remain relatively flat.

Attach the feet

Position both feet along the lower front edge of the owl.

Allow the rounded toes to extend slightly beyond the body.

Check that both feet are evenly spaced.

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Use small, secure hand stitches to attach the upper portions of the feet to the owl's bottom.

For better stability, attach the feet across a short section of their upper edges rather than with a single stitch.

The feet should be visible from the front, just like those in the reference photograph.

Step 13: Add Decorative Embroidery and Personal Details ✨

The owl is now assembled, but additional details can make it even more special.

Decorative running stitches

Use cream embroidery thread to add small running stitches around the ears or wing edges.

Keep the stitch length consistent.

This gives the project the handcrafted finish shown in the original tutorial.

Extra feather embroidery

If you want a more detailed belly, add extra curved feather lines using brown embroidery floss.

Use a backstitch for clear outlines or a stem stitch for softer curves.

Avoid pulling the stitches too tightly.

Optional embellishments

You can personalize your owl with:

- Small felt autumn leaves.

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- Decorative buttons on the wings.
- Embroidered feather patterns.
- Contrasting stitching.
- A tiny fabric bow.
- A small hanging loop for display.

For an autumn-themed owl, choose shades of burnt orange, mustard yellow, olive green, and deep brown.

If the owl is intended for a young child, avoid detachable decorations and use embroidered features.

Step 14: Inspect the Finished Owl and Make Final Adjustments

Before considering your project complete, examine the owl carefully.

Check the stitching

Inspect all seams and appliqué edges.

Make sure the eyes, beak, wings, belly, and feet are securely attached.

Reinforce any loose stitches.

Check the stuffing

Gently squeeze the body to feel for uneven areas.

The owl should have a smooth, rounded shape without large lumps.

If the body feels excessively firm, the stuffing may be too tightly packed.

Check the symmetry

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Place the owl upright on a flat surface.

Look at the eyes and wings from the front.

Make sure the feet are positioned evenly and the ears have similar shapes.

Small handmade differences are natural and give each owl its own personality.

Finished appearance

Your completed owl should feature a warm brown body, two pointed ears, oversized cream eyes, an orange triangular beak, a decorated orange belly, patterned side wings, and two small orange feet.

Finished Owl – Reference Views

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Front view

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Side view

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Back view

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Illustrative examples of the front, side, and back construction. Follow the uploaded diagram for the specific pattern details.

Step 15: Understand the Main Sewing Stitches Used in This Pattern

The reference tutorial features four essential stitches commonly used in American hand-sewing projects.

Understanding when to use each stitch will help you achieve a neat, professional-looking result.

Stitch	Main purpose
Running stitch	Decorative stitching and attaching flat appliqué pieces
Whip stitch	Joining edges and securing small components
Blanket stitch	Finishing exposed felt edges, belly, and beak
Ladder stitch	Invisibly closing the stuffing opening

The backstitch is also useful when sewing seams by hand because it produces a stronger seam than a basic running stitch.

For most of this project, use short stitches approximately 0.3–0.4 cm long.

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When working near small curves, shorten the stitch length for better control.

Step 16: Helpful Tips for Beginners

A few simple techniques can make this DIY felt owl plush easier to sew and more enjoyable to complete.

Choose quality felt. Dense, even felt is easier to cut and usually produces neater edges than very thin felt.

Use matching thread. Brown thread blends into the body, while cream and orange threads create attractive decorative accents.

Pin before sewing. Always check the placement of the eyes, wings, and belly before making permanent stitches.

Stuff gradually. Adding small amounts of fiberfill helps the owl maintain a smooth shape.

Keep your stitches consistent. Even spacing makes the finished owl look carefully crafted.

Take your time with the details. The eyes, beak, and wings have a major influence on the owl's final expression.

Frequently Asked Questions About the Felt Owl Plush Pattern

Is this felt owl sewing pattern suitable for beginners?

Yes. The pattern uses basic cutting, hand stitching, appliqué, and stuffing techniques. Beginners can complete it by following each step carefully.

Do I need a sewing machine?

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No. The entire owl can be sewn by hand. A sewing machine is optional for joining the main body pieces and constructing the wings.

Can I make the owl using only felt?

Yes. Although the reference uses patterned cotton fabric for the wings, you can replace it with colored felt. Felt is particularly convenient because its edges generally do not fray.

How much fabric do I need?

For one small owl, approximately 25 × 30 cm of brown fabric, 15 × 20 cm of orange felt, 12 × 15 cm of cream felt, and 15 × 20 cm of patterned cotton should provide a practical starting amount. Exact requirements depend on fabric layout and seam allowances.

Can I enlarge the owl pattern?

Yes. You can enlarge all templates by the same percentage. For example, printing the templates at 150% produces a larger owl while preserving the proportions. Increase the stuffing and fabric quantities accordingly.

What type of stuffing works best?

Polyester fiberfill is a convenient option because it is lightweight, soft, and easy to distribute throughout small plush toys.

How can I make the eyes safer for young children?

Use embroidered eyes rather than plastic safety eyes or buttons. All seams and decorative elements should be securely stitched, and any toy intended for a child should be evaluated for age-appropriate safety.

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How do I clean the finished owl?

Spot-clean gently with a damp cloth and mild detergent, following the care instructions for the chosen fabrics. Avoid soaking the plush unless all materials and embellishments are confirmed washable. Allow it to air-dry completely.

Can I sell owls made from this tutorial?

You may generally sell handmade items made using your own materials and work, but check the rights and licensing terms of any third-party template or pattern you use.

Conclusion: Enjoy Your Handmade Felt Owl Plush



Congratulations! You have completed the Felt Owl Plush Sewing Tutorial, following the main construction stages from cutting the fabric templates to attaching the final decorative details.

This project combines simple sewing techniques with colorful felt appliqué and patterned fabric, making it an enjoyable introduction to handmade plush toys. The oversized eyes, pointed ears, orange feathered belly, and decorative wings give the owl a cheerful appearance that works especially well for autumn decorating.

Once you feel comfortable with the basic construction, experiment with different fabric combinations, embroidery designs, and sizes. You can create an entire family of handmade owls, each with its own colors and personality.

Happy sewing, and enjoy creating your beautiful handmade felt owl! 