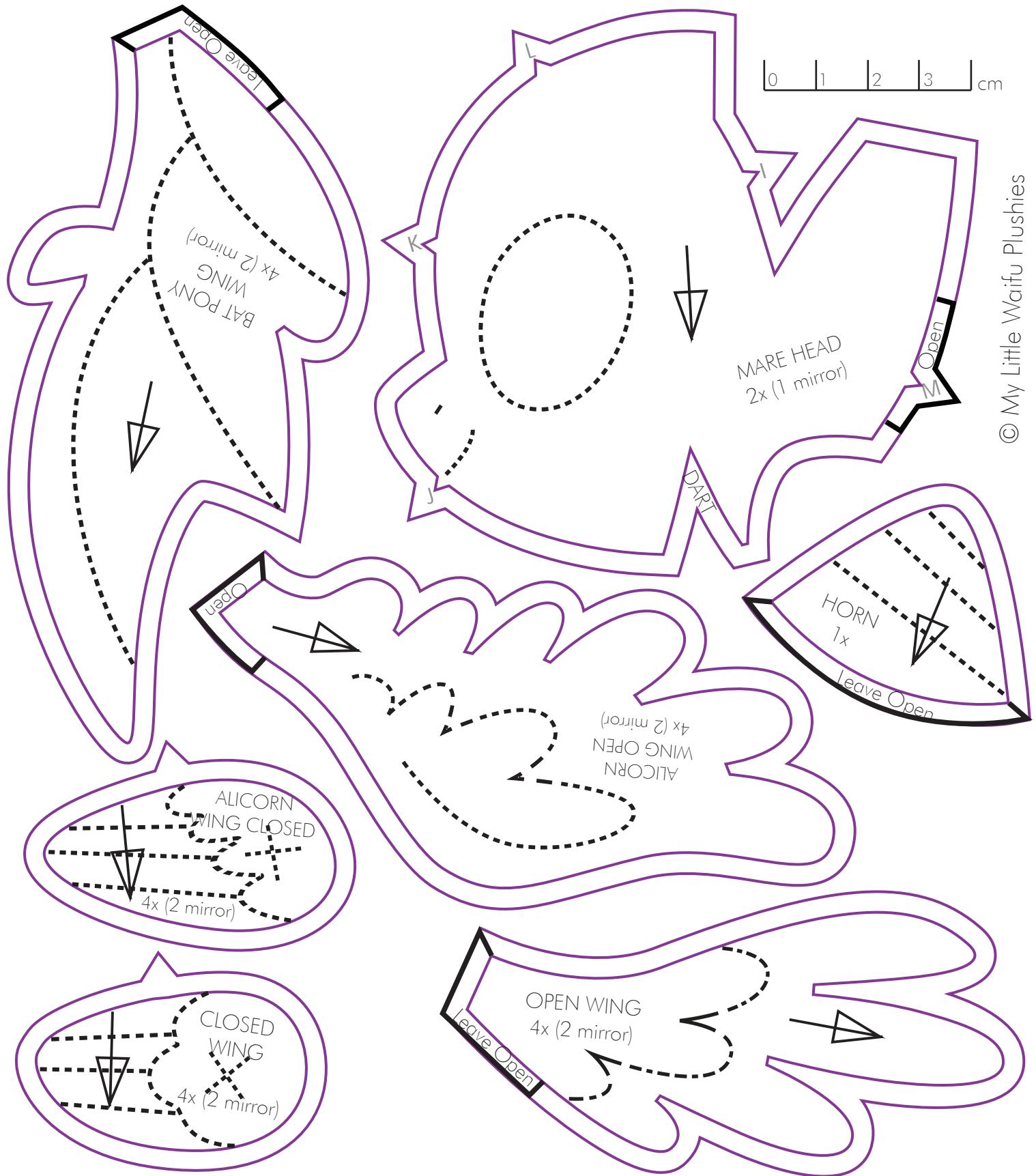


# Laying Beanie Mare Pony Pattern

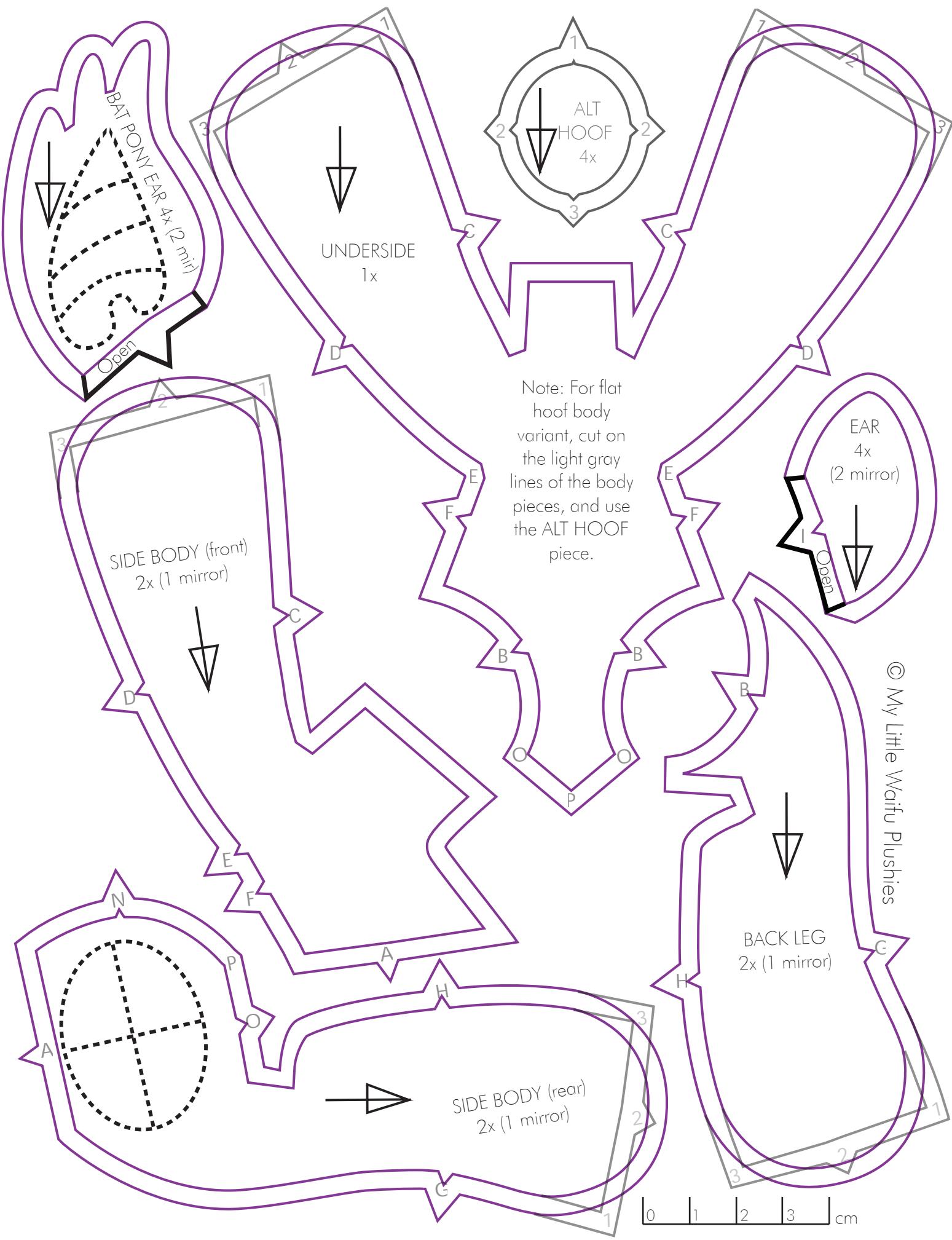
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# My Little Waifu's Plush Sewing Tutorial



This tutorial assumes some basic sewing technique and term knowledge. There is a "Sewing Tips" section at the end of this tutorial for help if needed. I will be releasing a full guide of plush making basics in the future.

For beginners I would recommend hand sewing since the small details may be difficult with a machine.

## Supplies Needed:

- Minky or fleece fabric, at least 1/4 yard (do not use felt!)
- All-purpose sewing thread
- Hand sewing needle
- Pins
- Marking pens/disappearing ink pen
- Seam ripper
- Fabric scissors
- Plastic beanie pellets
- Stuffing
- A chopstick/hemostats/a blunt pencil
- A ruler

## Optional:

- Cat hair brush
- A small funnel
- Chenille wires (pipe cleaners)

## 1. Print the pattern.

Make sure when you print the 2 pattern sheets, you are printing on 8.5x11inch sheets and do NOT choose "fit to page" when printing. You should be able to also print this pattern on an A4 sheet of paper as long as you don't distort the size.

On the pattern is a small ruler. Get a ruler and make sure it printed at the correct size.

## 2. Cut out the paper pattern pieces, trace the pattern onto the fabric, and cut out the fabric pieces. Any embroidery should be done before this step.

**A seam allowance of 4mm is included in the pattern.** The inner lines on the pattern pieces are the guides for where you should sew. The triangles are markers which are guides for lining up the pieces.

When tracing the pieces you make note of the nap of the fabric, that is, which way the fur is going. Minky stretches perpendicular to the nap, use this to determine its direction. The arrows on the pattern pieces point which way the nap should be going.

While fleece does not have a nap, it does have stretch, typically only in one direction. This pattern accounts for this stretch, so **ensure stretch is perpendicular (90 degrees from) to the arrows.**



## 3. Pin and sew both "side body (front)" and "side body (back)" pairs together as shown below.

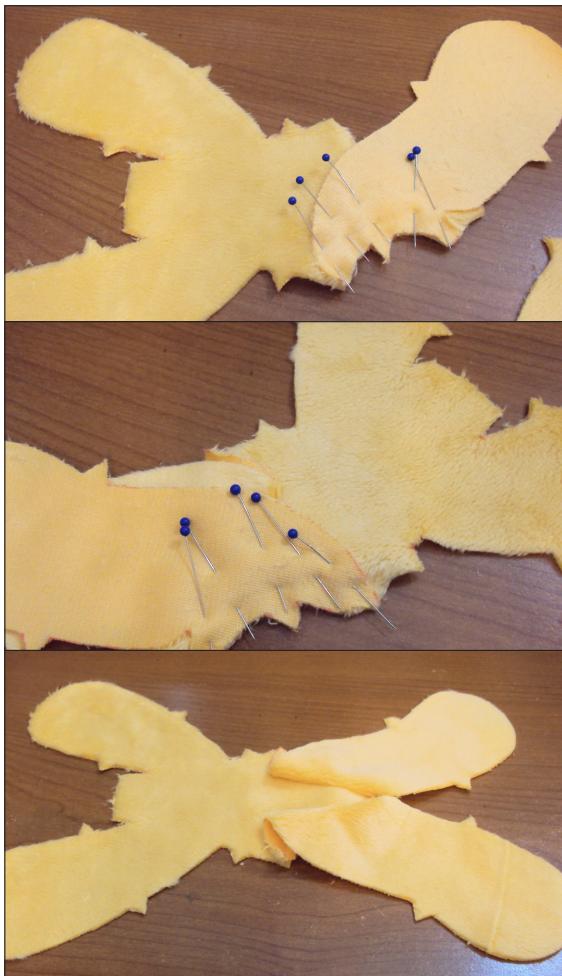
To make embroidery easy I cut the body in half so I can do all the embroidery in one 7x5 inch embroidery hoop. It also helps to avoid accidentally placing the rest of your body piece off the fabric bounds.



## 4. Pin and sew each "back leg" piece to "underside".



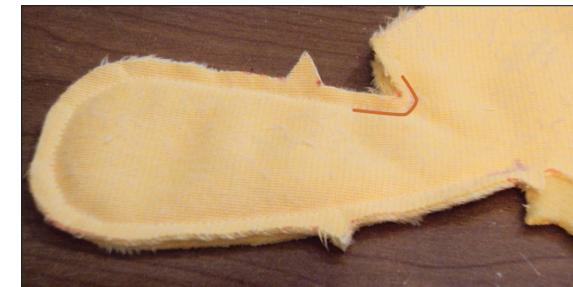
#### 4. cont.



5. Pin the front legs of "side body (front)" to the corresponding front leg on the "underside". Pin from the top of the neck all the way to marker "E".



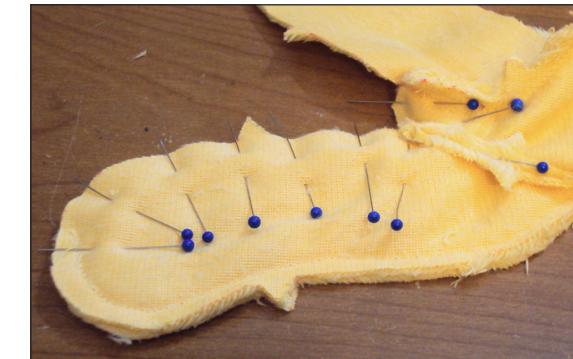
Take note of the marked area in the image. Instead of sewing a point, round the corner with multiple stitches - doing this will avoid the fabric from bunching when the plush is turned.



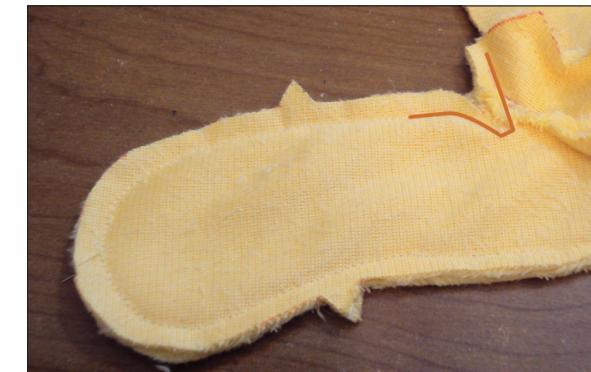
6. Pin and sew from marker "E" to middle of the hoof on the back leg.



7. Flip the plush over. Pin and sew from where you left off on the back leg, to the bottom center of the underside piece.



Take note of the marked area. Sew the ankle/hock area as shown.



8. Repeat steps 5-7 for the other side of the body.



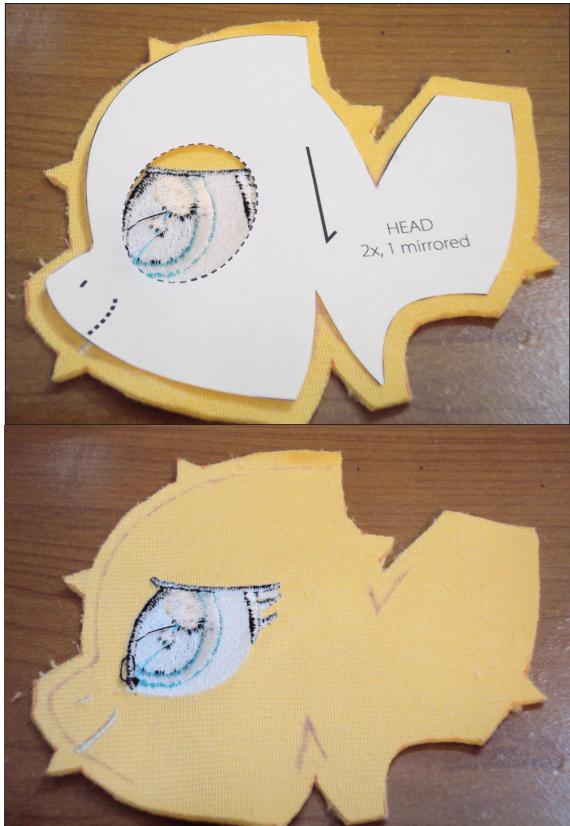
9. Pin and sew ears and horn (if your pony needs one). Leave the bottoms open as shown.



**10.** Trim the seams of the ears and horn and turn the pieces right-side-out.



**11.** Trim the seam allowance from the head pattern piece and draw the seam lines on the cut fabric pieces with a disappearing ink pen, notably around the front of the face, and the darts. Since these are delicate areas, extra precision is required.



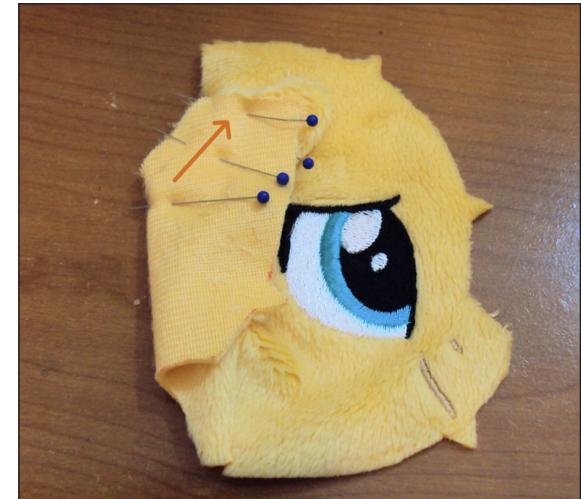
**12.** Pin and sew the bottom face darts. It is easiest to start sewing at the sharp inner corner to the outside edge.



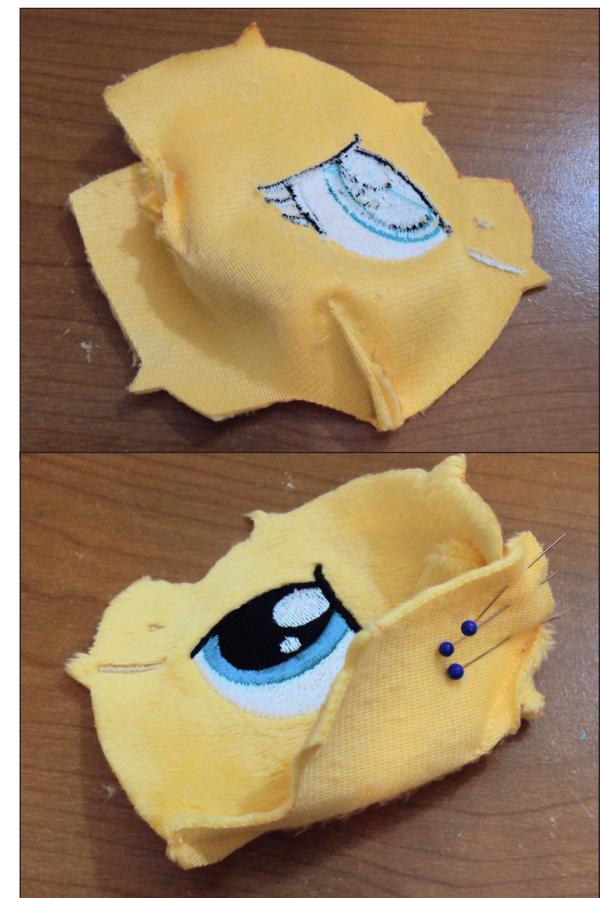
**13.** Place the ear inside the top face dart. Line up the markers and pin on both sides to secure it tightly. Sew from the pointy inside part of the dart to the outside.



**13. cont.**



**14.** Pin and sew the newly formed dart on the top of the head.

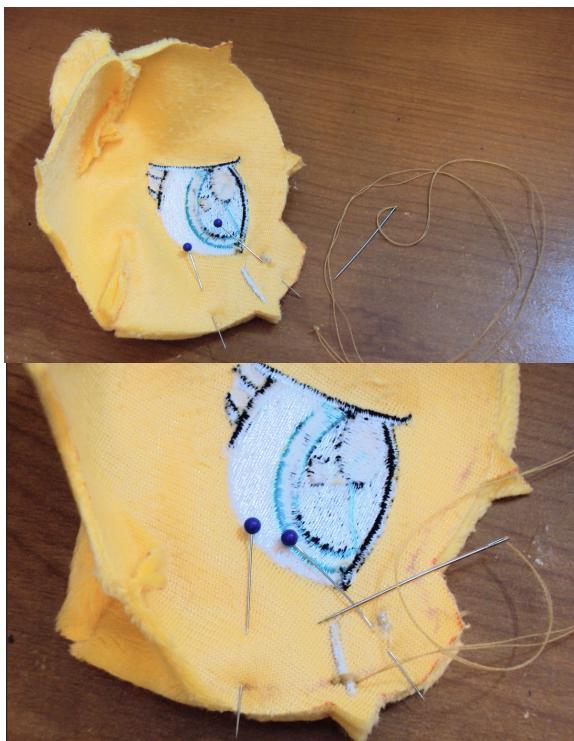


**15.** Repeat steps 13-14 on the other side of the head.

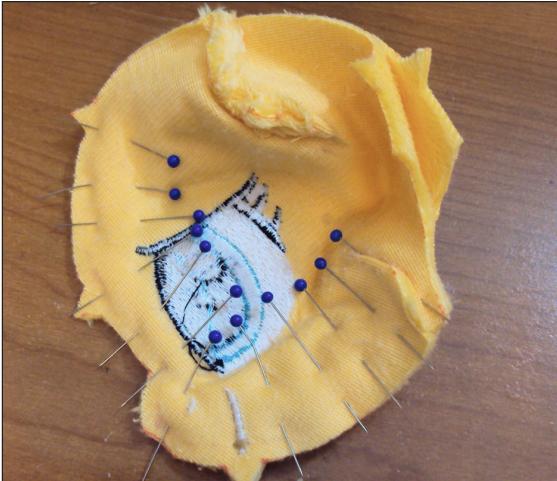


**16.** If you are not using an embroidered mouth you can skip this step.

Pin the mouth area in place. Use a hand stitching needle and sew tightly around the mouth embroidery along the seam line. Loop it around 4 or 5 times and tie it off and trim the thread.



**17.** Pin and sew around the front of the head, from the chin to the forehead.



**18.** Pin and sew the curved neck area of the head to the front neck area of the body.



Make sure to trim the seam at the bottom of the head before sewing this piece.



**19.** Pin and sew from the forehead to the back of the legs where it meets the underside. Leave the back of the head open to turn the plush.



**20.** Trim all remaining seam allowances. Do not trim the area where the seam is left open to turn the plush.



## 20. cont.

Turn the plush and check for any holes or areas that were not sewn correctly.



## 21. Stuff the plush. (see "sewing tips"). You may stuff it however you like, but these are my suggestions:

- Fill the legs about halfway with beanie pellets.
- Fill the rest of the legs with soft stuffing. Leave the joint areas a little bit loose.
- Pour more beanies into the stomach area.
- Fill the rest of the body with the fluffy stuffing.
- Fill the head tightly with the fluffy stuffing.
- Use some of the softer stuffing for the nose and forehead area.



## 22. Wings, if your pony needs them, are pretty simple. You'll want to add any embroidery or designs now. (I only used marker as a placeholder for embroidery) Cut out your paper pattern and use it as a guide for where the seams go, the open wings will be difficult otherwise. Pin, sew, trim seams, and turn. Leave openings as shown in the images.



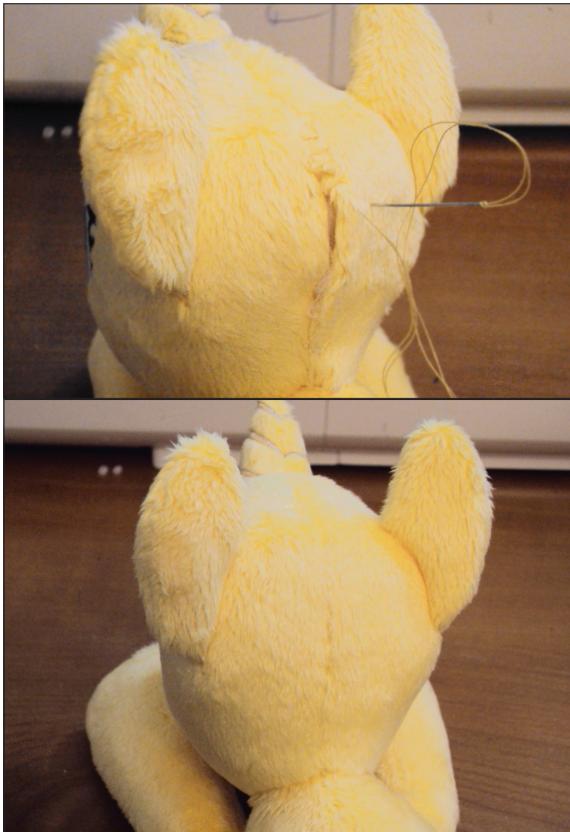
## 23. Pin and sew horn or wings in place with a ladder stitch. Tuck the raw edges in and sew all the way around the piece, tying off the thread at the end. Go around a 2nd time for added strength.



For closed wings, sew on the underside of the wing along the dotted line in the image. The feather ends should be free, not sewn down.

Open wings and bat pony wings are sewn along the line drawn along the back.

**24.** Close up the back of the head with a ladder stitch (see "sewing tips" if necessary).



**25.** If using minky, pull the fur out the seams with a seam ripper or cat hair brush (see "sewing tips").



**26.** Finish the plush by adding hair and accessories!

If you don't have a hair pattern there are many simple alternatives. You can use yarn hair, faux fur, or even cut up pieces of minky, felt or fleece. More information on these techniques can be found in the "sewing tips" and "links" sections below.



Take some pictures of your newly finished plush and send them to me! I'd love to see what you made.

Thank you for supporting me! I hope to release new patterns and tutorials in the future.

You can find me at:

[Deviantart](#): ButtercupBabyPPG.deviantart.com

[Tumblr](#): MyLittleWaifu.tumblr.com

[Facebook](#): facebook.com/mlwplushies

[Etsy](#): etsy.com/shop/MyLittleWaifu

[E-mail](#): mylittlewaifuplushies@gmail.com

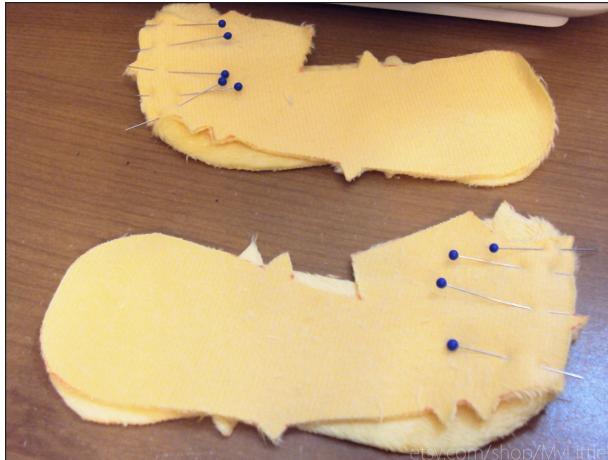
# Sewing Tips

## Pinning

Pin the marker points first so the rest of the pieces line up properly. What side you pin on doesn't matter too much, but sometimes pinning on one side will sew a little easier than the other.

I pin perpendicular to the seam. It's not necessarily best practice, but I sew right over my pins with my sewing machine. I use thin dressmaker pins so it doesn't disrupt my needle.

For hand sewing some prefer to pin parallel to the seams, but I still prefer perpendicular. I take the pins out as I sew.



## Needle Sculpting

If you don't have an embroidery machine to do the mouth or lines on the horn, you can use needle sculpting to achieve a similar effect. I use this on my larger plushies.

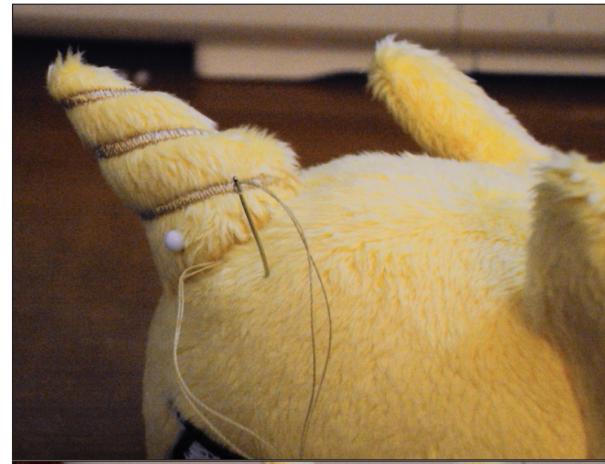
The "links" section includes videos on this technique.

## Ladder Stitching Tips

A ladder stitch is typically used for closing seams on a plush that is already stuffed. It's also very useful for attaching things onto an already stuffed plush. I attach hair, horns, wings, and even heads with this stitch. It's pretty much invisible and is also very useful for repairing holes.

When doing a ladder stitch, make sure your thread is doubled over for extra strength.

To get a nice clean edge, I usually press down on the seam with the needle before I pull the hole closed so it preforates the area.



## Trimming Seams

You should always trim the seams that lie in the path of later seams. Otherwise the fabric tends to pinch in those areas, and you will get messy looking seams when you turn the plush.

Always trim seams before turning your plush or it will look lumpy, especially along curves. For most other fabrics, making a snip in the allowance is all that's necessary, however for minky I find it best to just trim every seam, leaving only about 1mm of allowance left. Be careful not to snip the thread or trim too close or the seam may come loose later.



## Stuffing

There are several ways to stuff a plush, but this is what I recommend.

I use 3 types of stuffing:

- plastic beanie pellets,
- extra soft stuffing that fits in tight areas (cluster fill/silky soft)
- stuffing that's fluffier/has more give. (standard poly fil)



You can stuff the plush without beanies, but I like the floppiness it adds to the plush.

Stuffing is kind of trial and error. Just keep making adjustments until you get the result you are looking for.

I use a small funnel to pour the beanies in, and a smooth chopstick to push stuffing where it needs to go inside the plush.



## Chinelle Wires

For extra support for curly hair, perky tails, or open wings, use a chinelle wire (casually called pipe cleaners) inside. Just fold over the sharp points and you will barely notice there is wire inside since they are already padded.

If you want to use wire in tails or wings, I suggest making a small hole in the plush to put the end of the wire and piece through. This gives added support so they don't droop.

## Brushing out the Seams

Pull the fur out of the seams for a cleaner look. You can use the tip of a seam ripper or a sturdy needle for most parts. I gently use the tip to try to lift the folded furs out of the seams. You can also just rub it back and forth along the seam.

I prefer to use a cat hair brush instead but hand stitched seams may be a little looser and could break using this method so be cautious.

## Links

### Ladder Stitch:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5CjOXMuTFXo>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PHWD1qjNrqs>

### Needle Sculpting and Knotting Thread:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tQBY5pv0umc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O4FkEBR3dqE>

### Yarn Hair:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j4VgS2IUMYw>

<http://bybido.blogspot.com/2010/07/doll-hair-tutorial-ponytails.html>

<http://hungryhooker.blogspot.com/2011/06/curly-yarn-doll-hair-tutorial.html>

### Applique with Whip Stitch:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bKn-vtWPc5E>

### Sewing Machine Basics:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_o8AtY48uKA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_o8AtY48uKA)

### Basic Running Stitch for Hand Sewing:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OYoZ5VzCljl>

### Safety Eyes (alternative to embroidery for eyes):

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bNa\\_3wJdzAM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bNa_3wJdzAM)

### Faux Fur Hair:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rwpOyw55oNY>