

STUFFED HEAD SEWN HAND PUPPET PATTERN

Kindly donated by Janet Grainger

This pattern shows another way of making a stuffed head sewn puppet.



NB. Scroll down for the pattern pieces. They may print out at a different size from the intended dimensions, according to your computer's print settings. Please check with a ruler the following dimensions:

Head Piece: 7cm across the neck

Body Piece: 6cm across the neck/27cm long/21cmwide at the arms

If it prints out at a different size you'll need to scale it up or down a bit – don't worry about complete accuracy as luckily the puppet works just as well if slightly bigger or smaller. I would recommend scaling it up or down yourself by hand just outside or inside the lines, as necessary. Your margins should be set to "narrow". (Go to the "Page Layout" tab at the top of your screen for these and then click on Margins, then Narrow.)

Feel free to add your own touches to this puppet eg. handbag, collar, embellishments etc. as long as they're all attached really securely.

MATERIALS

Fabric in pattern of your choice for the dress – 2 pieces, each 11" x 9" approx, (or a Fat Quarter will make 2 dresses).

White or brown/tan fabric for the head, depending on whether you are making an ethnic puppet or not, (but not black thank you) – you'll need approx 12" x 12" or a strip 18" x 5" approx will also do it, (or a Fat Quarter will make 4 puppet heads).

Sewing thread – embroidery silk is best for attaching items, and some red for the mouth.

Sew-on eyes or buttons for eyes.

Wool/knitting yarn for the hair – any colour you like.

Toy stuffing – PLEASE ENSURE IT'S GOT EITHER A CE OR A BS LABEL ON THE PACKAGING, and please don't stuff with any other materials, thanks.

Any accessories you like eg. handbag made out of felt, shawl made out of lace, necklace, buttons etc..

METHOD

From the pattern pieces cut out 2 heads and 2 bodies. (1/4" seam allowance is included.)

Oversew the edges if using a fabric that will fray easily.

Turn up the bottom hems on both pieces approx ¼ inch and machine stitch.

With right sides together, stitch the body pieces together, right round all the edges, except leaving only the bottom open.

Clip curves. Turn right way out and press.

Next, make the head. Add eyes and mouths to each head piece, making one smiley and the other sad. Please ensure that all are attached extra firmly – embroidery thread is preferable to sewing thread. A good stitch for the mouth is chain stitch, using 3 strands of embroidery thread.

Turn up the bottom edges of both head pieces approx ¼ inch and machine stitch.

With right sides together, stitch the two head pieces together, leaving the bottom (neck) edges open.

Turn right way out and add hair. Please ensure that hair is not able to be pulled out by a child.

Stuff the head (approved toy stuffing) – not too much or you won't be able to get your fingers in.

Insert the long neck piece into the head. Do this by putting one hand inside the puppet body with a finger pushed into the long neck of it. Using your other hand, place the head on the body, over the neck, so that the long neck piece is now right inside the head. You may have to wriggle the finger you've got inside the puppet body in order to get a space for it in the middle of the stuffing. This is so that you'll be able to work the puppet's head with your finger.

Stitch the head in place around the neck, by hand.

Ensure that all pins have been removed. Send to Knit for Nowt! 😊



