

Rare Bear Supply List and Sewing Instructions as of Sunday, March 04, 2018

Read through everything carefully before beginning.

Pattern pieces - **View E from Simplicity C5461** - pieces 33 through 41

Follow the instructions sent by Rare Science (below) rather than the ones in the pattern.

Supplies

Fabrics: 45"-54" wide - **5/8 yd** for the bear

Please use 100% cotton quilting fabric as many of our kids have sensitivity issues.

Fabric should be unused and clean. Please use themes and colors that are full of happiness and joy and child appropriate. Please no embellishments.

1 1/2" x 2 1/2" rectangle of black fabric (solid or patterned) for the nose

Enough stuffing/fiberfill for the ears (about the size of 2-3 ping pong balls)

Polyester thread to match

Foot Fabric and Rare Bear Number from Rare Bear Science



The pattern uses 5/8 yd but that is to make the bear with one fabric. Here is a breakdown to make each element from a different fabric as shown on the pattern cover and in Rob Appel's video - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C7ThcsKmWiE&list=PLKNwrzqdn_Mu5ytjwPShgOnTDRMhq7evo&index=4.

Bear Part	Pattern Piece Number	How many to cut	Size of fabric needed
Head - center front	33	1	4" x 6"
Ears	34	4	3" x 3 1/2" each
Head - sides	35	2	6" x 7 1/2" each
Head - back	36	2	4 1/2" x 8" each
Arms (both)	37	4	6" x 9 1/2" each
Legs (both)	38	4	6 1/2" x 7 1/2" each
Sole of Foot	39	2 (fabric from Rare Sciences)	3 1/2" x 5" each
Body - front	40	2	5 1/2" x 11" each
Body - back	41	2	6 1/2" x 12 1/2" each
Nose	N/A	1	1 1/2" x 2 1/2"

Seam allowance is 1/4". Cut out all pattern pieces at outer edges. Cut notches outward, rather than inward as the pattern shows. Cutting them toward the outside works well with the narrow 1/4" seam allowance used. Cut foot fabric so "RARE Science" writing is shown across the longest dimension of foot. Stuff using a Premium Polyester Fiberfil (Acacia is only stuffing the ears).

Tips:

- Insure that seams are backstitched at beginnings and endings. This will provide additional strength to the seams that assists in follow-on stuffing and sew-up.
- Insure your seams are the full 1/4". Do not trim the seams to less than the 1/4". Also, curves can be clipped but please do not clip seams near or in the openings as it weakens the fabric and is problematic during the follow-on stuffing and sew-up.
- Please check your bears' ears, arms and legs insuring they are completely attached to the head and body pieces.

When watching the video by Rob Appel (Man Sewing), he did not put the nose on his bear. The new nose instructions came out after Rob's video and the new nose instructions are included here. Also, Rob suggests leaving the pattern piece attached to the fabric after cutting it out.

These instructions were in the January, 2018 Rare Bear newsletter. This is done **before attaching** the center head piece.

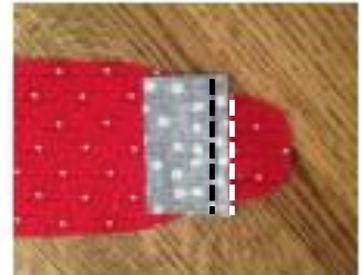
If you haven't done so already, cut 1 head center piece (#33) from bear fabric and the 1 1/2" x 2 1/2" nose.

On the right side of the center head piece, measure up 1" from the small end and mark a line (shown in white) parallel with the straight edge (at the opposite end).



With right sides together, lay one long edge of the nose fabric along the line as shown.

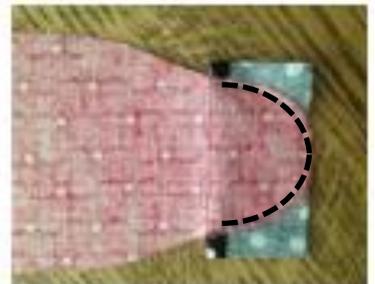
Stitch pieces together with 1/4" seam allowance.



Press and then flip the nose fabric over the tip of the head center piece.



Flip the entire piece over and baste the tip (inside the seam allowance) of the head center piece to the nose fabric.



Trim the nose fabric to match the tip of the head center piece.

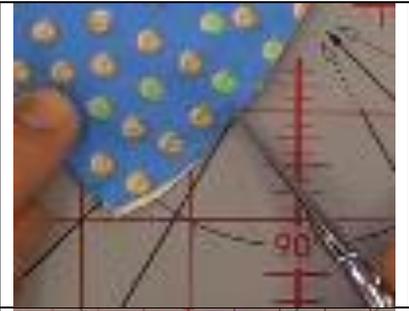


Mark all small and large dots from pattern pieces to fabric.

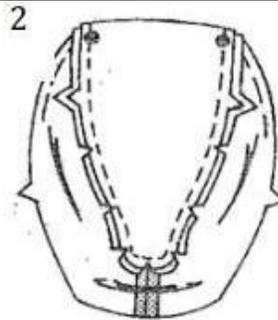
Note: All basting is done inside the seam allowance.

BEAR CONSTRUCTION

Sew head side sections (#35) right sides together along center front seam (seam is noted on the pattern piece), matching double notches. Clip the curve.



Pin head center (#33) to head sides (constructed in the previous step) right sides together, matching single notches and large dots. Also match the center of the nose tip with the seam that joined the two head side sections in the previous step and sew as shown in figure 2.



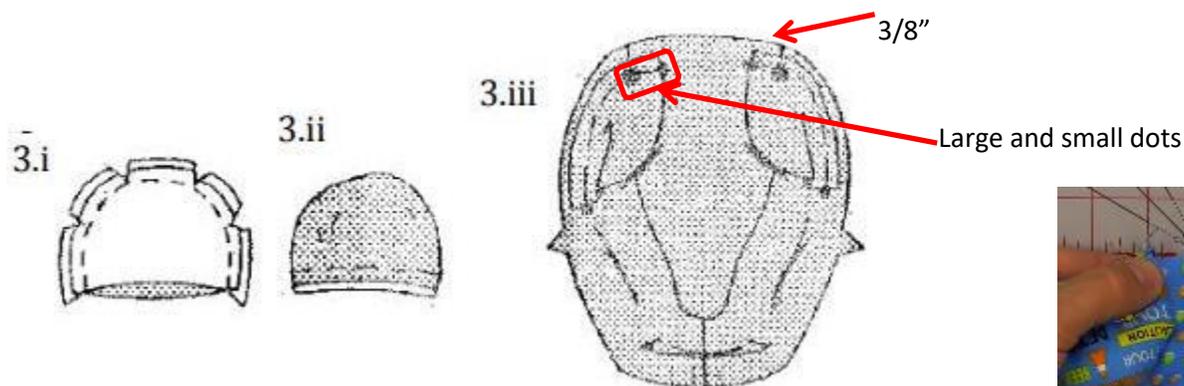
Make 2 ears as follows:

With 2 ear pieces (#34) right sides together, stitch around the curved outside leaving the straight edge open. Clip the seam allowance (Figure 3.i), turn ear right side out and press (Figure 3.ii).

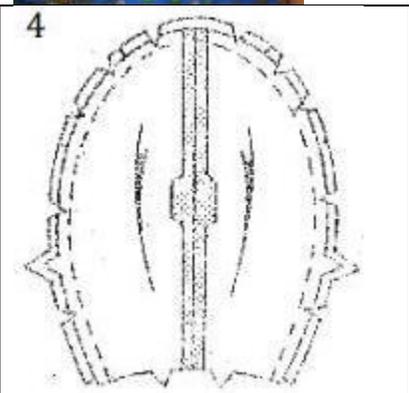
Stuff ear lightly and baste straight edges of ear together.

Pin ear to head center and side, matching large and small dots (ears will be ~3/8" inside the head center seams with the rest of the ear over the head sides. Baste into place.

After you have both ears basted into place, you have completed the head front.



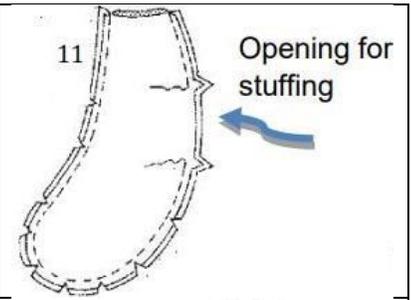
Stitch head back sections (#36) right sides together along center back seam (seam is noted on the pattern piece) matching the triple notches (Figure 4)



Stitch head back to head front right sides together, matching centers and notches, leaving the neck edge open. Turn head right side out.

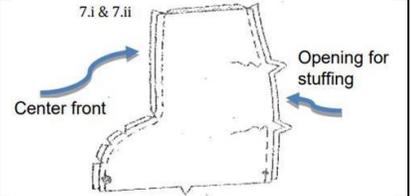
Make 2 arms as follows:

With 2 arm pieces (#37) right sides together, stitch around the outside leaving the straight edge open as well as an opening along the outside edge between the notches (Figure 11). Turn arm right side out and press. Baste raw edges together.



Make 2 legs as follows:

With 2 leg pieces (#38) right sides together, stitch the curved edge completely matching the large dots. Stitch the straight edge matching the small dots and leaving an opening between the notches (Figures 7.i and 7.ii).



To each leg, add a sole as follows:

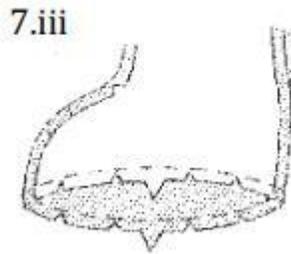
Sew sole (#39 cut from Rare Science fabric) right sides together to the bottom of leg, matching notches, large and small dots (Figure 7.iii).

Optional: To insure a perfectly finished foot without any puckers, fold the foot fabric into quarters and mark a line on the wrong side. Use the lines as a guide to match the foot to the seams and notches on the leg.

Clip curves and turn right leg side out.

Tip. Sew from the sole side.

Tip. Pin heavily if need be.



Match up the side seams of the legs. Press and baste.



Stitch body back sections (#41) right sides together along center back seam (seam is noted on the pattern piece) matching the notches and inserting the Rare Bear Number Label 1 1/2" below the head (neckline). Picture shows placement after the seam is sewn.

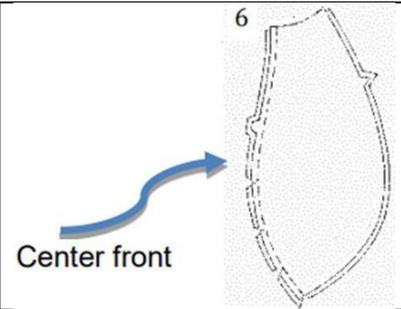
Now sew in the darts as indicated on piece #41.



Place legs (with toe section facing upwards) along the bottom edge of the body back. The legs will be placed 2" apart (or 1" away from the center seam) and over the dart section. Baste into place.



Stitch body front sections (#40) right sides together along center back seam (seam is noted on the pattern piece) matching the notches (Figure 6). Clip curve.



Bunch up the feet and pin them together so that they are out of the way.

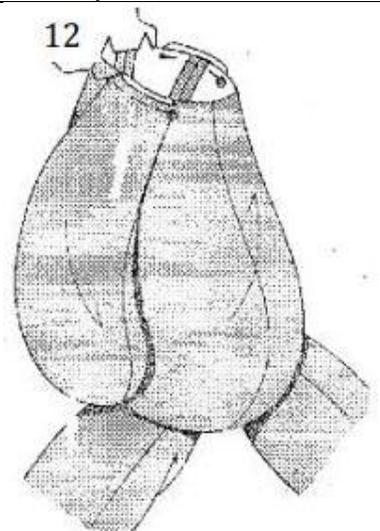


Place body back and body front right sides together.

Sew body front to body back, matching centers, leaving neck edges open, being careful not to catch in finished edges of legs. Leave a 2" opening on either side of body for stuffing.

Turn body RIGHT side out being careful of the pins holding the legs out of the way.

Pin arms to body at neck edge, matching large and small dots. Make sure the arms are facing forward as well. Basted edge of arm should be centered with the side seam as well (Figure 12). Baste arms in place.



Turn body WRONG side out. With RIGHT sides together, insert head into body and pin in place, matching centers and seams. Make sure the nose of the head is facing forward as well (Figure 13). Sew all the way around the neck opening matching all 4 seams.

Turn bear right side out through the side opening.

