



astrobunny & cosmokitty plush

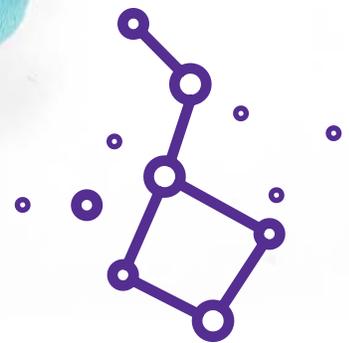
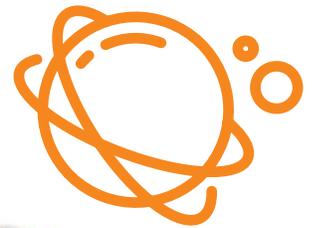
A SEWING PATTERN BY



astrobunny & cosmokitty plushies

Ever on an adventure, best friends Astrobunny and Cosmokitty are searching the farthest reaches of space to see what new scientific wonders they can discover! Join in their adventures by making your own set of space pals!

These two little plushies are a basic and classic flat design -- pillow-style, if you will. Most of their detail and charm comes from the many applique details that bring them to life -- not to downplay their fun jetpacks!



DIFFICULTY:



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This plush is very basic, but there is a lot of applique. So if you want to avoid all the sewing, stick with heavy duty fusible web so you can just fuse all the details in place.

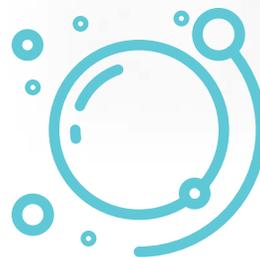
SKILLS USED:

- Curved sewing
- Fusible web applique
- Ladder stitch
- Basting

MAKES:

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One plush, about 5½" wide, and 8-9" tall

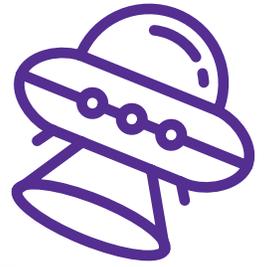


astrobunny plush

SEWING TUTORIAL

materials & tools:

- 1/3 yd. of main color fabric (for body)
- 4" x 3" piece of accent fabric (for face)
- 6" x 3" piece of accent fabric (for jet pack)
- 3" x 3" piece of red or orange felt (for jet pack flames)
- 5" x 5" piece of applique fabric (felt, cotton, etc.) for accent bands
- 2" x 2" piece of black applique fabric (felt, cotton, etc.) for eyes, mouth
- 2" x 2" piece of pink applique fabric (felt, cotton, etc.) for blush marks (optional)
- 2" x 2" pieces of other various applique fabrics (felt, cotton, etc.) for front buttons, panels, etc.
- 8" x 8" piece of light or heavy duty fusible web
- sewing thread to match main fabric, applique fabrics, and accent fabric
- poly-fil stuffing
- basic sewing tools (sewing machine, scissors, iron, needles, pins, fabric marker, seam ripper)
- white fabric paint (optional, see step 9)



SUGGESTED FABRICS:

Plush, stretchy fabrics such as fleece or minky are suggested. The variations of fleece and minky mentioned to the right would work well, but really any plushy fabric with a bit of stretch on the crosswise grain would be well-suited.

Non-stretch fabrics like felt, cotton, or flannel would also work, but the result might not look as rounded and soft. You can likely achieve the same effect if you stuff the body very full.

faux fur

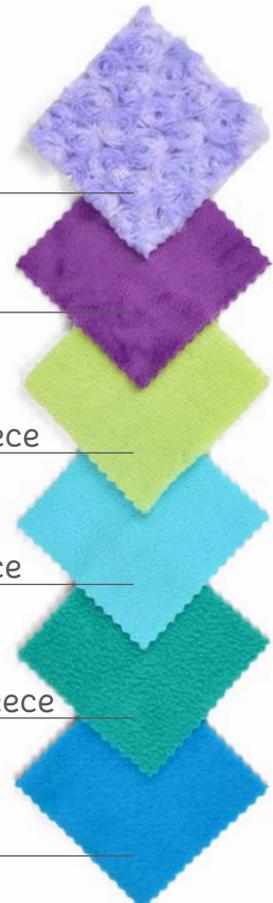
minky

cuddle fleece

micro fleece

anti-pill fleece

fleece

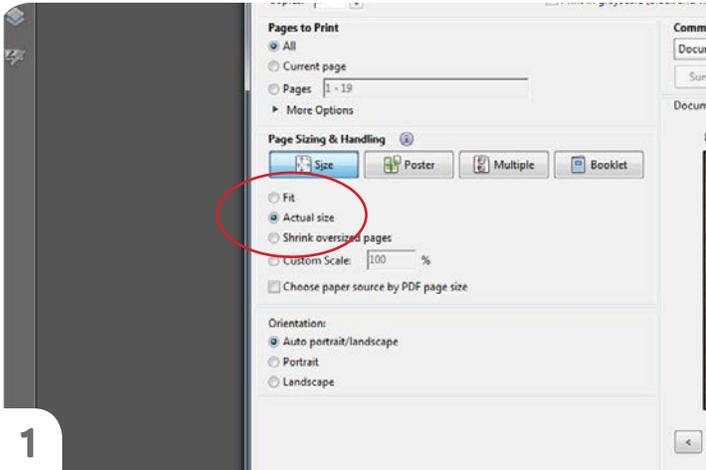


sew desu ne?

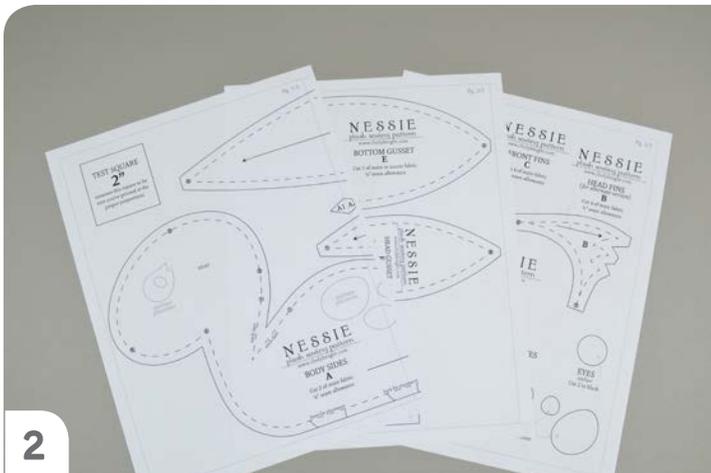
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printing the pattern:

To print the pattern, set your computer to print **PAGES 11-13**. If you're unfamiliar with printing and assembling a .pdf pattern, read the steps below.



At the print dialog box, check the box that says print at “Actual Size” or 100%. Any other selection (such as “Fit to page”) will distort the pattern so it’s slightly larger or smaller and we don’t want that.



Print the pages needed for the file. You might have one or more. Either way, be sure you have the full collection by noting the page numbers in the corner.



You can trace the patterns onto a different paper, or you can also just cut them straight from the printer paper. They might be a little hard to pin through, so you might want to use your longest pins. But you could also use pattern weights or trace the outlines onto the fabric with a washable marker and cut them out from there.

cutting the fabric:



1

Place pattern on the fabric, and make sure the stretch line matches the stretch of the fabric. The nap line should go in the direction of the fur.

2

Pin the pattern in place, use pattern weights, or trace the outline of the pattern with a washable marker.

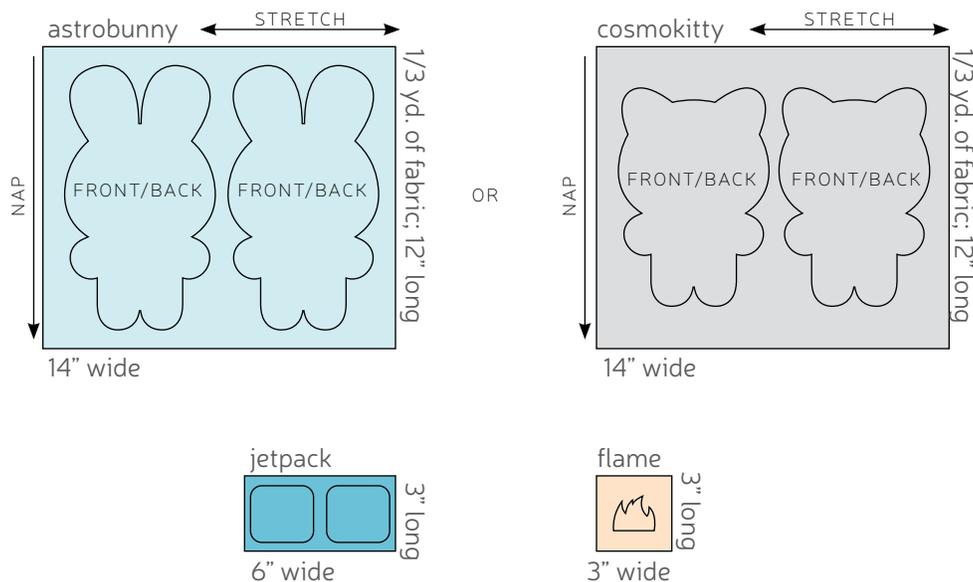
3

Using the paper as a template, cut out the fabric. Cut the required amount according to the pattern.

4

For all fur fabrics, shake the excess fuzz away.

cutting layout:



BEFORE YOU BEGIN:

- Briefly read the project instructions so you know what to expect.
- If desired, mark the cut fabric pieces with the markings and symbols from the pattern. Or wait until the applicable step before transferring.
- Note that the seam allowance used is $\frac{1}{4}$ " throughout the project.

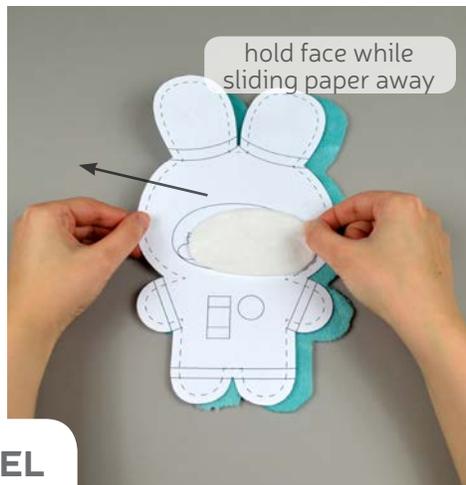
astrobunny plush

SEWING TUTORIAL



1. PREPARE THE APPLIQUE

- Take your fusible web and trace the all your applique pieces onto the smooth (paper) side. You should have the face panel, two eyes, a mouth, blush marks (optional), your choice of panels or buttons, and bands for the ears, arms, and legs (both sides).
- Fuse everything but the face panel to the wrong side of your appropriate applique fabrics.
- Take your face panel fusible web and trim out the paper in the middle of the outline, leaving a 1/4" margin or so. This is meant to eliminate excess adhesive for the face.



2. APPLY THE FACE PANEL

- Fuse the face panel fusible web to the back of the contrast fabric. Cut out the face panel and arrange it on one of the front/back pieces. You can do this by setting your paper pattern on top of the fabric piece (right sides up), align the face panel piece on top where the placement markings are, then carefully pull the paper pattern away while holding the applique piece in place.
- Fuse the face panel in place with your iron (use a press cloth -- such as a scrap piece of cotton -- if you're using a polyester or fur fabric like minky).
- If you used heavy duty fusible web, you can keep the pieces fused without sewing, or you can sew them in place a number of ways. I've used a zigzag stitch here.



sew desu ne?

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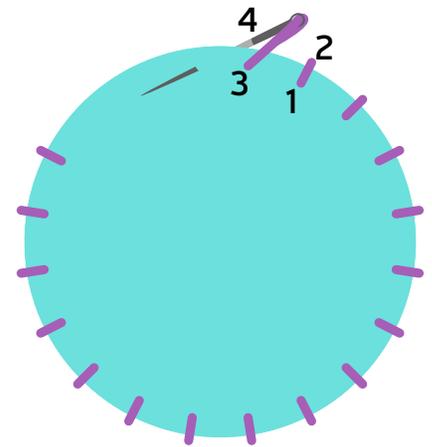
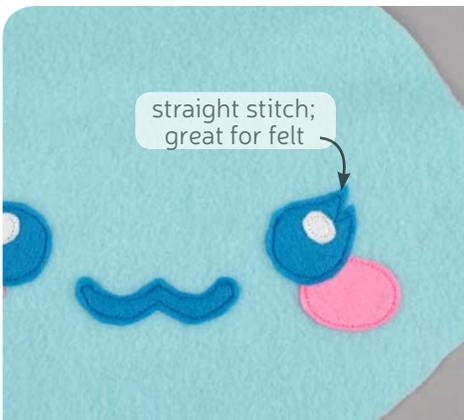
astrobunny plush

SEWING TUTORIAL



3. APPLIQUE THE DETAILS

- Turn the front piece over and trim away the excess backing fabric from behind the face panel. Be sure to trim close to the adhesive and not the stitching.
- Fuse the rest of the detail pieces in place similarly to the face panel. Including the chest buttons and bands at the arms and legs. This will now be the front of your plush. Add the remaining arm, leg, and ear bands to the back as well.
- If you used heavy duty fusible web, you can keep the pieces fused without sewing, or you can sew them in place a number of ways. I've used a zigzag stitch here.
- Refer to the next step for some other applique options.



3a. OTHER APPLIQUE OPTIONS

Other good options for applique include a straight stitch, which involves sewing around the edge of the applique pieces with a straight stitch using matching thread -- about 1/8" in from the edge.

You can also applique by hand; I prefer a whipstitch. Thread a hand-sewing needle with some matching thread and knot it. Bring the thread up from the back of the project; about 1/8" in from the edge of the applique shape. Bring it down perpendicular from the curve, just outside of the applique shape. This completes one stitch.

For the next stitch, bring the needle back up about 1/8" away from the previous stitch and 1/8" in from the edge just as in the first stitch. Once again, bring it down just outside the applique shape. Continue this way until you've sewn around the shape.

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astrobunny plush

SEWING TUTORIAL



4. MARK THE NECK SEAM

- Up next is to prepare sewing the front to the back. Align the two pieces together with right sides facing and matching up all the raw edges.
- Getting just the right angle for the neck and arm seam is important here, so I like to take the paper pattern and transfer the pivoting points for the neck and arms. You can do this by clipping into that point so you can fold the paper back as you mark the fabric.



5. SEW THE FRONT TO THE BACK

- Sew completely around the perimeter of the shape. Be sure to pivot at all the crucial corners, like the neck, arms, legs, and ears.
- Once complete, clip the inner corners close to the stitching to give the fabric more flexibility when it's turned.
- The plush is opened through a cut in the back. You can find the guideline on the paper pattern, but it's basically located between the lower arm corners. Cut about 1-2" horizontally. This will later be covered by the jetpack, so it should be small, but it doesn't need to be perfect.
- Turn the plush right side out through the opening. Define the arms and ears with a chopstick or similar blunt tool.

astrobunny plush

SEWING TUTORIAL



6. STUFF AND SHUT THE PLUSH

- Stuff the plush a bit at a time. Start with small balls to fill the arms, legs, and ears. The body and head can be stuffed semi-firmly. Just enough to give the plush character.
- Thread a hand-sewing needle and knot the end. Insert the needle from inside the opening and out of the plush near the edge. This will leave the knot inside the plush. From here do a whip stitch to close up the opening quickly.

whip stitch:

A kind of overhand stitch where the needle is brought from the back of the project to the front. The thread goes over the fabric edge and the process is repeated with each stitch.



7. SEW THE JETPACK

- Gather your jetpack pieces and felt flame. Align the straight side of the flame along one of the longer sides of the jetpack as shown. Right sides both facing up. Baste it in place within the seam allowance.
- Align the other jetpack piece on top with right sides facing. Sew around the perimeter of the jetpack.

basting:

A form of temporary sewing meant to hold pieces in place. A long stitch length is often used for this reason. The finished result is not meant to be seen and sometimes is even removed later (depending on your project).

sew desu ne?

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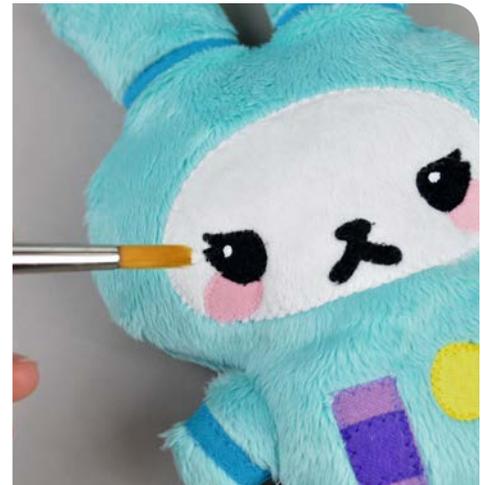
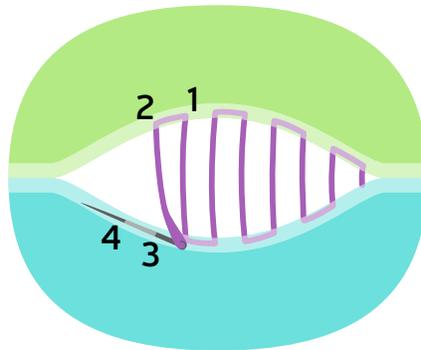
astrobunny plush

SEWING TUTORIAL



8. CUT AND OPEN THE JETPACK

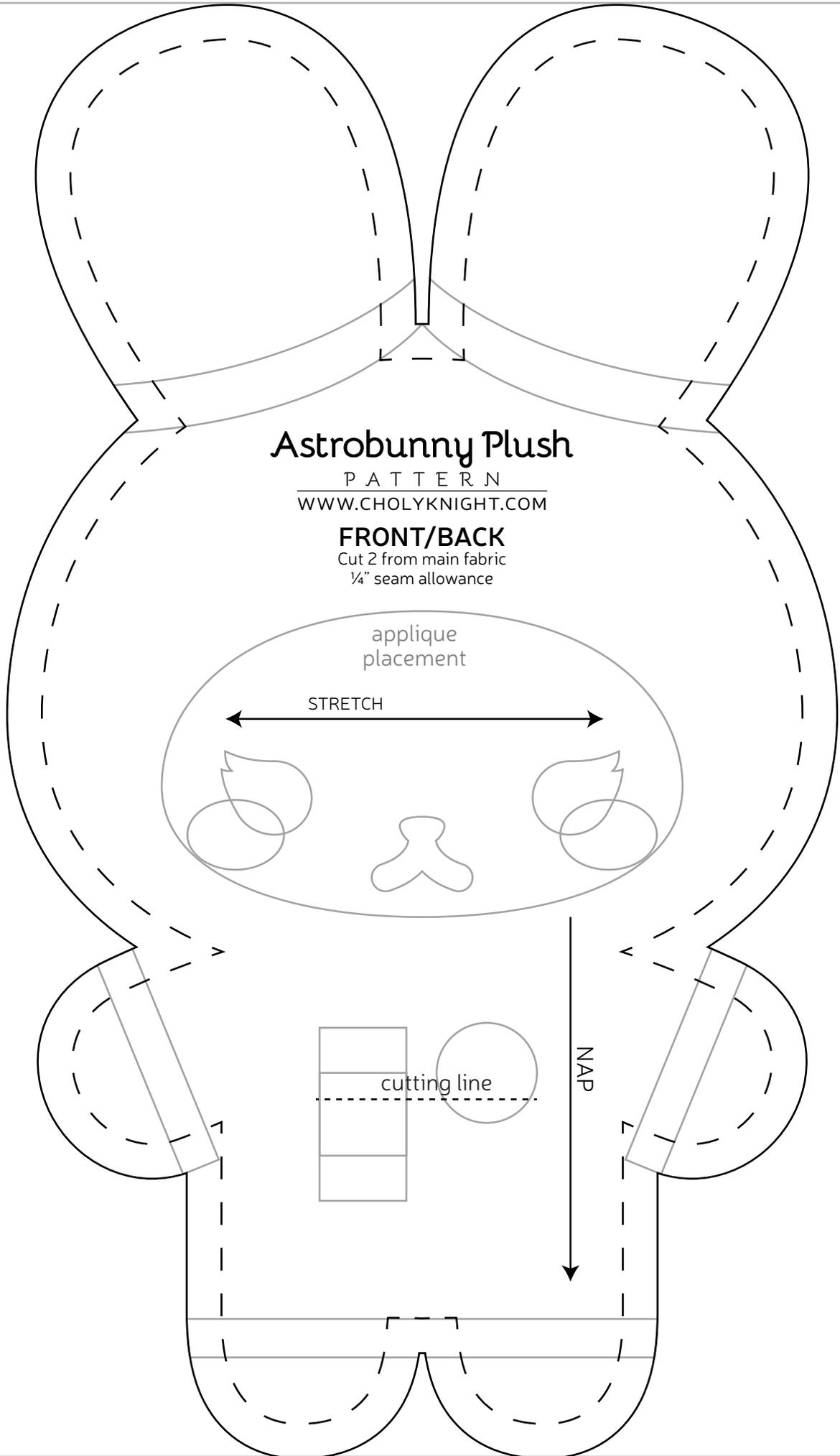
- Cut open the jetpack similarly to how you did the body back in step 5. Make sure the cut is parallel to the edge of the flames.
- Turn the jetpack right side out and stuff it lightly with stuffing. Whip stitch it closed just like in step 6. If you have a lot of thread leftover, consider leaving it attached so you can use it to join it to the body.



9. ATTACH THE JETPACK

- Align the whip stitched side of the jetpack over the back of the plush body. Make sure the flames are pointing down, and pin the pack in place.
- Stitch around the pack using a ladder stitch: take a 1/8" stitch into the edge of the jetpack, then go across and take another stitch from the plush back. See the illustration for more help on how this goes. Keep going around the jetpack until you reach the end.
- This completes your plush! If you think it needs a little sparkle, paint a dot of white fabric paint in the corner of each eye for some eye shines.





Astro Bunny Plush

P A T T E R N

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FRONT/BACK

Cut 2 from main fabric
1/4" seam allowance

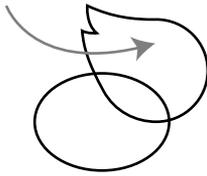
applique
placement

STRETCH

cutting line

NAP

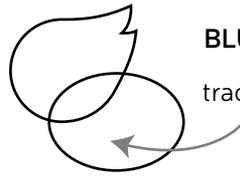
LASHED EYES
applique
trace/cut 1 each
from black



SWEET MOUTH
applique
trace/cut 1 from
black



BLUSH MARKS
applique
trace/cut 2 from
pink



Cosmokitty Plush

P A T T E R N

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FRONT/BACK

Cut 2 from main fabric
1/4" seam allowance

applique
placement

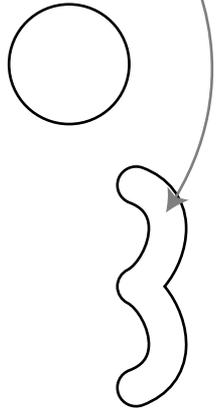
STRETCH



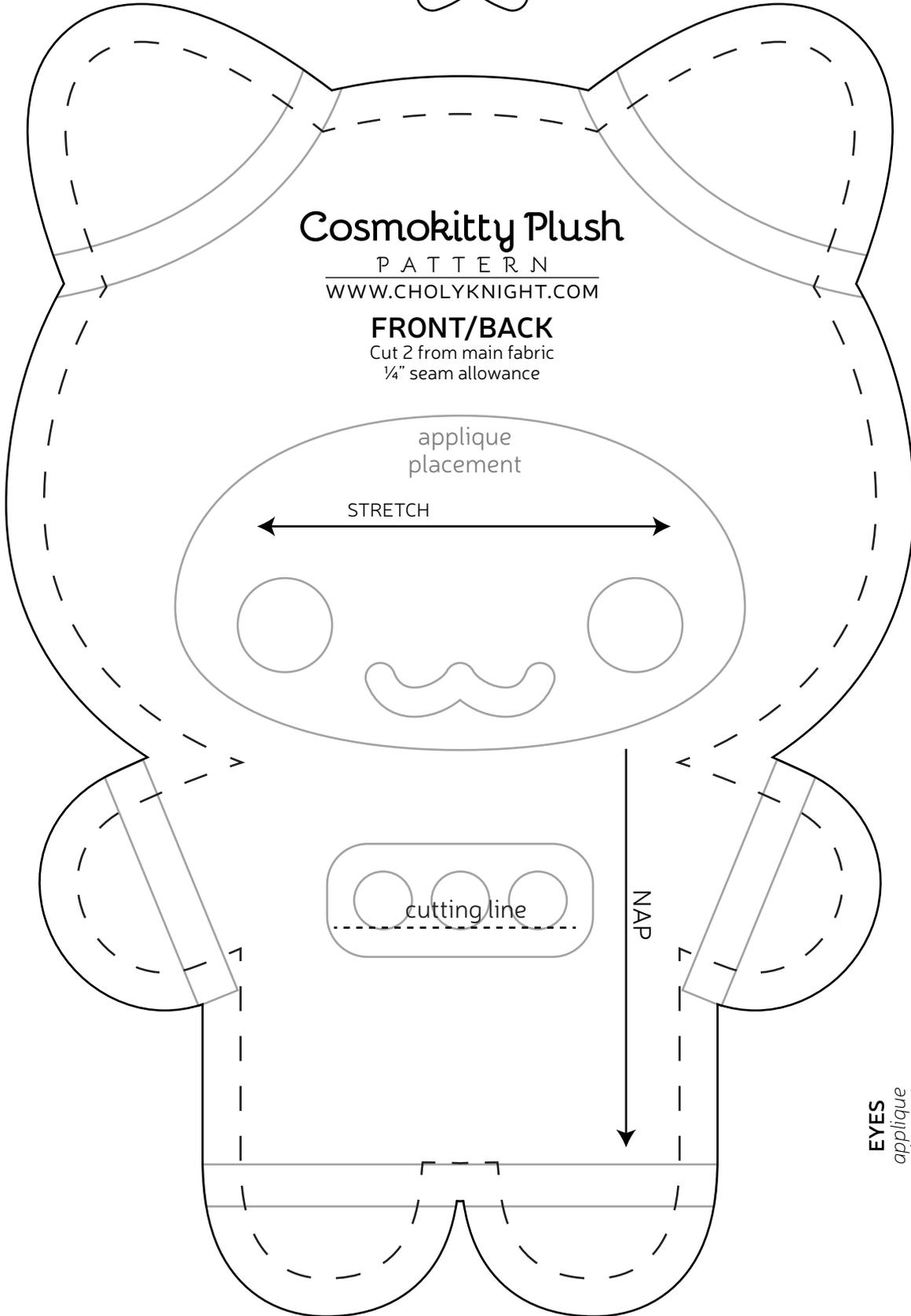
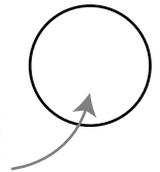
cutting line

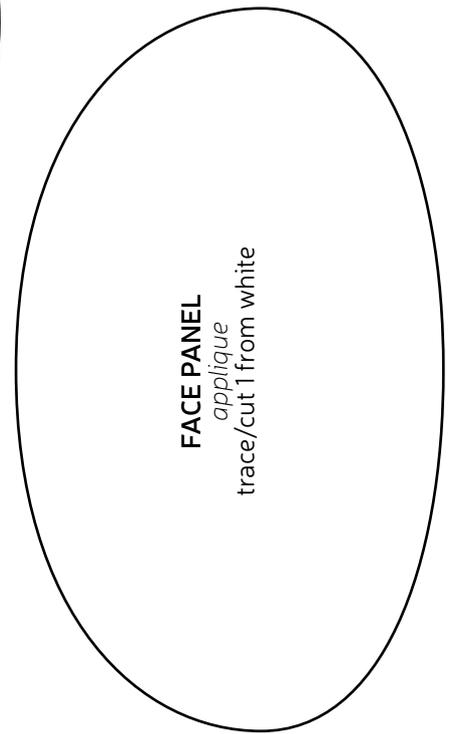
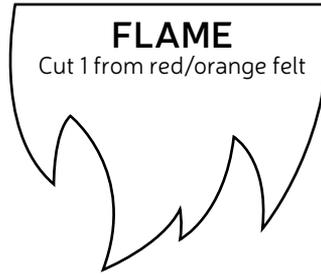
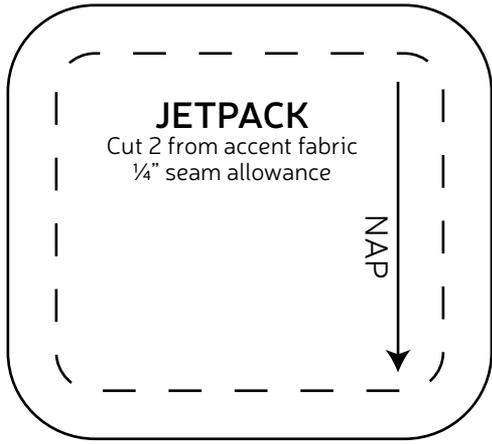
NAP

CUTE MOUTH
applique
trace/cut 1 from
black



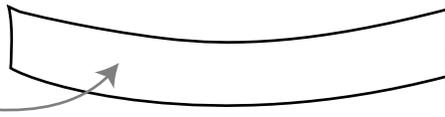
EYES
applique
trace/cut 2 from
black





BUNNY EAR BANDS

applique
trace/cut 4 from
accent color



KITTY EAR BANDS

applique
trace/cut 4 from
accent color



ARM BANDS

applique
trace/cut 4 from
accent color



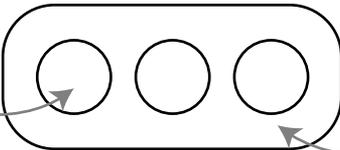
LEG BANDS

applique
trace/cut 2 from
accent color



BUTTONS

applique
trace/cut 3 from
accent color

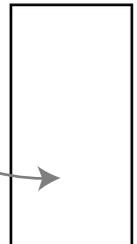


BUTTON PANEL

applique
trace/cut 1 from
accent color

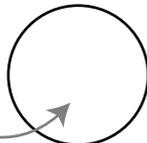
SWITCH PANEL

applique
trace/cut 1 from
accent color



DIAL

applique
trace/cut 1 from
accent color



SWITCH

applique
trace/cut 1 from
accent color

