

PIRANHha PLANT Hat



a free sewing pattern by



PIRANHA PLANT HAT

Fans of Super Mario should hopefully recognize this fiendish plant! This fully lined hat is modeled after the piranha plant enemies from the popular games. The crown of the hat is shaped just like the head of the plant, complete with spots. Around the edge are the monster's lips and teeth, so it looks just like it's chomping on your head! Then on top is a tiny stem to complete the look.

DIFFICULTY:



The hardest part of this hat is likely all the layers needed to attach the lips, teeth, and lining. The outer seam ends up quite bulky, so make sure to use a stronger needle and sew slowly.

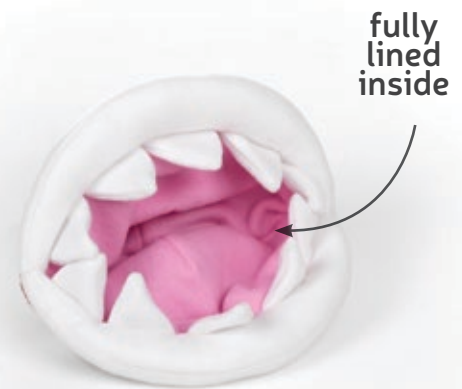
MAKES:

ONE HAT:

Sized to fit heads from 13" to 25" around.

SKILLS USED:

- Fusible web applique
- Curved sewing
- Ladder stitch
- Sewing small pieces
- Basting
- Darts
- Matching notches & points

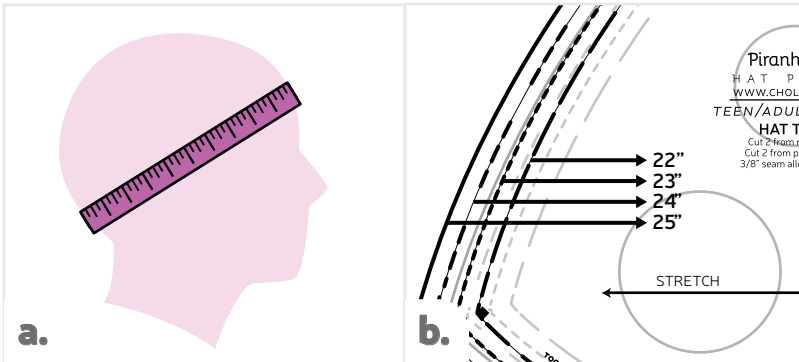


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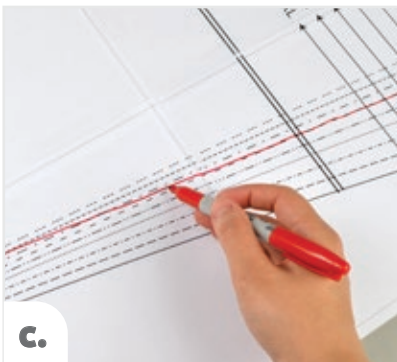
FINDING YOUR SIZE:

If you're not sure what size your head is, here's how to measure it. Or, if you don't have the recipient around to measure, refer to the chart as a general estimation based on the person's age. Everyone is different though, and there's a lot of overlap between ages and sizes. So measurements are always best.



a. Grab a flexible tape measure. Measure your head around where you usually wear a regular hat. This is typically around the base of the head, across the forehead, and back around. This number is your head measurement.

b. Later, when you print your pattern (see page 6), look for your size. Each **CUTTING LINE** is a dotted line that looks slightly different. The sizes are labeled with an arrow. The **SEAM LINES** are still there, but in gray to avoid confusion.



c. To prevent confusion, outline your size in marker before cutting along the lines.

HEAD MEASUREMENT	APPROXIMATE AGE
13"	NEWBORN
14"	NEWBORN
15"	3 MONTHS
16"	6 MONTHS
17"	9 MONTHS
18"	12 MONTHS
19"	2-3 YEARS
20"	4-5 YEARS
21"	6-15 YEARS
22"	ADULT SMALL
23"	ADULT MEDIUM
24"	ADULT LARGE
25"	ADULT XLARGE



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MATERIALS & TOOLS:

• SIZES 13"-23"

- ¼ yd. of red fabric for main hat
- ¼ yd. of pink fabric for hat lining
- ¼ yd. of white fabric for lips and teeth
- ¼ yd. (or 16" x 9") of green fabric for stem and leaves

• SIZES 24-25"

- ⅓ yd. of red fabric for main hat
- ⅓ yd. of pink fabric for hat lining
- ⅓ yd. of white fabric for lips and teeth
- ¼ yd. (or 16" x 9") of green fabric for stem and leaves

• APPLIQUE SUPPLIES

- 7" x 7" of white applique fabric for spots
- 7" x 7" of light or heavy duty fusible web
- sewing thread to match main fabric and applique fabrics
- poly-fil stuffing
- basic sewing tools (sewing machine, scissors, iron, needles, pins, fabric marker, seam ripper)

SUGGESTED FABRICS:

FLEECE (OR OTHER MEDIUM WEIGHT, MODERATE-STRETCH KNITS)

Most recommended are **ANTI-PILL OR POLAR FLEECE**, stretchy **SWEATSHIRT FLEECE**, stretchy **CORAL FLEECE**, and **STRETCH TERRY KNIT**. The finished hat needs to stretch and be snug around the head. Something with 20%-30% stretch is ideal (see image below).

Fabrics that would still work but aren't quite as good are **MINKY**, or **INTERLOCK KNIT**. These are a little thinner and won't achieve the same results as the others.

Also be careful with very thick versions of fleece. This will cause the seams around the opening of the hat to be very bulky and difficult to sew. Try to find something thinner for the lining, lips, or teeth to compensate.

10" of fleece stretches
to 12"
= 20% stretch



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FUSIBLE WEB:

- Fusible web adhesive is a sheet of adhesive with a paper backing.
Not to be confused with fusible interfacing, which is adhesive attached to a fabric/fiber backing.
- Some common brands are **Pellon** & **HeatnBond**
- In countries outside the US, it may also be known as **bondaweb**
- It comes in **light** and **heavy duty** varieties. Lightweight strength is meant for applique you intend to sew later. Heavy duty versions are for a no-sew bond. If you try to sew them later your machine might have trouble penetrating the glue.
- As a bonus, you can also sometimes find varieties that allow for more stretch. This would be especially helpful to allow the applique to stretch along with the hat.



APPLIQUE FABRICS:

- **Fleece** is a good choice for the applique in this project. This fabric works better for larger applique like the spots.
- Other options include **flannel**, **cotton**, **felt**, and **minky**.
- Flannel and cotton are best for detailed applique with a lot of layers because they're thinner. Meanwhile felt, minky, and fleece are better for simpler applique like body markings.
- **Fleece** is used in the example instructions (page 9).



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PRINTING THE PATTERN:

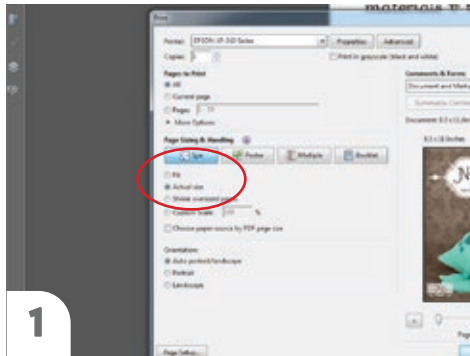
FOR SIZES 22"-25": print pages 19-22.

FOR SIZES 18"-21": print pages 23-25.

FOR SIZES 13"-17": print pages 26-27.

If you're unfamiliar with printing and assembling a .pdf pattern, read the steps to follow.

For the best results, use a .pdf reader like **ADOBE READER**. That's what is shown here and will give you the most control over the settings.



1

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.



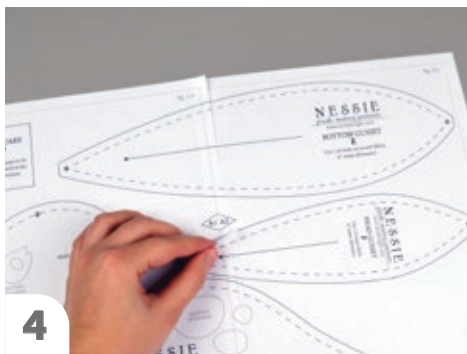
2

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.



3

It's likely your printer will have a margin that ensures your image doesn't print to the very edge. Assembly will be easier if you trim off this blank margin edge. This will give you pages that overlap slightly during assembly. If you trim across the gray outline boxes, this will give you pages that don't overlap but rather butt against each other.



4

To line up the pattern pages, match up the corresponding diamond shapes. Each diamond will have a letter, so it's simply a matter of matching A1 to A2, B3 to B4 and so on. The faint gray lines indicate the border of every page, you should be able to line those up as well. When the diamond goes together, tape it in place.

If you have many pages, it's easier to tape up the pages into rows first. Then tape the rows together into a full block.



5

You can trace the patterns onto a different paper, or you can also just cut them straight from the printer paper -- be sure that each piece is fully taped together along the joins so they don't fall apart when you cut them.

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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.

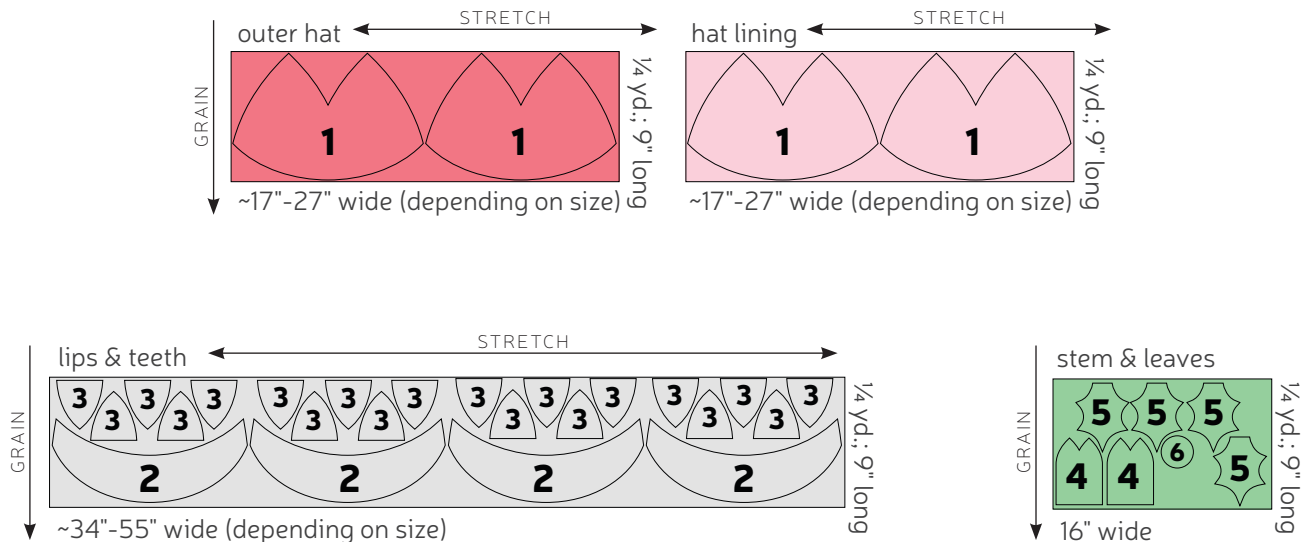


3 Using the paper as a template, cut out the fabric. Cut the required amount according to the pattern.



4 For all fur fabrics, shake the excess fuzz away.

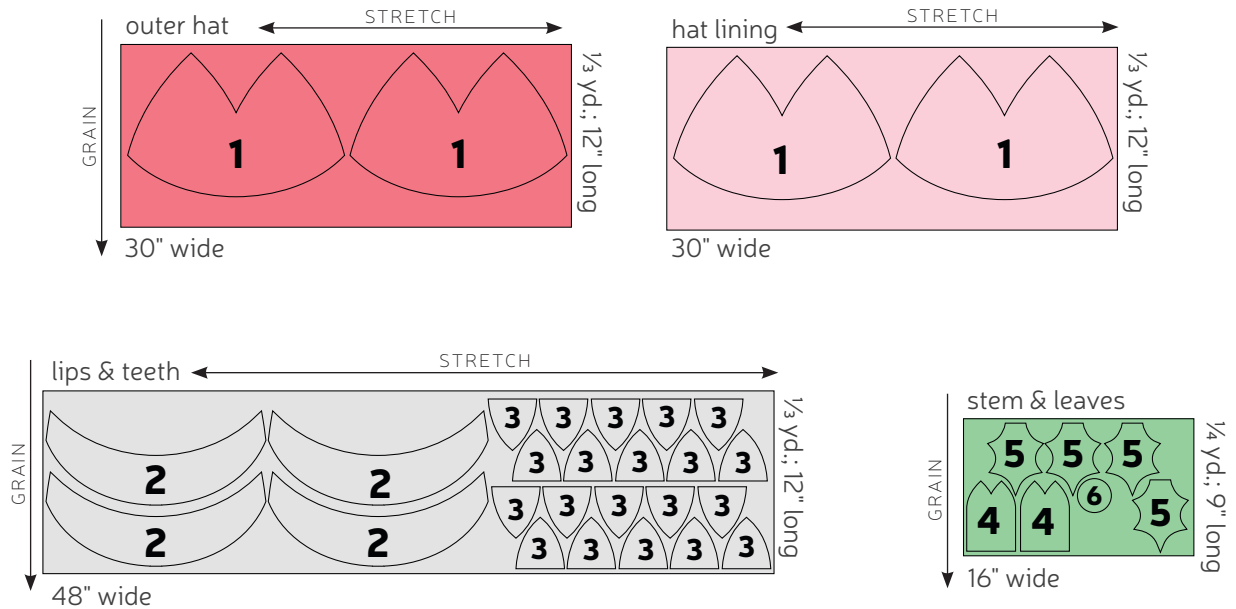
CUTTING LAYOUT: SIZES 13" TO 23"



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CUTTING LAYOUT: SIZES 24" TO 25"



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 a **$\frac{3}{8}$ " SEAM ALLOWANCE** is used for the project unless otherwise mentioned. The seam allowance is included in the pattern templates.

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1. FUSE THE SPOT APPLIQUE

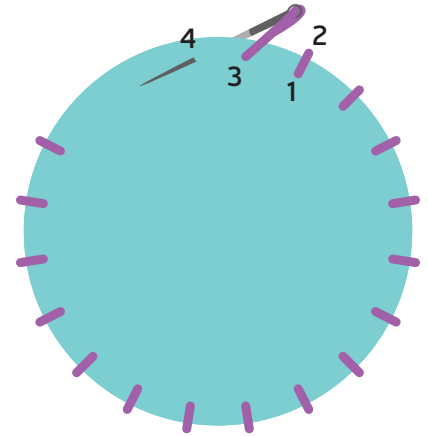
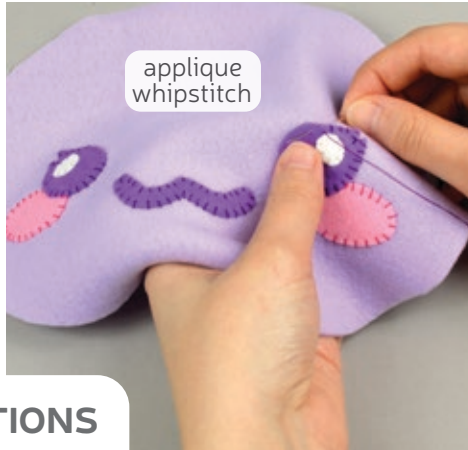
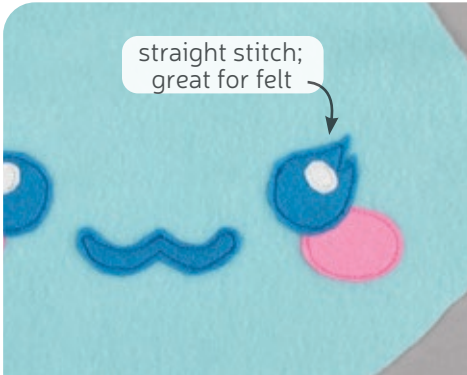


- a. Grab your fusible web and applique templates. Trace the pieces for the **spots**. You should have:
 - **large spots** (4, white)
 - **small spots** (8, white)
- b. Fuse the bumpy (adhesive) side of the fusible web onto the applique fabrics.
- c. Cut out your applique pieces and grab the **HAT TOP** piece (1) from your red fabric. Grab the **spot** applique piece. Set your paper pattern on top of the hat top piece. Align the applique piece on top where the placement markings are. Next, carefully pull the paper pattern away while holding the applique piece in place.
- d. Fuse the applique pieces with your iron. Use a press cloth, such as a scrap piece of cotton. This will help protect any polyester or fuzzy fabrics from melting or scorching. Repeat this with your other hat top piece so you have a front and back.
 - This should complete the applique. If you used heavy duty fusible web, you can keep the pieces fused without sewing. If you used lighter fusible web, you'll want to stitch the pieces in place. A zigzag stitch with matching thread works nicely around the edges. For hand sewing options, see the next page.



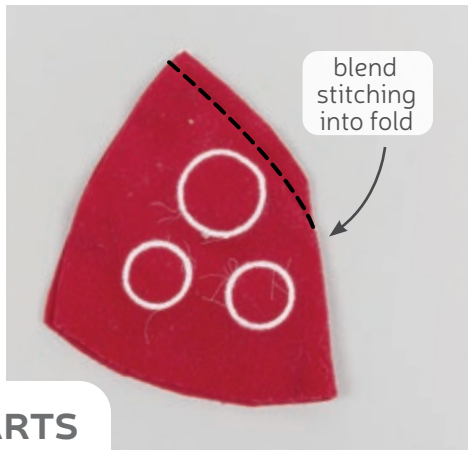
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2. OTHER APPLIQUE OPTIONS

- 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.



3. SEW THE HAT TOP DARTS

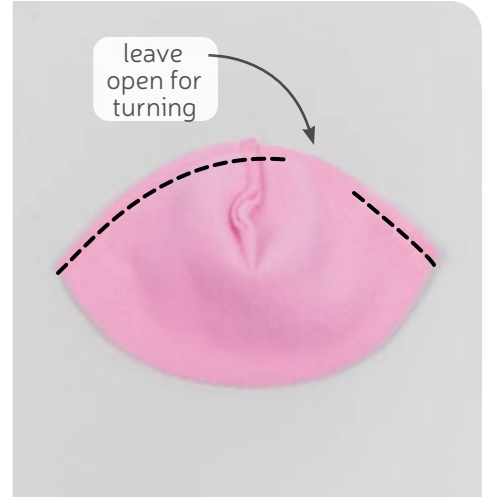
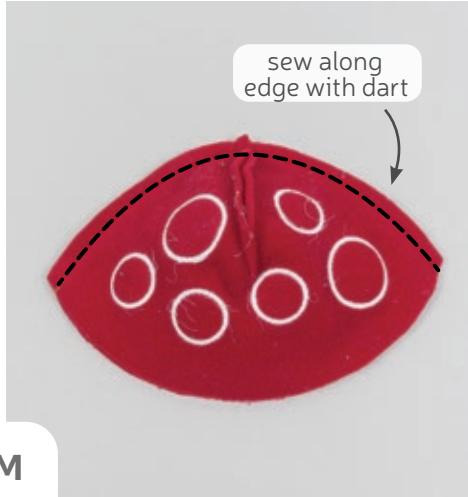
- Grab your **HEAD TOP** pieces (1). These pieces have one **dart** at the center top. They're the large wedge shapes found labeled on the paper pattern. To sew them, start by folding the fabric along the point of the **dart**. Make sure right sides are facing and pin the fabrics together.
- Sew the **dart** starting at the opening and work your way into the fold of the fabric. Try to blend your stitching into the fold for a smooth transition and a rounder finish to the hat.
- Repeat this with the remaining dart on your other hat top pieces, both the outer red fabric and the pink lining fabric.

DARTS:

A wedge-shaped gap found in a pattern. When sewn in fabric, it creates a tuck in the fabric and develops a 3D shape. The diagonal sides of the wedge are the **LEGS**; these are matched up and sewn to the **POINT** of the dart.

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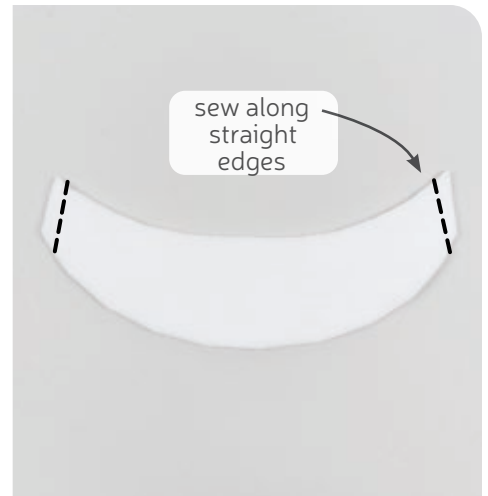


4. SEW THE UPPER SEAM

- Grab your **HAT TOP** pieces (1) from your **RED** fabric. Align them with right sides facing and the raw edges matching up. Pin the pieces together along the edge with the **dart**.
- Sew the hat top pieces together along the edge with the **dart** going all the way across.
→ *At this point you can do a test fit! If you wear this part on your head it should be fairly loose, because the added lips, teeth, and lining will make it tighter.*
- Grab your hat top pieces from your **PINK LINING** fabric. Align these pieces as well in the same way, pinning the edge with the **dart**.
If you haven't already, note the **opening for turning markings** found on the paper pattern for the hat top. Transfer these markings onto the edge of the fabrics that you've pinned. Sew along the top of the lining fabrics, but leave the **opening for turning** that you marked.

5. SEW THE LIP SIDES

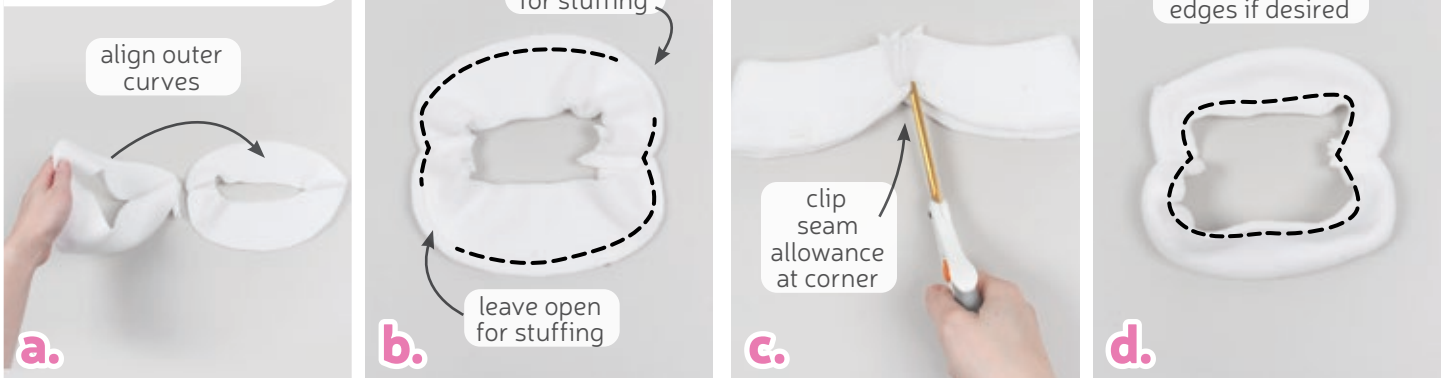
- Grab your **LIPS** pieces (2). Take two of them and align them with right sides facing and the raw edges matching up. Pin the pieces together along the short straight sides.
- Sew the lips together along the short straight sides. Repeat this with your other pair of lips pieces so you have two sewn pieces total.



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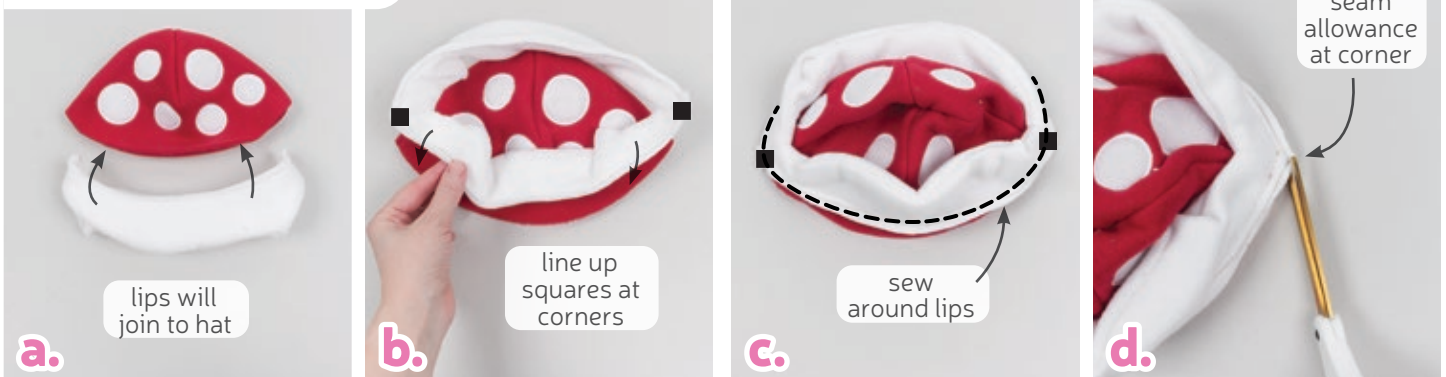
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6. SEW THE LIPS



- Open up your **LIPS** pieces (2). Take both of them and align them with right sides facing and the raw edges matching up. Pin the lips together along the outer curved edges.
- If you haven't already, note the **opening for stuffing markings** found on the paper pattern for the lips. Transfer these markings onto the wrong side of the fabrics you've just pinned. Sew the lips together all the way around the outer edge, but leave the **openings for stuffing** that you marked. There should be two on opposite ends, near the seams from step 5.
- Before turning the lips, make sure to clip the seam allowance at the inner corner. Clip up to your stitching but not through it. This will help the corner turn more cleanly.
- Flip the lips right side out and match up the raw edges of the inner curves. If desired, you can baste these raw edges together. This will be helpful in the next step.

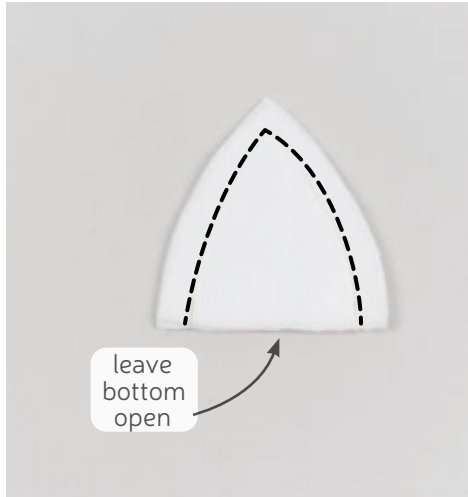
7. ATTACH THE LIPS



- Grab your **HAT TOP** from your **RED** fabric (1). The inner raw edge of the lips will join around the outer raw edges of the hat top. But the pattern also has **square markings** you can look for to help with alignment.
- Flip over your lips so the raw edge matches up with the hat top. Flipping this will make the sewn edge point toward the middle of the hat. Pin the lips to the hat all the way around, matching up the **square markings** at the corners.
- Sew the lips to the hat all the way around.
- Trim the excess seam allowance at the corners to reduce bulk.

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8. SEW THE TEETH

- Grab your **TEETH** pieces (3). Take two of them and align them with right sides facing and the raw edges matching up.
- Sew the pieces together along the pointed edge. Leave the straight edge free for turning the piece right side out.
- Repeat this with your remaining teeth pieces and you should have 10 total.

9. CLIP & TURN THE TEETH

- Trim the excess seam allowance at the tip of the **TOOTH** to reduce bulk. This will keep the teeth looking pointy after they've been turned.
- Flip the teeth right side out through the opening that you left. Define the point with a chopstick or similar turning tool. Repeat this with your remaining teeth for 10 total.



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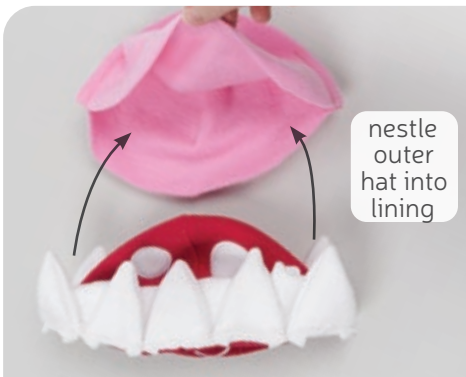
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10. ATTACH THE TEETH

→ **Note: this is where the layers of fabric start to get a little thick. You may want to switch to a **HEAVY DUTY NEEDLE** at this time if you have one. Also be sure to sew slowly for the seams.**

- Grab your hat so far. Find the seam allowance attaching the lips to the hat and set your hat on your work surface so the lips are on top as shown.
The teeth will join to the outer edge of the hat on top of the lips. There are 5 spaced evenly along the front and back edges. But you can also use the **teeth placement circle markings** found on the paper pattern for the **HAT TOP** (1) for extra help with placement.
- Take your teeth and align them on top of the lips following the **circle placement markings**. This should evenly space 5 of them across the front side of the hat. Pin the teeth in place.
- Baste the teeth to the edge of the hat. Repeat this with your remaining 5 teeth on the other side so all 10 teeth are attached.

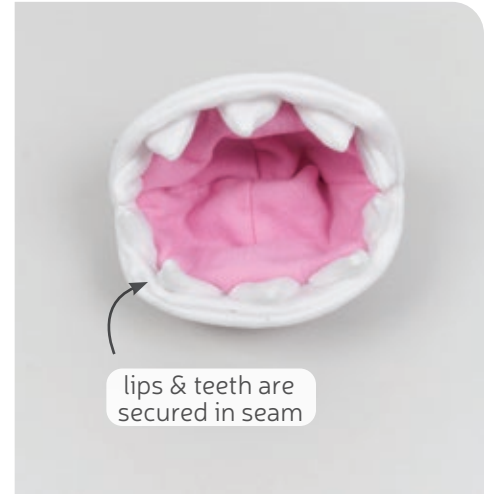


11. ATTACH THE LINING

- Grab your **HAT TOP LINING** piece (1) from before. Grab your hat so far and nestle it into the lining so right sides are facing and the raw edges match up.
- Tuck the lips and teeth into the lining and make sure all the edges are flush. Pin the lining to the hat top all the way around. The lips and teeth should be secured in between and the **square markings** should align at the side seams.
- Sew the lining to the hat all the way around the outer edge. Be sure to sew slowly and carefully through all the layers.

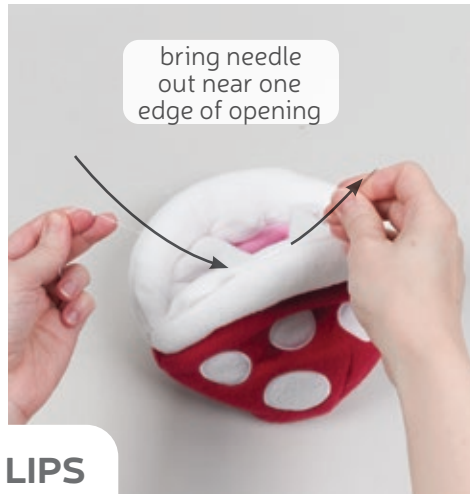
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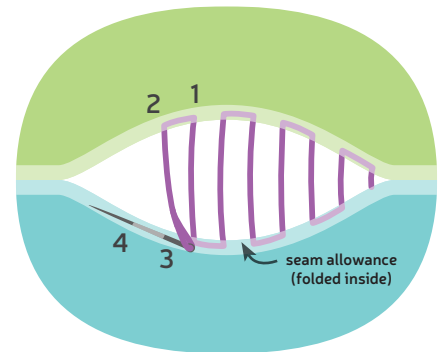
12. CLIP & TURN THE HAT

- Trim the excess seam allowance at the corners to reduce bulk.
- Turn the hat right side out through the **opening for turning** in the lining.
- When complete, the teeth and lips should stick out nicely from the hat top. Tuck the lining into the hat.



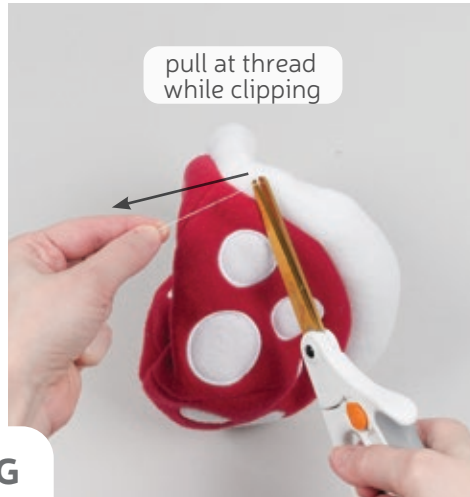
13. STUFF & CLOSE THE LIPS

- Take your hat and find the **openings for stuffing** in the **LIPS**. Stuff the lips lightly with stuffing. You'll need to use hemostats or a longer tool to get the stuffing all across the lips. Repeat for both sets of lips so they look nicely plump.
- Once the lips are filled, make sure the seam allowances in the openings are tucked inside and prepare to ladder stitch it closed. Thread a hand-sewing needle and knot it at the end. Insert the needle from the inside of the opening and out of the lips near one edge of the opening. This will leave the knot inside the lips.
- Ladder stitch the lips closed. Take a $\frac{1}{8}$ " stitch into the fold of one side of the opening, then go across and take another. Keep stitching down the opening until you reach the end.



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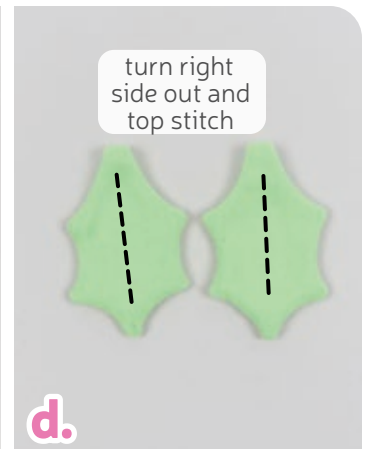
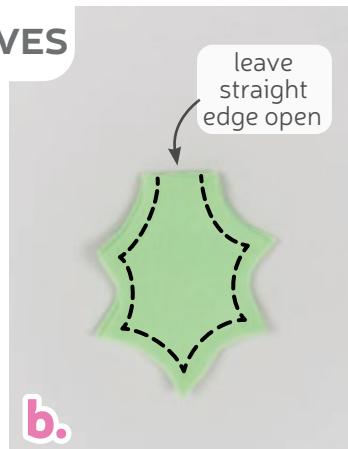
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14. CLOSE UP THE LINING

- When you're finished, stitch a knot into the end of the seam. Then insert the needle near the finished knot. Bring the needle out about 1-2" away and pull it through.
- Pull the thread taut while snipping the thread. The excess thread should sink back inside the lips -- all hidden!
- Repeat this for the opening in the lining as well.

15. SEW THE LEAVES



→ If you still have a **HEAVY DUTY NEEDLE** installed, you can go back to a **STANDARD** needle now.

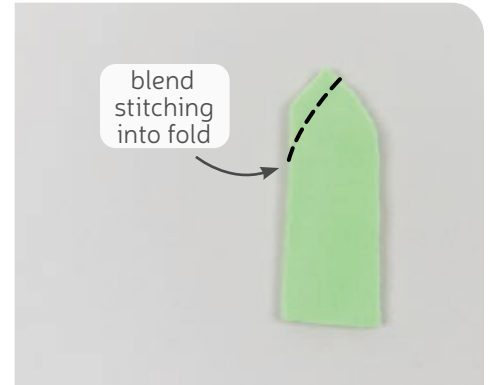
- Grab your **LEAF** pieces (5). Take two of them and align them with right sides facing and the raw edges matching up.
- Sew the pieces together along the pointed edges. Leave the short straight edge free for turning the piece right side out later.
- Trim the excess seam allowance around the tips of the leaves to reduce bulk.
- Turn the leaf right side out through the opening you left. Repeat this with your remaining leaf pieces for two leaves total.
For an extra bit of detail, top stitch along the center of the leaf following the **top stitching lines** from the paper pattern.

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16. SEW THE STEM DART

- a. Grab your **STEM** pieces (4). These pieces have a **dart** similar to the hat top from before. Sew it the same way, starting by folding your fabric along the point of the **dart** so the slanted edges match up. make sure right sides are facing and pin the fabrics in place.



- b. Sew from the opening of the **dart** into the fold of the fabric. Try to blend your stitching into the fold for a smooth transition and a rounder finish to the stem. Repeat this with your other stem piece for two total.

17. BASTE THE LEAVES

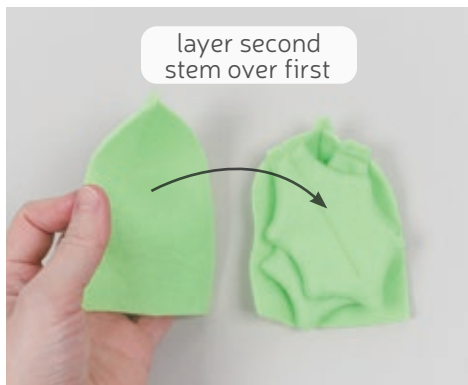
- a. Grab your **LEAVES** (5) and also your **STEM** (4) so far. If you haven't already, note the **leaf placement lines** found on the paper pattern for the stem. Use these lines to align the raw edge of the leaves along the top of your stem. Pin the leaves in place.



- b. Baste the leaves within the seam allowance to hold them in place for future steps. You should have two leaves, one on each side.

18. SEW THE STEM

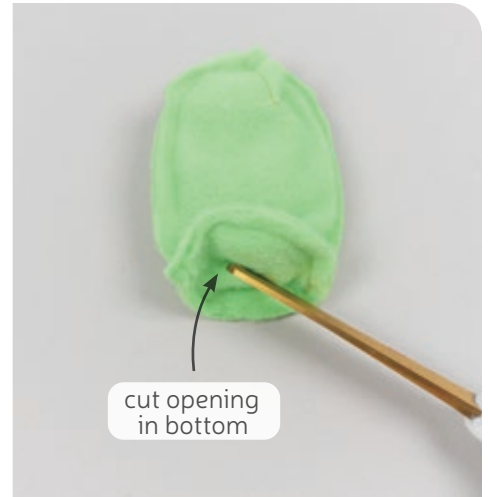
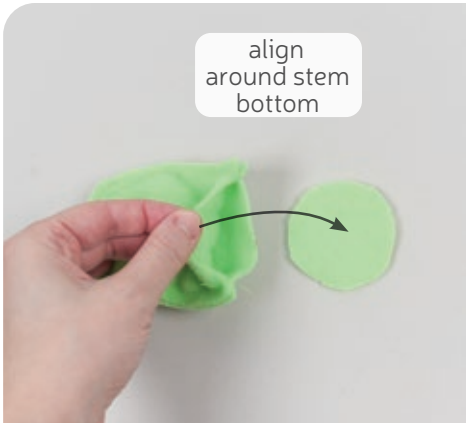
- a. Grab your remaining **STEM** piece (4). Align it over the other stem so right sides are facing and the raw edges match up. The leaves should be secured between the layers. Pin the fabrics together along the top edge with the **dart**.



- b. Sew the stem pieces together along the top curved edge. Leave the straight edge along the bottom free.

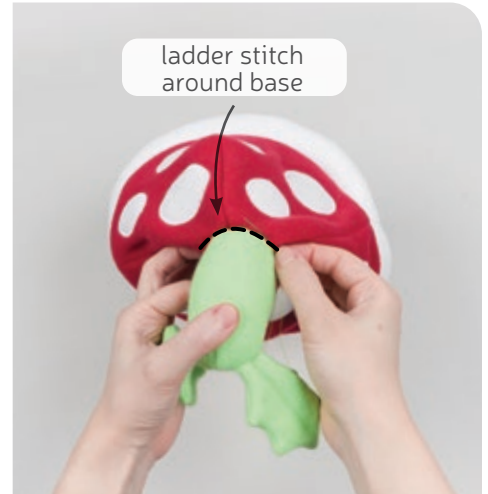
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19. ATTACH THE STEM BOTTOM

- Grab your **STEM BOTTOM** piece (6). Take the open end of your **STEM** (4) and align it around the stem bottom. Make sure right sides are facing and pin the fabrics together.
- Sew the stem to the bottom all the way around.
- To turn the stem, cut a short slit through the bottom piece only. Make the cut in the center, but you can also look for the **cutting guide** on the paper pattern for extra help.



20. ATTACH THE STEM

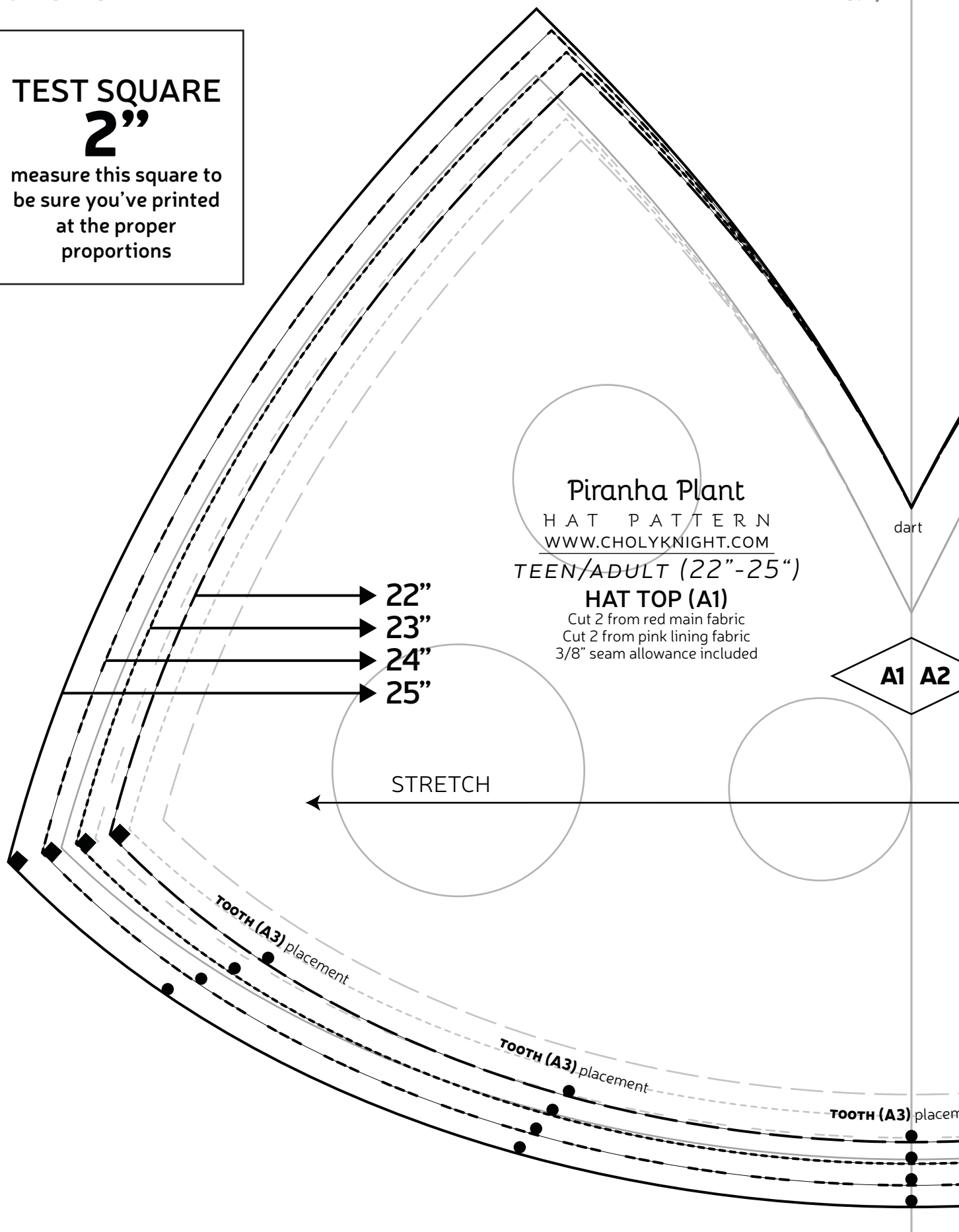
- Turn the **STEM** right side out through the opening you've cut. The leaves should be secured in the seams. Stuff the stem lightly with stuffing, just enough so it takes shape and feels a bit sturdy.
- Take your stuffed stem and align it onto the top of your hat. It should be centered on the top seams.
- Ladder stitch the stem in place all the way around the base.

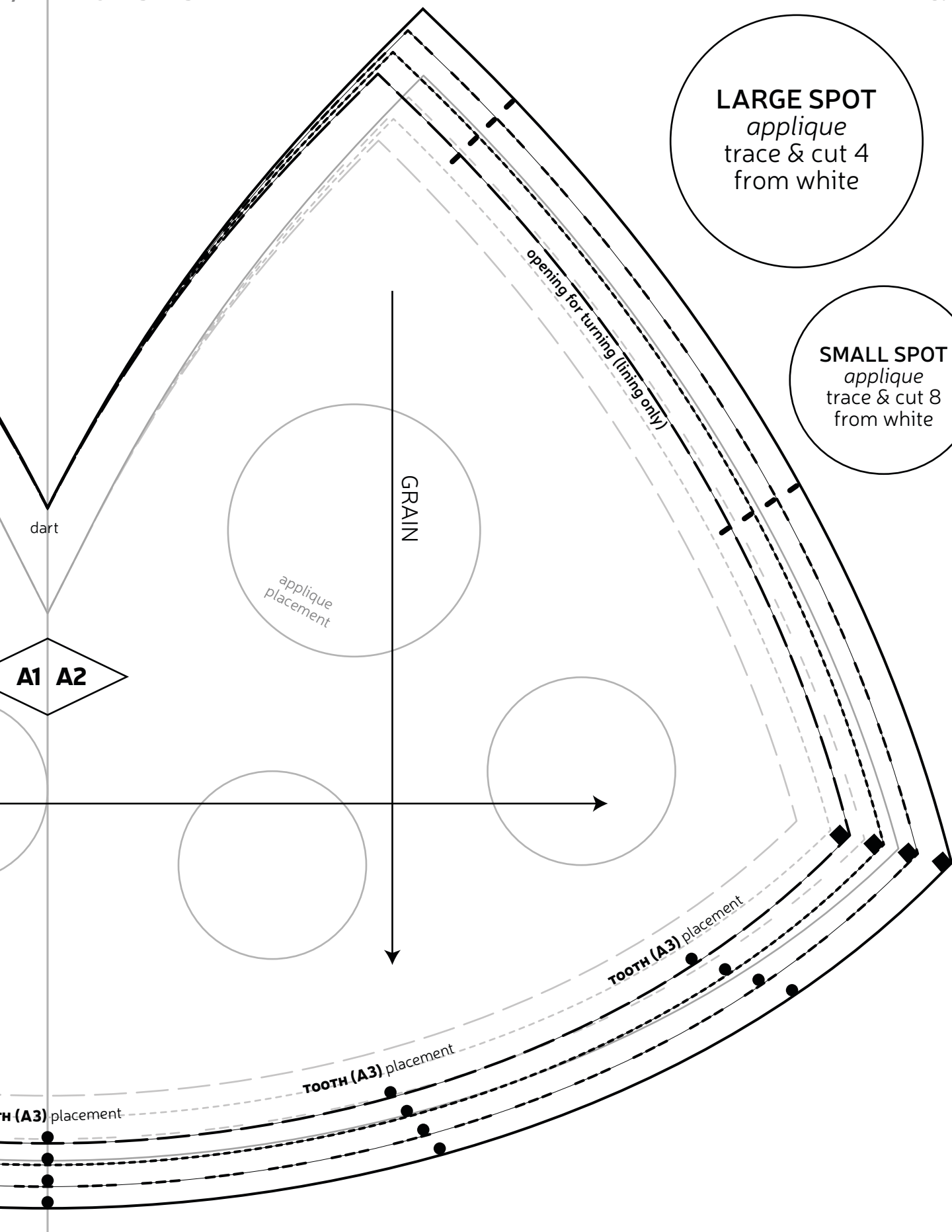
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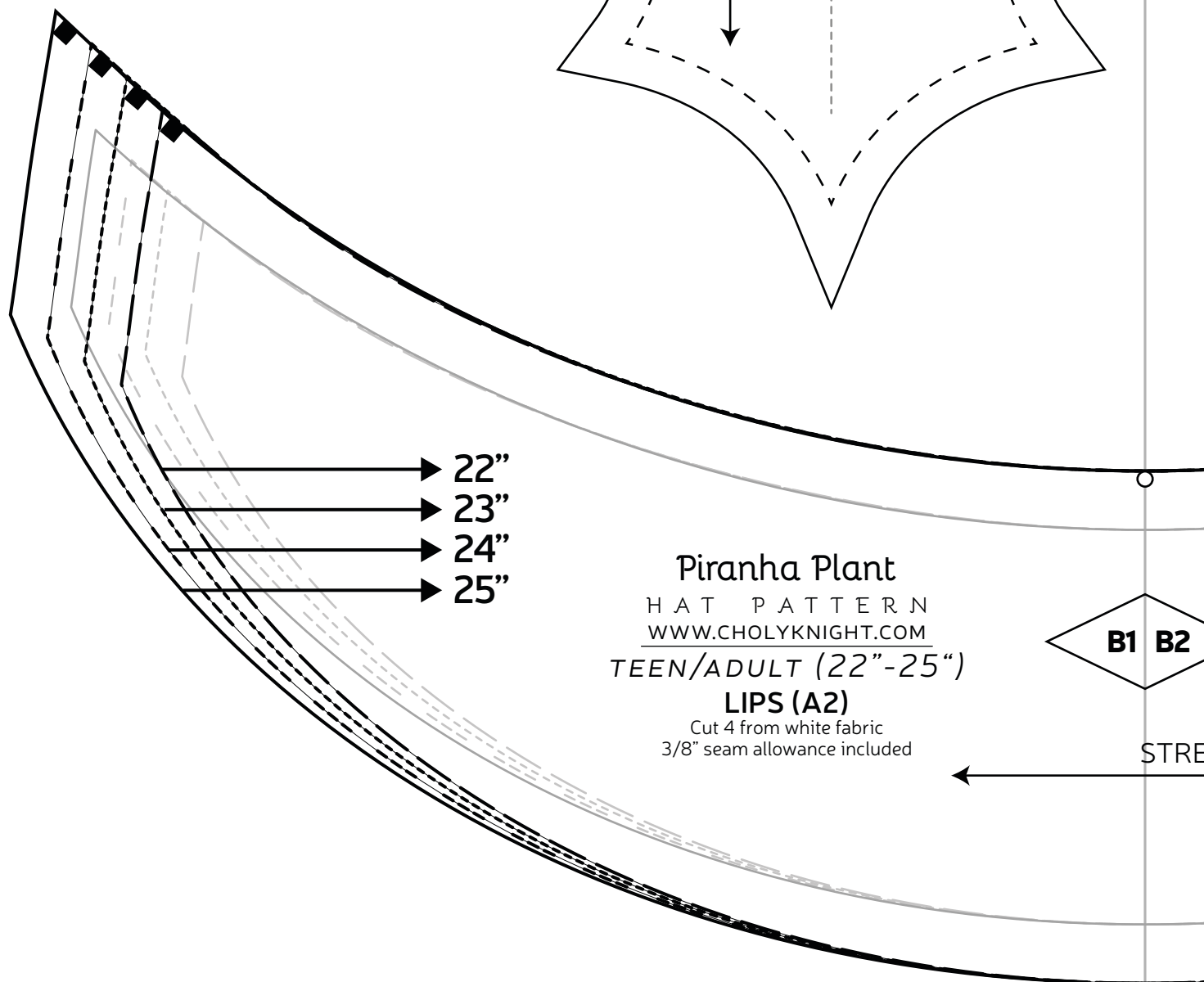
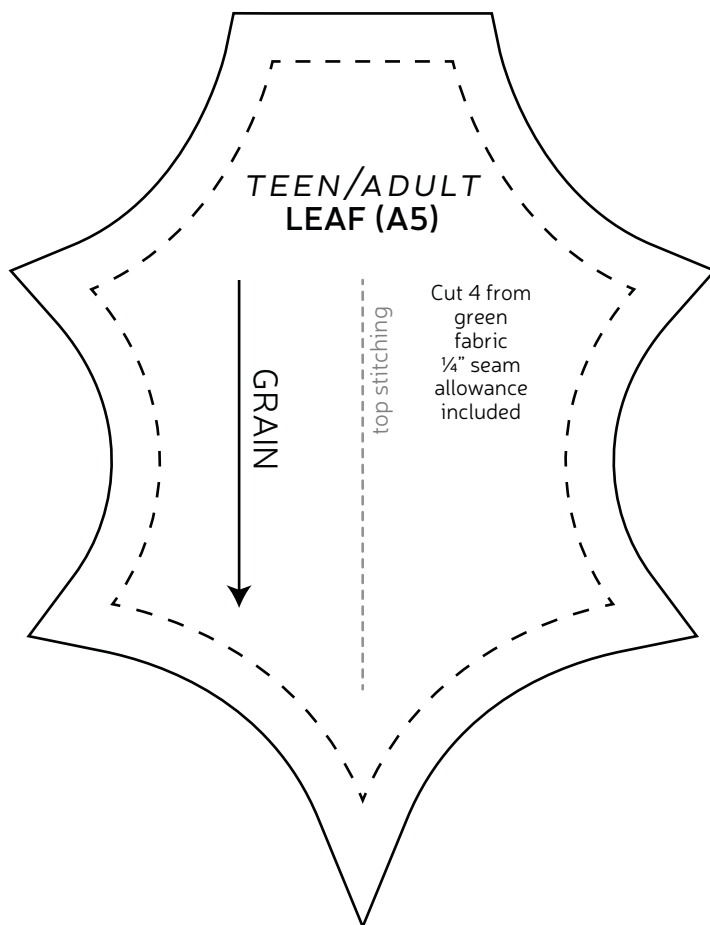
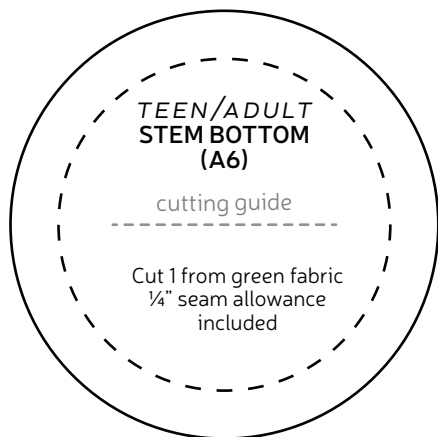
| WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM |

TEST SQUARE
2"

measure this square to
be sure you've printed
at the proper
proportions

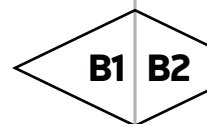




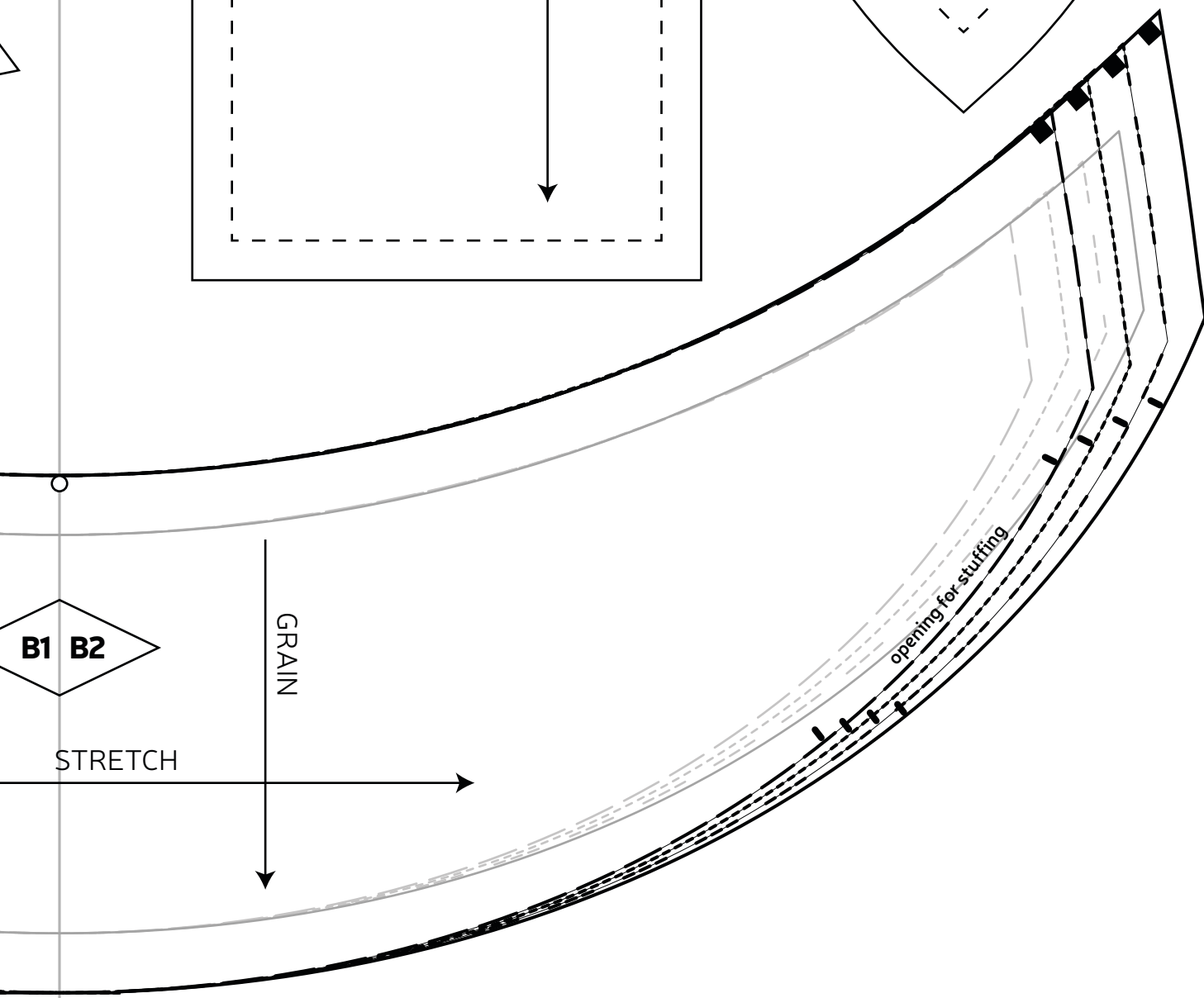
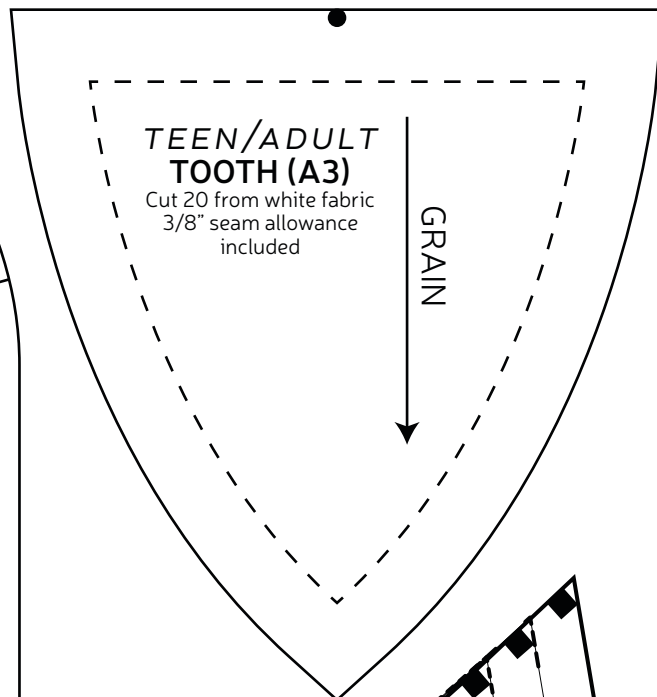
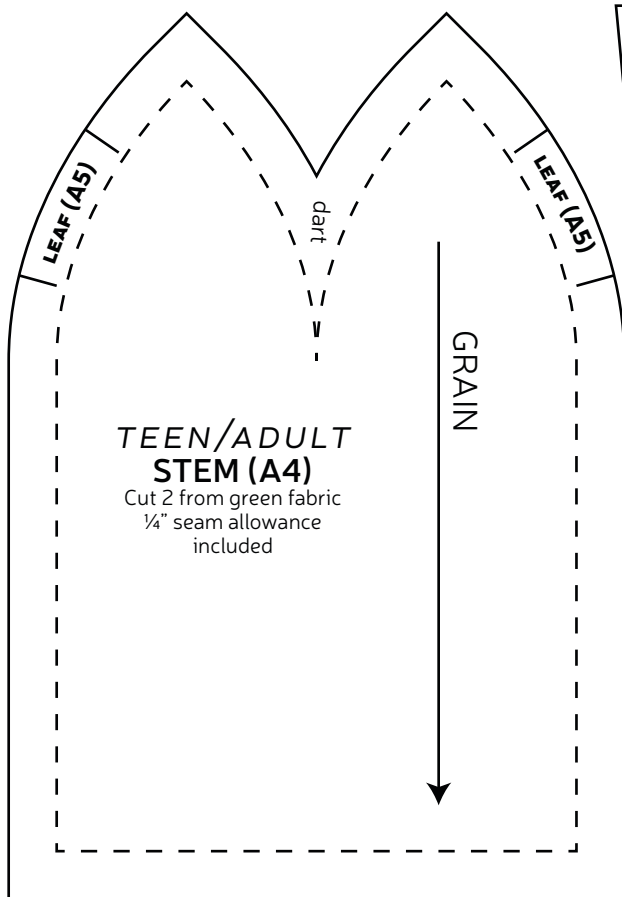


Piranha Plant
HAT PATTERN
WWW.CHOLYKNIGHT.COM
TEEN/ADULT (22"-25")
LIPS (A2)

Cut 4 from white fabric
3/8" seam allowance included

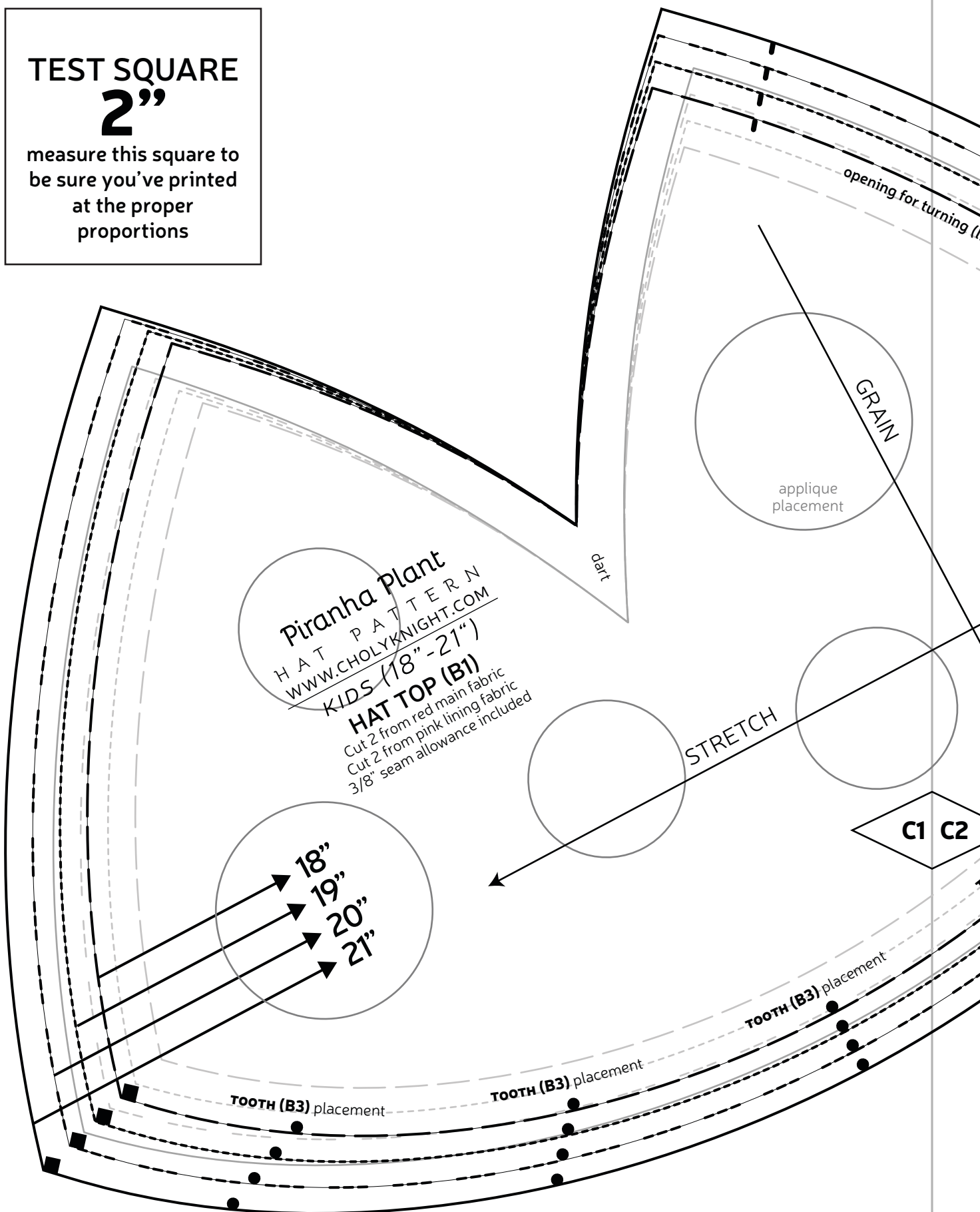


STRE



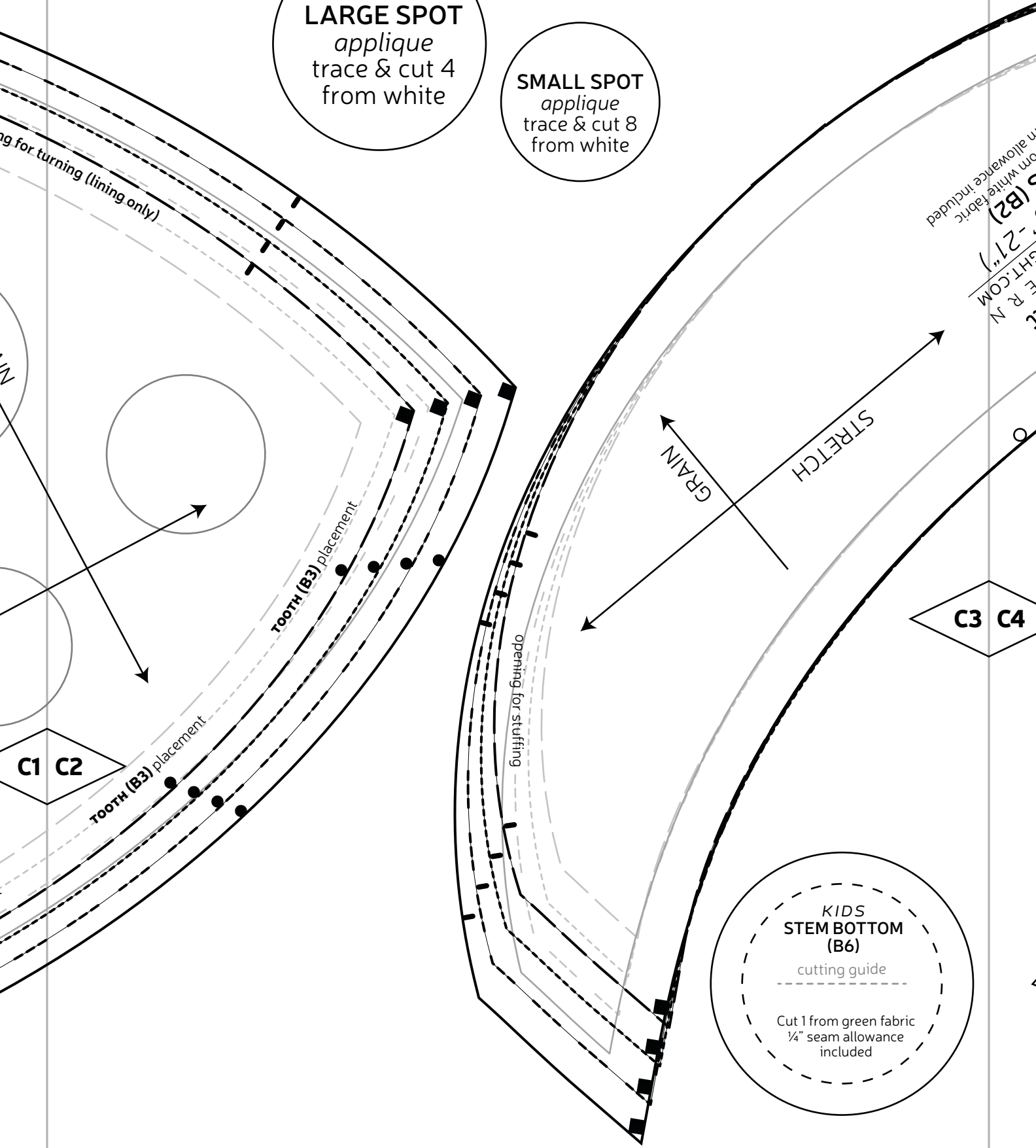
TEST SQUARE 2"

measure this square to
be sure you've printed
at the proper
proportions



LARGE SPOT
applique
trace & cut 4
from white

SMALL SPOT
applique
trace & cut 8
from white



ing for turning (lining only)

TOOTH (B3) placement

TOOTH (B3) placement

opening for stuffing

GRAIN

STRETCH

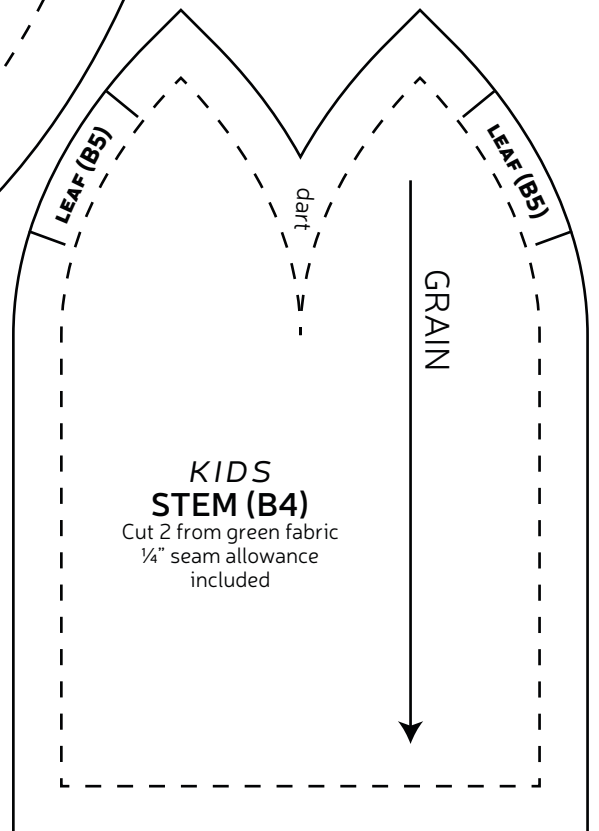
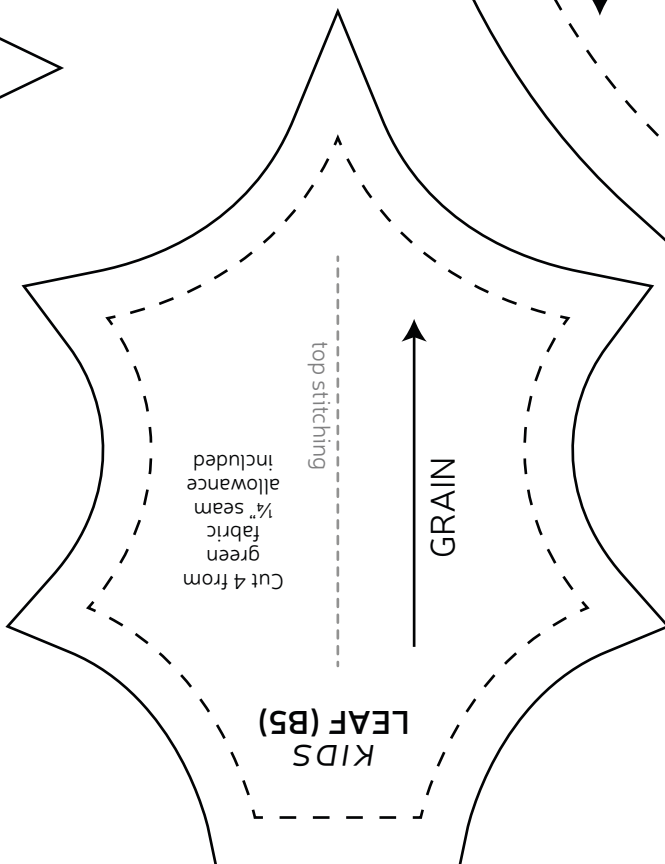
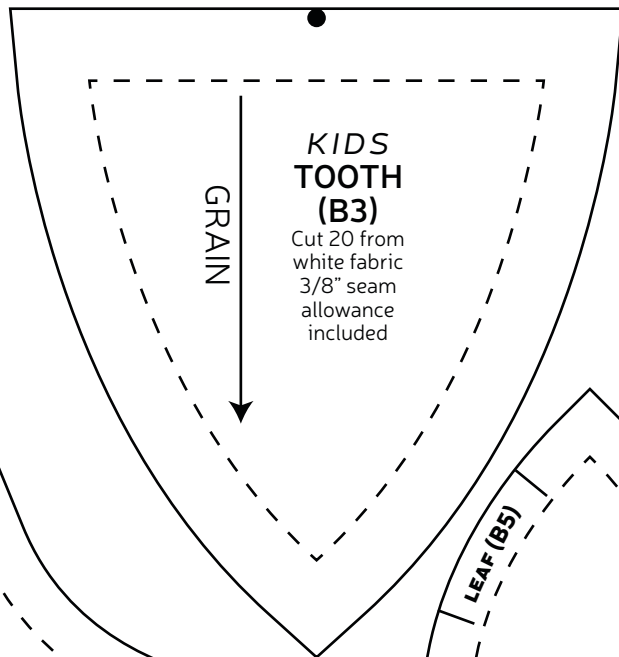
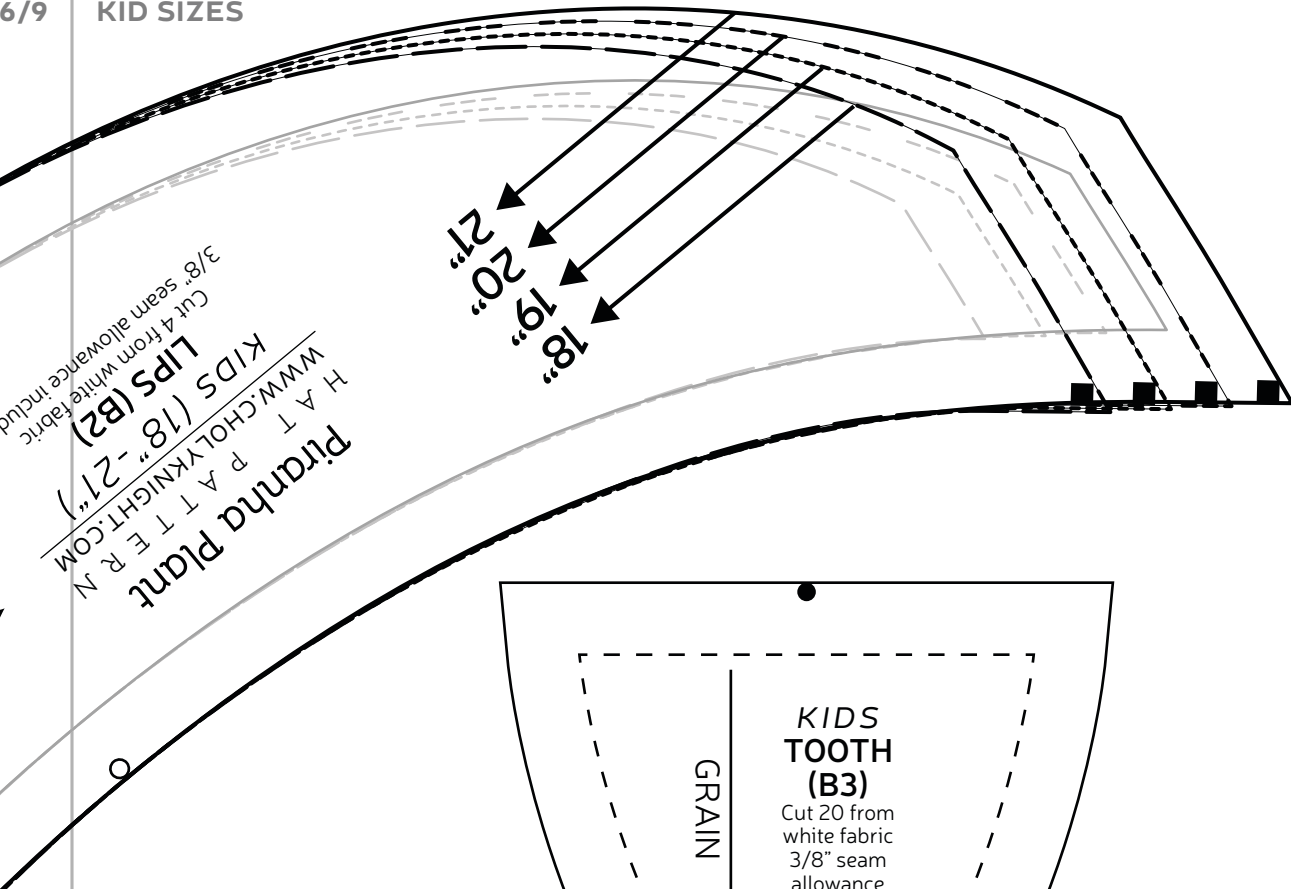
C1 C2

C3 C4

**KIDS
STEM BOTTOM
(B6)**
cutting guide

Cut 1 from green fabric
1/4" seam allowance
included

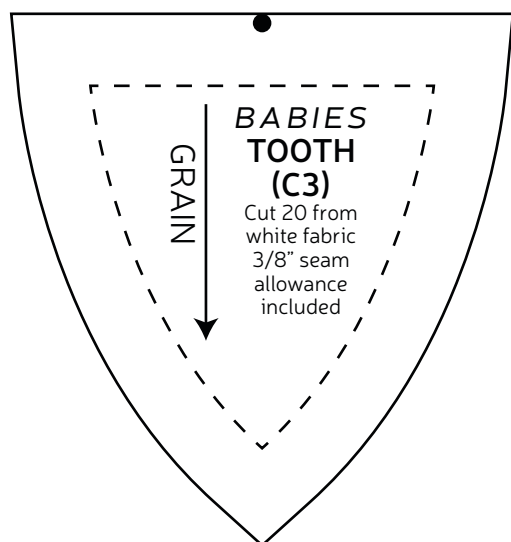
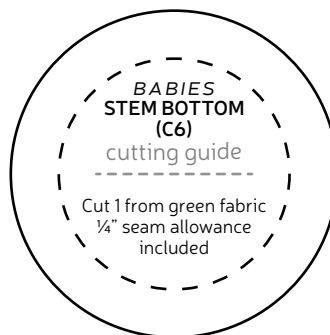
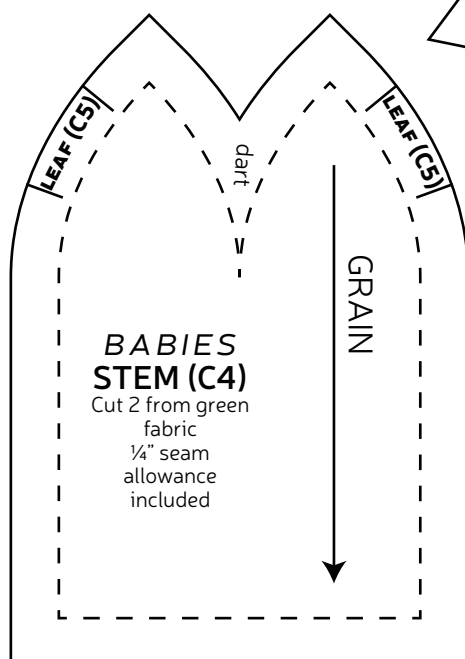
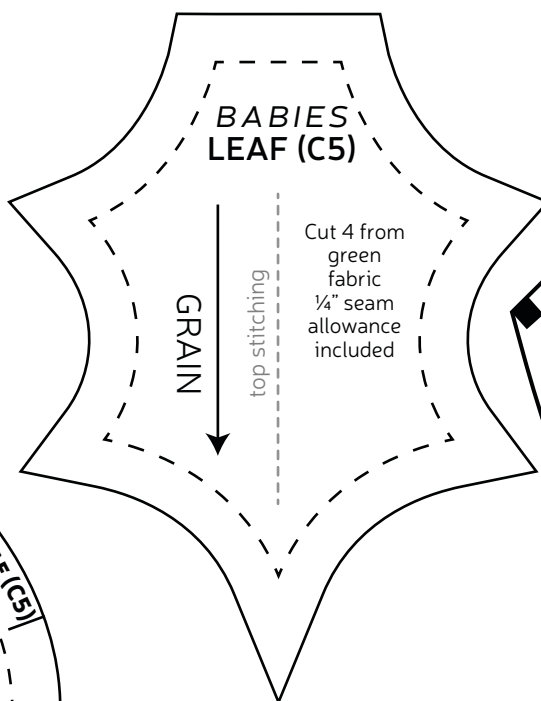
on white fabric
allowance included
(B2)
-21")
HT.COM
E R N
c



C3 C4

TEST SQUARE 2"

measure this square to
be sure you've printed
at the proper
proportions



LARGE SPOT
applique
trace & cut 4
from white

SMALL SPOT
applique
trace & cut 8
from white

