



Tiger Softie

Suitable for 5+ years with a little help or independently



Materials:

- Felt*
 - Orange 2 pieces 20 x 20cm square
 - Cream 20 x 20cm square
 - White 10cm square
 - Black 10cm square
- Thread* – orange, cream and black
- Needle*
- Scissors suitable for paper
- Scissors suitable for fabric
- Stuffing*
- Pins*
- Water soluble pen or chalk (optional)
- Template sheet

Stitches:

- Running stitch
- Vertical straight stitch
- Back stitch
- Star stitch

* See notes at the end.



Method:

Cut out the pattern pieces from the template sheet using paper scissors.

Pin on to the felt pieces or draw around with a water soluble pen or chalk.
Cut out using fabric scissors.

Cut thin strips from the black felt approximately 0.5cm wide.

Separate the two tiger head pieces and lay all of your features on one piece the way you like it using the photo of our finished tiger as a guide – this is a good time to rearrange and have a play until you're happy with the design.

To start sewing, first lay and pin the cream pieces.

Cut a piece of thread approximately 30cm long.
Thread one end through the needle and knot the other end.

Use whatever stitch you're happy sewing with – this is your softie and it's all about experimenting and getting confident with sewing.

We used running stitch and a vertical straight stitch for these pieces.

Stop sewing when there's still approximately 8cms thread left on the needle and the thread is on the under side.

Tie a knot to secure the end and snip with 1cm thread left so the knot won't unravel.
Re-thread the needle and continue sewing.

Next lay and pin the white pieces on the eyes. Sew with black thread – we used a back stitch.

Lay and pin the black circles on the eyes and the nose. Sew.
For the eyes we used a star stitch and a vertical straight stitch on the nose.

Lay and pin the mouth using the strips of black felt. Sew.
We used running stitch.

Lay and pin the black strips on the cheeks and forehead. Sew.



Now it's time to sew the head pieces together.

Place the back piece down and place the front piece on top with its front facing up – the stitched details should be on the outsides. Pin.

Sew all around the edge leaving a gap along the bottom edge - we used back stitch.

Fill the softie with stuffing through the gap.

Sew across the bottom edge to close up.

Tie a couple of knots to secure and snip the thread. Remember - not too short or it'll unravel.

Notes *

FELT COLOURS - We've made an orange and cream tiger with black stripes but you can make your tiger any colour you like! It could be blue with green stripes or even a rainbow tiger!

THREAD - We use Anchor embroidery thread.

NEEDLE - Choose a large eyed metal needle.

STUFFING - We buy hollow fibre cushion pads to stuff our softies – a cheaper alternative to toy stuffing.

PINS - You don't have to use pins if you're confident sewing the pieces directly on to your softie.

STITCHES - There are lots of great tutorials online to learn new stitches.

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Felt Collage Garden

Suitable for 2 – 4 year olds and their grown ups and 5+ years independently



- Felt
 - 1 piece 20 x 30cm
 - An assortment of coloured felt
- Cardboard 20 x 30cm
- Scissors suitable for paper
- Scissors suitable for fabric
- Glue stick

Cut out the pattern pieces from the template sheet using paper scissors.

Draw around the shapes with a water soluble pen or chalk on different coloured felt pieces. This is a great way to use up felt scraps.

Cut out using fabric scissors.

Glue the large piece of felt on to the cardboard using a glue stick. Leave to dry.

Create a garden with all the colourful pieces.

The possibilities are endless! Hours of fun and open ended play.