



IMAGE 1

General Notes:

These instructions may show a different doll design than yours, but will work for your DIY Darling pattern.

Remember if the doll is meant for children under 3 years old there should be no small parts attached that could be removed and swallowed.

Step 1: Prepare

Cut out all pieces of the pattern carefully (Image 1). Cut around the two body pieces without cutting through the middle loop of the tail (Image 2). Cutting as close to the printed edge will make sewing easier. A seam allowance of around 3-5mm has been allowed on all pieces inside the painted area. With a pencil mark a T on the back of the head back piece (Image 3).



IMAGE 2

Step 2: The Head

Place the two head pieces together, printed sides facing in. Pin and then sew around the entire edge. Cut a T shape in the back of the head where indicated by your T, be careful not to cut through to the face!

With sharp scissors, clip in towards the stitching around the seam (Image 4), being careful not to cut your stitches. This will help make a smooth curve. Turn the head out through the T and stuff firmly, particularly in the chin area. (Image 5)



IMAGE 3

Step 3: The Arms

Lay the alternate arm pieces together, printed sides in and pin them. Sew around edges leaving the top of the arms open. Clip in towards the stitches near the corners as with the head piece, optionally use pinking shears (Image 6). Turn the arms and stuff them about 1/2 full.

Step 4: The Body

Option 1 - Sewn In Arms - Strongest option but more difficult

Place the arms onto the front body piece and pin into place where they don't go across any seam edges (Image 7). Sew/tack the arms onto the body close to the outside seam of the shoulder and remove the pins.

Lay the back body piece over the top, printed side inwards, and pin carefully (Image 8). The arms will make it a bit tricky, but if you move each edge into place and pin it will be secure for sewing.

Sew carefully around the body and tail, starting at one side of the neck. Leave the neck open for turning and stuffing. Cut around the loop in the middle of the tail (Image 10), and clip in towards the stitching every 5mm or so, especially around the curves and corners. Turn the body out through the neck. To do this, wriggle the arms around so the hands point up and



IMAGE 4



IMAGE 5



IMAGE 6



IMAGE 7

Tip:

To turn thin pieces, squeeze and roll the fabric between your fingers until it puckers then push a thin paintbrush into the gap formed between the layers of fabric. Keep pushing and rolling the fabric until it turns all the way out.





IMAGE 8



IMAGE 9



IMAGE 10



IMAGE 11



IMAGE 12

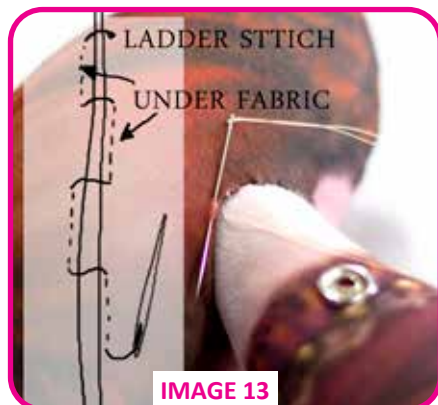


IMAGE 13



IMAGE 14

push them up through the neck first (Image 9), then use the paint brush to turn the tail in and push it out the neck after the arms. Where the fin joins the tail, fold the tail in half and sew across the join (Image 11). This is so the fin stays nice and floppy when stuffing, but you can stuff it too if desired. You can sew across the join between the tail and fin flat instead as well, or experiment with other fold shapes to create a nice flick to the tail.

Stuff the body firmly, particularly the neck area, then sew the neck closed with the machine- messy is fine, it will be hidden.

Option 2- External Arms

Sew the two body pieces together as in Option 1, but leave the arms out. Sew the tops of the arms closed by hand using a hidden ladder stitch (Image 13) and then sew the arms to the sides of the dolls body (Image 15).

Step 5: Attaching the head

Push the neck up into the T cut in the back of the head and position into place, pushing the fabric flaps up into the hole for a neat edge. Wiggle it around until you are happy with the position (try it tilted to a side perhaps!) and then pin it in place. (Image 12)

Use a hidden or ladder stitch to carefully sew around the neck line until the head is firmly attached. (Image 13 and Image 14)

You're all done! Hello Darling dolly! Enjoy this magical doll you made with your own hands! We'd love to see photos of your finished doll, please email them to info@fairiesandfantasy.com

Other ideas:

Why not put a rattle or bell inside while stuffing, or a crystal or other magical things? Or use some bean pellets for extra weight in the hands or tail? Embellish the outside of your doll with lace, buttons, glitter paint or make the doll a beautiful pearl necklace or sea shell crown.



IMAGE 15 Example with External Arms