

Floppy Puppy

A Free Pattern By Multifavs



Welcome to Multifavs's first plushie pattern tutorial! With this free pattern and tutorial, you can make your own adorable Floppy Puppies! These puppies are not too difficult and can be made fairly quickly.

This plushie can be made using a variety of fabrics and can be made either by hand or by machine. My instructions will be based on machine-sewing as that's what I do.

First let's take a quick look at the free pattern:

<https://i.imgur.com/HqRhQoD.png> - Head and ears

<https://i.imgur.com/On1GoR9.png> - Belly

<https://i.imgur.com/vFeHZ7E.png> - Back and tail

Each pattern piece is labeled with its name, the fabric you need to use, how many you need to cut out, and how many you need to trace reversed. The purple lines indicate where to attach a piece or where to start/end a seam. The writing in purple tells what a part of a pattern piece is or where to attach it. The purple arrows indicate the direction the pile should run on each piece.

Note: The eye and nose pieces are optional and only need to be used if you use fabric eyes and nose. If you do use them, use a fabric without a long pile like felt, fleece, or minky.

Materials you'll need:

- Two colors of fabric (for an original-sized puppy, a quarter yard of each should be plenty. You may need more for a larger one)
- A small amount of fabric (fabric eyes and nose only)
- Hand-sewing needles
- Hand-sewing thread in the main color of your plushie
- Embroidery floss
- Sewing machine with machine-sewing thread and needles
- Pins or hand-sewing thread for basting
- Scissors
- Fabric for the beanbags, such as felt or fleece
- Marking tools that will not show through the fabric (I recommend a disappearing-ink marker for most light fabrics and a metallic silver marker for dark fabrics. Regular markers are better suited for light faux fur fabrics that have a stiffer backing)
- Stuffing tool, such as a stuffing stick or unsharpened pencil
- Polyester fiberfill

- Plastic pellets
- Plastic eyes and/or plastic nose
- Ribbon or pre-tied bow

(Purple materials are optional. A sewing machine is not needed if you sew the plushie by hand.)

Step 1: Cutting Out the Pieces

Print the pattern in the desired size. Printing at the original size produces a puppy about 8 in. (20 cm) long, like the small pink-spotted puppy in my photo. The larger lavender-spotted one was printed at 150% size and is about 12 in. (30 ½ cm) long. You can make yours larger, smaller, or original size, whatever you prefer.

Cut out the printed pattern pieces and trace them onto the fabric you want to use. If your fabric has a wrong side, you'll need to reverse the pieces indicated in the pattern. If you plan to use plastic eyes, cut a tiny hole in both the paper head top piece (for marking the placement) and the fabric head top pieces (to fit the eyes through).

Transfer the marks indicating where to start/stop seams and where to attach parts onto the fabric pieces. If using plastic eyes and/or a plastic nose, mark their placement as well. The pattern does not include seam allowance, so you'll need to add it while tracing the pieces. The only areas that do not need seam allowance are the rounded sides of the head spot and back spot (and the eyes and nose if you use fabric ones). If you use a fabric with a pile, make sure to cut

through only the backing, and place the pieces so that the pile direction follows the arrows.

Note: The shape of the head and back spots drawn onto the head top and back pieces are only there for reference. You need only to mark the ends of where to attach them.

Now that you have your pattern pieces made, you can start sewing!

Step 2: Sewing the Head

Place two ear pieces right sides facing and sew, leaving the flat end open. Repeat for the other ear. Trim the seam allowances, turn the ears right-side-out, and baste the flat ends closed.



Sew one side of the head spot to each side of the head, placing it as indicated on the head top piece. The head spot pieces cannot be sewn the standard way by machine, so they'll need to be top-stitched with either a straight stitch or satin stitches. Here's how to do that:

Baste each head spot piece to one head top piece, starting with the flat side so it will stay in place. Begin to carefully machine-sew at one edge of the rounded side close to the fabric edge and stop the seam at the other edge. DO NOT BACKSTITCH THIS SEAM. Instead, when you remove the fabric from the sewing machine, take the two long threads at the end of each seam and tie them into a knot, repeating two more times to strengthen the seam. Cut the threads close to, but not through, the knot and remove the basting stitches.

If using fabric eyes, attach them now. They can be attached in the same way as the head spot or sewn on by hand.



Fold the ear dart and place the ear inside, facing toward the inside of the fold. Cut the seam allowance in the center if you have trouble fitting the ear.



Begin to sew the two sides of the head top together, starting at the tip of the snout. Stop at the nose attachment mark if embroidering the nose; stop just before the mark if using a plastic nose, so there will be space to insert it; stop a little after the mark if using a fabric nose, so there will be room to attach it.

If using a fabric nose, sew it on now in the same way as the fabric eyes. Align the bottom of the nose with the seam line.

Sew the two sides of the head top to the head bottom, pushing the ears out of the way of the seam before sewing. Trim the seam allowances of the head and insert plastic eyes if using them. Leave the rest of the top seam open for now.



Step 3: Sewing the Body

Sew each back spot piece onto each back piece in the same way you sewed the head spot pieces onto the head pieces. Sew the flat end of each tail piece onto each back piece as marked.



Begin to sew the two sides of the back together, sewing from the tip of the rear to where the tail is attached.

*Sew the two sides of the back to the belly, leaving the neck open.
Backstitch where the front and back legs meet the sides to strengthen the joints. Trim the seam allowances of the body and leave the rest of the back seam open for now.*



Step 4: Sewing the Rest of the Puppy

Sew the head to the body, aligning the back with the head top and the belly with the head bottom. Sew from one end to the other, leaving the back open. Push the ears away from the seam before sewing and sew carefully around the front legs.



Now you can sew the rest of the back seam. First, sew from where you left off around the nose to the front edge of the back spot (if using a plastic nose, leave a small space where the nose placement is marked for inserting it). Then, sew from the back edge of the back spot to the back of the tail, backstitching where the front of the tail meets the back to strengthen the joint. Leave the back spot open for turning right-side-out and stuffing and trim the seam allowances of the neck and back.



Turn the puppy right-side-out. If using a plastic nose, insert it now; it may be easier to insert while the plushie is still partially inside-out. Use a tool that is thin and not sharp, like a stuffing stick or unsharpened pencil, to turn small areas right-side-out.



Step 5: Stuffing and Finishing

To give your puppy some weight, you can make beanbags to place inside it! Here's how to do that:

First, cut out four small rectangles for the paws and two large ovals for the belly. Make sure they will fit inside your plushie. You can use any fabric you like; I use fleece. If your plushie is light-colored like mine, it's better to use light-colored fabric for the beanbags as well.



For each rectangle, fold the long side in half and sew one long edge and the short edge, leaving the other long edge open. Sew the two ovals together, leaving a small opening at the top. Trimming the seam allowance is not necessary but it may help the beanbags to fit inside better. Perfection doesn't matter here since these beanbags will not be visible.

Use a funnel to fill the beanbags with plastic pellets. Fill them enough to add some weight but not so much that they become hard. Hand-sew the open edges closed.



Now you can stuff your puppy! First, stuff the head and tail, using a stuffing tool to stuff the small tail. Put one square beanbag in each paw and lightly stuff the rest of the legs, leaving the joints empty so they will be floppy and movable.

Put the oval beanbag inside the belly and lightly stuff the rest of the body so it will be floppy. Don't stuff too much around the tail base and neck so they will stay movable. When you're satisfied with your stuffing job, close the back spot seam using ladder stitches.



If embroidering the eyes and nose, trim the pile around where you want them and then embroider them using three strands of embroidery floss. Embroider the mouth, pulling gently to indent it.

If there is any pile stuck in the seams, you can gently pull it out using a needle. Trim the pile around the eyes, nose, and mouth. Finish up by adding a pretty bow; you can either tie one around the puppy's neck from ribbon or sew a pre-tied bow on using ladder stitches.

Congratulations! You've made your very own Floppy Puppy! I hope your adorable new friend brings you lots of joy! ☺





You can experiment with these plushies. By changing the markings, colors, fabric, ears, and tail, you can make all kinds of puppies and maybe even other animals! *Have fun!!*

-Multi



*Pattern, plushies, photos, and tutorial by Multifavs
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