Blue Bunny

A sewing pattern by Maggie Smith, author & illustrator of My Blue Bunny Bubbit

Bonus pattern:
Mini Bunny - an adorable pendant or pocket pet!

Please note: this pattern does not teach basic sewing skills. Sewing instruction for children or adults can be found in many wonderful books available at your library.

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Materials & supplies list:

- 2 squares of blue felt
- 2” x 2” piece of white felt
- 2” x 2” piece of black felt
- a few yards of white yarn for pompom tail
- 12” of 3/8” red ribbon
- polyester fiberfil or wool roving for stuffing
- craft glue such as Aleene’s
- 5 x 5” piece of cardboard
- coral and white embroidery floss
- blue and white sewing threads
- sewing needles in various sizes
- pins
- fabric scissors,
- sharp pencil
- ruler
- chopstick or new unsharpened pencil for a stuffing tool

* Optional - freezer paper to aid in cutting small felt pieces, and iron

Additional supplies for Mini Bunny:
- 1/2” white pompom (store bought)
- 2 tiny black buttons for eyes (or sequins)
- scrap of 1/4” red ribbon

Finished sizes:
Bunny: 7” with tail
Mini Bunny: 3” with tail
How to make your **Bunny:**

1. Cut out all patterns.

2. Pin bunny pattern to one square of blue felt. If the felt has more stretch in one direction, place pattern so it’s “sitting” on that direction (a). Use about 10 pins so the pattern is well-pinned. Carefully cut out the bunny shape.

3. Mark eye, nose and mouth positions by poking a sharp pencil through the pattern at the blue dots (b). Twist pencil slightly and be sure it’s leaving a small dot on the felt. Also make a mark for the tail position.

4. Remove pattern and pin felt bunny to more felt. Carefully cut out the second felt bunny to match.

5. To mark the other side, flip pinned bunny over and position the pattern in place (it will be reversed). Poke and twist the pencil through the previously perforated holes.

6. Thread a needle with blue thread and start sewing at the back of the head (see pattern), sewing towards the head. When the first ear is finished, pause and stuff it, removing pins as needed (c). Don’t make it too thick. Continue sewing (re-pin as needed), pausing after the ear and each foot to stuff the small areas.

7. When there’s about 2.5” to go, stuff the rest of the bunny, starting with the head, and then the body. Stuff firmly but not so thick as to distort the bunny shape. Then finish sewing the rest of the back seam.

8. To make the eyes:
   *Tip: Always use small bits of stuffing at a time to prevent lumps!*
   (If freezer paper is available, first cut two 2 x 2” squares and iron them, on medium heat, shiny side down, to the pieces of white and black felt. Trace patterns onto the papered side of the felt. Remove paper backing after cutting out the eyes.) Trace the larger eye pattern onto white felt and cut it out. Tape the smaller eye pattern to black felt and carefully cut out the circle (tape is not needed if using freezer paper). Repeat both steps for the other eye.

9. Dab a little craft glue on the center of the eye whites and position them on the bunny so they just cover all 4 eye placement dots. When the glue is dry, sew the eyes in place, taking small stitches all around the edges (d). Then glue the eye centers in place (see pattern for placement) using plenty of glue. Let dry.
10. For the nose and mouth: thread an embroidery needle with 3 strands of floss and make a small knot at the end. Insert the needle between 2 stitches and between the 2 layers of felt near the bunny’s chin. Bring the needle out at the top nose dot and tug gently to “pop” the thread inside the bunny so the knot is hidden (e).

11. Make the nose by taking about 10 stitches across the seam of the bunny. When making the final stitch, bring the needle back out at one of the mouth dots. Push the needle back in at the dot on the other side of the bunny. Repeat, then secure threads with a small stitch where the mouth crosses the bunny seam (f).

12. To make the tail, fold the cardboard square in half and wrap white yarn around it about 50 times. Cut through all the yarn along the slit in the cardboard (g).

13. Cut a 12” piece of yarn and wrap it tightly around the center of the yarn bundle. Pull very tight into a square knot and tie securely. Trim the pom pom to about 1 3/4” diameter. Securely stitch or glue tail to bunny.

Finishing:
Tie ribbon around bunny’s neck and trim it. Add stitched whiskers if you like.

Enjoy your Bunny!

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How to make a Mini Bunny:

1. Cut out the pattern and pin it to a piece of blue felt. Carefully cut out bunny shape. Mark the eye, nose, and mouth positions following step 3 of the Blue Bunny pattern.

2. Remove the pattern and pin the felt bunny to another piece of blue felt. Carefully cut out the second felt bunny to match. Mark the features on the second piece following step 5 of the Blue Bunny pattern.

3. Thread a needle with blue thread and start stitching at the tail point, going towards the head. When you get to the ears, stitch through both layers of felt, following the line of the head (a). Then continue around the front until you reach the bottom edge.

4. Stuff the bunny with small bits at a time to avoid lumps. Then stitch the base seam closed.

5. Stitch the nose and mouth following steps 11 and 12 of the Blue Bunny pattern, but using fewer stitches.

Finishing:
Tie ribbon around bunny’s neck and trim it. Sew or glue eyes and a pompom tail in place. Push ears apart at seam to separate them.

Make a little felt pouch for your bunny or stitch it to the center of a long loop of yarn or cord to make a necklace.

Enjoy your Mini Bunny!