

# Bustle & Sew

Love to Sew and Sew with Love .....



## Christmas Carol Singing Mice!

These little mice are really easy to make – why limit yourself to a pair? What about a trio – or a whole choir even? Using a glue gun for part of the project makes for quick assembly and you'll even find their little song-books at the end of this pattern – just print and glue or stitch onto their front paws.

The Christmas trees are really easy too – just polystyrene cones covered in green fabric with buttons glued to them. The bottom of the fabric was trimmed with pinking shears to make a nice edge. The bases are old cotton reels with red fabric wrapped round them glued to the bases of the cones.



### For one mouse – you will need

6" square in light brown or other suitable colour felt for mouse fur

2" square piece of light card

Stranded cotton floss or Perle thread in toning colour for seams

Black cotton floss for nose and eyes

Strong brown thread for whiskers

6" length of string for tail

Strip of felt  $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 9" for scarf

Toy stuffing

Hot glue gun (optional)

Needle and thread

### To make mouse

Cut out template pieces and position on felt.

Cut 1 head piece, 2 body pieces, 2 ear pieces, 4 arm pieces, 1 base and 2 feet. Cut a second base in cardboard, using the dotted line on the template as guide.

- With right sides together and ordinary thread stitch darts at side of head using back stitch.



- Turn right sides out and with wrong sides together join seams from nose to neck and down back of head. Use 2 strands of floss or medium Perle thread and cross or blanket stitch over seams to give a nice finish. Stuff head. Use very small pieces of stuffing and push well down nose. Put head to one side.



- Place body pieces wrong sides together and stitch seams in cross or blanket stitch as before.
- Turn inside out so wrong side is on the outside.
- Push head up inside body, aligning seams at necks, then join head to body with thread and back stitch. (doing it this way gives a nice smooth join on the outside so you won't have a ridge showing under the scarf).



- Turn right side out



- Stuff body firmly, then stitch base into place using cross or blanket stitch. When you're half-way round slip your cardboard base inside body, between felt base and stuffing. This will ensure your mice has a nice flat bottom so he will stand up without wobbling.





- Push the end of the piece of string inside at the back seam and stitch into place for the tail.
- Trim string to desired length and knot at the end to prevent fraying.
- Place 2 arm pieces together and cross or blanket stitch around edges leaving a gap at the middle bottom for stuffing. (It's easier to stuff such a small piece from the middle). Stuff firmly and close gap. Repeat for second arm. Put to one side for a moment.
- Sew ear darts with needle and thread using back stitch. Position ears and when you're happy with the position, stitch to head.
- With black embroidery floss make a few small stitches for each eye. It's a good idea to mark position of eyes with pins first – try a few different positions until you're happy with how your mouse looks. Stitch over end of nose for his nose.
- Use strong thread for whiskers. Take small stitches beneath his black nose to secure whiskers in place.

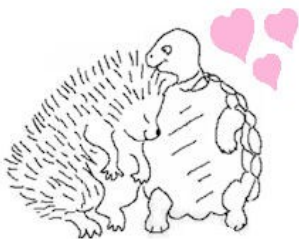


- With your hot glue gun secure arms to sides of body and feet to base (if you don't have a hot glue gun then sew with small invisible stitches)

- Tie scarf around neck and trim ends to desired length. Make small vertical cuts in ends to represent fringes.



- Print mouse song-book (a heavier weight paper is best if you have it), cut out and fix to mouse paws using a thin line of glue down the edges where his paws will touch the book.
- Finished!!



**SHARE THE LOVE** I do hope you've enjoyed making your carol singing mice. Please respect my copyright and do not reproduce and/or circulate this pattern for any commercial purpose whatsoever. I am very happy for you to share it with all your friends, whether online or not, as long as no money is involved, and all links remain in place.

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\* Cut felt base along solid line and card insert along dotted line

