



## Fox Cub Cushion Cover

One misty autumn morning when the apples were red and rosy on the trees and the first leaves were beginning to fall... I saw a family of foxes in Chillington woods.

Here is my very own Bustle & Sew fox cub for you - he's content to sit quietly and watch the world go by. With sparkling eyes and shiny nose he'll make a great addition to your sofa this autumn. Easy machine applique, with a few touches of hand stitching - great for using up scraps.



This little fox is a great way to use up fabric remnants and scraps. My fox fits a 16" pad - my mum taught me to always make a the cover the same size or a little smaller than the new pad - it may be a little snug to begin with, but the pad will flatten with use and if your cover is snug then the cushion will remain nice and plump, not limp and floppy.

If you do want to make your cover larger, then just add a seam allowance to the measurements below.

#### To fit a 16" cushion pad you will need:

- 16" x 10" rectangle medium weight fabric for the earth
- 16" x 6" piece blue fabric (I used vintage blanket) for the sky
- 2 x 16" x 12" pieces of fabric for back of cover (simple envelope closure)
- 12" x 3" strip green felt for grass
- 14" square reddish brown felt or woollen fabric for the fox's body.
- 8" square cream felt or old blanket for his snout, chest and tail
- 6" square black felt for front legs, eyes and nose
- 4" square blackish/greyish fabric for rear paws (I used felted jumper)
- White, light brown and light green stranded cotton floss
- Embroidery foot for your machine Black and light coloured thread

- Bondaweb/fabric adhesive
- Temporary fabric marker pen.
- Note: If you haven't tried freestyle machine embroidery before, this is a great project to begin with as it's really straight forward.
- For help with this technique you might like to try my video tutorial available on the free patterns page of my website [www.bustleandsew.com/free-patterns](http://www.bustleandsew.com/free-patterns)

#### Front Panel:

- Join your brown and blue fabrics along one long edge. Press the seam open (you don't want too much bulk under your machine foot when you're appliqueing your fox pieces)
- Print your fox design. Depending on your printer settings you may need to re-size it - your fox should measure 13 1/2" from the top of his head to the tips of his paws.
- From the green felt cut out the grass. Position centre bottom of your front panel and when you're happy with it, machine applique into place. Use black or dark grey thread in your needle and light coloured thread in your bobbin so the line won't appear dark and solid. Don't be too neat, you're aiming for a scribbled effect. .
- From your reddish-brown fabric cut out your fox. Secure to panel using fabric adhesive or Bondaweb, then machine applique in place going twice around his body.
- Repeat with cream felt for face, chest and tail tip, black for legs and greyish black for rear paws.
- When you're stitching around the cream felt, make short diagonal lines into the centre a bit to represent fluffy fur.
- Applique nose and eyes into place, either by machine or by hand if you find them a bit fiddly.
- With your temporary fabric marker pen draw the lines of your fox's legs and his ears onto his body, then stitch three or four times along these lines. Now add some hand stitching - add a sparkle to his pupils with white floss and a little green to the corners of his eyes. Use two strands of floss and short straight stitches. Add the shine to his nose.

- With a single strand of light brown floss add his whiskers - three on each side and claws.
- Press your applique panel on the reverse.

#### Back:

- Press ¼” under twice on one of the long sides of each of your two fabric pieces.
- Machine stitch.
- Press again

#### Assemble your Cushion Cover:

- Place your cushion front right side up on a clean flat surface. Place your two back pieces on top

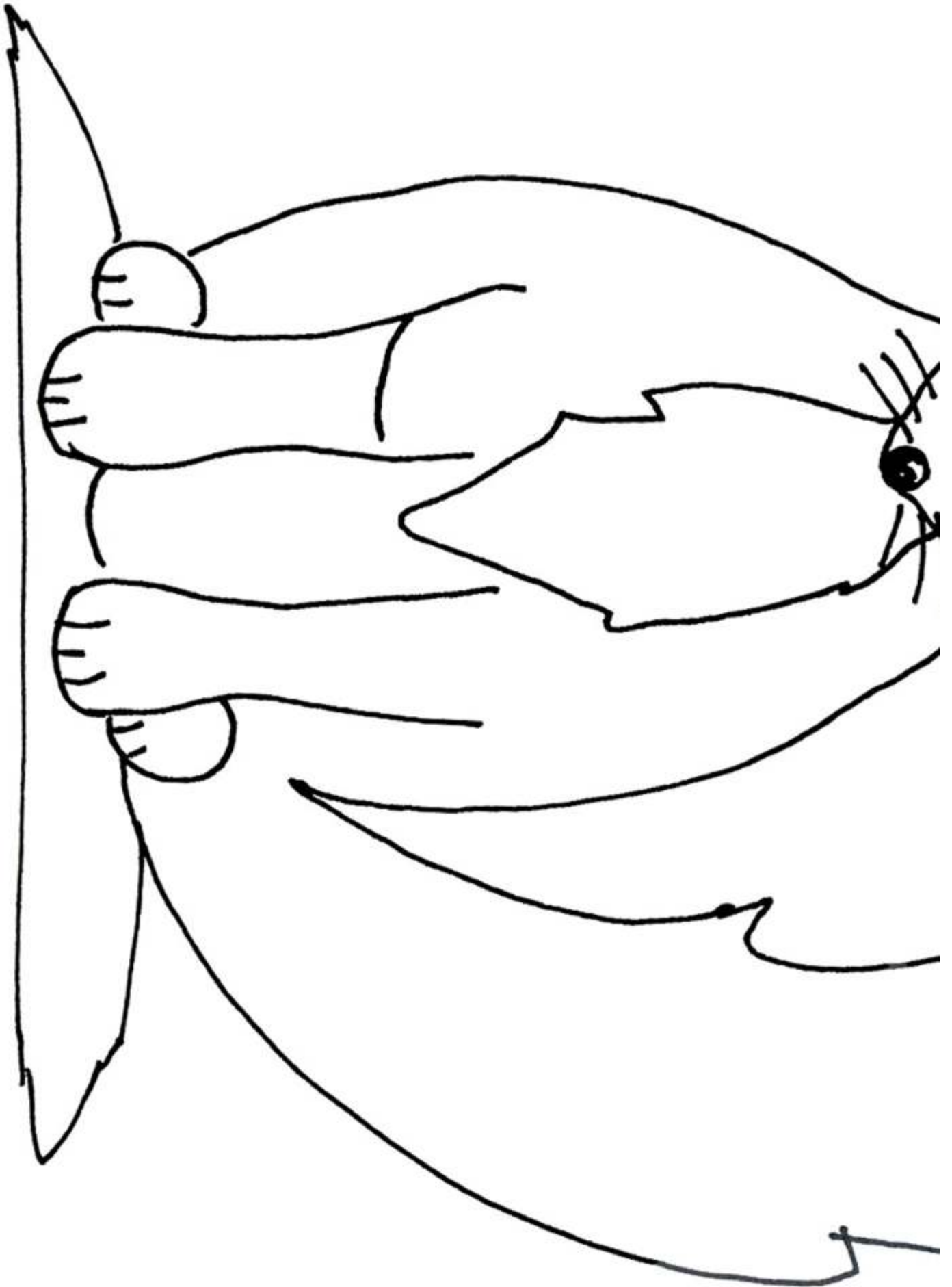
right side down and overlapping the two hemmed sides at the centre. Pin or tack into place. Stitch around edges with a ¼” seam allowance.

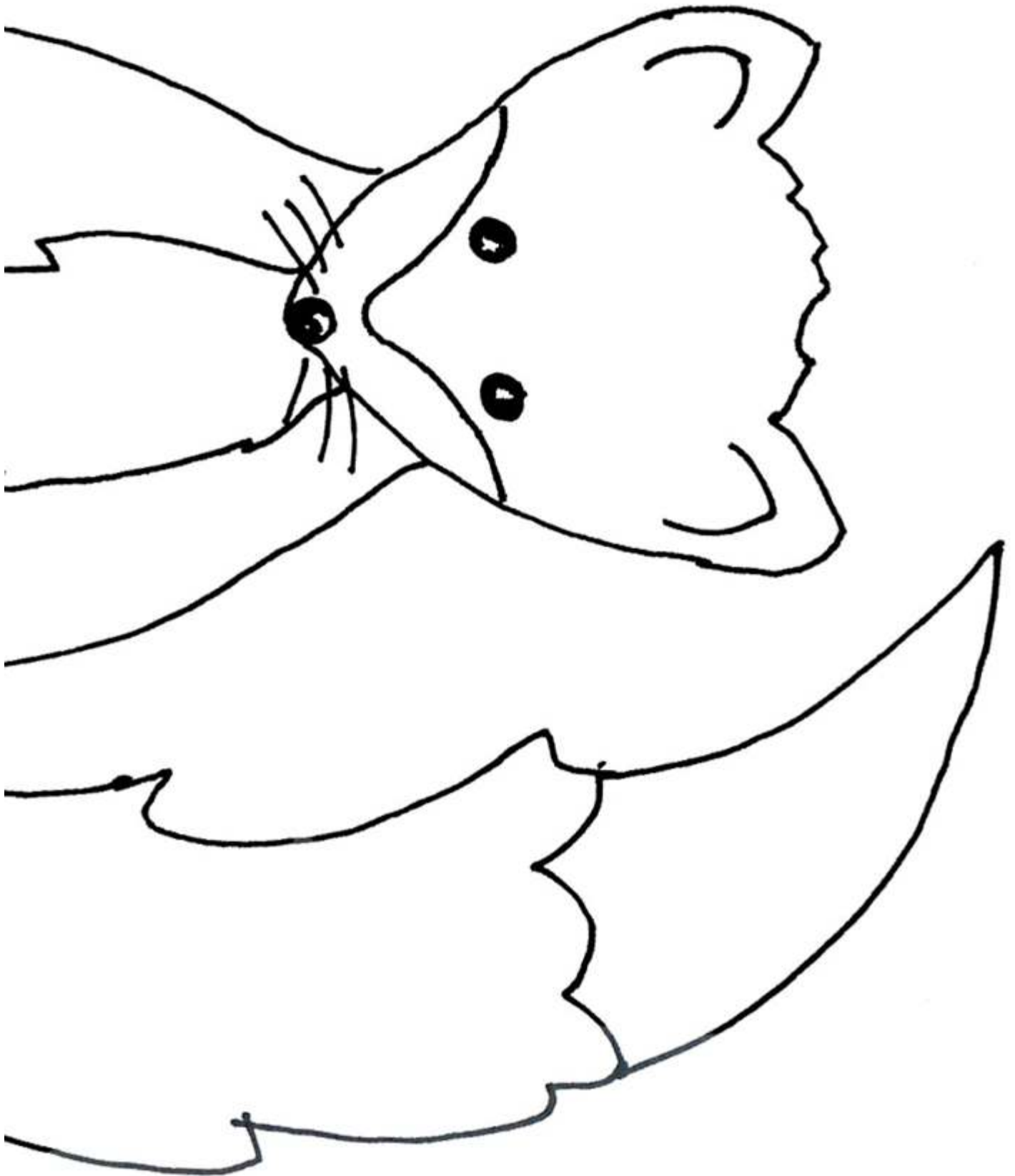
- Trim corners and zig-zag over raw edges to prevent fraying.
- Turn right side out and insert pad.
- FINISHED!!



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It's my own e-mag delivered monthly to your in-box stuffed with ideas, projects, features, articles, patterns and more.

To learn more, please visit my website.

<http://bustleandsew.com/magazine>

Two free books when you try the  
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Why do we love to stitch? After all, you can purchase mass-produced embroidered items at many high street stores. These days, handmade means something special – a unique item created with love, a gift from the heart, not one that can be bought. Hand stitching is also a great way to personalize an item, or even to breathe new life into an old favourite that has seen better days.

[Bustle & Sew](#) offers my own unique patterns, designed to appeal to all skill levels and bring out your natural creativity. And you can keep up-to-date with all the latest news on the [Bustle & Sew Blog](#).

But none of this would mean anything without you, the stitcher.

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Best wishes

Helen xxx

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