



Pajama Sock Monkey

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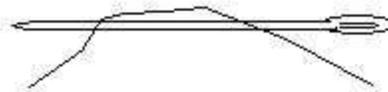
Materials needed:

- 1 pair of size Large Brown Red-Heel socks can be purchased from my online store www.ohboyorgirl.com
 - Black embroidery thread
 - Other color embroidery thread for name on blanket
 - Black felt square
 - Other colors of felt squares for hat/blanket embellishments
 - ¼ yard each of flannel fabrics at least two different colors and white for the diaper
 - polyester fiberfill stuffing
 - hand needle
-
- Thread colors: all purpose white, all purpose colors to match all your flannel colors and dual duty plus hand quilting thread in natural (off-white) color (If this specific type thread not available just choose the all purpose instead). Also a brown upholstery thread or other super strong thread, fishing line could also be used.
 - Round shoe string
 - sew-on Velcro
 - Premie sized footed pajamas (sleeper)

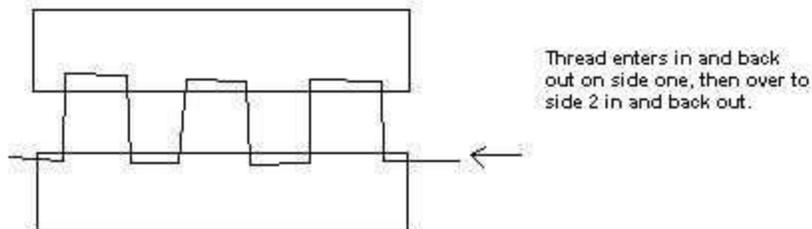
Basic Sock Monkey making techniques: There's a few basic hand stitches and knots you should know when making sock toys, which if you're not aware of yet, you may want to practice before beginning. These are very simple once you get the hang of it.

Tying a quilting knot: Insert threaded needle into a small piece of the fabric and back out, leaving only the tip of the needle sticking out of the fabric, wrap thread around tip of needle 3 times, holding the wraps in place while you pull the needle through, pulling knot tight, insert needle back into the toy at the knot to hide your knot, then cut thread off. See illustration below:

With threaded needle, insert needle into fabric as shown below. With the needle tip sticking out of the fabric, you will wrap the thread around the tip 3 times, hold in place and pull needle through, pulling the knot tight, you can then go back in at the knot site, pulling your knot to the inside of your toy, pull needle out and cut string this makes your knots hidden and looks much nicer.

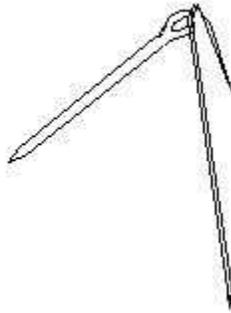


Using a blind stitch: A blind stitch attaches two pieces of fabric together without the threads being seen. You begin with your threaded needle, holding your two fabrics together or pinned together, insert needle in and then out of fabric piece #1, then directly in and back out of fabric piece #2, going along like this until connected. See illustration below.



Embroidery: If you have your embroidery floss handy, you'll notice that there's 6 individual strands wound into one. When I embroider, I like to use only two of the strands, just pull out two of the strands. Thread your two strands into your needle leaving about 4" hanging over needle, to keep it from unthreading as you're pulling it through fabrics. Knot the end and trim off excess after the knot. See illustration for threading your embroidery thread.

Threaded embroidery thread



Embroidery back-stitch diagram: When you need to embroider a straight line, such as the mouth on the monkey, or the name on the blanket, it's best to use the back-stitch.

Embroidery Back Stitch



Enter needle into fabric at point 1 going over top of fabric into point 2, then under fabric into point 3, then over into point 4, continue in this way until your line is finished.

Constructing the Monkey:

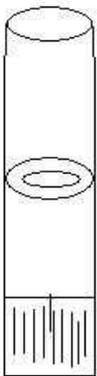
All seams are 1/4" unless otherwise stated. Begin and end all hand stitches with a quilters knot, begin and end all machine stitches with a back-stitch to secure. All parts are attached with a blind stitch.

To make the monkey: You will need both socks, one sock will become the head, body and legs of your monkey. The other sock becomes the arms, mouth, ears and tail of your monkey.

-Turn your first sock inside out, Lay your sock flat with the heel of the sock facing you, draw a line down the middle of the sock starting about 1" from the heel, all the way to down to the opening of the sock, this will be your guide line when sewing the legs up. With your sewing machine or hand needle/thread using your line as a guide, not sewing on the line but 1/4" on each side of the line, you will sew two separate legs. *When sewing with machine, remember to always begin and end your stitch with a back-stitch to secure your stitches. You now have the body of the monkey sewn. There is an opening between the legs in which you can now turn the monkey right side out. Before you begin stuffing, it's a good idea to prevent a run in your opening, which can occasionally happen with socks. Have a look around the opening and you will probably see where the sock looks like it could start unraveling. What you want to do, is just make some holding stitches to keep it from running while you are stuffing your monkey. Make several knots on one of the knitted loops of the sock right at the edge, just weaving in and out of the loops that are unraveling. Illustration shown below. Then you can stuff with fiberfill.

Illustration: Sewing first sock

Lie Sock flat with heel of sock facing you



Draw a line down the middle and sew the legs on each side of line, leaving middle open for turning.

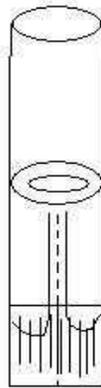
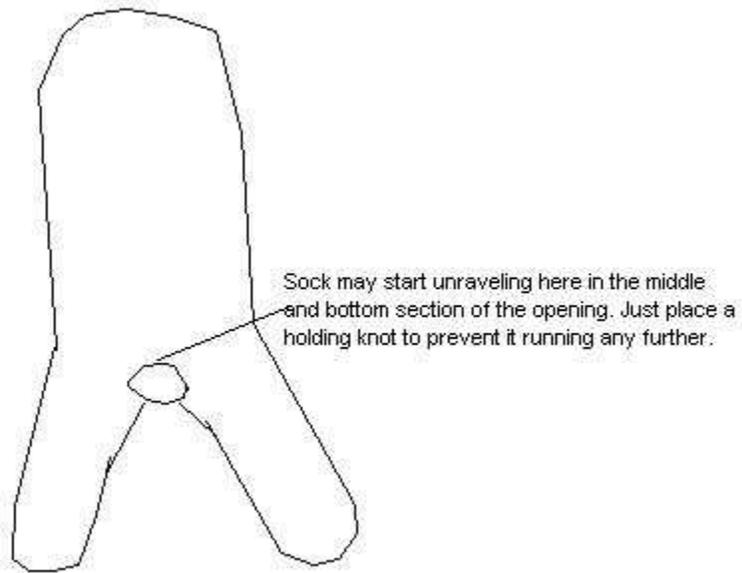
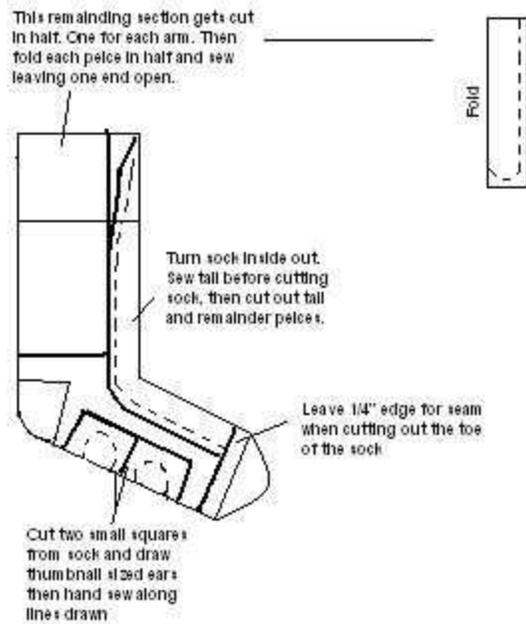


Illustration: Preventing unraveling



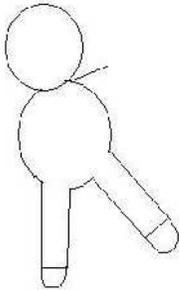
- Your other sock can be sewn/cut as shown in the illustration below. All cuts are made through both sides of the sock, so you're cutting the front and back pieces at the same time. Turn your sock inside out and sew tail before any cuts are made. Then you can cut out tail, leaving 1/4" from stitches. Cut out toe of sock leaving 1/2" all the way around to allow for the seam. Cut two squares from the foot end of the sock and sew ear shapes onto the squares, then trim 1/4" around stitches. Cut out the cuff section of the sock for the arms, cut in half, so that you have two separate pieces for the arms, fold each in half and sew into arms as shown in illustrations below. You can then stuff the arms and tail. An un-sharpened pencil may help stuffing.

Illustration: Constructing other sock



- Using your shoe string, make a tight tie around the neck, don't knot it, just tie into a bow, this is just easier to pull the neck in with a thick string, so you can easier get your thread around the neck without cutting into your fingers. Then take a long piece double up upholstery thread, tie around to form a neck around the top portion of the monkeys body and knot it several times on the back of the neck. You can pull the knot back inside the monkey, using the quilting knot technique. *If you wanted to hide the neck string, you could do a blind stitch all the way around the string.

Illustration: Making the head section of your monkey

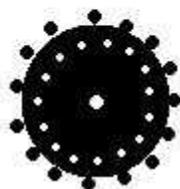


- You are now ready to sew the body opening closed and attach the monkeys parts. I like to use upholstery thread for closing the opening and hand quilting thread for attaching all parts. Use a blind stitch to close up the body opening. You will use a blind stitch to attach all parts. Begin with the mouth, centering it best you can. Turn brown part along mouth edges in all the way around the top section of the mouth and pin the top section into place. Then begin stitching on the top section first. Once the top portion of the mouth is attached, take a small amount of stuffing and insert into the mouth, turn the brown edges of the bottom of the mouth in, pin into place and attach the remainder of the mouth. You may want to add more stuffing just before you've got the bottom completely closed up. Before you attach the ears, tuck the opening of the ears in 1/4" and blind-stitch it closed. Then, attach the ears, making sure they are evenly spaced on each side of the mouth. Next, the arms, tuck the open-end in 1/2" and attach them just below the neck line, making sure they line up with the ears on each side. The tail should go about two inches above the monkeys bottom.

- Using black embroidery thread, embroider a line for the mouth using the embroidery back-stitch as illustrated above. Cut two small circles from felt for the eyes. With white thread, make a small speck of white in the middle of the eyes (shown below), this gives your monkey a more lively look. Next, you will use black embroidery thread to attach the eyes. Make a knot on the monkey in the middle of where your eye will go, securing your string to the monkey. Then, put your eye in place and attach the eye using the embroidery thread.

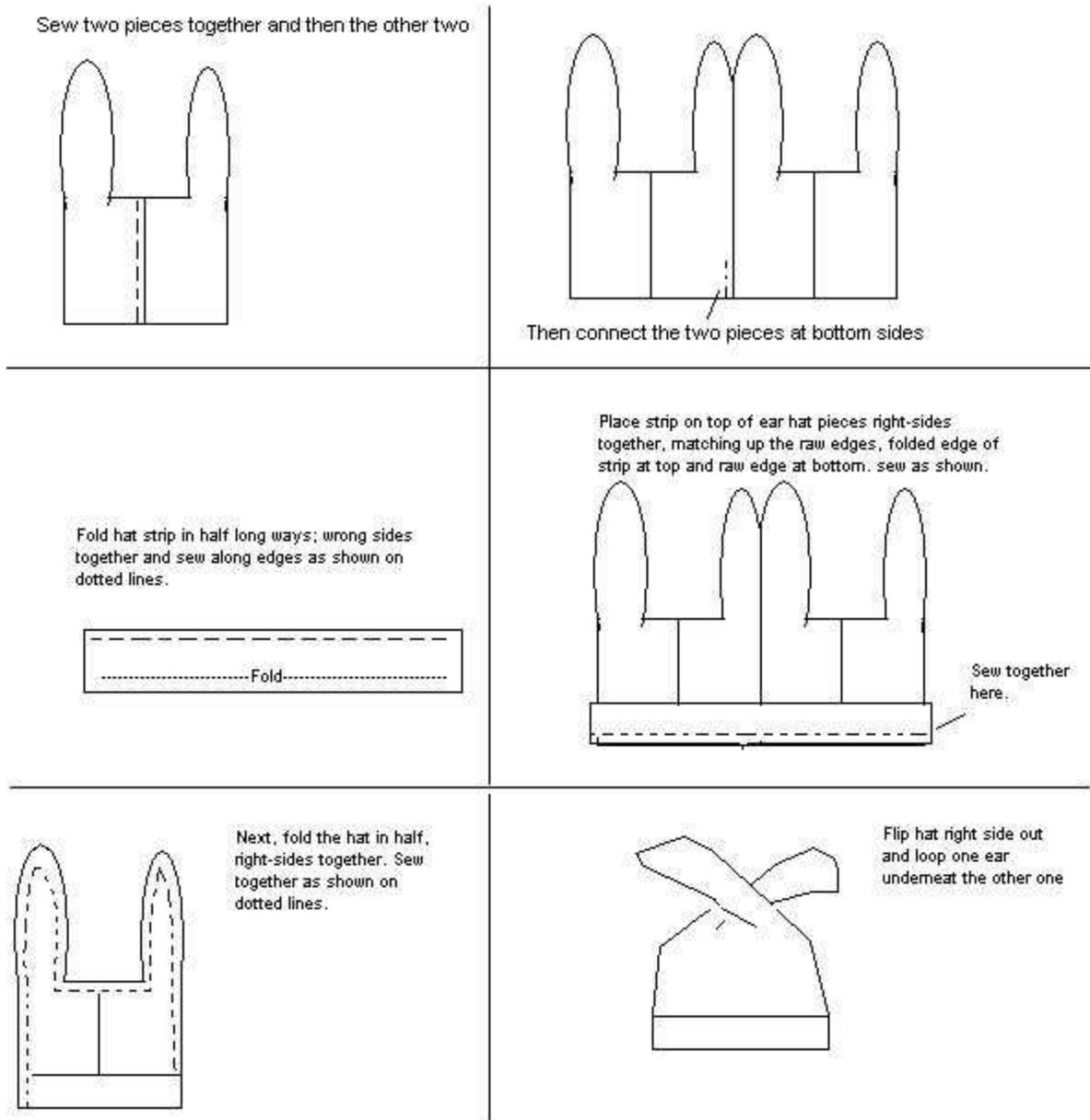
Illustration: Attaching felt eye to monkey

White dots show where to insert needle on eye, black dots show where to insert needle on monkey, going in white dot, under and out black dot, then over and into white dot continuing all the way around



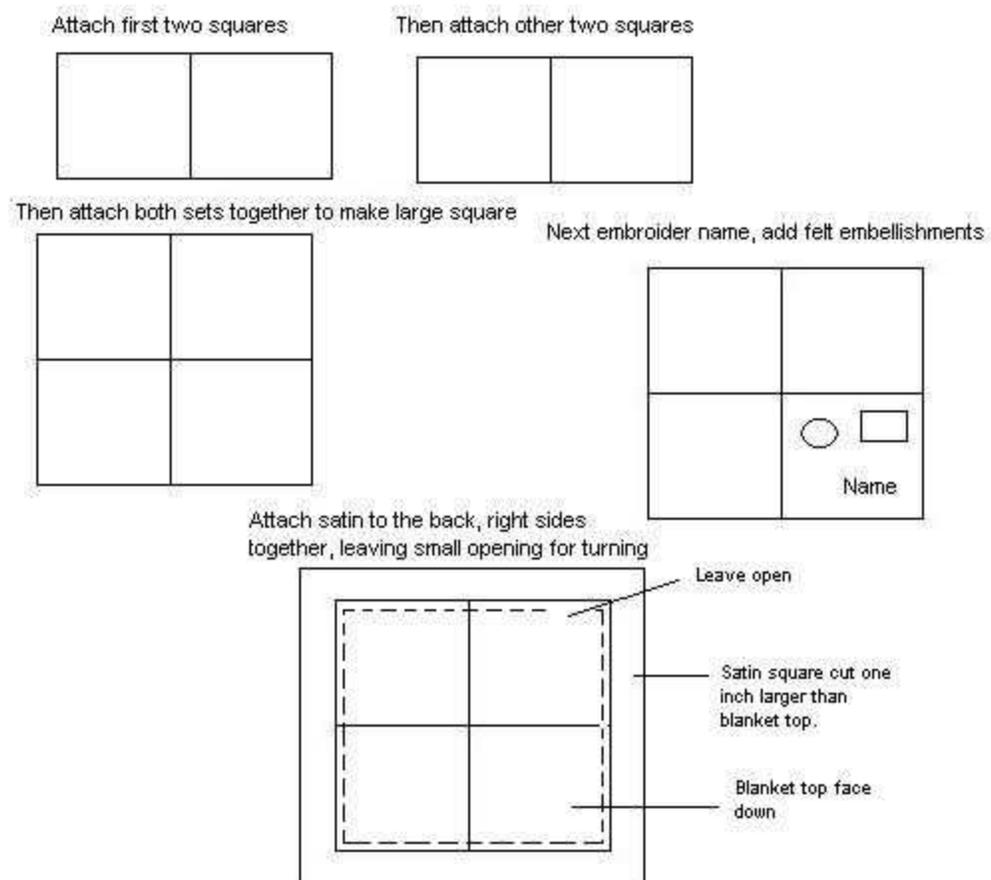
Making Hat: Cut out your pattern pieces for the hat. You will have 5 total pieces cut. Beginning with two ear hat pieces, right-sides together, sew together along the short side as shown below. Then sew the other two together in the same way, so you now have two ear hat pieces. Next, you will attach the two pieces on the sides, at the bottom side only. Next, fold hat trim in half wrong sides together, and sew together along long edge. Then lay the strip evenly on top of ear hat piece along bottom edge, matching up raw edges, sew together all the way along edge. Now, fold hat in half, right-sides together, matching up ears, pin to hold in place and sew starting at one bottom edge and ending up at the other. Flip right-side out then loop one ear underneath the other one.

Illustration:



Security Blanket: Cut out your pattern pieces for the blanket. Begin by sewing two squares right sides together. Then sew the other two squares right sides together. Next, put both sewn together sets right sides together on top of each other, connecting the two sets, so you have one large square. Next, you can embroider a name if you wish and add any embroidered or felt embellishments. You may want to match the pajamas you have for the monkey by cutting out felt shapes to match, like shown in my photo example. Once you have your blanket front complete, lay it on top of the large piece of satin or minky fabric you're using for the back of the blanket, cut a square of the satin fabric which is one inch larger than the blanket front, as shown in the last illustration below. Sew together 1/4" seam along outer edge of blanket top, as shown below on dotted lines. Leave a small opening to turn right-side out. Then, close the opening by turning the opening edges in and machine stitch closed, carrying on with the stitch around the entire square of the blanket. (Depending on the colors of your back and front blanket pieces, you may want to use a different color bobbin thread to match your back side and top thread to match the top side of the blanket).

Illustration: Constructing security blanket.



Making tail hole for the sleeper pajamas: Put your monkey's sleeper on and then mark where the tail is on the back of the sleeper. Remove the sleeper and make a very small slit cut for the tail. The hole will stretch a lot if your sleeper is made from jersey cotton, like most are, so you don't want to cut the hole as large as you might think. Put the sleeper back on the monkey pulling the tail through the hole, you will know then if your hole is going to stretch big enough for the tail to fit through or if you'll need to cut slightly larger. Optional: Once you've got the tail through, remove the sleeper again and using a matching thread and hand needle, fold the edges in and sew around the circumference of the now larger circle. This just makes your sleeper have a more finished look and also able to withstand washes without unraveling.

While you've got your monkey's sleeper on, make sure his feet go all the way to the end of the toes on the sleeper, to get an idea of how long you want his feet to be. Then remove the sleeper, bend the foot upward to the size you want it and using a blind-stitch across to hold the foot in this position, your monkey's feet should now fit the sleeper better.

Blankie holder options: This is an optional step, you may decide to do or not. If you'd like your monkey to be able to hold onto the blanket, you can attach one of the arms to the mouth of the monkey, after the sleeper is on, this is the cutest option, however, you may decide not to do this step if you want your sleeper to be removable for clothes washes and diaper changes etc. You could instead attach a very small piece of Velcro to the hand of the monkey and to the corner of the blanket. You'd want the soft Velcro piece on the blanket of course.

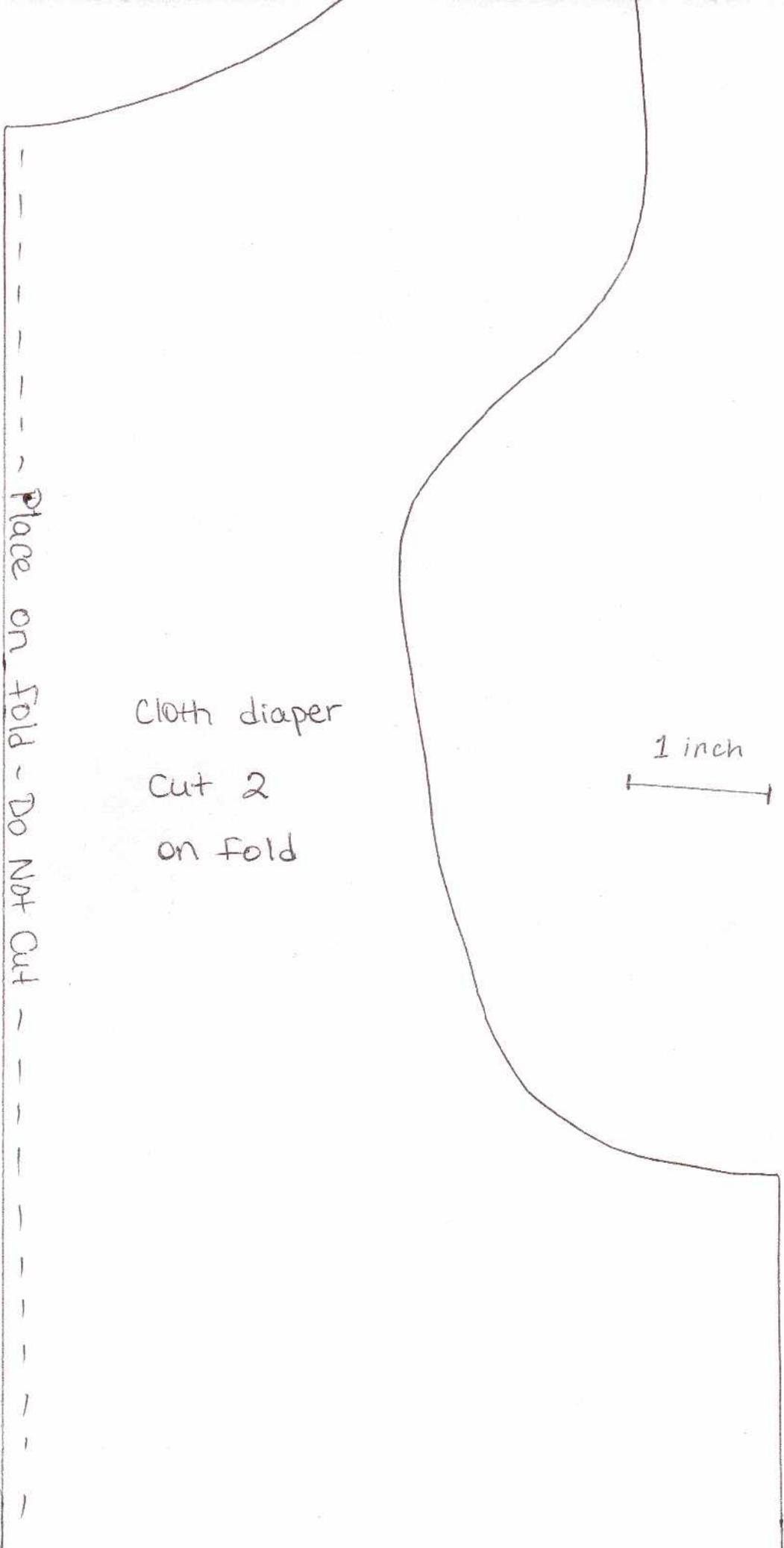
Velcro Diaper: The monkeys look really sweet with just a diaper on too. To make the flannel diapers, just cut out your two pattern pieces and sew right-sides together along the edges, leaving a small opening for turning. Turn right-side out and close opening by stitching on top. Add the sticky (rough part) of the Velcro to the outer edges of the diaper, then put the diaper on the monkey and mark where the other side of the Velcro needs to go, to make sure you have a perfect fit for the diaper. Then attach the soft part of the Velcro where you marked.

For the girl pajama monkeys I love to add a pretty ribbon to tie around the tail to match the sleeper and underneath the hat attach the same ribbon to one side of the head in a bow shape, so when the hat gets pulled off, the monkey still looks just as adorable.

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Place on fold - Do Not Cut

Cloth diaper
Cut 2
on fold

1 inch

Security
Blanket square

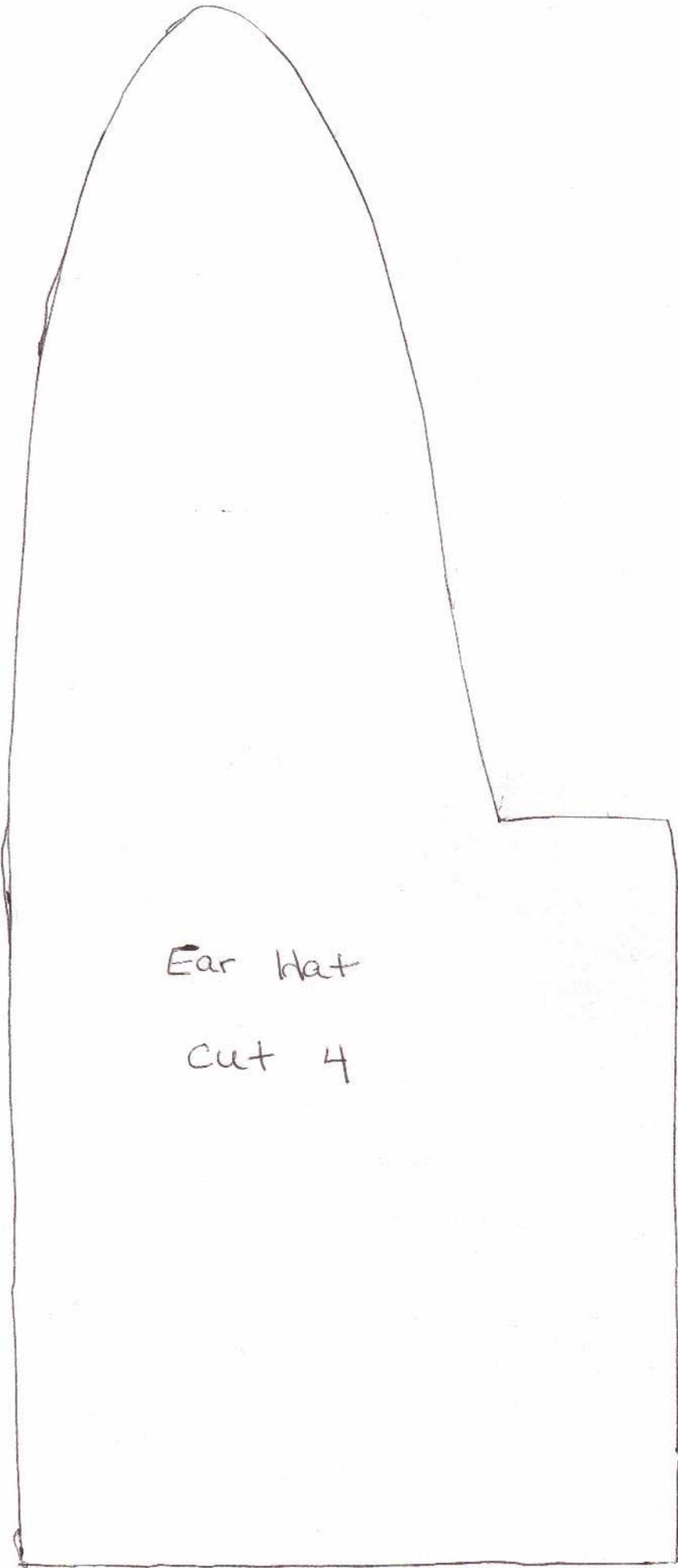
cut 4

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1 inch

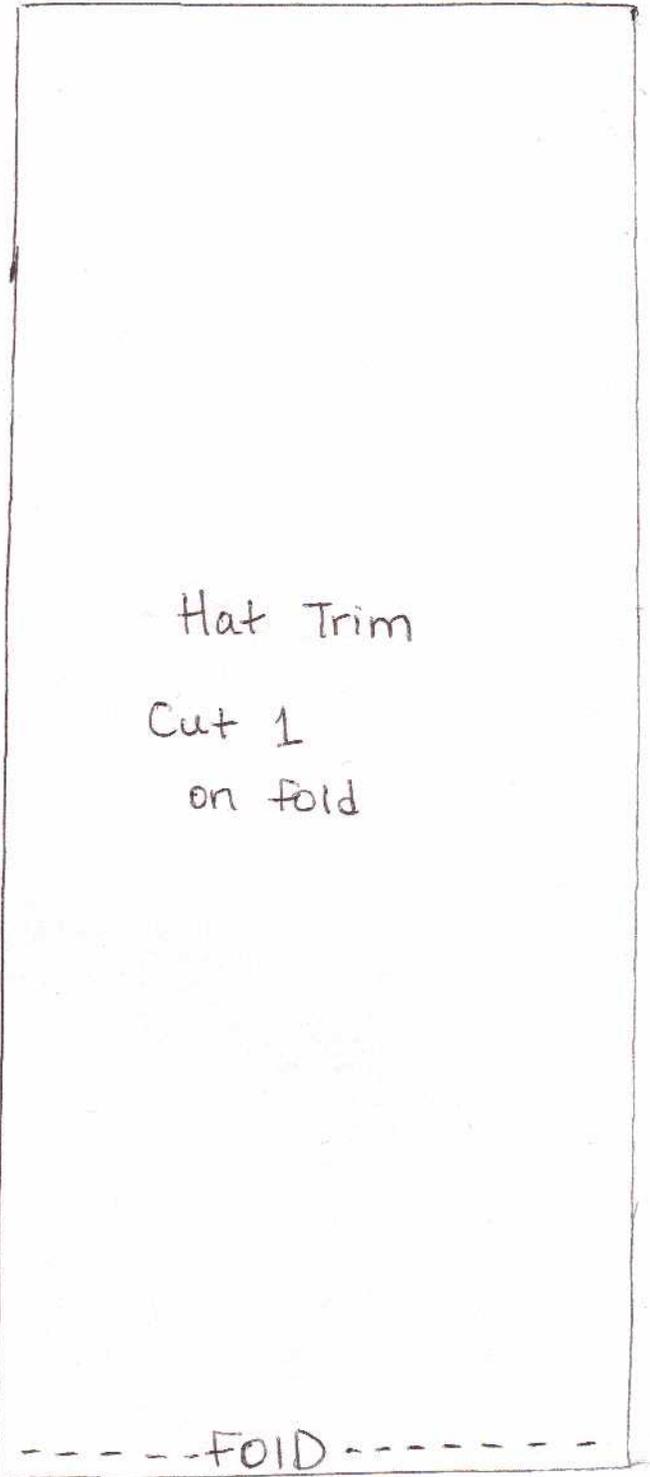


Place ear
- on fabric,
draw around
it, then
stitch on lines



Ear Hat

cut 4



Hat Trim

Cut 1

on fold

----- FOLD -----

1 inch