



Sunset Stitches

Embroidery How To with Trevor Conquergood



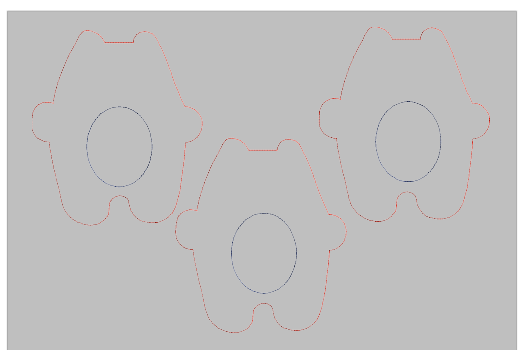
In The Hoop - Bear Family Party

Digitized by Trevor Conquergood

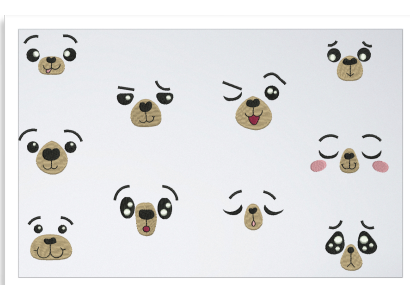
This is a fun In The Hoop project that makes a cut little bear. There are two sizes to choose from and the small size is set up to make two or three small bears in the same hoop. There are ten faces and 25 different charms to put on their belly patch. Everyone gets to make a different bear.

The design for this project is in parts that you get to interact with and make your own custom bear. You need to add the parts in the correct order for the design to have the correct sewing sequence. There is a design for the front of the bear that includes the appliqué of the tummy patch. Then you will add the face and charm before adding the back. This can be done with embroidery software before you go to the machine or you can use your machine to assemble the bear of your choice.

1)Open Front Design



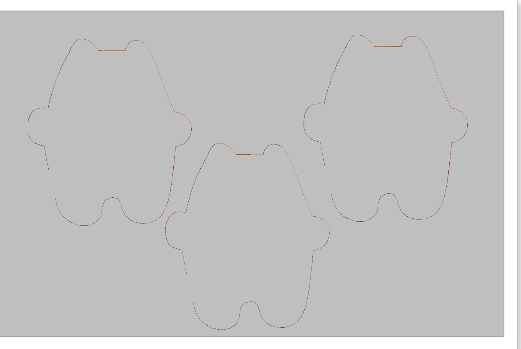
2)add Face



3)add Tummy Charm



4) add Back Design



5) Three Bears Ready for Sewing



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The supplies you will need to make one large bear is the same as if you make two or three smaller bears in the same hoop. 1 piece of Floriani Power Mesh large enough to hoop (24"x15"), 2 pieces of brown fleece (14"x9") (other colours are ok), 1 piece of RNK Embroidery Batting (14"x9"), 1 coloured felt (3"x3") to appliqué on the tummy, Stuffing enough to fill the bear. We suggest using RNK Perfect Grip tape to help the hoop hold the Power Mesh.

Start by Hooping the Power Mesh with Perfect Grip to help the hoop hold it well. Lay the cut piece of embroidery batting over the stabilizer and then place one piece of brown fleece on top of the batting. This is what it will look like when you begin to sew the embroidery design.

NOTE! You need to combine the bear front, face, tummy and back before sewing.



Each bear gets a felt tummy that is appliqué on to the fleece. Trim around your Tummy Patch before proceeding to sew the colours of the face and Tummy. After we trim the tummy it will look like the photo the right. We will add topping before the next colour.



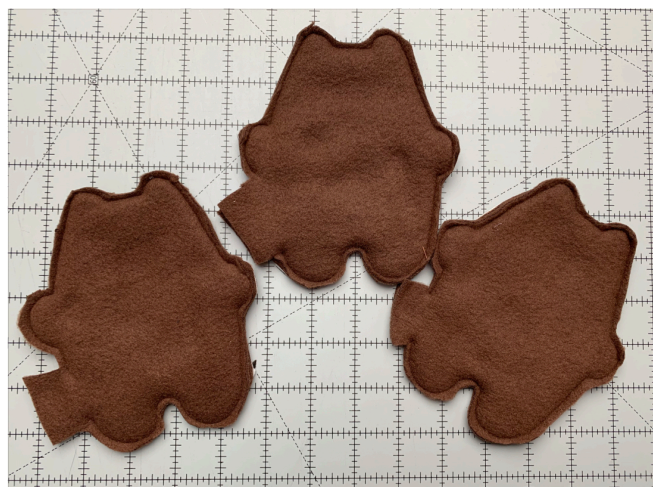
Once you have the Tummy Patch appliquéd onto the fleece you should add some Floriani Heat N Gone topper to help the embroider not sink into the fleece of the face or the felt of the tummy. After all of the colours of the face and tummy charm have finished sewing you should remove the topper from the embroidery. You should be able to easily tear away all of the topper from around the embroidery.



After you have removed the topper it is time to sew the back to the front. This is the final colour of the design and will sew the back fleece onto the front fleece but it leaves a small opening where you will turn the design to expose the front. Lay the second piece of brown fleece face to face over the design in the hoop. Its a good idea to use Embroidery Perfection Tape to hold the back material taught while the final colour stitches. You can also plan hold the fleece in place while sewing to be sure that it does not move while the run stitch sews the back onto the front. Notice the small opening on the leg that is left to turn the bear so the front will face out when finished.



When you have finished sewing the final colour you can take the project off the machine and out of the hoop. Cut the bears apart so you can trim each one individually. Carefully trim around the bear outline and leave 1/4 to 1/8 of an inch of material from the run stitch line.



Be Sure to leave extra material around the opening where you will turn and stuff the bear. If you make a small tab that can be folded inside it will make it easier to stitch the bear closed when you are finished stuffing it. The photo to the right shows what it will look like when you have trimmed all of the excess material around the outline of the bear.



Now it's time to turn the project so the front of the bear is facing out. Use the opening to push the fabric through and reverse the inside out. The RNK turning tool helps to push the material through the hole. The photo on the left is what it will look like when you have completed turning the bear and ready for stuffing.

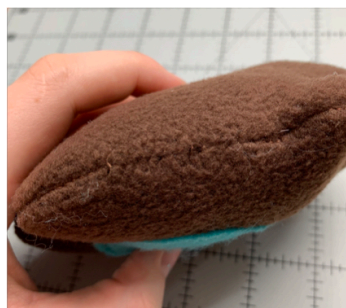


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The next step is to stuff the bear with some type of filling. Its best to use a poly fill made for stuffed animals but you can also use chopped up embroidery batting as your filling. It's a great way to use up the ends of the batting but it does take time to chop it up fine enough to make nice filing. Start by filling the ears and arms with small bits of batting and then suff larger bits to fill the bear until it looks like it is full and well stuffed.



To finish your bear you will push the small tab you left during trimming to be inside of the hole. Then use some matching embroidery thread and use a whip stitch or zig zag stitch to sew the hole closed. Be suer to sew it well so the stuffing does not escape and tie a good knot so it is nice and safe.

