

thin card and cut out your pattern. Lay the fabric down with the pile running towards you. Draw round all the pattern pieces, keeping the arrows facing you and cut them out. Draw round and cut out the ultrasuede pieces.

2 Tack and back stitch the body piece, beginning at the top and leaving an opening at the back, as shown, for turning and stuffing. Gather at the neck with a small running stitch, like a drawstring bag, and fasten off. Turn using a manicure stick, and set aside.

3 Clip the fur on the hand of each arm as far as the wrist. Place the inner arm and outer arm right sides together and sew together, leaving an opening where indicated. Take special care around the thumb shaping. Turn the arm. Make a hole with a knitting needle, as shown on the inner arm. Thread a disc onto a cotter pin and push the pin through the hole so that it sticks out of the arm. Stuff the arm quite firmly, paying special attention to the tip of the paw, the thumb and the padding behind the joint, so it cannot be easily felt from the outside. Close the seam with ladder stitch. Embroider the claws in pink pearl cotton. Repeat for the other arm.

4 With right sides together, tack and sew around the leg, leaving an opening as indicated. Also leave the straight edge open along the bottom of the foot to insert the pad. Put the centre of the toe and heel in place first, so that the pad is evenly placed. Tack and sew right around the pad. Turn, place joint where shown, and stuff. Ladder stitch the remaining seam. Embroider three pink claws. Pads may be drawn onto the foot with fabric pens if desired.

5 Clip the fur from one ear piece. Place one clipped and one furry piece right sides together and tack and backstitch along the curved edge. Turn, then oversew the straight edges together. Tint the clipped piece with fabric pens if you wish. This will be the front of the ear. Repeat for the other ear.

6 Place the side head pieces together, right sides facing and tack and sew from the nose tip (a) to the neck (b). Take the head gusset

piece and attach the centre (c) to (a). Sew a little way each side of point (c) to make sure the nose shape will be even. Complete by sewing from (a) to (d) each side. Turn the head, and stuff firmly, taking care to push the stuffing into the tip of the nose first of all. Check that the head has a good even shape by looking at it from above as well as face on. If you are unsure, use some bead topped pins to decide on the position of the eyes. I usually needlesculpt some eye sockets at this point but many artists prefer to do this once the eyes are in place. Experiment to decide which method is right for you! Either way, use very small stitches from the eye to the back of the head and pull the face in slightly. To bridge the nose, take tiny stitches through from one side of the muzzle to the other. Insert the onyx bead eyes and fasten off each one securely. Clip the fur carefully on the muzzle. Insert a joint into the neck opening, gathering the fabric around it with a fine running stitch and leaving the cotter pin sticking out as before.

7 With pink thread, embroider the nose evenly. Shade with fabric pen if you feel like it! Embroider the mouth and eyebrows in black thread. I used a fabric pen to shade the cheeks and eye sockets too. Ladder stitch the ears in place. Pin them first if you are unsure where to set them.

8 Attach the head to the body by threading the head pin through the gathered top of the body. Add another disc and use pliers to twist the two halves of the split pin into a butterfly shape on top of the second disc. All the joints need to be tightened well. Use a knitting needle to help position the arms and legs evenly. Push it right through the body and out in a straight line across to

where the other limb will go. Attach the arms and legs. Once the head and limbs are in place, stuff the body. Close the seam with ladder stitch. Sew her tummy button in place. Tie a pretty pink and white ribbon around her neck and your bear is complete.



Your templates
Actual size

Bear Facts
• For more details on Wendy-Sue Bears call 01604 785 942.