

Christmas Elf Plans from the book

Saving Christmas



Hey kids,

These are the original elves that I made with my mom back when I was Drew's age.

Charles Noland

Material List:

- Green, red, white and black colored felt
- Pipe cleaners (preferably white) 2 per elf
- Permanent fabric glue
- 1½ inch Styrofoam balls
- Cotton balls

Tools required:

- Scissors
- Paper hole punch
- Sewing machine (optional)
- Wire cutters (optional)
- Hot melt glue gun (optional)

Instructions:

1. After printing the patterns, cut them out, then pin them onto the felt. Using a good pair of scissors carefully cut the felt in the shape of each pattern remembering that you will need a total of four (4) shoes pieces and four (4) mittens pieces as well as two (2) pant legs per elf.
2. Once all the felt pieces have been cut, sew them together keeping the stitching along the edges as indicated by the dashed lines on the paper patterns.

3. You can also choose to glue the pieces together using the fabric glue. However, you will need to wait for the glue to dry before assembling your elf. Apply a thin bead of glue along the edges, again indicated by the dashed lines on the paper patterns. Be careful not to use too much glue so it doesn't squeeze out. Placing all the pieces between wax paper and then sticking them inside a thick book will keep them flat until the glue dries. **HINT:** The mittens and shoes can be challenging to sew on a machine, but these pieces are easily glued, just remember to leave a hole for the pipe cleaner to slide into. You could even glue them directly onto the hands and feet using the hot melt glue in steps 8 and 9 below.
 4. Take one of the pipe cleaners (they should be 12 inches long) and fold it in half pinching the folded end tight (this is the end that will stick into the Styrofoam ball. See figure 1.
 5. About 3/4 inch down from the folded end of the first pipe cleaner, center the second pipe cleaner and then tightly wrap this around the first pipe cleaner twice. See figure 2. As this point you should have a pipe cleaner stick figure with very long arms. Bend the end of the arms over about 1/4 inch. This will allow you to push them through the sleeves easier without the metal tip sticking into the felt.
 6. Take the coat and push the pipe cleaner arms into the sleeves pulling them tight so that the neck comes up through the neck hole. See figure 3. You should have about 1/2 inch of neck sticking through the coat.
 7. Slide each pant leg onto the pipe cleaner legs leaving about 3/8 inch sticking out for the shoes.
 8. Place a small dab of glue into the hole of each shoe and then slide them onto the ends of the pipe cleaners at the bottom of the pant legs.
 9. Using either the scissors or wire cutters, clip the pipe cleaner arms so that there is just about a 1/2 inch sticking out of each sleeve. Glue the mittens on the same way you did the shoes. Now you're ready for the head.
 10. Push the Styrofoam ball onto the neck sticking out from the top of the coat. Then remove it and place some glue into the hole before replacing it.
 11. Take the hat and roll up the edge and place it onto the head. When you are satisfied with the look, remove it and put a few dabs of glue on the inside of the hat where it will contact the Styrofoam and put it back on.
 12. Use the paper hole punch to punch 2 small circles of black felt for eyes and a small triangle of red felt for the mouth. Then glue them carefully in place. You can also add some different colored felt to the edge of the hat as seen in the original photo.
 13. Then finish up with a cotton beard and pom-pom for the hat if desired.
- Remember, you can vary the colors of felt and decorations for each elf you make. Once all the glue has dried they can be bent into different shapes.

Have fun and Merry Christmas!



Figure 1



Figure 2

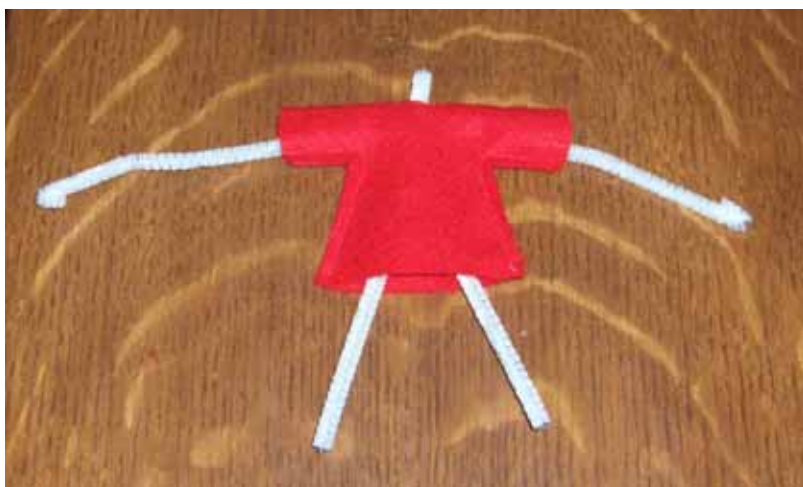
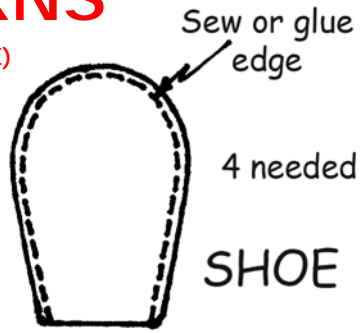


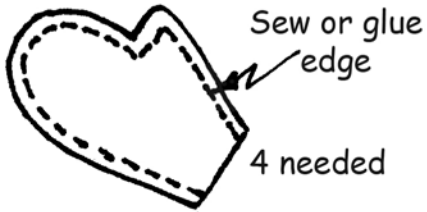
Figure 3

PATTERNS

(PRINT FULL SCALE)

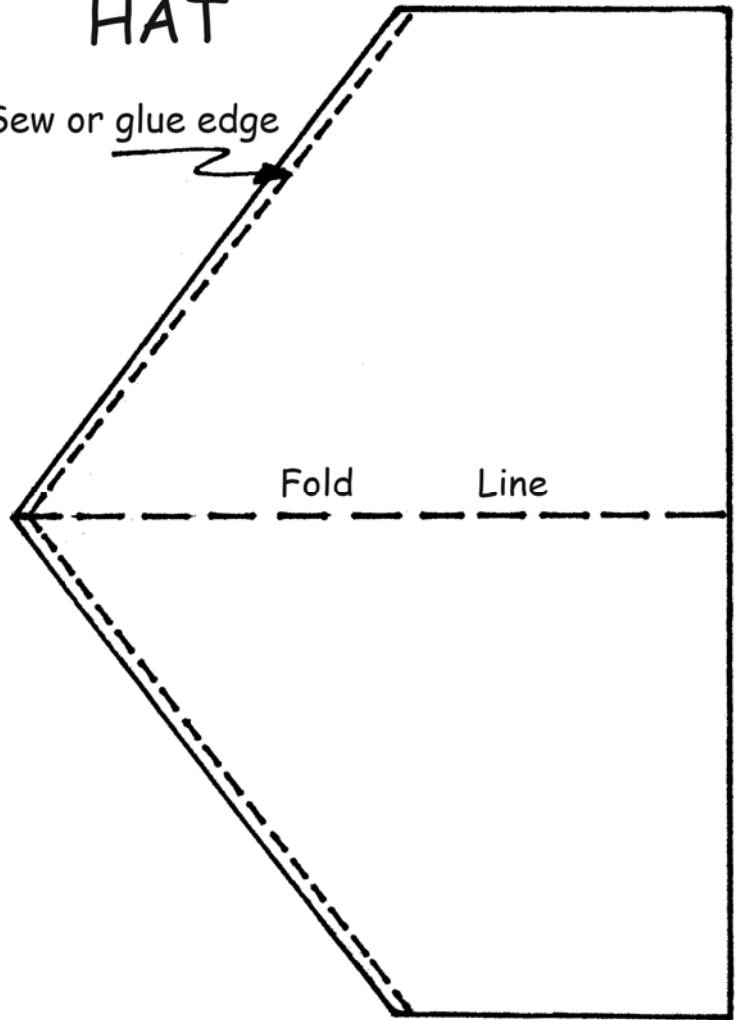


MITTEN

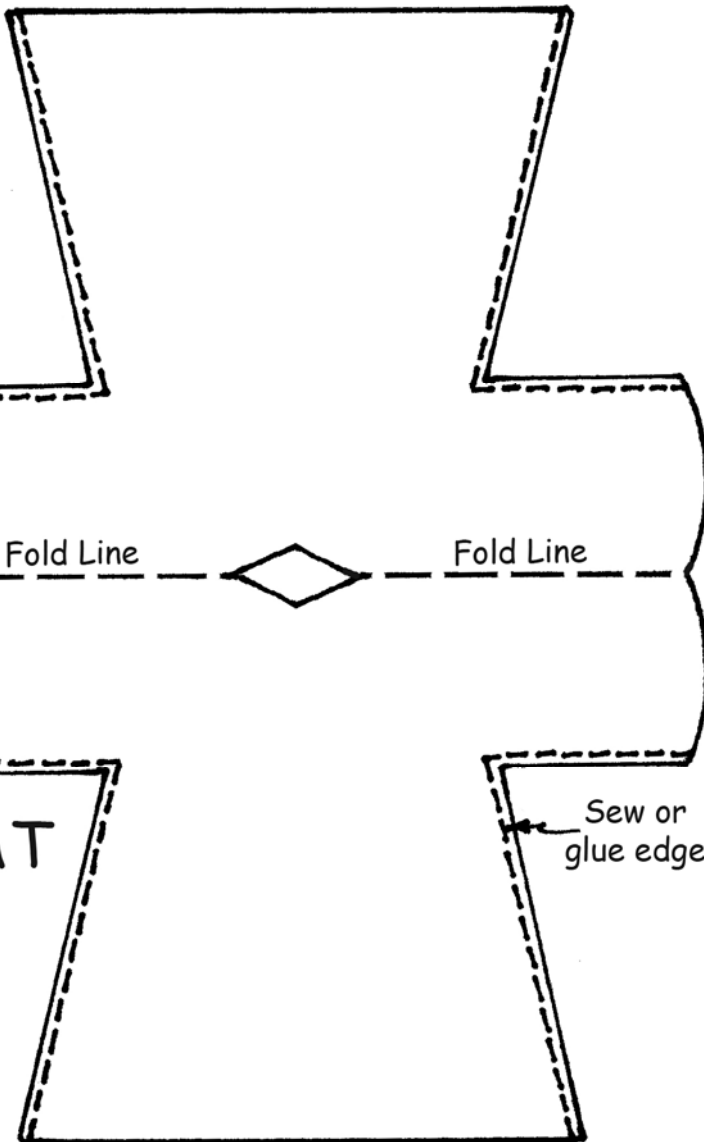


HAT

Sew or glue edge



Fold Line



COAT

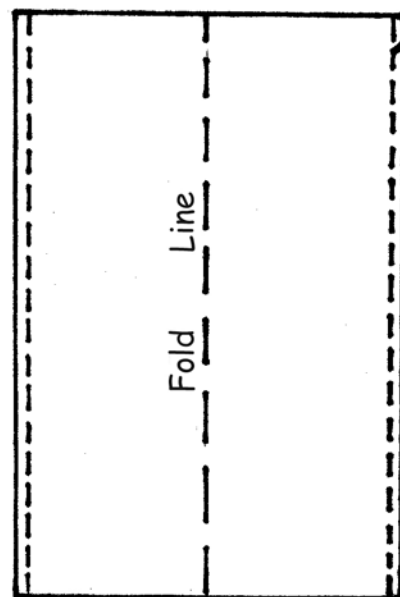
Fold Line

Fold Line

Sew or glue edge

PANT LEG

Sew or glue edge



2 needed