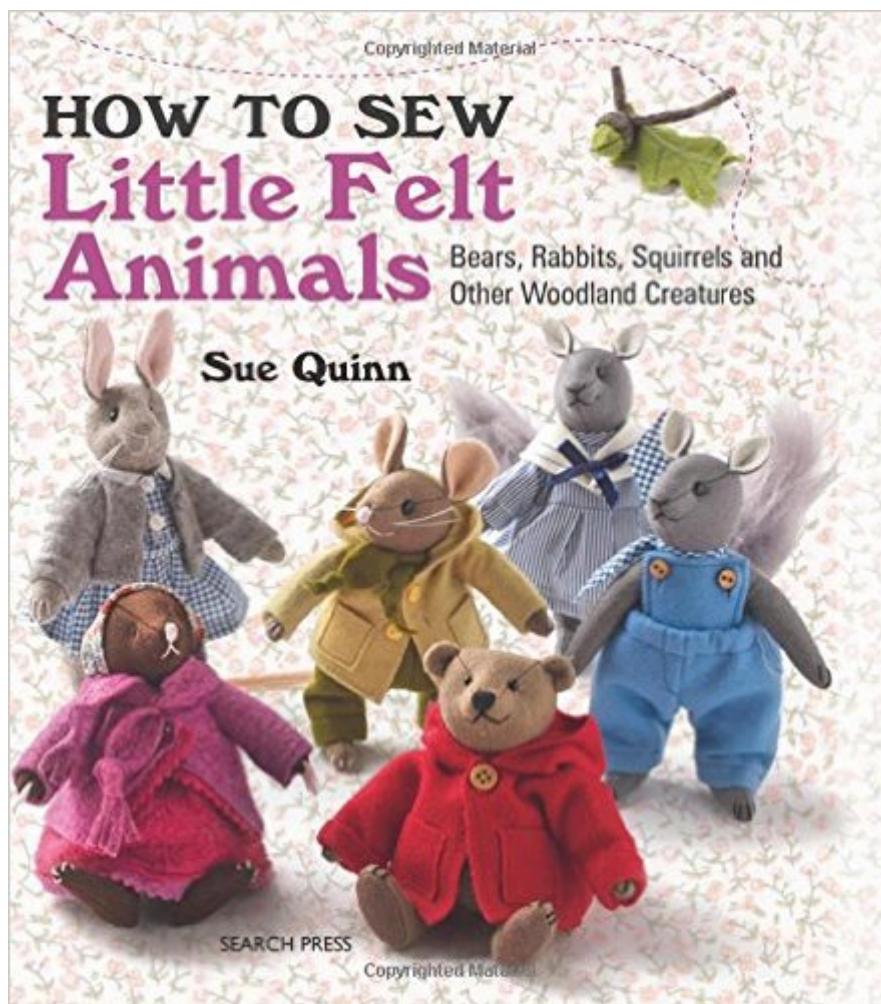


The book was found

How To Sew Little Felt Animals



Synopsis

For over thirty years Sue Quinn has designed gorgeous little felt animals that appeal to both adult collectors and children. Now she would like to reveal her 'master secrets' so you can use machine or hand sewing to create these endearing, beautiful little creatures that you will want to make and keep. Colorful, strong and easy to use, felt is the perfect material to make the endearing and enduring classic woodland creatures using machine and hand sewing techniques, all shown in clear step-by-step format.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

"How to Sew Little Felt Animals" is a lovely book of patterns of animals and clothing. It is a book that I saw and pre-ordered months ago based solely on the pictures on the cover. When the book arrived, the reality of the projects is even better than the promise of the photographs. Sue Quinn has written a wonderfully instructive book. The instructions are clear, the photographs well done, and she has given many suggestions for how to make sure your animals look and act properly once they are finished. It should be noted that all of the patterns for both animals and clothing need to be enlarged. Each page gives the exact enlargement needed. The author suggests tracing the designs and working from those rather than take a chance on harming the book. I've done this process with other patterns before. While it is an additional step, it absolutely saves the integrity of the book for future use. When I make my final pattern page, I use freezer paper as it is easily saved and reused in the future. The book includes instructions and patterns for the following animals: rabbits, squirrels, bear, moles, and mice. There are also instructions and patterns for the clothing which are shown on

the cover and throughout the book. All of the clothing pieces can be made for any of the animals (with slight modifications to adjust for animals with and without tails, as applicable.) The clothing pieces are varied and very sweet looking. They range from jackets, and dresses, to school boy's outfits (including tie!) The author makes many suggestions as to types of fabric for the outfits, including scale, fabric content, and even makes suggestions for unusual sources for fabrics such as fine gauge knits. She gives very detailed instructions (both written and visual) for how to create the gorgeous little animals. I had never thought to use a cotter pin with my little felt creatures but it makes absolute sense to do so to give them movable parts. There are wonderful needlework instructions and she rightly suggests that you attempt to learn these stitches before making your animals. I have been a needlework designer for many years and I wholeheartedly agree. If some of the finer details are not done top notch, it will be harder to enjoy the finished projects. The stitches involved are not difficult and should only take a few hours to fully master all of them. So many felt pattern books are focused on females that it is a real joy to see that Ms. Quinn has made gender neutral animals and included clothing for both boys and girls. While she notes that the animals projects are not intended for young children (probably not under three due to small pieces), I think that these can be made and given to older children to play with - both boys and girls. The quality of the book and instructions are obvious in the sample that you can look through here on . The entire book is up to the standard shown. I have already begun my first project (I love the the baby teddy and must do him first) and I am sure that I will be making many more of these delightful animals for my house and to give as gifts to loved ones. I have only just started and I am already hoping that Ms. Quinn has follow-on books with other animals (maybe farmyard?) in the works for the future. The one thing I could have wished for that was not included is a list of online sources for some of the materials she recommends. These are fairly easily found with internet searches for anyone who does not already have vendor sources they buy materials from. I highly recommend the book. It is entirely appropriate for intermediate and above. A beginner can also work these projects, just be sure to take your time and work each step as directed. Cutting corners or trying to speed ahead can easily result in miss-steps that can make your projects turn out less than what you wished for.

I love to make miniature plush animals, and felt is such a perfect medium for making all kinds of sewn creatures. I was excited when I saw "How to Sew Little Felt Animals", and couldn't wait to try making some of the adorable, polished woodland animals that are featured in the book. These little animals are cute on their own, but their little outfits give them so much extra character and story. The animals included in this book are: Female Rabbit in a

Schoolgirl's uniform and cardiganMale Rabbit in a Schoolboy's uniform of trousers, blazer, sweater, collar and tieFemale Squirrel in a summer sailor dressMale Squirrel in gardening dungarees and scarfBear with nightcap, blanket and mini teddy bearMale Mole in working clothes of a cap, neckerchief, waistcoat and trousersFemale Mole in winter clothes of a coat, skirt and headscarfMale Mouse with outdoor clothes if trousers, a hooded coat and scarfFemale Mouse with outdoor clothes of a skirt, jacket, satchel and bowFor each animal you will find a detailed color photo of the finished animals and a brief note from the author regarding character personality, costuming and possible fabric choices. Each project starts with a material list and a copy of the pattern. The patterns are $\frac{1}{2}$ size in the book and will need to be increased 133%. (I think the size increase is a matter of personal preference, you could make the pattern larger or smaller for miniatures or standard sized plush animals.) The author includes detailed step-by-step instructions for each part of the process. There are also descriptive color photographs to accompany each step. The book begins with information on materials and basic techniques. These include stitches, filling and shaping, sewing features and pattern transfer. These animals are jointed with cotter joints and there are detailed instructions for installing the joint system. (I did not have any joints on hand, so I did not joint my Mole when I made him.) Instructions in this book are clear and easy to follow. My favorite character in the book is the Mole, and it did not take long to make this little guy. I am more comfortable sewing by hand, so probably 80% of my project was sewn by hand. I find it easier than fighting a machine on small curves, and I do not have the masterful technique of the author when it comes to machine stitching. This book is probably best for those with some sewing experience if you are going to be installing the joints. There are some intermediate techniques for hidden seams and finishing of the facial features. Beginners should not be afraid to try making these adorable animals. The instructions are very well written and detailed. Overall, I adore this book. These animals and their outfits are really something special.

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