

The Caterpillar and the Butterfly

This doll doesn't just flip, it goes through metamorphoses! As a smaller pattern without some of the more intricate parts of the other flip dolls, this makes a great first flip doll to sew.



SPECIAL SKILLS »» Appliqué »» Adding Trims »Embroidery Details

🗡 TOOLS & MATERIALS

Basic Sewing Tool Kit

The Caterpillar and the Butterfly templates

- 7 x 7-inch (17.8 x 17.8 cm) piece of green fabric for the butterfly $\ensuremath{\mathsf{f}}$
- 7 x 7-inch (17.8 x 17.8 cm) piece of greenstriped fabric for the caterpillar

Batting

8 x 7-inch (20.3 x 17.8 cm) piece of black felt

Scraps of felt in white and yellow 12-inch (30.5 cm) length of ball fringe Threads to match the fabrics and for topstitching Embroidery floss for the eyes Two 3-inch (7.6 cm) lengths of rickrack or other ribbon trim

INSTRUCTIONS

Copy the templates and cut them out.

2 Cut one Body Top and two Body Bottoms from both the green fabric and the greenstriped fabric. Cut two Body Top pieces from the batting, and then cut one of them in half lengthwise to make the bottom pieces. Cut two black felt Wings and cut out the smaller wing details from white and yellow felt. Cut two pieces of ball fringe 4 inches (10.1 cm) long.

« make the butterfly »

3 Appliqué the white and yellow details onto the wings with matching thread, as shown on the template, using a whipstitch. Set aside. To make the bottom of the body, stack the two bottom halves with right sides facing and place one of the bottom batting pieces on top. Line up the batting with the outside edge (the curved edges). Sew 1 inch (2.5 cm) at the bottom and 1 inch (2.5 cm) at the top of the straight inside edge of the batting, leaving it open in the middle (figure 1). Open the bottom and iron, pressing the seams open.

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5 Stack the body top on the bottom with right sides facing, then put the other layer of batting on top. Sew all the way around the body. Clip slits in the seam allowance, then turn right side out.

6 Pin the wings on top of the body, then sew them to the body along the gray line shown in the template. You may sew them by hand or topstitch the wings using your sewing machine. If you sew them by machine, carefully separate the bottom opening so that you don't stitch through the bottom layer.

« make the caterpillar »

7 Make the bottom of the caterpillar's body in the same manner as the butterfly (described in step 4).

8 Layer the top and bottom bodies with right sides facing, pinning the ball trim in between with the pompoms on the inside. Make sure the ribbon part of the trim is in the seam allowance—you want to sew over the threads connecting the pompoms to the ribbon. Sew all the way around the body with your needle in the left-hand position. This will allow you to sew close to the balls, connect the two layers, and catch the ball trim in the seam. Make sure all seams are secure and clip notches in the seam allowance.

« combine the dolls »

9 With the caterpillar wrong side out and the butterfly right side out, carefully push the caterpillar inside the butterfly, lining up the bottom openings. Pin them together and hand-sew the openings together along the pressed seam using a ladder stitch. Go around the opening once with large stitches, then a second time with smaller stitches.

10 Embroider eyes on the caterpillar and butterfly. Stitch small rickrack or other ribbon trim onto the top of the head for antennae.

Ta da! To flip the caterpillar into a butterfly, put your index fingers inside the head and tail and then push from the outside with your thumbs. Smooth out the wings and neatly poke out the edges. You can put a finger inside the butterfly like you would a puppet if you want her to "fly!"



Body Top Body Bottom