

Blossom

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# Blossom

I first released a full size Blossom Bunny pattern on Shabby Art Boutique in 2017. The instructions for all 3 bunny sizes are exactly the same.

You can read more about the large Blossom Bunny and download the pattern <u>HERE</u>. The large Blossom <u>dress pattern is here</u> and her <u>shoes are here</u>.

## **Medium and Small Blossom Bunnies**

Please read all instructions before beginning.

### **Materials**

- Pattern medium and small bunny attached.
- Linen fabric for rabbit bodies
- Matching cotton thread
- Soft Toy Fibre Fill
- DMC cottons for eyes and nose see note
- Fabric and ribbon for dresses
- Sewing machine and normal sewing supplies.

Note: I used DMC #776 for the nose and DMC #839 for the eyes and mouth.

## **Instructions**

- 1. Trace pattern pieces onto card to make a pattern template. Remember to label all pieces.
- 2. Using pattern pieces, cut 2 body pieces, 4 legs, 4 arms and one inner ear (on the fold) from linen. Please note: you will be sewing on the actual traced lines.





3. Pin the inner ear piece between the two ears of the main bunny body pieces, as shown on previous page.

Note: When stitching soft toys, I used a strong cotton and small stitch length. Ideally, if you have a triple straight stitch on your machine, use that as it reinforces the seam. Alternatively, you may wish to re-sew your seams twice or even three times to make them durable.

- 4. Stitch around the outside of the bunny ears first, and then stitch the rest of the bunny body, leaving the bottom open.
- 5. Stitch around the legs and arms leaving the ends open for stuffing.
- 6. Clip seams where necessary and press seam allowances before you turn the pieces right side out. When all pieces are turned right side out, fold the fabric inward on the closures for arms and bottom of bunny body. Press. This may seem silly, but make sure your bunny arms are the same length when you press the closure in place.... I've made this mistake before!



7. Stuff all body parts with toy fibrefill.

Note: Remember to use small wads of stuffing to prevent bunching. We don't want our bunnies to look like they have cellulite!!

I start at the ears and move downwards, ensuring that I fill every little space as I go.

My tool of choice for stuffing is an old wooden chopstick with a narrow point at one end and a larger flat end at the other. For the arms and legs, I like to make the stuffing quite firm at the end (hands and feet).

- 8. Pin your legs into the cavity of the body, ensuring that they are equal in length. I used less stuffing at the top of the legs and at the base of the bunny, so the bunny would sit nicely. You can either stitch the cavity closed with hand stitching or a sewing machine.
- 9. Position the arms in place and pin to secure. Hand sew arms to body.



10. These bunnies have a simple face; a triangle nose stitched from DMC cotton (I used #776) and eyes and mouth stitched with brown cotton (I used DMC #839).

Optional: You may wish to blush cheeks with blush too.



A lot of the fun of making these bunnies is making clothes for them too.

For the large Blossom Bunny I provided a dress pattern that had a bodice and skirt, and although quite a simple design, some people who were new to sewing struggled a bit with the bodice, so for the medium and small Blossom Bunnies I have created a really simple dress based on the old 'pillowcase' style dress.

## **Simple Dress for Medium & Small Bunnies**

#### **Materials**

- Small quantity of cotton fabrics
- Length of coordinating ribbon (I used 10mm wide ribbon)
- Normal sewing supplies.

#### **Instructions**

- 1. Cut out your pattern template for dress.
- 2. Fold fabric in half and place pattern piece on fold. You will require two pieces; a front and back panel. Seeing as these dresses are quite small, a shortcut is to layer two pieces of fabric on top of each other and fold and cut both pieces at the same time.
- 3. Place dress pieces with right sides together and sew up the side seams of dress. Press seams open with iron. While you are at the ironing board, fold over the edge of the armholes and press in place. Next, fold over the top of the dress to make a casing for the ribbon on both the front and back panels. Finally, fold up the hem and press with iron.
- 4. The first dress I made was done the right way by folding edges over twice, encasing the raw edges etc, but I will admit that for subsequent dresses I took a few short cuts. These are after all, dresses for softies, however, if I was making clothes for a bunny that was for a child to use and likely to need regular washing, I would follow all the regular sewing rules to prevent fabric unravelling.



Using your method of choice, sew up the armhole seams, the hem and the casing at the top of the dress.

5. Thread ribbon through the casing at top of dress using a small safety pin. Pop the dress on your bunny and gather up the top of the dress. Secure the ribbon in a bow; you can choose whether to have a ribbon tie on both sides or just to use one piece tied on one shoulder.

This is a very basic style dress. You can add optional extras to the hemline like lace, pop-pom ribbon, ricrac etc. to jazz it up a bit.

Overall, I hope you just have fun playing around with this simple dress design.



