

Amanda Barnes - Textile Artist

'Croft' - Robin Sewing Pattern

Hey Lovely!

Thank you so much for purchasing this pattern. Hopefully by the end of it, you will have your very own little 'Croft' Robin!



This pattern is for intermediate and above.

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Please email me if you have any queries



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'Croft' - Robin Sewing Pattern

Materials and Tools

Materials

Cotton, Tweed or Velvet fabric in brown and red

Stuffing

Thread

Black beads for eyes

Bead for beak or you could use air drying clay or polymer clay to make your own!

Textile glue (I use Gutermann) or PVA glue.

Tools

Very sharp embroidery scissors

small crochet hook (size 8 is good enough) Pliers

Here is a list of places and products that I use.

I get all of my faceted beads and beak shaped beads from a great shop on Etsy - <https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/LaserBeads>

Stuffing - any CE tested stuffing is fine. I buy mine in bulk from Amazon but Hobbycraft does some really good toy filling in smaller bags.

Fabric - anything will do! I get mine from the local fabric shop or etsy.

Felt - I always buy from Cloudcraft on Etsy, their wool felt is second to none quality and price wise. <https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/CloudCraftShop>





Amanda Barnes ~ Textile Artist

'Croft' ~ Robin Sewing Pattern

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Do you want to make these Robins and sell them? Here's a few rules that I'd really appreciate you following.

- * The 'Croft' robin must be made by hand. No setting up a sweat shop...
- * They must be made by you, the person who bought the pattern. Again, no setting up a sweat shop.
- * If you are selling your Robins online then you must put a direct link to where this pattern can be purchased and give credit to 'Amanda Barnes - Textile Artist'
- *Feel free to alter the pattern but the terms above, will still apply.
- *Keep your receipt because if I notice my little 'Croft' Robin going wholesale, I will be sticking my nose in and making Liam Neeson in Taken, look like Santa...

One other thing. If you try printing the whole thing, it will take forever, so just print off the bird template.

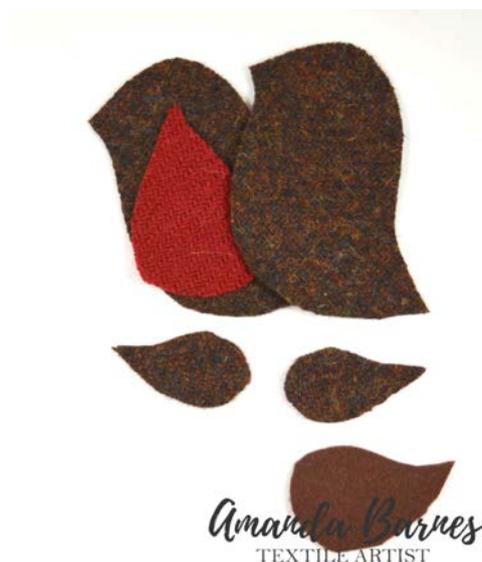


Firstly, print off your bird template page. You can either cut it out straight away or make copies using tracing or baking paper. I've included the seam allowance (the dotted line). If you are making your bird all one colour/fabric, you will need a piece about 8 inches by 8 inches. If you are using a different colour for the front, you will be able to use a piece 5 inches by 5 inches for your main bird body.

Place the fabric right side together. Pin your paper patterns to the fabric and carefully cut out.



For the larger wing shape, you can use felt or a thicker contrasting fabric. You should now have two bird bodies, one front, two wings in the main fabric and two larger wings in felt.



Take one of your body pieces and place it right side up. Take the front (shown here in red fabric) with right side down. Starting at the slight beak shape, you need to sew, following the curve, almost to the bottom of rounded part of the front. I have used white thread, so that you can see where to sew but normally I used brown. I like to double stitch my seams, to give them a bit more strength.

You are then going to do this with the other side. Remember to keep the right sides facing each other.



Now, we are going to sew the back pieces together. Start at the beak point, where the front fabric is sewn, making sure that there isn't a gap.

You need to follow the line that I've shown you here (again, used white cotton to show you where to sew). Again, I double stitch this. You should make sure that you are leaving a big enough gap between the tail and the front for you to stuff your little bird.



Using your fabric scissors, trim away some of the excess fabric. You can now turn your bird the right way round. I use a crochet hook (size 8) to gently push into the corners. Nice and gently now, don't make a hole, like I have done (and still do if truth be told!). Try to stuff it as firmly as possible, you may need to put a little bit more stuffing in, as you sew the bottom and can feel it shape up.



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When you are sewing the gap at the bottom, you can use any stitch that you feel comfortable with, as long as it's nice and close together and firmly in place. This is going to be covered so don't worry about making it too neat as this will be covered with felt.



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I'm going to use some small faceted beads for her eyes and a conical shaped bead for her beak. There's a list of suppliers on the materials page above. If you want to make your little bird a bit more unique, have a go at using some air drying or paper clay to make one. If you do use air drying clay, it will need to be glued in place.

I use black thread with a beading needle and sewing through from one side to the other a couple of times, pulling it tighter as I go. Pull the thread through a little so that the eyes don't just sit on the side of the head.



Take a small square of white or cream felt (about 5cm x 4cm) and sit your robin on it like the first photo below. Put that to one side and then using your textile glue, add some glue to the base of the bird like the second photo. You are then going to lay the felt onto this glue, leaving a small amount going up the tummy a little.



Trim the sides of the white felt but not too much, you can always trim after it the glue has dried. Press firmly. You want the felt to go up the tummy a little so that you can cut a slight curve out, like the photo on the right. Put a few dots of textile glue under the edge and press firmly. When it's dry, you can do a few trims to neaten it further.



Place your wing fabric onto the brown felt wing and sew into place. I have added a piece of cream lace to this wing on the left below to give you an idea of how you can adapt these wings.

The other wing is more plain but I've used gold thread to give it another dimension.



Now it's time to attach the wings.



Now to attach the wings. I use a nice thick and long needle, this one is a Milliner's needle size 7. This helps you to keep the wings level. Sew through as many times as you feel it needs. I also sew it in place about halfway down the wing as well.

Let's add the ribbon!

Use about 15 to 20 cm of slim ribbon. Then, using a matching thread, sew this in place. To make the ribbon sit properly, it's a good idea to do a couple of wraps of the cotton around the ribbon before you finish.



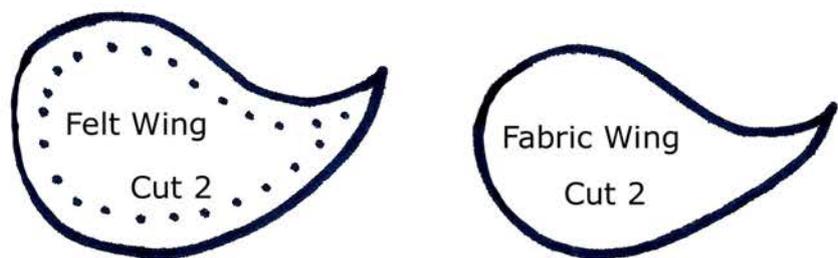
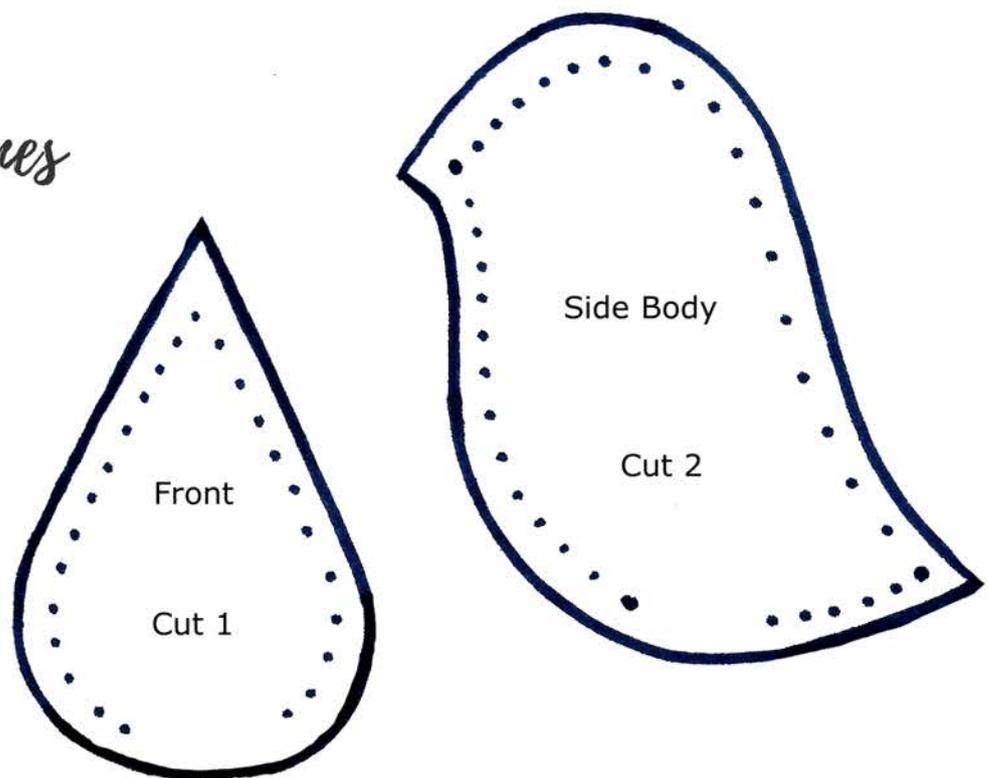
Your 'Croft' Robin is now finished. As you can see by the following photos, he looks just as lovely in velvet as in tweed :)



I hope you will grow to love making these birds as much as I did and I'd love to see your finished birds. If you have any thoughts or comments about this pattern, I'd love to hear them.

If you aren't a fan of my facebook page already, please pop over and share your birds with us all!

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