

# NOSY PEPPER

*Embroidery*



*In the Hoop Stuffie Tutorial*

## Materials:

- Minky, fleece, or fabric of your choice
- Stabilizer (heavy Tear Away is recommended)
- Poly fil or other fiber stuffing
- Glue or hand sewing thread to close turning hole

## A note about fabrics with stretch:

Fabrics that have a stretch will be noted as 2 way or 4 way stretch. 2 way means that it will stretch one way (horizontally) and 4 way means that it will stretch in all directions. Typically, minky and fleece are 2 way stretch materials. The two way stretch is along the “grainline” which just means the direction of fabric. When making stuffies, you will generally want that stretch to be running horizontally along your design so it puffs side to side and not up and down. So, use care when cutting and placing your materials that the stretch runs side to side on the fabric and not up and down.

**\*You do NOT need to use a material with stretch but most people prefer it, as it makes it extra “squishy” \***

Cut measurements here are not given here as this varies greatly by design and hoop size used. Please stitch out the placement stitches for the design and measure that to see how large to cut your pieces. Or you may cut out the pieces to be 2.5” larger than your hoop size for your main panels (i.e. if you are making an 8x12 size, cut your main pieces to be 11.5” W x 14.5” H). When choosing how much fabric to purchase, a quarter yard will easily get you the largest size stuffie.

***This tutorial is set up to walk through a stuffie that is made in 2 hoopings. If the design you are making is made in only one hooping, please skip ahead to the “Hoop 2” section.***

## Hoop 1:

1) Hoop stabilizer and run placement stitches for “hoop 1” design.



2) Place material on top, making sure to cover all placement lines (generally the direction of stretch will not matter for these pieces). This piece should be “right” side up.



3) Place another piece of material on top. Right side down. Run the last step of the Hoop 1 design.



4) Remove from hoop, remove stabilizer and trim around the stitching, about 1/4" from the line of stitching.



5) Turn right side out through the opening. Push all edges out, so there are not and puckers or wrinkles in your pieces.

*Optional: you may wish to run a quick basting seam along the opening either by hand or by your sewing machine.*



Set aside for now and proceed to "Hoop 2" section.

## Hoop 2:

1) Hoop stabilizer and run the first step to stitch placement lines.

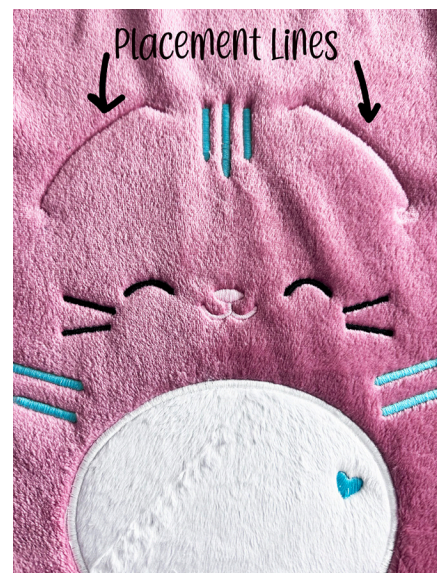


2) Place material Right side up making sure all placement stitches are covered. Run all steps of the design portion of the stuffie (the actual number of steps will vary by design).



**\*\*If making a stuffie that is only one hooping, skip to step 7.\*\***

3) Once all the steps for the design portion have been run, it's time to set up to attach our pieces from Hoop 1. First you will stitch the placement lines to show where to attach those pieces. They will look like the lines highlighted at right.



4) Take the pieces from hoop one, making sure you have the correct left or right piece, place just below and centered between the sides of the placement stitches.



5) Repeat to place the other piece at other placement stitches. Once you have them in place, secure well with tape, pins or sewing magnets.



6) Our next step will tack down the pieces from Hoop 1. It's helpful to raise your presser foot height during this step (if your machine allows this adjustment). Depending on how thick your materials are, you may need to watch closely to make sure that the materials are going under your presser foot and not getting bunched up when it starts stitching. You can hit "STOP" on your machine after a couple stitches, lift the presser foot and readjust the material so that it is under your presser foot. Please watch the start of each tackdown to make sure it is not bunching at the start (DO NOT ASSUME that it won't).



7) Your stuffie will now look like this and you are ready to add the backing material.



8) Take the backing material and place it directly on top, right side down. Run the last step of the design to secure the backing. It will leave a turning hole along the bottom.



9) Remove from hoop, remove stabilizer and trim edges, about 1/4" from stitching but leave about an 1" excess at the turning hole, like the image at right.



10) Stuff until your heart's content. Add as much or as little as you would like. There is no wrong answer. I find it's easier to add smaller pieces of stuffing and move around as needed, rather than large globs that don't want to spread out. Once you are satisfied with your stuffing, it's time to close up.

Push the excess fabric inside turning hole (leaving the excess as instructed makes this much easier.



11) Pin or clip hole closed, making sure all stitching is inside and not visible along the bottom. Close turning hole with your preferred method (hand stitching, sewing or fabric.



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