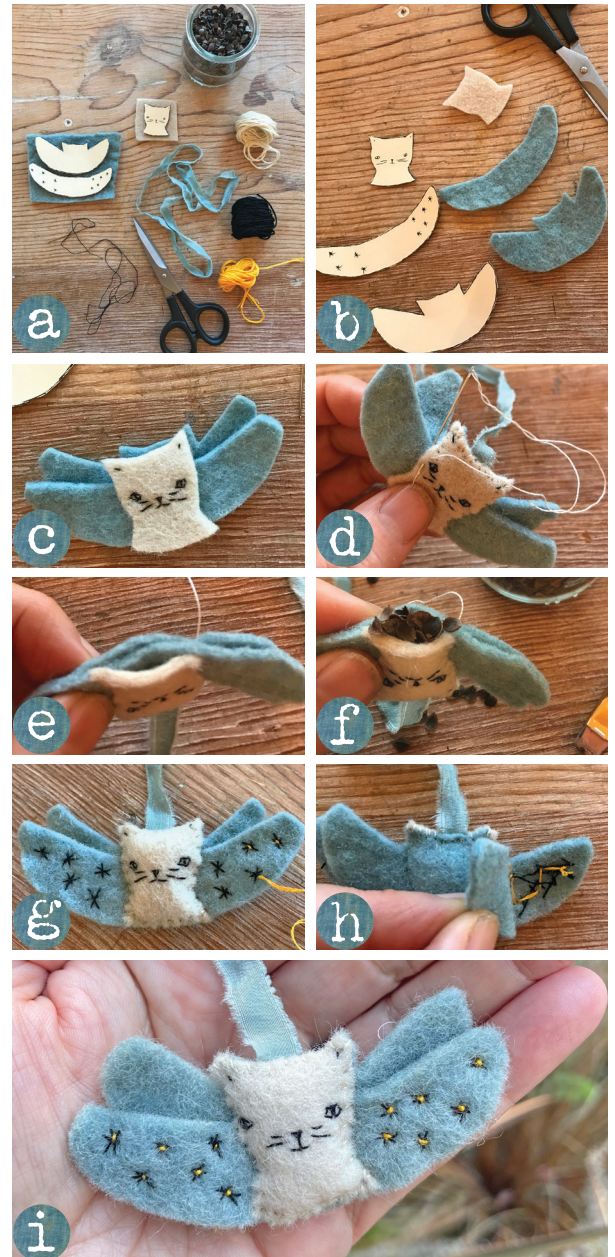


Are your kitties angels? Mine are only aspirational angels, but they were still the inspiration for this sweet ornament.

MATERIALS & TOOLS:

- 1.25 x 1.25" piece wool felt in a neutral color for the cat head
- 3 x 2.5" piece of wool felt for the wings
- 24" strand of ribbon (I used ¼" wide plant-dyed silk ribbon)
- contrasting embroidery floss for cat face details and starbursts
- neutral embroidery floss the same color as the cat head
- colored embroidery floss for the inside of the starbursts
- stuffing materials: buckwheat hulls, lavender buds, lentils, flax, wool, cotton balls, etc. (you just need a little bit)
- hand sewing needle
- sharp scissors
- pencil with an eraser (optional)

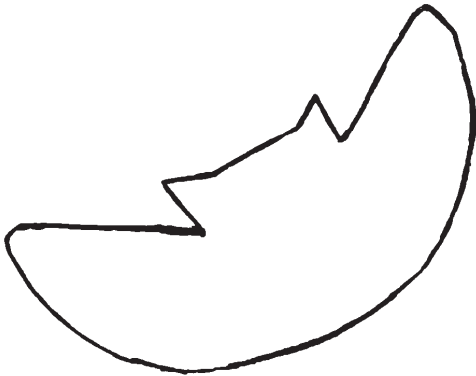
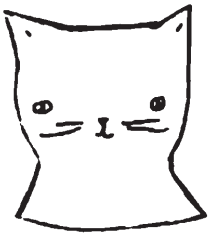
1. Refer to 'Notes and Stitches' on page 2.
2. Print the templates on page 2 and cut out the paper pieces. You can play with the size by reducing or enlarging the templates when you print them – but I love how sweet the tiny kitty is. Gather your materials and tools. **(photo a)**
3. Use the paper templates to cut out the three pattern pieces. **(photo b)** I made the back side and the center wing piece the same color but you may choose to make your front and back wings different colors.
4. Referring to the template, stitch the cat face details using a single ply of black (or contrasting) embroidery floss. You will use the satin stitch (nose), running stitch (whiskers), and double running stitch or back stitch (eyes and mouth) to make the little face. I like to start with the nose which will help determine the placement of the other details. Make a single stitch in the center of each ear. **(photo c)**
5. Align the top of the cat head with the back piece and sandwich the middle wing piece between the front and back.
6. Tie a knot at the tail of a single ply of embroidery floss that is the same color as the cat head. Sandwich the knot between the layers at the bottom corner of one side of the cat head piece. Using the whip stitch, work your way up towards the ears and around the perimeter, catching all the layers as you go. Consider how close together and how uniform you want your stitches, which relates to aesthetics (uniformity) and your stuffing material (stitch spacing). When you reach the space between the ears, sandwich the ribbon between the layers and catch it in your whip stitch. **(photo d)** Continue stitching around the other side, stopping when you reach the other bottom corner. Set your thread aside and leave the opening in the base to stuff. **(photo e)** Even if your felt pieces aligned perfectly before you started stitching, the pull of the stitches may change the shape slightly and you may need to trim as you go.
7. Stuff the head lightly (I used buckwheat hulls). **(photo f)** The eraser end of a pencil helps to push the stuffing into the small spaces. Finish whip stitching across the base of the head and wings. Secure with a knot and pull the needle through the stuffing. Trim the thread close to the felt, it will sink into the stuffing and disappear.
8. Decorate the top of each wing with 5 small randomly placed starbursts using a single ply of embroidery floss (I used black). Be sure you are only stitching through the top wing. With a single ply of bright color of embroidery floss (I used gold) make one or two stitches in the center of each starburst. **(photo g)** Tie off the thread and trim the tails close. The back side of your stitch work will be covered by the back wing. **(photo h)**
9. Your angel kitty is complete! **(photo i)**



NOTES & TIPS

- Embroidery floss has 6 plies (threads) and the plies are easily separated. Most embroidery patterns use 1 to 3 plies. Long strands can get easily tangled, cutting them to 18-inch strands helps prevent this. It also helps to very gently separate the pieces from the center of the strand instead of starting at one end.
- If your thread becomes too short while you are sewing, attach a new piece of thread to the end with a knot. Tie it close to the felt and hide the knot.
- Felt is very flexible to work with; it can be pulled and stretched as needed, and because it doesn't fray you can trim as you work if your pieces are not lining up.

TEMPLATES



ABOUT KATA GOLDA:

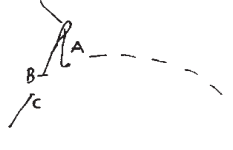
My studio, the home of Kata Golda, is nestled snugly in the small, mossy seaside town of Port Townsend, WA. I work with organic, sustainable, and plant-dyed fabrics. Much of the inspiration for my designs comes from the subtle details in the woods, farmlands, and beaches near my home, where nothing is straight and nothing is perfect. I create slowly and with intention, with a commitment to reusing supplies as much as possible and using up every little scrap of fabric. Find more at www.katagolda.com



the running & double running stitch

Note that keeping stitches even is an aesthetic decision. Stitch size, distance between stitches, and uniformity of stitches is something to pay attention to, but it is a choice.

- Start with the threaded needle on the back side of your fabric and bring it up through the fabric (A) and back down into the front side (B). Pull it all the way through, then bring the threaded needle back up through the fabric from the back side (C).



A DOUBLE RUNNING STITCH is used to make a solid, connected line.

- Start with a running stitch. When you reach the end, reverse your direction and fill in the space between the stitches with another running stitch so you have a solid line.



the back stitch

The back stitch is often preferred to a running stitch when sewing through multiple layers or thick fabric. You can use this technique to create a running stitch or a continuous line, like the double running stitch. It is perfect for outlining or filling in space. Note that keeping stitches even is an aesthetic decision. Stitch size, distance between stitches, and uniformity of stitches is something to pay attention to, but it is a choice.

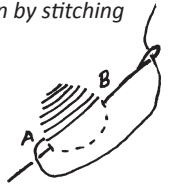


- Pull the thread up through your fabric (A) and back down (B). This is your first stitch.
- Pull your thread up through your fabric one stitch length away (C) and pull it back down through your second stitch (B), creating a stitch by taking the thread backward. Repeat.

the satin stitch

This stitch is used to fill in a space. If you like, you can begin by stitching the perimeter of the space you plan to fill.

- Start with the threaded needle on the back side of your fabric and bring it up through the fabric (A) and back down into the front side (B).



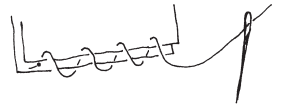
- Place the stitches close together so that they create a solid shape.

the whip stitch

This stitch is used to connect two pieces of fabric along the outer edge or to connect two overlapping pieces. Note that keeping stitches even is an aesthetic decision. Stitch size, distance between stitches, and uniformity of stitches is something to pay attention to, but it is a choice.

- **TO CONNECT TWO PIECES ALONG THE OUTER EDGE:**

Thread your needle and tie a knot at the tail. Start your first stitch between the two layers of fabric to hide the knot. Wrap your thread around the two lined up edges and push your needle up through the two layers of fabric. Repeat.



- **CONNECTING TWO OVERLAPPING PIECES** (ie: attaching an inner ear piece to an ear cutout or adding a nose or eye piece on top of a larger piece of fabric):

Thread your needle and tie a knot at the tail. Starting at the back side, poke your needle up through both layers of fabric, 1/8" in from the edge and then push your needle through the single layer of fabric, directly across from your first stitch and close to the overlapping edge. Continue your next stitch up through both layers, and then straight down through the single layer again. Make sure you are not pulling the stitches so tight that you cause the fabric to bunch.

