

# SCISSOR SLIP

## sewing tutorial



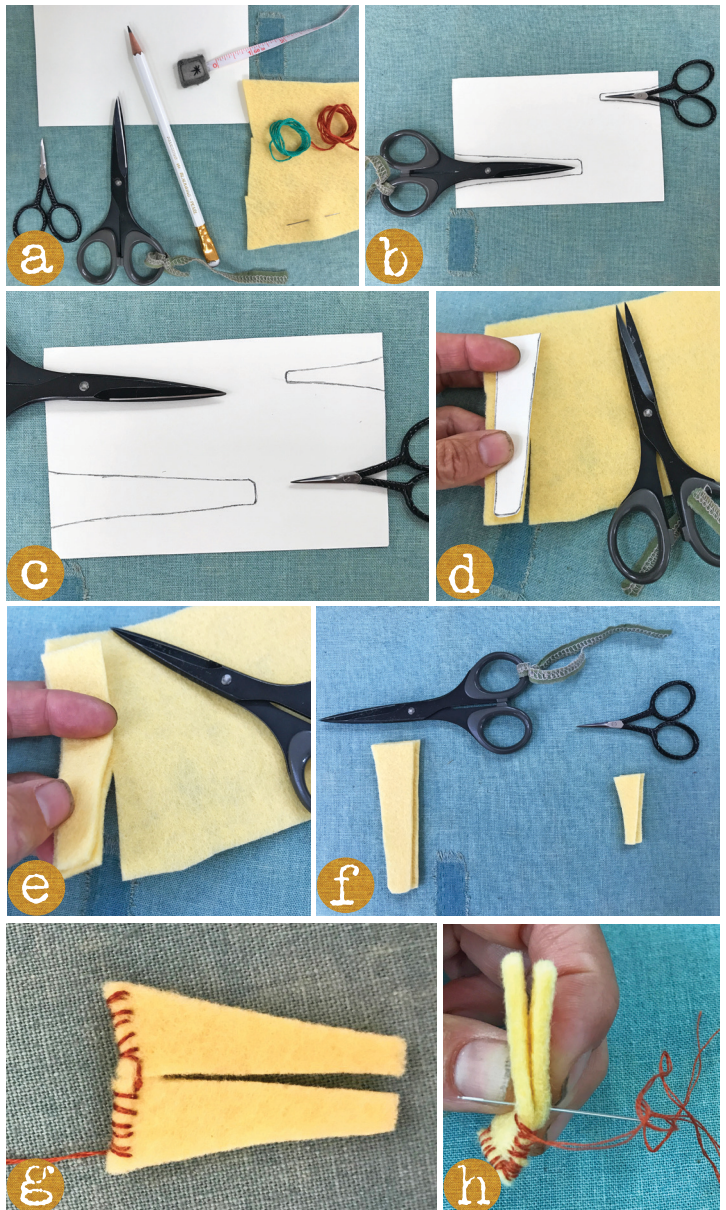
In my traveling tool pouch, I keep the tips of my scissors protected so they don't poke through the fabric. A full scissor slip with a flap, more like an [envelope](#), is a good idea for a scissor that is floating around in a big bag; but in a small pouch a simple tip cover is all I need.

Starting the 'school year' with my tool pouch refreshed, I made some new tips for my scissors out of wool felt scraps. Since I don't really need any new supplies, it is fun to start off the year with some fresh colors to see when I unzip my pouch and peek inside.

### MATERIALS & TOOLS:

- wool felt (size depends on scissor size)
- cotton embroidery floss (1 or 2 colors)
- paper to make a template
- scissors you want to make the slip for
- scissors to use (they can be the same scissors)
- pencil
- hand sewing needle
- straight pin (optional)
- ruler or tape measure

1. Refer to "Notes, Tips & Stitches" on page 2. Gather your materials. Choose one or two colors of thread that will provide a nice contrast to the felt color. **(photo a)**
2. Lay your scissors on a sheet of paper with the top edge of the paper underneath the place on the scissors where they start to curve into handles. Some scissors will have a gradual curve some will have an abrupt circle.
3. Draw a border around your scissor tip that is 1/4" from the edge of the scissors, down both sides and around the closed point (make an initial 1/4" mark with your ruler). At the base of the tip, create a flat bottom edge instead of a point (the dimension as your template nears the point will not maintain 1/4" distance from the scissors, it will be larger). **(photos b & c)** The 1/4" measurement is a starting point for medium-sized/flat scissors. If your scissors have more thickness you will need to increase this dimension, and if they are teeny tiny you may want to make this template a little smaller. Err on the side of more space if you are unsure, as you can always trim your felt down smaller or adjust the depth of your whip stitches in step 6. Don't make the slip too roomy as felt stretches and you want your slip to be snug.
4. Cut out the paper template piece and then cut out one piece of felt using your template. **(photo d)** Use your first felt cut piece as the template for the second side of the slip so you are sure that they match perfectly. **(photo e & f)** For smaller scissors, it is easier to hand hold the template to the felt than to pin the template to the felt. You may prefer to pin if you are making a slip for larger scissors.
5. Using the whip stitch and 2 ply of embroidery floss, stitch around and around the top corner of one piece of felt to secure the thread, and then continue across the top single layer with the whip stitch. My stitches are not uniform (which is an aesthetic choice). When you reach the end of your first piece, connect the second piece at the top by making a few horizontal stitches and then continue to whip stitch across the top of the second piece. **(photo g)** When you reach the end, turn around and do a second row of whip stitches across the top so your stitches are close together and you end where you began. This second row can be in the same color or in a new color.
6. Now sandwich your two connected pieces together and attach the perimeters with the whip stitch. **(photo h)** ...continue to next page.





### Step 6, cont.

Be mindful not to make your stitches too deep into the felt as it is important to leave enough room to slip the scissors in. You may need to trim your felt as you work if it no longer lines up perfectly. Once you have stitched around both sides, try your scissor slips on (do not cut the thread). Are they nice and snug? Felt does stretch, so creating a tight fit is a good thing. You will now reverse directions and make a second line of whip stitches around the perimeter (aim to make concentration of stitches match your double-line of whip stitches along the top edges). Use the same color or incorporate a second color here. If your slip was not tight enough when you tested it out, you can make your stitches a bit deeper into the felt this time to ensure the proper fit. When you finish, tie a knot close to the end, pull your thread inside the slip to hide the knot on the inside, and trim the tail. Your slip is complete! (photo i & j)



## 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.

## THE WHIP STITCH

*This stitch is used to connect two pieces of fabric along the outer edge, to connect two overlapping pieces, or to make a decorative stitch along a single edge. 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:

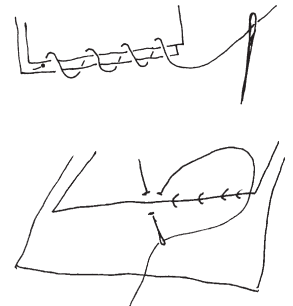
Thread your needle and tie a knot at the tail. Start your first stitch between the two layers of fabric to hide the knot. Wrap your thread around the two lined up edges and push your needle up through the two layers of fabric. Repeat.

### • 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.

### • MAKING A DECORATIVE STITCH ALONG A SINGLE EDGE:

Start with the knot on the back side of your fabric or make a few whip stitches in the same spot to secure the tail. Continue stitching along the edge, pushing your needle through the back side, around the edge, and back through the back side again. Travel your stitch along the edge going around and around the edge. A whip stitch along a single edge is both decorative and helps the felt to keep its shape.



### 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](http://www.katagolda.com)

