

Eared Fleece Hat

© Carol Kimball 2013

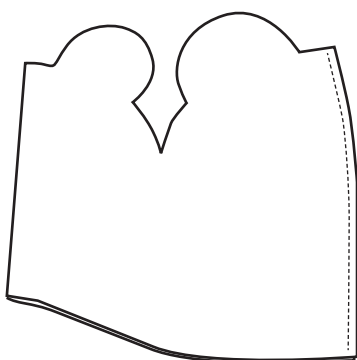


I designed these fleece hats to be soft, warm, and to have cute ears that don't need wires or stuffing. The back is cut longer to cover the back of the head without the front slipping down over the eyes. You're going to suspect the ears won't work. **TRUST THE PATTERN!**



There are two styles of hats in the pattern PDF. One has the ears built in (integral) and the other has floppy ones added. Sizes are child, smaller adult, and larger adult.

Print out two sets of the pages (only one side is given) for the hat(s) you want and flip one set over when you tape them together. Lay out and cut out the pattern with the degree of greatest stretch ("dogs") running the long way around the head.



If you're going to add eyes, nose, etc. do them before starting to sew together.

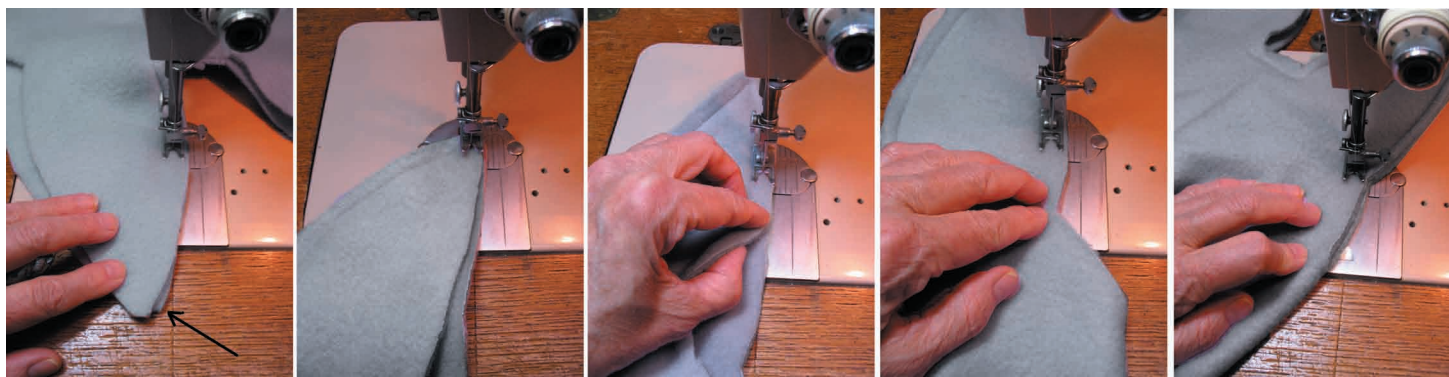
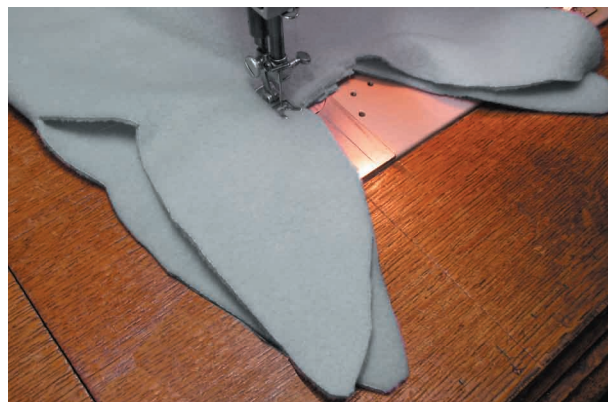
Integral ears:

1. Fold right sides together and sew the center back seam. All seams are 1/4 in.

2. Refold right sides together so that the center back and center front are on top of each other.

Align the short seams at the top of the head. Start at the center base of one ear and sew across. Leave the needle down, lift the presser foot, and turn. The bunny ears look worst at this step, so are shown.

DO NOT PULL, DO NOT STRETCH! The seams go together 1:1. Align the raw edges in short sections and sew about 1/2-3/4 in. (12-15 mm.) at a time. Put the needle down, lift the foot, pivot, align, sew.



(Above) look how the tips of the ears are off! When you actually get to them, they match. So does the rest.

When you get to the side fold, sew right off the edge of the fabric in a smooth line. Flip the hat over and repeat, sewing again at the top center.



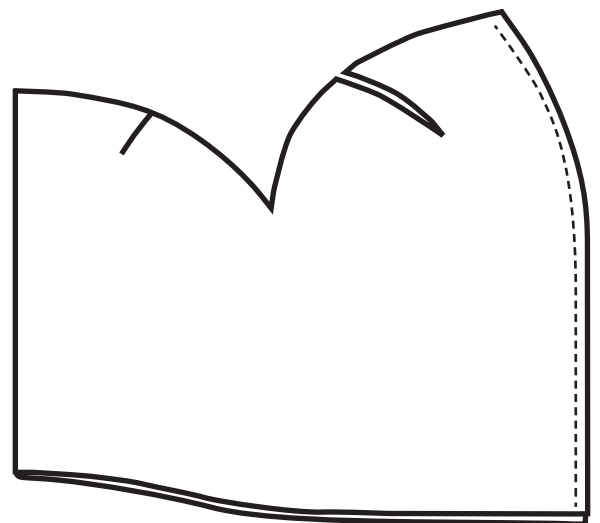
As sewn (above), and (at right) reversed. The ears' different shapes make them roll toward the front and stand up.

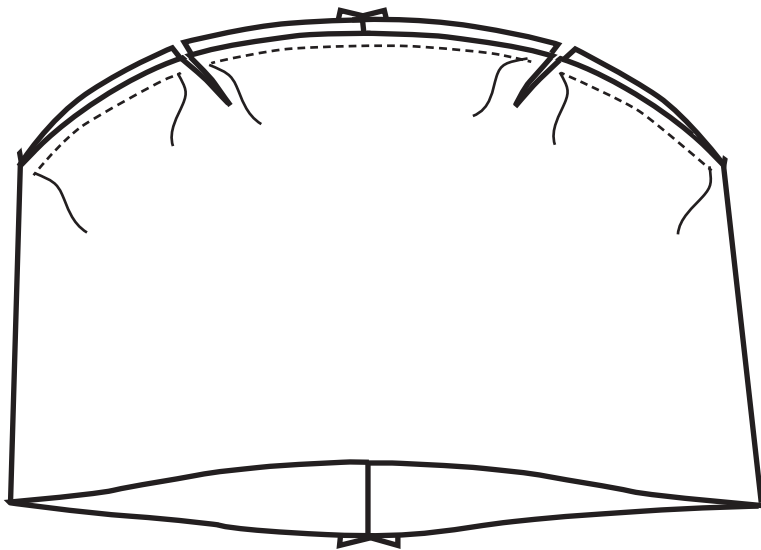


3. Clip the corners of the ears. Get close, but don't cut the stitching.
4. Turn the hat right-side-out.
5. Topstitch the ears 1/4 - 3/8" from the edge. The seam will roll slightly to the front.
6. Sew in a label, if you're using one.
7. Turn up a 1" fold to the inside to make a band and topstitch.

Instructions for floppy ears

1. Cut out main piece with degree of greatest stretch ("dogs") running around the head. Cut 4 ears - either all of same fabric as hat, or contrast.
2. Work eyes, nose, etc. on cut main piece.
3. Sew pairs of ears, right sides together. Turn, topstitch.
4. Fold main piece in half, right sides together, and sew the center back seam.





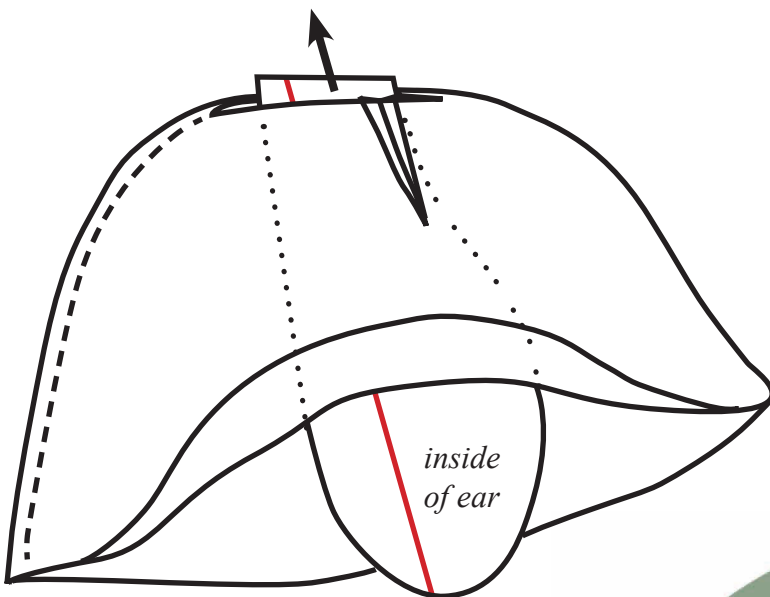
5. Refold the piece, right sides together, so that the center front and the center back meet. Sew the top in three sections, not going across the sideways slant openings.

6. With the hat still inside-out, rotate it so that the center back is to your left. Position an ear with its bump to the right and its contrast color (if you used that) on top. Work the raw end of the ear up through the slit a little more than you need to, pinch the raw edges even and sew across the opening. Look at the underside of the stitching you just did to be sure that you caught all layers.

7. Repeat with the other ear.

8. If you're using a label, sew it in.

9. Turn a 1" hem up to the inside and topstitch.



© 2013 Carol Kimball

These patterns and instructions may be freely duplicated and used to sew these hats, as long as not for profit and as long as this attribution to me is kept.

www.carolkimball.net

