

Geese

Aren't these geese wonderful, and such fun to make. The patterns are available in two sizes but the birds are both made the same way. For these geese we used one fabric for the geese body, another fabric for the beak and legs and a third for the cute scarf. If made using the Creating Memories fabrics in Winter Reds and Greens, as we have, these geese would make charming Christmas decorations.

Materials (for one small and one large)

- Fabric 1 for the body: Large goose 28in x 22in (71cm x 56cm) Small goose 22in x 17in (56cm x 43cm)
- Fabric 2 for the beak: Large goose 7½in x 3½in (19cm x 9cm) Small goose 7in x 3in (18cm x 7.5cm)
- Fabric 2 for the legs: Large goose 10in x 13in (25cm x 33cm) Small goose 8in x 10in (20cm x 25cm)
- Fabric 3 for the scarf: Large scarf 16½in x 2½in (42cm x 6.5cm) Small scarf 12½in x 2in (32cm x 5cm)
- Toy stuffing (fibrefill)
- Dried rice 100–150 grams (4–6 ounces)
- Wooden stick for stuffing
- Black stranded embroidery cotton (floss), to sew eyes
- Lipstick or rouge and a brush to apply rosy cheeks

Finished sizes

Large: 17³/₄in (45cm) tall approx. Small: 14¹/₂in (37cm) tall approx.

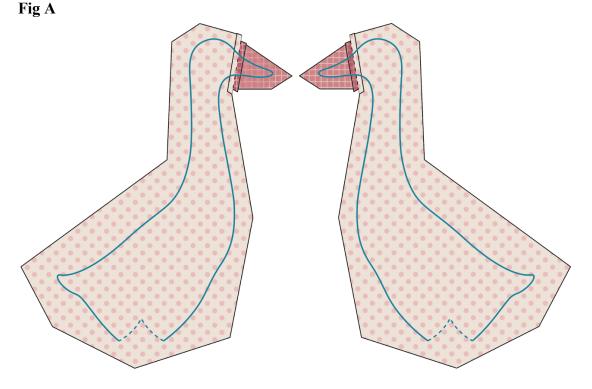
General Notes

- Read all the project instructions through before you start.
- Use thick paper for copying patterns, ensuring the patterns are full size.
- On the patterns, the solid line is the sewing line. This allows you to add your own seam allowance.
- When sewing the seams, reduce your stitch length to 1.5mm–1.6mm.
- To get a good shape, cut snips in the seam allowance where a seam curves tightly inwards.
- After turning, pull the wooden stick along the inside of the seam to make sure you press out all the creases and folds before ironing.
- Stuff well, using a stick to fill small areas.
- Sew up gaps with matching thread and small slipstitches.

Making a Goose

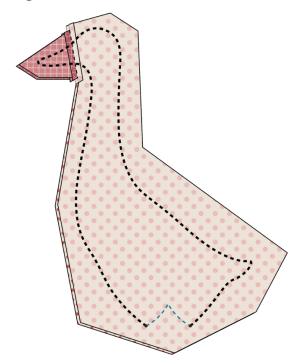
1 Copy the pattern pieces onto thick paper and cut out the shapes. If needed, join the pattern pieces together where shown on the patterns.

2 Using Fabric 1 for the body, use the pattern to draw two mirrored versions of the body on the wrong side of the fabric and roughly cut out. Using Fabric 2 for the beak, draw two mirrored versions of the beak on the wrong side of the fabric and roughly cut them out. Now sew the body and beak pieces together, making sure that the seam allowance along the edges that will be sewn together matches exactly (**Fig A**).

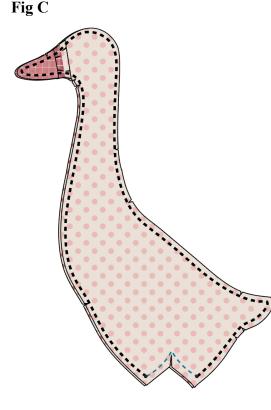


3 Place the two beak/body pieces right sides together, making sure that the seams between the beak and body line up. Now sew around on the marked pattern, leaving the opening in the bottom, as shown in **Fig B**.

Fig B



4 Cut out the goose shape with a seam allowance all round. Cut little notches where the seams curve inwards (Fig C). Snipping into the seam allowance caught in the seam between the fabrics will also help you get a better shape. Turn through to the right side and press well before filling.



5 For the goose to stand you will need to add some weight to the tail/stomach area, so fill these areas with a good amount of dry rice – about 100 grams (4 ounces) for the small goose and about 150 grams (6 ounces) for the large goose. Finish by adding a little stuffing in front of the opening to prevent the rice from drizzling out. Close the opening across the body by pinning, so the seam meets in the middle, and then had sew.

6 To make the legs, fold the leg fabric in half, right sides together, and press. Mark two legs on the doubled fabric and then sew on the marked lines, leaving gaps at the top (Fig D). Cut out the legs with a small seam allowance and cut notches where the seams turn inwards.

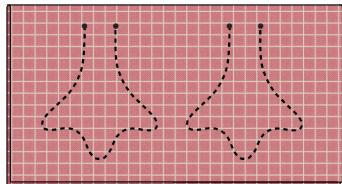
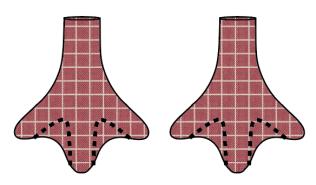


Fig D

7 Turn the legs through with the help of a flower stick and then press. To create the look of webbed feet, machine sew two seams on each foot, as marked with a dotted line on the pattern and shown in **Fig E**. Stuff the feet outside of these sewn seams using a wooden stick.





8 Attach the legs to the body by placing the extra seam allowance on the legs inside the opening on the body, one on each side of the body, and pin (**Fig F**). It is easier to turn the goose upside down while you are doing this to prevent the rice from drizzling out. Sew up the opening at the same time as attaching the legs.





Making the Scarf

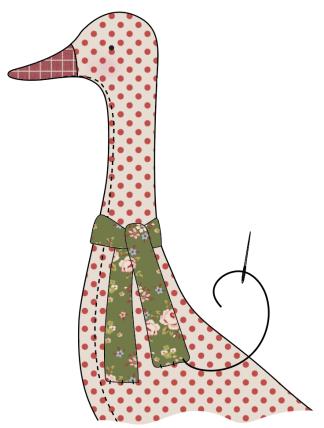
9 To make the scarf, take the strip of Fabric 3 and fold it in half along the length, right sides together. Sew a seam along one short edge and the long edge, leaving one short end open (**Fig G**). Turn through to the right side, fold in the seam allowance and press. Sew up the opening.

Fig G



10 Tie the scarf on the goose's neck and secure the ends of the scarf to the goose with a few stitches (Fig H). Sew eyes using all six strands of the black embroidery cotton and French knots, with the thread wrapped two to three times around the needle. For a finishing touch brush a little rouge or lipstick on the cheeks for a rosy glow.

Fig H



Large Goose Full size

