

# ISADORA MOON

## Make Your Own Pink Rabbit



Oxford  
Children's  
Books

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Welcome to the

## Make Your Own Pink Rabbit Guide

I've had lots of requests for people wanting their own Pink Rabbit, like the one I've been taking to events. He's not commercially available (yet!), but hopefully this guide will help you to make your own. You will need a sewing machine and a bit of sewing know-how to make your own, so this project won't really be suitable for children to make. If you want a quicker or more child-friendly project, you might like to try my easy-to-make Pink Rabbit pattern, which is also available on my website at [harrietmuncaster.co.uk/resources](http://harrietmuncaster.co.uk/resources).

I made my Pink Rabbit model over a few hours in the days leading up to an event. As there was no pattern, I had to make him up as I went along using materials I already had or could find online or in craft and charity shops. My crafty husband Henry helped me put Pink Rabbit together, but neither of us are sewing professionals. This means that the way we made Pink Rabbit may not be the best or only way to make him. What I mean to say is, if you think there's a better way of doing part of this guide, then trust your instincts and give it a go. Similarly, if you don't have the exact materials I've listed, then improvise with what you do have.

If you do find a better (or just different!) way of making Pink Rabbit, do let me know through my twitter, facebook or Instagram, or get in touch at [harrietmuncaster.co.uk/contact](http://harrietmuncaster.co.uk/contact). I'll try and add your suggestion to an updated version of this guide for others to try.

Happy making!

Harriet Muncaster x



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To make your Pink Rabbit you will need:

- ★ Sewing machine
- ★ Sharp sewing scissors
- ★ Plenty of pink and black cotton thread
- ★ Box of pins
- ★ Black wool or thick black thread
- ★ Thin sewing needle for cotton
- ★ Thick sewing needle for wool
- ★ Pink fleece (you could try velvet or short fur instead)\*
- ★ Black cotton or jersey
- ★ White cotton or jersey
- ★ 1 bag soft toy hollowfibre stuffing
- ★ Soft toy beads / bean stuffing
- ★ 2 black buttons / round black teddy bear eyes
- ★ White fur / white fluffy ball / white pom-pom
- ★ 4 teddy bear joints (optional but recommended)
- ★ Stiff wire / 2 wire coat hangers for the ears (optionally leave out to make Pink Rabbit a little more child-safe)

\* The amount of fleece depends on how big you want Pink Rabbit. If you print the pattern onto A4 paper, 50cm x 150cm pink fleece should be enough. For A3 size, I recommend 100cm x 150cm. This should give you room to make one or two mistakes.



1. On the following pages you will find the pattern for all the shapes that make up Pink Rabbit. Depending on the size of Rabbit you want to make you can either:

- a) Print the pattern onto A4 paper
- b) Print the pattern onto A3 paper
- c) Copy the pattern freehand onto paper

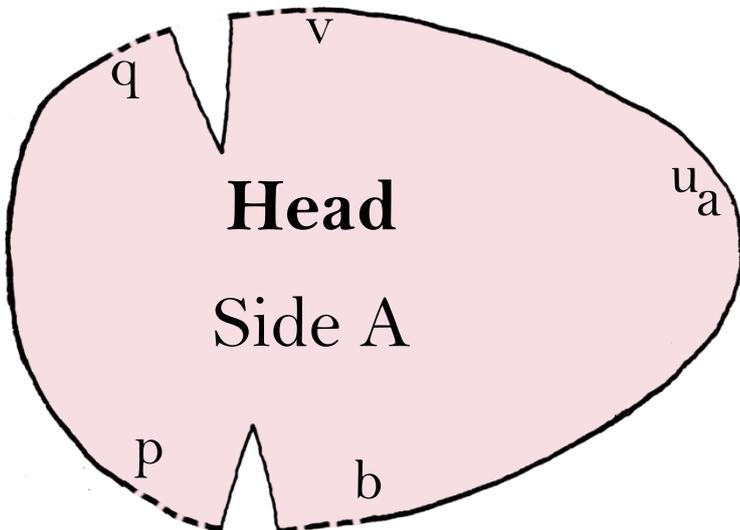
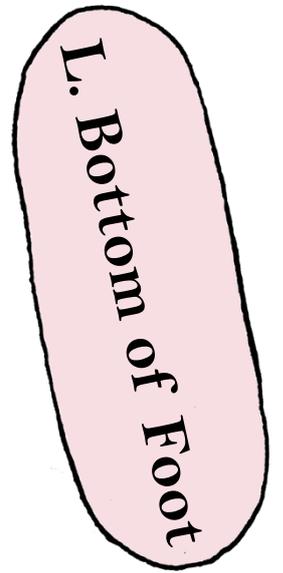
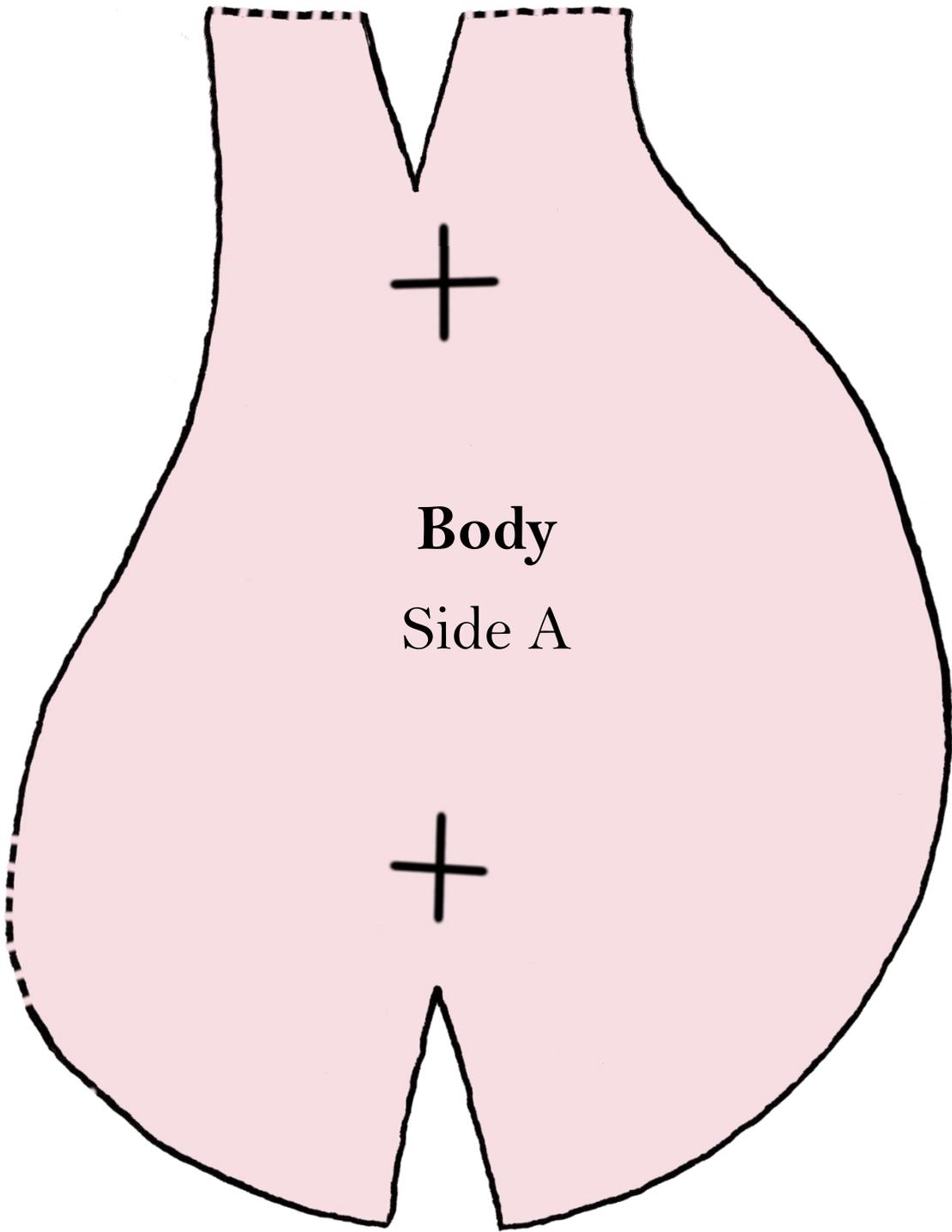
The actual size of your pieces doesn't matter too much, as long as you keep them all the same size relative to each other. Obviously, the bigger you make your Pink Rabbit, the more materials you will need.

(I drew my Pink Rabbit pattern freehand, so it is about halfway between A4 and A3. Mine is roughly one-and-a-half times as big as A4.)

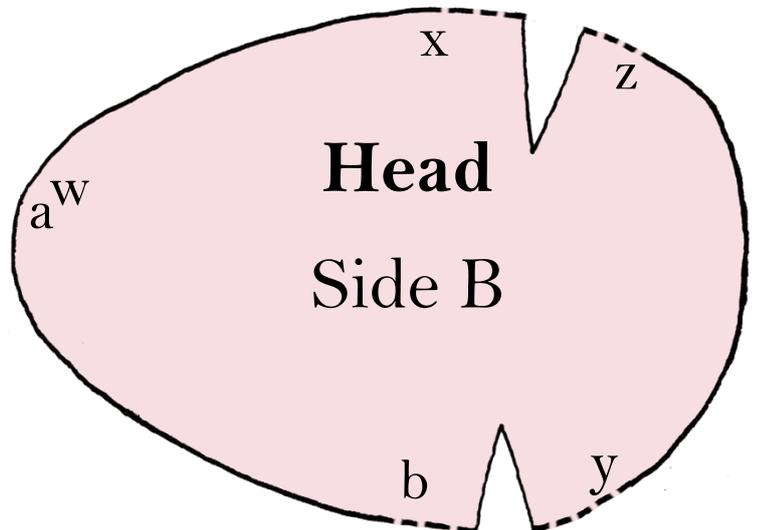
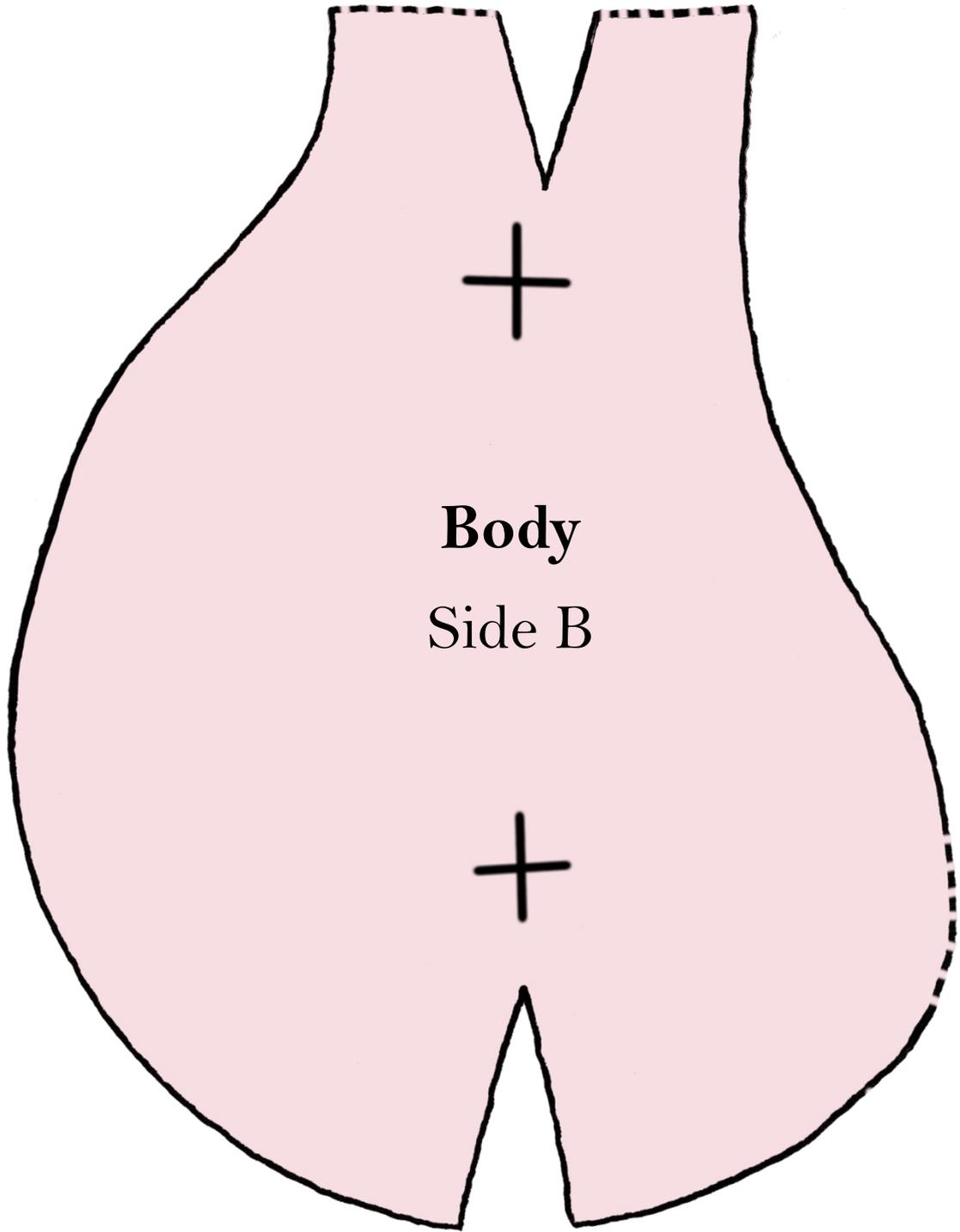
2. Cut out your paper pattern and pin all the cut-outs (except for the Inner Ear and Tail shapes) onto your pink fleece to hold them in place.

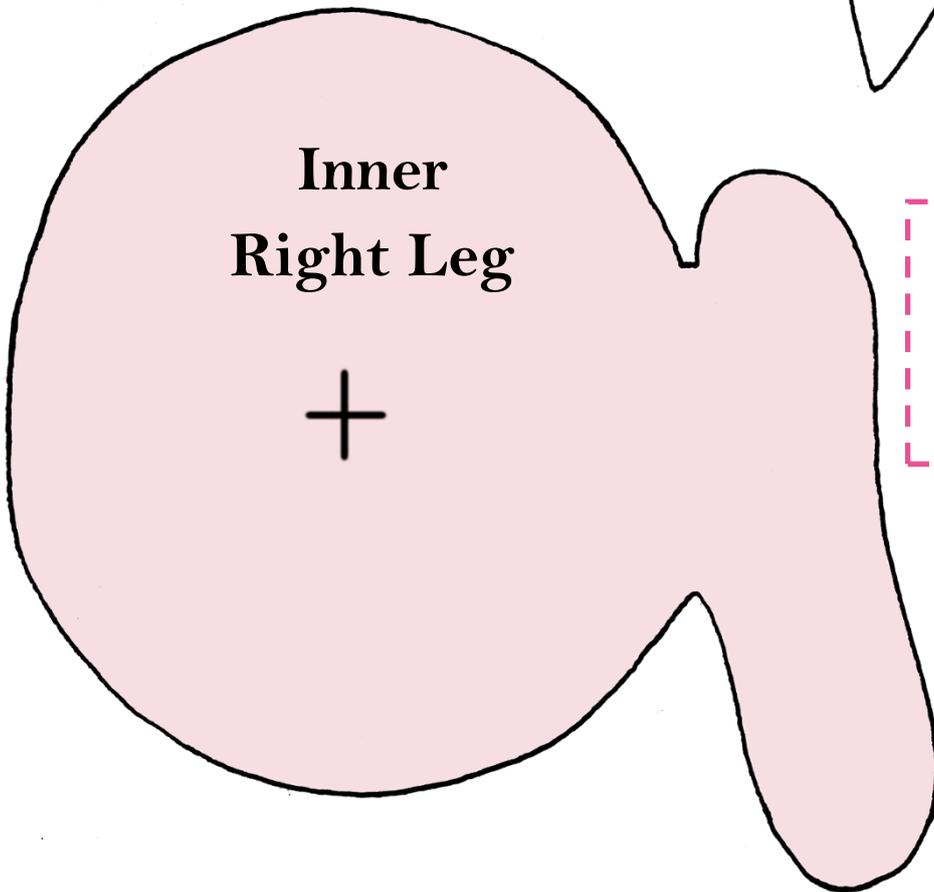
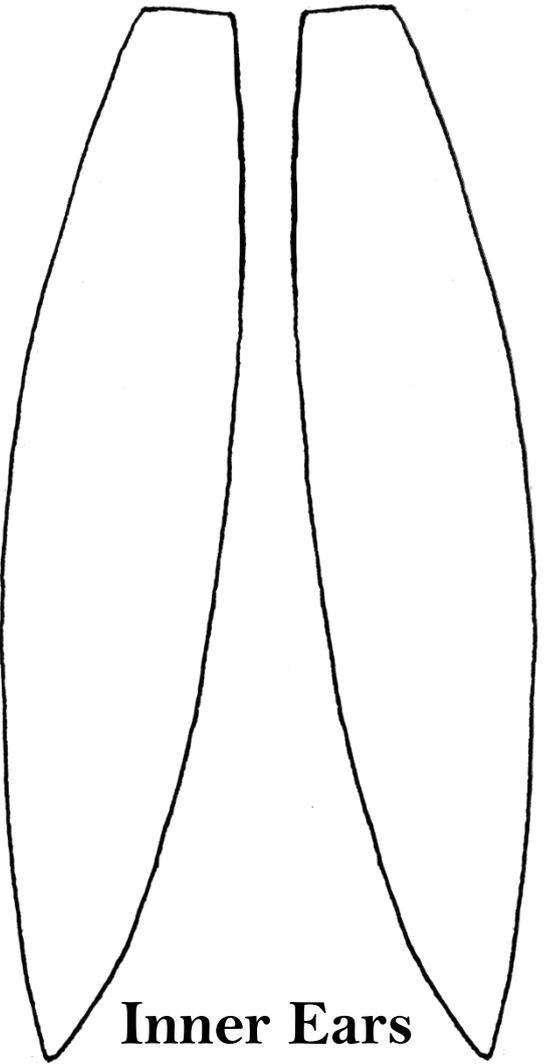
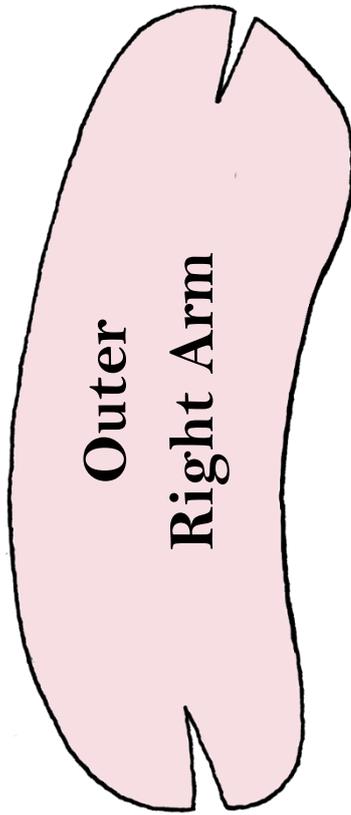
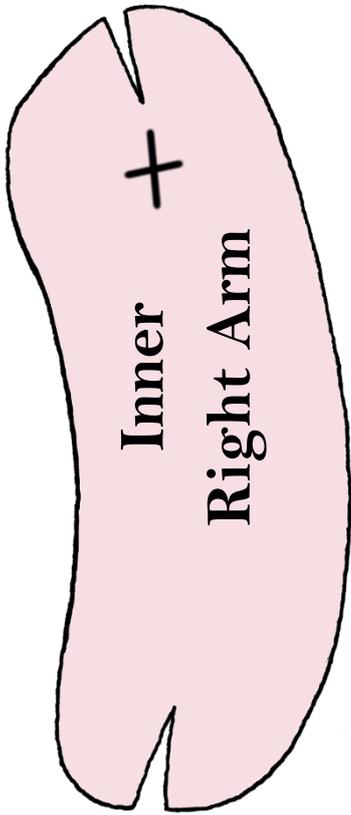
3. Cut around the paper shapes to make these fleece shapes:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Front of Left Ear  | <input type="checkbox"/> Inner Right Arm       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Back of Left Ear   | <input type="checkbox"/> Outer Right Arm       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Front of Right Ear |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Back of Right      | <input type="checkbox"/> Inner Left Leg        |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Outer Left Leg        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Head top x 1       | <input type="checkbox"/> Inner Right Leg       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Head side A x 1    | <input type="checkbox"/> Outer Right Leg       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Head side B x 1    |  |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> L. Bottom of foot x 1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Body side A x 1    | <input type="checkbox"/> R. Bottom of foot x 1 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Body side B x 1    |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Inner Left Arm     |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Outer Left Arm     |  |

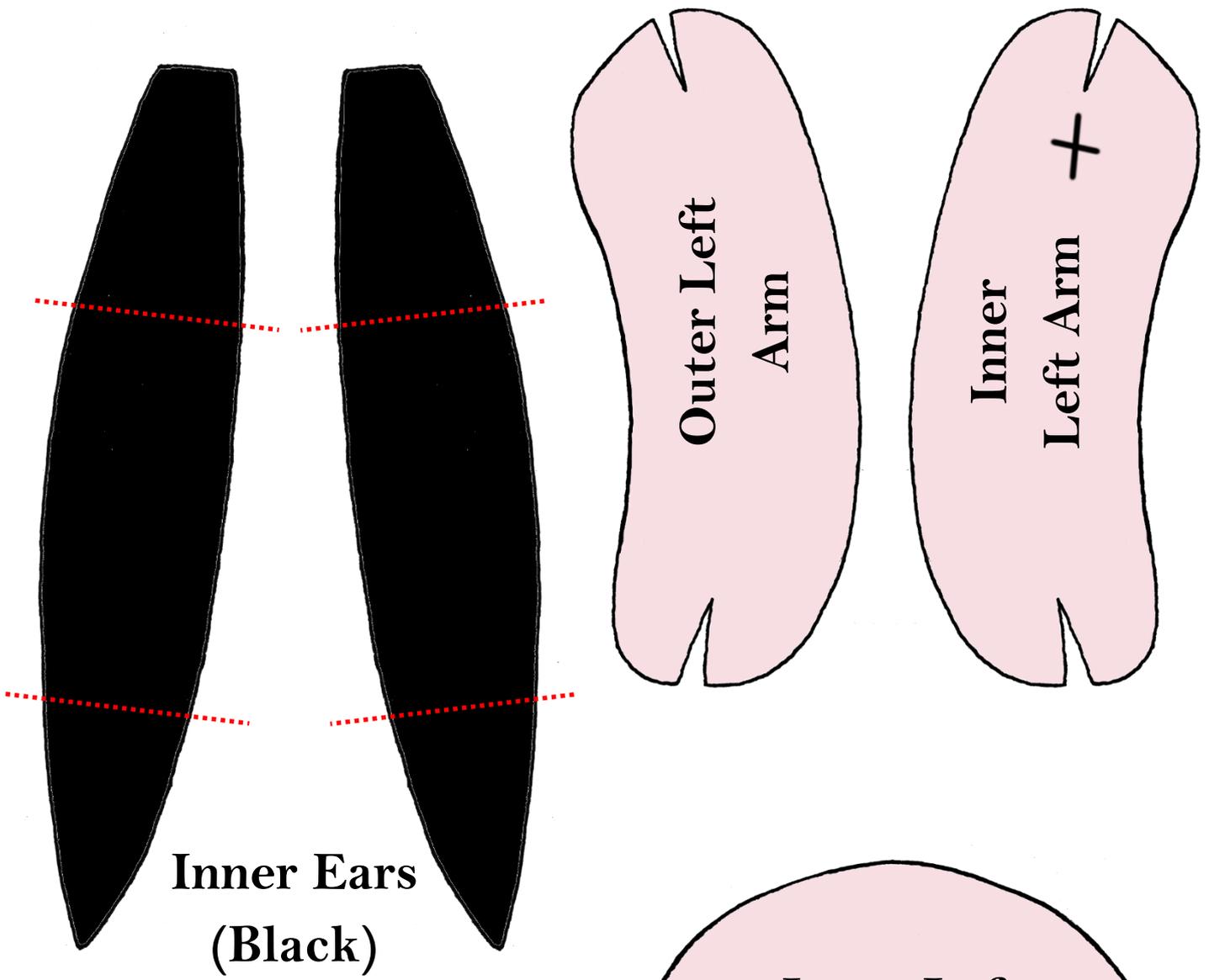


*R. Bottom of Foot*



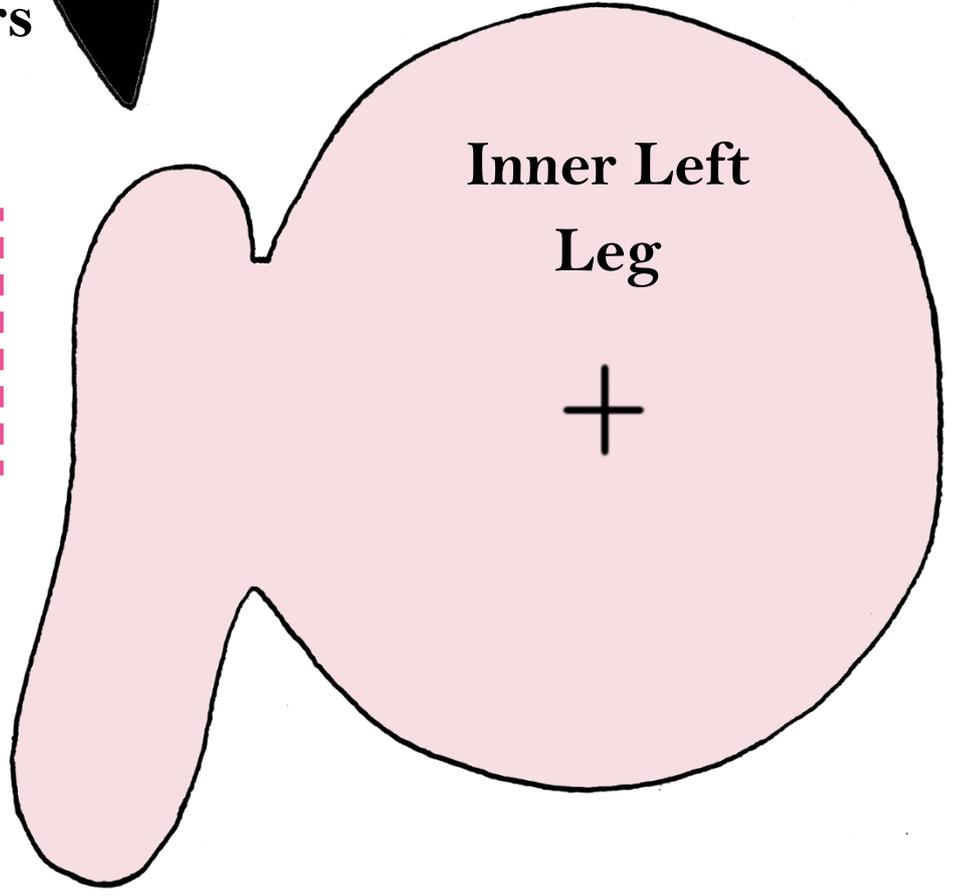


Cut Inner Ears  
(White) from white  
jersey or cotton.

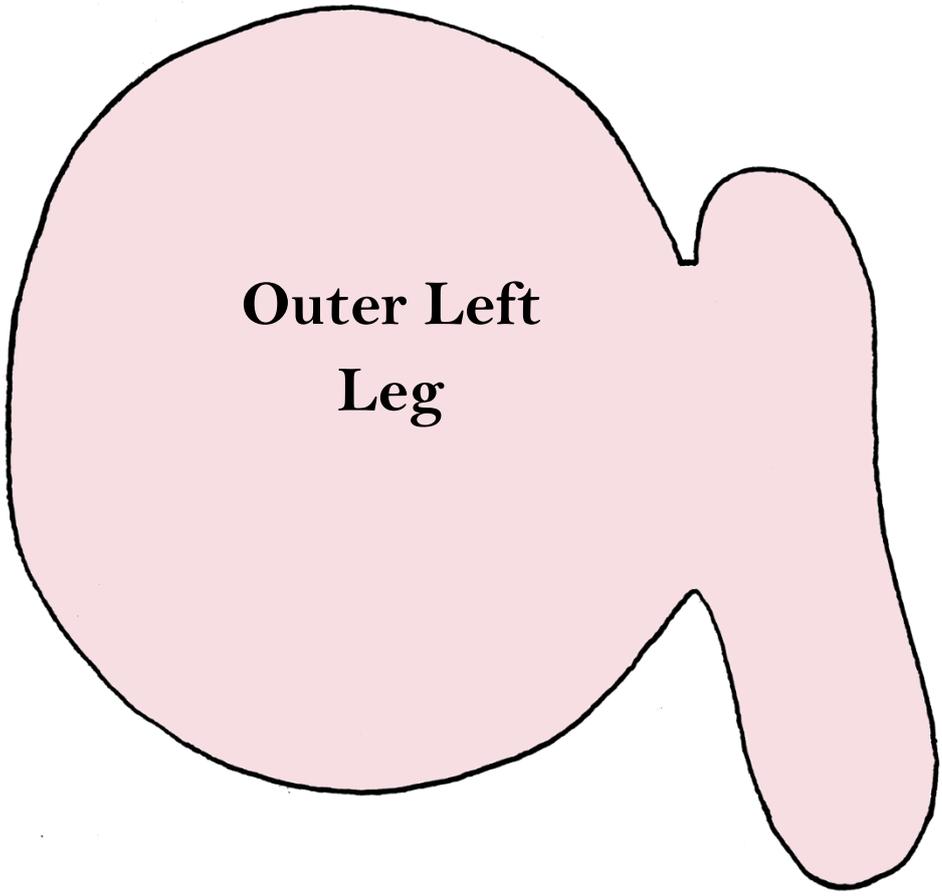


**Inner Ears  
(Black)**

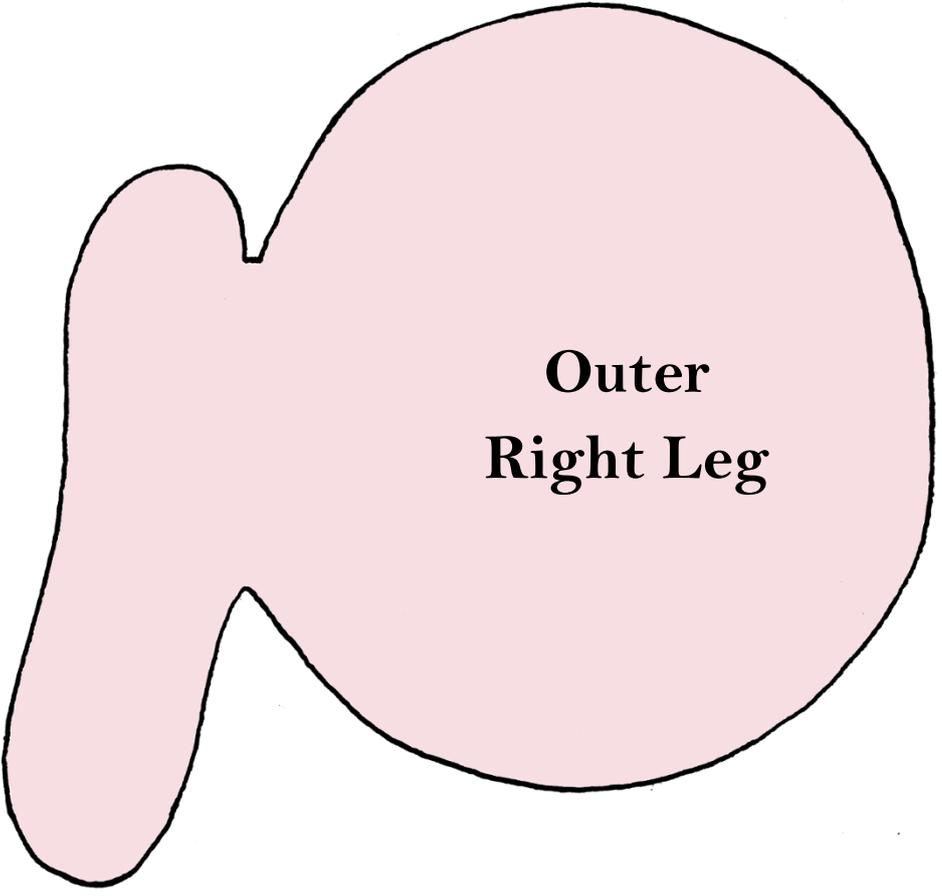
Cut Inner Ears  
(Black) from black  
jersey or cotton.



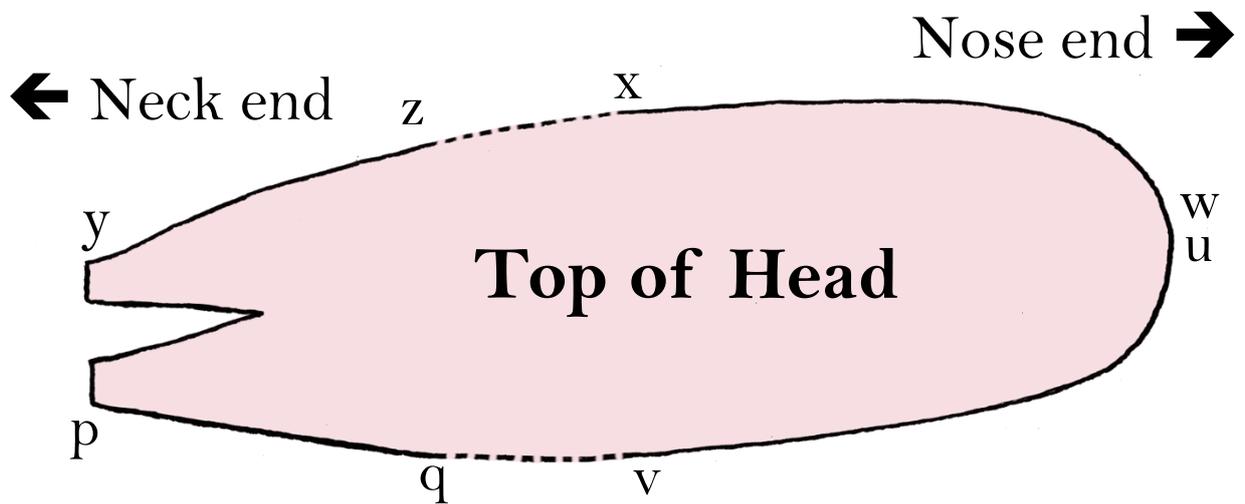
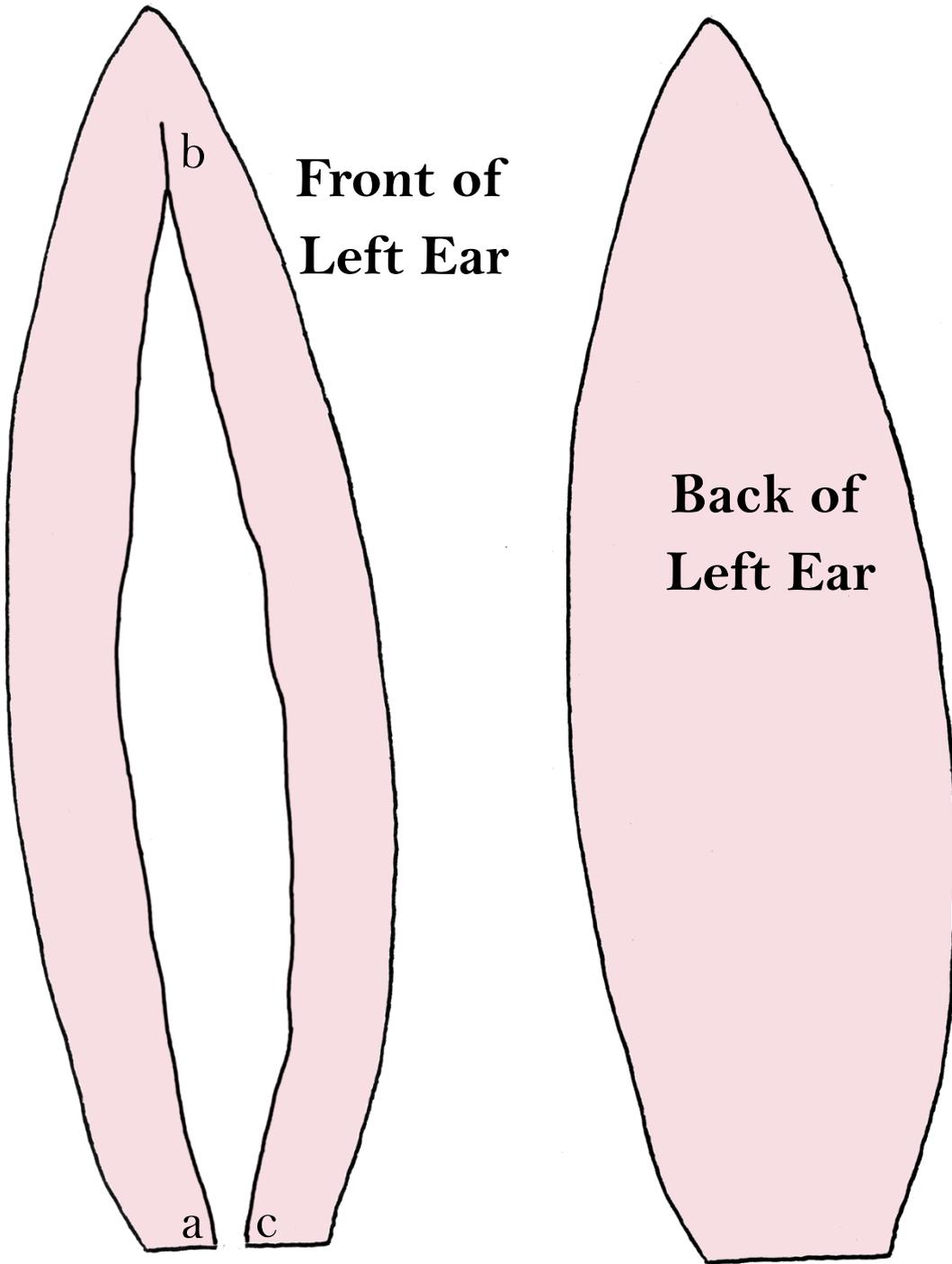
**Inner Left  
Leg**  
+

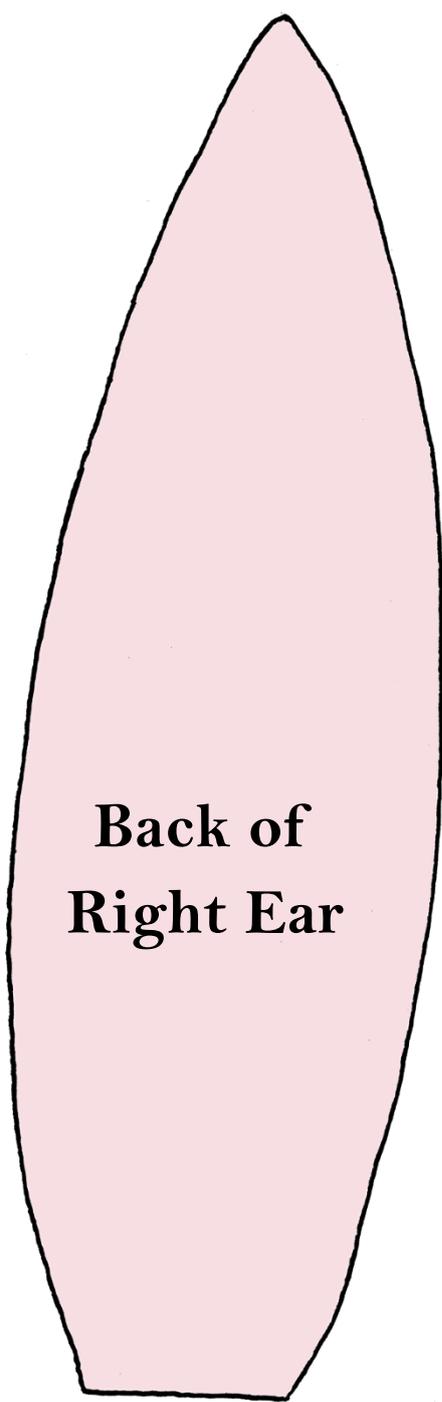


**Outer Left  
Leg**



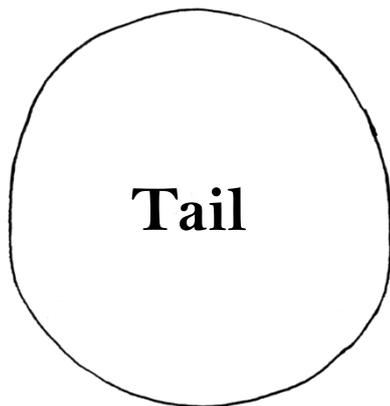
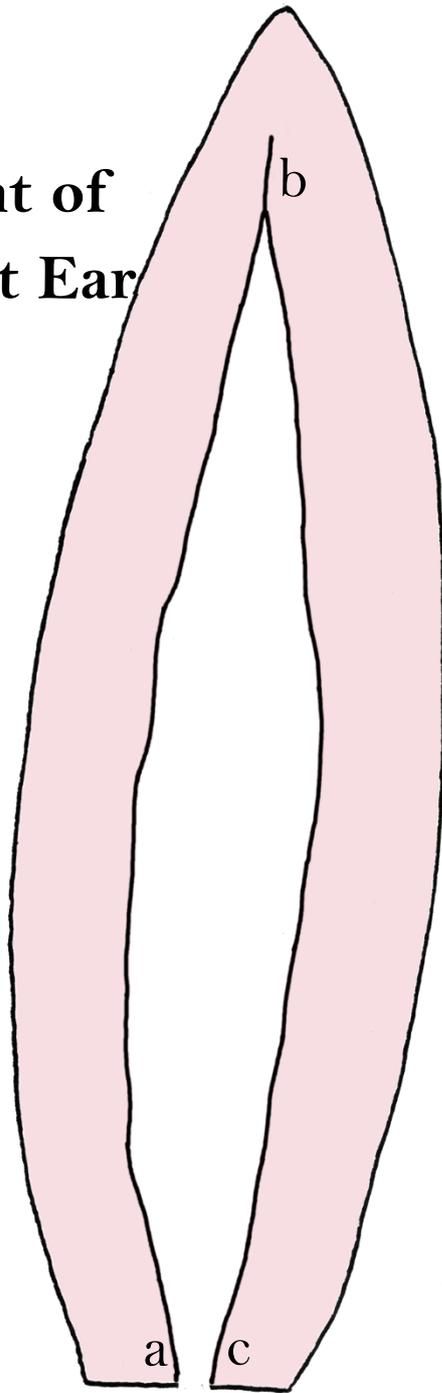
**Outer  
Right Leg**





**Back of  
Right Ear**

**Front of  
Right Ear**



**Tail**

Cut Tail from white  
fur (or use pom-pom  
or white fluffy ball)

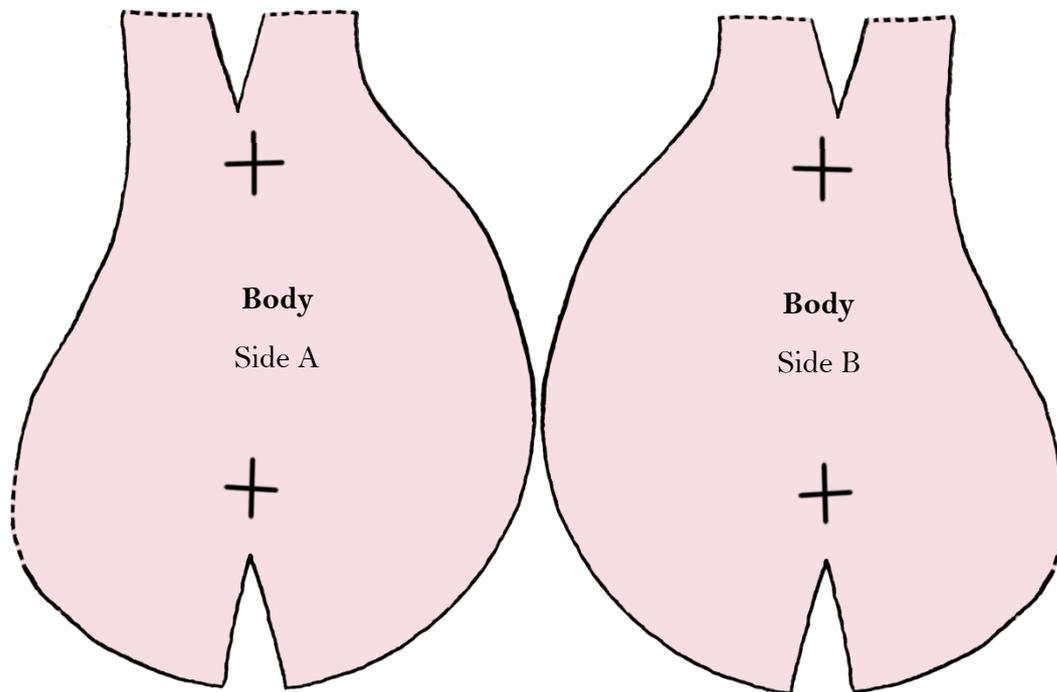


## 1. Body

The body and arms are two of the most straightforward parts of Pink Rabbit.

1. Make sure the wrong side of the fabric is facing up and pin together the two slits at the top and bottom of the body pieces.
2. Sew the two slits together using your sewing machine and remove the pins.
3. Now put the two body pieces on top of each other so that the stitches you just made are showing on the outside and the right sides are together.
4. Pin them together and then sew them using your machine. When you sew them, make sure to leave a gap at the neck and for the tail (where the dashed lines are).

Tip – Wrong and Right Sides: The 'right' side is the side of the fabric that is meant to be seen; the 'wrong' side is the side that will be hidden in the finished product.



2. Sew these slits together on the wrong side.

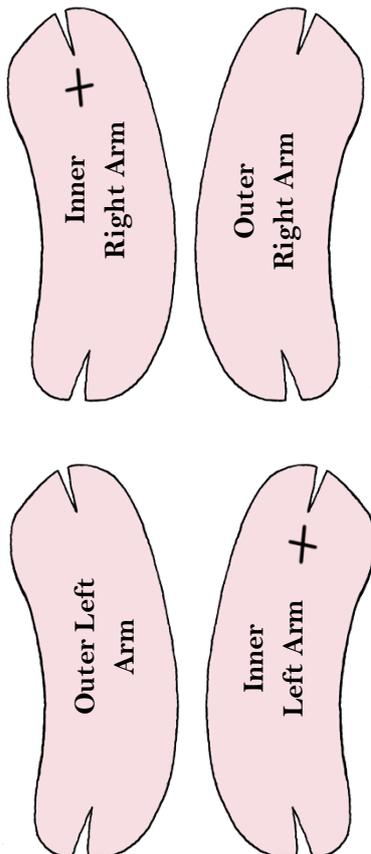
4. Don't sew these dashed bits together!



## 2. Arms

The arms are a simple shape, but have the added detail of Pink Rabbit's distinctive black stitching.

1. Pin and sew the top and bottom slits of each arm piece on the wrong side like you did for the body.
2. Take one Arm side A and one Arm side B and turn them wrong side up.
3. To do the stitching, thread your needle with a length of black wool or thick black thread. Tie a knot in the wool/thread and pull it through as far as the knot near the top of the arm.
4. Push the wool/thread back a few centimetres further along the arm. Loop the wool/thread back on itself to create a continuous line along the middle of the arm. This is known as 'backstitching'.
5. Pink Rabbit has 8 or 9 stitches on his arms. Push the wool/thread through the wrong side where the first stitch will start, and run it across the long black line, then push it back through to the wrong side. Repeat this 7 or 8 more times to make all the stitches. This is called 'ladder stitch'.
6. Make sure the wool/thread isn't too tight, or it will pull on the fleece, then tie the two ends together to secure.
7. Now pin and sew each of the stitched arm pieces to each of the non-stitched arm pieces, leaving one end of each arm open to add the stuffing later.



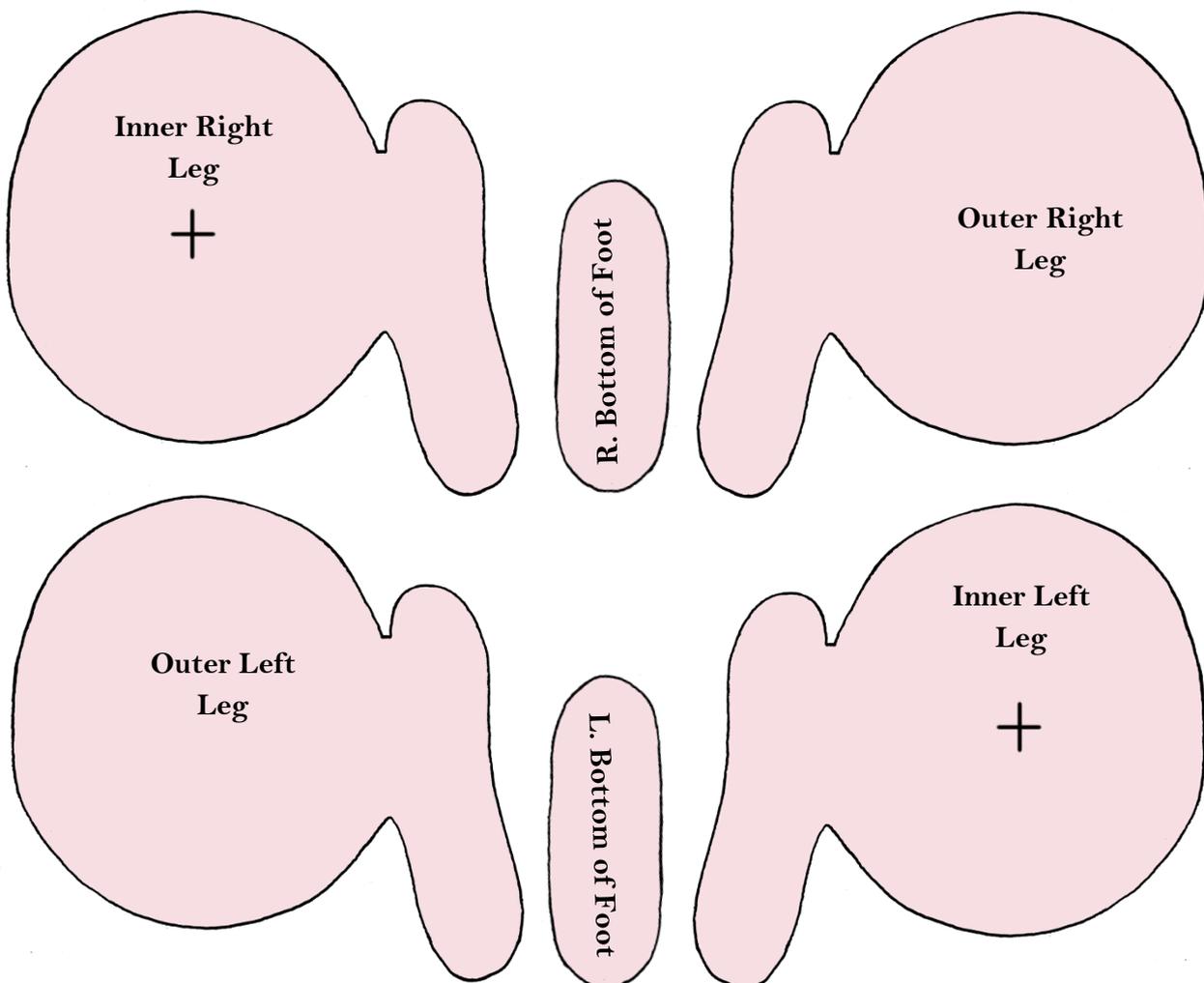
Close-up of stitching on finished arm



### 3. Legs

The legs are made in a similar way to the arms – they're just a slightly more difficult shape!

1. Pin and sew the leg slits like you did for the arms and body.
2. Use your needle and black wool/thread to add stitching to one Leg side A and one Leg side B, just like for the arms. Pink Rabbit has 9 or 10 stitches on his legs, but do the number that looks right for your model.
3. Pin and sew the legs together like you did for the arms. The main difference here is that you also have to sew on the two Bottom of Foot pieces as well. Remember, the Bottom of Foot pieces will need to be attached as near to the front of Pink Rabbit's feet as possible. I find it best to pin the pieces in place before sewing them so you get a sense of the finished shape.
4. You may find it easiest to sew the Bottom of Foot pieces on by hand, but I did it with a sewing machine by folding the fabric and sewing each side of the foot separately.

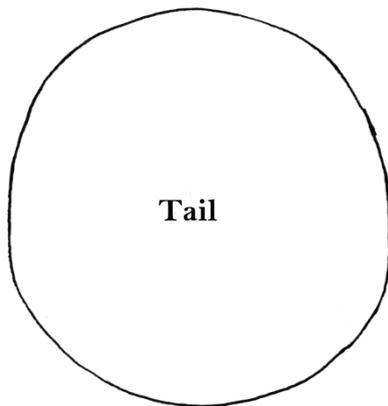




## 4. Tail

Pink Rabbit's tail is just a fluffy white ball. I've just stuffed a piece of white fur, but you could use a bought or made pom-pom instead. (Skip steps 1-3 if you're using a ready-made pom-pom or fluffy ball)

1. Cut the circular Tail shape out of a piece of white fur.
2. Using a long piece of strong thread or wool, make a running stitch around the outside of the circle. When you pull the thread tight, it will close up like a sack into a ball shape.
3. Fill the tail with stuffing, then pull the thread tight. Tie the ends of the thread, but don't cut it.
4. You can use the remaining end of the thread to stitch the tail onto the body. Stitching the tail directly onto the bit of the hem on the body we left open before will help keep the stitches out of sight.
5. Once the tail is attached, you can hand-stitch the hem where the tail is attached to secure it.





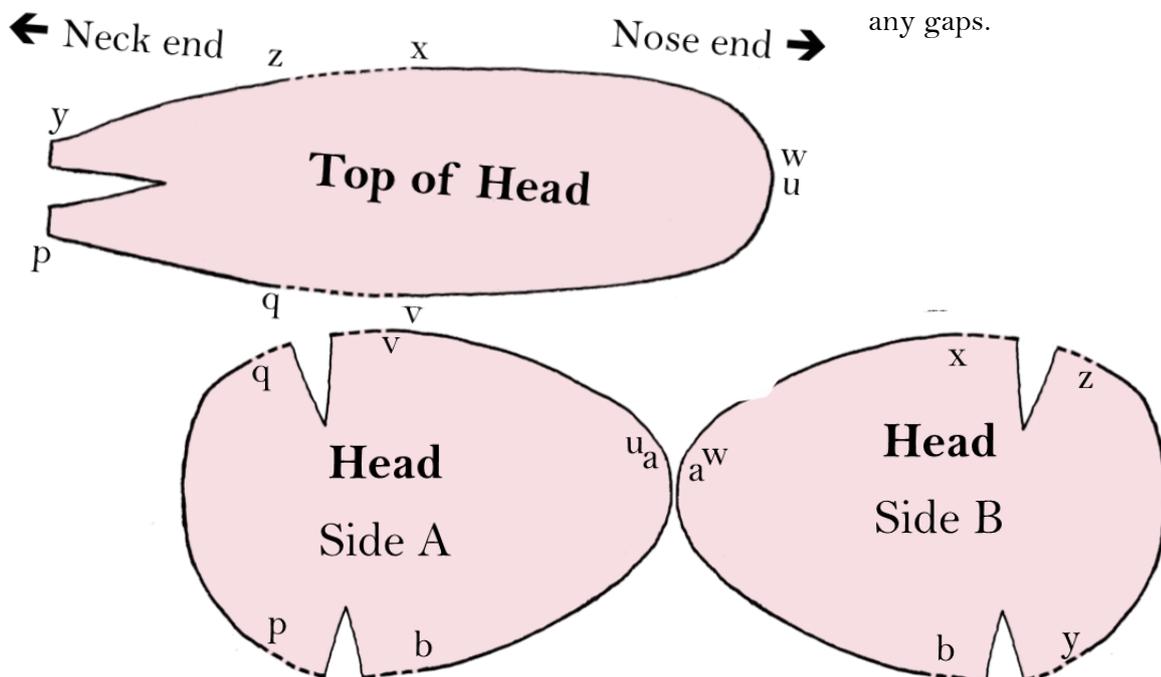
## 5. Head

Now it gets tricky! Key points to be aware of:

- ★ Don't stitch the place where the ears will go yet.
- ★ Take extra care when joining up the nose to avoid it looking messy.
- ★ Remember to attach the eyes and mouth before the ears.

This is a bit like a fiddlier version of the bottom of Pink Rabbit's feet because his head is made of three separate pieces instead of just two. Start by making sure your Head Side A, Head Side B and Top of Head pieces are all facing wrong side up.

1. Sew the two slits at the top and bottom of Head Side A and Head Side B together, like you did for the body, arms and legs.
2. Head Side A and Head Side B are only joined directly to each other along the chin from the bottom of the neck to the nose. These two points are marked 'a' and 'b' on the pattern, so pin and stitch along the edge from 'a' to 'b'.
3. The rest of the Head Side A and B edges all attach to Top of Head. I've marked the places where they join to the top of the head using the letters p-z. This means you need to pin and stitch along the lines 'p' to 'q' and 'u' to 'v' etc.
4. Where there are dashes (such as between 'q' and 'v') don't pin or sew this because this is where the ears will attach.
5. When it comes to the nose, where 'a', 'w' and 'u' all meet, your stitches will cross over each other. Try to make sure that the 'u-v' and 'w-x' stitches cross over the 'a-b' line in roughly the same place. This will ensure that Pink Rabbit has an even nose without any gaps.



## 5. Head continued

6. Turn the head inside-out and position one eye on the head where you think it should go. Use pictures from the books or your own judgement to work this out, but his eyes are roughly halfway between his nose and the back of his head, and about a third of the way down from the top. Make a mark where you will put the eye.
7. Flatten out the head so the two sides touch, and make a mark in the same place on the opposite side.
8. The sort of eye you use will affect how you attach it. I used a smooth-fronted button with a loop at the back, so I made two little holes in the fabric, pushed the loop through, and secured it in place with a twist of wire so it couldn't go back through the hole. If you're using proper teddy bear eyes you will also need to make a hole, then just push the eye through and clip the backing plastic in place. For regular buttons, don't make a hole but just stitch them in place.
9. Finally, for the mouth, just stitch in some black wool using the same method you used to create 'stitches' on his arms and legs.



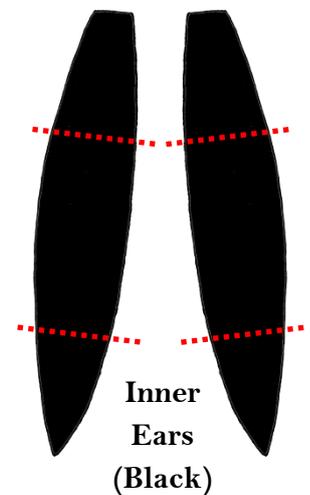
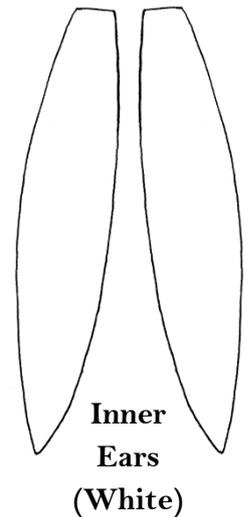


## 6. Ears

The ears are also a bit fiddly due to the black and white stripes of Pink Rabbit's inner ears.

### Part I – The Inner Ears

1. Cut the white inner ears out of white cotton or jersey, and the black inner ears out of black cotton or jersey.
2. Leave the white pieces whole, but cut the black inner ears as indicated by the red dashed line on the pattern. This will give you three pieces of black material for each ear.
3. Lay the black pieces over the white pieces so the each white piece is completely covered by black.
4. Lift the middle black piece up and fold its top and bottom edges under itself. Do the same for the bottom edge of the top black piece, and the top edge of the bottom black piece. This will expose two bands of white underneath the three bands of black. Adjust your folds in the black pieces so that all five bands are the same height.
5. Once you are happy with the white and black bands, pin the black pieces in place on top of the white, and then sew them in place using black thread as close to the fold as possible.
6. It will look quite messy at the moment, especially at the top and bottom of the inner ears. You can trim any overhanging black pieces, but don't worry that some bits will be quite flappy for now.



### Part II – The Outer Ears

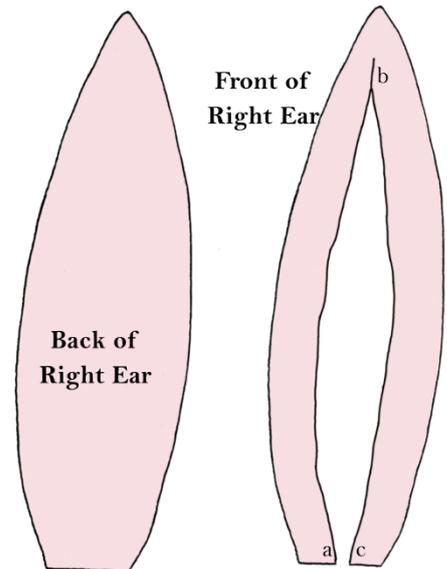
1. Lay the Front Ear pieces over your stripy Inner Ear pieces, both right side up. You need to stitch a hem where the two pieces join along the edge from 'a' to 'b' and 'c' to 'b'.
2. Fold the Front Ear in half long-ways, so that the wrong side shows for half the front ear. Note: don't just flip the whole piece over, or it will go on backwards!
3. Pin and sew the Front Ear along the wrong side from 'a' to 'b'. You'll be bending the pink fleece in the opposite direction to its curve as you sew it, so it might not feel quite like it fits, but you just need to force it into submission!
4. Fold it back to reveal the neat hem. Now repeat on the other side of the inner ear for the line 'c' to 'b'.



## 6. Ears continued

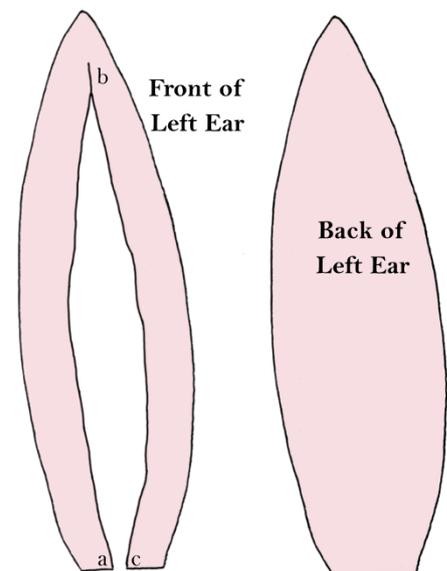
### Part III – Put the ears together

1. Lay the right side of the Back of Ear pieces against the right side of the Front of Ear pieces to make two inside-out ears.
2. Sew these together along the edge and turn them inside out to reveal two floppy ears.
3. As Pink Rabbit's ears stand up straight, we now need to make them stiff. Get two metal wire coat hangers. Using a pair of wire cutters (most household pliers have wire cutters built-in) snip off the curved part of the hangers, just above the twist of wire that holds them together (See diagram on next page).
4. Cover over the wire where you cut it with some electrical tape to prevent any sharp edges poking through the fabric.
5. Stretch out the coat hanger by pulling down on the bit opposite the 'twist' and pushing the two 'shoulders' towards each other, first into a diamond shape, then in to the long shape of Pink Rabbit's ears.
6. Push the wire frame into the ears and make any necessary adjustments to get the right shape.



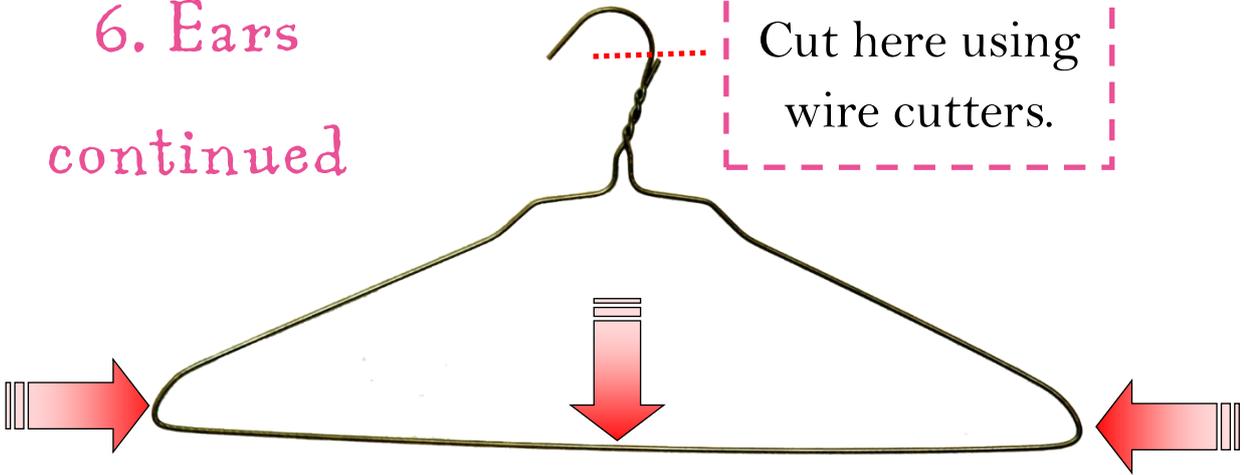
### Part IV – Attaching the ears to the head

1. Place the two complete ears in their relevant holes in the head, so the wire twists at the end of the coat hangers poke through into the head. (They should be long enough to poke right through and out the bottom of his neck, giving his head and ears more support once attached to the body.)
2. Hand-sew the ears onto the head and close up any open gaps around the ear holes. It may help to turn the head inside-out for this.
3. Start stuffing the head. You can make adjustments to the position of the ears as you do this, using the wire that pokes through the bottom of the head. Pack the stuffing in as tightly as you can around the coat hangers and through the whole head to keep the ears firmly in position.
4. It's a good idea to cover the ends of the coat hanger wire with something as they may be sharp enough to poke through the material. I covered the ends with a couple of layers of think electrical tape, but you could stitch or glue some spare fabric over, or use some leftover polystyrene packaging.

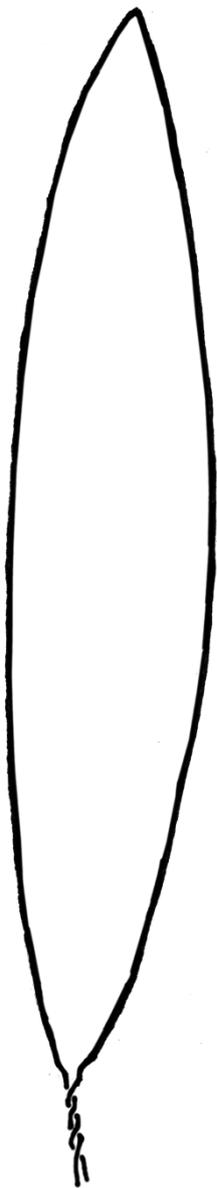


6. Ears  
continued

Cut here using  
wire cutters.



Bend in the direction of the arrows to  
make a tall 'rabbit ear' shape.



Coat hanger bent  
to ear shape.

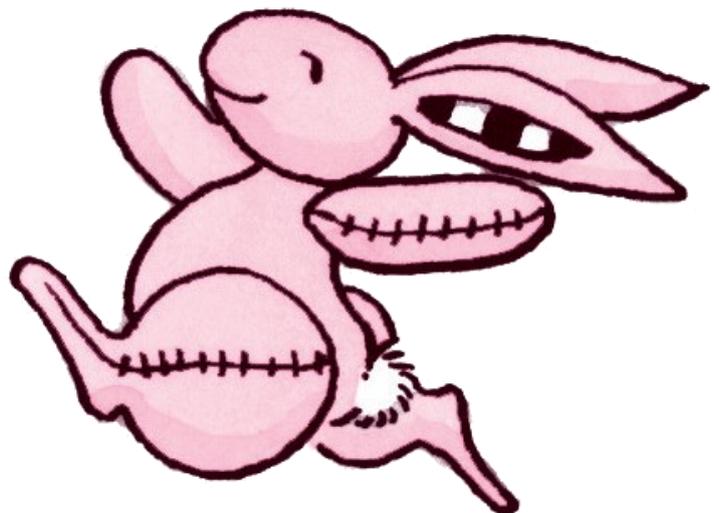


Close-up of finished ear

## 7. Putting Together and Finishing Off

The hardest parts are over and he's nearly finished!

1. Fill the arms and legs with stuffing, packing in as much as you can to make them nice and firm (but don't stitch them up yet).
2. In a minute, you will attach his limbs. It may be helpful to partially stuff the body before you do this.
3. Position the stuffed limbs on the body and mark the points where they will join. You can see the suggested positions on the original templates, but don't feel you need to be exact with this if you think a different position will look better.
4. I used plastic teddy bear joints so Pink Rabbit would be able to move his limbs. If you are using these, make holes at the places you marked, poke through the joints and secure them in place with the fasteners. If you don't want to use plastic joints, you can stitch the limbs in place using strong thread, but just make sure you're happy with how they're positioned as you won't be able to change it later.
5. Sew up the open holes in the limbs. You may need to add a little more stuffing as you do this to ensure the whole limb is equally firm.
6. The head should have some coat hanger wire poking out the bottom, so start by pushing this in through the neck of the body. Pack the wire in firmly using more stuffing. You don't want it to be able to wiggle around too much or Pink Rabbit's head will be too floppy.
7. Finally, stitch the head to the neck using strong pink thread or pink wool. Make sure to keep pulling your stitches tight as you go. I also recommend tying the thread off a few times as you go round. That way, if the thread breaks then you will only have to repair one section.





You've finished creating your very own Pink Rabbit!

Mine has been to lots of events with me and had quite a few hugs and a bit of rough handling, but is still going strong. That said, he is more of a display item than a toy, so I would not recommend giving yours to a young child without supervision. Also be aware that the coat hanger wire and the button eyes could be dangerous for very young children if he gets broken. For a more child-friendly version, don't forget to check out my simplified Make Your Own Mini Pink Rabbit guide.

I'd love to see pictures of your finished Pink Rabbit, especially of any adventures he has. You can share them with me on Facebook, Instagram or Twitter, or just using [#IsadoraMoon](#).



harrietmuncasterillustration



@H\_Muncaster



harrietmuncaster



# ISADORA MOON



The first eight Isadora  
Moon books are available  
now from all good bookshops