



Unicorn *Hearts* Moon

OMG! This adorable pair will inspire hours of imaginative play. These softies, embroidered in a simple backstitch, will steal your heart.

SUPPLIES

2 fat quarters of white tone-on-tone fabric

2 fat quarters for backing

Water soluble pen

Embroidery floss in a color that shows up on white and coordinates with backing fabric

Embroidery hoop

Embroidery needle

Fiber fill

NOTE: When choosing the white tone-on-tone fabric, make sure to select a fabric that you can easily embroider. If the white printing is not fine enough, it will be difficult to get the needle through it. If in doubt, test it out!

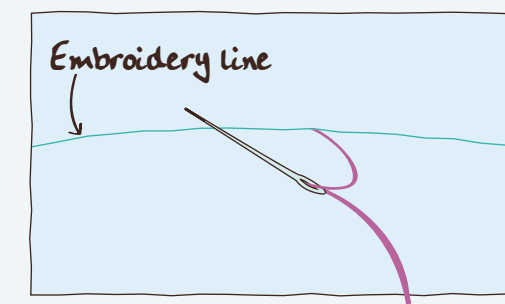
TO START, PREPARE AND EMBROIDER

1 Use the water soluble pen to trace the outline (not the embroidery lines) of the pattern pieces onto the wrong side of the backing fabric and cut out the shapes. Set aside.

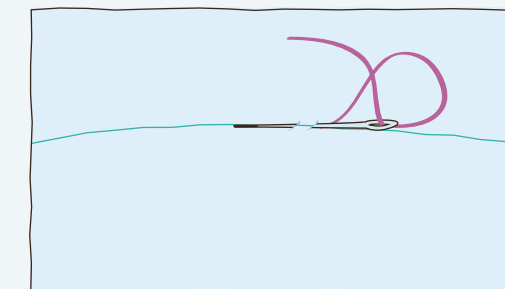
2 With the right side up, lay the white tonal fabric on top of the unicorn pattern pieces and trace the outlines and the embroidery lines with the water soluble marker. Repeat for the moon. Do not cut out the shapes.

3 Thread three strands of embroidery floss through the needle and pull through to create no more than an arm's length of doubled thread. Knot the ends. Place fabric to be embroidered in the hoop and start by bringing the threaded needle from the back of the fabric to the front on one of the embroidery lines.

4 Poke the needle through the fabric $\frac{1}{8}$ " – $\frac{1}{4}$ " to the left along the line and, without bringing the needle all the way through, slide it behind the fabric to the left another $\frac{1}{8}$ " – $\frac{1}{4}$ ".

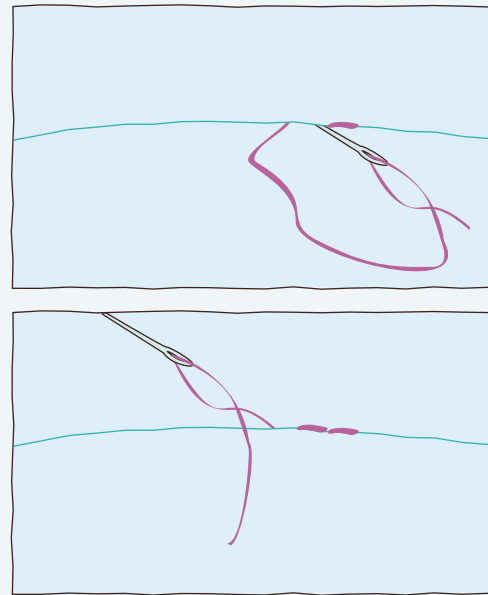


Step 3



Step 4

5 Bring the needle and thread through to the front and take a backstitch by poking the needle through the fabric at the place where you went in for Step 4. Repeat for the rest of the design. Hey, look! You're embroidering a backstitch!



Step 5

6 When you run out of thread, simply knot it on the back of the design and start again with a newly threaded needle. To make the solid part of the eyes, make several stitches within the area to achieve the filled-in look.

7 Repeat Steps 3 through 6 to embroider the moon. Cut out both shapes using the outer line.

ASSEMBLE AND STUFF THE UNICORN

8 With the right sides together, align the front and back pieces of the unicorn and pin.

9 Starting just behind the front legs, sew on the stitch line for 1" and then backstitch that full inch. Continue sewing until you reach the End Stitching mark, which is just in front of the back legs. Backstitch the last 1" to reinforce the area around which you stuff the softie. Leave the belly open for stuffing.

NOTE: To keep the unicorn and moon from having a lumpy appearance, you will stuff them very full, so the seam at the edges of where you stuff the softies needs to be strong, which is the reason for all the backstitching.

10 To create smooth curves, clip the fabric at the curves close to the stitch line, making sure to avoid clipping the seam.

Clip curves almost to stitch line



Steps 9 and 10: Begin stitching at point 1 and end stitching at point 2.

11 Turn the unicorn right side out and stuff it with fiber fill. Start stuffing with the horn, head and tail and then move onto the legs. Stuff the body last. Take your time and be patient; it takes a little while to really pack the filling in, but the unicorn looks so cute when he's done that the time is worth it.

12 Fold in the fabric at the stuffing opening and close the opening with a whip stitch.

ASSEMBLE AND STUFF THE MOON

13 With the right sides together, align the front and back pieces of the moon and pin.

14 Backstitch at the beginning and end of the seam as you did in Step 4 and sew carefully on the stitch line. Take your time and sew slowly to create a smooth circle so that you don't end up with a misshapen face on your moon. Make sure to leave an opening for stuffing as shown on the pattern.

15 Clip the curves and turn the moon right side out.

16 Stuff the moon and close the opening by whip-stitching.

17 Play!

NOTE: Unicorn and Moon are characters in my first foray into stop-motion animation in a silly sweet collection called Unicorn Stories. See the original story of Unicorn and Moon created by my pal Beth Dunn and me, at www.yummygoods.com/unicornstories.



