

Mouse & Fish Felt Cat Toys

PURPOSE: Provide enrichment and fun for our shelter cats! This gives them something fun to do and adds something new to their environment.



TIME FRAME: The first time you make the toy, it will take about 15-20 minutes. After you get the hang of things, you can expect to spend about 10-15 minutes making each additional toy.

***3 toys will count as one hour of service.**

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Scissors
- Felt (one 8x11" sheet of felt will make 3-4 toys)
- Permanent marker for tracing and decorating
- Needle and thread
- Polyfill stuffing or cotton balls
- 5 inches of yarn, per toy (for mouse only)
- Catnip
- Ruler



mouse

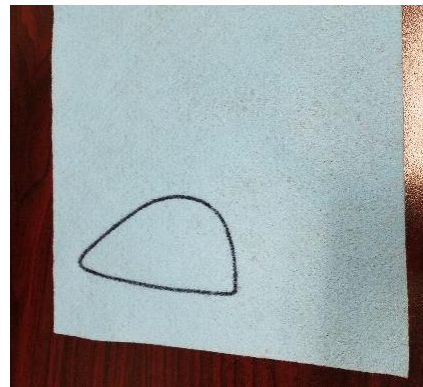


fish

Step 1:

Lay out your felt on a flat surface and draw your mouse or fish shape, using the outlines shown above as a guide. The complete shape should be about 4 inches wide and 2 inches tall at the highest point

(Note: the following instructions are described for the mouse, but the same steps are used for the fish, simply modified for its particular shape).



Step 2:

Cut out your shape and use it as a stencil to outline another one that looks the same. Cut out the second shape, leaving you with two matching felt pieces.



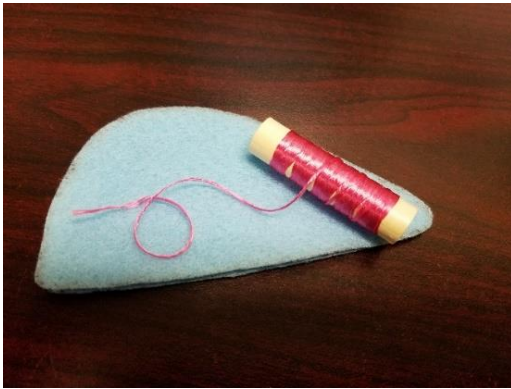
Step 3:

Lay your two pieces on top of one another. They do not have to match up perfectly, but they should be matched up enough to sew together. If needed, you can trim the edges.



Step 4:

Grab your needle and thread and start sewing from the tip of the nose all the way to the tail, making sure to keep a tight and secure stitch throughout (this is very important!).



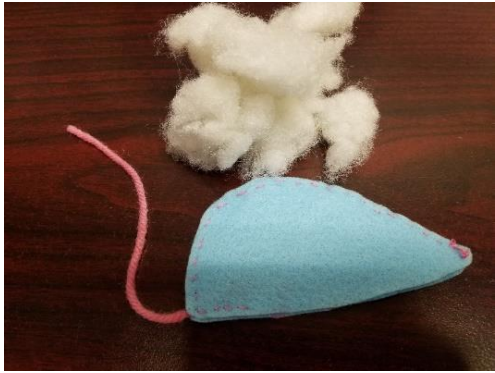
Step 5:

Once you get to the corner where the tail would be, add in the piece of yarn and secure it by sewing over and under the yarn (if making the mouse toy). Continue sewing along the edge for about another inch.



Step 6:

Grab a small amount of stuffing or 4 - 6 cotton balls and gently stuff it into the opening. This would also be the time to add a pinch of catnip.



Step 7:

Hold the felt together, so that the stuffing stays in place. Continue sewing until completely closed.



Step 8:

Draw the nose, eyes, and whiskers to complete the felt mouse. If making the fish, draw the eyes. Felt cat toy is now complete!

