

How To Make an Octopus Teddy Friend

By Amanda Blacklock

Visit Amanda's Blog at <http://handmadebybutton.wordpress.com>



Equipment Needed

- * X2 FQ Pieces of co-ordinating fabrics (55cm x 50cm each)
- * Leftover fleece or wadding
- * Stuffing
- * Scraps of black and white felt (eyes)
- * Machine thread to match fabric

Step One

Take your Octopus head template and pin to your main body colour (fold fabric to cut both at once so same size) and cut out leaving a 1cm allowance around the template. (If you want your Octopus head bigger add extra fabric onto bottom part).



Step Two

Take your Octopus leg template and cut out again with a 1cm allowance on the same fabric (you need x8 of these legs). Now take your co-ordinating fabric and cut out x8 legs from this fabric in the same way.



Step Three

Take the Octopus base and again cut out x1 piece (In co-ordinating fabric) 1.5 cm allowance. (Allows for slight movement when sewing Octopus together).



Step Four

Take your leftover fleece/wadding (does not matter on colour/s) and cut out x8 additional legs with around 1.5cm allowance on these. (This will be sewn inside your Octopus legs).

Step Five

Take all your leg pieces (24 in total) and separate them out into 8 piles as shown in picture. A piece of Fleece/wadding, one material facing UP and the last material facing DOWN.



Step Six

Now sew around all the edges on the sewing machine making sure you make the bottom of the Octopus leg **ROUNDED**. Once sewn together now comes the fun part of turning all your Octopus legs the correct way out. Turn the legs correct way making sure fleece is **INSIDE** the 2 layers of fabric, this provides some padding and makes legs soft.)



Step Seven

Take your Octopus head pieces, place **FACING** together and sew around the edge making sure you leave a 5cm gap in the side of the Octopus' head so you can turn it inside out later on. **DO NOT SEW** the bottom straight line!



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Step Eight

Turn your Octopus head the correct way around and then line 4 legs up (Make sure the fabric that goes on the **BOTTOM** of the Octopus' legs is facing up.) along the straight side of the body. Pin in place.



Step Nine

Now very carefully machine-sew around the octopus securing his legs in place by sewing around about 0.5cm in from his base. Take care not to sew the back/legs to the other fabric side when carefully rotating him while you sew. This is what he will look like on both sides when done.



Step Ten

Now turn your Octopus inside out again placing all its legs inside its body flat and neat. The reverse side of the fabric should be showing again.



Step Eleven

Now pin your Octopus base very carefully around the base (Fabric side facing inwards).



Step Twelve

Machine sew your Octopus base in place making sure you keep it crease free on the back and also making sure you sew about 1cm in this time so the sewing goes over the other sewn line (Basically so other sewing line does not show when you turn Octopus correct way back around).



Step Thirteen

Turn your Octopus correct way around using hole you left in side of the head. (If you forgot to leave this hole then carefully snip a thread and unpick back and tie off ends to create a hole.) Check the Octopus base to see if any of the machine sewing from the legs is showing. If it is showing turn back inside out and machine sew that part again sewing further in.



Step Fourteen

Now stuff your Octopus with your stuffing and sew up the hole in the side of its head. Decide which side is the front of the Octopus and cut out x2 circle eyes for your Octopus in white and smaller black ones for the centre. Now sew them on securely using a small running stitch or an overstitch. Your Octopus is now complete and will be your new best friend.



