Paw-some Stocking

Hallmark artist Susan Crilley says, "Last year, my niece and her new puppy Koda were celebrating their first Christmas together, so I decided Koda needed a stocking of her very own. Walking into Hallmark on a very cold morning, I was thinking about what material to use for her stocking. I looked down at my scarf and the idea for Koda's stocking began!"

Crafter level: Intermediate
Time needed: 1 hour

What you'll need

- Printouts of stocking templates
- Scarf at least 7 in. wide by at least 30 in. long
- Pins
- Scissors
- Felt squares for paw pads and fish or bone
- Embroidery floss to match or complement felt colors
- Embroidery needle
- Sewing machine
- Sewing thread to match scarf
- Polyester stuffing
- Small piece of ribbon
- Yarn for pom-poms

How to make it

1. Cut out the 2 stocking templates from the printouts and tape or staple together where indicated.
2. Place the stocking template on one end of the scarf, with the straight end of the template matching up with the finished end of the scarf. Pin the paper template to the scarf and cut out a stocking shape from 1 end of the scarf.
3. Remove the paper template and cut out the paw pads from the paper template. Pin these pieces to the felt and cut out the felt pieces. Make sure to cut 4 of the toe pads.
4. Pin the felt paw pads to the cut out scarf piece using the dotted lines indicated on the stocking template as your guide. Attach them using a straight or blanket stitch.
5. Now cut a second stocking shape from the other end of the scarf. Pin and sew the 2 scarf layers together, right sides facing out, along the outside edge using a ¼-inch seam allowance and leaving the finished ends of the scarf open.
6. Remove from sewing machine and clip threads. Fold over the finished edges of the stocking to form the cuff.
7. Using a blanket stitch, embroider along all the sewn edges, on top of the machine stitching.
8. Optional: To make the bone or fish, cut 2 pieces of either shape from felt using the templates provided. Then, begin hand-sewing them together using a blanket stitch. When they're halfway sewn, add a little stuffing to them, and then finish sewing closed. Set aside.

9. To make a hanging loop for the stocking, use the felt and ribbon strip templates to cut pieces of felt and ribbon about 4½ inches long each. Center the ribbon on top of the felt to keep the felt from stretching and sew both pieces together. Fold in half to form a loop. Then tack the ends of the ribbon and felt loop to the inside corner of the stocking using the embroidery floss and needle or the sewing machine.

10. Make 2 yarn pom-poms (if you need instructions, see below), keeping the knotted yarn ends long for adding the pom-poms to the stocking.

11. Cut a piece of yarn and thread it through 1 end of the felt bone or the tip of the fish with your embroidery needle. Knot to secure. Then take the other end of the yarn and the ends of the pom-pom yarn ties and tie them all to the loop on the stocking. Trim and tuck in ends.

To make a pom-pom: Cut about a 16-inch length of yarn. Set aside. Then lay the end of the skein of yarn over the tops of 3 fingers, palm side up. Wrap the yarn around your fingers about 50 times (more, if you want your pom-pom extra fluffy). Snip off the end of the yarn. Then, slowly and carefully remove the wound yarn from your fingers, keeping the yarn in its oval shape. Tie the 16-inch length of yarn around the outside of the wound yarn tightly (see Diagram 1), making a double knot. Then cut through all the loops on both ends (see Diagram 2) and trim so that the pom-pom is uniformly round—but don't cut the ties, you'll need those later.
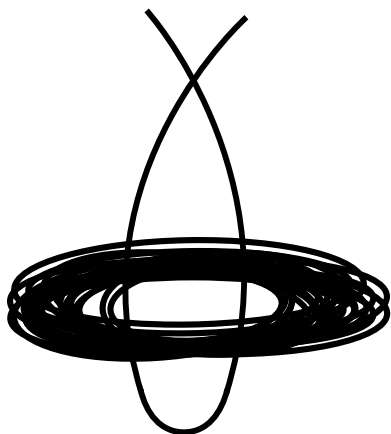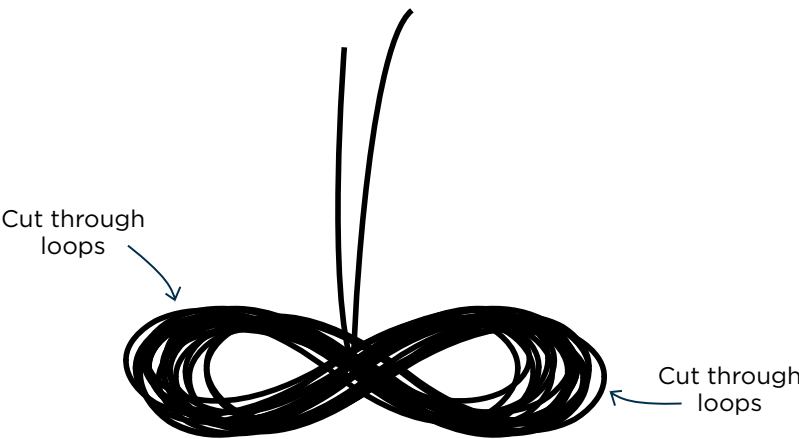
Cut through loops

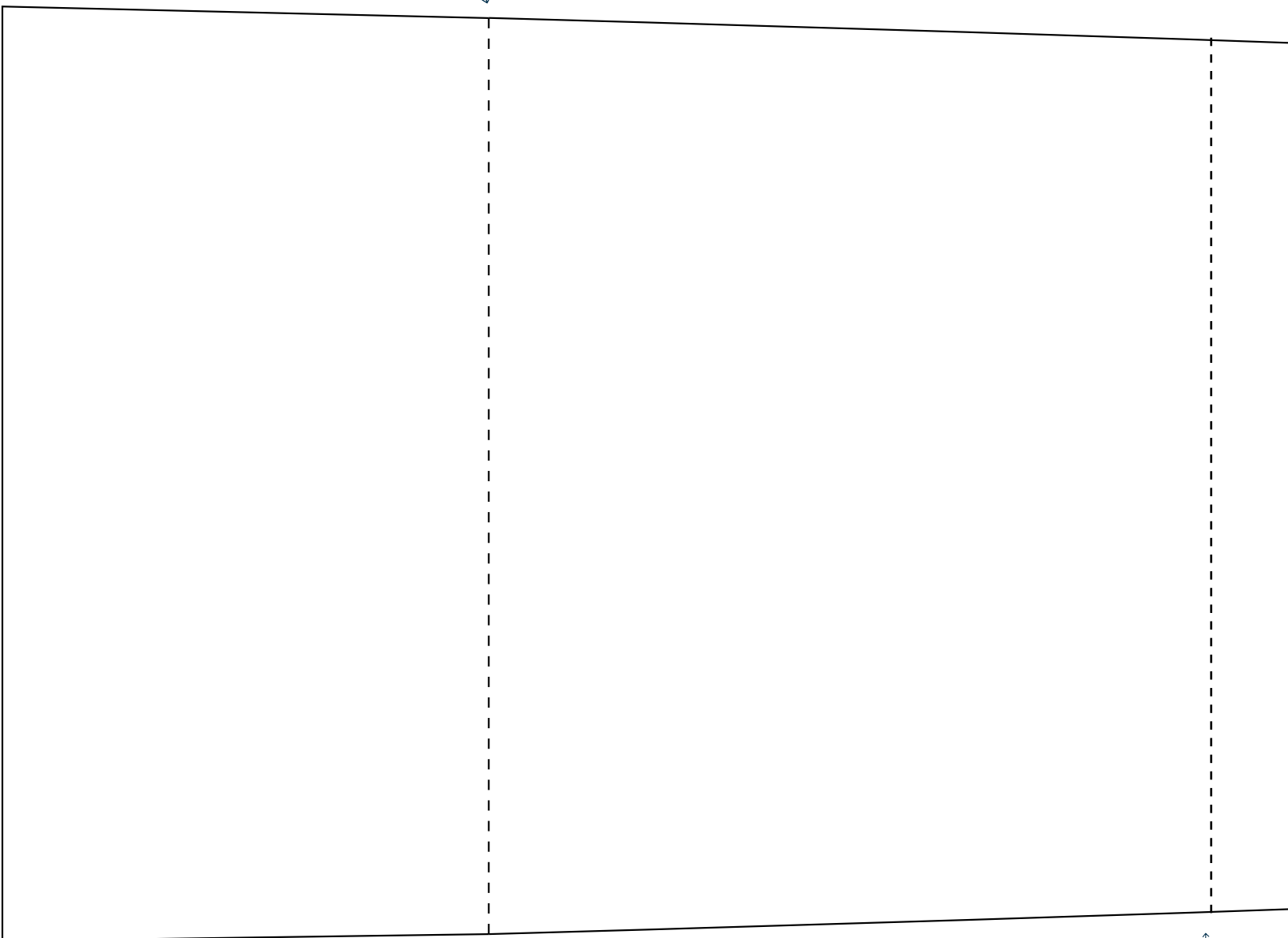Cut through loops

Diagram 1

Diagram 2

Stocking templates

**Cut 1
from felt**

Note: Check how pattern of scarf falls when folding over stocking to form the cuff. May need to adjust the overall length and fold line of the stocking pattern piece.
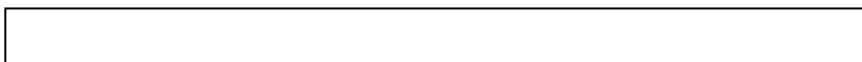
Cuff fold line

**Cut 2
from scarf**

(place the ends of the scarf
at top edge of pattern piece)

Attach stocking
pieces together
at dotted line

**Cut 1
ribbon**

Hallmark

Stocking templates

Pad locations
(dotted lines)

**Cut 2
from felt for cat**

**Cut 2
from felt for dog**

Attach stocking
pieces together
at dotted line

**Cut 4
from felt**

**Cut 1
from felt**