



the  
birdhouse



Free Project!

## 'Whiskers' the Cat Sitter

### You will need

- 1/2m sandcastle fabric
- 10cm blue fabric
- 10cm red fabric
- small bell
- plastic pellets (or rice)
- red, green, black DMC thread
- 1m thin wire
- Polyester Stuffing
- 50cm twine
- vliesofix
- Pencil or fade-out marker

- Trace the pattern shapes onto stencil plastic, or glue to cardboard, and cut out.
- Trace the body, 2 arms, tail and 2 ears onto doubled sandcastle fabric.
- Cut out the body pieces on the lines.
- Trace 7 large flower heads and 7 small flower centres onto vliesofix. Cut apart between the traced lines. Iron 4 heads and 3 centres onto one colour fabric, and 3 heads and 4 centres onto the other. Cut out on the traced lines.
- Place 6 of the flowers (heads & opposite colour centres) onto one of the cut out body shapes. Leave about 6cm from the bottom edge. When happy with your placement, iron to adhere.
- The remaining flower head & centre are to make the centre flower which Whiskers is holding. Fold the remaining sandcastle fabric in half. Draw a slightly curved line about 15cm long with a pencil. Iron the remaining flower head & centre to the top of the line.
- Use the opposite coloured DMC thread to each fabric colour, to stitch around the flower head & centre in running stitch or blanket stitch. Use a pencil to draw small petals around the flower heads, as on the pattern. Fill in the petals with opposite coloured thread in satin-stitch.
- Draw slightly curved lines for the stems on the body also. Stitch the stems with the green DMC thread in satin-stitch.
- Copy the face from the pattern using the fade-out marker. Stitch two small crosses for the eyes, backstitch the mouth and fill in the nose with satin-stitch.
- To finish the stand-alone flower, follow the shape of the flower, stem and all, and sew about 5mm from the flower all around. Cut out outside the stitched line.
- To make the ears, arms and tail – with the sandcastle fabric folded in half, right sides together, sew directly on the traced lines for all remaining pieces. Cut out about 5mm outside the stitching. Clip the curves and corners and turn everything right way out.
- Bend the piece of wire in half and insert into the tail.
- Pinch in the ears at the centre on the flat edge and secure with a small stitch.



- Place one body piece right side up on top of the pattern sheet and transfer the markings to align the arms, ears and tail, using the fade-out marker.
- Place the ears, arms and tail in position at the markings – make sure they are all facing inwards. Place the remaining body piece on top, right way down. Place pins to hold everything together.
- Sew 5mm from the edge all the way around, leaving an opening at the side just below one arm, as marked on the pattern.
- Before turning out. Fold the bottom corners of the body flat so the seams line up. Sew across about 2cm from the corner. This will give the body a flat bottom so it will sit up.
- Clip the curves and turn out through the opening.
- Use the stuffing pellets (or rice) to fill the bottom 5-6cm of the body, then fill the rest of the body firmly with the stuffing. Slipstitch the opening closed with matching thread.
- Cut the remaining wire into 3 pieces about 15cm long. Gently poke them through the fabric on one side of the face and out the other side. Wrap the ends around a pen to make them curly.
- Tie the bell on the twine around Whisker's neck.
- Attach the flower in Whisker's hand with a few stitches.