



**Directions for Fleece Hats
using the Winner Designs
Fleece Hat Templates**
www.WinnerDesigns.com

Who wouldn't want a cute fleece hat? Even better, they are simple & quick to make! These are serger-friendly, too!



Dress up with a little flower or turn into monsters, bunnies, whatever critter or creature you know little ones will like.

Video: Although the Deal in this video is over, you'll see the 7 template sizes & lots of options. [6 Days of Christmas - Day 1 Deal Winner Designs - YouTube](#)

Thanks to Joni Londo for making many of the samples shown in my video.

These hats can be made assembly line to make for donating to have on hand for any cold head you see. My hope is that you'll be inspired and cut and stitch up a bunch and deliver them to any place in need. Raid your linen closets and grab those old fleece blankets, throws and ponchos and put them to good use!

These were designed to work with fleece material, but you can use other fabrics as well. Just go up in size for fabric that doesn't stretch much or go down in size for fabrics that stretch more.

Best fabrics? Polar Fleece, Blizzard Fleece, Anti-Pill Fleece

No Slip Backing – No Slipping; No Kidding!

The back of each template has my new grey No Slip Backing means that your cutting will be fast, easy, accurate and consistent with all of the others that you make!

The templates come in 7 sizes.

Baby

Child Sizes:	Child Sm	Child Med	Child Lg
Adult Sizes:	Teen/Adult Sm	Adult Med	Adult Lg

Note: templates come etched with the name but not colored. I've used my Metallic Template Markers to highlight.

How to Determine the Correct Template Size:

Head sizes vary, even with some women's heads being larger than men's heads. And children's sizes vary greatly, too. You can use the sizes on the templates but I recommend creating a baseline.

Creating a Baseline:

- This is totally optional but will be extremely helpful if you plan to make several or plan to sell these.
- Grab an old fleece blanket or purchase one piece of whatever type fleece you plan to use for most of your hats. You'll find options like Polar Fleece, Blizzard Fleece, or Anti-Pill Fleece.
- Make one from each size template out of the same material.
- Inside the finished hat, write the template size with a permanent marker or add a fabric size label.
- Then, grab anyone you know (with a clean head!)
- Have them try out which hats fit and which they like the best.
- If they let you, measure the circumference of their head. Jot all of this information down.
- Take all of this information and it will give you your baseline.
- Use this information when you play around with different fabrics.
- For fabrics that aren't as stretchy as your fleece baseline, go up in template size.

For fabrics that have more stretch than your baseline, go down in size.
go up in size for fabric that doesn't stretch much or go down in size for fabrics that stretch more.
Again, you can just use the Template Sizes but a baseline provides some great information.

Basic Tips for Working with Fleece:

This is a great serger project so if you have one, use it! Just be sure to clean it regularly since fleece makes a mess.

Use a Universal Needle size 80 – 90.

Use a polyester thread; it has a bit more 'give' to it.

Know the grain or nap of the fabric – the way that it stretches. You want the stretch to be left to right so it will stretch when putting the hat on and off.

Many types of fleece look similar on both sides. To tell which is the front and which is the back, give it a gentle tug. The right side of fleece is the side that curls.

Your sewing machine will probably have stitch options made for working with stretch fabric. If you've used them before, use your favorite.

I like a zigzag stitch. Set width to 1.5; length to 1 or 1.4. Test to see what works best. (I like a narrow 'wobble'.)

When doing topstitching, increase stitch length to 3.5 – 4. A shorter stitch length will pop if the fabric stretches.

When stitching where there's no stretch to the fabric, you just use a regular stitch.

If you have the ability to lower your presser foot tension, do so.

I like longer pins rather than clips with fleece. You get better control. Use more pins than you think is needed.

You won't have a lot of bulk with these hats, but for projects with lots of bulk, be sure to trim away excess.

Making a Fleece Hat

Materials Needed:

[Winner Designs Fleece Hat Template\(s\)](#)

Sharp Scissors, Long Pins

Sewing Gauge (optional)

Rotary Cutter, Cutting Mat

Sewing Machine, Serger (Optional)

Determining how much Fabric you Need:

Choose the size template you'd like.

Each hat requires 2 pieces of fabric. Each piece will be folded in half so you can cut on the fold. When folding, make sure the stretch of the fabric goes left to right rather than up and down. This ensures a more comfortable fit. Use the template as your guide to determine how much you need.

Cutting with the Template: (Watch my video to see cutting in action!)

1. Fold fabric in half.
2. Place template on fabric with the "Fold" of the template lined evenly up to the fold of the fabric.
3. Use your rotary cutter to cut around the template.
4. Clean up any rough edges, if needed.
5. Repeat for the second piece of fabric.

Pinning and Sewing:

I like to sew each 'V' together then sew the 2 hat pieces together. But you can stitch sides then 'Vs'. It's up to you.

1. At the top of the hat, bring the 2 sides of the V right sides together. Pin with edges evenly lined up. (The right side is the side that curls if you gently tug it.)
2. Set your machine to a zigzag stitch then adjust it to be a narrow 'wobble' stitch. Or you can use a plain straight stitch or one of your machine's stretch stitches.
3. With $\frac{1}{4}$ " – $\frac{3}{8}$ " seam allowance, sew the 'V' together on one piece. Repeat for the other 'V'. Be sure to backstitch at the beginning and end.
4. Line the 2 hat pieces right sides together. Starting at the 'Vs' where you just sewed, pin down one side then the other.

- I like to sew starting on one side of the 'V' and going all the way down to the end. Then I go back to the other side of the 'V' and sew down that side.

Finishing the Brim:

We'll be folding then sewing the brim of the hat twice. The 1st time, I work on the wrong side of the fabric. If your machine does a good job of stitching on the back side (bobbin) then you can work on the back side for both times. If your machine doesn't do a nice job (ugly bobbin stitches) then you'll want to work on the front side for the 2nd time when stitches might show.

- Working on the wrong side, fold up the raw edge of the hat up about ¼" to 3/8" and pin all around, being consistent in whichever amount you choose. You can use a Sewing Gauge if you'd like. Or, skip the pinning as I do and go straight to the machine!
- Since this area of the hat is where the fleece stretches the most, this is where your stitch choice matters most. Set your machine for the best stitch. If you have a favorite stretch stitch, use it. I use my zigzag narrow 'wobble' stitch but increase the length a bit. This helps the threads from popping when taking the hat on and off.
- Work on the wrong side of the hat and stitch all around the brim, keeping the width of the turned back area consistent. Backstitch at the beginning and end.
- Fold the sewn area back over again but this time, fold ½" to 1". Use a Sewing Gauge if needed. This is where you'll decide if you want to sew on the front or the back, depending on the look of your bobbin stitches. The fleece does help to hide stitches some, too.
- If working on the back, pin all along the brim so the folded area is consistent. Stitch all around the brim, backstitching at the beginning and the end.
- If working on the front side of the hat, pin on the front but ensure that how you've pinned the folded area will be consistent on the back. That way, when you sew on the front, you'll get a nice consistent look on the back. Working in the front, stitch all around the brim, backstitching at the beginning and the end.
- That's it! If it fits your head, go check yourself out! Now get busy and make some more!!!!

A few additions:

- I recommend adding the Size somewhere on the hat. You can use a permanent marker or add labels. Labels or ribbons with the size printed can be purchased or you can make your own. Check online for different ways to print on fabric. If you have a sublimation printer, this is a great way to put it to use.
- You can add all kinds of removeable embellishments. Make your own flowers to attach with a pin or clip or use purchased flowers, jewelry, or a variety of decorations.
- You can also add embroidery. If you're planning to do this, it's easier to do this before stitching the hat together.
- You can also create all kinds of creatures and animals by adding horns, ears, etc. Turn the hats into bunnies, dogs, cats, monsters, etc. (I've got several bunny ear template options!)
- Check out my video for a few ideas!
- Make a set of matching [Winner Designs Sweater Mittens](#) to go with your fleece hat!



Creating the Horns for my Monster



Make a Snowman by adding buttons and a fabric or felt nose



Crochet a Flower or add a Purchased Embellishment



Questions or Comments?

Contact me – Linda Winner – at 850-449-0259.

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