Lil Miss Cutie Patootie’s

Pincushion Pets

**Materials:**

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| **Fabric for Pincushion:** | **Extra Items Needed:** |
| Fabric A – 21.25 cm square for heads and front of dog ears | 1 button  batting |
| Fabric B – 15 cm x 27.5 cm rectangles for muzzles and ears | Scissors  Hand-sewing needle |
| Felt – your colour choice | Thread for stitching |
| Embroidery floss – your colour choice |  |
| Long needle |  |

**Instructions:**

1. Using the template pattern, trace the large circle onto the main fabric (for cat and dog) and one set of dog ears (dog only). Trace the oval along with 2 ears (for the dog) and 4 ears (for the cat) on Fabric B and cut out. Cut out the eyes and paw from a piece of felt.
2. With all 6 threads of your chosen colour of embroidery thread, sew a running stitch approximately 0.5cm from the edged of the fabric leaving long tails of thread at the beginning and the end. Pull the thread to gather slightly and start stuffing with the batting. Holding the ends of your threads, continue gathering and stuffing until ¾ of the pincushion is stuffed. Gather up the rest of the material, leaving a large enough opening to finish stuffing (about the size of a quarter). Tie the ends of the thread into a knot to hold, finish stuffing to desired firmness.
3. Repeat for the muzzle but do not over stuff. You want your pet’s muzzle to lay flatter on its face.
4. Thread the long needle with a long piece of embroidery thread (contrasting or coordinating colour) and knot one end. Bring your threaded needle up through the center of the large, stuffed circle and loop around coming up through the bottom again (try for the same place as you went through first). You should now have the thread circling the pincushion. Repeat this until you have divided the pincushion up like a pie into 8 sections. Pull the thread tight after each loop so it creates a bit of an indent into the pincushion. Tie off when done.
5. Take the small stuffed oval muzzle and place it over the top of the pincushion with the top edge of the muzzle pieces near the center of the large circle. Bring your needle up through the top part of the oval, place your button there and sew through all sections to secure the muzzle to the head through the button. Take only one of the stitches through the button but come out under the button and go across the muzzle and underneath pushing the needle through the bottom center of the pincushion. Tie off. This stitch wraps the thread around the muzzle to create the division between the jowls of the pet. Now whipstitch the muzzle to the head with your matching sewing thread to secure.
6. Taking two of the earpieces, with right sides together, stitch the top of the triangle together. Leaving the base open. Turn right sides out and slightly stuff and stitch the bottom closed. (For the dog’s ears make one side from Fabric A and the inside Fabric B.) After the ears are sewn, turned and stuffed; sew 0.5 cm from edge to define the shape of the ear. Position the ears where you think they look best.
7. Using a blanket stitch or whipstitch, sew on the eyes and ears. The cat’s ears will stand up, but the dog’s ears are tacked down to the base of the ear to give it a floppy eared look (optional).
8. With whit embroidery floss and a long needle make French knots in each ey and a few on the muzzle. (optional)
9. Whipstitch or blanket stitch your felt paw to the bottom of the pincushion to finish off the bottom. If desired, create and attach a dog/cat take and personalize it with a name.

