

# Vampire Head Instructions



Instructions to make the Vampire head  
In-the-Hoop of your embroidery machine.

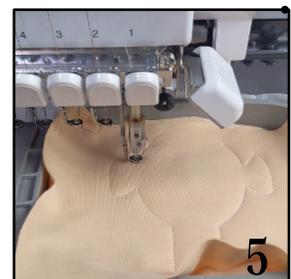
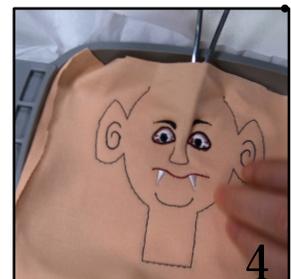
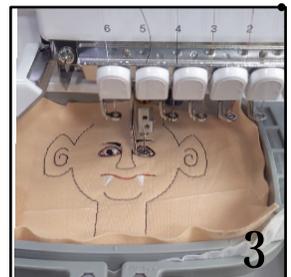
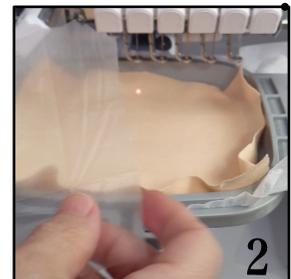
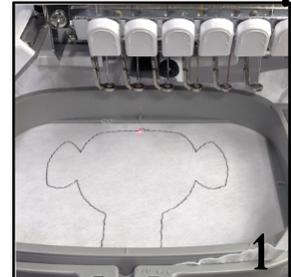
**BALLYHOO**  
Creations

## TOOLS & SUPPLIES NEEDED:

- Embroidery machine
- Embroidery Thread and bobbin (40wt polyester thread is suggested, bobbin can be the same or use 60wt or 90wt bobbin thread if you like)
- Sharp fabric scissors
- Fabrics
  - Front & back of head will need fabric to match your hoop size. This design was digitized for stretch fabrics but can be used with other fabrics too. Keep in mind, thick fabrics may be difficult to turn right-side-out on the small heads
  - For hair - 4x8" faux fur for ITH wig, or doll hair of your choice.
- Embroidery stabilizers: medium cut-away, water or heat soluble film, tear-away for ITH wig
- Poly stuffing or other stuffing of choice.
- Hand sewing needle and strong thread for closing the head, or fabric glue

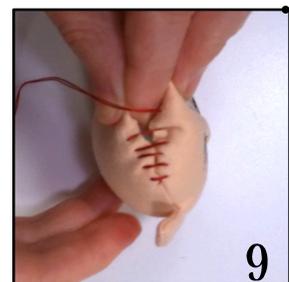
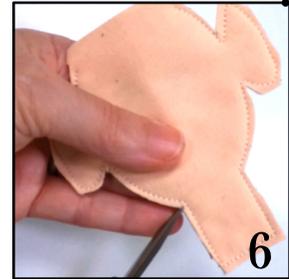
# INSTRUCTIONS FOR HEAD - PAGE 1

1. Hoop some medium cut-away stabilizer.
  2. STITCH COLOR 1 to create a placement outline on your stabilizer (see photo 1)
  3. Place your front piece of fabric, RIGHT SIDE UP, to cover the placement stitches on the stabilizer. (photo 2) Cover face area with soluble topper for best results on stretch fabric
  4. STITCH COLOR 2 for a tack-down stitch around the head.
  5. STITCH COLOR 3 (red) for the lips
  6. STITCH COLOR 4 (white) for the whites of the eyes
  7. STITCH COLOR 5 (black) for the eyes, nose and brows
  8. STITCH COLOR 7 to color the iris of the eyes (shown green on diagram) (photo 3 shows finished face)
  9. (optional) With the project still in the hoop, use a tiny amount of stuffing to stuff the nose and chin using tweezers or small hemostats (photo 4)
  10. Place your back fabric, RIGHT SIDE DOWN, over the face to cover all the tackdown & placement stitches. You may add stabilizer on top if you want to.
- NOTE: adding stabilizer across the back will give the head a flatter finish. Omitting stabilizer and using stretch fabric on the back will allow the doll head to be more rounded after you stuff it.
11. STITCH COLOR 7 using thread to match your skin tone color for a double-stitched seam around the head and ears. (photo 5)
  12. Remove project from hoop.



## INSTRUCTIONS FOR HEAD - PAGE 2

13. Cut away excess fabric and stabilizer from the seam. If using stretch fabrics, you can use the placement stitches on the stabilizer as a cutting guide, but be sure to leave enough fabric at the top of the head as a turning tab for closing later on. (see photo 6 for example)
14. Clip the inner curve areas around neck, ears and top tab. (photo 6)
15. Turn right-side-out using the opening at the top of the head. (photo 7)
16. Tuck the neck inside of the head. This creates a pocket for inserting the neck stem on the doll's body. (photo 7)
17. (optional) put a tiny amount of fabric glue inside the ears to seal them shut and keep them flat.
18. Stuff the head from the top, being sure to get stuffing on front and back of that neck pocket inside the head. (if the pocket is up against the front or back of head, the doll's head won't sit properly) (photo 8)
19. When you're happy with the stuffing, tuck the excess fabric into the top of the head and hand-sew or use fabric glue to close it up. (see photo 9 - diagram of ladder stitch can be found at the back of this instruction document.)
20. The head is done. (photo 10)



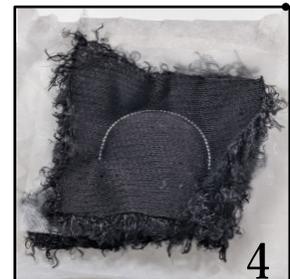
# INSTRUCTIONS FOR WIG

A free wig file is included with your download if you want to use that for creating a hairstyle. This wig works best with sparse furs such as curly minky fleece, also called poodle fleece. Other furs may work too, but some are dense and look strange on small doll heads.

For more doll hair options, check out this video compilation:

<https://ballyhoo creations.com/2020/05/how-to-make-hair-for-your-cloth-character/>

1. Hoop some tear-away stabilizer.
2. STITCH COLOR 1 for a front placement (see photo 1)
3. Place fur to cover placement outline with fur-side UP, then cover with a scrap of tear-away stabilizer or topper. (photo 2)
4. STITCH COLOR 2 to tackdown the fur and provide an outline for the back piece. (photo 3)
5. Place the back fur, fur side DOWN to cover the 2<sup>nd</sup> set of placement stitches.
6. STITCH COLOR 3 to stitch seams of the wig (photo 4)
7. Unhoop and gently remove the tear-away stabilizers.
8. Cut away excess fur from the stitched seams. When cutting fur, just cut the backing and not the pile, or actual fur.
9. Turn right-side-out
10. On the front of the wig, you'll need to make a vertical cut from the front raw-edge to about halfway towards the seam line. You can either tuck in these corners or cut them away to reveal the doll's facial features underneath. (photo 5 shows finished wig on a different doll head)



# LADDER STITCH TUTORIAL

Ladder stitch:

1. Thread a long needle with a double layer of strong thread that is about 12" long and tie a knot at the end.
2. Starting at the inside of the doll - push the needle and thread from the inside to the outside at one end of the seam opening.
3. Take a horizontal stitch across the seam opening and insert the needle again, it should come out about  $\frac{1}{4}$ " down that same side. If you have stabilizer under your fabric, be sure to catch the stabilizer in your stitch.
4. Then do another horizontal stitch going the opposite direction across the seam opening.
5. Repeat this stitch pattern. It resembles railroad tracks. The horizontal arrows in the diagram are stitches on top of the fabric, while the vertical dashed arrows are underneath and not seen.
6. When you pull on the thread, it should pull the opposite sides together to close the gap.
7. When you have stitched the entire seam, make a knot in the thread and then push the needle back into the doll to come out a few inches away and cut the thread so it disappears back inside the doll stuffing areas. Now your thread is secure and buried where nobody can see it.

