Make a soft toy EVE from the film WALL-E

by KaptinScarlet on July 30, 2008

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intro: Make a soft toy EVE from the film WALL-E

If you've fallen in love with the film WALL-E but making a WALL-E robot is too complicated for you, why not make a soft toy EVE, it's actually really easy and my kids loved it (and they're all boys). EVE (Extra-terrestrial Vegetation Evaluator) is the gorgeous, iPod like super advanced robot that comes to Earth 700 years after humans have left it so that it could be tidied up by robots like WALL-E. This model can be made very simply with no arms or with arms if you fancy making a couple of button holes and sewing on some buttons.

This instructable will supply a good quality picture of EVE's face and her plant icon, but if you want you can go to the EVE project on dadcando where you can download a printable version that is suitable for ink jet printing straight on to white cotton to make it even easier.

You can use a glue gun instead of a sewing machine, but a sewing machine does give you the best results.

what you'll need:

- · White cotton (old pillow case or bed sheet is ok)
- Two white shirt buttons
- · White thread
- Soft toy stuffing (although you can use a few carrier bags at a push)
- · A small piece of stiff fabric interlining
- Sewing machine (ideally, but glue gun also a possibility)

step 1: Draw out your EVE pattern

First draw out your EVE on a sheet of plain white cotton. The ideal size is about the area of a piece of A4 or US Letter sized paper. The curves you use will make EVE appear slightly fatter, but then when you stuff the toy this will reduce the width as some of th material has to be used up for the depth. EVE is conical, but this simple pattern will make a very credible toy (when stuffed) because the shape fills out nicely.

This is not difficult, because EVE is a very simple shape. The only trouble you might have is with the leaf icon, but I have attached a high quality picture that I drew from a frame grab of a high resolution trailer.

If you want you can draw out EVE in pencil and then embroider the face eyes and flower icon, or you can download the printable from dadcando, which will allow you to print the EVE sewing pattern directly on to your fabric.





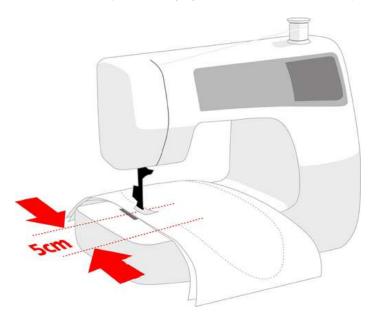
step 2: Sew the body

If you've never used a sewing machine before and you can borrow one, this is a good project to start on, because it is so simple. For the same reason it is also an excellent project to get one of your children going on sewing (boy or girl... and if you don't think it's a MAN thing... come on, my brother made his wife's wedding dress, now how cool is that?).

Any how, even if you don't have a sewing machine you could always use a glue gun, it sticks material really well, just remember that it won't wash that well!

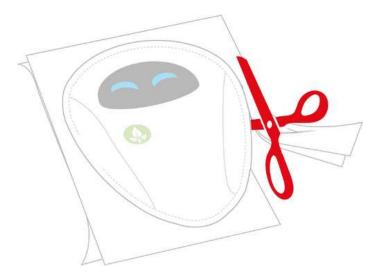
SO... you place the drawn face of EVE facing inward with another piece of plain white cotton and then you sew the two together, making sure to keep the sewing line curves nice and even. go slowly so that you can see what you are doing.

medium stitch all the way round leaving a gap of about 5cm (2inches) to allow you to turn EVE right way out when you're done.



step 3: Trim and turn right side out

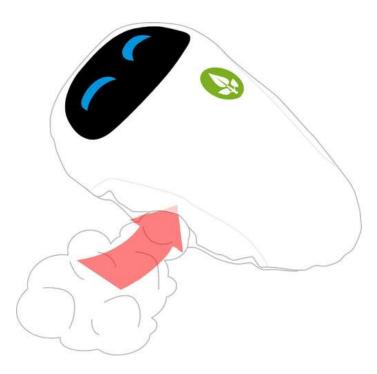
Using a sharp pair of scissors, trim round the sewing, about 5mm out from the seam.



step 4: Stuff the toy

Now turn EVE right way out and smooth her out. You might like to iron the material flat at this point, just to keep it nice and flat.

Using soft toy stuffing, foam crumble or even old white carrier bags (bit crinkly but basically fairly soft and ok), stuff the toy until you have a nice firm rounded shape.



step 5: Hand sew the toy closed

Using a needle and thread carefully sew the seam gap shut as neatly as possible (the red thread is shown in this picture only for reference, in reality you will be using WHITE thread).

At this point you can stop if you want. EVE doesn't really need arms, and if you don't feel up to making arms you can leave her like this. A perfectly good toy to play with.

HOWEVER, if you want to put arms on, and they are really easy to put on, then at this point you sew on two buttons just about in line with the bottom of the face at the side right over the seam.



step 6: Make the arms

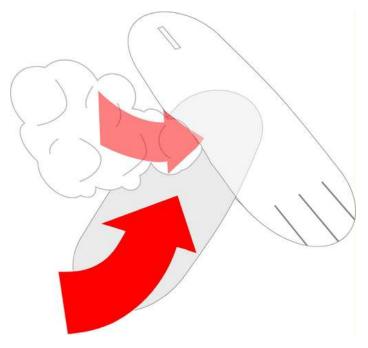
Repeat the first 4 steps of the project, but this time making the arms. Draw them following the templates provided, or ink jet print them out using the templates on dadcando. Obviously make two arm shapes.

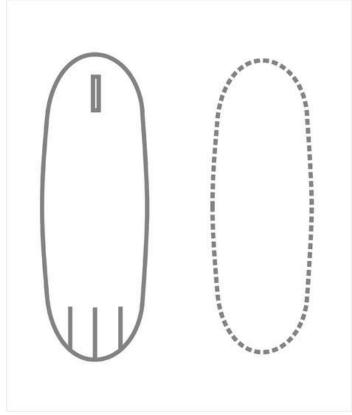
Draw on the fingers and the button hole making sure that you measure it against the button you sewed on to the body earlier.

The outline of the image shown is the sewing line, and the arms should be trimmed back to about 5mm from this, just like the body and then turned right side out. The outline with dotted rule is for the stiff interlining. For this you should cut out the lining exactly to this size.

The interlining can be a piece of light weight white card if you want, although it will not stand up to chewing or washing. Alternatively use the proper dress makers lining fabric.

If you cut the interlining stiffener out accurately, you should be able to wiggle it in through the seam gap you have left. Once it is in, smooth out the material to make sure the seam is straight. Then stuff the arms with only a little stuffing on the top side only. The result should be that one side of the arms is relatively flat and the other has got a gentle curve.





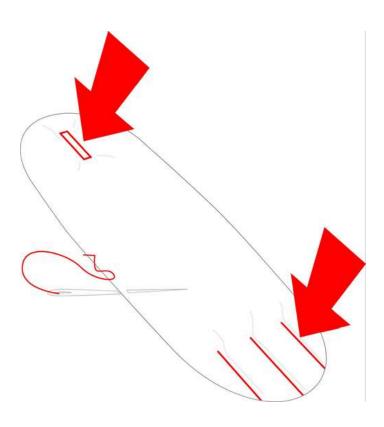
step 7: Sew the fingers and the button hole

Firstly, neatly sew the arm closed (with white thread) and then sew the fingers and the button hole. Most modern sewing machines have a button hole function. If not then a button hole is just two strips of satin stitch about 1mm apart with a wider bit of satin stitch at each end. If you can't make a button hole using the sewing machine, paint a strip of Elmers glue or PVA where you want the button hole to be on both sides of the material, put cling film or carrier bag plastic round the arm over the glue and clamp it down until it is dry, then slit carefully with a craft knife. The glue should stop the material fraying, when dry, cut a button hole in the middle of the glued strip.

If you are using the button hole function of your sewing machine for the first time, you'll find that most machines have very simple instructions on how to make a button hole somewhere on them. Once you have sewn the hole edging all the way round, you have to actually make the hole. This is easily made using a sharp craft knife or scalpel. Take care to only slit the fabric and not cut through the stitching round the hole at the sides of hole or at the ends.

To sew the fingers, just sew with the sewing machine in straight lines over the finger lines that you drew earlier. Sew straight through the stuffing and the interlining so that you get a slightly quilted effect.

Repeat for other arm.



step 8: Attach arms and finish as required

Attaching arms at this stage is probably the easiest bit of the project, just poke the buttons through the button holes! If you want to embellish EVE, then why not try a bit of embroidery for the eyes. You can do this at the end, but it would probably be neater if you did it before you sewed it all together. If you have printed out EVE using the ink jet pattern, then you can paint the face darker using markers or fabric paint and even paint the flower icon in using light green GLOW IN THE DARK paint.

And there you have it, all that remains is for you to wrestle it off your kids for 2 minutes so you can take a picture and post it up online so that we can all see how you got on!







Related Instructables



Plush Wall-e Toy by micjwelch



Humpty Dumpty sat on the wall, again and again! (slideshow) by

stinkymum



cheese plush freind! by

yesandyouare



Toys Galore (slideshow) by stinkymum



Magic paper toy (video) by golics



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Toy with snow (video) by msolek



Jackobs Ladder **Optical Illusion** Toy (video) by shanuea



Comments

50 comments

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gosub says:

That would make a cute back pack too. Nice work.

Jan 8, 2009. 2:23 PM REPLY



baneat says: Awww

Dec 8, 2008. 4:13 PM **REPLY**



MHR says:

Nov 20, 2008. 8:55 PM REPLY

Thank you so much for this...this will make a perfect from the heart Christmas gift for my girlfriend. (and I'm not just trying to copy the last guys answer :-P)



KaptinScarlet says:

Nov 20, 2008, 11:27 PM REPLY

imitation is the sincerest form of flattery, but hey it makes a great present so may be great monds think alike!



micjwelch says:

Nov 9, 2008. 6:04 PM **REPLY**

You officially inspired me. I borrowed your arm joint idea and made a Wall-e. As soon as I get some white fabric, I'll be making Eve. Thanks.





KaptinScarlet says: thx, he looks great BTW.

Nov 9, 2008. 6:28 PM **REPLY**



anngel369 says: can't wait to try it out! thanks

Nov 4, 2008. 2:49 PM **REPLY**



tsharris says:

This was great fun to make! I did one for my girlfriend and uploaded some photos to Flickr - check it out...

Oct 1, 2008. 6:47 AM REPLY











sprinks says:

Oct 12, 2008. 3:45 PM REPLY

I too made one for my girlfriend. I used screen printing ink for the details. The eyes were done with a dark blue and then redone with a glow in the dark blue so the eyes glow a bit after the lights go out. :D





KaptinScarlet says:

Oct 1, 2008. 7:30 AM REPLY

You did a great job, I hope she was pleased with it. I see that you used the ink jet printing onto fabric idea. She looks really cute.



Juan Luis says:

Sep 20, 2008. 7:11 PM REPLY

Excellent, Bravo. Its very nice. All the job depends of a good pattern. I guess its easy make an EVE than a WallE, because WallE has more colors and shapes, But I would love to make a WallE for my son. Keep going!!!



KaptinScarlet says:

Sep 21, 2008. 12:53 AM REPLY

Thx, yes, there are some good WallE projects on the web, but making EVE is quite easy by comparison



Juan Luis says:

Sep 21, 2008. 10:26 AM REPLY

Well I was searching for a WallE paper model, without success, so I made one by my own, in MS-WORD.



FBenitez says:

Sep 1, 2008. 10:20 PM REPLY

Great Instructable, and looks like its very easy to do. I'm gonna try this soon, for my girlfriend - she's crazy about Wall-e.

Thanks for sharing!



KaptinScarlet says:

thx, glad you like it.



Aug 7, 2008. 4:12 PM **REPLY**

Sep 2, 2008. 12:35 AM REPLY

"boy or girl... and if you don't think it's a MAN thing... come on, my brother made his wife's wedding dress, now how cool is that?"
HHmmm, sewing has always been said to be a womans thing, but there is only me and my girlfreinds dad that I know that can.... an electronic engineer and a builder. Go figure.



KaptinScarlet says:

Aug 8, 2008. 12:46 AM REPLY

Yeah, my comment was that if you don't think it's a MAN thing then think again. A sewing machine is a neat piece of engineering kit, just like a drill or a lathe, so it's only a cultural taboo that gender stereotypes it. I have three boys and we do all sorts of things like this as well as the more normally accepted BOY things, because I want them to grow up without any shallow preconception about what they can and can't do



bob_shaftenkluger says:

Aug 8, 2008. 5:46 AM REPLY

I made one of these last night, had to do it by hand tho, no sewing machine! Didnt turn out as well as i hoped, but the missus took it off to bed before I could put the arms on, so it cant be that bad... Could post a pic if I knew where to send it...



KaptinScarlet says:

Aug 8, 2008. 6:35 AM REPLY

True dedication, by hand! phew, same happened to me with the first one I made, kids took it off me as soon as the stuffing was in. It still has no arms! To post pictures... when you reply to this post (if you do) you'll see that there are a few boxes along the top of the reply box, one of them says add images. Click on that button and browse for the image on your hard drive, and there you go. Alternatively go to dadcando, log on, download the project if you haven't already and then upload your images to that project in your MY HOME PAGE.

really glad you liked the project.



TheNerdyDuo says:

Aug 28, 2008. 3:24 PM REPLY

Sewing is totally a man thing! My boyfriend rocks with a serger! Not that I can't or don't sew myself, but he's always the one I call when my machine starts acting badly.



KaptinScarlet says: cool

Aug 29, 2008. 12:31 AM REPLY



minoverette says:

Aug 6, 2008. 10:23 AM REPLY

Yay thanks <333 I don't know if I have the patience to get this right the first time but awesome instructable :-D



KaptinScarlet says:

Aug 6, 2008. 12:10 PM REPLY

thank you, it shouldn't take you that long to do, you don't have to make the arms, and in that case it's a 20 minute project.!



Ward_Nox says:

Aug 4, 2008. 6:10 PM REPLY

u dont really need the arms esp if you make one of her Dormant mode

also i wonder if you could make one w her eyes and sample icon that light up



KaptinScarlet says:

Aug 5, 2008. 12:13 AM REPLY

Of course you are right. The first one I made was with no arms. Obviously I couldn't do the head floating so I thought I would extemporise a bit and add the arms. In any case, later in the film EVE has the flower icon and she is awake.

Yes light up eyes and icon would be quite easy with LEDs inside. Also you could do other eye shapes. Love to see that when you make it.!



Ward Nox says:

Aug 5, 2008. 7:24 PM REPLY

actually i had a diffrent idea for the eyes make velcro "faces" that you can swap out to change her mood

another idea also using velcro make the sample compartment in her chest



KaptinScarlet says: Very nice idea, I like it.

Aug 6, 2008. 12:28 AM REPLY



whiteoakart says:

Aug 2, 2008. 5:47 PM REPLY Another great project from KaptinScarlet!



KaptinScarlet says: ta, glad you like it.

Aug 3, 2008. 1:18 AM REPLY



Couso says:

Aug 2, 2008. 3:01 AM REPLY

wow really well done, I'll have to fave this and maybe make one for my girlfriend sometime soon



KaptinScarlet says:

Aug 2, 2008. 3:32 AM REPLY

That's what i like to hear, a guy prepared to show his skill in the sewing department. Girls love it, well it's always worked for me...



=SMART= says:

Jul 31, 2008. 1:07 AM REPLY

Haha very cool, I love the drawings too :P



KaptinScarlet says:

Jul 31, 2008. 2:01 AM REPLY

Thx, the drawings are quite easy really and save you having to tidy up befroe taking the photos ;-). I like your instructables too BTW, left a few comments and voted and rated etc etc. Love the pencil thing, I'm always on the look out for creative and original projects for my website dadcando, have a look at it if you have time and then if you have even more time private message me and maybe we can chat about doing the pencil project as a dadcando project or making up another one.



=SMART= says:

Jul 31, 2008. 2:52 PM REPLY

Thanks for the ratings and votes !!, and yea id be happy to have the Stick-Pencil project on the dadcando website, i dont know how you want to do it, like write a new set of instructions geared towards dads or add some tips, i really dont mind, you can just take the pics and do it all over if you want to, you can do it however you want to im happy knowing more people get to see my project !!



KaptinScarlet says:

Jul 31, 2008, 4:12 PM REPLY

Well I'll probably just draw up the process with my type of line drawings so that the project looks like all my others, but I will title it as your project. If you want to see how something like this might look, have a look at Momma Bryna's Hair Tie on dadcando, this was a project supplied by another Instructables member, although this didn't appear as an instructable first, it was just a thing that she made for her daughter.

I have a few projects lined up for the next few weeks so it might not be done for a month or so, if that's ok.



teh darkcloud says:

Jul 31, 2008. 11:25 AM REPLY

Aw! :D

Maybe I'll make a small one. I loved WALL-E. It's the movie I saw with my boyfriend the night we got back together. >.<



KaptinScarlet says:

Jul 31, 2008, 12:47 PM REPLY

ahhh, that's nice. I loved the film too and I thought EVE was brilliant, with a really great character.



lost2010 says:

Jul 30, 2008. 9:11 PM REPLY

very nice not to long but you made it work with very nice clean steps! hope to see ur work again! Im making one 4 my little cuz now.



KaptinScarlet says:

Jul 31, 2008. 12:17 AM REPLY

love to see a pic when you're done, then I'll know that my EVE isn't the only one in the world, you see she gets a bit lonely...;-)



lost2010 says:

Jul 31, 2008. 8:34 AM REPLY

gotta find the suplys first and fix my moms sewing machine.



alex-sharetskiy says:

Jul 30, 2008. 7:35 PM REPLY

This is pretty cool!

and a great instructable!

how did you do the drawings by the way?



KaptinScarlet says:

Jul 31, 2008. 12:19 AM REPLY

I draw them in a vector line package called Macromedia Freehand 10, but it is just like Adobe Illustrator. Choose a line weight that looks nice and about 50% black (grey) as the colour and then a limited colour palette for the rest and away you go. If you need some help drawing the shapes then take digital photos of the things you want to draw and then import them and trace round them remembering that less is MORE. And that's all there is to it.



alex-sharetskiy says:

Jul 31, 2008. 8:06 AM REPLY

ok,

in your intro : give not gove



KaptinScarlet says:

Jul 31, 2008. 8:27 AM REPLY

ta, I shall correct it



lavandowska says:

Jul 31, 2008. 6:16 AM **REPLY**

You should make a Wall-E plushie.



KaptinScarlet says:

Jul 31, 2008. 7:59 AM REPLY

Nice idea, but would stretch my rudimentary sewing skills beyond their capability.





It would probably look round even if it was made by the best crafter in the world.....

Jul 31, 2008. 6:58 AM REPLY

inquisitive says:

So cute! This shape would be perfect for a hidden pocket for kids jammies or an iPod speaker mod next! Lovely work!



KaptinScarlet says:

Jul 31, 2008. 7:58 AM REPLY

Hey, I'm liking those two ideas. Another one I had was to take a black T shirt and sew the body shape through the T shirt material to another piece of white T shirt material behind it and then cut out the black part (of what should be the white body) to reveal the white body (but leaving the face black) and then paint the eyes and the flower icon on using fabric paint. I think that would work quite well.



barry_allen7 says:

I saw this on Dadcando.com you did a very nice job!

Jul 31, 2008. 7:08 AM REPLY

view all 64 comments