

bear *thrills*

Your easy-to-follow bear rug project sheet



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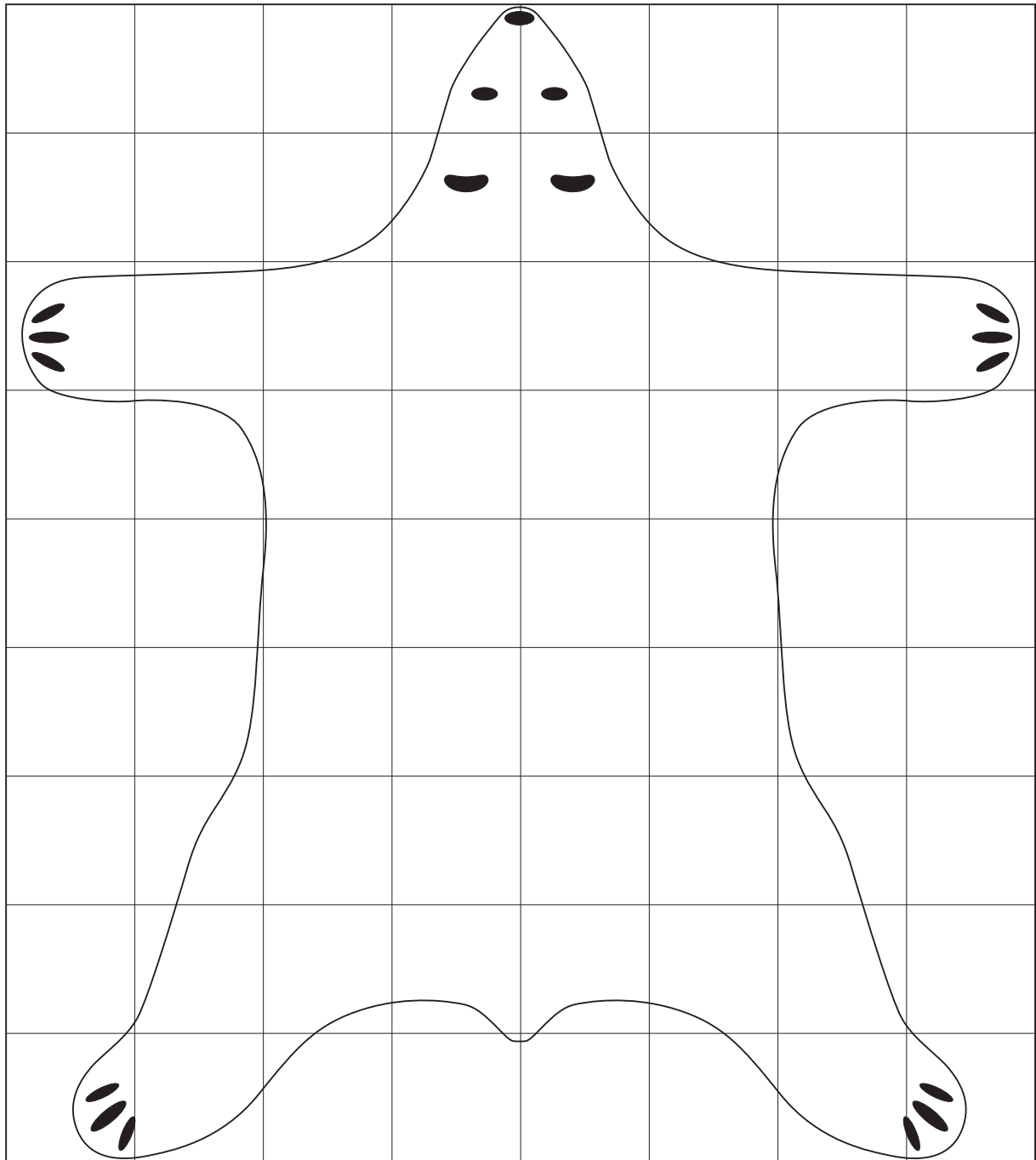
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Go, grizzly, go!

Have fun with a bearskin shape for this playful rug, or get inventive and use any animal outline you desire! Our tip? Pick up fabric remnants (upholstery pieces are ideal!) to keep costs down.

Give your floor a great big bear hug with this playful grizzly rug! Using a patchwork of floral fabrics, stitch together the body of the bear and then add the details (eyes, nose, ears and paws) with blanket stitch in coloured thread. Beary nice!

Bear Rug Diagram



Each square = 20cm



Add the finishing details to your rug with blanket stitch around the eyes, ears and nose of your bear shape, using thread in colours that highlight those in your chosen fabric remnants.



steps

STEP 2

BEAR RUG

Gather your supplies

- Large piece of brown paper
- Remnants of furnishing fabrics in various sizes
- Sewing machine and thread

You'll also need

Ruler; pencil; marker pen; large scissors; small, sharp scissors; Perle cotton No 5 in one or two colours to coordinate; embroidery needle

Here's how

STEP 1 Using ruler and pencil, mark up large piece of brown paper into a grid of 20cm squares with same number of squares as Bear Rug Diagram (see page 2).

STEP 2 Working on 1 square at a time, use ruler and pencil to draw bear outline shown on Bear Rug Diagram (see page 2) onto larger grid. Trace over outline with marker pen.

STEP 3 Cut around shape with large scissors to create a pattern.

STEP 4 Using diagram as a guide, draw in eyes, ears, nose and claws and use small, sharp scissors to cut them out.

STEP 5 Arrange your chosen fabric remnants into a rough patchwork design a little larger than size of your pattern. (Remember, when cutting smaller pieces, that it is easier to join sections that have a common measurement, such as length, even though width might vary. This will save you having to 'set in' awkward corners.)

STEP 6 Once you are happy with layout, use sewing machine to sew pieces together with French seams, as follows: With wrong sides facing each other, sew 2 pieces together, allowing a 5mm seam. Fold pieces together along seam line with right sides facing each other and stitch again, allowing a 1cm seam. Press seam to 1 side so that it lies flat. Continue until all your fabric remnants are joined into a single piece of patchwork fabric.



STEP 3



STEP 4

steps

STEP 7 On right side of fabric, topstitch through all layers, about 8mm from seam lines, to ensure that French seams will lie absolutely flat.

STEP 8 Lay paper pattern on top of patchwork fabric and cut out your bear shape. Use small, sharp scissors to remove eyes, ears, nose and claws.

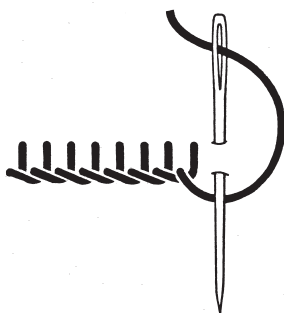
STEP 9 Using 2 strands of Perle cotton with embroidery needle, work blanket stitch (see Blanket Stitch Diagram, below) around raw edges of claw and face cut-outs, working several layers of stitching if fabric is thick or likely to fray.

STEP 10 Adjust your machine stitch to a blanket stitch or a close wide zigzag. Working close to edge, machine-stitch around outer raw edge of rug. Don't worry if there is a little fraying beyond the stitching – it is a bear rug, after all!

Top tips!

- **Instead of brown paper** you can use sheets of newspaper taped together.
- **Look in the remnant bins** of your local fabric store for interesting furnishing fabric offcuts, or ask your local upholsterer if they have anything you could use.
- **If your rug is going to be on a highly polished surface,** stitch one or two rectangles of non-stick fabric to the bottom, avoiding cut-out areas (try Spotlight or IKEA).

Blanket Stitch Diagram



STOCKISTS

Brother, brother.com.au:
Sewing machine.
Spotlight 1300 305 405,
spotlight.com.au: Perle
cotton No 5 in assorted
colours. Non-stick fabric.



STEP 7



STEP 8



STEP 9



STEP 10