

Remembrance Day poppy

By: Flosiepoos

<http://www.burdastyle.com/projects/remembrance-day-poppy>



Made this Remembrance Day poppy to wear yesterday. If I'd collected a Â£ for every compliment I received I'd have raised a few quid for the good cause! It was actually a trial which worked out rather well so I decided to make it into a brooch! Tried out a technique which is best described as the 'Inverted Suffolk Puff'. It measures approach 15 cm across. I'll try to put up a 'how to' if anyone's interested.

Materials

Red and black satin, felt for the back, fusible webbing if required, pin.

Step 1 — Get ready...



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First, catch your plates, cutter and fabric... I used red and black satin, but you can of course make this poppy in different colours and play with the design as you like!

I used a large pizza plate and a salad plate. The ratio should be approx 3:1 or better, 4:1.

Step 2 — ... cut...



Cut around your plates. I use a rotary cutter for this which is really handy, and underneath I use an Ikea floor protector – lots cheaper than an official cutting mat and much bigger too!

You don't have to cut very precisely because you won't see the edges later.

Step 2 — ... cut...

Step 3 — ...sew...



Put the black in the middle of the red fabric, both right sides facing up, and sew along the edge of the black fabric.

Again, this doesn't have to look tidy because the stitching will be hidden later.

Step 4 — ... baste...



Now baste around the edge of the black fabric by hand, pulling the fabric together a little as you go.

Step 5 — ... do the 'inverted Suffolk Puff'...



Now, pull the thread until you get something that resembles a squid, for want of a better description. Put a few stitches in place to keep the shape of the black ball of fabric.

Step 6 — ... flatten and pin...



Flatten the heart of the poppy with your hands and pin to the red fabric, or petals. Arrange the petals as you go along and adjust the shape of the heart where necessary by tucking under excess fabric.

When you are happy with the result, choose a nice, wide zig-zag close together but not quite a satin stitch either, and stitch around the black. Make sure you can see the stitches on the black, it adds to the look!

Step 7 — ... zig-zag...



A closer look at what your poppy will look like after zig-zagging. Again, very tidy stitching is not really necessary

Step 8 — ...check out the back...



The back of your poppy looks like this now. You can see the first stitches and the zig-zag stitches, and the 'inverted Suffolk Puff'.

Step 9 — ... some more basting...



Now baste along the outer edge of the poppy along the petals of the flower. This will shape the petals. I've used black thread for contrast.

Step 10 — ... turn over to the back...



Now turn your work over to continue on the back of the flower. Pull the thread but not too tight unless you want tiny petals, fix when you're happy with the way the flower looks.

Step 11 — ... fix the petals...



Now, taking care to arrange the fabric so that all raw edges are tucked under, pin the felt backing onto the back. Arrange the fabric so that the petals look pretty from the front, so keep checking as you go along!

Step 12 — ... and finish!



Now sew the felt on by hand, add a pin and start counting the compliments!

Step 13 — Now, make yourself a cuppa



You've earned one!

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