

MARTHA STEWART'S

FAVORITE

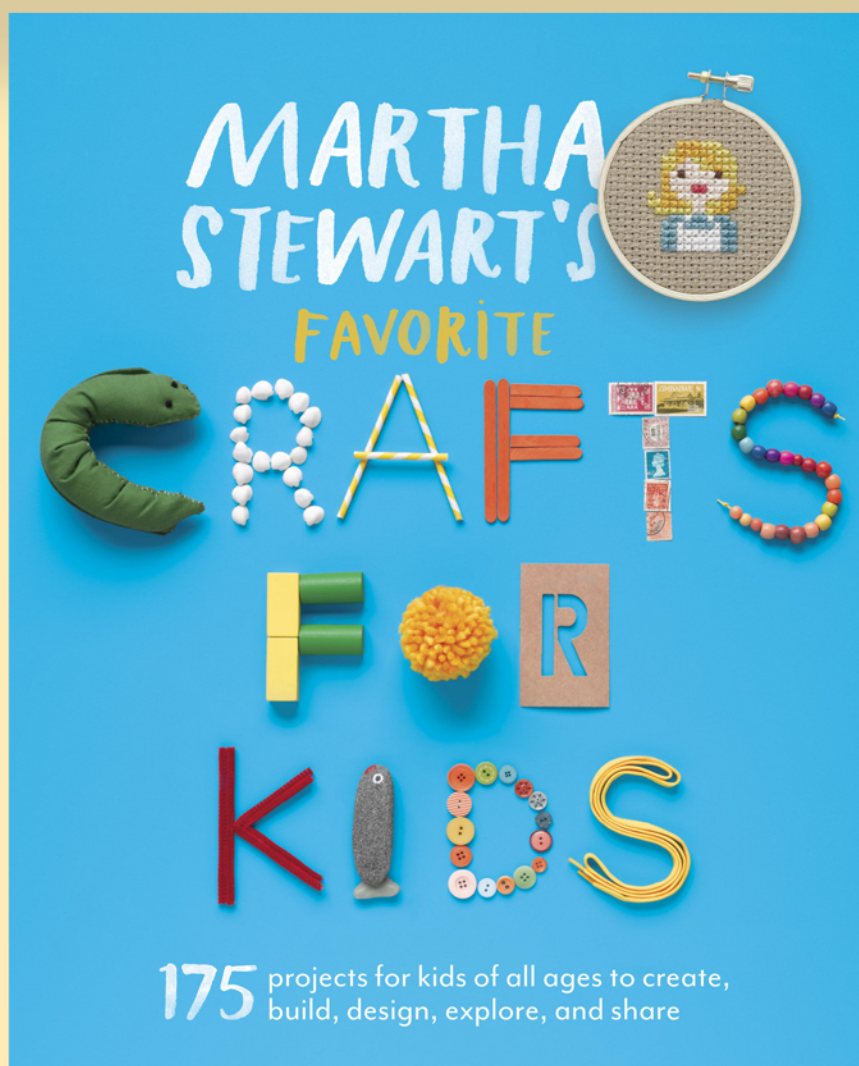


175 fun projects to create, build,
design, explore, and share

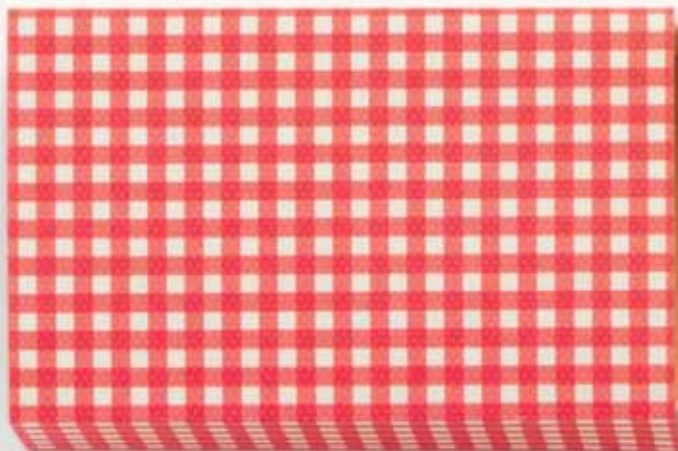
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Published in the United States by
Potter Craft, an imprint of the
Crown Publishing Group, a division
of Random House, Inc., New York.
www.crownpublishing.com
www.pottercraft.com



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Book and cover design by
Gillian MacLeod

Cover photographs by
Annie Schlechter

A list of photography credits
appears on page 342.

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

First Edition



Library of Congress
Cataloging-in-Publication Data
number: TT160.M36 2013

ISBN 978-0-307-95474-9
eISBN 978-0307-95475-6

Printed in the
United States of America

POM-POM ANIMALS

These characters are easier to make than they look, thanks to a useful little tool called a pom-pom maker, available at crafts stores or online. Once you get the hang of winding and snipping and fluffing, you can put together a cuddly friend in no time.



owls Whooo goes there? Why it's a mama owl, made from a small pom-pom stitched atop a larger one, and her single-puffball baby.

bunnies Shy rabbits hop along a field of tall shredded-paper grass, looking for veggies to bring to their picnic. If you don't have a pom-pom maker small enough for a baby bunny, you can always make a larger pom-pom and trim it down to size.



POM-POM ANIMALS HOW-TO



SUPPLIES:

- Pom-pom maker kit in size small
- Yarn in various colors, sizes, and thicknesses
- Small scissors
- Embroidery floss
- Needle
- Pom-Pom Animals templates (see page 329)
- Pencil
- Felt in various colors
- Waxed thread in white and brown
- Tacky (clear) glue

BASIC STEPS:

1. **OPEN** the two arms on top of a pom-pom maker and **START** winding yarn at one end; **GO** back and forth over the arms with the yarn until it is wrapped as densely as desired. **CLOSE** arms and **OPEN** the arms on the bottom; **REPEAT** wrapping.
2. Holding the pom-pom maker closed, use scissors to **SNIP** the yarn along the center of the rounded edges. Then **CUT** a length of matching embroidery floss and **TIE** the pom-pom in the center; pull tight and knot twice.
3. **OPEN** the pom-pom maker's arms, then carefully **PULL** the two sides of the maker apart and off the pom-pom.
4. **TRIM** any long or straggly yarn ends; if desired, **TRIM** the pom-pom further for a denser, smaller ball.
5. **LEAVE** the floss you tied off with intact if you plan to **ATTACH** the pom-pom to another one.

tips



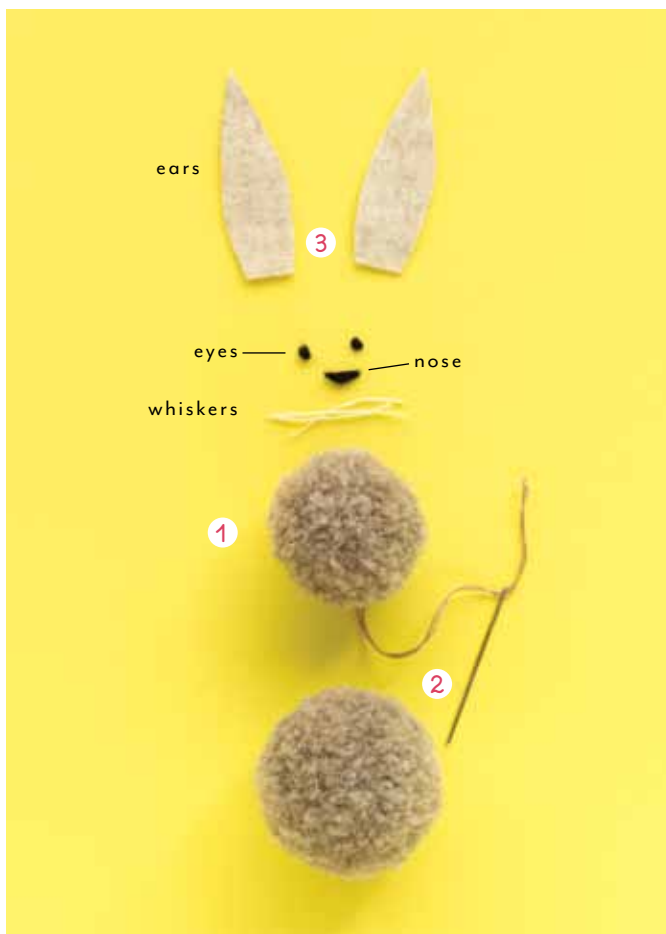
Follow the instructions on the pom-pom maker's package, but also keep these suggestions in mind:

- The more times you wind the arched arms, the denser and fuller the results. (You may want to wrap four or five times for thicker yarns and at least six to eight times for thinner yarns.)
- It's normal for a pom-pom to look imperfect when it comes out of the maker—trim it to give it a tighter appearance and to make it the proper size.
- Tie off the center with a length of the same yarn, if it's strong enough to be pulled tightly. If not, choose a fine, strong yarn (or even embroidery floss).
- Once it's knotted, you'll have a two-strand tail—leave this long if you plan to attach the pom-pom to something like another pom-pom or a piece of fabric.



did you know?

You can use any kind of yarn you like when making pom-poms; silk, mohair, wool, acrylic, or a blend of these will work well, and each yields a different finished effect. In general, fuzzy, soft, lofty yarn is best. And the smaller you want the pom-pom to be, the thinner the yarn should be.



to make a bunny

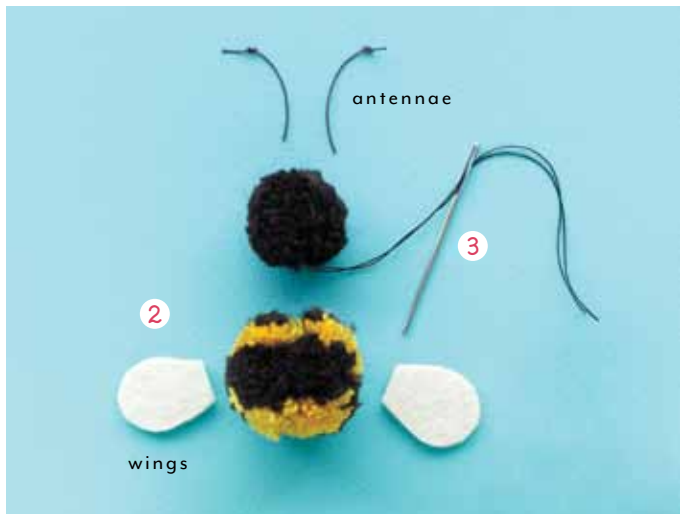
1. **MAKE** two light brown pom-poms, one for the body and the other smaller, for the head.
2. **STITCH** the head to the body using a needle and the tail of the embroidery floss used to tie it (or attach with tacky glue).
3. Use the templates (page 329) to **CUT** out ears from tan felt; **CUT** tiny eyes and a nose from black felt. **CUT** whiskers from white waxed thread. **GLUE** in place.

POM-POM ANIMALS HOW-TO



to make an owl

1. **MAKE** two pom-poms, a dark brown one for the body and a smaller, striped gray-and-brown one for the head (see tip, opposite, for how to make stripes).
2. **STITCH** the head to the body using a needle and the tail of the embroidery floss used to tie it (or **ATTACH** with tacky glue).
3. **USE** templates (page 329) to **CUT** out the owl's wings and facial features from felt. **GLUE** in place.



to make a bumblebee

1. **MAKE** two pom-poms, one striped with black and yellow (see tip, opposite), the other slightly smaller and solid black.
2. **STITCH** the head to the body using a needle and the tail of the embroidery floss used to tie it (or **ATTACH** with tacky glue).
3. **USE** templates to **CUT** a pair of wings from white felt. For antennae, **CUT** two lengths of waxed thread, and **KNOT** at one end. **GLUE** in place.

tip

To make stripes, wind one color around a portion of the pom-pom maker's arm and cut yarn. Switch color and repeat for as many stripes as desired. Repeat process in reverse color order on other arm.

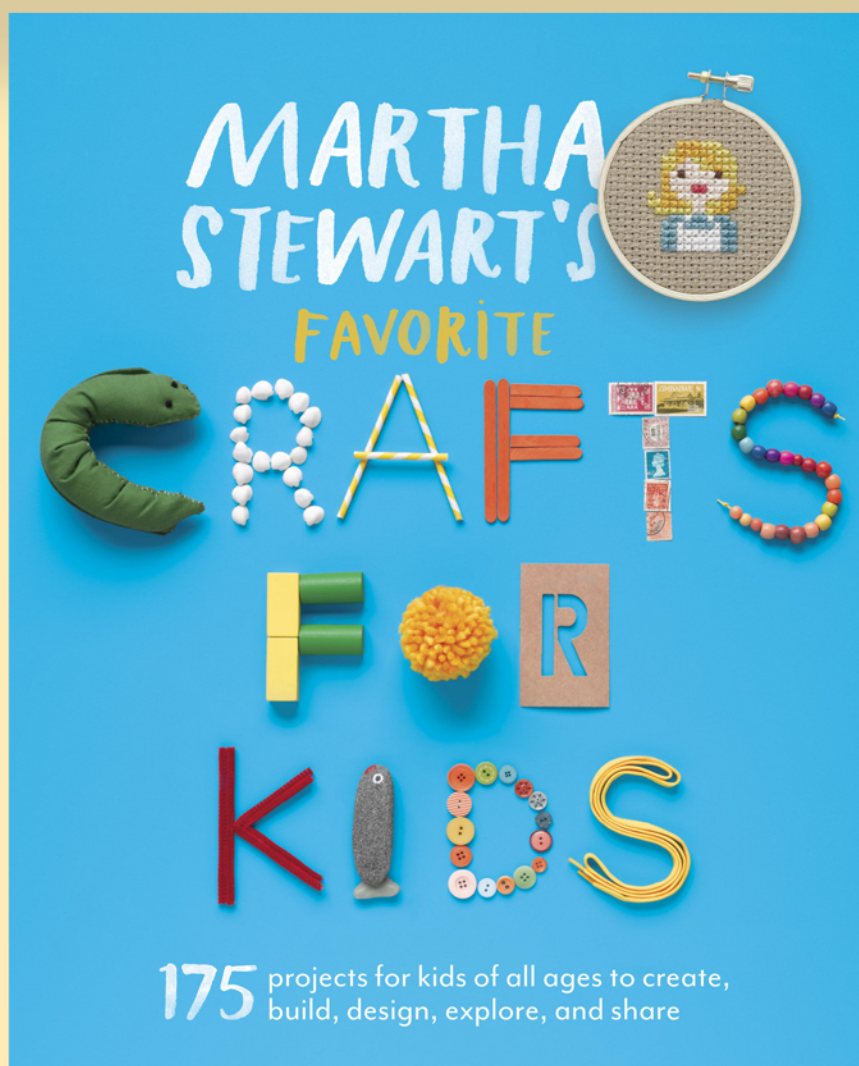


bumblebee The striped pom-pom of a handmade bumble is one piece crafted in alternating bunches of black and yellow. Felt wings and waxed-thread antennae complete his buzz-worthy suit.

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