

# Elf Knee-Hugger Ornament

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When I was a kid, well before “Elf on the Shelf” became a thing, my dad bought new ornaments, including a few of these “knee hugger” elves. They weren’t really intended as toys, but my sister and I were fascinated nonetheless.

The original elves went AWOL years ago, but I wanted to recreate one of them for my sister’s tree (and my own).



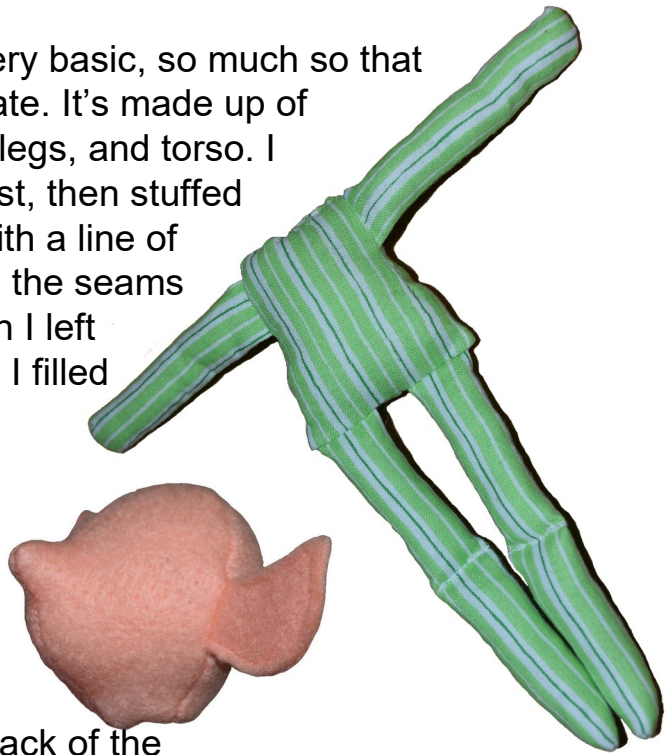
My elves have felt faces and eyes made from black beads. I used the same pattern shape for all the heads, but depending on how you position the ears and how much stuffing you use, they can look quite different.



The three shown have bodies made from different fabrics; the first is a print, the second a plain fabric, and the third a glittery check. Though created from the same template, each elf has his own personality.

The body shape I used is very basic, so much so that I didn't even create a template. It's made up of simple rectangles for arms, legs, and torso. I sewed the arms and legs first, then stuffed them and closed them up with a line of stitching. I sewed them into the seams I stitched up the torso, which I left open along the centre back. I filled the body with stuffing, then stitched the back closed.

The felt head is constructed from three pattern pieces: face, head back, and ear. The ears are stitched first, and then sewn into the side seams when the front and back of the head are joined together.



I gathered the bottom of the neck to close it, then ladder-stitched it to the stuffed body. To finish up my elf, I added a pointed collar with silver Rickrack around the neck, as well as a stocking cap finished with a pom-pom. The hair fringe is made of felt; the bead eyes are finished with stitched lashes.



Finally, I folded the elf's knees up and wrapped his arms around them, then tacked the arms together with a stitch. He's ready for the tree!