

Elf Sack Stocking Redux

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Posted 2025 July 25

You may recall my post from November 2022, concerning this nifty Snowman Sack stocking that I made for a friend's new baby granddaughter – just like the one I'd made for the baby's mom back when she was little.

Well, young Cassidy now has a new baby sister, and mom asked me to make another sack-style stocking for little Sydney.

As you may remember, the Snowman is one of several such designs that I created back when I was making toys regularly: in addition to him, the collection also includes a Santa, an Elf, a Cat, and a Teddy (unfortunately, I don't have a picture of him).

This time, based on the photos I sent along, Sydney's mom chose the Elf.

You might recall from previous posts that I originally created these stocking designs

decades ago, long before home embroidery machines came on the market, so the originals were made completely on the sewing machine.

In 2023, I made an Elf Sack for my nephew, as part of his Elf-on-the-Shelf activities. At that time I updated the stocking to incorporate some machine-embroidered features on the face.

When I embarked on the next Elf Sack for little Sydney, I tweaked the design a bit further, adjusting the face and adding an additional collar detail. See what you think.



I kept the face pretty much the same as the 2023 version, except that I changed the shape of the chin, which I widened just a touch.

After stuffing the head, I topstitched around the eyes and the mouth and along the ears, just to give the face a bit more definition.

I debated about the collar style, and made mock-up images of both a jester style and the shirt-collar style that I eventually selected.



Looking at my mock-up image now, though, I find that I kind of like the look of the jester style. If I make another Elf Sack, I may just go with that one.

To finish him up, I added a tiny red bow to the centre of the collar, and some sequined holly to his hat band, then pinned an “Elf Made Toys are Best” button on his chest. Done!



I was really tickled with the “visions of sugar-plums” vibe of the Christmas candy print that I used on the sack: it’s cheerful and sweet and just right for a kid’s stocking. I like to imagine Sydney – and maybe her sister too – spending many happy hours counting the candy canes and gingers and gumdrops.

I still really like the print, but as I look at the picture side by side with the earlier Elf Sack, I can’t help wondering whether I shouldn’t have selected a print with more red in it. I’ll keep that in mind for next time.

For now though, the Elf is done and soon to embark on his journey to his new home, where I know he’ll receive a warm welcome.