

# Elf Sack Christmas Stocking

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Years ago I designed a Christmas stocking that looked like Santa opening his sack (you may recall that I featured one of these as a project back in September 2020). I liked the design theme so well that I made several additional “sack” stockings: a Cat, a Teddy, a Snowman (featured in November 2021), and an Elf.



The Elf at left is nearly 30 years old; he was made back before I had an embroidery machine, and his appliqued features were done on the sewing machine.



I had reason recently to revisit the Elf sack design, because I wanted to make one for my little nephew, who loves the Elf on the Shelf tradition that his grandma started for him a few years back. I promised to make some elves of my own to add to the festivities, and thought the sack stocking might add a few possibilities for the game.

Just as I did with my re-make of the Santa sack, I decided to update this design as well, taking advantage of the embroidery machine for some of the details. So I started the project by creating an embroidery design of the Elf’s face, incorporating some of my embroidered eyes. I love the look.



The second change I made is to the Elf's hands; the original has mitten-style hands, based on the ones I had made for Santa, whereas the re-jigged Elf has distinct fingers.



You'll notice a few other details that have been changed: the embroidered eyes are lovely, and I added some detail stitching to the ears as well. I also included a jingle bell on a cord to finish off the hat, and gave him actual buttons on his chest (along with a pin that reads "Elf Made Toys are Best").

In addition to the more detailed hands, I changed the way I attached the face to give him rounder cheeks, and I added a bit of stuffing to give the face a little more fullness. I also slightly adjusted the size of the head – it's just a bit larger.

Some of these changes involved more hand-sewing, particularly when I added the face and the hat.

The original has certainly been serviceable for all these years, but I must say I really like the new Elf. The embroidery machine does a much more beautiful job on the face than could be achieved on a sewing machine, especially the eyes, and I find that I also really like the bit of stuffing that gives more definition to the face. I'm sure the Elf Sack will be a welcome addition to the Elf on the Shelf festivities for my nephew – and his grandma.