

## SUPPLIES

- Mohair as follows – (5/8" matted mohair - was used for the prototype.)
- 12" x 12" piece of tan mohair (bear color), 12" x 9" red mohair (jersey color)
- 13" x 9" black mohair (shorts & shoe color),
- 5" x 2 1/2" light tan ultrasuede - pawpads - 3 1/2" x 3" black ultrasuede - footpads
- 2 – 1 1/8" discs (neck), 8 – 1 1/2" discs (arms & legs)
- 10 - Washers, 5 – 3/4" tapbolts in 1/8" diameter, 5 – 1/8" Locknuts
- 4 Flexlimb for bendable limbs – 1/2" in diameter
- (Can be found at CR's Crafts)
- 1 – Pair 9mm glass eyes on wire loops
- 3 – Strands of waxed floss (2 for eyes, 1 for closing head)
- 1 –Black pearl cotton for nose & mouth
- Fiberfil, Plastic pellets, glass pellets or stainless steel bb's (optional.. for weight)
- All purpose sewing thread to match mohair if sewing by machine.
- Upholstery thread to match mohair for closing seams – and for sewing if hand sewing.
- Epoxy glue (a very strong 2 part glue found at hardware stores)
- Doll sized soccer ball

## Tools you will need

- Needlenose pliers w/ wirecutters
- Nutdriver to fit the nuts for the bear
- Awl (or sharp chopstick)  
*for making holes for joints & eyes*
- Stuffing Tool (end of wooden spoon is just fine)
- You can use whatever needles you are comfortable with but these are my favorites:
- Needle - #16 Milliners needles (for closing seams)
- Needle - 5" long doll needle (for eyes & hiding threads)
- Needle - 3" soft sculpture doll needle (for nose)
- Waxed paper & toothpicks
- Sewing machine optional as you can hand sew if desired



Teddies by Laura Lynn  
Artist Bears,  
Patterns & Classes  
[www.TeddiesbyLauraLynn.com](http://www.TeddiesbyLauraLynn.com)



# Jamie - 11"

## Soccer Bear Pattern

### w/ bendable limbs

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# Jamie - 11" Soccer Bear

Artist Designed Bear with Flexlimb

by Laura Matthews of [TeddiesbyLauraLynn.com](http://TeddiesbyLauraLynn.com) and [FreeTeddyBearPatterns.NET](http://FreeTeddyBearPatterns.NET)

*This is not intended to be a child's toy due to the glass eyes and pellets.*

## Soccer Bear w/ Flexlimb Directions

Please read the instructions all the way thru before beginning. Prepare the pattern by copying them onto cardstock or tracing the pattern onto clear plastic. Lie your pattern pieces on the back of the mohair – making sure that the arrows on the pattern are going the same direction as the arrow you marked on the fabric backing. The pattern pieces have been marked with which color they should be (bear color, jersey color, shorts-shoe color) Using a fine tipped permanent marker, trace around all your pattern pieces. A ¼" seam allowance has been included in the pattern. Mark the seam openings and joint markings. Draw out the pawpads and footpads on the Ultrasuede. \*Special note on the nap direction on the head gusset: You may notice that the nap direction arrow for the head gusset goes toward the front. This is how the prototype bear was created. If, however, you prefer the traditional direction (to the back) feel free to change the way you cut out your head gusset.

## **PREPARING the JOINTS**

Protect your work area with waxed paper. Be sure area is well ventilated. Mix a small amount of epoxy glue together on the waxed paper using a toothpick and glue the top part of the neck joint together: 1 tapbolt, 1 washer and 1 – 1 1/8" disc. Set aside to dry. To glue the Flexlimbs to the joints: Mix up a new small batch of epoxy. Slide each bolt

thru the round hole on one end of the Flexlimb. Glue in place. When set, slide a washer over the bolt and glue in place. When that is set, then slide a 1 ½" disc over the bolt and glue that in place. Set joint assemblies aside to dry and cure overnight.

## **SEWING**

Sew all pieces right sides (fur sides) together. When done, turn all pieces right side out and brush fur out of seams.

### **Head**

Match 2 head side pieces together and sew the chin seam from the tip of the nose down to the neck opening. To insert the head gusset, match the line on the nose of the head gusset up to the seam of the 2 head sides. Tack in place at the seam. Pin the gusset in place, then baste together with a whip stitch. Sew the gusset in place. Leave open at neck. Remove basting stitches. Match up both pairs of ears, stitch along curve. Leave straight area open for turning.

### **Body**

Match up each Body top and Body bottom – match up lines at back of body. Sew together. Match up & pin the completed body halves paying particular attention to the matching of the color change seam. Stitch together leaving a small gap where the neck joint will be inserted, and leave open at back where indicated. Turn and brush any fur out of seams.

### **Arms**

Match up each pawpad to the corresponding tan inner arm. Stitch in place. Match up the red inner arm piece to the top of this assembled piece and stitch in place. Match up and stitch the red outer arm to each corresponding tan outer arm bottom. Match up and

stitch together the completed arm halves paying particular attention to the matching of the color change seams. Leave open at back where indicated.

## **Legs**

Match up each black leg top on top of its corresponding tan leg middle (line up lines on side). Stitch in place. Match up & stitch each black leg bottom piece (line up lines on side) to the bottom of its corresponding leg middle piece. Fold each leg in half and stitch together paying particular attention to the matching of the color change seams. Leave open at back where indicated. Match up the lines on the footpads to the seams on the feet. Tack in place. Pin the rest of the footpad in place, baste together with a whipstitch. Sew in place with a backstitch. Remove basting stitches.

## **Stuffing and Jointing**

### **Head**

Stuff the head nice and evenly with small pieces of fiberfill. Stuff the nose first. Take small bits of stuffing and stuff FIRMLY into the nose. This part must be very firmly stuffed as it will make it much easier when you embroider his nose. I usually stuff the nose area about  $\frac{1}{3}$  –  $\frac{1}{2}$  way to start and then start adding stuffing to the rest of the head. Now I finish stuffing the nose... very firmly. I find that doing it this way helps to keep the stuffing in the nose area. Turning the head as you stuff it helps to keep the head evenly stuffed.

Using a 30" length of waxed eye floss, sew a running stitch around the neck about  $\frac{1}{4}$ "

from the edge. Insert the neck joint into the opening so the disc is inside the head and the bolt sticks out of the neck. Pull the floss so the fabric gathers tightly around the bolt. Tie securely with a square knot. The waxed thread really helps here as it helps to keep the knot in place. Bury the threads.

### **EMBROIDERING the NOSE**

Use a length of pearl cotton about 30" long and do not knot it. I prefer to use 2 shorter pieces than one long piece. Enter the bear's nose thru the side, and don't pull the pearl cotton all the way thru, let a short tail hang out. Bring your needle up near a top corner of where you want your nose to be, and then outline the shape of the nose. Trim the fur away from the area where you want to embroider the nose. Stitch the nose with satin stitches, starting in the middle and take a few stitches to the right, and then left, working the nose out to both ends at the same time. Those outline stitches will help you keep the nose even. When you come near the end of your strand – thread it onto your long 5" needle, and with your next stitch, go thru to the back of the neck on the other side of the head. Pull it nice and taut and snip the pearl cotton. Start your next piece the same way you started the first. When the nose is all done, carefully snip the beginning ends of the pearl cotton that you left hanging on his snout. Be sure to use a very sharp pair of scissors so you don't leave any pieces hanging.

### **The Mouth**

I like to take another length of pearl cotton, and come up to the center of the nose from the lower back side of the head (near the neck joint) leaving a about 6" of the pearl cotton hanging out near the neck. I take that length and bring it thru also... going in thru the head just a small space away from the first place, but coming out at a different spot

on the head where I then clip it away. Now you can decide what shape mouth you would like to have. It may help to “outline” the mouth shape with some ball headed pins. Stitch the mouth and when you are done, bring the tail ends all the way thru the head near the same place you entered – and snip the ends.

## **Eyes**

To insert the eyes you will need: The pair of glass eyes, 2 strands of waxed eye floss strands about 24” long, 5” long needle, needle nose pliers, awl (or sharpened chopstick), ball headed straight pins.

Fold each length of eye floss in half. Be sure each  $\frac{1}{2}$  is even. Loop end first, thread it thru the wire on each glass eye. Pull the loop a little bit thru the eye wires, take the tail and pull it thru that loop. Pull the tails tightly, and you have tied the glass eye to the waxed floss securely.

Use your ball headed pins to help determine where to place the eyes. The common place is right where the forehead starts to slope up, just on the outside of the gusset seam. Be sure NOT to place them directly on the seam as that will weaken the head. Move the eyes (pins) away from and closer to the gusset to see which look pleases you best.

When you are ready to insert the eyes, first, thread the tails of the waxed floss from one of the eyes onto your 5” needle. Take your awl (chopstick) and carefully poke a small hole (separate the threads of the backing) where one of your pins is located. Now, take your threaded 5” needled and insert it thru that hole, coming out down at the neck of your bear, on the opposite side of the eye. Do the same for the other eye

At the back of the bear now, separate the tails of the floss for one of the eyes. With one tail, take a small stitch so it is next to its other tail, but not in the same hole. Do the same for the other eye's floss tail.

Carefully tie one knot (just over once) and pull gently. Push gently on the eyes to help them sink in... but you don't want to pull too tightly and accidentally break the glass eyes! Pushing gently on the eyes helps sink the eyes without breaking them. Now go back to those floss tails and tie a square knot. Sink the ends.

### **Ears**

Using a 24" length of upholstery thread, whipstitch the ears closed and do NOT cut off the end! Tie off a quick knot to secure it, but leave the thread hanging from each ear. You will use these to attach them to the head. Position the ears onto your bear & pin them to your bear's head. Move them about until you are happy with their placement. You can really play with a bear's expression by moving those ears about! To make sure they are even, take a look at your bear in the mirror, and also look down on his head from above. These tricks can help you place them evenly.

When you have the ears placed as you like, you just whipstitch them into place (removing pins as you go) When you finish at the bottom of the ear, tie a knot and hide the threads just like you did when you closed the seams.

### **STUFFING LIMBS**

ARMS: Take a small bit of fiberfill and stuff into the tip of the pawpad. Cut each Flexlimb joint assembly to fit into the arm so the tip does not quite reach the end of the pawpad. Using your awl or chopstick, poke the joint opening in the inside of each arm.

Insert one joint into each arm so the bolt sticks out of the arm. Carefully stuff the arm so it is firm enough to not feel the Flexlimb, but not so firm that the arm will not bend. Close the openings with a ladderstitch.

LEGS: Place some fiberfill in the bottom of the feet then fill with glass pellets (or ss bb's). Fill feet with more fiberfill so they are firm. Cut each Flexlimb joint assembly to fit into the leg so the tip reaches the ankle. Using your awl or chopstick, poke the joint opening in the inside of each leg. Insert one joint into each leg so the bolt sticks out of the leg. Carefully stuff the leg so it is firm enough to not feel the Flexlimb, but not so firm that the leg will not bend. Close the openings with a ladderstitch.

## **BODY**

Take finished and closed head and insert the neck bolt thru the small opening left open at the neck of the body. Slide the 2<sup>nd</sup> disc and then the 2<sup>nd</sup> washer over the bolt which is now on the inside of the body, attaching the head to the body. Add the locknut and tighten with the nut driver.

Attach the arms next, then the legs. To attach the limbs, take your awl or chopstick and gently poke a hole (separate the threads) at the joint markings. Make an opening just large enough for each bolt to go thru. Attach the limb (Make sure it is facing in the correct direction!!). Slip the disc & washer over the bolt on the inside of the body then add the locknut and tighten each joint on the inside to secure each limb to the body. Stuff the body firmly and then close the seam with a ladder stitch. Brush him out and he's ready to play!







