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## **Felt Flower Headband** with Annabel Wrigley

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### **Chapter 1 - Introduction**

#### Overview

- I'm really hooked on making felt flowers at the moment. There's nothing better than just sitting quietly and stitching up a few. I make them all the time, as Ruby can attest to, but I'm gonna teach you how to make this really great felt headband. You can make lots of other things with the felt flowers, but today I thought the headband was a perfect thing that you can do with your child. It's easy to make. It's very simple hand stitching. It's perfect for kids about seven and up, with a bit of help. If you're a bit older you might find it a little bit easier. We're gonna add a few seed beads just to make it look extra special. And let's get started. It's gonna be great. (serene music)

### **Chapter 2 - Materials**

#### Materials

- Let's talk about the supplies we need for our felt flower headband. The most important thing is this template that you can download right here. And this has all the pieces that we need to put our flowers together. Next we need some parchment paper that you can find at any supermarket. And that's what we're gonna use for tracing. We're gonna use a small pair of scissors, a piece of wool felt, our erasable pen, a pencil. We need one inch wide elastic. I really love this elastic from my local craft store. It's patterned and it's really cute. We want some button thread. It's really easy to get. A needle. I'm just using a crewel needle. Some embroidery floss in two or three different colors. A ruler. I'm using a quilting ruler, but you can use any kind of ruler. We want to have some pins, and a selection of felt in different colors. I'm also using some felted sweater pieces, and that's just old sweaters that I've cut up and washed in the washing machine on a hot cycle, and it makes them not fray, so they're really fun to work with, and super soft. And lastly, we're gonna work with seed beads. We're gonna add them at the end. It's just gonna add that little, final touch to make our headbands one of a kind.

### **Chapter 3 - Make Flower Band**

#### Cut flowers

- The first step we need to take to make our headband, is to trace the templates onto our piece of parchment paper. So we're gonna start by laying our parchment paper on top of the template. And then, using a pencil, here, Ruby, you can do that. We're gonna trace around each one of the little flower parts. So you just want to trace over all the little flower parts. You can just do the outside. That's just, the little circle one, the lines on that is just to give you a guide of where to cut. Great. When you finish tracing, you're gonna take the piece of parchment paper and carefully cut out your shapes. These shapes are gonna act as your pattern pieces for when we need to cut out the shapes from the felt. Now that we've finished cutting out the shapes, we're simply gonna take our felt piece that we've chosen. I think we should, which one do you want to choose for the main flower? - [Ruby] The purple. - [Woman] Maybe the purple? And we're gonna take our felted sweater piece, in this case, and we're gonna lay our main pattern piece on top of that. And then we're gonna take a pin and just pin it in place. You don't need to worry if the pattern piece isn't cut perfectly. The great thing about this project is, if the flowers are a little bit off, it doesn't matter. It still looks really great. So we're gonna take that and we're gonna use our scissors and we're gonna cut all the way around.

For this one, I find it easy to cut all the way around first and then cut each petal there. So when you finish cutting your flower, just take your pin out. It's looking great, so you can take your scissors if you need to and if you need to give it just a little tidy up, go ahead and do that. We're just gonna trim a tiny bit here, but overall, I think that looks pretty good. So we're gonna set that one aside and maybe move onto this one. So what color do you think for this one? - [Ruby] Pink. - [Woman] Pink? So we're gonna do the same thing again, place it on the felt, put a little pin in. Make sure to take the pin out of the way when you get to it. You don't want to cut onto the pin. And you can cut that out. You're gonna be stacking all of these pieces on top of each other, so think about really fun colors that would look great together. And the fun thing about this part, is that we can create a little bit of a fringe all the way around just by taking our scissors and just cutting all the way around. Kind of gives it a little bit of a fluttery fringe, you'll see, right there. So we're gonna do another piece. And I think maybe this one. I think yellow would look good for this. What do you think? - [Ruby] Yup. - So let's do the same thing again. That's so cute. So you can see how you can stack all your little pieces on top of each other to create one really cute flower. We've finished this flower and we're gonna go ahead and cut all the rest of our flowers. We want to cut maybe about seven of the large ones and then seven or so each of these ones, but you can decide. You can add more or less, depending on what you like. You can see how we've added it to the headband here. You can see we've really mixed and matched all the little inside parts, so it's really up to you. But use variety in your colors and go for it. It's gonna be really fun.

### Stitch flowers

- We have our pile of flowers here that we've cut out. We have a nice big pile. I think we have enough to make the headband. And so now what we want to do is cut the panel that we're gonna use to attach the flowers to. And that's the main part of the headband. So to do that, I've got a piece of felt right here. Gonna use this color because it's gonna make the flowers really pop. I'm gonna use a ruler. I have a quilter's ruler, but you really don't need to use that. You can use anything that you have at home. Take your ruler and lay it, making sure that it's on the straight edge of the felt. We're lining ours up to measure nine inches long by one inch tall. So I'm just gonna mark that with my pen. You can use a pencil or anything you want. So I've marked that. Then I'm gonna take my scissors and I'm gonna cut that out. Remember, don't worry about the line. It's gonna come off as soon as we hit it with the iron. So this is our main panel. We're gonna be attaching all of our flowers onto here. We're gonna be sewing them on one by one. Before we attach the flowers to the panel, we're gonna go ahead, Ruby and I, and put all our flowers together exactly how we want them. So we're gonna get all that stacking done in advance. It's kind of fun, putting all the colors together. I like that one. You don't need to match everything. I think they look better if they don't actually match that well. Do we want to add anything else? I think they look good. You're gonna have probably a few left over, but that's great, 'cause you can use them for another project, or attach them to a barrette or make a necklace. There's lots of things you can do. So we're gonna go from here and start attaching them onto our panel. And they may not look as fab as they're gonna look later, right now, but we're going to lay them out in the order that we like. I think that blue's my favorite. So when we have them all on like that, looking good, and you're happy with how the colors look, I'm pretty happy with that, what do you think? - Mmm-hmm. - Yep. So we're gonna grab some pins, and I think it's a good idea to just lightly pin them on. Looks good. Just make sure that when you're pinning, that you actually get through all the layers. You do have, kind of, maybe four layers to go through for this. Great, all done and ready for sewing. I have some colors of embroidery

thread here that we're gonna use. Remember, when you're pulling the embroidery thread out from the paper that holds it all together, you're just gonna pull it really, really gently, because this stuff has a tendency to really knot up and it's very frustrating. So I would pull a few lengths. Get your scissors and just set them aside. Here we go, I'll cut that for you. Remember, whenever we use embroidery floss to embroider anything, we always start with a knot in the end. So, Ruby, why don't you knot those other two? It's great to have these on hand, all threaded with separate needles, so that you don't have to keep going back and re-threading and re-threading. So we've got our three pieces, these are the three colors that we're gonna use, and we're gonna get the needles threaded and get started on sewing the insides of our flowers. We're gonna use a crewel needle for this. That's kind of an embroidery needle. It's a little bit bigger. The eye of the needle is a lot bigger, which makes it easier to thread with embroidery floss, and it's nice and sharp, and that's what we want. So I'm just gonna go ahead and thread each of the needles. Make sure all those little fibers of the embroidery thread go through the eye. If it's a little bit frayed on the end, it's always good to grab your scissors and just trim it off and make it nice and a clean cut. I think we'll thread the blue one as well, Ruby. So when you look at this and you're wondering, okay, what am I gonna do now? Have a look at the colors that you have there, have a look at the colors of the threaded needles, and work out what you think is gonna make the best contrast. I think, for this first one, that I would really like to use this pinky-peach color. I'm gonna take my needle and I'm gonna bring it up underneath the felt strip and go through all those layers. I'm gonna bring it out slightly to the side of the center of the flower. Gonna bring that through. Then I'm gonna take the needle down, kind of make it into a line, take it just down above that, and you have a line like this. So now we wanna kind of make a cross, so I'm gonna bring it up to the side on this side and pull it through, and then I'm gonna take it directly across the other one, like this. See how we've kind of created a bit of a center to that flower? It's up to you if you want to bring it through on this side, as well, and kind of make a more star-shaped pattern. I kind of like it like that. So once we've done that, we're gonna flip it over. We're gonna take our other end, right here, and we're gonna tie a knot. Let's put the needle through that hole, like that, and then again. All these pins make it get caught sometimes. And there's your knot. I'm gonna get my scissors. I'm just gonna trim that off. And we can go back and trim that a little bit smaller a little bit later. So it's all knotted, and that's one of our flowers done. I really love how this first flower turned out. We're gonna move onto our next one. So what color do you think we should use for this one, Ruby? - I think we should use blue. - Okay, great. So there's your needle. That's great, so bring it up, just like that, a little bit to the side of the center. So pull that all the way through, pull it all the way through, and then you're gonna take it down in a line. Yeah, that's good. - Yeah? And pull that right through. Perfect. Now, why don't we go across-ways like that? So bring it up about there. - Here? - Maybe a little bit further to the side. Yep. And we're gonna take it across. I think we'll just pull that through, like that. Great, so do you want to do another one across just to give it a bit more? - Here? - Yep, or maybe a little bit further over there. No, about there. (laughs) You'll get there! Maybe, let's do it, like, right there. And take it across. It's really no science to it. It's just about making it look pretty, however you do it. That looks really good, I love that! I love the blue. So let's turn it over, like this. There isn't a lot of length here, but I think there's enough for us to work with. It's always good to leave a little bit of length on the end when you do your knot at the beginning. And we're just gonna make that knot again. There's one and two. Make it nice and tight and nice and secure, and then we're gonna cut that off. We've finished our second flower, and I love it. I really think it's looking great. So we wanna continue on in the exact same way and complete all of the flowers. I'd recommend doing different embroidery floss for each one, because it looks really

cute. You'll see on this finished panel here that we've added a few leaves. We just cut them out using the template, and we've attached them and tacked them on in the exact same way as we've attached the flowers. I used green embroidery floss just to hide it a little bit, and I tucked them under the petals, you'll see, so they're kind of hidden from view. So you can't really see it. Use a green embroidery thread, if you want. I mean, you could use any color if you wanted it to be a little bit crazy, but I like it on green. It's totally up to you whether you add the leaves or not, you don't need to, but I like it, I think it looks really sweet and fun.

### Add beads

- If you wanna give your headband a little bit extra. A little bit of something special, you can add just few seed beads into the center of each of the flowers. And to do that, I'm gonna take some button thread. You can get this from any craft shop. And the reason it's different from regular thread it's a little bit thicker, which means it's not gonna break. So we can secure it by knotting it on the back, and it's going stay in place. I love this stuff. Love it. I'm gonna take a piece. I'm just gonna cut it to size. Of course, I'm gonna tie my knot in the end. And I'm gonna thread that. Make sure that the needle that you're using is not too fat to pass through the beads. So I'm gonna start with this one on the end. I have my needle threaded, and I'm gonna bring it up from behind. Once again, through the flower. Pull it right through, because we have that knot in the back, which is very helpful. And then, I'm going pick out my beads. And I think for this one, I think I'm gonna use this hot pink. Which is my favorite color. I'm gonna thread that. I thread one and two. I always like to put my beads on my flowers in threes. Odd numbers instead of even. I think it looks better. And I have my three beads threaded on there like this. And then I'm gonna bring it back down right beside it. And it's creating this really sweet flower center right here. Once I've pulled it through and it's nice and tight, I'm gonna flip it over to the back. And I'm gonna do my trusty knot again. This time with this one, I think we're gonna do a bit of a double knot on this one. There's one, and let's just do one more, just to be sure. Like that. Trim your threads. Like I said earlier, we can come back and trim all these threads a little bit later. Flip it over and look how great that looks. I love it. You'll see that I've done this first one, and now we're gonna add some beads to the other flowers. I don't think that you need to do every single flower, 'cause I love to show a little bit of embroidered detail on each one. I think it's really fun. So I think that in this case, we're going to do every fourth. So we're gonna do this one in the center, and this one on the end. And I think Ruby, I think you should do this one. So what color do you think you would like to use on this one? - I think we should use blue. - I think that's a great choice. So, let's get three of those out of the bowl. I think it's really great to keep all of your beads in a bowl. Or somewhere secure. The beads are so small that they usually end up rolling all over the table if you have them out. We're keeping all of ours in here. Just to keep them all in one place. We've tied a knot in the end of our thread. And we're ready to attach our next three beads to the center one. So, we're gonna bring that through the center. Yep. Great job. Then we're gonna thread, Oops, Thread on our three. I think the blue is going to look really great with that yellow. And you wanna take that back down to the back of the flower. Kind of beside it. You still wanna see a little bit of the red embroidery underneath. Yep. That looks good. Flip that over again like this. And then we're gonna tie, remember, a double knot in the back. Remember, one more. Great. Trim that off. And you're ready to start on the next set of beads. So we're on to our last one. What color are you thinking for the beads for that one? - Yellow. - I think that's gonna contrast really well with the blue. So, let's get those ones out of the bowl. And again, I went ahead and pre-knotted this thread here. So, let's go ahead and do that last one. That looks great. So, let's cut off our last threads. It's looking

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really, really good. And we're ready to attach our elastic.

#### **Chapter 4 - Create Headband**

##### Attach elastic

- We have made this gorgeous flower panel for our headband, and now we're gonna put it all together and finish it off, and you're gonna be wearing it in just a few minutes. I bet you're excited. I'm excited. We're gonna take this. We've got our piece of elastic. We cut it about 10 inches and I find that that really fits well on most heads. It fits perfectly on Ruby's. So we've got our elastic cut ready to go and we have our panel ready to go. And we're gonna turn it over. We're gonna attach the elastic to the very end of the panel. And I want you to put it with the patterned side facing up. I'm gonna just lay it on the back with just a tiny bit of overhang. You'll see that underneath the petals there is a little bit of room for this. We're gonna put it on here like this and we're gonna put a pin in to hold it in place. So where did that pin go? Here we go. Put a pin there to hold it in place. And then I've threaded a needle with button thread again and remember I have tied a knot in the end. And I am going to bring it through to the front from this side this time because we want all our threads to be on this side of the panel. And I'm gonna bring it through like this. And I'm gonna bring it up beside, and I'm just gonna continue. Pull out that pin once it's secure. Gonna pull that through. And then I'm gonna do a little running stitch. Just down and back through. Remember we wanna go through all the layers. Which is the elastic and the felt panel. And I would do a pretty small running stitch. I'm gonna get it through to the end there. Whoops. Like that, make sure it's nice and tight. Just gonna thread my needle again. Go back to where we were. I'm just gonna do my last stitch on the felt and on the edge of that elastic like this. And then do maybe three little stitches. And on the last one, I'm gonna bring the needle through that thread loop just to finish it off. It's pretty secure, I think. Looks good. Just pull on it to check. Grab your scissors, do a little trim. Trim the other side. And that's one side done, and it looks pretty secure to me. We've finished our final stitch right here, and we're almost ready to attach the other side. I just wanted to let you know that if you're worried that it doesn't feel totally secure then go ahead and do another line of a running stitch just to hold it tighter if you want. I think ours is pretty good. So you're gonna do that exact same thing to attach the other side, just like so. Pin it into place. Stitch it. I'm gonna put a pin in there. Stitch it the same way and you're done. And you've made this beautiful headband. I love it. It's perfect for a summer day. I think Ruby and I are gonna fight over who gets to wear it. But here's the thing with this project, don't stop here. The flowers are so simple to make and now you know how to make them. I've gotten this wood bangle and I've sewn the flowers the exact same way except I haven't sewn them to a panel. I've just sewn them individually. And then I've hot glued all these flowers onto this pretty wood bangle. And look at that. It's a little bit of springtime on your wrist.