
DIY Felt Pennants with Courtney Cerruti

Chapter 1 - DIY Felt Pennants

Make felt pennants two ways

^- Hi, I'm Courtney from Creativebug. ^And I love the vintage aesthetic. ^I'm gonna show you how to make a really sweet ^and easy to make pennant that's perfect for birthdays, a kids' room, or even some seasonal decor. For the pennant itself you have some choices. ^I like these 12 x 18 sheets of felt ^that are slightly thicker. ^They make a really good base for your pennant. ^But you can also do these smaller ^and you can get those 9 x 12 or 8.5 x 11 sheets as well. ^You need to pick one for each pennant that you want to make, ^so I'll probably be making a green one. ^You'll also need some contrasting scrap felt. ^I have two pieces that are a half inch wide ^by 12 inches long and these will be the little tabs ^that you use to hang your pennant with. ^Then I have a different color scrap of felt ^that's two inches wide by the length of my sheet. ^And that's to do the edging right on the pennant itself. ^And you can choose whatever color combination ^strikes your fancy. ^For our lettering we have these iron-on embroidered letters, ^and for mine it's going to spell out the word dive. ^And you can spell out whatever you like. ^You do want to remember that the size of your pennant ^is limited to the sheet of your felt, ^so you don't want to have a really long word that's ^gonna run off the end of your pennant. ^You'll need a sharp pair of scissors. ^A pair of snips, ^so something with a short blade that's really super sharp. ^Chalk, ^freezer paper which is sort of waxy on one side ^and plain butcher paper on the back, ^and that's gonna allow us to create a template later. ^You'll need your PDF download, ^a pencil, Tacky Glue, and then your iron ^and some kind of surface to iron on and a pressing cloth. ^Your sewing machine, ^and last but not least a clear acrylic ruler, ^or just a long ruler is ideal for this project. ^The first thing we're gonna do is ^measure and mark our pennant and cut it out from felt. ^This is 12 inches, ^and I want to mark it at the half point, ^but I want to show you a little tip ^on how to sharpen your chalk. ^I learned this from my friend, Amanda Brown, ^who does this in her upholstery. ^Just gonna snip the edge with my scissors ^until I have a nice point, ^and that's an easy way to use chalk and get a fine line. ^Gonna mark this right on the six inch mark ^on both the top and the bottom. ^I want to make this a longer skinnier pennant. ^So let's see what it looks like if we say that ^the longest side is about eight inches ^and we go down to our point. ^So you can mark that here. ^And make sure that your letters are gonna fit ^onto your pennant before you cut this out. ^And I have plenty of room here, ^enough room to even space this a little differently. ^And enough for my edge, ^this looks great. ^Cut this out. ^We're gonna use this side of it. ^Because it's nice and clean, ^and doesn't have any chalk marks on it. ^Next we'll actually place our letters. ^So let's make sure everything is spaced well. ^The nice thing about these is they have ^this paper backing that you can remove and these are sticky, ^so you can place them before you iron them on permanently. ^Using a hot iron with no steam and a pressing cloth ^you're just gonna iron these in place. ^You'll know these are stuck down ^when you can't lift them up on the corner. ^Remember they're stick back in place ^but you want to actually permanently adhere these ^to your felt. ^I like to flip it over and just iron from the back as well. ^Iron our two inch wide contrasting felt scrap as well, ^and this is gonna go on the side of our banner. ^You're just gonna fold this in half length-wise ^so that you wind up with a fold right down the center. ^I like to use the pressing cloth here too ^just to make sure that I don't damage the felt in any way. ^We're just gonna slip this pennant ^into this contrasting felt. ^Now that it's folded it's really easy to do. ^And then we're gonna take this to the sewing machine ^and sew it in place. ^I have dark green

thread to match the color of my pennant. ^And I'm just gonna sew this with the presser foot lined up ^with the edge of the contrasting felt. ^Just a straight stitch and you can backstitch ^at the beginning and the end if you want, ^but you don't really need to. ^*(sewing machine hums)* ^Just go slowly. ^Re-adjust if you need to, ^I feel like that might be tugging out a little. ^We're just gonna snip these edges off. ^Because this is felt nothing unravels. ^We can add those little felt scraps that are ^a half inch by 12 inches long. ^And these are for if you wanted ^to tie the pennant vertically. ^And those are just gonna go on the back. ^Even if you don't wind up tying this ^I think it adds a really nice little vintage nod ^to those old-school collegiate pennants. ^And I like to just kind of fold them ^and place them about an inch and a half away from each edge. ^We're just gonna tack those in place ^with a quick little straight stitch ^and backstitching at the beginning and end. ^Let's just pull off with that. ^Lift our needle. ^And there's no need to actually cut the thread. ^We can just place our second tab. ^And we'll just trim everything up at the end. ^Stitch. ^Backstitch. ^And pull this out. ^Make sure there are no threads in the back. ^And you have a really sweet vintage-inspired pennant ^that is perfect for summer or all year long. ^I want to show you some other variations I made on this. ^Here's the same pennant in that same green color ^with the word *dive*. ^It's slightly smaller, ^and I actually used white thread here ^and continued my stitch line all along ^the length of the pennant and you can do that ^for a stitch detail if you like the look of that. ^I have a larger one that's much fatter at one end. ^It's a chunkier look and it says *swim on*. ^I thought of this more like a racing flag, ^and it could be hung vertically or horizontally. ^And then finally I have a little sweet one ^that says *lake* in French. ^And it has contrasting contrasting tabs to the end. ^I even did some decorative stitching along the border. ^Let's measure and mark this. ^It's just under 10 inches ^so a half would be just under five. ^I'm gonna mark this just for the five inch mark ^on both the top and the bottom. ^You might be tempted to just fold this in half ^and cut from end to that point. ^But it actually creates kind of a fat squatty pennant, ^and I'd like something a little bit more narrow. ^Let's see what a seven inch pennant looks like. ^So half of seven inches is 3 1/2. ^I'm gonna put 3 1/2 right on that center line. ^And that means I'm gonna draw ^from these points right to the center ^on the other side of the sheet of felt. ^Let's check the size of our letters against this. ^You can see that our pennant's gonna be right here ^so this will clear perfectly fine. ^If for some reason your were doing a different phrase ^and your pennant was too narrow at some point ^you could either widen this left edge ^and draw your lines again. ^Or you could use a larger piece of felt, ^or you'd have to shrink down your text. ^So you'd need to figure out a combination that works. ^We're just gonna go ahead and cut this on the chalk line. ^You can save those scraps for some smaller pennants later. ^Take your freezer paper and with the glossy side down, ^place it over your printed template. ^And we're just gonna trace our letters. ^You want to be somewhat careful ^but this doesn't have to be perfect. ^You want to make sure that when you place ^the freezer paper over your template ^you do the glossy side down. ^This way you'd ensure that your letters ^are going in the right orientation ^when you iron them down later. ^What I love about this template that we've provided ^is that we change the scale of the letters. ^And so they shrink with the end of the pennant, ^which is a very classic vintage look. ^And that's hard to do without using the template. ^So it's nice that we've provided that. ^I'm just gonna press this into place. ^And the freezer paper will temporarily stick ^and help us cut out these letters. ^You want to make sure that you don't have ^any steam on your iron, ^you just want this to be dry and hot. ^Using my larger sharp scissors ^I'm just gonna carefully cut along the bottom. ^And then I'll go in with my sharp little scissors ^and do all this detail work. ^Go ahead and cut out all your letters. ^To get the negative space in here ^it's just like you did in elementary school ^with your construction paper. ^You're just gonna fold it in half. ^You can kinda roughly cut to start

^and then go back in and clean it up. ^Go ahead and arrange these. ^The paper's gonna naturally fall off as you work with it. ^The paper allows us to stabilize the felt ^and makes it easier to cut. ^And now using our Tacky Glue ^we're just gonna glue these into place. ^Apply a good amount of glue. ^You don't want it to be so much that it's ^coming out of the edges when you press this down, ^but you do want a fairly generous amount. ^And I like to just glue and place one letter at a time. ^Take your two inch strip and you're gonna ^fold that in half length-wise. ^And with your pressing cloth and a hot iron ^just iron that in place to keep that fold. ^We're gonna nestle our pennant in place ^and then glue it down. ^It may seem like the glue isn't holding ^because the felt is kind of an odd material to work with, ^but you need to give it time to set up ^and it will definitely hold. ^If you need to make these more quickly ^if you're doing a lot of them for let's say a party ^or a graduation or something, ^you could use hot glue instead. ^But hot glue really shows on felt ^and that's why I prefer the Tacky Glue. ^Snip these in line with your pennant. ^Next we'll add those little tabs for hanging. ^You're just gonna fold it in half. ^Add a little bit of glue. ^And then we'll glue those onto the back ^about one inch from the edge. ^You do want to let that glue set for about a half hour ^since you might actually be hanging it. ^If it's purely decorative it could probably take about ^10 or 15 minutes and that's fine. ^But if you're gonna have the weight of the pennant ^holding this in place then let it fully dry. ^I wanna show you a few other versions ^of this pennant I've made. ^We've got this same phrase, dive in, ^but with a completely different color palette, ^the dark green and the hot pink here on the edge ^with no tabs. ^Here's one that says swim on in those traditional ^collegiate colors yellow and blue, ^which I love. ^And then finally one that says hello, ^which I think is really cute to just do a simple phrase. ^For both of these that have a cursive typeface ^I literally just took chalk and hand drew it on the felt. ^And then cut around my chalk line ^about a quarter of an inch on either side. ^It's actually very easy to free-hand ^and I glued them on exactly the same way we just did ^with our template letters. ^You can make custom banners like these, ^you could pair them with some vintage ones ^for a full collection. ^They're a great way to add color ^and a little bit of type to any wall.