

Santa's Washing Line
DIY Christmas decoration Project
A bit of stitching & a bit of sticking

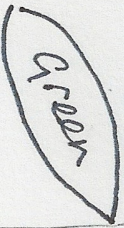
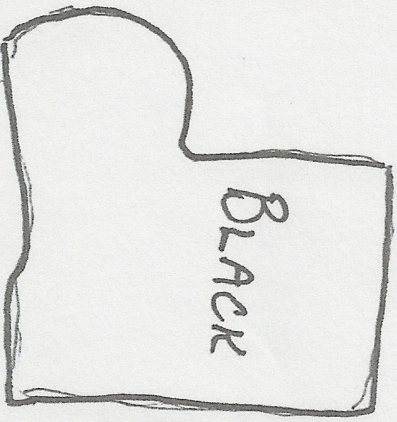
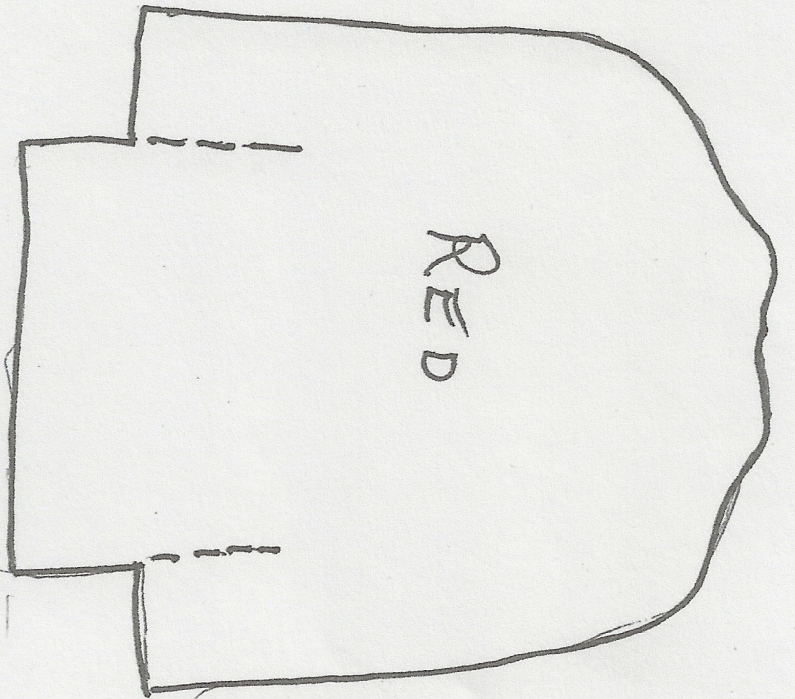
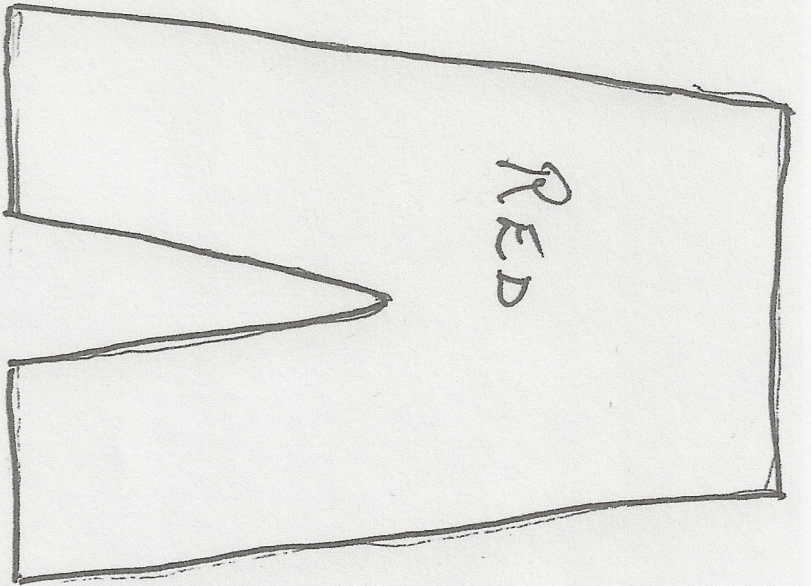


Materials required:

- Red felt 25cm x 11cm (for jacket, trousers & hat)
- Red felt approx.11cm x 1.50cm (for buttons down front of jacket)
- Black felt 11cm x 7cm (for boots)
- Black felt approx.2cm x 10cm (for belts on jacket & trousers)
- Green felt approx.5cm x 3cm (for holly leaves)
- Fake cotton fur or cotton wool (to embellish various parts of garments)
- White embroidery canvas (for Santa's underwear & for holiday sentiments)
- Stick & stitch holiday message (optional)
- Red satin cord (washing line) approx.100cm
- Red waxed cord approx.150cm (to tie bells to boots)
- 4 wooden (or cardstock) stars
- 1 wooden toothpick
- 9 wooden mini clothes' pegs
- 3 bells (1 large, 2 small)
- 2 'buckles' (gold coloured jump rings)
- Approx.150cm each of black & red embroidery floss
- Approx.150cm of gold thread
- Set of instructions with templates

You will need:

Scissors, needle with large eye, pins, glue (hot glue gun would be best), ruler

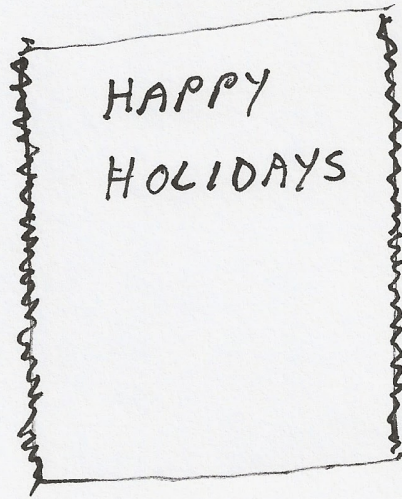


- Cut one piece each of the templates in the colour indicated
- Further details of smaller pieces to cut for the accessories can be found in the instructions included with your kit

Method:

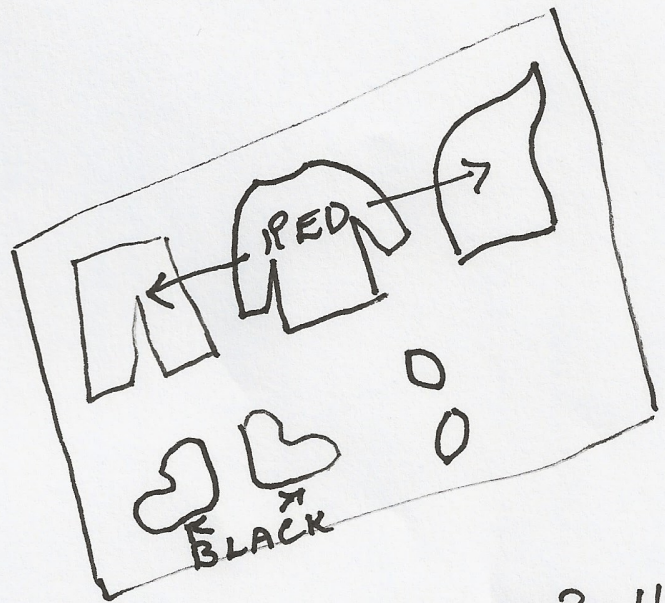
1. Santa's underwear (part 1)

- Take the piece of embroidery canvas and lay it on a solid surface in a vertical position with the hemmed sides to the left and right
- Use either the stick and stitch sentiments or a pencil to write simple sentiments on the top half of the embroidery canvas leaving about ½ cm either side of the sentiments
- With 3 strands of red floss stitch in small back stitch the holiday sentiments securing your work at the start and finish on the back of the canvas
- Very gently rinse with warm water the area of the embroidered words, rubbing away the paper backing as you go **if you used stick and stitch**
- Gently squeeze in a towel or kitchen paper to remove the excess water, (DO NOT wring) and leave to dry. **You will complete work on the underwear when the canvas is completely dry**



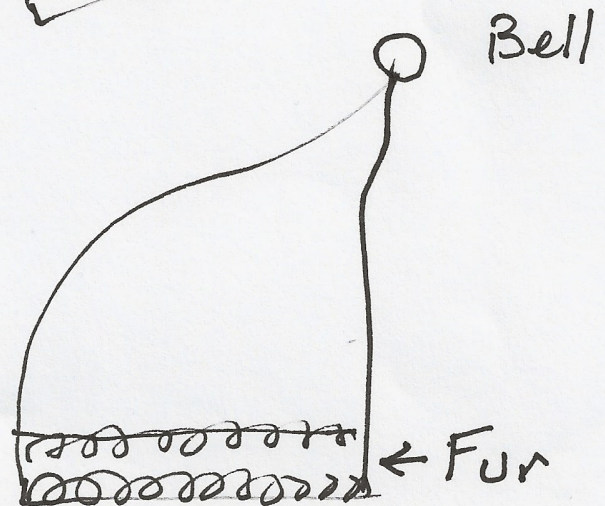
2. Templates

- Cut out all the shapes from your templates and pin each piece on the appropriate colour as indicated on the template sheet:
 - Jacket, trousers and hat on the **red** felt
 - Leaves on the **green** felt
 - Boots on the large piece of **black** felt
 - Cut the separate narrow piece of black felt in half lengthwise (for the belts on jacket and trousers)
 - Leave the long narrow strip of red felt as it is for the time being, as also the 'fake' white fur



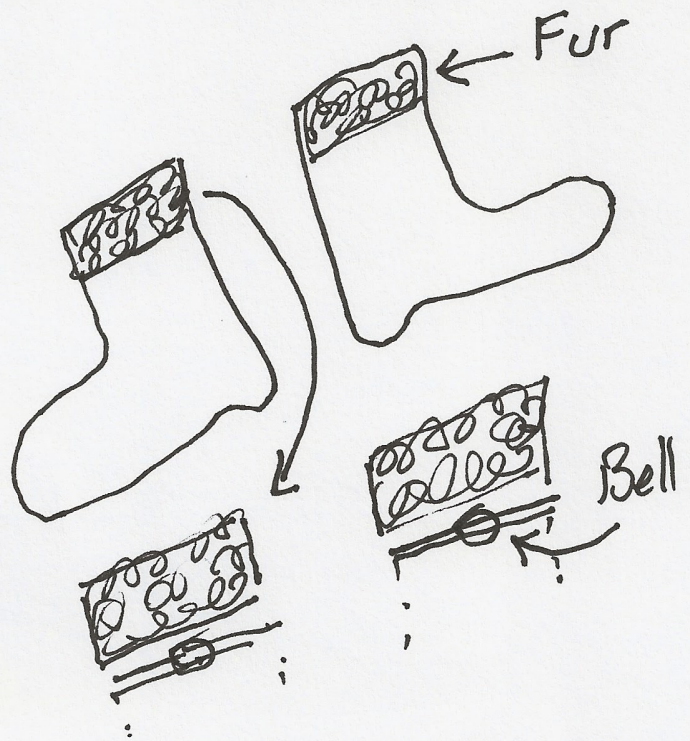
3. Hat

- Using a short length of red floss (3 strands only) attach the large **gold bell** to the point of the hat
- Cut a strip **1/2" wide** from the long edge of the **fake fur or cotton wool**.
- Cut off from the strip a piece to stick along the rim of the hat – use the photo in these instructions as a guide. You don't have to measure exactly as you can cut off the excess after gluing – too long is better than too short!
- Set aside the remaining strip of fur for step 4.



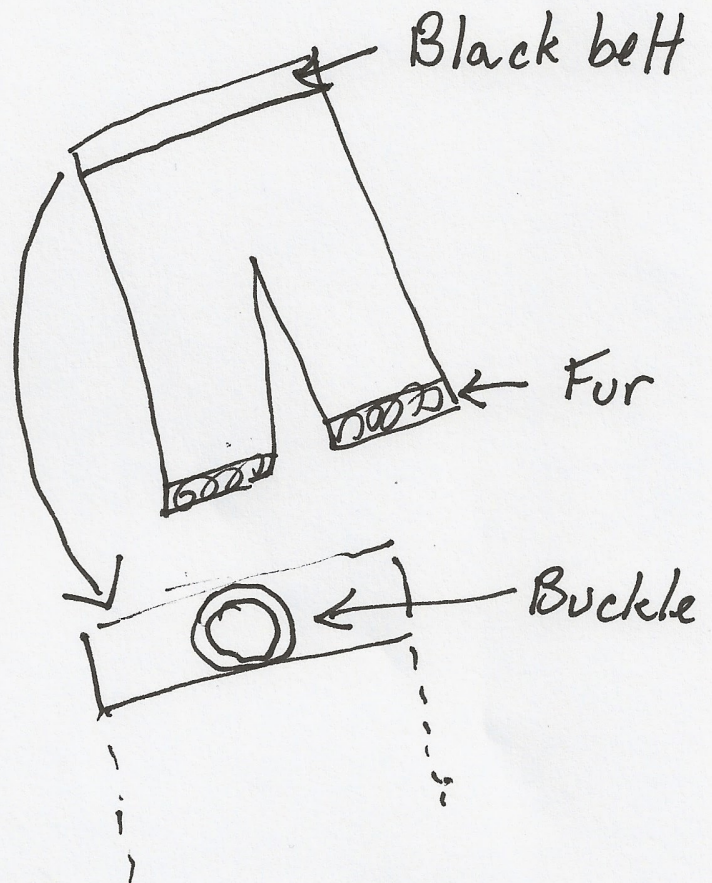
4. Boots

- Cut in half the fur strip remaining from the previous step 3.
- Stick one strip along the top edge of each of the black boots being careful to turn the boots back to back i.e. **We don't want to have 2 left feet!!!**
- Snip off any excess fur from each side of the boots
- Take 2 lengths of red waxed cord, (**NOT the red satin cord!!!**) each about 5" (13cm) long
- Thread a small bell onto each piece of cord and wrap and tie around the top of each boot, at the lower edge of the white fur. Knot the cord at the back, and if preferred, use a dab of glue to hold the cord firmly in place.
- **Make sure the bells are nicely on view at the FRONT of the boots.**



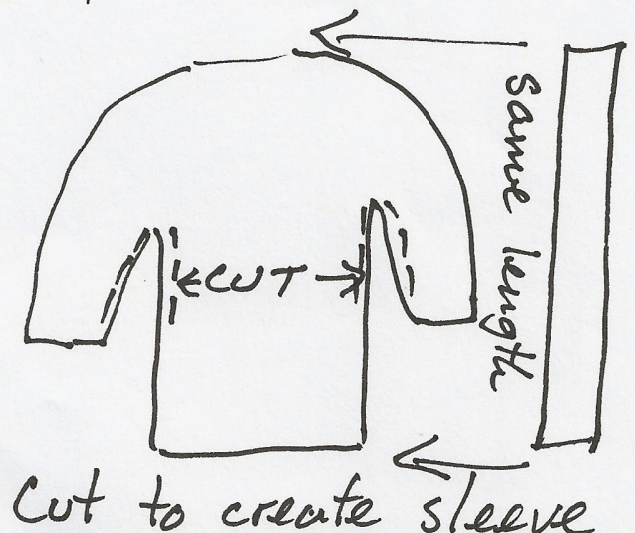
5. Trousers

- Cut off a strip of fake fur 1/2" (c.1cm) wide from the long edge of the fake fur
- Stick a short strip to the bottom of each trouser leg and trim off excess
- Take one of the narrow strips of black felt you cut in stage 2 of these instructions
- Stick it to the top edge of the trousers (this will be the belt) and trim off excess felt if necessary
- Stitch one of the tiny gold 'buckles' onto the centre front of the black belt using the gold thread.
- The *gold thread will need to be doubled up in your needle – not easy to do a knot so bring the needle up between the belt and the red felt of the trousers and do several stitches on the spot before you begin to attach the buckle. Just go around the buckle catching up the felt and the buckle together. You can finish up the thread by doing long straight stitches back and forth across the centre area of the buckle. Finish off by taking your needle about 1" through the thickness of the felt



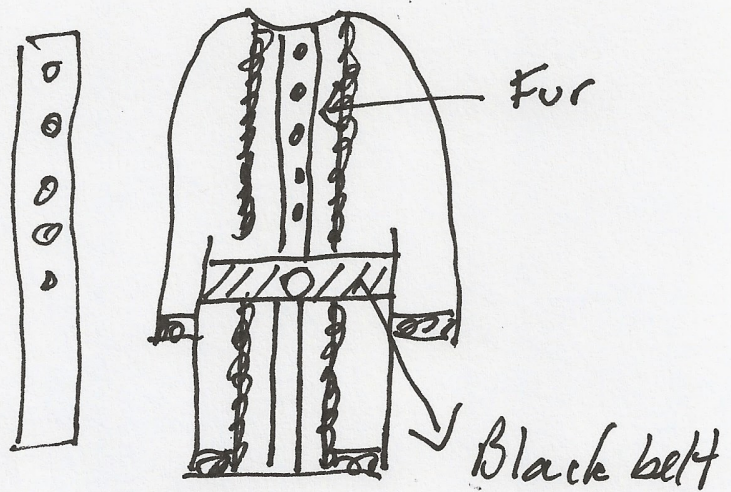
6. Jacket

- See the jacket template – there are dotted lines going from the lower end of the sleeve up into the body area. Cut along this line on the felt jacket – about 1" (2cm)
- Cut the long narrow strip of red felt to the same length as the jacket measuring from the neck to



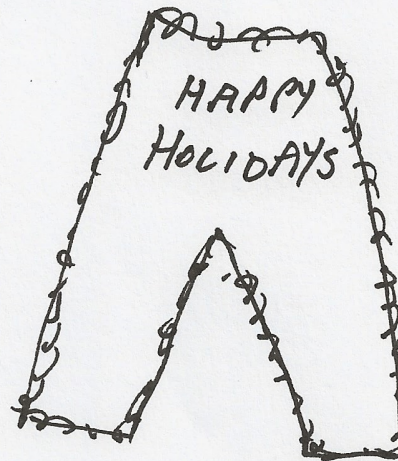
the bottom of the jacket

- Thread up your needle with black floss and do 4 or 5 **French knots** along the centre of one half of the red felt strip. Tutorial for French knots included at the foot of these instructions.
- Carefully trim the excess felt either side of your French knots. The strip of felt will be about 1/4" wide now
- Glue this strip down the centre of the jacket with the knots facing outwards.
- Cut 2 lengths of fake fur – each 1/2" (1cm) wide and glue them on either side of the French knot 'buttons' from top to bottom of the jacket centre
- Cut fur strips to decorate the jacket collar, cuffs and lower edge
- Attach the jacket belt and buckle, sticking the black felt on top of the fake fur and button strip. Trim off excess felt.
- **Follow the instructions given for the buckle in stage 5. ***



7. Santa's underwear (part 2 when completely dry after part 1) You can do this step earlier if you have NOT used stick and stitch

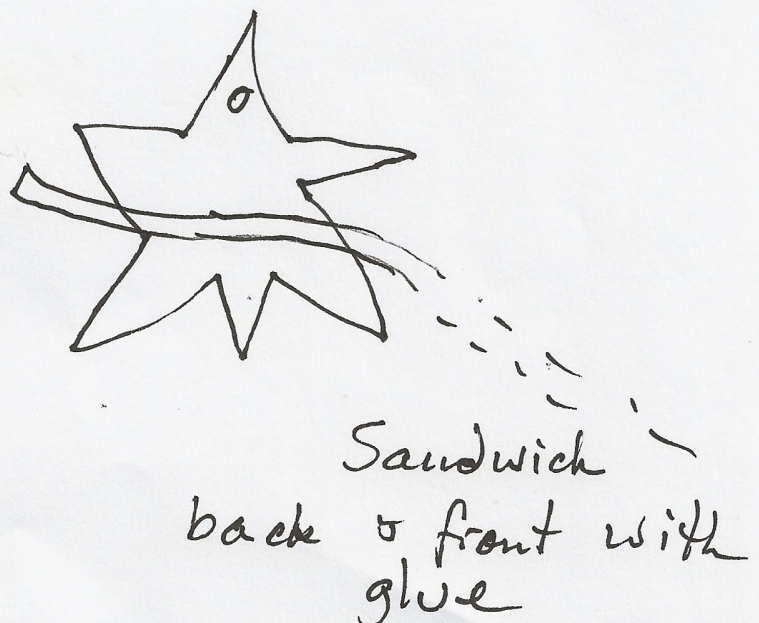
- Take the 2 green leaves and snip around them to give them the appearance of holly leaves
- Glue the leaves just under the holiday sentiments
- With 3 strands of the red floss do about 6 or 7 **French knots** around the base area of the leaves
- From the centre bottom of the canvas, cut a narrow upside down 'V' to 1/2" (1cm) below the holly and knots
- Continuing with red floss, **blanket stitch** all round the canvas trouser shape. Use the photo in these instructions as a guide



You will find a few suggestions for online tutorials for these stitches at the end of the instructions

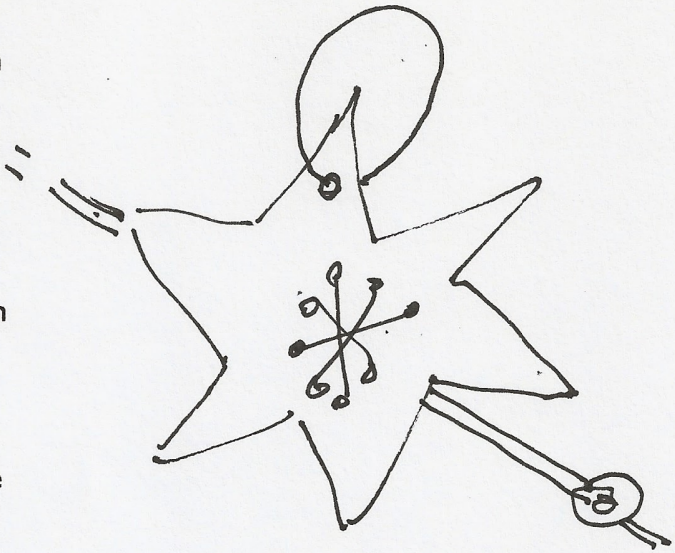
8. Washing line

- Peg all the clothes onto the red satin cord 'washing line'
- Take a wooden star, and with the hole at the top of the star, glue the cord horizontally onto the back of the star.
- Leave about 4" (10cm) between the clothes nearest to the star
- Now glue all over the back of the star avoiding



getting glue too near the little hole, and sandwich it, back to back with another wooden star. Use the wooden toothpick to align the holes in both stars, leaving it in place until the glue has dried

- Do the same thing at both ends of the 'washing line' with the other 2 wooden stars
- Tie a tight overhand knot just beyond the stars at the ends of the satin cord and cut off the excess cord. You might like to slightly burn (with a lighter) the end of the cord in order to block the knots
- Take 2 lengths of waxed cotton, each about 10" (30cm) long and thread through the holes of the sandwiched wooden stars. Tie the ends of each together with an overhand knot. The loop created will be used to hang up the ornament



Here is a list of online tutorials that you might find useful for the various stitches used in this project:

- Back stitch <https://youtu.be/sjHm8CL9WDA>
- Blanket stitch <https://youtu.be/S9zegUYdPmg>
- French knot https://youtu.be/vlGAQ_-fUtc

Hope you have fun making this cute decoration!
You can hang it on the tree, around a mirror, on the wall...
Janys at Creative Workshops in Italy

