

ZIPPER CRITTERS

by Paula Hayek

IJ850

Pattern for dogs, cats and a pig created with zipper mouths that also can double as a hidden pocket. Use mis-matched fabrics and notions to add character to your critter design. Makes a wonderful keepsake of yours or a friend's beloved companion. Larger critters are approximately 5" x 8" and the smaller critters are 3 1/2" square. The small critters can be attached to a lanyard clip for adorning a backpack.

FINISHED SIZES (approx.)

Vertical dog and cat: 8" tall by 5" wide

Horizontal dog and cat: 5" tall by 8" wide

Square cat: 6" square

Small square critters: 3 1/2" square

Materials Needed:

FOR ALL ZIPPER CRITTERS:

Multiple fabric scraps in various textures such as cotton, wool, corduroy, etc.

The largest amount for any one piece is approximately 1/4 yard. All critters shown on cover used a minimum of four different fabrics.

A nylon or metal zipper; use any style or color and either new or vintage.

Minimum zipper lengths: Horizontal Critter – 12" long, Vertical Critter – 9" long, Square Critter – 9" long, All Small Critters – 7" long

Various buttons and beads, both new and/or vintage. Costume jewelry is a good source for beads, especially black beads for eyes.

Small pieces of fusible interfacing such as Wonder Under for eye patches and nose

Long blunt object to use as a stuffing tool

Polyester stuffing

OPTIONAL: Pipe cleaners

MATERIAL FOR CATS ONLY:

Heavy thread for whiskers, such as button thread or unwaxed bead thread.

MATERIALS FOR SMALL CRITTERS ONLY:

One lanyard clip, either plastic or metal

Approximately 4" of 1/4" wide grosgrain ribbon

ZIPPER NOTE: Nylon all-purpose zippers are the easiest to use. Wide sports zippers and metal zippers will work, but take extra care when stitching over them. Wire clippers might be needed to trim metal zippers.