

Rockhopper Penguin

At only 50cm tall, these are the smallest of the Antarctic penguins. With their red eyes and yellow eyebrows (supercilium) these distinctive birds not only hop around the rocks but can also swim fast enough to launch themselves out of the water so landing on to their bellies.



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You will need

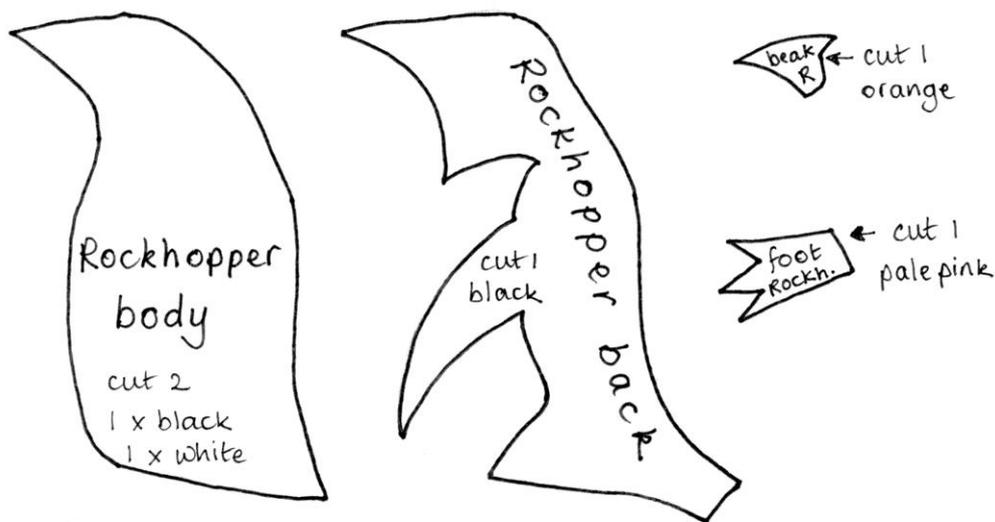
Felt: black, white, orange and pale pink

Scissors, needle and pins

Thread: black and white (if you only have embroidery thread just use one strand)

Embroidery thread: black, white, grey, yellow and red (If you don't have embroidery thread use double cotton)

Ribbon/ lobster clip: If you're making it as a hanging decoration



To make your rockhopper penguin

Watch the video here

1. Cut out the paper pattern pieces.
2. Decide if you want to make a finger puppet, a key chain ornament or a decoration.
3. Pin the paper pattern to the felt and cut out the pieces.
You will need a black back, an orange beak, a pink foot and 2 bodies- one white and one black.
4. When you are cutting the pieces out, take extra care to get smooth edges. Before starting stitching, place the pieces together to check that they fit properly.
5. Carefully cut 4 lines in to the black tail so that it fans out slightly.
6. Pin the black back to the white body. Using black thread, sew the back piece to the body all the way around the edge except the wing that you need to leave unstitched.
7. Now place the orange beak in position and carefully sew around the edges using the orange thread.
8. Position the pink foot, rethread the needle with white cotton and sew the foot in place.
9. Using 2 strands of the black embroidery thread (or double of the black standard thread) sew the black line in place on the orange beak.
10. Now add a yellow eyebrow and tufts of yellow and black thread for the crest. You might need to give your Rockhopper a haircut to get the right length of tufting.
11. Sew a red eye.
12. Cut slits for tail feathers.
13. Sew the black body onto the back of the penguin leaving an opening along the lower side for your finger.
14. Using 2 strands of the grey embroidery thread (or double of the grey standard thread) sew 2 lines to mark the edges of the wing.
15. You now have a mini rockhopper penguin.

If you want to make a finger puppet **sew the black body onto the back of the penguin leaving an opening along the lower side for your finger.**

If you want to make your penguin into a hanging ornament, stitch a hanging thread or ribbon into place at the back-topside of the head then sew the backing on all the way round.

