

Possum

by Miles Davitt

This Beanie Baby-inspired stuffed animal, a brushtail possum (albeit sans tail), stands at 27 cm tall (19 cm seated). If you make something with this pattern, I would love to know about it. My contact information is on my website: milesdavitt.net.

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Notes:

- A 5 mm seam allowance is built into the pattern.
- This is the basic pattern. If you want to add different colouration (as in the face and belly of the possum pictured), split the relevant pattern pieces into multiple pieces, making sure to add a 5 mm seam allowance along the new boundaries.
- Unless otherwise specified, all pieces are sewn together with wrong sides facing.

Steps:

Print out each pattern page on A4 paper or card. Cut out each piece of the pattern.

Trace out each piece onto the wrong side of your chosen fabric, ensuring you also trace out the reverse of those pieces indicated. Ensure that the arrows are placed in line with the direction of the pile. The hand, foot top and foot sole should be cut out of felt or close-trimmed faux fur, along with one ear piece and its reverse (for the inside of each ear). Cut out each piece, making sure to only cut the backing of the faux fur. If desired, you can label each piece and add the points labelled with letters using a fabric pen.

Sew the two face pieces together from **A** to **B**. Pin **C** on the face gusset to **A** then sew from the nose towards the top of the head.

Sew the two head back pieces together along the edge **DE**.



Sew one fur piece and one felt piece together for each ear, sewing around the top of the ear and leaving the bottom open. Turn right-side out. Fold edges **F** and **G** down to the base of the ear to give the ear its shape, ensuring that you are folding towards the felt side. Secure each fold with a stitch at the base.

Sew the back of the head to the face, making sure that the ears are inside with the felt side facing the front and the **G** side of the ears pointing to the top of the head. Add eyes and nose and secure with thread. The eyes and nose may also be embroidered. If desired, add whiskers with thread or fishing line. Secure with a knot on the inside of the snout. Turn right-side out. Embroider mouth. Set head aside.

Sew a hand to each outer arm and a reversed hand to each inner arm. Ensure the thumb is facing in the right direction by matching the corners marked **H**. Sew each inner and outer arm together, then turn right-side out. Set arms aside.

Take the foot top and sew the edges marked **I** together. Sew the foot sole onto the foot top and turn right-side out.

Sew the back pieces together, leaving an opening for turning out. Note that this opening may need to be larger than indicated if the fabric is particularly thick.

Next sew each leg back onto this piece along the edge **JK**.

Sew the front body and back/legs piece together along the hips and outer thighs from **L** down to the ankles. Also sew from the groin along the inner thighs down to the ankles. Sew the shoulders together along edge **MN**.

Place the feet inside the still-open ankles, right sides facing, and sew in a circle to connect the ankles and feet. Do the same for the arms, aligning the points marked **L** and **M**. Ensure that the feet and arms are facing the right way.

Place the head inside the neck, right sides facing, ensuring it is centred and facing the right way. Sew in a circle to join the last two pieces.

Turn the body right-side out through the opening in the back. Stuff the head with fibre stuffing. Draw an embroidery thread from one eye, down to the chin, and back up to the other eye, to give more definition to the snout. Fill the remainder of the body with plastic pellets for your desired firmness. The body should not be completely full. Sew the opening along the back closed with a ladder stitch. Embroider to add details to the hands and feet as desired.

Trim fur to desired length. Now your possum is complete!





