

TOTALLY stitchin' PROJECTS

Playful Pet Collars

Don't let your best friend leave the house without being fully dressed. With or without adding a name, you can create a collar for Fido (or Kitty) that matches their personality as well as the season.

These collars go together so quickly that you won't stop at just one; and you won't have to. The kit includes enough hardware to make 3 collars (one cat and 2 dogs).

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Supplies:

Playful Pet Collars Pack with hardware included. Created by, Karen West. Available at [Nancy's Notions](#) and other Fine Retailers

Baby Lock A-Line Sewing Machine

Baby Lock Embroidery Machine (*optional*)

Coordinating/Matching All Purpose Thread

Coordinating Embroidery Thread and Medium Weight Tear Away Stabilizer (*optional*)

Ruler and Pencil

Scissors or Rotary Cutter with Mat

1/8 yard of fabric (42" wide)

1/4 yard of 20 inch wide heavy fusible interfacing or 1/8 yard of 40 inch wide

Iron and Pressing Cloth

Spray Adhesive

Instructions:

Read through all instructions before beginning project.

1. Determining the collar size

Measure your pet's neck or existing collar if available, if making the collar for a gift you can use the below guide. For small breeds with very large necks, you can make the collar longer than noted and then adjust for size.

| Finished Collar Sizes | |
|---|-----------------|
| Cat | 8" to 11" long |
| Extra Small (tiny breeds of dogs) | 8" to 11" long |
| Small (Dachshunds, toy poodles) | 10" to 15" long |
| Medium (Schnauzers, terriers, mini-poodles) | 12" to 19" long |
| Large (Labs, shepherds, golden retrievers) | 15" to 23" long |
| Extra Large (Newfoundlands, St Bernards) | 17" to 29" long |

2. Cutting and Prepping the Fabric

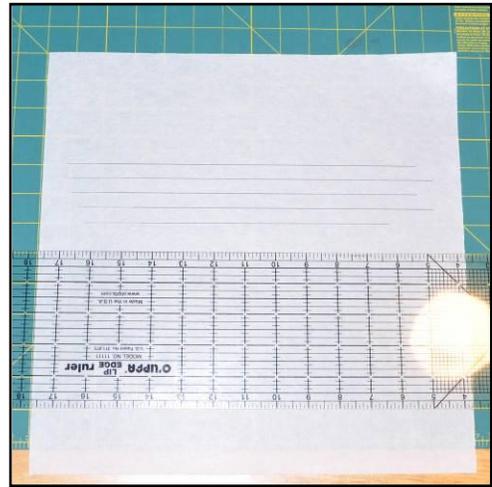
- Cut the fabric and interfacing to size using the pattern instructions.
- Fuse the interfacing to the wrong side of the fabric, using a pressing cloth. Follow the manufactures directions included with the interfacing.
- Press the strip in half lengthwise with wrong sides together and then again folding the long edges into the center fold, following the instructions for spacing. The folded strip should now measure (see chart below):

| | | |
|------|----------|----------------------------------|
| Cat | X -Small | Small / Medium / Large / X-Large |
| 3/8" | 5/8" | 1" |

3. Adding Embroidery

- Using your preferred method, create the embroidery design and set up your machine for embroidery. Making sure that the height of your design is at least 1/4" smaller than your collars finished width. I chose Nameplate, from [Designer's Gallery: Letter Works III](#).
- Decide which side is the front of your strap and place a pin at 6" from the Left end. Unfold the strap.

- c. On your tear away stabilizer, using a pencil, draw a series of lines, 1/2" and 1" apart. If making the smaller size collars use 1/8" and 3/8" or 1/4" and 5/8" measurements.



- d. Lightly spray the stabilizer with the Spray Adhesive (following all manufactures directions). Hoop the Stabilizer using the correct size hoop for your embroidery design.

Make sure to line up your pencil lines so that the stabilizer is straight in the hoop. Lay your collar onto the stabilizer, lining up the long edges with the pencil lines. Firmly press the fabric onto the stabilizer, making sure that it is securely attached.

For additional stability, you may pin the collar to the stabilizer, making sure that you do not place any pins in the embroidery design area.



- e. Align your embroidery design so that it starts just to the right of the 6" mark and is vertically centered between the fold lines. Double check the layout and then remove your pin.

Run the embroidery design, then clip threads and remove excess stabilizer as needed.



4. Finishing the Collar

- a. Fold the strap again using the fold marks as a guide and press again.

Trim raw edges to clean up ends.

Topstitch $\frac{1}{8}$ " from both long edges.



- b. Follow the included instructions for the Left end of the collar; see photos below for additional assistance.

1. Stitch lines 1st and 2nd using the measurements in the instruction guide.



2. 3rd Stitch line, make sure that the D ring is pulled away from your needle. I have found that a little piece of tape can help keep it out of the way if you are having any difficulties.



3. 4th Stitch line, you will want to use your zipper foot and increase your pressure foot height to give you a little more room to work with.



4. The finished Left end of the collar.



- c. Follow the included instructions for the Right end of the collar step 1 and step 2.
- d. Follow the included instructions for the Right end of the collar step 3; using the photos below for assistance if needed.

As stated in the instructions, the 3rd step is a little awkward. I found that if I kept the slider to the left and closer to the Left end, I then had better access to the stitching area.



- e. Clip any threads, adjust the collar to fit, and get the Custom Pet Leash you made using the 'Totally Stitchin' project found [here](#). You have a date with your best friend!



If you would like to make more collars you may purchase additional hardware from www.lovethefabric.com, your fabric store, or most hobby and craft stores and websites.

Find other great pet projects on TotallyStitchin.net and create a whole set for your pampered pooch or a great gift set for a friend.

For other exciting projects like this one, visit our Web site at TotallyStitchin.net