

Christmas Decorations – Gingerbread Man

You will need:

Red felt 10cm x 20cm (or 2 x 10cm x 10cm)
Thick wadding 10cm x 10cm
Light brown felt 7cm x 9cm
Scraps of dark brown and yellow felt for buttons and bowtie
White mini ric-rac 10cm
Green ric-rac 20cm
White embroidery thread
Sewing threads to match
Needle, scissors

Cut:

Two circles in red felt
One circle in wadding (trim it 2mm smaller than the felt)
One gingerbread man in light brown felt
Two buttons in dark brown felt
One bow tie in yellow felt

To make:

Lay gingerbread man on one felt circle to work out arrangement, pin in place if desired. I just held him in place because the felt doesn't slide around. Whip stitch around the gingerbread man.



Place the length of mini ric-rac across one foot, lining up one end with the edge of the brown felt. Sew a small stitch across the end of it, then sew running stitch up the centre, and end with a small stitch across the other end and secure your thread. Cut off the remainder of the ric-rac close to the edge of the brown felt. Repeat for the other foot and both hands.

Place bow tie at neckline, whip stitch around outside using small stitches. Make two long straight stitches on each side of the bowtie to define the "knot" in the middle (see diagram below). Place the buttons down the centre of the body referring the picture as a guide and whip stitch around them using small stitches.

Embroider the face using two strands of embroidery thread. Make colonial knots for the eyes, backstitch for the mouth, and one small straight stitch for the noes.

Decide where you want the hanging loop to be, try different spots to see how it looks hanging in different directions. When decided mark the spot with a pin or your preferred marking method.

Sandwich the wadding between the two felt circles. Starting 5mm beside the point you have marked, whip stitch around the outside of the circle working away from your mark. Stop when you have worked around the circle and are 1cm away from your starting point (but do not cut your thread).

Fold the ric-rac cord in half and push the ends into the hole left open on the circle. Continue to whip stitch across the opening, ensuring that some of your stitches go through the ric-rac (not just around it).

Bow tie stitches:



Two straight stitches over the whole width of the bow tie.

