

Baby Jesus (Yeshua)

Possible Characters: Baby Jesus. The baby can be used as any baby if you omit the bed of hay. The baby can be made without a puppet background and can be held by another puppet.

Materials:

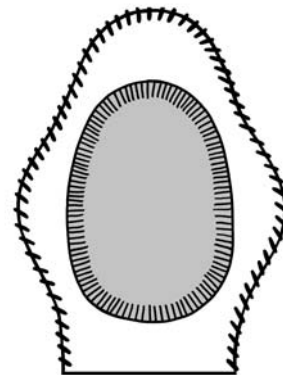
- 2 light blue felt squares for puppet background
- 1 yellow felt square for bed of hay
- Peach colored felt scraps for baby's face
- Brown colored felt scraps for baby's hair
- 1 medium blue colored felt square for baby blanket and baby's body
- Light blue embroidery thread
- Scissors
- Straight pins or masking tape
- Large tapestry needle, size 18 or 20
- Fabric glue
- Puppet Background A on page 133. Pattern pieces 7 A, 7 B, 7 C, 7 D, and 7 E on page 142.



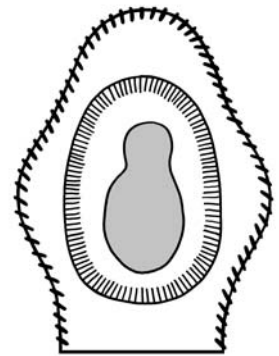
Directions:

Sew the puppet background according to the directions on page 9. Photocopy or trace the Baby Jesus pieces, and cut them out. Pin or tape the pattern pieces to the felt, and then cut out the felt. Rolled pieces of masking tape can be attached at several points to the back of each pattern piece. This will enable the pattern piece to stick to the felt while cutting. Follow the directions beside each diagram for cutting and gluing the pattern pieces. You may want to cut out all the felt pieces, and practice placing them on the puppet before gluing each piece in place.

Attach pattern piece 7A to the yellow felt, and cut out the felt. Remove the pattern piece from the felt. Cut a ring of fringe around the felt piece as indicated in the diagram and as shown on the pattern piece. Cover one side of the felt with fabric glue, leaving the fringed parts free from glue. Glue the felt piece on the puppet as shown in the diagram.



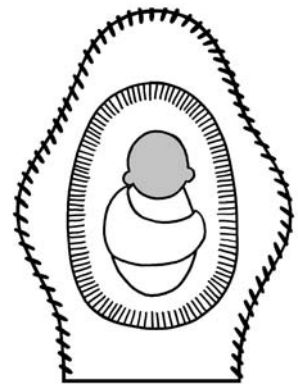
Attach pattern pieces 7 B and 7 E to the medium blue felt, and cut out the felt. Remove pattern piece 7 B from the medium blue felt. Cover one side of the felt with fabric glue, and glue the felt piece on the puppet as shown in the diagram. Save pattern piece 7 E for the next step.



Remove pattern piece 7 E from the medium blue felt. Cover one side of the felt with fabric glue, and glue the felt piece on the puppet as shown in the diagram.



Attach pattern piece 7 C to the peach felt, and cut out the felt. Remove the pattern piece from the felt. Cover one side of the felt with fabric glue, and glue the felt piece on the puppet as shown in the diagram.

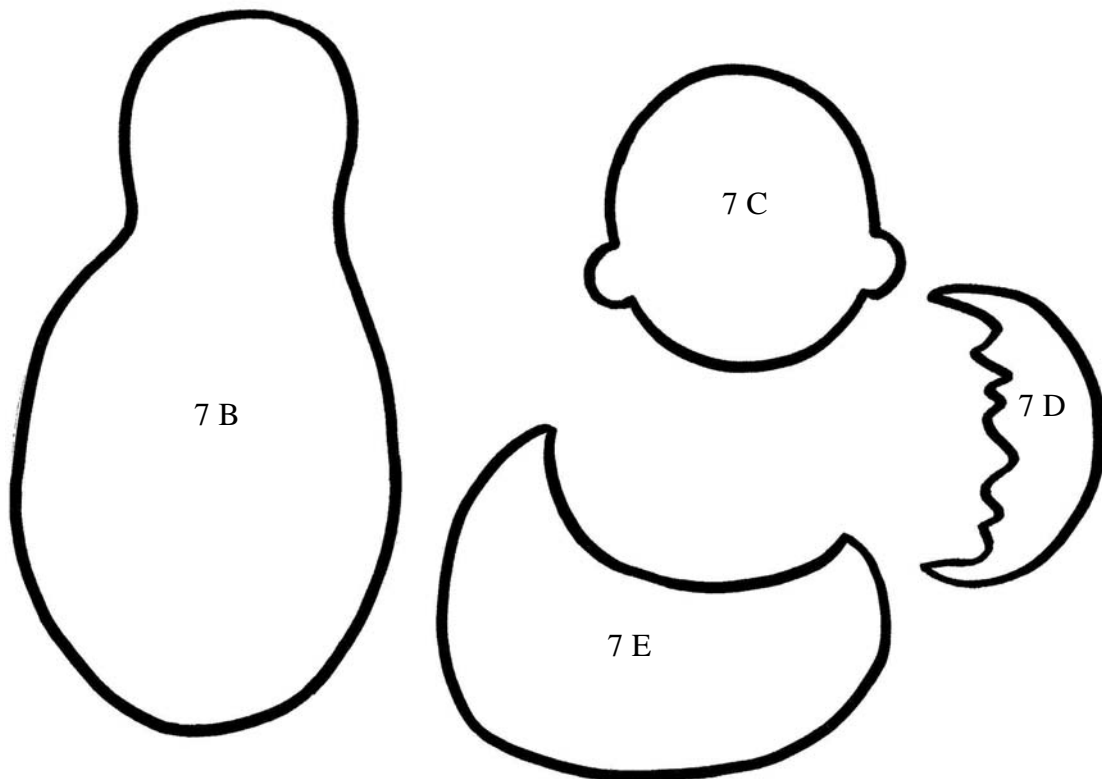
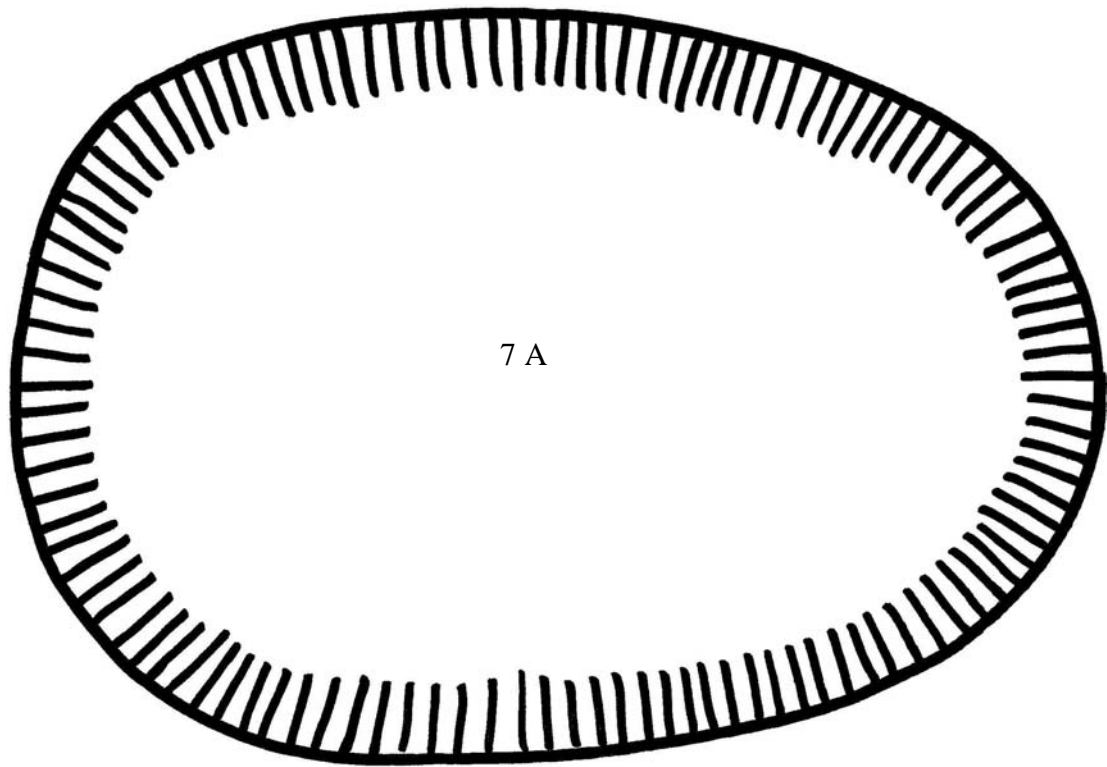


Attach pattern piece 7 D to the brown felt, and cut out the felt. Remove the pattern piece from the felt. Cover one side of the felt with fabric glue, and glue the felt piece on the puppet as shown in the diagram.



Add facial features using three-dimensional fabric paint, permanent markers, or felt scraps.





Puppet Background

Cut two pieces from light blue felt.

Directions for Sewing the Puppets

Each puppet is glued to a puppet background which is first hand sewn. Trace or photocopy the pattern, and cut it out. Place two colored felt squares together, one on top of the other. (We have chosen light blue felt for all of the puppet backgrounds.) Then place the puppet background pattern piece on top of the felt squares, pin, and cut around the pattern piece through both layers of felt.

Thread a large embroidery needle with a 5 foot strand of embroidery thread, and tie a knot in one end of the thread. (Do not separate the strands of embroidery thread.) Sew the edges of the puppet background together. Begin at the bottom edge as shown in the diagram. Work your way around the outer edge, always inserting your needle on the back side and pulling it out on the front side of the puppet background. Do not stitch across the bottom edge of the puppet background. When finished, secure the stitches by making two or three overlapping stitches. Cut away the excess thread.

