

# Bitty Booties™



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**This pattern is for PERSONAL use only. Do not reproduce this pattern. Do not sell products made from this pattern.** Read through the entire pattern before starting. Some ideas in there may even affect your materials list.

### Materials – for one pair of shoes:

- 6" h x 15" w material - thick wool suiting, high-quality felt or soft leather (choose pliable material -- the shoes must bend to go on comfortably)
- Two small scraps, at least 1" x 1" each, of leather or ultrasuede (or other tough, non-fraying material)
- Decorative thread and scraps of material or trim for embellishment (optional)
- Thread

### Instructions:

**1. Cut Out:** With right sides together, fold the fabric in half (to 6" x 7 1/2"). Pin pattern pieces down and cut. Simple enough. You will have two of each piece.

**2. Reinforce:** Tuck a small piece of leather or ultrasuede beneath the UPPER shoe where the dashed triangle is located on the pattern. From the top of the UPPER, stitch a triangle through all layers. Make it look nice, this stitching will show. Flip the UPPER over and trim. (Diagram A)

**3. Decorate:** The fun part. Embellish both UPPERS as desired. For matching shoes, remember to flip the design for the second shoe. Add felt polkadots, ribbon, embroidery or trim. You may want to wait to add buttons or bulkier embellishments until after the shoes are assembled. Get creative. Secure your embellishments well and avoid any choking hazards – keep those babies safe!

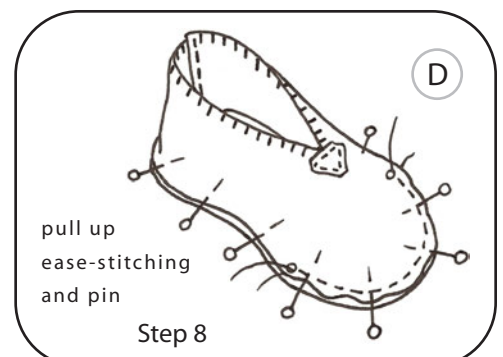
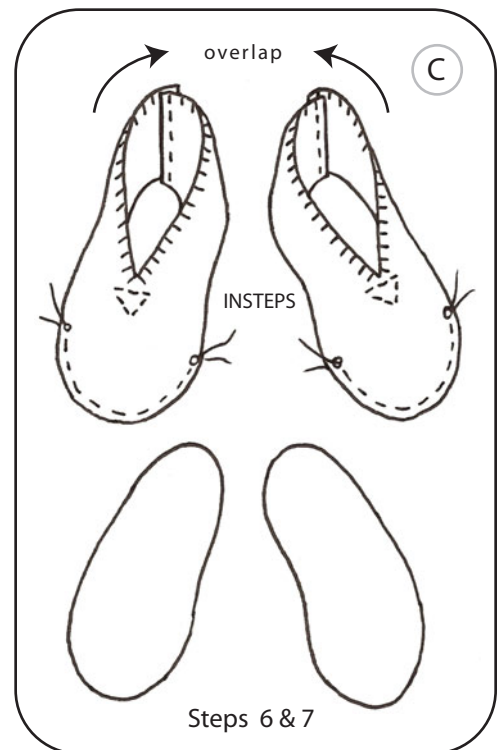
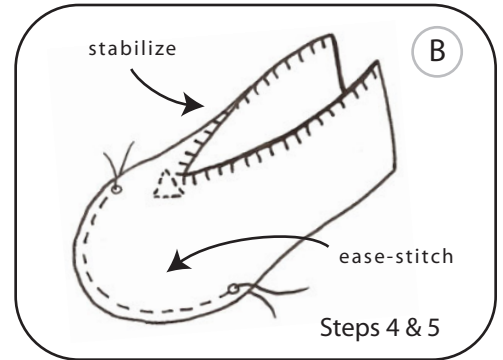
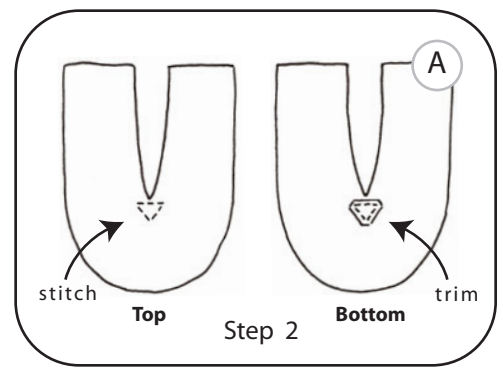
**4. Stabilize:** Stabilize the TOPLINE of each shoe (the opening) with a hand-stitched blanket stitch or running stitch, or with a straight stitch on your machine. I prefer a small blanket stitch because it stabilizes the edge, while allowing for a little give. (Diagram B)

**5. Ease-stitch Toe:** Stitch a longer-length straight stitch along TOE, between white circles, on the seamline. Do not backstitch or secure the thread at the ends. (Diagram B)

**6. Form Heel:** Overlap the HEEL edges so that the seamlines and the gray circles align (the full overlap will be about 1/4 inch). Stitch through both layers with a straight stitch. Repeat with the second UPPER, but overlap in the opposite direction. Note: the sides of your shoes that are under-lapped will become the INSTEPS. (Diagram C)

**7. Organize:** Before assembling, lay out your various pieces. Make sure your shoes are opposites, with the INSTEPS of the SOLES toward each other and the INSTEPS of the UPPERS toward each other. You don't want to end up with two left shoes, or two right shoes, for that matter. (Diagram C)

**8. Pin & Ease:** With right sides together, starting at the HEEL, pin UPPER to SOLE, matching like circles. Ease TOE by carefully pulling up the bobbin thread until the TOE fits to the SOLE. Pin in place. (Diagram D)



**9. Stitch & Finish:** Using a fairly small stitch-length, stitch the pieces together. If you're using a woven material, you might want to stitch around the shoe a second time and treat the seam allowance with FrayCheck™ to prevent raveling and to protect the seam from opening. Notch the curved seam allowances, if desired. Turn shoes right sides out and run your finger along the inside of the shoe at the seam, to smooth into place. Remove visible ease-stitching and add any remaining embellishments. Steam if necessary.

**10. Show them off:** Join the Flickr™ photo group entitled "Bitty Booties" at [www.flickr.com](http://www.flickr.com) and post photos of your completed shoes!

### Variations and Rule Breakers:

Excited about baby booties? You may want to customize the design. Here are some ideas for variation. Pick and choose:

- (Materials) Change out the SOLE material for leather or non-slip fabric (like they have on the bottom of footed pajamas). Safer for explorer babies too! Again, choose pliable material -- the shoes must bend to go on comfortably.
- (Step 1) For chubby feet, you may want to clip the TOPLINE longer. This creates a larger opening to slide the foot into.
- (Step 1 & Step 3) Chubby or not, you could clip the TOPLINE longer than the pattern shows and add ribbon to either side of the TOPLINE. Your cutie shoes can now tie with a bow! (See illustration to the bottom right) Be sure to reinforce the opening still, as in Step 2.
- (Step 2) You could stitch the reinforcement leather on top of the UPPER, as a decorative element. Or change this shape to a square or a rectangle or a band across the full width of the UPPER. Go crazy -- just reinforce the tip of that clipped line.
- (Step 4) Stabilize the TOPLINE with ribbon or trim. You can even skip Step 4 all together, but the shoe opening will gradually stretch over time. If you've chosen a woven, first assess whether it will fray too much or not before skipping this step.
- (Steps 7 & 8) Seam SOLE to UPPER with *wrong sides together*. Seam will be exposed on the finished shoe. Carefully trim the seam allowances with pinking shears. Cute.

**Looking for more fun shoe ideas? Visit the "Bitty Booties" photo pool at [www.flickr.com](http://www.flickr.com). Join the group, share your bootie creations and enjoy the baby shoes others have created using this pattern.**

Have fun!

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