

#1015 - FLIRTING WITH FLEECE

Cozy accessories styled from polar-type fleece and arranged in coordinating sets. Projects include three hats, mittens, sectional scarf, boa, reversible headband and reversible blanket. **Top Tip #15 - Knit Know-how** introduces how to sew knit fabrics with stretch stitches.

EXPERIENCE LEVEL: Suitable for beginner/intermediate level with some supervision - or - intermediate/advanced level with or without supervision. Hat with contrasting brim and boa recommended as introductory projects for beginners. Mittens recommended for intermediate/advanced level.

SKILLS COVERED:

- Stitching and steaming polar-type fleece
- Cutting from measurements
- Finding nap and cutting in consistent direction
- Grading seam allowances
- Stitching stretch fabrics
- Cutting fleece fringe
- Creating fleece pom poms

IN-CLASS DEMONSTRATIONS:

Grade seam allowances and how this process changes the look and feel of finished edges.

Show fabrics with naps and discuss the reason for directional cutting. Pass around samples of fabrics with low or high piles such as corduroy, velvet, fake fur, polar-type fleece, satin and gabardine to feel smooth and rough direction. Provide seaming examples of fabric direction cut consistently and inconsistently and compare.

Cut fringes from polar-type fleece by using the Fringe Cutting Guide provided in the pattern.

ADDITIONAL PROJECT APPLICATIONS:

1. Fringed bedroom accents - Use boa pattern to make lengths of fringed "trim". Use in touches to decorate bedroom such as curtain tiebacks, valance trim or a "scrunchie" for computer monitor. Polar-type fleece reinterpreted for home décor.

2. T-shirt embellished with pom poms - Make pom poms with fleece scraps and decorate a t-shirt or other favorite wearable. Use pom poms anywhere you would use rosettes.

3. Reversible pillow with fringed edge - Use blanket instructions and reduce size to 20" x 20". Sew border stitch 2" from edge leaving an opening for

stuffing. After stuffing, stitch opening closed and cut fringes around outside edges. With contrasting fleece on each side, you get two pillows in one.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECTS:

Make hats with contrasting brim or with pom poms to donate to a homeless shelter for distribution.

Make hats and matching scarves in school colors to sell at football games for school fundraiser.