



SILENT NIGHT PANEL INSTRUCTIONS

Panel instructions by Jennifer Long for Riley Blake Designs



Come explore the journey and promises of the Christmas Story, through the Silent Night Fabric Collection. Teach the children in your life the Nativity Story through fabrics, quilt patterns, and act out the story with a complete Nativity Felt Doll & Bag set! These keepsake quilts will become an annual tradition to celebrate the holiday season. Join “The Greatest Gift” Quilt-Along and the Silent Night Nativity Felt Doll & Bag Panel Sew-Along at WWW.BEESEWINSPIRED.COM/FABRIC

Jennifer Long

Create, play and act out the complete Nativity Story with the children in your life through the Silent Night Nativity Felt Doll & Bag set! Embellish the Felt Dolls with hand embroidery, or simply cut and play!

Why not use the Felt Dolls as an Advent (Countdown to Christmas) by sewing or giving one-a-day to the children in your life to prepare for Christmas Morning?! Be creative and applique the Nativity Characters onto Christmas Tree ornaments or Hoop art to decorate for the season!

Join the Silent Night Nativity Felt Doll & Bag Panel Sew-Along.

Check out our blog at WWW.BEESEWINSPIRED.COM/FABRIC for other projects using this felt panel such as: Advent Tree Decorations, applique embellishments, and so much more!

SUPPLIES:

- (1) Silent Night Nativity Felt Panel *FT-13576-PANEL*
- 1/2 yard Sand fabric for pocket lining *C13574-SAND*
- 36" x 48" Basic, white craft felt for back of dolls
- (2) pkgs Craft Extra Firm Non-Woven Stabilizer
- Optional scrap of batting for handle of bag
- Plastic Snaps for Bag Closure
- Optional Embroidery Floss for Embellishments
- Hand sewing needle and thread
- Optional 1/2" non-fraying ribbon for bag tags

PANEL INSTRUCTIONS:

Please read through all the directions first before starting. Assume 1/4" seam allowance. Sew with right-sides together unless otherwise stated. Press all seams in the direction of the arrows on the diagrams unless otherwise stated.

RST: Right Sides Together

RSO: Right Sides Out

The instructions below are for making the Silent Night Nativity Felt Doll & Bag Panel as originally intended. Follow the steps in the order shown.

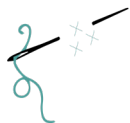
INSTRUCTIONS

1. Carefully cut out all the pattern pieces on the outer cut lines.



MAKING THE FELT DOLLS

- Optional: Embellish the Felt Doll with any hand embroidery details or sewn on sequins or buttons. Be aware of age appropriateness for any embellishments you sew on.



- Layer a Felt Doll, Craft Extra Firm Non-Woven Stabilizer and white craft felt RSO. Cut out the stabilizer and backing felt generously around each shape and pin in place.



- Using a white bobbin thread, and a matching top thread to the most prominent color on each Felt Doll, sew in the seam allowance with a shortened stitch length (1.5-2mm)



- Trim the stabilizer and the backing felt to match the top printed Felt Doll outline with even, smooth scissor cuts. (Use a sharp, small pair of fabric scissors).



- Repeat this step for all the Felt Doll Characters, Animals, and Accessories.



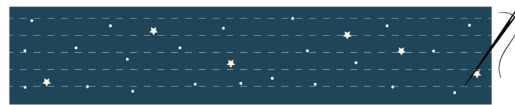
YOUR FELT DOLLS ARE COMPLETE!

TO MAKE THE PLAYMAT / BAG

- Prepare the handles by backing each handle with a piece of batting or stabilizer and folding RST. Stitch along both sides of the handles. Carefully turn the handle RSO.

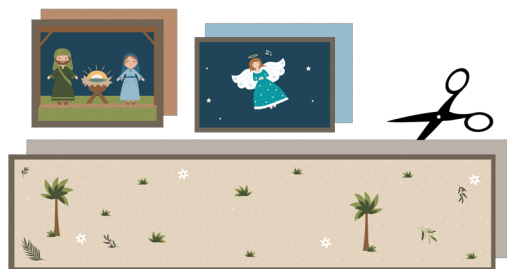


- For extra strength, stitch vertical lines along the length of the handle in a matching thread color. Set aside.



- Make the lined pockets. Using the pre-cut pockets as a guide, cut out a coordinating piece of cotton fabric for the lining of each pocket.

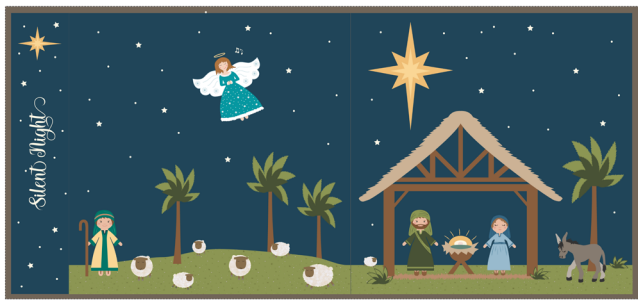
- Place the pocket and lining RST and pin and sew around the perimeter, leaving a small opening on the bottom of the smaller pockets for turning and the entire bottom open on the larger desert pocket. (This bottom seam will be hidden inside the bag, so you don't need to add bulk by finishing the bottom edge).



- Pin and sew all the pockets in place to the outside and inside sections of the bag. Match illustrations on the main bag panel as desired. On the long desert pocket, sew an extra seam in the center of the book where the fold line is.



- Layer the bag front and stabilizer by basting around the entire perimeter at 1/8" to keep the stabilizer from shifting during assembly. Set aside.



13. Pin and sew the flap closure section to the prepared back panels. as shown.



14. Position the prepared handles in place. Flip the handles so they are laying INSIDE the main part of the bag. Baste the handles on the bag with raw edges of the handles extending out beyond bag by 1/4"-1/2".
15. Layer the prepared backing on top of the prepared front of bag with RST. Pin with lots of pins to secure the entire perimeter.



16. Sew around the perimeter of the bag, remembering to leave a 3" to 4" opening at the bottom for turning.



17. Using a small pair of scissors, carefully clip around the perimeter of the entire seam allowance and notch out all the inside corners. Turn the bag RSO through the bottom opening. Push corners out with a point turner.



18. Finger press the entire seam allowance or CAREFULLY press with a cool iron. NOTE: heat from a hot iron can melt the acrylic felt panel. If you choose to iron, make sure to do a TEST press on a scrap of panel felt fabric first.



19. Using your quilting ruler and an invisible marker or pencil, draw the seam line for the fold of the book and cover flap.



20. Using a coordinating thread color, stitch along the drawn lines first. Then stitch around the entire perimeter of the playmat/bag to give the edges a nice and clean finish. Note the top and bottom thread colors are matching the panel colors. Set aside.



21. Make closures for the bag flap. I highly recommend using snap buttons (Kam snaps) and a snap button tool for safety, age appropriateness and aesthetics to close the playmat bag and the bag charms. Velcro is also a good option. Make sure to position the flap snaps correctly by testing before you adhere them permanently. Follow the manufacturer's directions to secure the snaps correctly and safely.

22. Next, make the Bag Charm using the same instructions as the Felt Doll assembly (steps 2 - 5). However, instead of using white craft felt for the back side, use the reversed, coordinating Bag Charm. This will make the Bag Charm double sided.

23. Place a small grommet or stitch around the button hole at the top of the bag tag. Puncture the hole with a sharp, pointed tool. Repeat this process for all the Bag Charms.



24. Insert the non-fraying ribbon through the grommet in the bag charms. On either end of the ribbon, sew a hem to secure. Attach a snap or velcro to either ribbon end. Repeat this process to attach the snaps to the Bag Charm flaps.



25. Snap the Bag Charms around the handles, place the prepared Felt Dolls into the Bag Pockets, close the Playmat, and your Silent Night Felt Project is ready to begin hours of imaginative play and exploration.



YOUR PLAYMAT / BAG IS COMPLETE!

BE CREATIVE! Use these Felt Dolls as tree ornaments or an advent calendar!

Have fun and be creative!

Why not use a second set of Felt Dolls and make ornaments together for the Christmas tree, or applique onto stockings, tree skirt and more! Enjoy and share your dolls using the hashtags **#SLIENTNIGHTFABRIC** **#FELTDOLLPANEL** **#BEESEWINSPIRED** **@BEESEWINSPIRED** **#RILEYBLAKEDESIGNS** **#ILOVERILEYBLAKE**.

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