Instructions for Itsy Bitsy



Materials needed:

Scraps of fabric of your choice
Chenelle stems
Seed beads
8 x 5-7 mm size crystal beads
2 x seed beads
12 x spacers
Nymo beading thread
Beading needle
No7 darners needle for sculpting
Thread

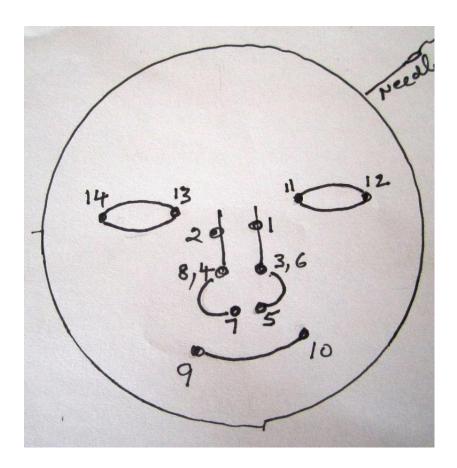
This is a project ideally suited or using up all those scraps of fabric you have been collecting for that just in case I need moment. Well this is just that moment to use them. Get those scraps out and get started.

Trace pattern on to freezer paper. With the right side facing each other on doubled fabric iron on the pattern on the chosen scraps .

Sew all the body parts on doubled fabric as close to the freezer paper as possible and turn inside out. I use the smallest stitch on my machine. To turn the hands and feet use the turning tubes same way as you would use to turn tiny fingers. Go here if you want to know how I turn tiny fingers. Insert a piece of chenelle stem in the tips of hands and feet. Stuff all the body parts and close openings.

For the head I used ultra suede. You could use duo-suede as well if you have any. Because the head is small it is easier to sculpt on a fabric that has some stretch. You may have to enlarge the size of the head if you want to use cotton. Lay the pattern pieces on the bias if you are using cotton and iron on the pattern. Sew the front part of the head up to the point marked on the pattern. Do the same for the back part of the head. Then placing right sides together sew the front and back of the heads together then turn and stuff. Attach head to the body.

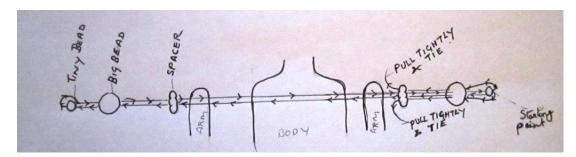
Sculpting the head



I do light sculpting of the head. You may choose to sculpt or just paint the face since it is a small face. I have marked the sequence in which I have sculpted this head. I enter the head from top of the head as shown and go to 1 take a small stitch and go to 2 from under the fabric and take a small stitch and go to 3, take a small stitch and go to 4. Then I go across to 5 take a small stitch and go to 6 and pull the thread a little to form the nostril. Then I go across to 7 and back to 8 pulling the thread a little to form the second nostril and from there to 9 and across to 10 and pull the thread slightly . From 10 to 11 and then 12 then across to 13 and then 14 pulling the thread lightly again. You may follow this sequence or do what you find easy.

(PS. No 4 and 8 are the same points and so are 3 and 6)

Joining the limbs to the body



I use beading thread to join the limbs to the body as it is fairly strong for a small doll of this size. If you are making a bigger version of this doll then use a strong thread instead.

Take a long piece of thread ,leave a long tail, starting from right to left first thread through a seed bead and then a larger crystal bead and then a spacer. Then pass the needle through the arm and the body and then through the other arm making sure that the arms are nicely aligned with the body. After coming out of the arm on the left side pass the needle and thread through the spacer, the large crystal bead and then the seed bead. Pass the needle and thread back through the large crystal bead the spacer and through the body and arms and the spacer and beads and come out just where you started. Pull and tighten the threads so that the limbs are fitting snugly against the body. You could use pins to hold the limbs to the body at this point as it is a bit fiddly to hold them. Then pass the 2 threads back through the large crystal bead and spacer come out and tie a knot to secure.

Now you can embellish your doll.