



Directions to make a Stuffed Raw Edge Libby Bird

I have 2 different methods to make a Stuffed Libby Bird but the Raw Edge Method is the easiest since there's no need to turn right sides out. Plus, there's no hand stitching to close the turning area! You will need pinking shears but a rotary cutter is optional.

The Libby Bird Project was created in honor of my mother, Libby, who spread kindness, joy, & hope wherever she went. I think these are things that we could all use – especially these days! Visit www.winnerdesigns.com/libby-bird.htm to learn more about this project. If you'd like a Libby Bird Template, contact me & I'll send you one for free!

Materials Needed:

Libby Bird Template

Pinking Shears, Small, Sharp Scissors

Cording, Ribbon, about 10" long

Fabric for Front of Bird

Fabric for Back of Bird

Stuffing

Basic Supplies: Sewing Machine, Iron, Heat Erasable Marking Pen or Chalk or Mechanical Pencil, Clips, Pins

Optional Materials: Rotary Cutter & Cutting Mat, Cardstock, Safety Pins, Printable Fabric Sheets, Freezer Paper, Plastic Baggies, Stiletto, Turning Tool

*Fabric Label or Paper Label to sew or pin to your bird

* Note to add with your Libby Bird – found at www.winnerdesigns.com/libby-bird.htm

Making the Libby Bird Label

You don't have to add a label to your Libby Bird, especially if you're placing your bird in a baggie with the Libby Note but a Label is a nice touch. Here are 2 ways.

Option 1: Print on Paper or Cardstock

This can be done after Libby Birds are made. Cardstock holds up better but you can use printer paper. Grab some safety pins, too.

Download one of the Libby Labels found at www.winnerdesigns.com/libby-bird.htm.

Add paper or cardstock to printer and print. Use scissors, rotary cutter or paper cutter to cut the labels.

Put aside for later.

Option 2: Print on Fabric

If you're new to printing on fabrics, I recommend printing on paper or cardstock first then check out online tutorials about printing on fabric. (I'll add one later.) If using Fabric, play around before making your birds to find a good technique.

Before printing, determine the way your printer needs your fabric sheets to be loaded. The easiest way to start is to use Printable Fabric Sheets available at craft stores & online. Add 1 sheet to printer & print. Follow directions to make ink permanent. Set aside.

Instead of purchasing Fabric Sheets, you can create your own. Check out online tuts. Plain Cotton Fabric & Freezer Paper work well together. Download one of the Libby Labels found at www.winnerdesigns.com/libby-bird.htm.

Don't cut labels until you've cut your birds so you can decide on size. You'll need to add extra space around the text for sewing.

You can use a rotary cutter or scissors to cut your birds -whichever you're most comfortable with.

Getting Started

Stack 2 fabrics wrong sides together. If fabric is directional be sure to pay attention to that. Using scissors or rotary cutter, cut them larger than Libby Bird Template. Use my pic as your guide. Outer shape doesn't have to be pretty – just larger. Place Libby Bird Template in center of the fabric that will be your Libby Bird Front. Trace around with heat erasable pen or chalk or pencil.



Adding the Label (optional)

You don't have to add a label to your bird, but I hope you will as it will spread the Libby Bird message!

If using a Cardstock Label or Paper Label, put it aside. Once bird is finished, pin it on your bird with a safety pin.

Sewing on the Fabric Label

Place the Back Fabric aside. Place Fabric Label near traced Libby Bird & decide If you need to cut it down & if you want to use pinking shears. If cutting down, leave enough space from text to sew around. Peel off backing.

Position label on bird where you'd like. Pin or spray baste label if needed. (I don't!) Use stitch length around 2.4 & sew close to edge. Backstitch at start & stop. If you didn't use pinking shears but feel label might fray, pull out threads from edges to give a frayed look.



Sewing Front & Back of Libby Bird Together



Once label is stitched on, place Back Fabric underneath Front Fabric with wrongs sides together. Pin or clip if needed. Use the yellow lines as a guide for where to begin & end your stitching. Starting on the right of the opening, use a stitch length of 2.4 to stitch around to the other side of the opening. Backstitch at the beginning & end. Yellow curved line in last pic should be unsewn.

Cutting the Libby Bird



Use pinking shears to trim around bird BUT do not trim around opening. Leave excess to make for a neater finish later. If you used a Heat Erasable Pen, place bird under iron to remove lines. (I forgot to do this!)

Stuffing, Adding a Hanger, Stitching Closed



Take a small amount of stuffing & stuff tail & head first. Use turning tool if helpful. Add until full. If adding a hanger, cut ribbon or cording about 10". Tie 2 ends into a knot close to edges. We'll close the opening with the sewing machine rather than hand needle. Pull the 2 excess pieces away & push stuffing down. Place knotted end of hanger inside. Pin through hanger & excess fabrics in a way that will keep stuffing away from opening. At the sewing machine, move needle to far left. Starting just before your ending stitches, stitch to beginning stitches. Backstitch at beginning & end.

Cutting Excess Fabric Away



Check that opening has been completely sewn closed. Reach in between excess fabrics & move hanger to one side. Line up excess fabric on opposite side & trim with pinking shears as close to center without cutting hanger. Move hanger to trimmed side & use shears to trim uncut side. Trim as much as possible then trim off excess with small, sharp scissors, mimicking zigzag of shears.

That's it! Add a printed note to go with your Libby Bird. Place both inside a baggie & give away or hide in a spot where it will be found. Don't forget to take pics & upload them to www.winnerdesigns.com/libby-bird.htm. If giving Libby Birds away, let the recipient know about the Libby Bird message & ask them to upload a pic & their thoughts on receiving it. I know my mom, Libby is smiling as this project was created in her honor!

Thanks for being a part of this project! Contact me if you have questions or want a free Libby Bird. Linda Winner 850-449-0259



Bagged & ready to be hidden or given away!



Raw Edge



Stuffed or Raw Edge

Be sure to check out my directions for making a [Stuffed Libby Bird](http://www.winnerdesigns.com/libby-bird.htm)