

MARCH BLOCK OF THE MONTH

Peekaboo bear

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This is a block for the appliqué lovers in our group. I found it around 20 years ago in a Quiltmaker magazine, (which I can't find now) and made it for my baby grandson - now 22 years old. Now we have the internet I have been able to find out more of its history, and apparently it was designed by Terry Grant, now a successful quilt artist, who actually never made it up, and I believe was not given credit at the time.



As I can't find my original patterns I have drafted these from a couple of blocks I had. The two bears are slightly different, one facing right and the other left. They would be lovely in a baby quilt and for our preemies. You can make whichever you wish, or both.

For each bear you will need a 9 1/2" square of sky-blue background fabric; bear-coloured fabric for the body and paws; darker fabric for the inner ears; and black for the nose and eyes.

Use whichever applique method you prefer. The patterns reflect the finished bear and after you have traced them, you will need to allow a generous 1/4" seam around each piece to turn under.

(I used the freezer paper method. Trace around each pattern piece on freezer paper. Cut these out and place on the right side of your fabric. Iron on gently and cut around each piece allowing an extra 1/4". Then peel the freezer paper pattern piece off your fabric shape, turn it over and place shiny side up on the wrong side of your fabric shape.



Gently fold the 1/4" allowance over the edge of your pattern piece and carefully iron at the edge.

When you turn this over you will have a shape you can then place on the background and sew. Place the paws on the square 1/4" from the edge, to allow for the final seam.

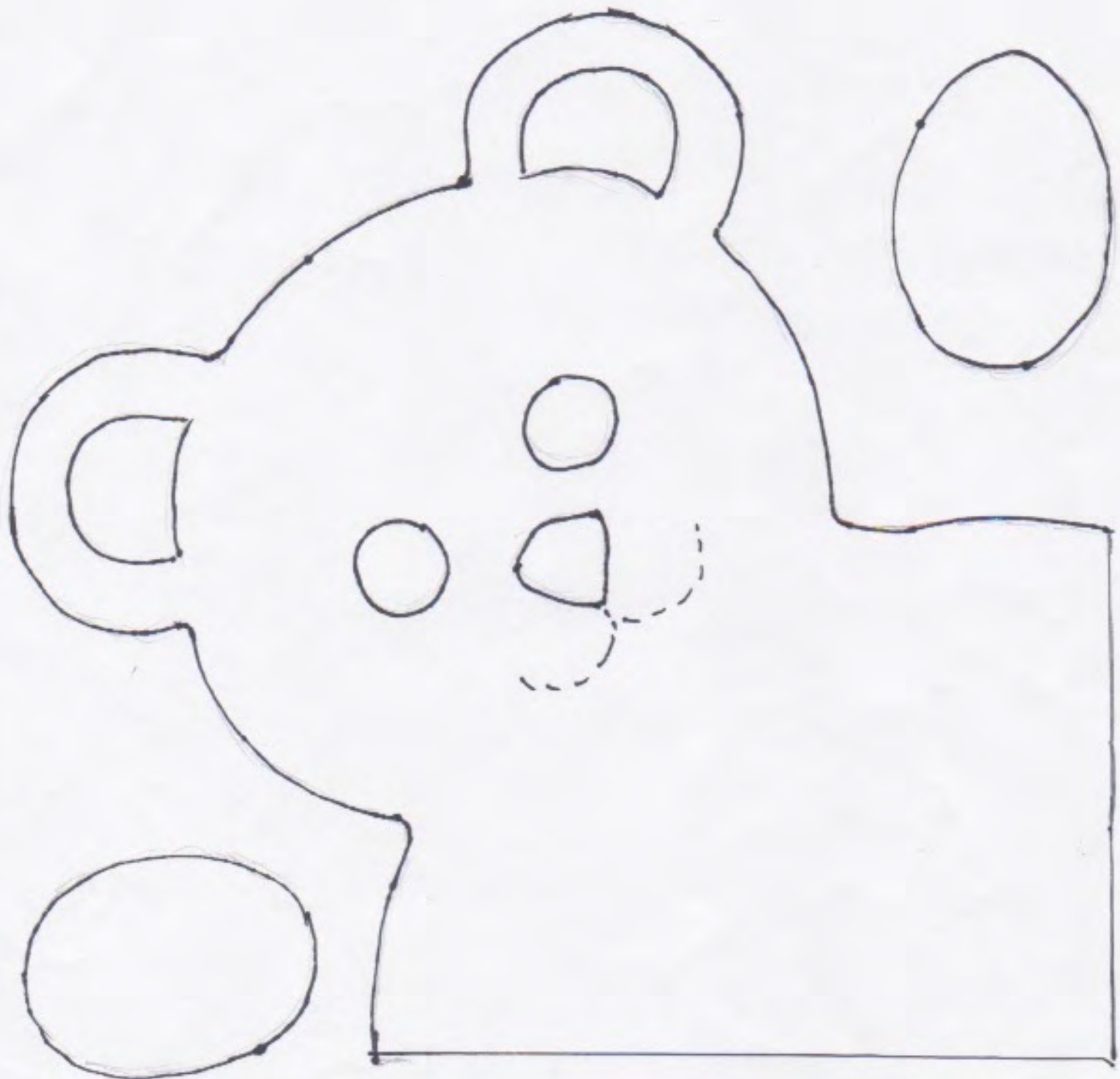
Afterwards you can cut away the excess fabric from the back and remove the freezer paper.}

Finally, embroider a "smile" on the bear.

....and to fill the space, here is a photo of my original quilt.

RIGHT-FACING
BEAR

Add $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance



LEFT-FACING BEAR

Add $\frac{1}{4}$ " seam allowance

