



How to Repair a Stuffed Teddy Bear

Fix a ripped plush toy or teddy bear.

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INTRODUCTION

This guide will show you how to repair/refurbish a stuffed animal or teddy bear. However, these skills can be used on any stuffed object. Be aware when using scissors and a sharp needle; take any precautions to avoid misuse or injury. Prior sewing and knot tying knowledge is necessary. Adequate lighting is recommended.

TOOLS:

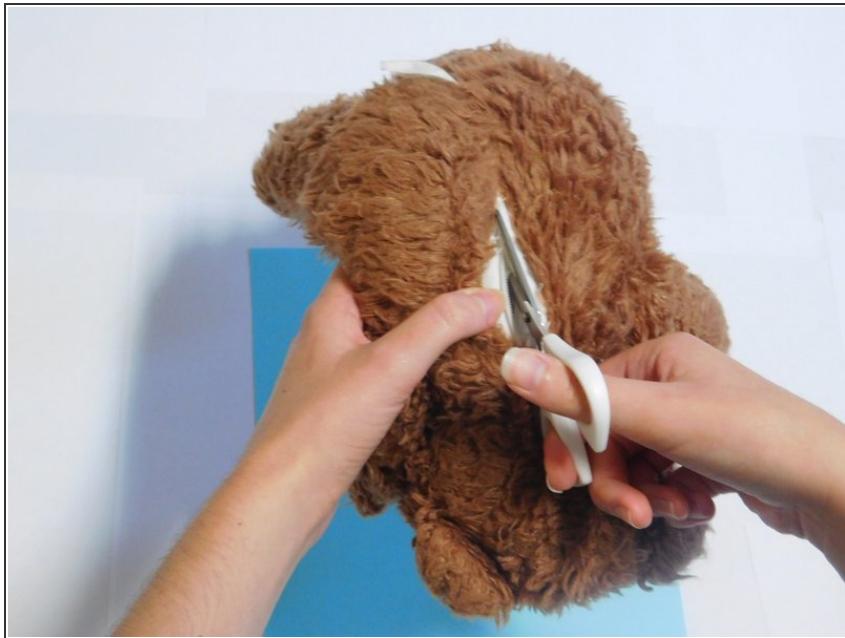
- [Button](#) (2)
The eyes of the bear
- [Thread](#) (1)
One Spool of thread
- [Polyester Fiberfill Stuffing](#) (1)
- [Dish Soap](#) (1)
- [Needle](#) (1)
- [Wire Coat Hanger](#) (1)
To Hang the bear dry
- [Water](#) (1)
- [Utility Scissors](#) (1)

Step 1 — How to Repair a Stuffed Teddy Bear



- Gather all necessary materials as listed on the bottom of the page. Be sure you have a clean, clear place to work with lots of light.

Step 2



- Using a pair of scissors, make an incision approximately 3 inches in length along the middle major seam on the back of the stuffed animal (a seam ripper may also be used to open an existing seam).

Step 3



- Remove all of the stuffing through the created incision and set it nearby to use later.

Step 4



- Using cold water and mild soap, hand wash the fabric of the bear.

Step 5



- Let the fabric air dry on a clothes hanger. (If you are in a hurry, use a hair dryer on the lowest setting or place in the dryer on a low temperature setting).
 - *i* Hair dryer must be on lowest setting
 - *i* Be careful to make sure the bear does not shrink in the dryer and check often

Step 6



- Once the fabric is completely dry, refill the stuffed animal with new stuffing. Spread the stuffing evenly throughout the head, torso, and extremities.

- i* The more stuffing added, the more dense the stuffed animal will become.

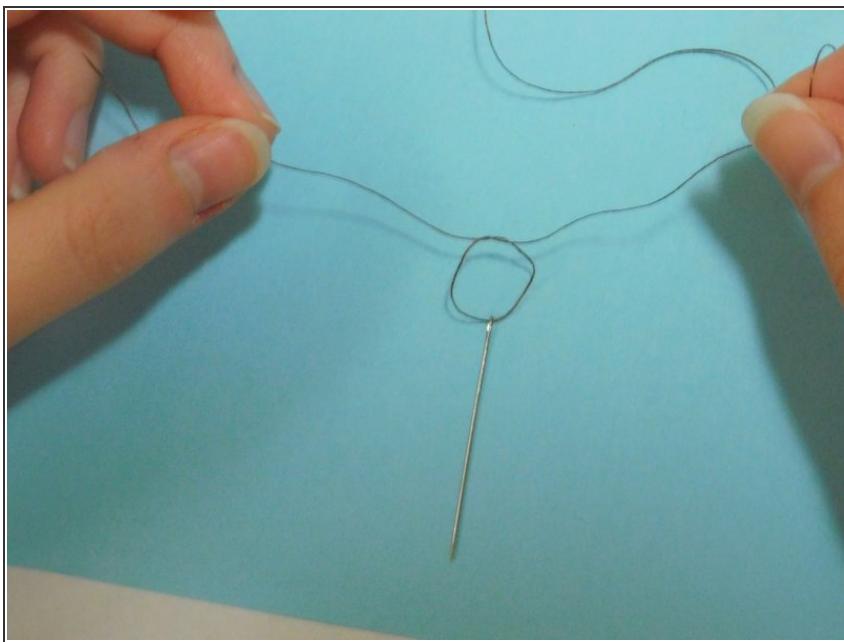
Step 7



- Now that the stuffed animal is re-stuffed, the incision needs to be sewn closed. Thread a needle with thread matching the fabric of the stuffed animal by pushing the thread through the small hole (eye) of the needle.
- Choose the length of your thread based on the length of the incision. Approx. 2-3 feet of thread will work well for a 3 inch incision.

(i) You may need a magnifying glass as the eye of the needle is really small and may be difficult to see.

Step 8



- Once your needle is threaded, you will want to secure the thread by tying a basic loop knot at the bottom of the thread to prevent the thread from slipping out as you sew the bear back together.

Step 9



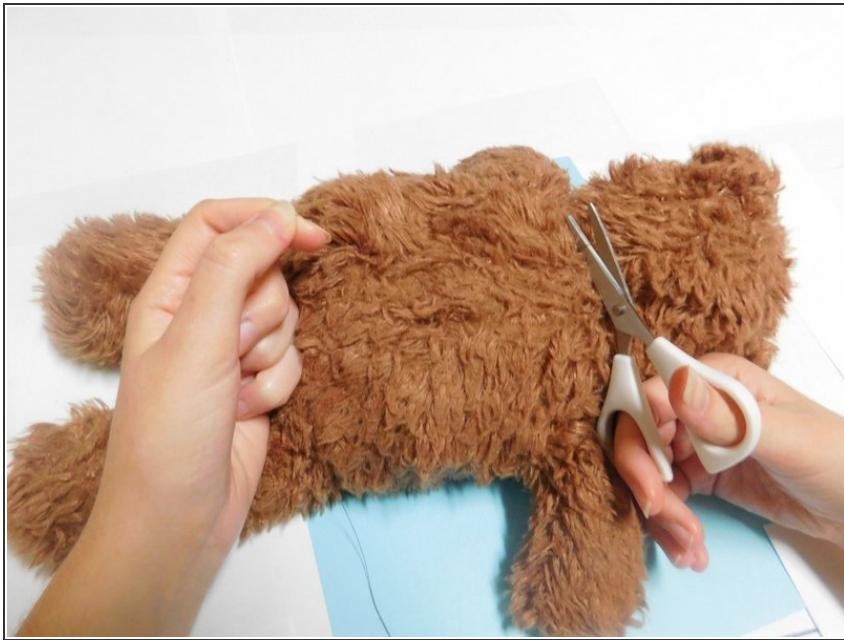
- Starting at one end of the incision, insert the needle through a small section of the fabric, pull until the tail end of the thread is about 2 inches from being pulled through the fabric. Grab the tail of the thread and tie it to the base of the thread you pulled through the fabric. Tuck the short excess tail thread into the stuffed animal.
- Create small stitches joining the two sides along the length of the incision. Keep stitches tight and close together.

Step 10



- Once you reach the other end of the incision, tie off your thread by creating another small knot.

Step 11



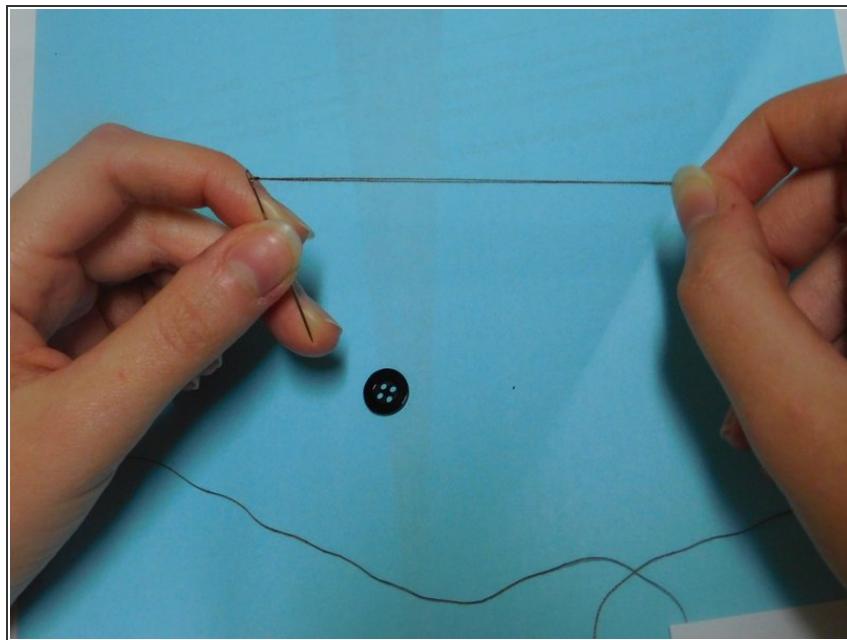
- The excess thread can be hidden by running your needle inside the fabric and back out an inch away, cutting the thread close to the surface of the fabric, and then tugging on the fabric to make the end of the thread disappear inside the stuffed animal.
- **i** This sewing technique can also be used to repair fallen or ripped limbs.

Step 12 — Replacing a Missing Eye with a Button



- **Replacing a Missing Eye**
- Gather all necessary supplies

Step 13



- Set up a needle; discussed in **Step 3** in the **Threading a Needle** Section.

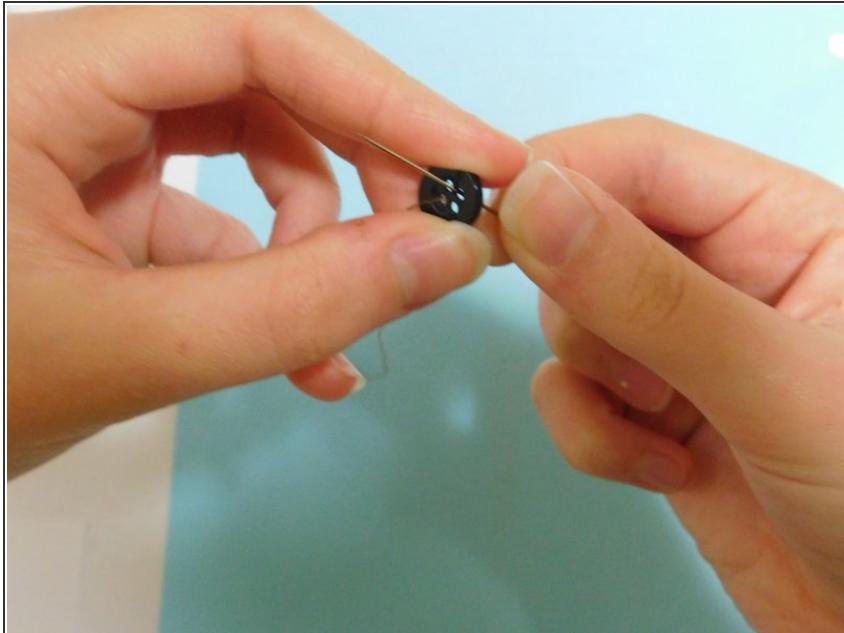
Step 14



- Before you begin, place the button in the location where you would like it to be attached. Attach your thread to the stuffed animal in this location, and thread the button onto the needle.

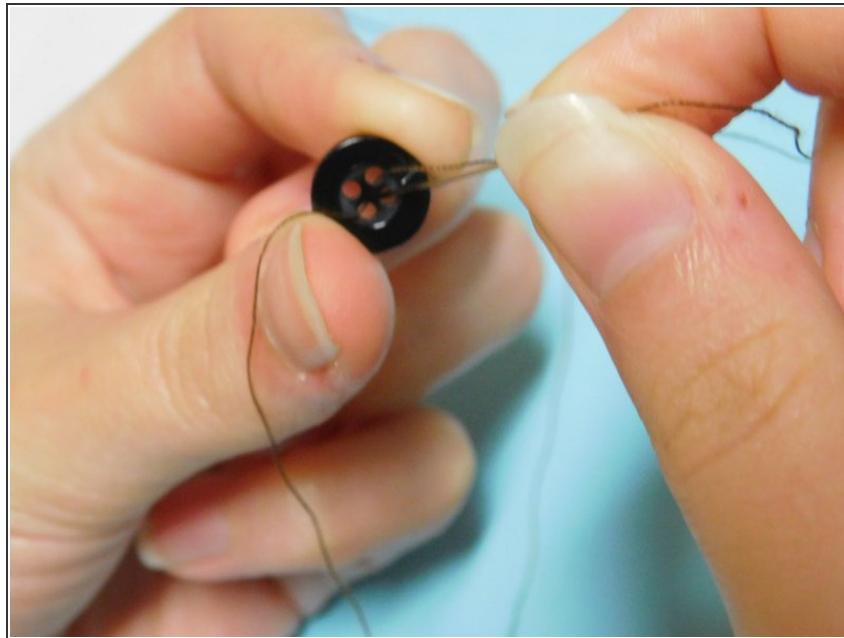
ⓘ A Disclaimer: This guide uses the stuffed bear as an example scenario and provides instruction on the proper way to attach a button, but the button will not be attached to the bear in this demonstration.

Step 15



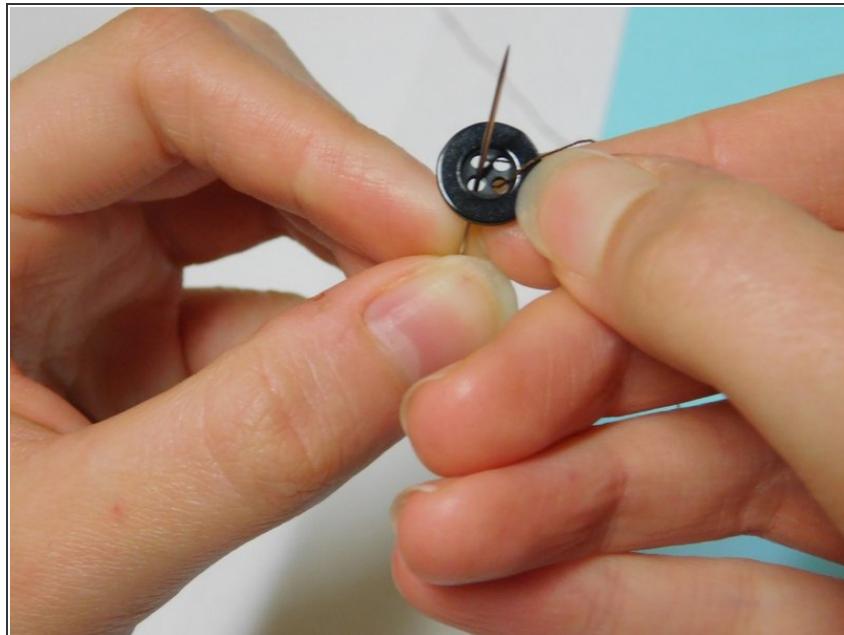
- Run the needle through the hole above.

Step 16



- Bring the needle back through the button, through the hole located diagonally to the previous hole.

Step 17



- Bring the needle back to the front of the button.
- Repeat steps 15-17 until the button is secure.

Step 18



- Pass the needle through to the back of the button.
- Make a knot and tie it.
- Cut any excess thread.

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.