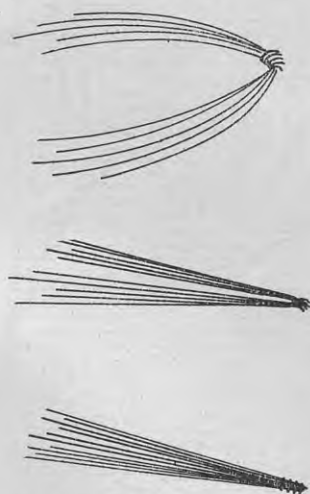
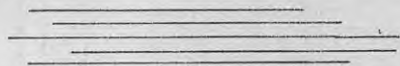


FACE DETAILS OF FELT TOYS

covered animals should not have cuts made for the ears or the edges of the cuts may fray.

Whiskers

Though they may be embroidered on, whiskers are more realistic if they are made to stick out. Bristles from a house-painter's brush are excellent—white ones if possible, but if not, black or brown. To fasten them firmly, select 3, 4, or 5 long ones, lay them unevenly together, fold the whole bunch in halves, and oversew them at the fold to one side of the face. Then bend the whiskers close against the toy, slant them upward to give a happy look, and oversew them again over the double fold. Repeat with more sets of whiskers on both sides of the face. A cat or lion should have the bases of the whiskers arranged in a definite pattern on either side of the face. If white whiskers are sewn



Sewing on whiskers. Arrange up to five bristles unevenly. Fold them into a loop and oversew them. Bend them sharply and slightly upward close to the face. Oversew them again, this time over both parts of the fold.

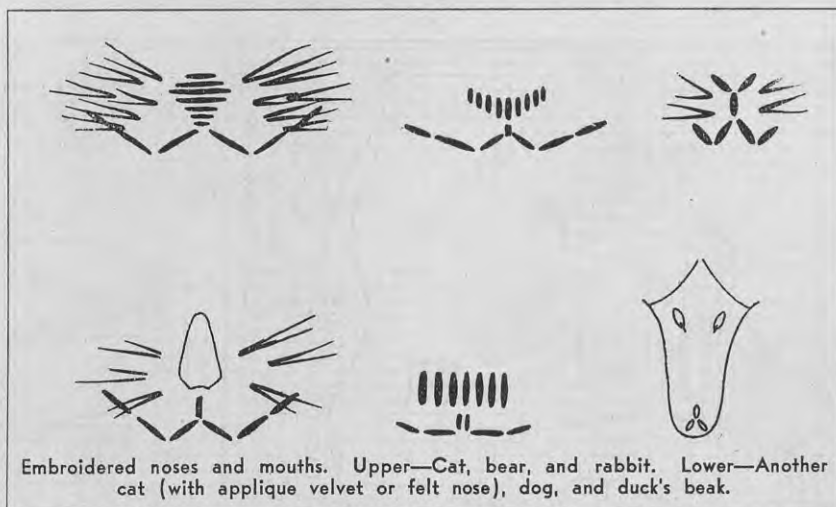
with dark thread, an effective little dark dot is made at the base of each group.

If paint brush bristles are unobtainable, a few stiff hairs from the tail of a horse or cow would do.

Horns and Tusks

For small children's toys horns supported with wire are not advisable, but the experienced toy maker making realistic animals for older children may want to experiment in this way. Such horns should be covered, and some circular-woven or knitted braids out of which the core can be pulled make excellent coverings for wire horns and antlers.

On toys for younger children rolled felt or kid makes very satisfactory



Embroidered noses and mouths. Upper—Cat, bear, and rabbit. Lower—Another cat (with applique velvet or felt nose), dog, and duck's beak.

horns and tusks. Cut the material as long as required but several times wider and tapering to a point at each end. Roll it up tightly and hem it along its length. Sew it to or through the head in the required position. Tusks are pointed at only one end.

Tails

Fringed at one end beforehand, rolled felt may also be used for a tail, but the imaginative toy maker will not be at a loss to invent tails. The squirrels in the photograph at the head of this article have tails of stiff, single-core electric flex, one covered with fur and the other with lambs' fleece, and these can be bent into any desired shape.

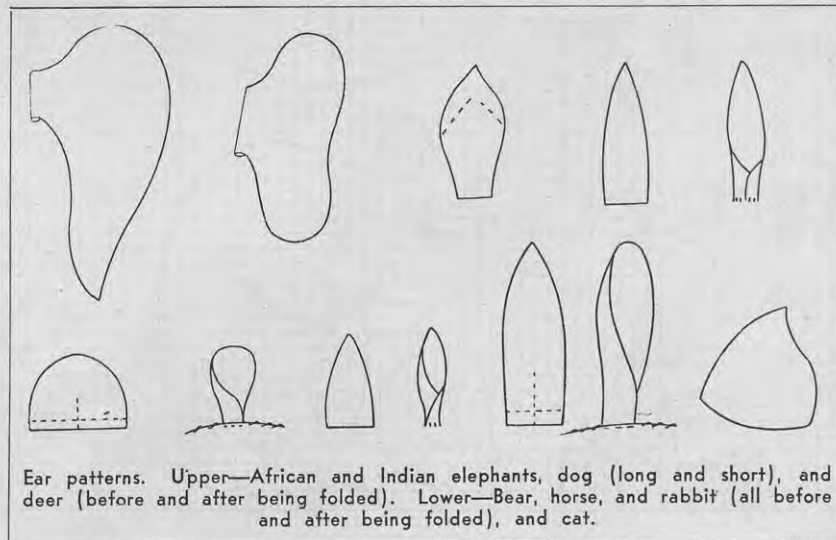
All trimmings, and especially tails, should be sewn on very firmly into a seam, if possible, or through a cut made in the felt for them, as children usually pick their toys up by these "handles."

To withstand such treatment, which is quite normal and must be expected, the toys and their trimmings must be made strong.

Manes, Fringes, and other Finishing Touches

Making and fringing an extra seam allowance were explained earlier in this article. Manes may also be made from scraps of fur or fleece sewn on after the animal has been stuffed, or from lengths of wool or other threads knotted along the top of the neck, as for the fringe on a scarf. Real feathers are not satisfactory, as they break and look shabby too quickly.

Animals with spotted coats should have their spots added after they have been made and stuffed. Those of the baby giraffe in the photograph were put on with indian ink, but many other ways may be devised—a leather animal may be marked with a hot poker, a spotted fabric may be used, and embroidery, stencilling, or applique are all suitable.



Ear patterns. Upper—African and Indian elephants, dog (long and short), and deer (before and after being folded). Lower—Bear, horse, and rabbit (all before and after being folded), and cat.