

Heart FELT PASTRIES

fav food that doesn't test your willpower



HEARTFELT CUPCAKES

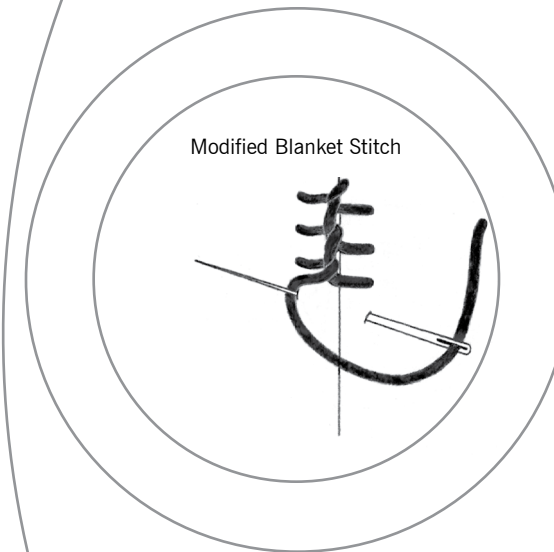
YOU'LL NEED:

- brown 100% wool felt (Wool felt can be purchased at CommonwealthFelt.com in "fat quarters" or bundles. They also have a new "XoticFelt" made from a bamboo/ rayon blend.)
- stuffing
- needle and dark brown thread
- Aileen's Tacky Glue
- white rickrack



Cut pattern pieces: Trace pattern pieces below onto paper (one long side piece, one smaller bottom, and one larger top); cut out pieces.
Cut felt: Cut one long side piece, one bottom, and one top.

1. Bend side piece to form cupcake shape; stitch short ends together using a modified blanket stitch (do not overlap).
2. Stitch the side piece to the bottom piece using a modified blanket stitch (do not overlap).
3. Stuff the inside of the cupcake just enough to keep its shape. Stitch the top piece to the side piece using a modified blanket stitch (do not overlap).
4. "Ice" cupcake by spreading a very thin layer of glue on the top of the cupcake with your finger. Let dry and top with a second thin coat (it will dry clear and glossy).
5. After "icing" is dry, glue rickrack across the top of the cupcake to simulate loopy icing.



Use this method to create your favorite heartfelt pastries or fruits (see our favs on p. 62). You can even mold the felt into shapes like the pastry above. First, cut a piece of gift-wrap tissue paper the same size as your cut-out felt shape. Using Beacon's Felt Glue, spread a thin coat over one side of the felt shape. Then press the tissue paper evenly to the glued side of the felt so that you'll have a barrier between the glue and your fingers when you're shaping the piece. Place the felt piece into a plastic bag and let it sit for about 15 minutes so the felt absorbs the moisture from the glue but doesn't dry out. Then remove from bag, place the felt into your mold, and press the piece so that it forms to the mold, smoothing as you go. Allow to dry, and remove from mold. To create domed shapes like the whoopie pie or the cookie at left, place an oversized piece of felt over the top of a small-mouth quart jar. Secure with a rubber band around the jar threads. Spread glue over the circular top, cover it with tissue paper, cover the jar with plastic, and let it sit for 15 minutes. Then carefully smooth and press felt to create a domed shape. Let dry. Cut a matching bottom piece, stuff, then glue or stitch to the top.

