## Singing Mask Pattern

Supplies:

- Fabric scraps
- $1 / 4$ " wide strips of flexible plastic
- Half of a pipe cleaner.
- $2-12$-inch pieces of $1 / 4$ " elastic
- 4 melty beads
- Toothpick (to push the elastic through the beads)

1. Cut out all pattern pieces. The pattern calls for just one layer so the mask will breathe a little, but extra layers can be added for a thicker mask.
2. For the plastic stays use a sheet of soft plastic such as a disposable plastic cutting board or stencil plastic. The stay should be plastic so that the mask will wash well and spring back to the original shape. If plastic isn't available, use pipe cleaners cut a little longer than the pattern length. Fold the ends of the pipe cleaners over slightly so they won't poke through the fabric.

3. fold bias binding with right-side facing out. Sew to bottom edge of mask bottom.
4. Fold bias binding over the seam and top stitch to finish edge.

5. Optional: to add wire to nose edge, cut a pipe cleaner in half and fold the ends over slightly to keep the wire from poking through the fabric.
6. Fold bias binding with right-side facing out. Sew to top edge of mask top.
7. Fold bias binding over seam and insert pipe cleaner. Top stitch to finish the edge.

8. Stitch over the ends of the pipe cleaners several times. This keeps the pipe cleaner from bunching and shifting when the mask is washed.

9. Pin top and bottom to long sides of middle piece. Stitch with $1 / 2$ inch seam easing around the corners.

10. Create a casing for the plastic stays by sewing down the seam allowance from sewing the top and bottom to the middle piece. To do this pin the seam allowance toward the center piece of fabric with the stay tucked into the fold. Stitch along the edge of the seam allowance (be sure to stitch all the way across but position the stays just along the seam of the top and bottom). See pictures below.

11.side flaps over and stitch to make a casing for the elastic.

12.Use a toothpick to push one end of the elastic through a melty bead and pull the bead to the center of the elastic piece. Then use the toothpick to push both ends of the elastic piece through the second melty bead. Repeat for the other piece of elastic.

11. Use a safety pin to thread the elastic through the casings on the sides. Tie the elastic and pull the knot into the casing to hide it.



