

Country Commandments Stitchery

8" x 10" stitchery in a larger wood frame
7" Raggedy girl and boy ornaments

Supplies to Make the Stitchery:

muslin (stitchery fabric)
12" x 14" wood frame with an 8" x 10" opening
8" x 10" piece of illustration board (medium weight)
8" x 10" piece of natural cotton batting
6" x 12" strip of homespun fabric (fabric border)
scrap of red fabric (heart)
black embroidery thread
6" embroidery hoop
large needle
silicon glue (Loctite)

Supplies to make Raggedy Girl and Boy Ornaments

muslin (body, wings)
polyfil, piece of batting for wings
9" piece of white gathered trim (dress skirt)
8" piece of red grosgrain ribbon (boy's pants straps)
red yarn (Red Heart scrubby yarn - cherry) for hair
red, black crochet thread
acrylic paint: light ivory, red, black, burnt umber
brushes: sponge, medium round, small round
dark umber, red colored pencils (Prisma)
black and red permanent markers (Micron No.3 size)
2 small white buttons
fine sandpaper
thin rusty wire, rusty stars

Supplies from Home: instant coffee, old coffee cup, white glue, hot glue, paper towel(s), paper dish, iron, pencil, tape, wire cutter, toothpick, Q-tips, piece of cardboard, hemostats very helpful

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HHF- 429 Country Commandments Stitchery
with Raggedy Angel Ornaments

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Notes

1. Read pattern through before starting.
2. Sewing Terms: RST-right sides together RSO – right side(s) out
3. Thank you for purchasing my pattern! You may sell the finished Country Commandments stitchery or the raggedy girl & boy angel ornaments at craft shows, on your website and on eBay or Etsy. On the internet, please give me credit for this design. Thank you again.

Happy Sewing and Happy Heart Hugs!

1. **Preparing and Staining the Stitchery Muslin** – Cut or tear a piece of muslin 12” X 14”. Prepare a small amount of strong coffee stain by mixing one tablespoon of instant coffee with 1/3 cup of hot water. Wet the muslin with water and then crumple it up into a ball – open it back up – sprinkle it with the coffee stain and then crumple it back up again. Open the muslin up leaving in all the wrinkles. Take a paper towel and wad it up – dip towel into coffee stain (not too much stain) and lightly wipe stain/towel across wrinkled muslin hitting the tops of all the wrinkles. You are going to oven dry the muslin. Place a piece of foil on a cookie sheet. Place a piece of batting on top of the foil. Place muslin on top of the batting. Put cookie sheet with muslin into a 200 degree oven for five minutes to dry the muslin. When the muslin is dry it will be nicely stained and wrinkled.
2. **Preparing the Stained Muslin to Stitch On** – Now it might be a bit difficult to trace the commandments and sew them on the wrinkled muslin so you are going to iron it. The wrinkles and stain will remain on the muslin but it will be flat. Place the muslin on a terry towel. Get a slightly damp paper towel and place it over the muslin – dab iron down onto damp paper towel first (it has a tendency to stick) and then iron paper towel (and muslin under it) flat. Move paper towel around on muslin so all of it gets ironed and flattened.
3. **Tracing the Commandments on the Muslin** – One side of the muslin will be stained a little darker than the other – the darker side is the “right” side. Place the muslin down on your work area so the right side is facing down (the wrong side is facing you). Center the country commandments pattern right side down onto the muslin – tape the corners of the pattern to the muslin (use tape like painters tape so it can easily be removed). Pick muslin/pattern up and tape it to a sunlit window with the muslin facing you – you will be able to see the country commandments pattern through the muslin. Use the No. 5 black permanent marker and trace all the commandments onto the muslin – if you’re tracing is off a bit, just improvise some by lengthening the commandment – we are working with a prim influence and mistakes look good! Remove the paper pattern.
4. **Stitching the Commandments** – Insert and secure the top section of your traced commandments into the 6” embroidery hoop. You will be working with 2 strands (taken out of a 6 strand piece) of black embroidery thread. Stitch the commandments using a back stitch, stitching over the traced letters - take your time, taking smaller stitches on the curves of letters and bigger stitches on the straight lines – when you use up the black embroidery thread, tie it off at the back of the stitchery – then rethread needle with 2 more strands of black embroidery thread and continue on. Make 2 wrap French knots for periods or for dotting i’s. I like to stitch while watching TV or on the phone talking– then I don’t feel like it’s a big project and I have to hurry up and get it done. Move the embroidery hoop around on the muslin to get all the commandments stitched.
5. Cut a small heart out of red fabric (or flannel) and stitch it to your commandments stitchery right after the first commandment “Love God” (I know it should say “One God” but the greatest commandment of all is to Love God with all your heart so that’s why I wrote Love God).
6. **Preparing to Frame the Country Commandments** – Cut an 8” X 10” piece of illustration board. Cut an 8” X 10” piece of cotton batting. Squeeze a puddle of white glue on the illustration board,

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in the middle of the illustration board - use an old credit card (or a square piece of cardboard) - skim the glue over the board to cover it but not so much that it will seep through the batting - roll the cotton batting up and then align the top edge of it to the top edge of the illustration board - allow rest of batting to unroll down onto illustration board (working from top to bottom) so the batting is centered onto the illustration board - press batting down, smoothing it out so it is flat on the illustration board. Let batting/ board dry - it will have a tendency to bow from the wet glue so place it flat, carefully put the 8" X 10" glass from the frame on top of it and then put a light weight (I used my 16oz. tacky glue) on the glass to hold it flat - keep it like this for an hour or so until glue dries and batting/board is dry and flat.

7. Carefully place the 8" X 10" glass over the stitched country commandments so they are centered under the glass - use a pencil and draw around the glass - carefully remove glass and put aside - you have "penciled" a frame around the country commandments. Tear two 1/2" X 9" strips of fabric and two 1/2" X 11" strips of fabric to frame the commandments. Put white glue on your finger and spread it down and along one 9" strip (on the back or wrong side of the strip), spreading on just enough glue to almost cover the fabric strip, but not so much it will seep through fabric strip. Place this strip (glue side down) onto the bottom of the commandments so that the bottom edge of the fabric strip is just above the bottom pencil line - press fabric strip down onto stitchery. Repeat this same process with the other 9" fabric strip gluing and placing right below the top pencil line you drew. Iron top and bottom fabric strips on stitchery to flatten them and dry the glue. Repeat this same process with the other two 11" fabric strips, gluing and placing them to the inside of the pencil lines (on left and right sides) you drew at the sides of the commandments. Iron fabric strips and entire stitchery.
8. Place the stitchery over the cotton batting side of the batting/board (the nicely stitched side is up) - match the fabric strip "frame" to the sides of the batting/board - slip a few pins into stitchery (the fabric strip frame) here and there to hold it in place. Turn stitchery over to back side (illustration board side). Notice that you have extra muslin sticking out on all sides (diagram 1). Spread a line of white glue along excess muslin at top - spread a line of white glue along excess muslin at bottom (see diagram 1 again). Fold the excess muslin (at the top and bottom) over and onto the board (pull slightly so muslin is snug) and glue in place (diagram 2 - check right side of stitchery to see if fabric frame is straight). Fold and glue all 4 corners in (diagram 3). Spread a line of glue along the right side of the excess muslin (diagram 4). Fold the right side over onto the back of the illustration board (see right side of diagram 5). Spread a line of glue on left side of excess muslin (see left side of diagram 5) - fold left side over onto back of illustration board (diagram 6). Check to see if side fabric frame strips are straight. Remove pins in stitchery and let glue dry.
9. Carefully place glass into wood frame - make sure glass is clean. Place the Country Commandments stitchery into the frame. Close back of frame and secure with little attached tabs. Make the Raggedy Angel Girl and Boy (steps 11 through 24).
10. Attaching the Girl or Boy Angel to the Wood Frame of the Stitchery - The best way to attach the angels to the wood frame is to use a strong glue - this will keep them flat and fairly close to the frame. I originally tried using Velcro to attach the angels but they were too far from the frame and didn't look right. Use silicon glue for this step (it has body to it) - squeeze some glue onto the back of each angel - place the angel onto the wood frame (make sure any little legs don't go past the bottom of the frame) - place a little weight on top of the angels to hold them down - let glue dry - remove weight and hang frame up or set it on a table or in a shelf!

Making the Girl and Boy Raggedy Angels

11. The Little Girl & Boy Raggedy Angels - Trace the little raggedy girl & boy patterns onto doubled muslin (they are really the same pattern). Machine stitch all around the little raggedy angels on

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the traced lines. Cut the raggedy angels out a generous 1/8" away from the stitching. Clip seams at all inward curves between legs, under arms and at neck (at neck I cut the seam more like a "v"). Draw a vertical slit line on the back of each raggedy about 2" long (see boy pattern). Cut slit lines through one layer of fabric only. Turn raggedy angels RSO through slit openings. Stretch sewn bodies between legs and at sides of neck to ease fabric out. Stuff the raggedy angels with polyfil and then neatly whip stitch the slit openings closed (the slit side is the back side).

12. Coffee Staining the Raggedy Angel Bodies – Make a coffee stain using 1 teaspoon of instant coffee and 1/3 cup of hot water in an old coffee cup. Use the sponge brush and brush the coffee stain all over the angel bodies. Let stain dry naturally out in the sun or oven dry. To oven dry: place raggedy bodies on a foil lined cookie sheet that has a piece of batting on top and place in a low temperature oven (200 degrees) for 5 to 10 minutes, turning bodies over, halfway through drying time. Please don't leave oven unattended!
13. Refer to the girl and boy angel patterns - use a pencil and draw the outfit lines onto the bodies.
14. Painting the Girl Angel – Use the medium round brush and paint the girl angel light ivory from her neck line down to the bottom of her feet and also the sleeve part of the arms – let paint dry. Lightly sand painted part of body. Use the small round brush and paint 4 red stripes on each leg (leave room for the shoes) – use the handle end of the brush – dip it into red paint and dot 3 red buttons down the front (upper) part of her body – let red paint dry. Paint the shoes black – let paint dry – lightly sand the shoes. Use the burnt umber pencil and shade the ends of the sleeves. Use a Q-tip and blend shading out onto arms.
15. Painting the Boy Angel – Use the medium round brush and paint the boy angel's shirt and the legs (below the pant legs) light ivory – let paint dry. Lightly sand painted shirt and legs. Use the same brush and paint the boy's pants red – let dry. Lightly sand the boy's pants. Use the small round brush and paint 2 red stripes on each of the legs (leave room for the shoes) – let paint dry. Paint the shoes black – let paint dry – lightly sand the shoes. Use the burnt umber pencil and shade the ends of the sleeves – shade the ends of the pant legs – shade the top waist of the pants. Use a Q-tip and blend shading out onto arms, down onto legs and from waist, up onto shirt.
16. The Girl and Boy Angel's Face – Use the pencil and draw the nose in the middle of the face. Use the small round brush and paint the nose red – let paint dry. Use the pencil and make 2 dots where the eyes will go – draw a little mouth and eyebrow(s) over the eyes. Cut 2 tiny circles of muslin and glue them over the eye dots (use white glue). Thread a long piece of black crochet thread in the 3" needle and knot the end. Poke needle into the top of the angel's head and exit needle out of one muslin eye (just off center a bit) – make a 2 wrap French knot and poke needle back into muslin circle (just off to other side a bit so knot is centered) and exit needle over to other muslin eye circle – repeat process with other eye - exit needle to top of head again, tack and cut thread. Use the pencil and draw 3 lashes under each eye. Double thread needle with (all-purpose) black thread and knot end. Poke needle into top of head and come out at one eyebrow – stitch the eyebrow and exit the needle down to one eyelash – stitch eyelashes – exit needle to mouth and stitch the mouth – reverse the process to stitch rest of face – exit needle to top of head again, tack and cut thread. Use the dark umber pencil and shade around the eyes, nose and under the mouth – blend shading out into fabric using a Q-tip. Use the red pencil and shade red cheeks onto the face – blend shading out into fabric using a Q-tip.
17. Distressing the Angel Bodies - Squeeze burnt umber paint onto a paper dish. Get a damp paper towel (I like to wet my hands and then dry them on a paper towel for the perfect wetness) and wad it up into a ball. Dip the wadded up towel into the paint and then move it on the paper dish in a circular motion to distribute the paint on it evenly – (if you have too much paint on towel, dab it onto a dry paper towel – you want the paint on the damp paper towel almost dry). Rub the towel/paint over the painted parts of the body to get the feel/idea of how to stain/distress with the

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burnt umber paint by wiping it onto the doll's body. Now rub burnt umber paint very lightly over the ends of the arms and along the sides of the head. For the girl angel, distress the piece of 9" gathered lace you are using for her dress skirt with the burnt umber paint. For the boy, distress the 8" piece of red ribbon you are using for the pants straps with the burnt umber paint.


18. Finishing the Girl Angel - Glue the distressed 9" gathered trim around the girl angel's waist (ends overlapped in back) to give the idea of a dress. Use red crochet thread and tie a bow around the angel girl's neck.
19. Finishing the Boy Angel - Pants straps – find the middle of the distressed red ribbon and glue it to the back neck of the boy angel – bring ends of the ribbon over the boy's shoulders and down onto the waist of the pants in the front – glue ends of straps to pants. Stitch black (all purpose) thread through 2 white buttons and tie off. Glue buttons to ends of pants straps. Tie a piece of red crochet thread around the boy angel's neck, tying it into a bow.
20. Hair for the Angels – The hair will cover knots/tacks at the top of the angel heads. Girl: cut five 5" pieces of red yarn. Use red thread and stitch the middle of the yarn pieces to the top of the girl's head – stitch yarn to sides of girl's head leaving pigtail ends. Make a small yarn pompom and stitch it the middle of the hair for bangs. Boy: make 3 small yarn pompoms and stitch them to the top of the boy's head using red thread.
21. Making the Wings for the Girl and Boy Angels – The directions are for one wing, but make 2 wings. Cut 2 pieces of muslin 3" x 6" and cut one piece of batting 3" x 6". Center and trace the wing pattern onto one piece of muslin – trace the slit line on – cut the slit line. Place the muslin with the traced wing directly on top of the other (plain) muslin piece – place both pieces of muslin directly on top of the batting piece (you have 3 layers) – pin layers together inside wing tracing. Machine stitch all around the wings on the traced line through all 3 layers. Cut wings out a scant 1/4" from stitching. Turn wings RSO through slit opening (the batting will be sandwiched in between the 2 pieces of muslin). The "good" side of the wings will be the slit side. Using doubled all-purpose off white thread, take a running stitch around the outside edge of the wings, then whip stitch the opening closed. Iron wings flat if too puffy.
22. Paint the wings light ivory – let paint dry – lightly sand the wings. Distress the outside edge of the wings by lightly wiping them with the burnt umber paint. Use the red marker and draw red stitches around the edge of the wings (on the stitched slit side) between the stitches already there. Hot glue the wings (the stitched slit side) to the back of the angel.
23. Making the Star Banner – You will need 3 small rusty stars for each banner. My stars had little holes in them because they were attached to a garland. If you can't find stars with holes you can wrap the rusty wire around the little stars to hold them in place on the banner. Use a wire cutter and cut a 24" piece of thin rusty wire (cut a 36" piece of wire if you are wrapping the stars on). Attach (or wrap) the middle of the wire to (or around) one star – curl wire on a toothpick for about 1 1/2" on each side of the star. Attach or wrap stars to the wire on each side of the centered star. Curl the wire 1 1/2" beyond the side stars leaving some wire just straight on the ends. Use a large needle and poke it through both of the angel's hands (from top to bottom) to make a "way" for the wire – thread the straight wire ends through the needle holes in the hands – curl wire under hands to secure the star banner to the angel.
24. A Hanger for Angel Girl and Boy Ornaments – Thread red crochet thread into needle – take a big stitch through the bottom back of the head – pull needle off thread and even up thread ends – tie an overhand knot in the thread ends making a loop hanger – trim off excess thread beyond knot.

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edge of fabric border

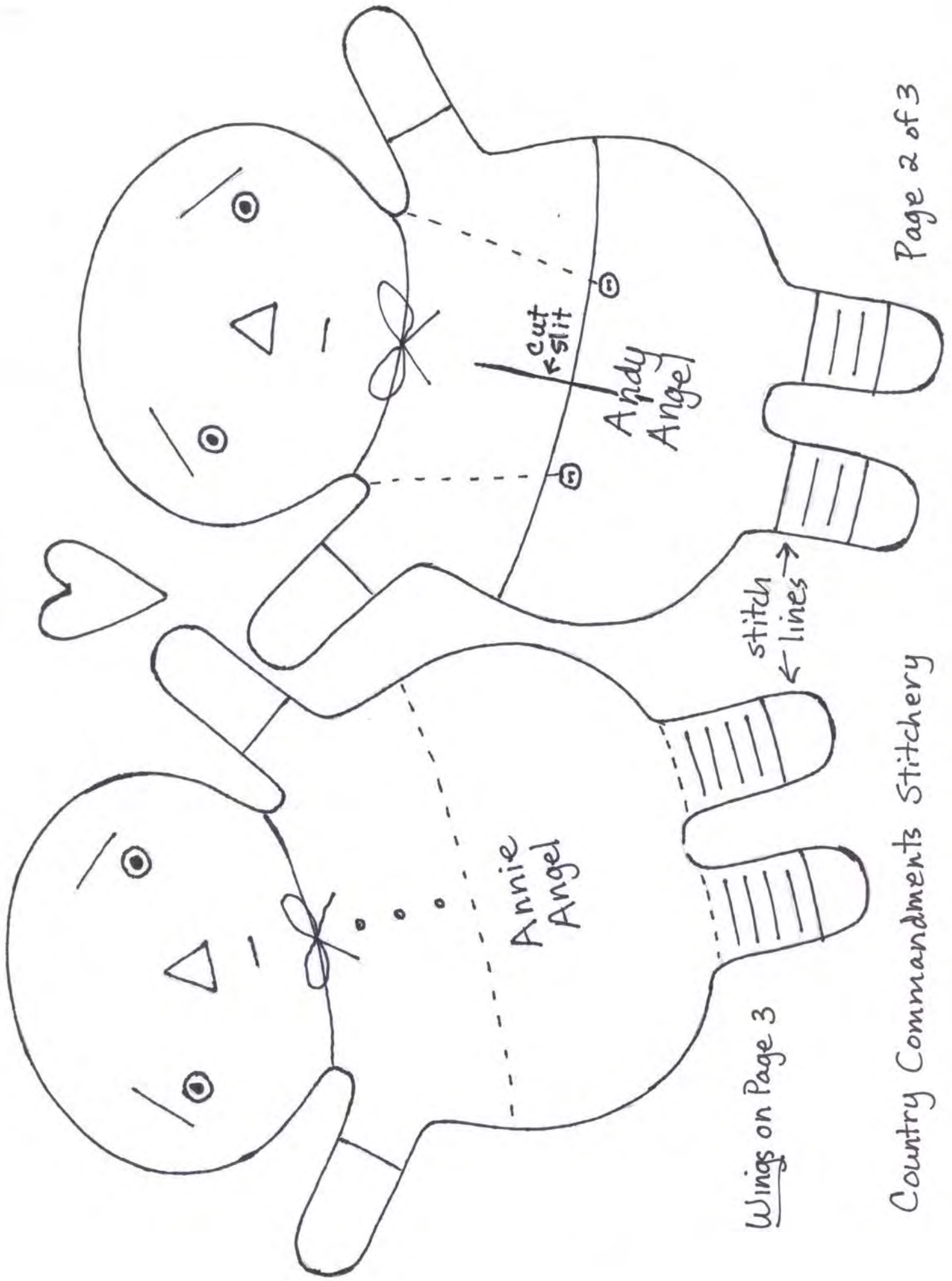
Country Commandments

1. Love God 
2. God comes first
3. Nø cuss words
4. Gather on Sunday
5. Honor Ma n' Pa
6. Respect Life
7. Nø hanky panky
8. Nø stealin' stuff
9. Tell the truth
10. Hands off other's thangs

edge of fabric border

edge of fabric border

edge of fabric border



How to Finish Back of stitchery

