# MARVELETTA O'HOULIHAN

## MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT

- Pinstriped gray wool fabric, 10 x 4 in./25 x 10 cm
- Gray felt, 2 x 2 in./5 x 5 cm
- Cream cotton calico, 2<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> x 8<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> in./7 x 21 cm
- Pale blue stretch wool fabric, 8 x 4 in./20 x 10 cm
- White felt, 3 x 2 in./7.5 x 5 cm
- . Sewing thread in white, gray, and pale green
- Medium-size bead cap
- Small diamanté stone, about 6 mm diameter
- . Small metal tea ball with handle
- Funnel-shaped metal blind pull weights (or funnelshaped metal beads) about <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> in./2 cm long
- . Clear glass bead, 10 mm diameter
- Flower-shaped metal bead (or bead cap),
   10 mm diameter
- . Fine brass or brass-colored chain, 4 in./10 cm length
- Brass or brass-colored trigger clasp,
   ½ in./12 mm long
- · 3 round, ridged silver beads, 3 mm diameter
- 1 brass bugle bead, 10 mm long
- 1 eye pin, 11/2 in./4 cm long
- 1 elaborate lantern-shaped bead, 1 in./2.5 cm long
- . 1 brass disc-shaped bead, 10 mm diameter
- · 2 jump rings, 6 mm diameter
- 1 tiny blue glass bead
- 1 round-ended safety pin, 7/8 in./2 cm long
- Packet of small plastic toy-filling pellets
- · Small quantity of soft toy stuffing
- Piece of cardstock (postcard weight), 2 x 2 in./
   5 x 5 cm
- Latex adhesive
- Epoxy glue
- Superglue
- PVA glue
- · Fabric pencil
- Fine felt-tip pens in red and black
- Sharp scissors
- Sewing needle
- · Dressmaking pins
- Small hacksaw
- Bradawl
- Fine-nosed pliers

Marveletta, the Steampunk Lady, has plenty of natural breeding: her neat little collar, smartly tailored clothing, and exquisitely detailed opera glasses tell you that this is not a girl to be trifled with. She's not as tough to make as you might imagine—despite her polish and a plethora of well-bred accessories, she rests on a surprisingly solid and simple base, and her apparent complexity comes with the addition of a few cute details.

THE HAIR IS MADE OF STRETCH WOOLEN FABRIC, SO EASE THE SEAMS WHEN YOU TURN IT RIGHT SIDE OUT TO MAINTAIN THE SHAPE.



The opera glasses are composed as a unit before they are added to the figure.

Marveletta O'Houlihan stands 5 in./ 13 cm tall.



# TO MAKE MARVELETTA O'HOULIHAN

1 / Photocopy, or scan and print, the pattern pieces from page 74 and cut them out.

#### TO MAKE THE BODY

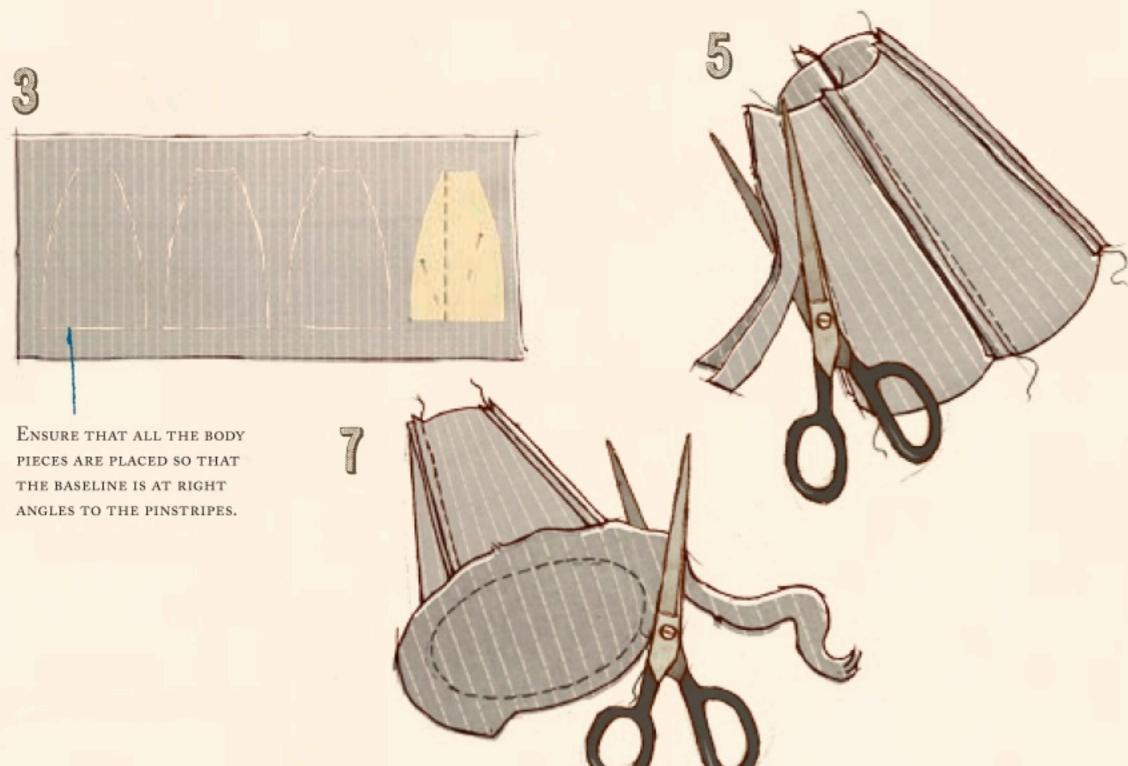
- 2/If you've only been able to find a pinstripe that is too wide for the scale of the figure (a very fine pinstripe can be hard to find), you can machine sew additional stripes between the existing ones in a matching thread to make a finer stripe that will work better with her scale.
  Measure the stripes before you sew to make sure that your pinstripes are even.
- 3 / Draw four body panels on the pinstriped fabric. Make sure that the stripes are going straight up and down on each piece. One piece has an additional stitched "cape edge" detail, so on one of the pattern pieces, line a fabric stripe up with the cape edge stripe shown on the pattern. Cut out, allowing a ¾ in./1 cm seam allowance around each piece.

- 4/Thread the sewing machine with white thread and stitch three extra parallel lines directly next to each other on the body piece with the marked cape edge. This will give the effect of an additional fabric edge on that body piece.
- 5 / Thread the sewing machine with gray sewing thread and sew the panels together along their long edges to form a cone shape. Trim the seam allowance on the sewn edges to ½ in./3 mm.
- 6 / Draw around the body base pattern on the pinstriped material and cut the base out, allowing a ¾ in./1 cm seam allowance around it. Pin the base into the large open end of the body cone, right sides in. Match the edges of the panels to the quarter points marked on the pattern.

- 7 / Sew the base into the body with gray thread either by machine or by hand a small backstitch. Trim the seam allowance to 1/8 in./3 mm.
- 8 / Turn the body right side out. Fill it with toy-filling pellets until it is tightly packed. Turn the seam allowance on the neck into the body, and finish stuffing the body with a few wisps of soft toy stuffing.
- 9 / Cut the gray felt into two pieces and glue them together with latex adhesive—spread a thin layer on each piece, leave to dry for a couple of minutes, then press together. Draw around the pattern piece for the body plug and cut it out of the felt—it does not need a seam allowance.
- 10 / Push the felt piece into the top of the body and hand sew it in place using gray thread and a small overstitch.

### TO MAKE THE HEAD

- 11 / Cut the strip of cream calico into three squares, each 23/4 x 23/4 in./7 x 7 cm.
- 12 / Stack the three squares together and arrange the pattern piece for the face on it so that the weave of the fabric is crosswise on the pattern (that is, so that the face circle is on the bias of the fabric). Draw around the pattern piece.





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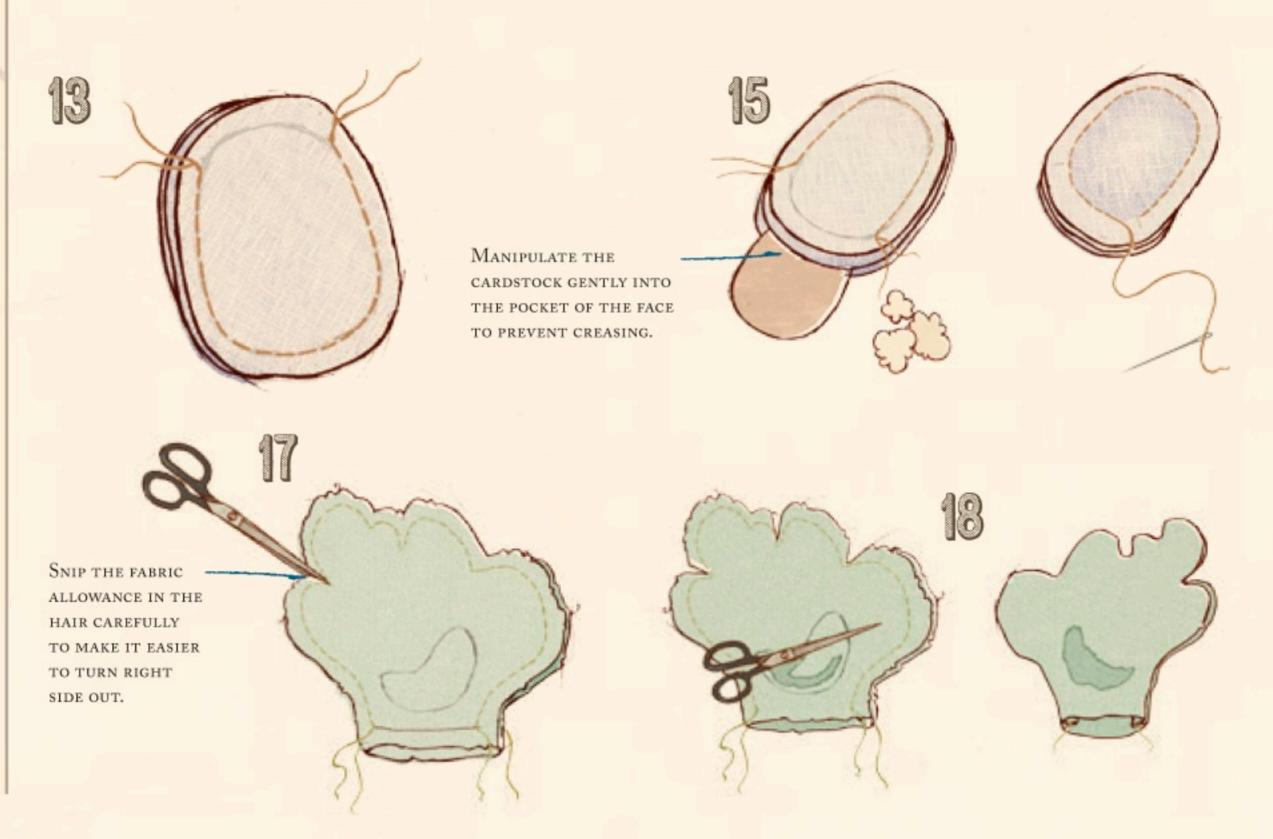
13 / Using matching thread, sew along the pattern line through all three layers of calico, leaving the top of the face open between the marks on the pattern. Knot off the thread and trim around the seam, leaving a 3/8 in./
1 cm seam allowance.

14 / Use the labeled pattern piece to cut the cardstock for inside the face. Do not leave a seam allowance.

15 / Gently push the cardstock face between the second and third layers of calico. Lightly pad the shape by pushing small wisps of soft toy stuffing between the first and second layers of calico. When the padding is evenly arranged, sew the gap shut.

16 / Use the pattern of the face shape to lightly outline the face area on the fabric with a fabric pencil.

17 / Cut the pale blue wool fabric into two squares, each 4 x 4 in./10 x 10 cm. Align them, right sides together, and draw around the hair pattern on the top square with a fabric pencil (cut the face shape out on the template and outline this with pencil, too). Sew the fabric together along the pattern line, leaving the neck open. Trim around the stitching, leaving a 1/8 in./3 mm seam allowance, and snip the allowance toward the stitching at the sharp angles of the hair shape with scissors, taking care not to snip the stitching.



18 / Cut the face shape out of the front of the hair and turn the hair right side out.

19 / Push the face into the hair pocket. Thread a sewing needle with pale green thread, align the face on the calico with the face window cut from the hair, and stitch the hair around the face, turning in the seam allowance as you go and using small, neat catching stitches. Finish off the thread inside the hair.

20 / Stuff the head with soft toy stuffing until it is well padded. Try to get some stuffing along the face/hairline in the forehead area. Turn in the seam allowance on the neck, thread a needle with pale green thread and sew a line of running stitches around the open edge of the neck. Align it with the top of the body, gather up the thread, and when the base of the neck is the same diameter as the top of the body, knot the thread.

19

ROLL THE EDGE OF THE HAIR

IN GENTLY AS YOU STITCH TO

GET A NEAT LINE AROUND

THE FACE.

21 / Use pliers or your fingers to open up the bead cap to make the hair ornament. Stick the diamanté stone in the center of the cap with superglue and use pale green thread to stitch the ornament in place on the hair.





- 22 / Mark the mouth and eye with the fine red and black felt-tip pens.
- 23 / Thread a needle with pale green thread and stitch the head to the body using a small overstitch.
- 24 / Using the collar pattern, cut the collar from the white felt and use PVA glue to stick it in place around the top of the body, overlapping and gluing it at the back of the neck.

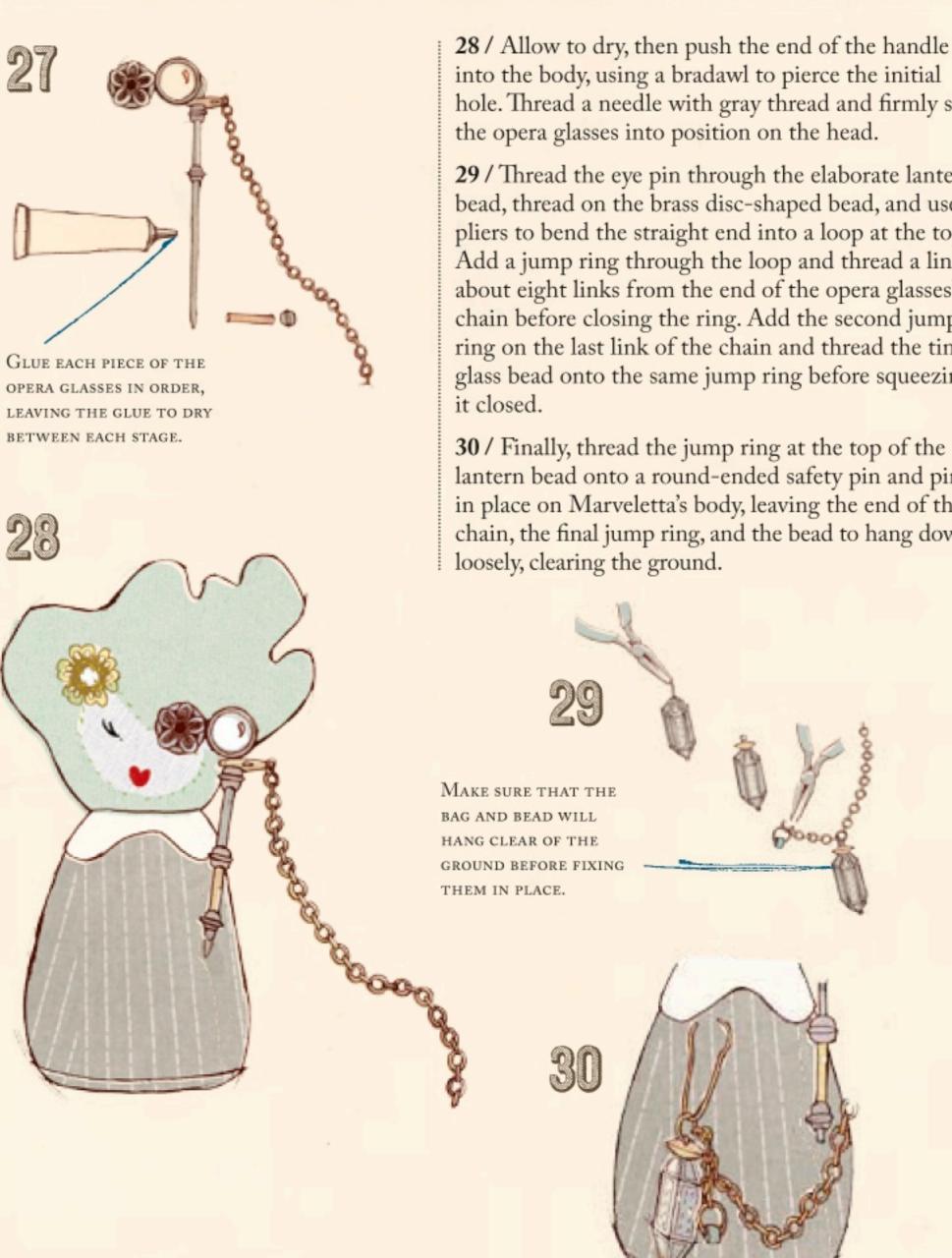
# TO MAKE THE OPERA GLASSES AND THE LANTERN-SHAPED EVENING BAG

25 / Use the hacksaw to cut the segment shown from the tea ball handle. The section should be about 2¾ in./7 cm long. Use superglue to fix the flexible joint at a right angle and leave to dry.

26 / Glue the small ends of the two funnel-shaped blind pulls onto the arm of the opera glasses with epoxy glue, and allow to dry. Add a drop of glue at the point at which the "glasses" touch at their wider ends and leave to dry. Add superglue to one side of the clear glass bead and to one side of the flower bead, and drop each bead into one "eye" of the opera glasses.

27 / When the opera glasses are completely dry, fix one end of the chain to the ring of the trigger clasp and clip the clasp to the top of the opera glasses' handle. Thread and stick one of the ridged silver beads onto the handle just under the clasp, leave ¾ in./2 cm of the handle clear, then glue on a second silver bead, the straight bugle bead, and the final silver bead.





28 / Allow to dry, then push the end of the handle into the body, using a bradawl to pierce the initial hole. Thread a needle with gray thread and firmly sew the opera glasses into position on the head.

29 / Thread the eye pin through the elaborate lantern bead, thread on the brass disc-shaped bead, and use pliers to bend the straight end into a loop at the top. Add a jump ring through the loop and thread a link about eight links from the end of the opera glasses' chain before closing the ring. Add the second jump ring on the last link of the chain and thread the tiny glass bead onto the same jump ring before squeezing

lantern bead onto a round-ended safety pin and pin it in place on Marveletta's body, leaving the end of the chain, the final jump ring, and the bead to hang down



