

Alutiiq Parka Craft

INSTRUCTIONS BY HANNA AGASUUQ SHOLL

This activity creates a flat Alutiiq/Sugpiaq felt atkuk—parka

MATERIALS

Black & Red Felt Sheets (12" x 9")
White Pipe Cleaners
White Bead (1)
Hot Glue or Double-sided Tape

EQUIPMENT

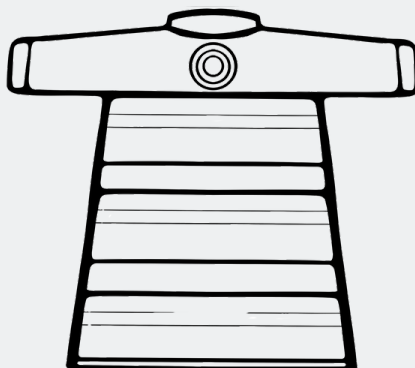
Scissors
Ruler
Chalk or White Crayon
Leather Punch

Agunanek piliyut. — They are making clothes.



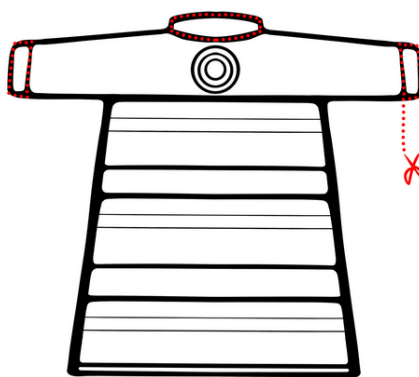
STEP 1: CUT THE BODY OF THE PARKA

Print the paper pattern (page 5) and cut out the parka. Use the pattern to trace the outline of the parka on a sheet of black felt. Cut the parka shape out of the felt.



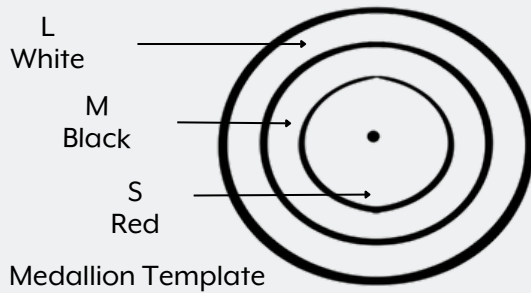
STEP 2: CUT THE COLLAR & CUFFS

Cut the collar and cuffs out of the paper parka template (page 5) and use them as patterns for cutting pieces of red felt for the parka's collar and cuffs. Cut one collar piece and two cuff pieces.



STEP 3: CUT OUT THE MEDALLION

Cut the circular medallion out of the paper parka template (page 6) and then cut each of the concentric circles out of the medallion. Use the three circles to cut out a white (large), black (medium), and red (small) felt circle. Stack as shown.

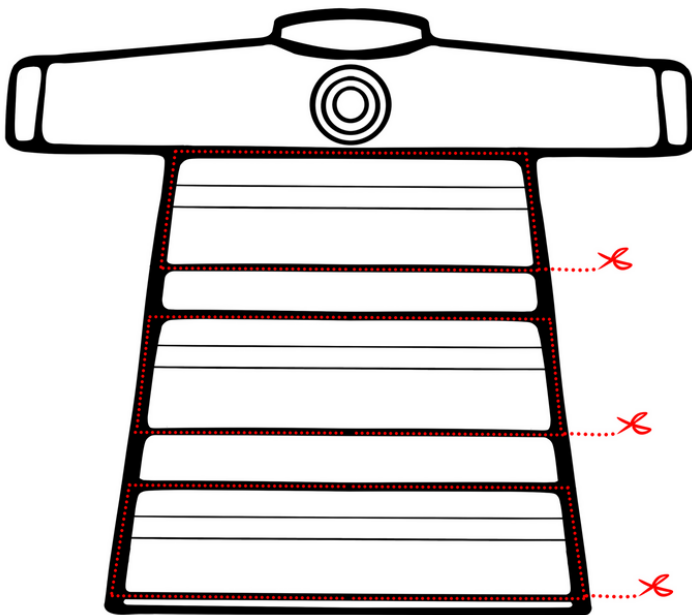


Felt Medallion - 1 ½" across

STEP 4: CUT OUT THE RED FELT ACCENTS

Cut the three strips labeled "Red Felt Accent Strip" out of the parka pattern (page 5). Include the fringe area. Use these paper templates to cut three red felt strips.

In the lower half of each red felt strip, measure and mark the desired fringe width (ca. ½"), and cut out the fringe. Repeat for all three red felt strips.



STEP 5: SECURE RED FELT ACCENTS

Lay the red felt accent pieces on the black parka and secure them with hot glue or double-sided tape. Glue the three pieces of the medallion together and then to the parka.

STEP 6: CUT PIPE CLEANER ACCENTS AND SECURE

Cut lengths of white pipe cleaners to line the bottom edge of the collar, the inner edge of the cuffs, and the top of each row of fringe. Secure with hot glue or double-sided tape. See step 7 for adding pipe cleaner accents to the medallion and the fringe.



STEP 7: ADD DECORATIONS

You can decorate your parka in many ways. Consult images of Alutiiq clothing for ideas or try some of these techniques.

Medallion: Use a leather punch to make a hole through all three layers of the medallion and the parka beneath. Thread a one-inch piece of pipe cleaner through the hole. Add a bead to the pipe cleaner, then bend the pipe cleaner on the other side of the bead and pass it through the hole. On the inside of the parka, twist the ends of the pipe cleaner together to secure.

Fringe: Cut $\frac{1}{2}$ " segments of white pipe cleaner—one for each piece of red fringe on both sides of the parka. Use a leather punch to make a hole in each piece of fringe about $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the end. Thread a piece of pipe cleaner through each hole, bend it around the end of the fringe, and crimp gently to secure.

Medallion Decoration



Fringe Decoration



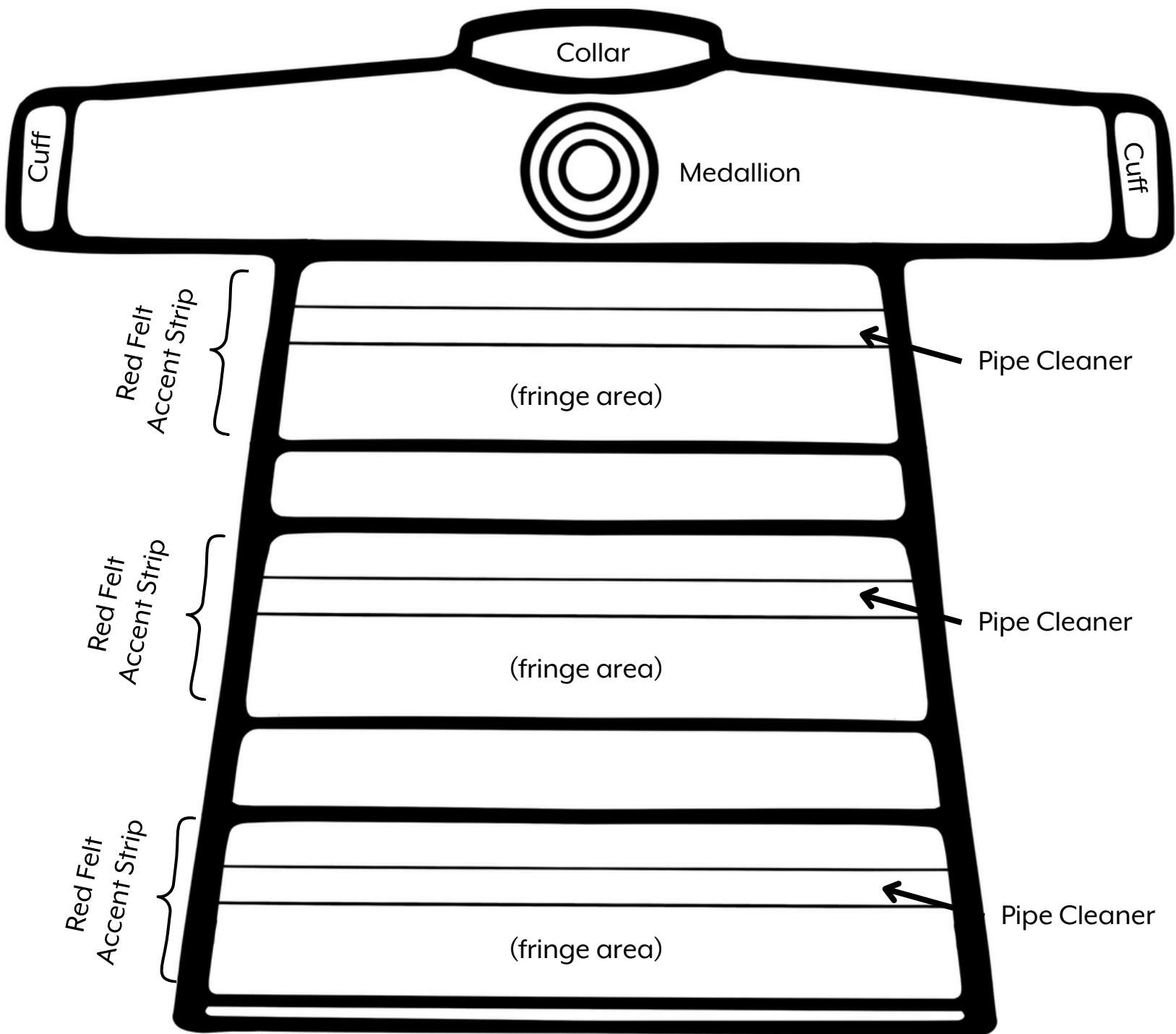
BIRD SKIN PARKA

Before the introduction of Western clothing, Alutiiq/Sugpiaq people wore atkut—parkas, long, hoodless robes of animal skins. Puffins, cormorants, and other sea birds provided pelts for elaborately decorated bird skin parkas.

*Cormorant Skin Parka, Etholen Collection, 1846
National Museum of Finland, Photo by Sven Haakanson Jr.*



Parka Template



Print this template on an 8.5 x 11" piece of paper in portrait orientation.