Sock monkey

YOU WILL NEED

- Two matching coloured socks
- Sewing machine and hand-sewing needles of various sizes and matching threads
- Toy stuffing
- Two pipe cleaners
- Hair for your monkey – we used toy stuffing
- White felt for eye circles

DIFFICULTY

EASY

YOU WILL NEED (CONT.)

- Coloured felt for clothes
- Buttons or googly eyes for eyes
- Sewing scissors
- Chopstick or very blunt pencil
- Four plastic milk bottle tops
- Glue
- An adult to help

METHOD

SOCK 1 IS USED TO CREATE MONKEY’S TORSO, HEAD AND LEGS ONLY.

1. Lay your sock down flat, heel facing up. Cut up from the cuff of the sock to just before the heel. This will create the monkey’s torso and legs. Turn the sock inside out.
Use a sewing machine, or carefully hand-sew if you don’t have one. Stitch up the first leg, curving at the crotch and down the second leg, curving at the feet to create a more pleasing shape. Make sure you leave a gap to turn the whole thing through. Cut any excess fabric from the curves at the feet.

Turn monkey’s body through carefully. Use a chopstick or very blunt pencil to help turn the legs.

Stuff monkey with toy stuffing, starting with the torso and leg without the gap. Finally stuffing the leg with the gap. Make it fairly firm.

Lay your sock out flat and cut off the heel piece. This is monkey’s mouth

Cut off the toe piece, this is monkey’s ears

Hand-sew the gap in monkey’s leg closed. Use a matching coloured thread.

SOCK 2 IS USED TO CREATE MONKEY’S MOUTH, EARS, ARMS AND TAIL.
Cut the sock in half, separating foot part and ankle part of sock.

Cut monkey's arms from the ankle part of the sock. Cut from the middle of the cuff all the way down to create two arms.

Cut a tail from the remaining piece of sock. The rest will be discarded.

Arms. Stitch up the arms' right sides of fabric together. The ribbed end will be monkey's paws. Curve the seams the same way as you did for monkey's feet. Trim any excess away from the curved seam. Turn the arms through the right way round.

Remember to leave the other end open to stuff. Now stuff fairly firmly with toy stuffing. Securely stitch these onto monkey's body using a matching thread.

Tail. With your sock right sides facing stitch up monkey's tail and turn the right way round. You can poke a doubled-over pipe cleaner into the tail to make a cool curly shape. Stitch securely onto monkey's bum.

Mouth. Place monkey's mouth onto its face. Pin the corners in place. Securely stitch the top edge of the mouth with a slipstitch if you can manage that. A whipstitch or blanket stitch would do fine. Stuff the mouth fairly firmly with toy stuffing. Securely stitch the bottom edge closed. Sew a running stitch along monkey's mouth to create top and bottom lip.
Hair. We have used toy stuffing to create monkey’s hair. You could also use wool, felt or something else suitably hair like. Create the shape of the hair and then using a really long sewing needle and matching thread stitch it on. Stitch through monkey’s head and through the hair. Scattering your stitching all over its head.

Eyes. Cut out felt circles from white felt for the under eye. Place these onto monkey’s face and pin in place. Securely stitch using a matching thread. Stick monkey’s googly eyes on to the white circles. Most have a sticky back, but if not use some glue. Or sew button eyes if you prefer to use buttons.

Ears. Cut the toe of the sock in half.

Fold one half to create an ear, do the same with the other half to create the second ear. Stitch the ears in place securely.

Make monkey some clothes from felt. It’s easy to use and the edges won’t fray. Cut a hole for the tail to poke out of.
Accessories. Monkey might like some cool accessories. You can be inventive and raid your recycling box. We made headphones by gluing milk bottle tops together and making the head band from felt.

Maybe monkey might like some sunglasses, a necklace or even a backpack. See what you can create.