

## **Making a stuffed snake from a recycled man's tie.**

### **Body (see fig 1, 2 and 4)**

Take the tie apart so all you have left is the outer layer of tie. Fold in half inside out and sew along the long open edge using a 1 cm or 1/3 inch seam allowance. (leave about 10 cm or 4 inches open in the middle so you can stuff the snake when ready) Fold the point of tie to the edge of the seam you just sewed. This should appear as a diamond when looking at it from the tip. Sew the 2 edges closed, again using about a 1 cm or 1/3 inch seam allowance. Iron the tie flat with the long seam located in the center of the tie and the end flat. (see figure 1) Lay and align pattern (Fig 4) matching the widest portion of pattern to the widest portion of tie. (see fig 2) Cut outline of sides of pattern from the tie, leaving the widest portion of the head uncut. Cut both sides of the neck behind the jaw, leaving a 1 cm or 1/3 inch seam allowance which tappers from 0 cm to 1 cm or 1/3 inch and back to 0 cm seam allowance. Leave the (jaw) 2 sides of head which should be about 2.5 cm or 1 inch uncut on each side of the head. Cut from the widest uncut portion with 0 cm seam allowance tapering to 1 cm or 1/3 inch seam allowance along both sides of the mouth. Cut the end of the mouth leaving 1 cm or 1/3 inch seam allowance creating a flat mouth end of the head. Make a tongue and fangs of desired color and size. For the fangs I just rolled a piece of white cloth into a cone shape longer than the fangs were to be, so I would have room to attach them in the mouth. Place the tongue and the fangs inside the opening of the mouth pointing inside of the snake (this is so they will stick out when you turn it right side out) and sew the mouth closed. Turn the snake right side out and stuff with polyester fiber. A pencil, leading with the eraser end, can be used to help push the stuffing down in side the snake. Once the snake is stuffed then stitch closed the stuffing opening by hand.

### **Eyes (see fig 3)**

Cut a piece of interfacing the shape and size of the white pattern (see fig 3) for the white of the eye. Attach interfacing which matches the size of the eye pattern to the center of a white cloth that is 1 cm or 1/3 inch larger than the pattern on all sides. Fold the extra cloth over and stitch by hand the edges of the cloth forming a cover for the interfacing. hand stitch the white of the eye to the head in the desired position, leaving about 25 percent open for stuffing access. Now insert a small amount of stuffing fiber under the eye and finish hand sewing it to the snake. Do the same for the other eye. For the eyelid cut a piece of interfacing the size and shape of the black eyelid. (see fig 3) Select the piece of cloth for the eyelid making sure it is bigger than the interfacing. Iron the eyelid interfacing to the cloth for the eyelid. Sew using a zigzag stitch all around the interfacing, keeping the stitches close to the interface so when you trim the cloth you will not cut your zigzag stitches. Cut the cloth to the same size as the interfacing being careful to not cut too many threads of your stitching. Now run another zigzag stitch all around the eyelid. Attach the top of the eyelid to the snake head in the chosen position, but only the top edge as you need to slide the button under the eyelid and stitch it to the white of the eye in place for a nice 3D look of the eye. Do the same for the other eye.

### **Nose**

Make a knot in your thread the size of the nostril you desire and start attaching it by pushing your needle into the chosen place and back out on the other side of the nose in the proper location for the other nostril. As you pull the 2 nostrils together while making the second not you form the slight nose to the desired size.

To attach to a pillow just hand stitch the snake into a coil as desired and then hand stitch it to the pillow or pillow cover as I did.

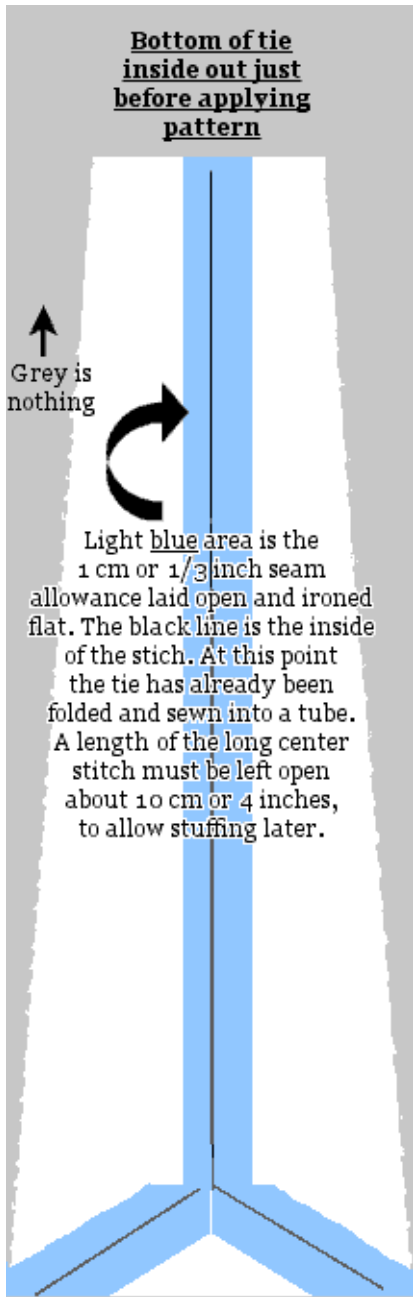


Figure 1

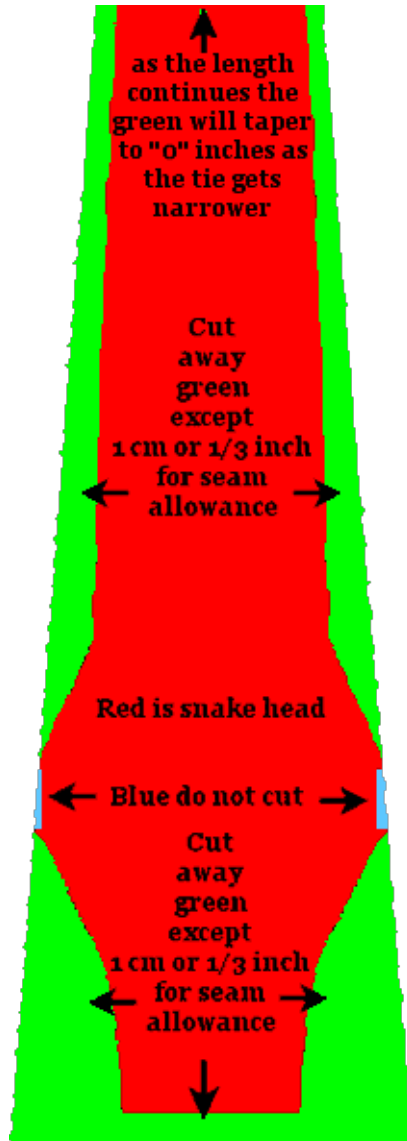


Figure 2



Figure 3

**Mouth**

**This is the  
actual size  
pattern I  
used**

**Fig 4**

**← 9.8 cm →  
or  
8 14/16 inches  
wide**