

NO HOME SHOULD BE WITHOUT A DANCING BEAR

The pantin, or jumping jack as it was called in this country, was a favorite toy for both children and adults for hundreds of years. These amusing dancing dolls were invented in the town of Pantin, France. The French brought the dolls with them when they immigrated to America.

Most early pantins were in the shapes of men and women, often in funny costumes. Others were made to look like animals or storybook characters.

Make your own dancing bear using the instructions below and the design on the next page. Once you see how easy it is you may want to create your own pantin of your pet, of a favorite book, movie, or television personality.

You Will Need:

Carbon paper and pencil
Paints, markers, or colored pencils
Scissors
Hole punch
String and large sewing needle
Ruler
Six paper fasteners, $\frac{3}{8}$ " long
Heavy weight paper or bristol board

Here's How:

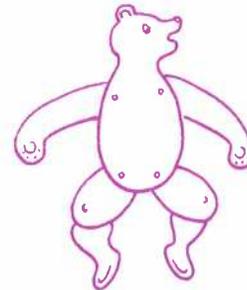
1. Using carbon paper and a pencil, trace the shapes on page 9 onto a piece of heavy paper or bristol board. If you want to decorate your bear, you should do so now before you begin cutting out the body parts.

2. When you finish coloring, carefully cut out the seven pieces along the solid lines. Next, using a hole punch, punch a hole where each circle is marked. There are twelve circles.

3. Measure and cut five lengths of string each ten inches long. Find the bear's two arms and two upper legs. Each of these pieces has a black dot in the top end. Using a needle, thread a separate piece of string through the top dot in each of these four parts. Now tie and knot the strings above the holes.

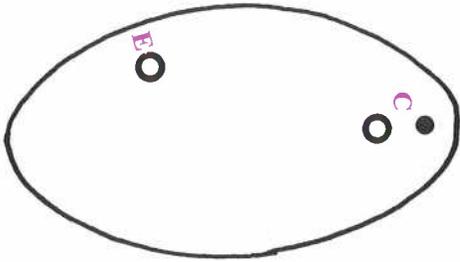
4. Next, lay the bear's body facedown on a table. Place hole A in the right arm over the hole marked A in the body. Place hole B in the left arm over the hole marked B in the body. Do the same for the leg holes marked C and D. Connect these four limbs to the body with paper fasteners. The head of the fastener should be on the front side of the bear. Spread and flatten the two ends of each fastener making sure that they are not too tight to prevent the limbs from moving. Connect the lower legs to the uppers (holes E and F) in the same way.

5. The bear should now have his body pieced together. With the bear still lying facedown on the table, place its arms and legs so that they rest along its sides. Then gather the four hanging strings together and tie them in a knot an inch below the bear's body. Thread your last piece of string through the dot in the bear's head. Tie the two ends together in a knot.

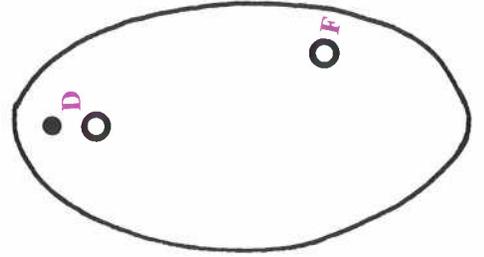


6. To start your bear dancing, hold the top loop with one hand and pull gently on the bottom strings with the other. You can control its movements by changing the strength and angle of your pulling.

Upper Left Leg



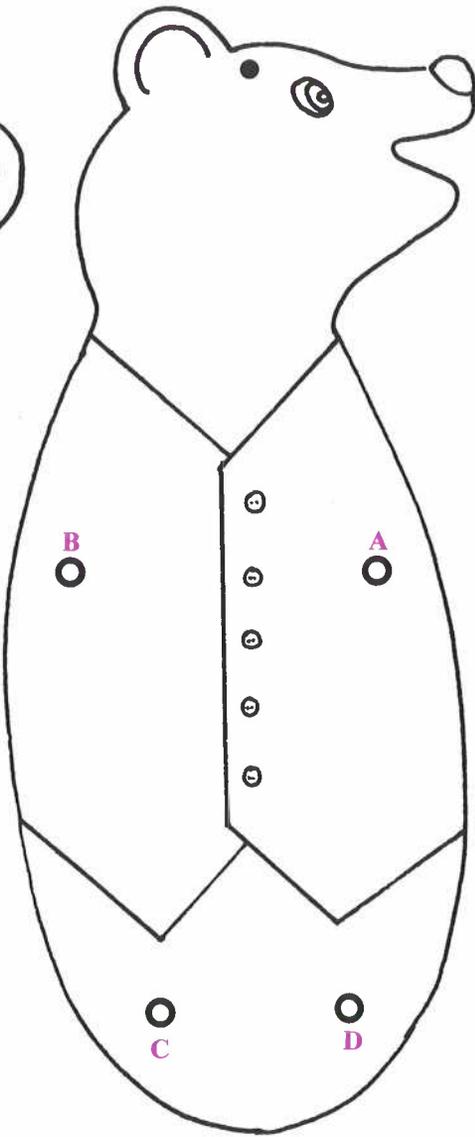
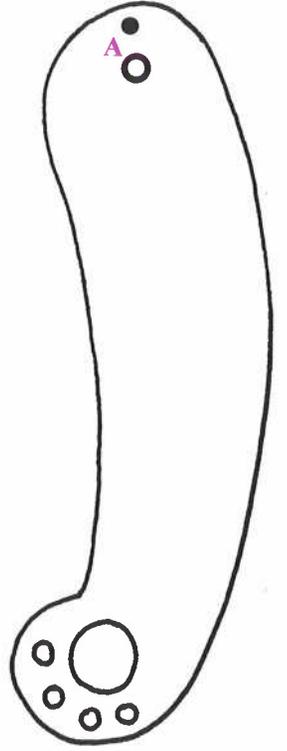
Upper Right Leg



Left Arm



Right Arm



Lower Left Leg



Lower Right Leg

