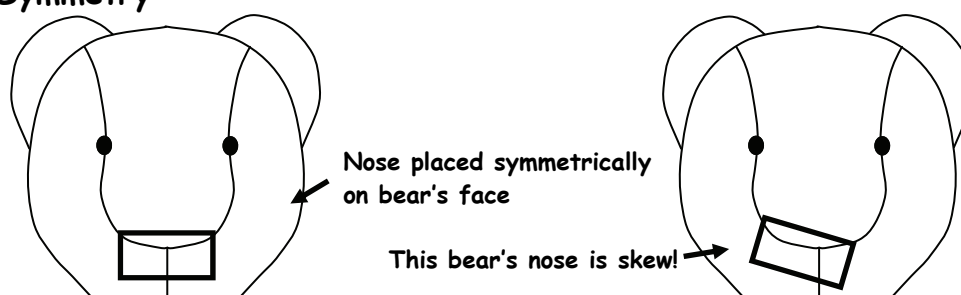


Noses Noses Noses

The questions that are most frequently asked in the studio are all about noses. In the next few Newsletters I will try give you answers with diagrams you can keep. Remember that you won't find this information in any book, I am giving you the benefit of my experience. You should regard these as guidelines, not rules.

I love doing noses on teddy bears, and have strong opinions about what I like and what I don't. I think the bear's nose is one of its most important features. It should make a statement about the bear. It should be bold and interesting and neatly sewn.

Symmetry



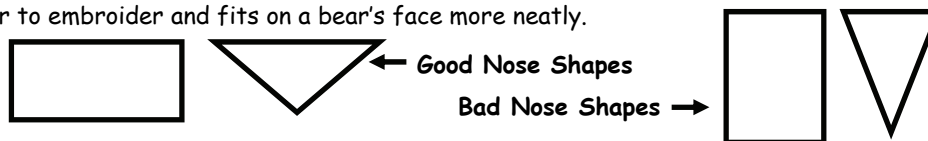
Place pins where the corners of the nose should be and wind a thread around them. Not only should the nose shape be symmetrical, i.e. a good rectangle or triangle, but it should be symmetrically placed on the face. Two quick ways to check:

1. Make sure that the seam that runs from the nose to neck is in the centre of the nose.
2. Check that the distance from each eye to the nose is the same.

Try positioning the nose in such a way that one third of the nose is above the gusset line, and two thirds below. The nose should be wide enough sideways that it touches the gusset seam.

Shape of the nose

To me every nose shape is a variation on a triangle or a rectangle, so this is how I always start. Remember that a nose that is wider sideways than it is long down the face is easier to embroider and fits on a bear's face more neatly.



In the next Newsletter we will discuss choosing the right shape nose for your bear's face.

(Did you notice that there are a number of bears in craft magazines lately that have sewn-on noses? There's a stunning article on sewn noses by Linda Benson in *Australian Bear Creations* V13 N1 page 72-73).