

## **White Sweater Pumpkin**

by  
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Recycle an old white sweater to create this fast and easy pumpkin sure to outlast the real thing.

This tutorial is for the sewn version. A no-sew version is also available on Heather's blog

[www.smallfryandco.blogspot.com](http://www.smallfryandco.blogspot.com)

Materials: Makes 1 pumpkin

1 Sweater. The larger the sweater-the larger your pumpkin.

Embroidery floss, color to match sweater

Stuffing for pumpkin

Very large, heavy duty sewing needle

Scraps of green fabric for leaves

Scraps of batting for leaves

Thread to match leaf fabric

Stick for pumpkin stem

Hot glue gun and glue

4-5 strands of raffia

Directions:

1. Start by laying out your sweater and deciding where to cut. I use the sides of the sweater as my side seams so all you have to decide is the height. Experiment with different sizes because each one will make a different shaped pumpkin. The higher up on the sweater you cut the taller your pumpkin. Well just play around with it-you really can't go wrong. I chose to cut right below the arm pits. No need for measuring or straight lines.



It should look like this. Cut through both the front and the back of the sweater. You should have a fat tube with a seam on either side.



2. Turn the sweater wrong side out.



3. Thread the large needle (using all 6 strands for strength) with a long length of the embroidery floss. Tie a knot on one end of the floss. Beginning with the knot on the back side of the sweater, sew a running stitch all around the bottom ribbed edge.



4. Pull on your thread to gather the bottom edge as tight as possible but don't break your threads. Do not tie off.



5. Using the same needle and thread, stitch back and forth to sew the opening closed.



6. Turn the sweater right side out and fill with your stuffing. It looks big and awkward at this point but don't fear.



7. Using a new length of embroidery floss, Sew a running stitch around the top opening. Pull the thread to gather tightly and sew back and forth just like you did before.



8. Working with a new (LONG) thread, knotted at one end, insert the needle from the bottom (image 1) and up through the pumpkin top (image 2). Be sure to hold onto the end while you push the needle up.



Take a stitch across the top gather and back down through to the bottom pulling tightly to create an indent in the top.

Repeat this 4 or 5 times, taking your top stitch across at different places to help tuck in that top seam. Your pumpkin should look like this when you have finished stitching.



9. Hot glue the wood stem to the center of the pumpkin.



10. For leaves I crudely cut out a leaf like shape with a piece of quilt batting sandwiched in between. You could make a leaf pattern using a picture from the Internet as well. I stitched them on my sewing machine to hold them together. If this step seems daunting then you could always purchase leaves from your local craft store.



10. Glue leaves in place. They help hide parts of the seam that may be sticking up. Add a raffia bow and your pumpkin is ready for display.



For more crafty ideas visit Heather's blog at [www.smallfryandco.blogspot.com](http://www.smallfryandco.blogspot.com)

