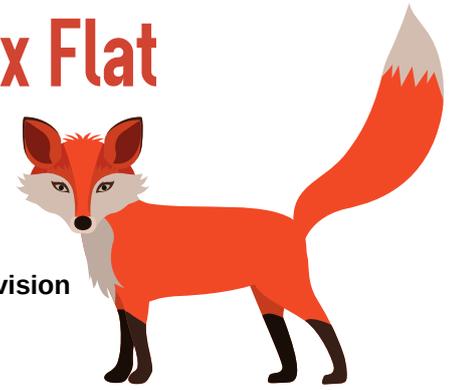


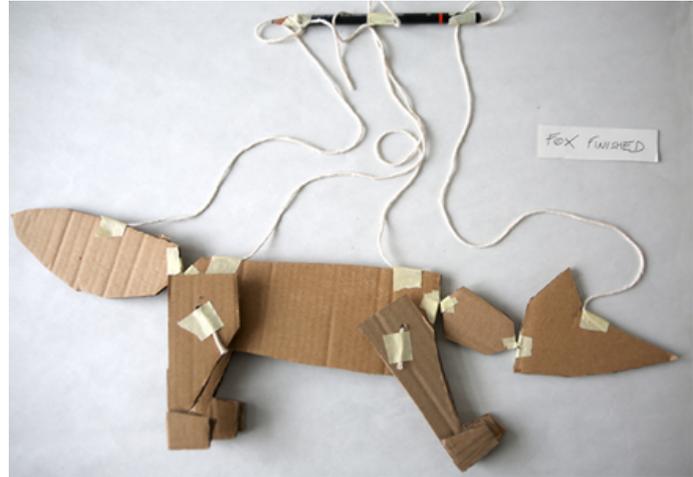
How to make...a Fox Flat Marionette

Suitable for ages 5+ with adult supervision



For the puppet, you will need:

- Scissors
- Wood Glue
- Pritt Stick
- Masking Tape
- Pritt stick
- Pencil
- String
- Sharp object to pierce holes
- Cardboard



Let's create a Fox Marionette puppet that can walk along the floor!
You may need to ask a grown-up to help you with the cutting out.

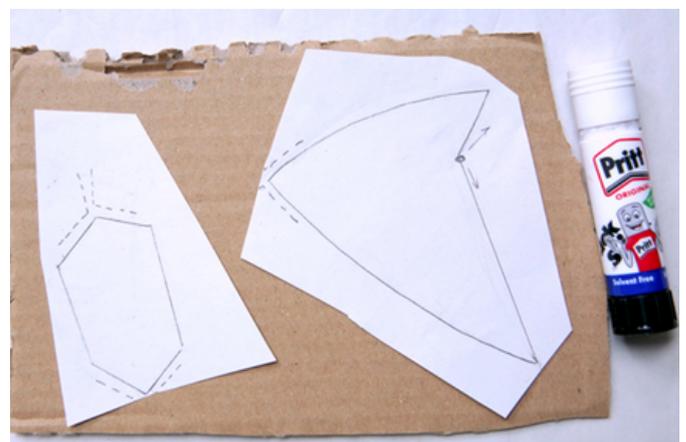
Step 1:

- Print and cut out the correct size templates (found at the back of this document)

Step 2:

- Cut each drawn part to a more manageable size and glue to reasonably thick cardboard and then cut out accurately.

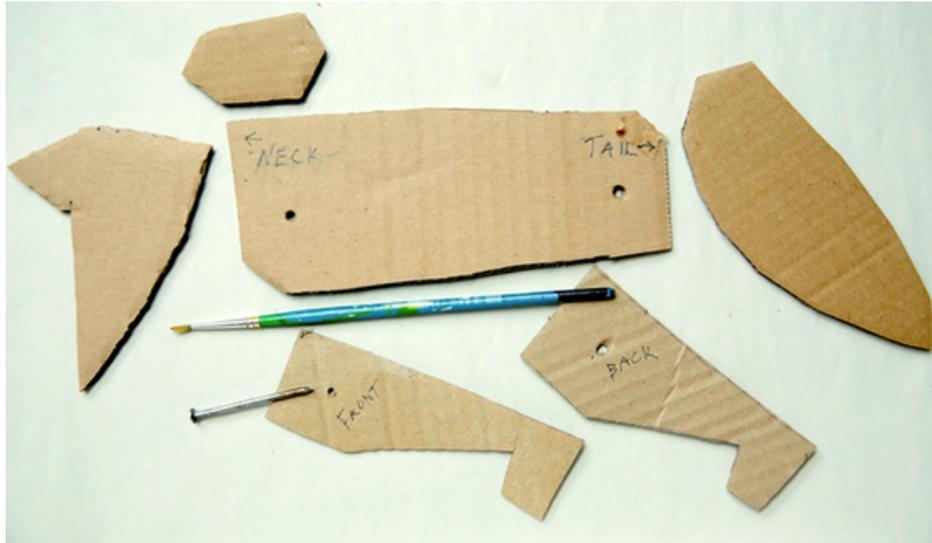
Cutting out the shapes



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Step 3:

- Pierce the holes for the body and the legs. I used a fairly sharp 2inch (5cm) long nail to push through the card. You may have something similar to do the job.
- The holes were slightly too thin to let the string pass through easily, so I used a thin paintbrush to widen them. Do use anything to hand that is wide enough to let the string pass through with ease.



Preparing the legs

Step 4:

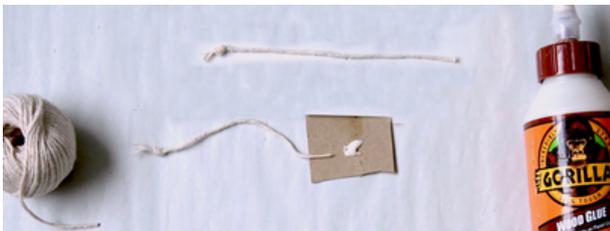
- Cut 4 strips of card and glue them to the inside of the legs below the hole – low enough not to impede the forthcoming washer/spacer patches, but high enough not to be seen below the body.



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Step 5:

- Cut out 4 paws and glue them to the outside of the legs. They will also add some weight.

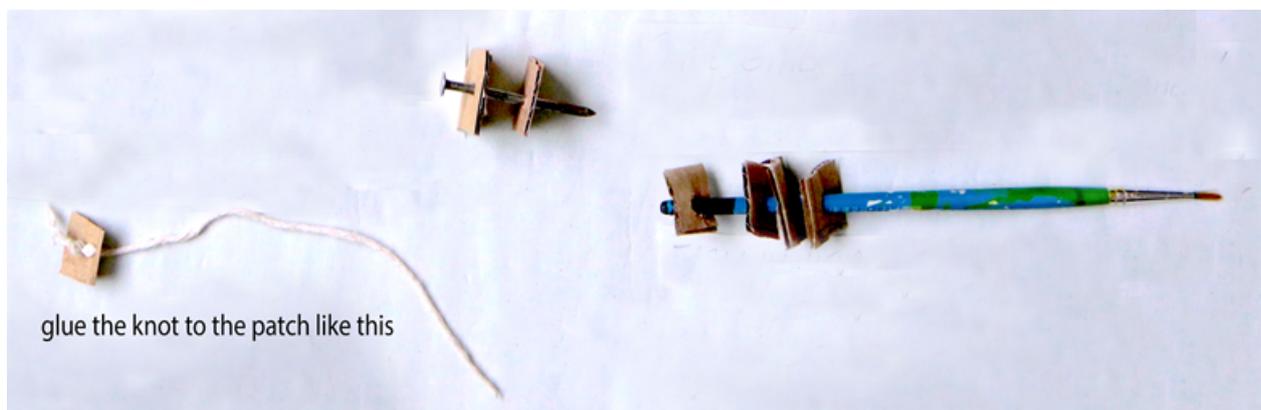


Step 6:

- Cut two 15cm lengths of parcel string.
- Tie a knot on one end of each.
- Stiffen the other end with wood glue and roll it to a point (to aid when threading it)

Step 7:

- Cut out 6 patches of card about 3cm square
- Pierce all of them using a nail but keep 2 of them with holes narrow so that the knots on the string cannot come through.
- Thread these 2 patches with the prepared strings and glue the knots to the card
- The other 4 patches will act as spacers/washers and will need holes wider than the string so the legs can swing freely. These will be threaded between the leg and the body.



Making the joints

Step 8:

- Cut a strip of masking tape (this will make the joint).
- Cut a slit at mid point on either side but don't cut through - leave about 3mm to 4mm space in the middle



Step 9:

- Attach the mid point of the strip across the body end of the neck (at the top part of the angle) so that the 2 slits are at right angle to the pointed end of the neck. The other half will be attached to the head in the same way.



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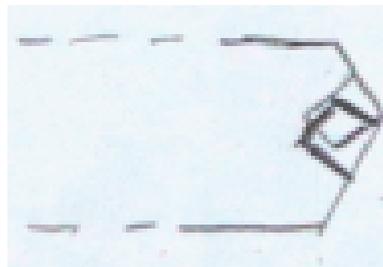
Step 10:

- Fold it over on either side (get it as close to the mid point as possible). Secure this with additional masking tape.



Step 11:

- Repeat this on the bottom side of the angle like this



Step 12:

- It should look something like this.



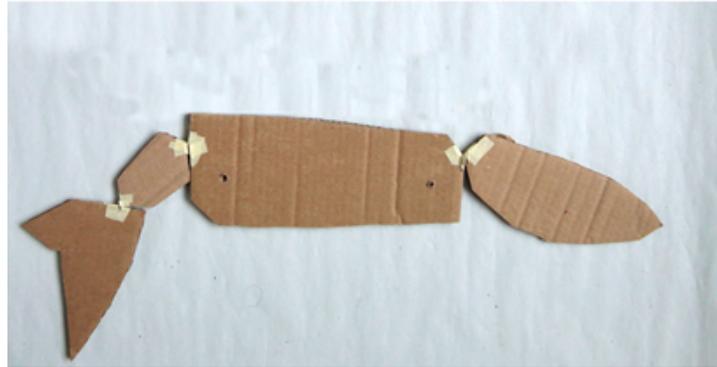
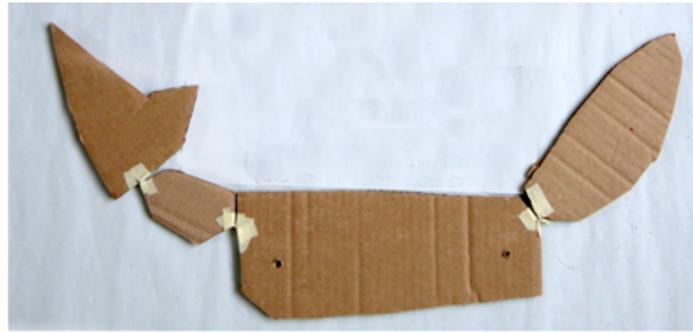
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Step 13:

- Repeat this on all 3 joints – head to neck, neck to body, body to tail

Note the positioning of :

- **Top** of the body to **top** of the tail is level (see picture 1)
- **Top** of the neck to **top** of the body is level (see picture 1)
- **Bottom** of the head to **bottom** of the neck is level (see picture 2)



Attaching the legs

Step 12:

- Thread the string through the patch on the outside of the leg (add a dab of wood glue to the knot)
- Thread through the leg (no glue)
- Thread through the patch on the inside of the leg (no glue)
- Thread through the body (no glue)



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Step 13:

- Repeat on the other side in reverse order and secure with masking tape



Stringing the puppet up

Step 14:

The Body string

- Cut about 100cm of parcel string
- Attach the ends of the string first to the shoulder and then the back
- Attach the mid point of the string to the centre of the pencil so that the body hangs straight



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Step 15:

The Head and Tail strings

- Attach the first string to the head just in front of the ear (the head should point forward - not up or down)
- Find the right length and attach to one end of the pencil
- Attach the second string to the tail (the tail should hang down with the string just tight enough so that when you tug at it the tail comes up)
- Find the right length and attach to the pencil at the other end.



YOU'RE FINISHED!

Your fantastic Fox friend marionette puppet is complete! Try getting them to take a little walk by holding the pencil upright, and pulling the different strings. Does your fox have a name?

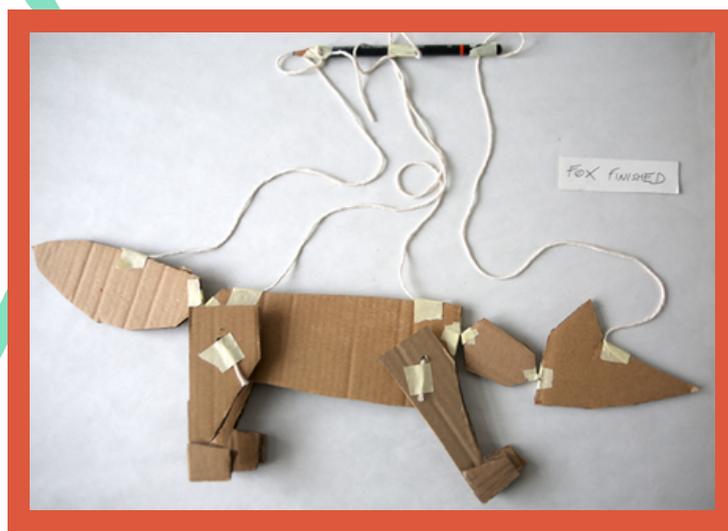
Please do share what you make with us, we would love to see!

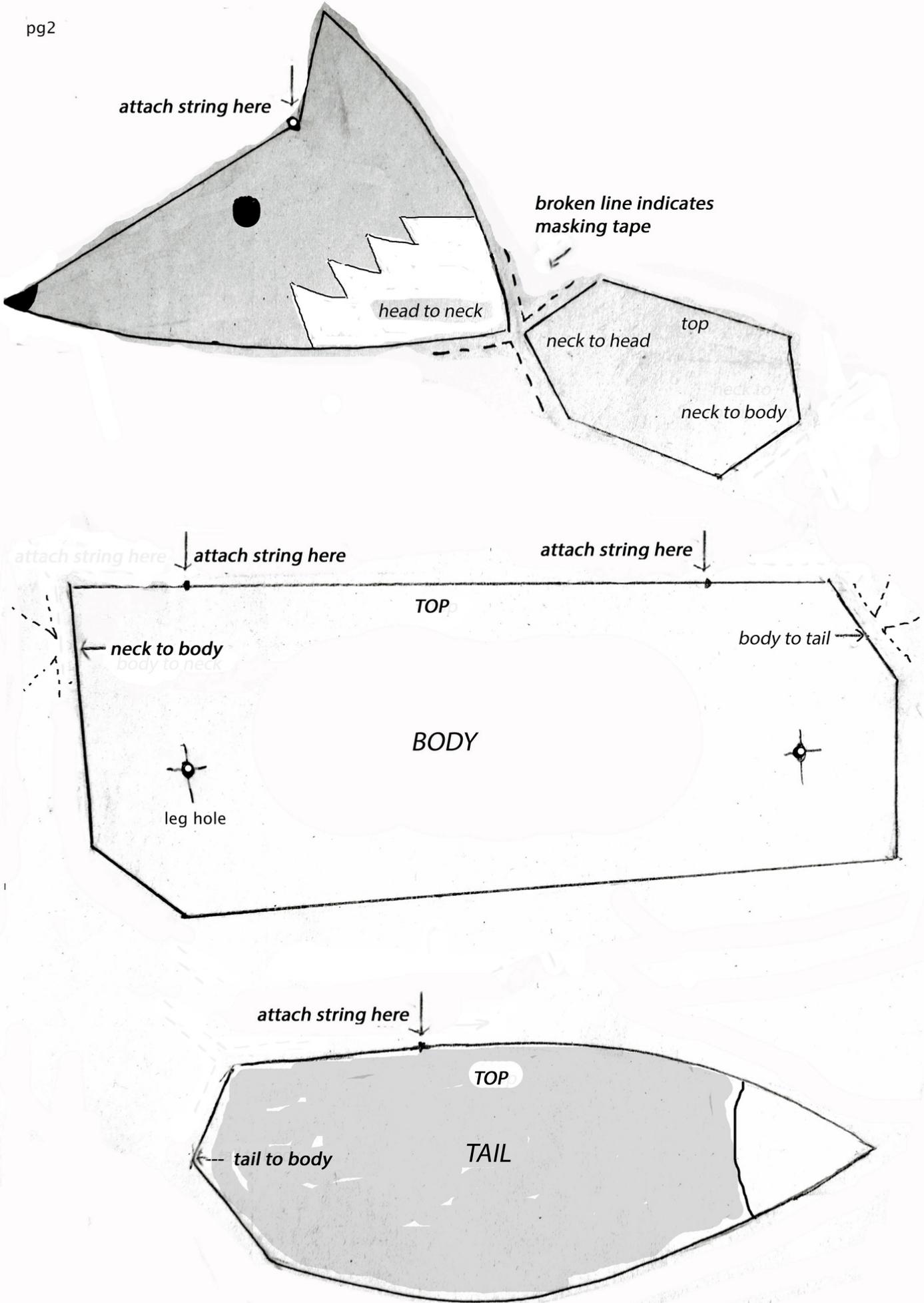
info@littleangeltheatre.com

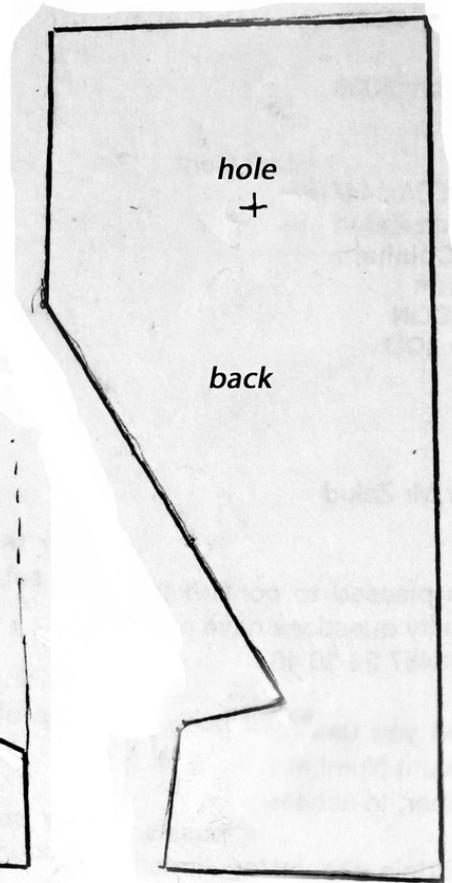
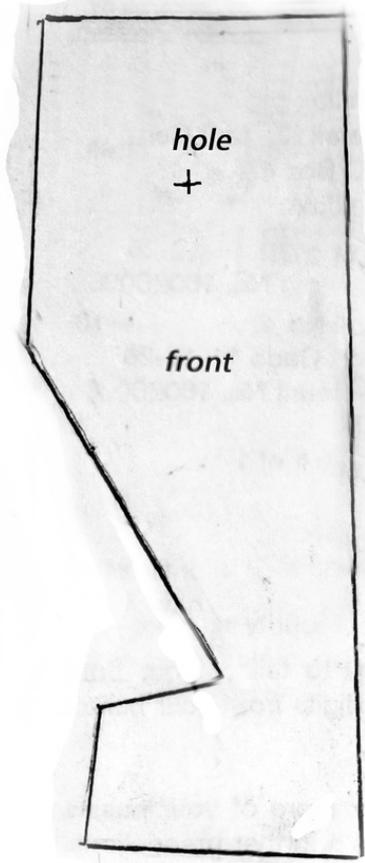
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I felt the angular legs fitted in with the design

but you might prefer rounded legs like these

