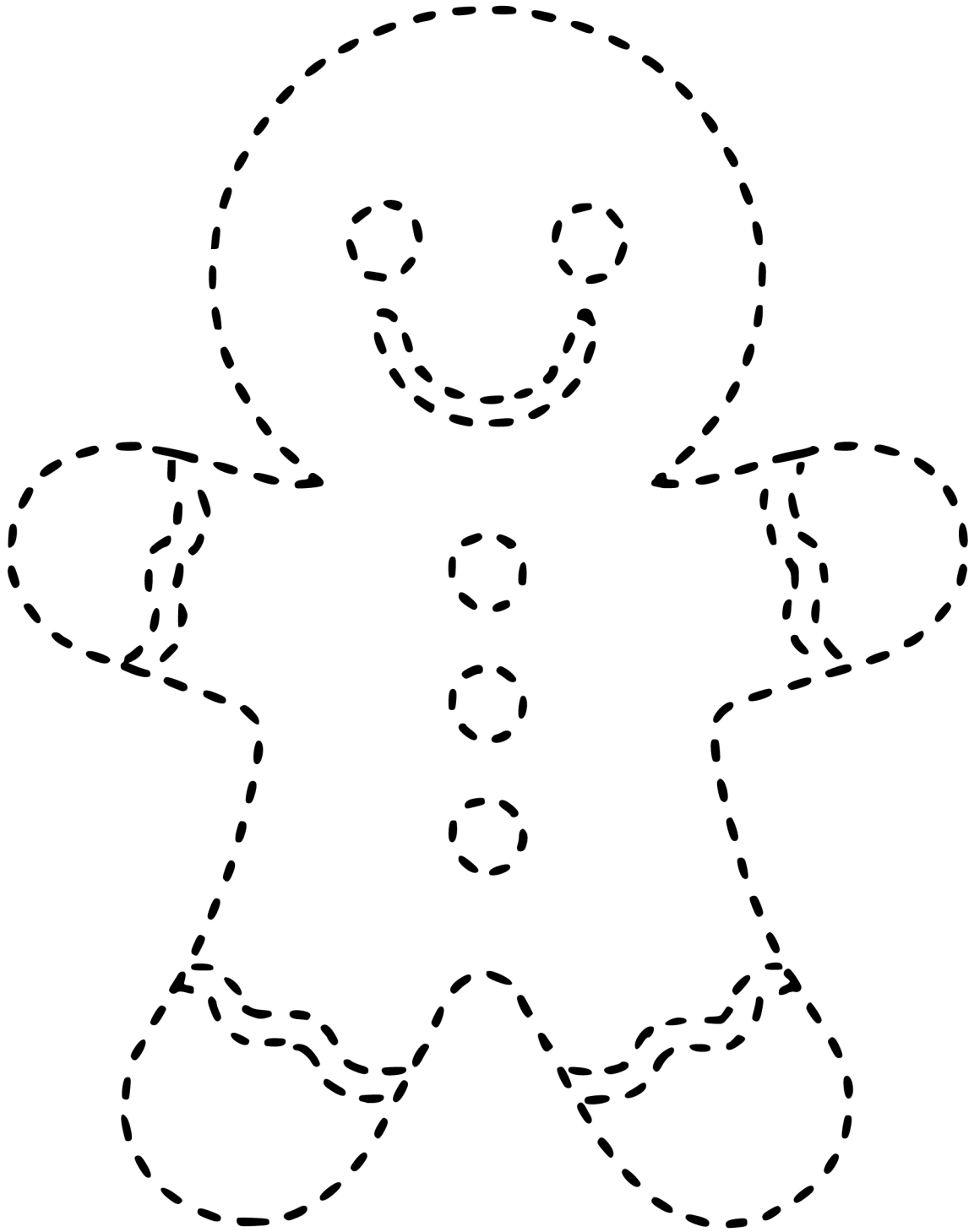Trace and Color