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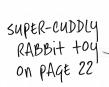


Whether you've been knitting for weeks, months or years it can be easy to forget how much there was to learn at the beginning. Recently I bumped into a friend who

has just taken up knitting but is finding working from patterns really confusing. It got me thinking about how many knitters over the years have told me they 'just don't get patterns' and inspired our latest back to basics feature, which breaks down all the different elements. Find our fool-proof guide on p76. I've been knitting seriously for more than a decade but I still love simple designs. Louise Walker's big blue whale has been top of my knit-list since I first saw him. Made in chunky yarn and with a bargain price tag he's an irresistible quick project! if you're looking for something more fashion forward check out our street style knits on p46 or get creative with our embellished cowl on p81. Good luck with your makes this month and show us how you're getting on via #knittoday.























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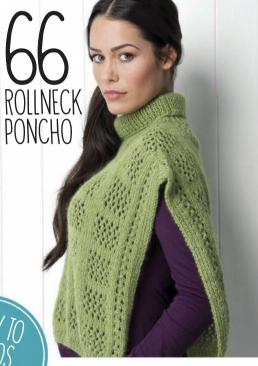












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WANT TO

See page 40 for more information TOTES MODERN

CONTRIBUTORS

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO MADE THIS ISSUE...



CONWAY & BLISS

Once you've mastered Conway & Bliss's amazingly bright and bold shoulder cape, made with just one ball of yarn, you'll want to knit one for all your friends! Turn to page 50 to start now.



MARIE WALLIN

This month's cover garment is from the hands of top Rowan designer, Marie Wallin. Simple to make, it's a relaxing, quick knit you can work up in all the colours of the rainbow! Page 16.



MONICA RUSSELL

Homemade furnishings make for a cosy home, and Monica's traditional cable cushion is perfect for brightening your favourite knitting corner. Turn to page 87 to cast on this beauty on today!



LOUISE SMITH

This month we introduce fabulous new designer, Louise Smith, to the Knit Today fold. Check out her supercute bunny ears, box and eggs as part of our knitting story on page 28.

OTHER CONTRIBUTORS

Jane Burns, Rob Eyres, Cecilia Forfitt, Sarah Hatton, Eliza Robson, Lynne Rowe, Angela Turner, Val Pierce, Louise Walker.

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NOTEBOOK

IDEAS VINSPIRATION ACCESSORIES WEBSITES EVENTS STUFF



FABULOUS FOOTWEAR

We love timeless retro footwear so imagine how thrilled we were to see Bergère de France share the same obsession! Their amazing trainer slipper sock patterns come in both adult and children's sizes. Knitted in Bergère de France Alaska (50% wool, 50% acrylic) they are super-cool and comfy and brilliant fun to knit. Discover more great ideas at bergeredefrance.co.uk. We're giving away five Bergère de France trainer slipper sock kits (worth over £30). To enter visit knit-today.com.



SHARPEN YOUR SKILLS

Itching to improve your knit know-how? Knit Today and Wool and the Gang have teamed up to offer readers an exclusive workshop this month. Set in the heart of Bristol at contemporary venue space, The Forge, (check out @ theforgebristol on Instagram), you'll learn how to make a gorgeous Tender Loving Clutch and come away with lots of tips from Wool and the Gang's expert maker-teachers. The workshop is on February 20 so sign up now to guarantee your spot. Tickets cost £30 and include everything you need to make the clutch – yarn, pattern, needles and bag hardware. Find out more at knit-today.com and book your space via woolandthegang.com/parties.

DAYLIGHT GIVEAWAY

lleviate irritating eye strain as you knit through the darker months with this extra large desk lamp from Daylight. Experts in everything to do with healthy, happy lighting in your home, especially for those who craft and create, this fab Task Lamp XL (£150) lights up large work areas, and helps you gain a truer idea of colour and contrast as you design and make. We have one Task Lamp XL to giveaway. To enter visit knit-today.com. For more information on great lighting visit daylightcompany.com.



NEW KNITS, HOT HATS!

This month we scoured Ravelry for the coolest hat patterns hot off the needles: (clockwise from top left) bag a bird option with Erica Heusser's Passerine Hat (£4); try a new shape with Blunk the Hat by Martina Behm (£3); opt for Scandi style with Mirasol Slouchy Nordic Hat by Sarah Fay (£4); give geo patterns a go with Tetiana Otruta's green and cream Swell Hat (£3); make them smile with Leila Caroline Design's Rainbow Sprinkles Hat (£4): cable it up with Brenda Castiel's Richmond Hat (£5).













All prices are approximate, converted from dollars or euros and correct at time of going to press.

X NOTEBOOK X



SIMPLE BUT STUNNING

If you're looking for projects that are easy to make, or techniques that are simple to learn, then this gorgeous new book, Simple Chic Knits (£12.99) by Karen Miller and Susan Ritchie of mrsmoon.co.uk could be for you. Packed with a variety of garments for all, and chic homewares you'll love, it proves that stunning really doesn't have to be complicated. Available from all good book stores.





SOCK IT TO 'EM

Exciting new shades from West Yorkshire Spinners

Meet a bold trio of gorgeous new sock yarn colours from the experts at West Yorkshire Spinners. Among the latest colour recruits to the Signature 4ply range are Blue Raspberry (shade 33); Chocolate Lime (shade 395) and Peacock (shade 851), each made from 75% wool, 25% nylon they cost £7.29 a ball. More at wyspinners.com.





COOLEST CABLES

Keen to practise your cables? Then why not give this straightforward Noro pattern a go (NSL020)! With plain arms and a simple cable repeat pattern, the wow factor is in the colour changes in the Noro Taiyo 4 ply yarn (£8.95 per 50g ball). For more details and stockists visit designeryarns.uk.com.



NEW KNIT READS

KIDDIE CLASS TIME

Susan B Anderson's
Kids' Knitting Workshop
(£12.99, Artisan)
Thinking about
teaching children to
knit? This easy-tofollow book is packed
with useful tutorials
and illustrations and
makes the perfect



FOR BABY'S ROOM

craft companion!

The Knitted Nursery Collection (£9.99, Search Press) Reminicent of vintage prints and illustrations, this collection of colourful nursery projects will have you racing for your knitting needles.



A KNITTER'S TRAVELS

Knitlandia by Clara Parkes (£12.99, CICO books) Lose yourself in this real-life tale of crafty joys and knitting experiences as Clara Parkes takes you on a knitter's journey around the world.



KNIT A MENAGERIE

Sandra Polley's Knitted Toys (£9.99, Pavillion Books) Choose from 20 wonderful toy patterns and create your own knitted zoo with this amazing book by knit genius Sandra Polley.





FANCY FLORALS

Keep your knitting in the most stylish of places! This fabulous Midnight Shopper Bag is perfect for storing your smaller knits, like hats, gloves and scarves, and is just £2.95 from dotcomgiftshop. com. It's just one item from the huge M idnight Garden collection.



BASEBALL BABE

Join the mod squad with this cropped baseball jacket from the latest Conway + Bliss collection. Available as a single pattern (£3.50) it's knitted in their new Cleo range (68% cotton, 38% polyamide) at £4.95 per 50g ball. Visit designeryarns.uk.com for details.



FUR WOOL WOW!

heck out Wendy's new range of machine-washable fur wool yarn, Eider (£4.49 per 100g). Incredibly soft to the touch, it knits up on 6.5mm needles to make super-tactile knits you'll adore. Try out their great kids' hat pattern card with four different hats to try (£2.99). Visit tbramsden.co.uk for details.

DONNA'S CREATURES

Fans of Donna Wilson will be chuffed to discover that her favourite knits have been reprinted in her latest book. 35 Knitted Animals is the latest addition to her book range featuring a gathering of weird and wonderful creatures you'll love to knit for children and adults alike! From the sleepylooking snail to the sly-looking racoon, there's something here for those who appreciate the bizarre. 35 Knitted Animals (£12.99) is available from all good bookstores.













X NOTEBOOK X



5 MINUTES WITH...



What are you knitting? Like many, I live a very busy life, but I'm rarely without a project in my

hands. I always have a pair of socks going because they are portable and easy to pick up. I've also started a new shawl with my own handspun yarn and I have high hopes that I'll get around to making a couple of sweaters in the near future!

What made you start a blog?

At first, it was simply photos of my work. Before long though, words and stories slowly started to work their way into my posts. My crafts have always been very intertwined with my everyday life and I really wanted to tell the story of how my projects come about in the real world.

Who's your favourite designer?

I don't think I can name just one – there are so many talented designers! Personally I tend to gravitate toward classic, timeless designers such as Churchmouse Yarns & Teas, Jane





Richmond, Tin Can Knits, Melissa Schaschwary, Ann Budd and Pam Allen.

Tell us about your spinning

I attempted to spin with a spindle four years ago and it didn't go well. Thankfully, my husband encouraged me to try a wheel and that was it – I just fell in love.

Visit Sarah's blog at knittingsarah.com.

5 FAB FINDS

Toys top many a knitters' list of loves so here's our pick of cute cuddliness...



SIRDAR TEDDIES

Knitted in Sirdar Touch, this super-soft teddy pattern (£2.99) will be a winner for all who fancy a hug. Visit sirdar.co.uk.



BERGERE DOG This perky pooch pattern is in Bergère de France latest Creations mag, £12 bergerede france.co.uk.

DMC FOX Our foxy fella's pattern (£2.50) comes from DMC's latest range. Visit dmccreative world.co.uk.



TAD THE TOAD
Knit a lilypad
hopper this
month by casting
on Tad by Pattern
Recogknition
(approx £4) on
ravelry.com.



£4). You can find

Ravelry.com.

his pattern at The Knit Cafe on



MUST BOOKMARK!

lilywarnewool.co.uk

Indulge your love of a good yarn story by visiting Devon wool spinners – Lily Warne Wool. Inspired by their grandmother, they create beautiful 100% wool yarn for the local community and beyond...









NEW GIRL COLLECTION

This month we discovered the adorable New Girl collection from knit designer Kate Oates. Worked in delicate 4py, this bounty of baby goodies includes a patterned bobble hat, snuggly sleeping bag and wonderful fringed legwarmers! Designed for premature babies through to toddlers, the collection (approx £8) includes a few adaptations for sleeves, bottom openings, and colour variations. Find out more about her great designs at at tottoppers.com.



MUM KNITS HER OWN SON

Worried that she'd miss out on hugs from her rapidly growing tweenager, Marieke Voorsluijs from Amsterdam knitted a lifesized version of her son so she would never have to go without her daily squeeze.



AN ARMY OF DETANGLERS!

Yarn a mess? Just a birdsnest of lengths?
Fear not, there's a community of detanglers who gather online (like Ravelry's Knot A Problem) who'll take your huge ball of crazy and turn it into the lovely, perfectly wound balls you've be hankering for.



url Soho have done it again with an irresitible free knit you'll adore! Their Cozy Cable Cowl is worked in their incredibly soft Lanecardate Feltro. Knitted in three simple cables, with a pinch of simple shaping hidden neatly within, this great project will keep you knit happy and snuggly warm this month. Lanecardate Feltro is made of 75% superfine angora and 25% caregora angora and comes in a delicious range of 14 beautifully muted shades so you can choose the perfect colour for you. Find more amazing patterns at purlsoho.com.





KNIT PICKS YARN SWIFT

ver tried knitting straight from a hank? Don't worry, you're not the first to try it and you definitely won't be the last. What you really need is a Yarn Swift, like this winding beauty from knitpicks.com (£35). Robust enough to attach to the end of your table, it allows you to wind all your beautiful hanks of yarn in next to no time!

SKILLS, SHOWS & EVENTS

March 3-6 The Spring Knitting & Stitching Show, Olympia London. A brilliant event for anyone with a love of stitch and crafts. Includes shopping and workshops.

March 3-6 Hobbycrafts, SECC, Glasgow. Hundreds of workshops, demonstations, shopping and more at this popular event.

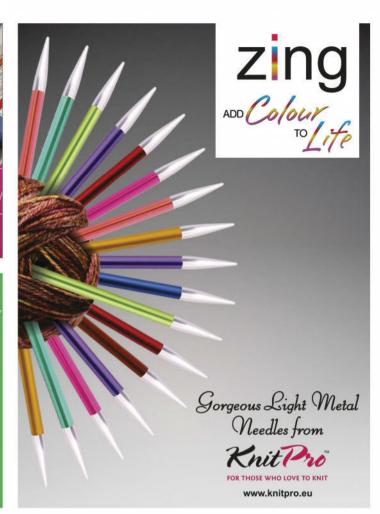
March 10 Stitch and Craft at the Three Counties Showground, Malvern Worcestershire. A crafty treat for all!

March 18-19 Edinburgh Yarn Festival. Treat yourself and indulge in your favourite hobby in one of our most amazing cities this year!















GREEN GODDESS

Marie Wallin's cardi is a little lifesaver that will see you into the new season!

CHUNKY BOLERO



MATERIALS

- Yarn 4 (5:5:6:7) x 100g balls of Rowan Big Wool in Pine Needle (shade 077)
- Needles 8mm (UK 0, US 11) and 9mm (UK 00, US 13) knitting needles

YARN DETAIL

- Rowan Big Wool knitrowan.com 01484 681881
- Super chunky weight
- 100% merino wool
- 100g/80m (87yds)
- Hand wash only
- £8.95

TENSION

9.5 sts and 12.5 rows over st st using 9mm needles to make a 10cm or 4in square

■ Turn to page 96 for full list of abbreviations

43 (45.46.49.52) cm

43 (**49.5**:53.5:**60**:66.5)cm 17 (**19½**:21½:**23½**:26)in

hat tricky in-between period when the mornings are still chilly but the days are getting warmer calls for a clever little knit, and this one fits the bill! Layering is a necessity at this time of year, and this apple green cardi will work over all kinds of styles and shapes. Plus, the simple stitches and easy shaping make for a garment that won't leave beginners in a tangle – perfect!

BACK

Using 8mm needles cast on 41 (**47**:51:**57**:63) sts.

Knit 8 rows, ending with RS facing for next row. **Change to 9mm needles.**

Beg with a knit row, work in st st until back meas 19 (**20**:21:**22**:23)cm, 7½ (**7¾**:8½:8½:9) in, ending with RS facing for next row.

Shape raglan armholes

Cast off 2 sts at beg of next 2 rows. 37 (**43**:47:**53**:59) sts.

Sizes S, M and L only

Next row (RS): K4, sl 1, k1, psso, k to last 6 sts, k2tog, k4. 35 (**41**:45:-:-) sts

Next row: K4, p to last 4 sts, k4.

Next row: Knit.

Next row: K4, p to last 4 sts, k4.

Working all decs as set by last 4 rows dec 1 st at each end of next (next:0) and 3 (1:0:-:-) foll 4th rows. 27 (37:45:-:-) sts.

Work 1 (1:0:-:-) row, ending with RS facing for next row.

Sizes XL and XXL only

Next row (RS): K4, sl 1, k1, psso, k to last 6 sts, k2tog, k4. – (–:-:**51**:57) sts

Next row: K4, p2tog, p to last 6 sts, p2tog tbl, k4. – (-:-:**49**:55) sts

Working all decs as set by last 2 rows dec 1 st at each end of next – (-:-:0:4) rows.

- (-:-:49:47) sts

All sizes

Next row (RS): K4, sl 1, k1, psso, k to last 6 sts, k2tog, k4. 25 (35:43:47:45) sts

Next row: K4, P to last 4 sts, k4.

Working all decs as set by last 2 rows dec 1 st at each end of next and foll 1 (6:9:11:10) alt rows. Work 1 row, ending with RS facing for next row. Leave rem 21 (21:23:23:23) sts on a holder.

LEFT FRONT

Using 8mm needles cast on 17 (**20**:22:**25**:28) sts.

Knit 8 rows, ending with RS facing for next row. **Change to 9mm needles.**

Beg with a k row, work in st st until left front matches back to beg of raglan armhole shaping, ending with RS facing for next row.

Shape raglan armhole

Cast off 2 sts at beg of next row. 15 (18:20:23:26) sts Work 1 row, ending with RS facing for next row.

Sizes S, M and L only

Next row (RS): K4, sl 1, k1, psso, k to end.

14 (**17**:19:-:-) sts

Next row: P to last 4 sts, k4.

Next row: Knit.

Next row: P to last 4 sts. k4.

Working all decs as set by last 4 rows dec 1 st at raglan armhole edge of next (**next**:0:--:-) and 2 (**0**:0:-:--) foll 4th rows.

11 (**16**:19:-:-) sts

Work 3 (3:0:-:-) rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Sizes XL and XXL only

Next row (RS): K4, sl1, k1, psso, k to end.

- (-:-:22:25) sts

Next row: P to last 6 sts, p2tog tbl, k4. – (-:-:21:24) sts

MEASUREMENTS CARDIGAN

TO FIT SIZE		S	M	L	XL	XXL
TO FIT BUST	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127
	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50
WIDTH AT BACK	cm	43	49.5	53.5	60	66.5
	in	17	19½	21½	231/2	26
LENGTH	cm	43	45	46	49	52
	in	17	171/2	18	191⁄2	20 ½

CHUNKY BOLERO

Working all decs as set by last 2 rows dec 1 st at raglan armhole edge of next – (-:-: $\mathbf{0}$:4) rows. – (-:-: $\mathbf{21}$:20) sts

All sizes

Next row (RS): K4, sl 1, k1, psso, k to end. 10 (**15**:18:**20**:19) sts

Next row: P to last 4 sts, k4.

Working all decs as set by last 2 rows dec 1 st at raglan armhole edge of next and foll 0 (5:6:8:7) alt rows. 9 (9:11:11:11) sts

Shape neck

Next row (WS): Cast off 7 sts, k to end. 2 (**2**:4:**4**:4) sts

Sizes L, XL and XXL only
Next row (RS): K1, sl 1, k2tog, psso. 2 sts
Next row: K2.

All sizes

Next row (RS): K2tog and fasten off.

RIGHT FRONT

Using 8mm (US 11) needles cast on 17 (**20**:22:**25**:28) sts.

Work in g st for 8 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Change to 9mm (US 13) needles.

Beg with a k row, work in st st until right front matches back to beg of raglan armhole shaping, ending with WS facing for next row.

Complete working to match left front, reversing shapings.

SLEEVES

Using 8mm (US 11) needles cast on 29 (**29**:31:**31**:33) sts. **»**



SIMPLE STEPS SIMPLE CAST OFF

The simple cast off creates a firm, hard-wearing edge to your fabric. It can end up being quite tight and pull in the edges of your work, so if you find this happening make sure you aren't tightening your yarn after dropping off your stitch (step 2). If you are still finding it's too tight, try going up a needle size or two, by using a larger needle in your right-hand to create bigger stitches to cast off with.



1 Knit two sts. Now insert the tip of your left-hand needle into the first stitch you knitted on your right-hand needle, from left then right, as in the above picture.



2 Continuing to use left-hand needle tip, lift first stitch up and over the second stitch you knitted, drop it off the right needle first then off the left-hand needle.



3 Knit a stitch so that you have two stitches on your right needle and repeat the cast off as before until your last stitch. Break your yarn, thread it through the final stitch and pull taut.

CHUNKY BOLERO



Garter stitch lies flat, creating a neat edge for stocking stitch, which tends to curl up

Work in g st for 8 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Change to 9mm (US 13) needles. Beg with a K row, work in st st as folls:

Shape raglan

Cast off 2 sts at beg of next 2 rows. 25 (**25**:27:**27**:29) sts.

Working all decs as set by back, dec 1 st at each end of next and 2 (3:2:3:3) foll 4th rows, then on foll 5 (4:6:5:6) alt rows. 9 sts Work 1 row, ending with RS facing for next row.

Left sleeve only

Next row (RS): K4, sl 1, K1, psso, K1, k2tog. 7 sts

Next row: K2tog, k to end. 6 sts Next row: K3, sl 1, k2tog, psso. 4 sts Next row: Sl1, k2tog, psso, k1. 2 sts

Right sleeve only

Next row (RS): K2tog, k1, k2tog, k4. 7 sts Next row: K to last 2 sts, k2tog. 6 sts

Next row: K3tog, k3. 4 sts Next row: K1, k3tog tbl. 2 sts

Both sleeves

Next row: K2tog and fasten off.

MAKING UP

1 Block each piece of knitting, and following the instructions on the ball band, press the garment ommitting any ribs. If the ball band indicates that the fabric is not to be pressed, cover the blocked out fabric with a damp white cotton cloth and leaving it to dry.

2 Darn in ends along the selvedge edge.3 Join raglan seams using backstitch, or mattress stitch if preferred.

LEFT FRONT BORDER

With RS facing, using 8mm needles, pick up and knit 37 (39:40:42:43) sts evenly down entire left front opening edge, from neck



shaping to cast-on edge. Work 8 rows in knit ending with WS facing for next row. Cast off knitwise (on WS).

RIGHT FRONT BORDER

With RS facing, using 8mm needles, pick up and knit 37 (39:40:42:43) sts evenly down entire right front opening edge, from cast-on edge to neck shaping. Work as given for left front border.

NECKBAND

With RS facing and using 8mm needles, pick up and knit 4 sts from top of right front border, 8 (8:9:9:9) sts up right side of neck, 9 sts from top of right sleeve, k across

21 (21:23:23:23) sts from back holder, pick up and knit 9 sts from top of left sleeve, 8 (8:9:9:9) sts down left side of neck and 4 sts from top of left front border.

63 (63:67:67) sts.

Work as given for left front border. (1)



This cardigan is from the book Autumn Accessories by Marie Wallin for Rowan (RRP £9.50). Visit their website at knitrowan.com or call 01484 681881 for details and stockists.



King Cole Authentic Chunky
Found in all good wool retailers



For your local stockist call: 01756 703670 email: enquiries@kingcole.co.uk www.kingcole.com
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HAPPY BUNNIES

We're hopping (sorry, hoping) you enjoy this collection of easy Easter-themed makes, complete with stashbusting bows, chevrons and stripes!



CHEERS, EARS

Give a child's headband the ultimate makeover with a pair of colourful rabbit ears – these amazing accessories might just become a wardrobe staple!

EASTER BUNNY

Introducing Mr Stripes – when he's not busy delivering eggs he's happy to cuddle up with the smallest member of your family. His sweater can be made from odds and ends, and his eyes can be embroidered if you're making him for a baby.







LUCKY RABBIT PAWS

Keep little hands warm while they're hunting for eggs with these cute wristwarmers. The swiss darned faces are sure to raise a smile, even when Easter's over and all the chocolate's been eaten!

GOOD EGGS

These eggs are not to be nibbled on, but are much better for you than traditional chocolate ones. They only require small amounts of yarn – perfect for a stashbusting spring clean!



MATERIALS

For the sweater:

Yarn

King Cole Merino Blend DK

Yarn A: 6 (**6**:7:**9**) x 50g balls in Pewter (shade 1528)

Yarn B: 1 x 50g ball in Black (shade

Yarn C: 1 x 50g ball in Raspberry (shade 907)

Needles & accessories
 3.25mm (UK 10, US 3) and 4mm
 (UK 8, US 6) knitting needles
 3.25mm (UK 10, US 3) circular needles
 (optional)
 Tapestry needle
 Stitch markers

For the wrist warmers:

Yarn

King Cole Merino Blend DK

Yarn A: 1 (1:1:2) x 50g balls in Pewter (shade 1528)

Yarn B: 1 (1:1:1) x 50g ball, in Black (shade 48)

Yarn C: 1 x 50g ball in Raspberry (shade 907)

Needles & accessories
 3.25mm (UK 10, US 3) and
 4mm (UK 8, US 6) knitting needles
 Tapestry needle
 Stitch markers

For the bunny ears:

Yarn

King Cole Merino Blend DK in the following colours:

Yarn A: 1 x 50g ball in Aran (shade 046)

Yarn B: 1 x 50g ball in Raspberry (shade 907)

Yarn C: 1 x 50g ball in Clerical (shade 049)

Yarn D: 1 x 50g ball in Black (shade 048)

Needles & accessories
 4mm (UK 8, US 6) and
 4.5mm (UK 7, US 7) knitting needles
 Tapestry needle
 10mm child's headband
 8 x pipe cleaners

For the bunny box:

■ Yarn

King Cole Merino Blend DK

Yarn A: 2 x 50g ball in Aran (shade 046)

Yarn B: 1 x 50g ball in Raspberry (shade 907)

Yarn C: 1 x 50g ball in Clerical (shade 049)

Yarn D: 1 x 50g ball in Black (shade 048)

■ Needles & accessories
4mm (UK 8, US 6) knitting needles
Tapestry needle
Pom-pom maker (optional)
Small amount of toy stuffing
Six 10 x 10cm cardboard squares
Sticky tape

For the eggs:

Yarn

King Cole Merino Blend DK

Yarn A: 1 x 50g ball of Aran (shade 046) Yarn B: 1 x 50g ball of Raspberry (shade 907)

Yarn C: 1 x 50g ball Clerical (shade 049) Yarn D: 1 x 50g ball of Black (shade 048)

Needles & accessories
 4mm (UK 8, US 6) knitting needles
 4mm set of (UK 8, US 6) double-pointed needles for Fair Isle eggs
 Tapestry needle
 Toy stuffing

For the bunny toy:

Yarn

King Cole Merino Blend Aran

Yarn A: 4 x 50g in Aran (shade 776)

Yarn B: 2 x 50g in Raspberry (shade 1538)

Yarn C: 2 x 50g in Clerical (shade 1767)

Needles & accessories
 5mm (UK 6, US 8) knitting needles
 Tapestry needle
 Polyester filling

YARN DETAIL

- King Cole Merino Blend DK kingcole.com 01756 703670
- DK weight
- 100% superwash wool
- 50g/104m (113yds)
- Machine wash at 30°C
- £3.79
- King Cole Merino Blend Aran kingcole.com 01756 703670
- Aran weight
- 100% wool
- 50g/80m (88yds)
- Machine wash at 30°C
- £3.79

TENSION

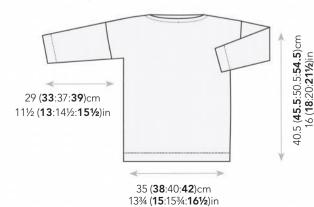
Sweater, mittens & box: 22 sts and 28 rows over st st using 4mm needles to make a 10cm or 4in square.

Bunny toy: 15 sts and 22 rows over st st using 5mm needles and 2 strands of yarn together to make a 10cm or 4in square. Exact tension for the bunny ears and eggs is not critical.

■ Turn to page 96 for full list of abbreviations

MEASUREMENT BUNNY JUMPER

TO FIT SIZE		3-4 yrs	5-6 yrs	7-8 yrs	9-10 yrs
TO FIT CHEST	cm	61	67	71	76
	in	24	261/2	28	30
ACTUAL CHEST	cm	69	75	79	84
	in	271/4	291/2	31	33
LENGTH	cm	40.5	45.5	50.5	54.5
	in	16	18	20	21
SLEEVES	cm	29	33	37	39
	in	11½	13	141/2	15½



BUNNY JUMPER

By Jane Burns

With just a hint of bunny cuteness, this simple jumper will make you (and the wearer) smile this Easter

This sweater has a nice, close-fitting neck so be careful not to cast off too tightly. We highly recommend using Elizabeth Zimmerman's sewn cast off. Check out this link for an online tutorial: bit.ly/1l2Vz5S.

BACK

*Using 3.25mm needles and yarn A, cast on 76 (**84**:88:**94**) sts.

Row 1 (RS): *K1, p1; rep from * to end. **Row 2 (WS):** *P1, k1; rep from * to end. Rep rows 1 & 2, 5 (6:7:7) times in total.

Change to 4mm needles

Row 1 (RS): Knit. Row 2 (WS): Purl.

Continue working in stocking stitch as set until piece measures 26.5 (30.5:33.5:36) cm, 10½ (12:13:14¼) in, from cast on edge ending after a wrong side row.

Next row (RS): Cast off 4 (5:6:6) sts, knit to end of row.

Next row (WS): Cast off 4 (5:6:6) sts, purl to end. 68 (74:76:82) sts*
Continue to work in stocking stitch as set until piece measures 40.5 (45.5:50.5:54.5) cm, 16 (18:20:21½) in, from cast on edge ending with a RS row.

Next row: P17 (**19**:18:**21**), pm, p34 (**36**:40:**40**), pm, p17 (**19**:18:**21**). Cast off, keeping markers in place.

FRONT

Using yarn A, work as per back from * to *. Continue to work in stocking stitch as set until piece measures: 33 (38:43:47) cm, 13 (15:17:18½) in from cast on edge ending after a WS row.

Begin neck shaping

Next row (RS): K28 (**31**:31:**34**) turn, leave rem 40 (**43**:45:**48**) sts on holder.

Next row (WS): Purl.

Working on these 28 (31:31:34) sts only continue as follows:

Decrease one stitch as neck edge every row 11 (12:13:13) times. 17 (19:18:21) sts Continue working in stocking stitch until piece measures 40.5 (45.5:50.5:54.5) cm,



16 (**18**:20:**21½**) in, ending after a WS row. Cast off.

With RS facing, and working on rem 40 (43:45:48) sts, slip next 12 (12:14:14) sts onto stitch holder, rejoin yarn A to rem 28 (31:31:34) sts and knit to end.

Next row: Purl.

Working on these 28 (31:31:34) sts only continue as follows:

Decrease one stitch at neck edge every row 11 (12:13:13) times. 17 (19:18:21) sts Continue working in stocking stitch until piece measures 40.5 (45.5:50.5:54.5) cm, 16 (18:20:22) in ending after a WS row. Cast off.

SLEEVES (MAKE 2)

Using yarn A and 3.25mm needles, cast on 44 (**48**:52:**56**) sts.

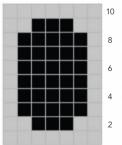
Row 1: *K1, p1; rep from * to end. **Row 2:** *P1, k1; rep from * to end. Repeat rows 1 and 2, a total of 5 (**6**:7:**7**) times.

Change to 4mm needles and work in st st throughout.

Second size only

Inc 1 st at each end of 7th and 7

BUNNY EYE CHART



7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Light grey (yarn A)

Black (yarn B)

Knit on the RS Purl on the WS

following 6th rows. 64 sts Then inc 1 st at each end of following 8th row. 66 sts

All sizes (except second size)

Inc 1 st at each end of 5th row and 3 (-:3:5) following 4th rows.
Then inc 1 st at each end of every following 6th row, 5 (-:8:7) times.
62 (-:76:82) sts

All sizes

Continue in st st until piece measures 29 (33:37:39) cm, 11½ (13:14½:15½) in »







from cast on edge, ending after a WS row. Cast off.

NECKBAND

Join right shoulder seam. With RS facing, using 3.25mm needles and yarn A, pick up and knit 23 (24:23:23) sts evenly along left side of neck, work across 12 (12:14:14) sts left on holder at front of neck, pick up and knit 23 (24:23:23) sts evenly along right side of neck, pick up and knit 34 (36:40:40) from cast off sts at back of neck. 92 (96:100:100) sts.

Row 1 (WS): *K1, p1; rep from * to end. Row 2 (RS): *P1, k1; rep from * to end. Cast off loosely in rib or use a sewn cast off. Find a tutorial at bit.ly/1l2Vz5S.

BOW

Using yarn C and 3.25mm needles, cast on 24 sts.

Row 1: *K1, p1; rep from * to end. Row 2: *P1, k1; rep from * to end. Repeat rows 1 & 2 until piece measures 12cm (4¾in) from cast on edge. Cast off.

Bow centre

Using yarn C and 3.25mm needles, cast on 10 sts.

Row 1 (RS): *K1, p1; rep from * to end. Row 2 (WS): *P1, k1; rep from * to end. Repeat rows 1 & 2 until piece measures 5.5cm (2in) from cast on edge. Cast off.

MAKING UP

1 Join left shoulder and neck band seams, fold sleeves in half lengthwise and place stitch marker, use this stitch marker to line the centre of the sleeve cap with the shoulder seam, pin sleeve into place. Sew in place.

2 Join side and sleeve seams.

3 Block your garment by laying it out flat on a flat surface and pinning into shape. Wait until completely dry.

4 Using darning needle and yarn B, find the centre point of the sweater and place a marker. Using the image as a guide swiss darn eyes on by using yarn B to follow the path of the yarn A stitches below. Embroider the nose and mouth.

WRIST WARMERS

By Jane Burns

Start with a simple pattern and add cute bunny embellishments!

FINISHED SIZES

Age 3-4: 14.5cm (5¾in) circumference. 10cm (4in) total length.

Age 5-6: 15.5cm (6in) circumference 12.5cm (5in) total length

Age 7-8: 16.5cm (6½in) circumference 14cm (5½in) total length

Age 9-10: 18cm (7in) circumference 15.5cm (6in) total length

MAKE TWO

Using 4mm needles and yarn A cast on 30 (34:36:38) sts.

Rows 1-3: Knit. Row 4 (WS): Purl.

Row 5 (RS): Knit.

Row 6: Purl.

Continue working in stocking stitch as set until piece measures 4.5 (5.5:6.5) cm, 1¾ (2:2½:2½) in from cast on edge. Place marker at beg and end of row (marker 1).

Continue working in stocking stitch as set until piece measures

9 (10.5:11.5:12.5) cm, 3½ (4:4½:5) in, from cast on edge. Place marker at beg and end of row (marker 2).

Continue working in stocking stitch as set until piece measures 9.5 (12:13.5:15) cm, 3¾ (4¾:5¼:6) in, from cast on edge ending after a RS row.

Knit three rows.

Cast off.

MAKING UP

Using mattress stitch sew from cast on edge to marker 1, then next sew from marker 2 to cast off edge.

Ears (make four)

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn A, cast on 10 (10:12:12) sts.

Row 1 (RS): Knit. Row 2 (WS): Purl.

Continue working in st st until piece meas 5 (6:8:9) cm, 2 (24:3:3.5) in, from cast on edge, ending with a WS row.

First two sizes only

Row 1 (RS): (K2tog) 5 times. 5 sts

Row 2 (WS): Purl.

Row 3: K2tog, k1, k2tog. 3 sts

Second two sizes only

Row 1 (RS): K1, k2tog, k1, (k2tog) twice,

k1, k2tog, k1. 8 sts

Row 2 (WS): Purl.

Row 3: Knit.

Row 4: Purl.

Row 5: (K2tog) four times. 4 sts

All sizes

Leave a long tail, thread through rem sts and pull tight to form point, secure with stitches. Mattress stitch seam closed and place join at back of ear.

Main bow (make two)

Using yarn C and 3.25mm needles, cast on 12 sts.

Row 1 (RS): *K1, p1; rep from * to end.

Row 2 (WS): *P1, k1; rep from * to end. Repeat rows 1 & 2, a total of 4 times. Cast off.

Bow centre (make two)

Using yarn C and 3.25mm needles, cast on 4 sts.

Work as main bow until 8 rows have been worked in total.

Cast off.

Facial features

Using yarn B, embroider eyes, nose and mouth onto mittens using image as a guide. Sew ears and bows into place, sewing around the ear to make it stable.

BUNNY BOX

By Louise Smith

No wonder this bunny looks so happy – he's filled with chocolate eggs!

FINISHED SIZE

11cm (4½in) wide x 22cm (8½in) tall (including ears)

BOX SIDES (MAKE 7)

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 22 sts using the thumb method (turn to page 91 for a photo step by step).

Row 1 (RS): Knit.

Row 2 (WS): Purl.

These two rows form stocking stitch. Continue as set in stocking stitch for 28 rows in total.

Row 29: Cast off using a simple cast off and weave in ends (page 91).

LINING (MAKE 5)

Using 4mm needles and yarn B, cast on 20 sts using the thumb method.

Repeat instructions for Box Sides, working 26 rows in total.

Row 27 (RS): Knit.

Row 28: Cast off purlwise.

Weave in ends.

FRONT EARS (MAKE 2)

The front of the ears are knitted with both yarn B and C. Twist the two yarns together when changing colours to prevent holes at the join.

Using 4mm needles and yarn C, cast on 7 sts using the thumb method.

Row 1 (RS): K2 in yarn C, k3 in yarn B, k2 in yarn C.

Row 2 (WS): P2 in yarn C, p3 in yarn B, p2 in yarn C.

Row 3: K2 in yarn C, m1 in yarn B, k3 in yarn B, m1 in yarn B, k2 in yarn C. 9 sts

Row 4: P2 in yarn C, p5 in yarn B, p2 in yarn C.

Row 5: K2 in yarn C, k5 in yarn B, k2 in yarn C.

Rows 6-26: Repeat rows 4 and 5, ending on row 4.

Row 27 (RS): K2 in yarn C, ssk in.yarn B, k3 in yarn B, k2tog in yarn B, k2 in yarn C. 7 sts

Row 28: P2 in yarn C, p5 in yarn B, p2 in yarn C. Break off yarn B and continue with C.

Row 29: K1, ssk, k1, k2tog, k1. 5 sts

Row 30: Purl.

Row 31: Ssk, k1, k2tog. 3 sts

Row 32: Cast off purlwise. Weave in ends.

BACK EARS (MAKE 2)

Using 4mm needles and yarn C, cast on 7 sts using the thumb method.

Row 1 (RS): Knit.

Row 2 (WS): Purl.

Row 3: K1, m1, k3, m1, k1. 9 sts

Row 4: Purl.

Rows 5-26: Repeat rows 1 and 2. **Row 27 (RS):** Ssk, k5, k2tog. 7 sts

Row 28 (WS): Purl.

Row 29: Ssk, k3, k2tog. 5 sts

Row 30: Purl.

Row 31: Ssk, k1, k2tog. 3 sts

Row 32: Cast off purlwise. Weave in ends.

FACE

Using yarn B and yarn D, embroider the face onto the RS of one of the box pieces, using the photo as a guide. It may help to use pins or a stitch marker to position the face first.

TAIL

Using yarn C and a small pom-pom maker or winding the yarn around your fingers, make one small pom-pom. Sew pom-pom onto the right side of one of the box pieces, positioning it in the centre, approx four rows from bottom.

MAKING UP

1 Using a small amount of sticky tape, tape five of your cardboard squares together to create a lidless box.

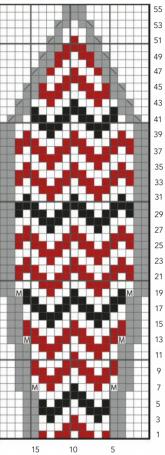
2 Sew five knitted box pieces together using mattress stitch, positioning the face and tail at the front and back of the box.

3 Sew all five pieces of lining together using mattress stitch.









- 4 Cover your cardboard box with your bunny box and place the lining inside.
- 5 Sew the top of the lining to the top of the bunny box.
- 6 Sew the front and back of both ears together using mattress stitch, leaving the bottoms open.
- 7 Stuff both ears lightly and sew onto the right side of one box piece, following the photo as a guide.
- 8 Sew box piece with ears attached and remaining box piece together around remaining piece of cardboard.
- **9** Making sure the ears are facing forwards (towards the face), sew the lid onto the box along backside of piece.
- 10 Weave in all ends.

BUNNY EARS

By Louise Smith

You won't need much yarn to make these cute ears so make them up in your little one's favourite colours!

FINISHED SIZES

The ears measure 6cm (2%in) wide and 20cm (7%in) tall (from headband). The bow measures 8cm (3in) wide and 2cm (3%in) tall. Headband meas 31cm (12%in) long.

FRONT OF EARS (MAKE 2)

The front of the ears are knitted with Clerical, Raspberry, Aran and Black. Follow the chart, knitting RS (odd numbered) rows and purling WS (even numbered) rows. There are symbols marked on the chart to show when to increase (M1) or decrease (ssk, k2tog). When you are increasing or decreasing use the colour shown on the chart underneath the symbol. Ignore any white squares outside the grey ear edges.

KEY

Raspberry

Black

Clerical

☐ Aran

ssk

/ k2tog

M M1

There are several colours being used at once when making the front of the ears. To minimise tangles, use separate lengths of grey yarn for the two sides of the ears, twisting the colour together with the yarn used at the beginning and end of the stripy section to avoid holes. For the stripy section, strand the yarn colour not in use across the back of the work. If the yarns

become too twisted to continue working, simply cut them off, leaving approx a 10cm length and rejoin on the next row (you can use the yarn ends as stuffing).

To begin the ears cast on 13 sts using the thumb method and then work from row 1 of the chart. When you finish the last row, break off the yarn and thread through the remaining 3 stitches and fasten off.

BACK OF EARS (MAKE 2)

Using 4mm needles and yarn C, cast on 13 sts using the thumb method.

Row 1 (RS): Knit. Row 2 (WS): Purl.

These two rows form stocking stitch. Continue as set in stocking stitch for 4 more rows.

Row 7: K1, m1, k11, m1, k1. 15 sts

Row 8: Purl.

Continue as set in stocking stitch for 4 more rows.

Row 13: K1, m1, k13, m1, k1. 17 sts

Row 14: Purl.

Continue as set in stocking stitch for 4 more rows.

Row 19: K1, m1, k15, m1, k1. 19 sts

Row 20: Purl.

Continue as set in stocking stitch for 20 more rows.

Row 41 (RS): Ssk, k15, k2tog. 17 sts

Row 42 (WS): Purl.

Row 43: Ssk, k13, k2tog. 15 sts

Row 44: Purl.

Row 45: Ssk, k11, k2tog. 13 sts

Row 46: Purl.

Row 47: Ssk, k9, k2tog. 11 sts

Row 48: Purl.

Row 49: Ssk, k7, k2tog. 9 sts

Row 50: Purl.

Row 51: Ssk, k5, k2tog. 7 sts

Row 52: Purl.

Row 53: Ssk, k3, k2tog. 5 sts

Row 54: Purl.

Row 55: Ssk, k1, k2tog. 3 sts.

Break off yarn and thread through rem sts. Fasten off.

HEADBAND COVER

Using 4.5mm needles and yarn C held double, cast on 5 sts using the thumb method.

Row 1 (RS): Knit. Row 2 (WS): Purl.

These two rows form stocking stitch. Continue as set in stocking stitch for 84 rows in total.

Row 85: Cast off using a simple cast off and weave in ends.

BOW

Using 4mm needles and yarn B, cast on 9 sts using the thumb method.

Row 1 (RS): Knit.

Row 2 (WS): Purl.

These two rows form stocking stitch. Continue as set in stocking stitch for 40 rows in total.

Row 41: Cast off using a simple cast off and weave in ends.

Sew both ends of bow together and press flat, ensuring that the seam is at the back.

BOW MIDDLE

Using 4mm needles and yarn B, cast on 3 sts using the thumb method.

Rep instructions for bow, working 8 rows. **Row 9:** Cast off using a simple cast off, but do not weave in ends.

Tie this piece around the bow using unwoven ends and secure in place with a knot. Now weave in ends ensuring the knot is at the back of the bow.

MAKING UP

1 Sew the front and back of both ears together (with RS facing outwards) using

mattress stitch - leave bottoms open.

2 Twist each of the pipe cleaners together to make four doubled pipe cleaners.

3 Bend 2 pipe cleaners into the shape of the ears and insert, leaving ends of pipe cleaners visible. Repeat for other ear.

4 Pinch the side of the bottom of the ear together and sew in place (leaving ends of pipe cleaners visible). Repeat for other ear.

5 Decide where you want your ears to sit on the headband, using photo as guide. Lay the headband cover out flat and push ends of pipe cleaners at bottom of both ears through where you have decided to position your ears.

6 Secure ears to headband by twisting pipe cleaner ends around the band.

7 Sew the headband cover up using mattress stitch.

8 Sew the bow onto left ear at slight angle, using photo as guide.





EASTER EGGS

By Louise Smith

Knit up a batch of eggs and give them as gifts instead of choccy treats this Easter – they'll last much longer!

For each egg, choose the two colours you want to work with first. The pattern will refer to them as colour 1 and colour 2.

FINISHED SIZES

Stripy egg: 8cm (31/4in) tall, 15cm (6in) diameter.

Fair Isle egg: 9cm (31/2in) tall, 16cm (61/4in)

diameter

Both eggs are made from the bottom up.

STRIPY EGG

Using 4mm needles and colour 1, cast on 5 sts using the thumb method (page 91).

Row 1 (WS): Purl.

Row 2 (RS): (K1, m1) four times, k1. 9 sts

Row 3: Purl.

Row 4: (K1, m1) eight times, k1. 17 sts

Change to colour 2.

Row 5: Purl.

Row 6: (K2, m1) four times, k1, (m1, k2),

four times. 25 sts

Row 7: Purl.

Row 8: Knit.

Change to Colour 1.

Row 9: Purl.

Row 10: Knit.

Row 11: Purl.

Row 12: Knit.

Change to Colour 2.

Row 13: Purl.

Row 14: Knit.

Row 15: Purl.

Row 16: Knit.

Change to Colour 1.

Row 17: Purl.

Row 18: Knit.

Row 19: Purl.

Row 20: Knit.

Change to colour 2.

Begin stuffing at this point and continue to stuff as you work.

Row 21: Purl.

Row 22: (K1, ssk) four times, k1, (k2tog, k1)

four times. 17 sts

Row 23: Purl.

Row 24: (K2, ssk) twice, k1, (k2tog, k2)

twice. 13 sts

Change to colour 1.

Row 25: Purl.

Row 26: (K1, ssk) twice, k1, (k2tog, k1)

twice. 9 sts

Row 27: Purl.

Row 28: (Ssk) twice, k1, (k2tog) twice. 5 sts

Row 29: Break yarn, leaving a long tail. Weave tail through remaining 5 sts and

pull tightly. Weave in ends.

FAIR ISLE EGG

Using 4mm dpns and colour 1, cast on 6 sts using the thumb method (page 91). Spread the stitches evenly across 3 or 4 needles and join to work in the round, being careful not to twist stitches. Colourwork is show on chart, right.

Round 1: Knit.

Round 2: (K1, m1) twice, k2, (m1, k1) twice.

10 sts

Round 3: Knit.

Round 4: (K1, m1) four times, k2, (m1, k1)

four times. 18 sts

Round 5: Knit.

Round 6: (K2, m1) four times, k2, (m1, k2)

four times. 26 sts

Round 7: Knit.

Round 8: (K4, m1) three times, k2, (m1, k4)

three times. 32 sts

Round 9: Knit.

Round 10: K2 in colour 1, k1 in colour 2, (k7 in colour 1, k1 in colour 2) three times, k5 in colour 1.

Round 11: K1 in colour 1, k3 in colour 2, (k5

in colour 1, k3 in colour 2) three times, k4 in colour 1.

Round 12: K5 in colour 2, (k3 in colour 1, k5 in colour 2) three times, k3 in colour 1.

Round 13: Repeat round 11.

Round 14: K2 in colour 1, k1 in colour 2, (k3 in colour 1, k1 in colour 2) seven times, k1 in colour 1.

Round 15: K5 in colour 1, (k3 in colour 2, k5 in colour 1) three times, k3 in colour 2.

Round 16: K1 in colour 2, k3 in colour 1, (k5 in colour 2, k3 in colour 1) three times, k4 in colour 2.

Round 17: Repeat Round 15.

Round 18: Repeat Round 14.

Rounds 19-21: Repeat Rounds 11-13.

Round 22: Repeat Round 10.

Break off colour 2 and continue in colour 1.

Round 23: Knit.

Begin stuffing at this point and continue stuffing as you knit.

Round 24: (K3, ssk) three times, k2, (k2tog, k3) three times. 26 sts

Round 25: Knit.

Round 26: (K4, ssk) twice, k2, (k2tog, k4)

twice, 22 sts

Round 27: Knit.

Round 28: K1, (ssk) twice, k1, (ssk) twice, k2, (k2tog) twice, k1, (k2tog) twice, k1. 14 sts

Round 29: Knit.

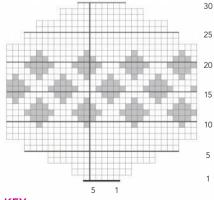
Round 30: (Ssk) three times, k2, (k2tog)

three times. 8 sts

Round 31: Break off yarn, leaving a long tail. Weave tail through remaining 8 sts and pull tightly.

Weave in all ends.

FAIR ISLE EGG CHART



KEY

Colour 1

Colour 2

BUNNY TOY

By Angela Turner

With his stripy sweater and cheerful grin, this chubby bunny is made using two lengths of yarn held together throughout.

FINISHED SIZE

40cm (15¾in) tall

LEGS (MAKE 2)

Use yarn held double throughout. Using yarn A, cast on 16 sts.

Row 1 (WS): Purl.

Next row (RS): Kfb to end. 32 sts Starting with a purl row, work 19 rows st st.

Cut yarn and place sts on a stitch holder. Rep with second leg, do not cut yarn at end.

Next row: Knit across second leg, kfb in last st, then knit across first leg, kfb in first st. 66 sts

Starting with a purl row, work 15 rows st st. *Change to yarn C and work 4 rows st st. Change to yarn B and work 2 rows st st. Rep from * until 4 yarn B stripes have been worked.

Continue in yarn C.

Next row: (K9, k2tog) to end. 60 sts Starting with a purl row, work 3 rows st st. Change to yarn B and work 2 rows st st.

Change to yarn C.

Next row: (K8, k2tog) to end. 54 sts

Next row: Purl.

Continue in yarn A. Work 4 rows st st. Next row: (K7, k2tog) to end. 48 sts Starting with a purl row, work 3 rows st st. Cont to dec in this way till 30 sts rem.

Next row: (K3, k2tog) to end. 24 sts

Next row: Purl.

Next row: (K2, k2tog) to end. 18 sts

Next row: Purl.

Next row: (K1, k2tog) to end. 12 sts Next row: P2tog to end. 6 sts

Cut yarn and thread through the remaining

stitches.

Pull up and fasten off.

Adding the eyes

Find centre of face, six rows up from the last Clerical stripe, then count six sts either side and mark with a short length of contrast yarn. Put a plastic safety toy eye in where each marker is and secure at back.

Using a tapestry needle gather round cast on sts of legs and pull up tightly. Sew seams then sew seam up back. Gather round sts at top of head and pull up tightly. Sew seam for 3cm (1in). Turn RS out. Stuff legs and body with filling firmly then stuff head with filling.

Sew rem seam. ARMS (MAKE 2)

Using yarn A, cast on 14 sts.

Row 1 (WS): Purl.

Next row (RS): Kfb to end. 28 sts.

Starting with a purl row, work 5 rows st st. Change to yarn C and work 4 rows st st.

Change to yarn B and work 2 rows st st. Rep last 6 rows again then first 4 rows.

Cast off.

Gather round cast on sts and pull up tightly. Sew seam. Turn RS out and stuff with filling. Pin arms to side of body starting about 3cm (11/4in) below yarn A face, sew in place, adding filling if needed.

EARS (MAKE 2)

Using yarn A, cast on 10 sts.

Knit 6 rows.

Next row: Kfb, knit to last st, kfb. 12 sts

Knit 5 rows.

Increase as set in next and every 6th row as before until you've reached 16 sts.

Knit every row till piece meas 12cm (4¾in).

Next row: K2tog, knit to last 2 sts, k2tog. 14 sts

Knit 7 rows.

Rep last 8 rows until 2 sts remain. Cast off. Fold ears in half and sew across seam. Sew to top of head with open fold to front and with about 3cm (11/4in) in between them. Using a double length of Clerical work a Y shape in daisy chain sts in centre of face, with the bottom of the Y touching the last Clerical stripe of the jumper.

TAIL

Using yarn B, cast on 10 sts.

Knit 5 rows.

Next row: Kfb. k to last st. kfb. 12 sts Rep last 6 rows until you have increased to

Knit 5 rows.

Next row: K2tog, knit to last 2 sts, k2tog.

18 sts.

Rep last 6 rows until 10 sts remain.

Next row: Knit. Cast off.

Making up

Run a length of yarn B around outside edge all the way around the tail, pulling up gently as you go. Stuff tail with filling. Place at rear of bunny with bottom of tail starting where 'jumper' and legs meet and pin in place. Sew securely to finish. (1)



EARMUFFS & SCARF



MATERIALS

■ Yarn

Yarn A: 2 x 100g hanks of Erika Knight Fur Wool in Pretty (shade 008)

Yarn B: 1 x 50g hank of Erika Knight Vintage Wool in Pretty (shade 310)

 Needles & accessories 10mm (UK 000, US 15) and 5mm (UK 6, US 8) knitting needles Tapestry needle Plain earmuffs with approx 30cm long, 2cm wide

YARN DETAIL

 Erika Knight Fur Wool erikaknight.co.uk for all stockists

headband section

- Aran weight
- 97% wool, 3% nylon
- 100g/40m (43yds)
- Handwash only
- £12.95
- Erika Knight Vintage Wool erikaknight.co.uk for all stockists
- Super chunky weight
- 100% wool
- 50g/87m (95yds)
- Handwash only
- £5.95

TENSION

Erika Knight Fur Wool: 5 sts and 10 rows over st st using 10mm needles to make a 10cm or 4in square

Erika Knight Vintage Wool:

18 sts and 24 rows over st st using 5mm needles to make a 10cm or 4in square

FINISHED SIZES

The earmuffs fit over an adult sized pair of ear muffs. Work more rows of the strip section to fit the headband. The scarf is

approx 130cm (51in) long and 24cm (9½in) at widest point.

SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

kfbf

knit into the front, back and front of a single stitch

■ Page 96 for abbreviations.

rika Knight's hugely fun Fur Wool is perfect for those on-trend accessory knits. A wonderful fashion yarn made up of almost 100% wool, it knits up quickly into scarves, hats and exciting projects like these brilliant earmuffs. Simply cast on and warm up!

EARMUFFS

Strip

Using yarn B, 5mm needles and the thumb cast on method (see p91) cast on 56 sts.

Row 1 (WS): Purl.

Row 2 (RS): Knit.

Repeat the last two rows once more. Cast off knitwise on the WS.

Inner ear section (make 2)

Using yarn B, 5mm needles and the thumb method cast on 11 sts.

Row 1 (WS): Purl.

Row 2 (RS): Kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1.

Row 3 and all WS rows: Purl.

Row 4: Kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. 15 sts

Row 6: Kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. 17 sts

Row 8: Kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. 19 sts

Row 10: Kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. 21 sts

Row 12: Knit.

Row 14: Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 19 sts

Row 16: Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 17 sts

Row 18: Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 15 sts

Row 20: Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 13 sts

Row 22: Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 11 sts Cast off knitwise on WS.

Outer ear section (make 2)

Using yarn A, 10mm needles and the thumb method cast on 2 sts.

Row 1 (WS): Purl.

Row 2 (RS): Kfb twice. 4 sts

Row 3 and all WS rows: Purl.

Row 4: (Kfb, k1) twice. 6 sts

Row 6: Kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. 8 sts

Row 8: Kfb, k to last 2 sts, lfb, k1. 10 sts

Row 10: Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 8 sts

Row 12: Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 6 sts

Row 14: Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 4 sts



The muffs are created with a front and back section sewn together, and a headband strip

Row 16: Ssk, k2tog. 2 sts Break yarn and thread through rem sts and fasten off.

MAKING UP

1 Seam strip around band with WS facing out, using yarn B to stitch the two long sides of the piece together.

2 **With RS facing outwards, place 1 inner and 1 outer ear piece around earmuff section and seam together using yarn B, 3 Take a long section of yarn A and, using whipstitch, work around the join between the inner and outer ear sections, taking care not to pull the yarn too tight as you work. This will hide the join between the two sections very nicely.

4 Repeat from ** for second earmuff section.

SCARF

Using yarn A and 10mm needles cast on 1 st.

Row 1 (RS): Kfbf. 3 sts

Row 2 and all WS rows: Purl.

Row 3: Kfb, kfb, k1. 5 sts

Row 5: Kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. 7 sts

Row 7: Kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. 9 sts

Row 9: Kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. 11 sts

Row 11: Kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. 13 sts

Row 13: Knit.

Row 14: Purl.

Repeat the last 2 rows 5 more times.

Row 25: Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 11 sts

Row 27: Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 9 sts

Row 29: Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 7 sts

Row 31: Knit.

Row 32: Purl.

Repeat the last 2 rows 29 more times.

Place a marker with a piece of waste yarn

here, threading it so that it clearly marks the right side of the work.

Repeat the last 2 rows 8 more times.

Row 107: Kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. 9 sts **Row 109:** Kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1.

11 sts

Row 111: Kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. 13 sts

Row 113: Knit. Row 114: Purl.

Repeat the last 2 rows 5 more times.

Row 125: Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 11 sts **Row 127:** Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 9 sts

Row 129: Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 7 sts **Row 131:** Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 5 sts

Row 133: Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 3 sts

Row 134: P3tog. Fasten off rem st.

LOOP

Using yarn A and 10mm needles, and with RS facing, pick up and knit 7 sts across the row at the point where you placed your marker.

Row 31: Kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. 9 sts

Row 32: Purl. Row 33: Knit.

Row 34: Purl.

Repeat the last 2 rows 7 more times. Cast off rem sts, leaving a long tail for sewing up.

MAKING UP

1 Using long tail, sew second end of 'loop' to scarf, joining just above where the end begins to widen out.

2 Weave in all ends.

The scarf is worn by slotting one end through the loop in the other end and pushing up towards the neck. (1)



SIMPLE STEPS SSK

There are several options for a left-leaning decrease. Patterns may also tell you to knit two stitches together through their back loops (k2togtbl) or to slip one stitch, knit the next one, and then pass the slipped stitch over the knitted one and (skp). However, we think slip, slip knit (ssk) is the neatest and easiest way to do it, so unless the pattern says otherwise we use this one every time!



1 Slip the next two stitches knitwise, one at a time, from the left-hand needle to the right-hand needle. This twists them to tighten them up.



2 Insert your left-hand needle through both front loops of the stitches you've just slipped, from back to front.



3 Wrap the yarn around anti-clockwise and pull the loop to the front, and off the left needle. You've decreased one stitch.

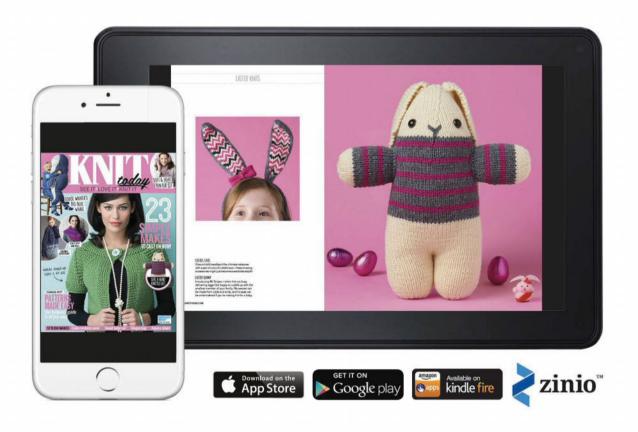




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MATERIALS

Yarn

Rico Fashion Elements in the following colours: A 2 (3) x 50g balls in Air

(shade 022) **B** 10 (**12**) 50g balls in Water (shade 004)

C 6 (7) 50g balls in Medium Grey (shade 007)

Needles
8mm (UK 0, UK 11) and
10mm (UK 000, US 15)
knitting needles
Stitch holders
Stitch markers

YARN DETAIL

- Rico Fashion Elements whichcraftwools.co.uk 0208 643 3211
- Super chunky weight
- 59% superwash wool, 40% acrylic, 1% polyester
- 50g/60m (66yds)
- Machine wash at 40°C
- £3.75

TENSION

10 sts and 14 rows over st st using 10mm needles to make a 10cm or 4in square

■ Turn to page 96 for full list of abbreviations

osying up in the chunkiest jumper you can lay your hands on can be so comforting, and you'll find loads of excuses to wrap up in this oversized beauty. We love the way the variegated shade, with its flecks of orange and hot pink, fades naturally into a simple Fair Isle pattern, then into solid, stormcloud grey, and the roomy, ribbed sleeves give the knit a borrowed-from-your-boyfriend feel that's perfect for a lazy Sunday. Why not make this slouchy sweater your first colourwork project?

BACK

Using 8mm needles, yarn C and thumb method cast on 58 (**66**) sts.

Row 1 (RS): K2, *p1, k1; rep from * to end. This row is called rib.

Work in rib until work measures 10cm (4in), ending with a WS row.

Change to 10mm needles and cont in patt from chart until you have worked 28th row of patt chart. ** Cont using yarn B only until work measures 65cm (25½in), ending with a WS row. Cast off knitways.

FRONT

Work as given for back to **. Cont using yarn B only until work measures 61cm (24in), ending with a WS row.

Shape front neck

K20 (**24**), turn and leave rem 38 (**42**) sts on a stitch holder. Working on this group for left side of neck only proceed as follows: Work 2 rows in st st.

Cast off 2 sts at neck edge in next and foll alt row. 16 (20) sts

Cont without shaping until work measures 65cm (25½in), ending with a WS row.

Cast off rem 16 (20) sts.

With RS facing, rejoin yarn to rem 38 (42) sts left on a stitch holder, cast off first 18 sts. knit to end. 20 (24) sts

Next row (WS): K1, purl to last st, k1. Cast off 2 sts at neck edge in next and foll alt row. 16 (**20**) sts

Cont without shaping until work measures 65cm (25½in), ending with a WS row. Cast off rem 16 (**20**) sts.

SLEEVES (BOTH ALIKE)

Note: When counting sts, yos are not included.

Using 8mm needles, yarn C and thumb method cast on 26 (28) sts.

Work in rib as given for back until work meas 10cm (4in), ending with a WS row. Change to 10mm needles and yarn B.

Row 1 (base row): Sl1p, *sl1p wyif, yo, k1; rep from * to last st, p1.

Row 2: Sl1p, *sl1p wyif, yo, k2tog (yo and 1 st); rep from * to last st, p1.

The last row forms brioche patt.

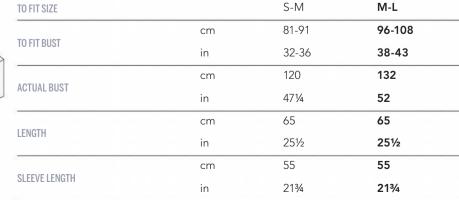
Cont in brioche patt, inc 1 st at each end of next and every foll 10th row until there are 40 (42) sts.

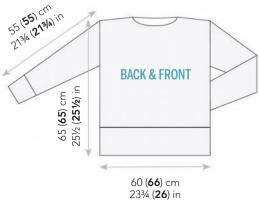
Cont without shaping until sleeve measures 55cm (21¾in), ending with a WS row. Cast off in patt, working p1 instead of sl1p wyif, yo on this row.

NECKBAND

Join right shoulder seam. With RS facing and using 8mm needles, pick up and knit 10 sts evenly down left side of front neck, 16 sts evenly across front neck, 10 sts evenly up right side of front neck, 26 sts evenly across back neck. 62 sts Work in rib as given for back until the neckband measures 5cm (2in), measured »

MEASUREMENTS RICO OVERSIZED JUMPER





OVERSIZED JUMPER

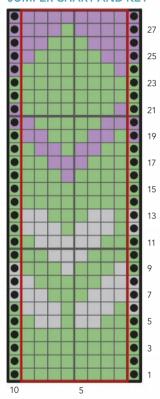
from pick up edge, ending with a WS row. Cast off loosely in rib.

MAKING UP

- 1 Join left shoulder and neckband seams. 2 Mark points along side edges 20 (**22**) cm, 8 (**8**³/₄) in down from shoulder seams.
- 3 Fold sleeves in half lengthways, then placing sleeve top folds to shoulder seams, sew sleeves in position between markers.
- 4 Join side and sleeve seams.5 Pin out sweater to measurements given.

Cover with clean, damp tea towels. Leave until dry. See ball band for washing and further care instructions. (1)

JUMPER CHART AND KEY



KEY

- Colour A, K on RS, P on WS
- Colour B, K on RS, P on WS
- Colour C, K on RS, P on WS
- K on both sides

WORKING THE CHART

The repeated pattern in the red box is worked 7 (8) times per row. When two colours are used strand the other across the back of the work.



SIMPLE STEPS RIB STITCH (EVEN NUMBER OF STS)

Rib stitch comes in many different guises, but the first one you'll learn is likely to be k1, p1. This combination of stitches creates a stretchy section that is commonly used on bottom edges and sleeve cuffs to help them to keep their shape. K2, p2, and k3, p3 are more common when using chunky yarns.



1 Starting on the RS, insert your needle into the first stitch and knit it, take the yarn around the front of the needle towards you.



2 Work the next stitch purlwise. Take the yarn around the front of the needle away from you. Repeat steps 1 and 2 to end.



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KNIT YOUR OWN

SAVVY STREET STYLE!

We've scanned the coolest street style knitwear and matched them up with even cooler hand-knit patterns to give you the fashion edge every day of the week...





BOLD AND BRILLIANT

range is going to be huge in 2016. From chunky cable knits of the passing winter season, worn with skinny jeans and plimsolls, to light and airy cropped openwork sweaters paired with baggy shorts and sandals. If you want to recreate this look at home, we love this bold and bright batwing handknit

from Conway + Bliss – it's the perfect quick knit.

KNIT THE TREND!

This Conway + Bliss pattern (ref no: CB026, £3.50) is knitted in their new cottonrich, aran-weight yarn Cleo (£4.95 for 50g). Worked on size 5mm needles, it knits up quickly. Visit designeryarns. uk.com for more information.

LOOPY AND LOVELY

he word on the street is, if you can add texture to your knits you're onto a fashion winner. Hugely inspired by the fab loopy cardis of the Seventies, today's textured looks polarise from maximum impact to cool and modern. Whether you go OTT or not, knit a loopyinspired garment this season

and give the catwalk a good run for its money.

KNIT THE TREND!

Our handknit match is 'Touch' from the Rowan Studio 22 collection booklet (£5.95). Worked in Rowan Kid Classic (£6.95 for 50g), and on 6mm needles it's a super-fun knit. Find out more at knitrowan.com.



CHIC AND COOL

arments that hug the shoulders are still one of the most popular knits of the last 12 months. Inspired by Seventies snoods and ponchos, they come with oodles of wow-factor and use a lot less yarn than a jumper! Modern super-cropped tops and twisty-backed boleros are all a follow-on to this exciting modern

trend. Work them in single colour floaty light yarns, like Rowan Kid Silk Haze, or chunk it up with a more robust option.

KNIT THE TREND!

Try it out for yourself with Be My Baby, a fabulous Wool and The Gang pattern available for £10 as a download. Visit woolandthegang.com for more details.

STRIPY AND SNUGGLY

tripes, especially those of the rainbow variety, never go out of fashion - they match absolutely everything, especially denim. And, the super-sized, shapeless garments we're seeing all over the high street right now make clearing out your yarn stash a pure, fashionable joy! We even whipped up our own

stash-busting version last month in issue 121...

KNIT THE TREND!

Our smashing stripy sweater was knitted in super-versatile Cascade 220 and worked on size 4mm needles. But you can work yours in any colourful DK yarn you have in your stash! For a back issue call 0844 844 0231.



SEE IT! KNIT IT!

GEEKY AND GORGEOUS

eek chic still has us in its clutches and never more so than through traditionally knitted Scandi patterns and fabulous Fair Isle offerings. Street-style geek chic is brave and bold, pairing up with bright coloured tweeds, denim, animal prints and flirty leather, to name just a few. Don't worry about

picking perfect shades, it's all about the clash!

KNIT THE TREND!

Live the trend by knitting your own gorgeous Fair Isle vest, like Ysolde Teague's Cruden tank top pattern (£5). Worked from the bottom up entirely in the round it's packed with exciting techniques. For details visit ysolda.com.



SPREAD THE LOVE

Give your Valentine a token of your affection – knit them **Rosee Woodland**'s little loveheart!

MATERIALS

- Yarn
 - Oddments of worsted weight yarn in main colour (MC) and contrast (CC). You will need less than 45m of MC and less than 15m of the CC
- Needles & accessories
 4mm (UK 8, US 6) knitting
 needles
 Spare needle or large safety
 pins to use as stitch holders
 Tapestry needle
 Toy stuffing or scraps of yarn
 Crochet hook (optional)

TENSION

Exact tension is not critical for this project

■ Turn to page 96 for full list of abbreviations

HEART (MAKE 2)

The heart is made by knitting the top curves first in two separate pieces, which are then joined together by knitting across both of them in one row. To work out which is the right side of your garter stitch, loop a piece of contrasting yarn through the right side of the work after you've knitted a couple of rows.

Make first half of heart top

Using 4mm needles and MC cast on 9 sts.

Set up row: Knit

Row 1 (RS): Kfb, knit to end. 10 sts

Row 2 (WS): Knit.

Row 3: Knit to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. 11 sts

Row 4: Knit.

Repeat rows 1 to 4 once more. 13 sts

Repeat rows 1 to 2 once more. 14 sts

Knit 3 rows.

Break yarn and leave sts on holder or large safety pin.

Make second half of heart top

Using 4mm needles and MC cast on 9 sts.

Set up row: Knit

Row 1 (RS): Knit to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. 10 sts

Row 2 (WS): Knit.

Row 3: Kfb, knit to end. 11 sts

Row 4: Knit.

Repeat rows 1 to 4 once more. 13 sts Repeat rows 1 to 2 once more. 14 sts

Knit 3 rows.

Join sides of heart top

Return second set of stitches to needles, ensuring both sides have WS facing you. Knit 1 row, working k2tog across the last stitch of the first piece and the first stitch of the second piece, to join the two halves together. 27 sts

Next row (RS): K1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. 25 sts

Next row (WS): Knit.

Repeat the last 2 rows until you have 5 sts, ending with a RS row.

Next row (WS): K1, k3tog, k1. 3 sts Break the yarn and thread through the remaining sts.

MAKING UP

When you have made the second side of the heart, place WS together and back stitch around the edge, leaving the bottom edge open. Turn right sides out. Make a crochet chain or simple loop of yarn and secure to top of heart for hanging loop. Stuff with toy stuffing or yarn scraps and sew bottom edge shut. Darn in ends.

LOWER

You will make 5 individual petals and then join them together at the end.

Petal (make 5)

Using 4mm needles and CC, cast on 2 sts.

Set up row: Knit.

Row 1 (RS): Kfb twice. 4 sts

Row 2 (WS): Knit.

Row 3: (Kfb, k1) twice. 6 sts

Row 4: Knit. Rows 5 to 8: Knit.

Row 9: (K2tog, k1) twice. 4 sts

Leave sts on a spare needle or safety pin. When you have 5 petals, return them to your needles, making sure all pieces are facing the same way. Knit across all sts once. Break yarn and thread through all sts. Pull tight and weave in ends. (1)

Learn it, make it, live it

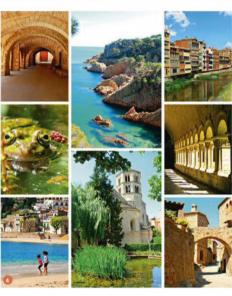
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SUPER-COOL YOU

Fall in love with the funky new yarn and fab look of this **Conway + Bliss** knit

SHOULDER CAPE



MATERIALS

(shade 03)

- Yarn
 1 x 50g ball of Conway +
 Bliss Elektra in Hip Hop
- Needles 8mm (UK 0, US 11) straight knitting needles 7mm (UK 2) circular needle 40cm (16in) long

YARN DETAIL

- Conway + Bliss Elektra designeryarns.uk.com 01535 664222
- Super chunky weight
- 44% wool, 44% acrylic,12% polyamide
- 50g/130m (142yds)
- Handwash
- £4.95

TENSION

12 sts and 18 rows over st st using 8mm needles to make a 10cm or 4in square

SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

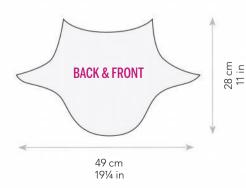
s2togkpo

slip 2 sts tog, k1, pass both slipped sts over

FINISHED SIZE

Depth at centre front/back (including collar) approximately 28cm (11in)

■ Turn to page 96 for full list of abbreviations



e the envy of all your friends with this funky shoulder cape knitted in Conway + Bliss's exciting yarn, Elektra. We've worked ours in the gorgeous Hip Hop, which is a bright mix of pink and purple, but you can choose

FRONT AND BACK (BOTH THE SAME)

from some amazing colours combos to

suit your musical mood perfectly!

With 8mm needles, cast on 35 sts. **Row 1 (RS):** K2, yf, k2tog, yf, k1, yf, k4, s2togkpo, k4, yf, s2togkpo, yf, k4, s2togkpo, k4, yf, k1, yf, ssk, yf, k2.

Row 2 and every foll WS row: P to end.

Row 3: K2, yf, k2tog, (yf, k3) twice, s2togkpo, k3, yf, s2togkpo, yf, k3, s2togkpo, (k3, yf) twice, ssk, yf, k2. **Row 5:** K2, yf, k2tog, yf, k5, yf, k2,

s2togkpo, k2, yf, s2togkpo, yf, k2, s2togkpo, k2, yf, k5, yf, ssk, yf, k2.

Row 7: K2, yf, k2tog, yf, k7, yf, k1, s2togkpo, k1, yf, s2togkpo, yf, k1, s2togkpo, yf, k2.

Row 9: K2, yf, k2tog, yf, k9, (yf, s2togkpo) 3 times, yf, k9, yf, ssk, yf, k2.

Row 11: K2, yf, k2tog, yf, k10, k2tog, yf, s2togkpo, yf, ssk, k10, yf, ssk, yf, k2.

Row 12: P to end.

These 12 rows form the patt and are repeated once more.

Row 25 (RS): K2, yf, k2tog, yf, k6, turn and

cont in on these 11 sts only, leave rem sts on the needle.

Row 26: P11.

Row 27: K2, yf, k2tog, yf, k7. 12 sts

Row 28: P12.

Row 29: K2, yf, k2tog, yf, k8. 13 sts

Row 30: P13.

Row 31: K2, yf, k2tog, yf, k9. 14 sts

Cast off.

With RS facing, slip the centre 15 sts onto a holder, rejoin yarn to rem 10 sts, k6, yf, ssk, yf, k2. 11 sts

Row 26: P11.

Row 27: K7, yf, ssk, yf, k2. 12 sts

Row 28: P12.

Row 29: K8, yf, ssk, yf, k2. 13 sts

Row 30: P13.

Row 31: K9, yf, ssk, yf, k2. 14 sts

Cast off.

COLLAR

Join shoulder seams.

With RS facing and 7mm circular needle, beg at left shoulder seam and pick up and k29 sts around front neck, including sts on front holder, then including sts on back holder, pick and k29 sts around back neck edge to left shoulder seam and place a marker to show start of round. 58 sts.

Rib round: (K1, p1) to marker.

Rep this round 15 times more. Cast off loosely and evenly in rib. (





CUDDLY WHALE



MATERIALS

Yarn

Yarn A: 3 x 100g balls of Hayfield Bonus Chunky with Wool in Brittany Blue (shade 771)

Yarn B: 2 x 25g balls of Sirdar Snuggly Snowflake Chunky in Beige (shade 642)

Yarn C: 2 x 25g balls of Sirdar Snuggly Snowflake Chunky in Minty (shade 626)

Scrap yarn (in two colours, called X and Y in pattern)

- Needles5.5mm (UK 5, US 9) and6.5mm (UK 3, US 10.5)knitting needles
- Accessories
 2 x 24mm toy safety eyes
 and washers
 800g of toy stuffing

YARN DETAIL

- Hayfield Bonus Chunky with Wool sirdar.co.uk 01924 231 682
- Chunky weight
- 80% acrylic, 20% wool
- 100g/145m (158yds)
- Machine wash at 40°C
- £2.29
- Sirdar Snuggly Snowflake Chunky sirdar.co.uk 01924 231 682
- Chunky weight
- 100% polyester
- 25g/62m (67yds)
- Machine wash at 40°C
- **£**2.39

TENSION

For both yarns: 14 sts and 19 rows over st st using 6.5mm needles to make a 10cm or 4in square

FINISHED SIZE

86cm (34in) from nose to tail

■ Turn to page 96 for full list of abbreviations

hen it comes to toys, cuddliness is of the utmost importance, and this blue whale is about as huggable as you can get. With his squashy stocking stitch body, he's a big old softie! It gets better, though – turn him over and you'll find that this marvellous mammal's garter stitch tummy, is seriously strokeable too.

PATTERN NOTE

If you're making this whale for a child under three years old, embroider the eyes on rather than use plastic eyes.

TOP PIECE (MAKE ONE)

Using the long tail cast on method and 6.5mm needles, cast on 6 stitches in yarn A. This will form the first row of knitting.

Row 1 (RS): Knit.

Row 2 (WS): P all even rows unless otherwise stated.

Row 3: *Kfb* all stitches. 12 sts

Row 5: *K1, kfb* all stitches. 18 sts

Row 7: *K2, kfb* all stitches. 24 sts

Row 9: *K3, kfb* all stitches. 30 sts

Row 11: *K4, kfb* all stitches. 36 sts

Row 13: *K5, kfb* all stitches. 42 sts

Rows 15-46: Work in st st.

Row 47: Kfb, k39, Kfb, k1. 44 sts

Row 49: K1, kfb, k39 adding scrap yarn marker (colour X) on the 2nd and 2nd from last stitch, Kfb, k2. 46 sts

Row 51: K2, kfb, k39, kfb, k3. 48 sts

Row 53: K3, kfb, k39, kfb, k4. 50 sts

Row 55: K4, kfb, k39, kfb, k5. 52 sts

Row 57: K5, kfb, k39, kfb, k6. 54 sts

D---- FO. K/ J.fl- J.20 J.fl- J.7 F/ -+-

Row 59: K6, kfb, k39, kfb, k7. 56 sts **Row 61:** K7, kfb, k39, kfb, k8. 58 sts

Row 63: K8, kfb, k39, kfb, k9. 60 sts

Row 65: Knit.

Row 67: K9, kfb, k39, kfb, k10. 62 sts

Row 69: Knit.

Row 71: K10, kfb, k39, kfb, k11. 64 sts

Row 73: Knit, adding scrap yarn marker (colour Y) on the 3rd and 3rd from last stitches

Row 75: Knit.

Row 77: K11, kfb, k39, kfb, k12. 66 sts

Row 79: Knit.

Row 81: Knit.

Row 83: K12, kfb, k39, kfb, k13. 68 sts

Row 85: Knit, adding scrap yarn markers (colour Y) on the 4th and 4th from last stitches.

Row 87: Knit.

Row 89: K13, kfb, k39, kfb, k14, 70 sts

Row 91: Knit.

Row 93: Knit.

Row 95: K14, kfb, k39, kfb, k15. 72 sts

Row 97: *K10, k2tog* all stitches. 66 sts

Row 99: Knit.

Row 101: *K9, k2tog* all stitches. 60 sts

Row 103: Knit.

Row 105: *K8, k2tog* all stitches. 54 sts

Row 107: Knit.

Row 109: *K7, k2tog* all stitches. 48 sts

Row 111: Knit.

Row 113: *K6, k2tog* all stitches. 42 sts

Row 115: Knit.

Row 117: Knit.

Row 119: *K5, k2tog* all stitches. 36 sts

Row 121: Knit.

Row 123: Knit.

Row 125: *K4, k2tog* all stitches. 30 sts

Row 127: Knit.

Row 129: Knit.

Row 131: *K3, k2tog* all stitches. 24 sts

Rows 133-152: Work in st st.

Row 153: Kfb, knit to the last two stitches, kfb, k1. 26 sts

Row 155: Knit.

Row 157: Knit.

Row 159: Kfb, knit to the last two stitches, kfb, k1. 28 sts

Rows 161-166: Work in st st.

Row 167: Kfb, k to the last two stitches, kfb, k1. 30 sts

Row 169: Kfb, k to the last two stitches, kfb, k1. 32 sts

Row 171: Kfb, k to the last two stitches, kfb, k1. 34 sts

Row 173: Kfb, k to the last two stitches, kfb, k1. 36 sts

Row 175: Kfb, k to the last two stitches, kfb, k1. 38 sts

Row 177: Kfb, k to the last two stitches, kfb, k1, 40 sts

The tail

Row 178: P20 and turn the piece placing the remaining 20 stitches on a stitch holder to be worked later.

Row 179: Skp, k to the last two stitches kfb, k1. 20 sts

Row 181: Skp, k to the last two stitches kfb, k1. 20 sts

Row 183: Skp, k to the last two stitches kfb, K1. 20 sts

Row 185: Cast off 2, k to the last two stitches, kfb, k1. 19 sts



CUDDLY WHALE

Row 187: Cast off 2, k to the last two stitches, kfb, k1. 18 sts

Row 189: Cast off 3, k to the last two stitches, kfb, k1. 16 sts

Row 191: Cast off 4, k to the last two stitches, kfb, k1. 13 sts

Row 193: Cast off 5, k to the last two stitches, kfb, k1. 9 sts

Row 195: Cast off. Weave in loose ends.

Place the 20 stitches on the stitch holder back on the needle ready to be worked from row 178 (a purl row).

Row 178: Re-attach the yarn and purl. Row 179: Kfb, k to the last two stitches, K2toq. 20 sts

Row 181: Kfb, k to the last two stitches, K2tog. 20 sts

Row 183: Kfb, k to the last two stitches, k2tog. 20 sts

Row 185: Kfb, k to the end of the row. 21 sts

Row 186: Cast off 2 stitches purlwise, p to the end of the row. 9 sts

Row 187: Kfb, k to the end of the row. 20 sts

Row 188: Cast off 2 stitches purlwise, p to the end of the row. 18 sts

Row 189: Kfb, k to the end of the row.

Row 190: Cast off 3 stitches purlwise, p to the end of the row. 16 sts

Row 191: Kfb, k to the end of the row. 17 sts

Row 192: Cast off 4 stitches purlwise, p to the end of the row. 13 sts

Row 193: Kfb, k to the end of the row. 14 sts



Row 194: Cast off 4 stitches purlwise, p to the end of the row. 9 sts

Row 195: Cast off. Weave in loose ends.

UNDERBELLY (MAKE ONE)

Using long tail cast on method and 5.5mm needles, cast on 6 stitches in yarn B.

Row 1 (RS): Knit.

Row 2 (WS): Knit.

Row 3: *Kfb* all stitches. 12 sts

Row 4: Knit.

Row 5: *K1, kfb* all stitches, 18 sts

Row 6: Knit.

Row 7: *K2, kfb* all stitches. 24 sts

Row 8: Knit.

Row 9: *K3, kfb* all stitches. 30 sts

Row 10: Knit.

Row 11: *K4, kfb* all stitches. 36 sts

Row 12: Knit.

Row 13: Change to yarn C and *k5, kfb* all stitches. 42 sts

Row 14: Knit.

Row 15: *K6, kfb* all stitches. 48 sts

Row 16: Knit.

Row 17: *K7, kfb* all stitches. 54 sts

Row 18: Knit.

Row 19: *K8, kfb* all stitches. 60 sts

Rows 20-24: Knit.

Rows 25-36: Change to yarn B and knit.

Rows 37-40: Change to yarn C and knit.

Row 41: *K18, k2tog* all stitches. 57 sts

Row 42: Knit.

Row 43: *K17, k2tog* all stitches. 54 sts

Row 44: Knit.

Row 45: *K16, k2tog* all stitches. 51 sts

Row 46: Knit.

Row 47: *K15, k2tog* all stitches. 48 sts

Row 48: Knit. »

SIMPLE STEPS KNIT STITCH

Knit stitch is where most knitters tend to start. It's easy to learn, and garter stitch fabric (which is knitted every row) is lovely and squishy, although it is naturally shorter than stocking stitch (which is where you knit one row, purl one row and repeat).



1 Insert your right needle diagonally, front to back into the first stitch on your left needle. Your needles should be roughly at right angles.



2 Wrap the working yarn around the right needle clockwise and pull this yarn through to the front of the stitch with your right needle.



3 Let the old stitch fall off the left-hand needle, keeping the new stitch on the right-hand needle. That's your first stitch done!

CUDDLY WHALF

Row 49: Change to B and *k14, k2tog* all stitches, 45 sts

Row 50: Knit.

Row 51: Skp, k to the last two stitches,

K2toq. 43 sts

Row 52: Knit.

Rows 53-60: Repeat the last 2 rows 4 more times. 35 sts

Row 61: Change to yarn C and knit to the last two stitches, k2tog. 34 sts

Row 62: Knit.

Row 63: Skp, k to the last two stitches,

k2tog. 32 sts

Row 64: Knit.

Rows 65-72: Knit.

Rows 73-84: Change to yarn B and knit.

Rows 85-96: Change to yarn C and knit.

Row 97-104: Change to yarn B and knit

Row 105: Skp, k to the last two stitches,

k2tog. 30 sts

Rows 106-108: Knit.

Rows 109-120: Change to yarn C and knit.

Rows 121-124: Knit.

Row 125: Change to yarn B, *k8, k2tog* all stitches. 27 sts

Rows 126-130: Knit.

Row 131: *K7, k2tog* all stitches. 24 sts

Row 132: Knit.

Rows 133-142: Change to yarn C and knit.

Rows 143-152: Change to yarn B and knit.

Row 153: Kfb, k to the last two stitches,

kfb, k1. 26 sts Row 154: Knit.

Row 155: Knit.

Row 156: Knit.

Row 157: Change to yarn C and knit.

Row 158: Knit.

Row 159: Kfb, k to the last two stitches,

kfb. k1. 28 sts

Rows 160-166: Knit

Row 167: Kfb, k to the last two stitches, kfb,

k1 30sts

Row 168: Knit.

Row 169: Change to yarn B and kfb, k to the last two stitches, kfb, k1. 32 sts

Row 170: Knit.

Row 171: Kfb, k to the last two stitches,

Kfb, k1. 34 sts

Row 172: Knit.

Row 173: Kfb, k to the last two stitches,

kfb, k1. 36 sts

Row 174: Knit.

Row 175: Kfb, knit to the last two stitches,

kfb, k1. 38 sts

Row 176: Knit.

Row 177: kfb, k to the last two stitches, kfb,

k1. 40 sts

The tail

Row 178: K20 and turn the piece placing the remaining 20 stitches on a stitch holder to be worked later.

Row 179: Skp, k to the last two stitches kfb. k1. 20 sts

Row 180: Knit.

Row 181: Change to yarn C and skp, k to the last two stitches kfb, k1. 20 sts

Row 182: Knit.

Row 183: Skp, k to the last two stitches kfb, k1, 20 sts

Row 184: Knit.

Row 185: Cast off 2, k to the last two

stitches, kfb, k1. 19 sts

Row 186: Knit.

Row 187: Cast off 2, k to the last two

stitches, kfb, k1. 18 sts

Row 188: Knit.

Row 189: Cast off 3 sts. k to the last two

stitches, kfb, k1, 16 sts

Row 190: Knit.

Row 191: Cast off 4 sts. k to the last two

stitches, kfb, k1, 13 sts

Row 192: Knit.

Row 193: Cast off 5 sts, k to the last two

stitches, kfb, k1. 9 sts

Row 194 Knit

Row 195: Cast off and weave in the loose ends.

Place the 20 stitches on the stitch holder back on the needle ready to be worked from row 178 (a knit row).

Row 178: Reattach the yarn and knit.

Row 179: Kfb, k to the last two stitches,

k2tog. 20 sts

Row 180: Knit.

Row 181: Kfb, k to the last two stitches,

k2toq. 20 sts

Row 182: Knit.

Row 183: Kfb, k to the last two stitches,

k2toa. 20 sts

Row 184: Knit.

Row 185: Kfb. k to the end of the row.

Row 186: Cast off 2 sts, k to the end of the

row. 19 sts

Row 187: Kfb, k to the end of the row.

Row 188: Cast off 2 sts, k to the end of the

row. 18 sts

Row 189: Kfb, k to the end of the row.

Row 190: Cast off 3 sts, k to the end of the

row. 16 sts

Row 191: Kfb, k to end of the row. 17 sts

Row 192: Cast off 4 sts, k to the end of the

row. 13 sts

Row 193: Kfb, k to end of the row. 14 sts

Row 194: Cast off 5 sts. k to the end of the

row. 9 sts.

Row 195: Cast off.

Weave in loose ends.

FLIPPERS/TOP PIECE (MAKE TWO)

Using the long tail cast on method and 6.5mm needles cast on 12 stitches in A.

Row 1 (RS): Knit.

Row 2 (WS): Purl.

Rows 3-22: Work in st st.

Row 23: *K3, kfb* all stitches. 15 sts

Row 24. Purl

Rows 25-28: Work in st st.

Row 29: *K4, kfb* all stitches. 18 sts

Row 30: Purl.

Rows 31-34: Work in st st.

Row 35: *K5. kfb* all stitches. 21 sts

Row 36: Purl.

Rows 37-46: Work in st st.

Row 47: *K5, k2tog* all stitches. 18 sts

Row 48: Purl.

Row 49: *K4, k2toq* all stitches. 15 sts

Row 50: Purl.

Row 51: *K3, k2tog* all stitches. 12 sts

Row 52: Purl.

Row 53: *K2, k2tog* all stitches. 9 sts

Row 54: Purl.

Row 55: *K1, k2tog* all stitches. 6 sts Row 56: Purl.

Row 57: *K2tog* all stitches. 3 sts

Row 58: Purl. Row 59: Cast off and weave in loose ends.

FLIPPERS/BOTTOM PIECE (MAKE TWO)

Using the long tail cast on method and 5.5mm knitting needles, cast on 12 stitches in C

Row 1: Knit. Rows 2-6: Knit.

Rows 7-12: Change to yarn B and knit.

Rows 13-18: Change to yarn C and knit.

Rows 19-22: Change to yarn B and knit.

Row 23: *K3, kfb* all stitches. 15 sts

Row 24: Knit.

Rows 25-28: Change to yarn C and knit.

Row 29: *K4, kfb* all stitches. 18 sts

Row 30: Knit.

Rows 31-34: Change to yarn B and knit.

Row 35: *K5, kfb* all stitches. 21 sts

Row 36: Knit.

Rows 37-42: Change to yarn C and knit.

Rows 43-46: Change to yarn B and knit.

Row 47: *K5, k2tog* all stitches. 18 sts

Row 48: Knit.

Row 49: Change to yarn C and *k4, k2tog*

CUDDLY WHALE



all stitches. 15 sts

Row 50: Knit.

Row 51: *K3, k2tog* all stitches. 12 sts

Row 52: Knit.

Row 53: *K2, k2tog* all stitches. 9 sts

Row 54: Knit.

Row 55: Change to yarn B and *k1, k2tog* all stitches. 6 sts

Row 56: Knit.

Row 57: *K2tog* all stitches. 3 sts

Row 58: Knit.

Row 59: Cast off and weave in all the loose yarn ends.

MAKING UP

1 Place each 24mm eye on the colour X scrap yarn markers. Remove the markers and secure the eyes to the knitting using a safety washer.

2 Place the top and bottom piece of the whale together, with the wrong sides

facing inwards and so that the cast on edges and bound off edges match up.

3 Pin and sew these pieces together from the cast on edge to cast off edge, then back up to cast on edge using a mattress stitch in yarn A. Leave a hole for stuffing.

4 Take a top flipper and bottom flipper piece and place them together with the wrong sides facing in. Pin and sew up from the cast on edge to the cast off edge then back up to the cast on edge using a mattress stitch in yarn A. Leave the cast on edge open and then very lightly stuff the fins so they're nice and floppy.

5 Stuff the whale, being aware of the shaping – add more stuffing in the body and head, but less in the tail. Use the photograph above as a guide to get the right shape.

6 Sew up the hole used for stuffing with a mattress stitch in yarn A.

7 Place each flipper on either side of body, between colour Y yarn markers. Pin and sew into place with A. Remove markers.

LOUISE WALKER

Louise rose to fame when she made a series of colourful woolly wigs, and her faux taxidermy has gained a bit of a cult following!



www.sincerelylouise.co.uk
twitter.com/sincerelylouise



SHOW US YOURS!

Hearing all your woolly witterings never fails to fill us with joy – send in your snaps to make us smile!

TWEET! TWEET!

You've been chirping away – here are some of your purls of wisdom!

SNUGGLE UP

Victoria ECY @EdenCottage

I'm knitting myself a super-cosy Lopistyle sweater in chunky baby alpaca.

AND... RELAX

The Woolmark Company @Woolmark
Did you know? Knitting, like
meditation, taps into different parts
of the brain, helping towards
relaxation and creativity

FASHION SHOW

Kate Atherley @kateatherley

I love meeting new knitting friends. And making them try on hand-knit sweater dresses in a swanky bar.

A SAD TAIL

Twist Collective @twistcollective

I just started knitting with the tail of my cast on. :/

RIGHT AS RAIN

Stephen West @Westknits

Wearing my Reis pullover today in drizzly Copenhagen. Pattern on Ravelry....

WHAT A RELIEF!

Rachel Coopey @coopknits

I've just remembered I put a pair of socks on the radiator and I might cry!

BEAR ESSENTIALS

▶ Prep is almost finished for the @ ClothesShow! All the new critters are hanging out in the studio! Louise Walker, knitwear designer @sincerelylouise



GREY AREA

Why mum made this sparkly grey set for my birthday back in September, and I've hardly taken it off since! Marie, Falmouth



PUPPY LOVE

▲ I loved this Alan Dart collie the minute I saw him, and found it easy to follow and sew together. I sold the dog after I finished it, with all proceeds going towards my next knitting project! Mandy Wilson, Glamorgan



HATS OFF TO YOU!

▲ My youngest needed an emergency present for a friend - having no money for a gift I raided my stash and knitted a hat! I started looking for books and came across Fiona Goble's Knitted Animal Hats. First I made a hedgehog then Archie's monster with pom-pom, made by him and sewn on by Mum. The book is getting a bit dog eared with everyone looking to see which hat they want! Heather Borthwick, Duns

THE LOWDOWN To be in with a chance of winning one of three knitting goody bags, worth £30, show us your *Knit Today* makes on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram or via email at knittoday@immediate.co.uk. For competition rules please visit knit-today.com and search for terms and conditions.

@KNITTODAY _



USE THE FORCE

◀I work at Mole Country Stores. We tend to do one late night shopping night before Christmas, where we all dress up. This year our new manager, who is a total geek, suggested we do Star Wars-themed fancy dress. I love to create things, so I googled 'Star Wars' and 'knitting', and found that someone – I think in America – had made an R2-D2 yarn bomb, which I thought was such an awesome idea. He went down a treat, even if half the customers had no idea what Star Wars actually was! Mandy Rowe, Laverstock

WE LOVE ACCESSORIES

You've been keeping warm in lots of cool ways – here are three of our favourites from Facebook!







1. As soon as Sarah from Truro saw our star hat and cowl in issue 121 she went straight out and bought the wool – here's her version, in gorgeous grey!

2. Can you believe Georgina has only been knitting since October 2015, and that this is her first Fair Isle project? Nor can we! She's now making one for her daughter in different colours.

3. Lin's daughter loves hedgehogs, especially because they have two in their garden – they're now hibernating, but Lin made a prickly pair in their honour using a plain mitten pattern and spikes made from tinsel yarn!

THIS MONTH WE ASKED YOU ...

IS KNITTING EXERCISE?

"Knitting KEEPS My FingERS

SUPPLE. IF My FingERS

WEREN'T SUPPLE, I COULDN'T

PLAY THE HARP. IF I

COULDN'T PLAY IT I WOULDN'T

HAVE TO LUG IT AROUND. IF

I DIDN'T LUG IT AROUND, I

WOULDN'T GET ANY EXERCISE.

OF COURSE IT'S EXERCISE!"

Merrilyn Barber, via Facebook

TINY PIRATE

I knitted this for my grandson. I didn't use a pattern, but his dad loves skull designs so I had to knit his little boy a sweater! Elaine Strong, Canada



METAL MAN

▼ Kirsty Connor
was one of the
first to cast on
something from
issue 121 – she
tweeted us her
version of our
retro robot!
@KnitToday Just
finished first
attempt at knitting
toys with project
from latest issue
just using wool
from my stash!



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WORK OF ART

Give herringbone stitch a try! Make **Eliza Robson**'s triangle scarf with hand-dyed yarn

hought 4ply yarn was just for socks? Think again – it's perfect for lighter garments and accessories for warmer weather, like this triangular scarf. It also shows off a delicate stitch pattern like herringbone – which creates a woven-effect fabric made up of criss-cross stitches – beautifully. Such a pretty knit deserves a gorgeous yarn, and that's why Eliza has chosen Hand-Painted 4ply from Artesano for the job. Made from soft alpaca and wool, it knits up to create a wonderful marbled effect. This scarf is so light that you can drape it around »







MATERIALS

Yarn 3 x 50g balls of Artesano Hand Painted 4ply in Lemon Grove (shade EZ82)

Needles 4mm (UK 8, US 6) Tapestry needle

YARN DETAIL

- Artesano Hand Painted 4ply artesanoyarns.co.uk 0118 9503350
- 4ply weight
- 50% alpaca (superfine), 50% wool
- 50g/184m (201yds)
- Hand wash only
- £4.50

TENSION

26 sts and 25 rows over pattern using 4mm needles to make a 10cm or 4in square

SPECIAL STITCHES

sl1, k2, psso2 slip one stitch

kwise, knit two stitches and then pass slipped stitch over BOTH stitches

sl1, p2, psso2 slip one stitch

pwise, purl two stitches and then pass slipped stitch over BOTH stitches

pfb

purl into the front and back of the same stitch to increase 1 stitch

■ Turn to page 96 for full list of abbreviations

your neck and tuck it inside your jacket - or wear it long and loose with a block colour for contrast. Hand-Painted 4ply comes in an amazing range of colours, from Meadow Flowers, a mix of bright floral shades, to Glacier, a cool blend of the iciest blues and mauves.

SHAWL

Using 4mm needles cast on 6 sts. Row 1 (RS): Kfb, k1, yo, sl1, k2, psso2, k1. 7

Row 2 (WS): K1, p1, yo, sl1, p2, psso2, p1, pfb. 8 sts

Row 3: Kfb, k3, yo, sl1, k2, psso2, k1. 9 sts Row 4: K1, p1, yo, sl1, p2, psso2, p3, pfb. 10 sts

Row 5: Kfb, k5, yo, sl1, k2, psso2, k1. 11 sts **Row 6:** K1, p1, yo, sl1, p2, psso2, p to end.

Pattern repeat

Row 7: Cast off 2 sts, k1, *yo, sl1, k2, psso2; repeat from * to 1 st before end, k1.

Row 8: K1, p1, *yo, sl1, p2, psso2; repeat to 1 st before end, pfb.

Row 9: Kfb, k2, *yo, sl1, k2, psso2; repeat from * to 1 st before end, k1.

Row 10: K1, p1, *yo, sl1, p2, psso2; repeat to 3 sts before end, p2, pfb.

Row 11: Kfb, k4, *yo, sl1, k2, psso2; repeat from * to 1 st before end, k1.

Row 12: K1, p1, *yo, sl1, p2, psso2; repeat to 5 sts before end, p4, pfb.

For every repeat of these 6 rows, 3 sts are increased overall.

Repeat the last 6 rows 55 more times. 168 sts increased. 179 sts in total.

Making up

Cast off all stitches. Sew in ends and block, taking care to pull out each point. (1)

FLIZA ROBSON

When Eliza's not busy helping out in the Skein Queen studio she's whipping up beautiful knits – we predict big things for this designer!



ElizaRobson on ravelry.com

twitter.com/skeingueen



The delicate criss-cross herringbone stitches show off this variegated yarn beautifully!

KEY

No stitch

Cast off

✓ SI st wyif

A SI st wyib

K2, psso2

P2, psso2

O yo

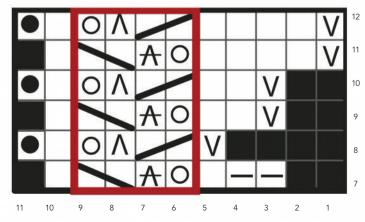
RS kfb, WS pfb

Repeat section

K on RS, P on WS

P on RS, K on WS

SHAWL STITCH PATTERN





PICOT STITCH

Discover a new stitch and how to use it in every issue



PICOT EDGING.

There are many ways to make plain garments look that little bit special, and one of the easiest ways is to add a pretty edging. A picot edging is probably one of the simplest ways to do this – in fact, even a novice can attempt this stitch with great results!

Using a smaller size needle, as you would for a ribbed edge, either cast on or pick up an even number of stitches. Work the stated number of rows of stocking stitch, usually about four to six rows. Then make a row of holes, by working yfwd, k2tog, all across the row.

Purl the next row, work the stated number of rows of stocking stitch, then continue with the main piece of work.

To achieve the pretty zig-zag edge in the photo above, fold the knitting in half. Align the hole row, and carefully sew the cast on edge, either to the cast off edge or to the first row of the main pattern. You'll need to match stitch for stitch to get the edging straight.

Practise this stitch by knitting a short strip to get the hang of folding and stitching the piece together. When you feel confident, try the bonnet, bootees and snuggle doll on the next page!

PICOT STRIP

Using 4mm needles, cast on 54 sts.
Work 6 rows st st.
Next row (RS): K1, * yo,k2tog; rep from * to last st k1.
Next row (WS): Purl.
Work 6 rows st st and cast off.

Fold the strip in half and stitch the cast on and cast off edges together.

Turn the page for more ideas using this stitch pattern. »



MATERIALS

- Yarn (for whole set)
 2 x 100g balls of Stylecraft
 Baby Wondersoft in Miss
 Muffet (shade 1294)
 Scrap of pink yarn cuddle
 doll's mouth
- Needles
 3.25mm (UK 10, US 3),
 3.75mm (UK 9, US 5) and
 4mm (UK 8, US 6) knitting needles
 Oddment of black yarn

YARN DETAIL

- Stylecraft Wondersoft DK stylecraft-yarns.co.uk 01535 669952
- DK weight
- 100% acrylic
- 100g/294m (322yds)
- Machine wash at 40°C
- £3.59

TENSION

22 sts and 30 rows over st st using 4mm needles to make a 10cm or 4in square

26 sts and 34 rows over g st using 4mm needles to make a 10cm or 4in square

YARN ALTERNATIVES

- James C. Brett Baby Marble DK jamescbrett.co.uk
- Patons Smoothie DK coatscrafts.com

FINISHED SIZES

Cuddle doll: Square measures 30cm x 30cm (11¾in x 11¾in) Bootees (length of foot): 9cm (31⁄2in)

Bonnet: 30.5cm (12in) circumference

■ Turn to page 96 for full list of abbreviations



BOOTEES

Tiny toes deserve the VIP treatment, and these bootees are cute as a button!

Using 3.75mm needles cast on 27 sts and knit 1 row.

Next row (RS): K2, m1, k11, m1, k1, m1, k11, m1, k2. 31 sts

Next row and all alt rows: Knit.

 $\textbf{Next row:} \ K2, \, m1, \, k12, \, m1, \, k3, \, m1, \, k12, \,$

m1, k2. 35 sts

 $\textbf{Next row:} \ K2, \, m1, \, k13, \, m1, \, k5, \, m1, \, k13, \,$

m1, k2. 39 sts

Next row: K2, m1, k14, m1, k7, m1, k14,

m1, k2. 43 sts

Next row: Knit.

Starting with a k row, work 4 rows st st.

Next row: K1, *yo, k2tog; rep from * to last

st, k1.

Next row: Purl.

Work 4 rows st st beg with a k row. Work 12 rows g st.

Shape foot

Next row: Knit 26 turn.

Next row: K9, turn.

Next row: K8, k2tog,turn.

Next row: K8, k2togtbl, turn.

Repeat the last 2 rows 5 times. Turn.

Next row: K9, k across sts on LH needle.

Next row: Knit across all stitches.

Work 2 rows g st.

Now change to k1, p1 rib. Work 6 rows.

Change to q st.

Continue until work measures 5cm (2in) ending with a RS row.

Starting with a k row, work 4 rows st st.

Next row: K1, *yo, k2tog; rep from * to last st, k1.

Next row: Purl.

Starting with a k row, work a further 4 rows st st. Cast off.

MAKING UP

1 Fold over picot rows on the sole of the bootee and sew in place on the wrong side of the work to form a ridge.

2 Sew seams of leg and foot.

3 Turn over picot edging at top of bootee and sew in place on wrong side of work.

4 Turn over cuff of bootee.

CUDDLE DOLL

With textured details and a squishy head, this little friend is soft, strokeable and the perfect gift for a newborn.

Using 4mm needles cast on 64 sts. Work 4 rows st st.

Next row (picot row): K1, *yo, k2tog, rep

from * to last st, k1.

Next row: Purl.

Work 4 rows st st.





Work 6 rows g st. Work 8 rows st st.

Work the last 14 rows 5 times more, Work 6 rows q stitch.

Work picot edging as you did at the

beginning, cast off.

Sew over picot borders on the top and bottom edges.

To work picot edging on other two sides proceed as follows:

Using 4mm needles and with right side of work facing, pick up and knit 62 sts from one side edge.

Starting with a p row, work 3 rows st st.

Next row (picot row): K1, *yo, k2tog; rep

from * to last st, k1.

Next row: Purl.

Work 4 rows st st and cast off.
Work other side edge to match.
Fold over edges onto wrong side of work and stitch in place neatly.

Head

Using 4mm needles cast on 10 sts.

Next row (WS): Purl. Next row: Kfb to end. 20 sts

Starting with a p row, work 3 rows st st. **Next row:** *K1, kfb, repeat from * to end.

30 sts

Starting with a p row, work 3 rows in st st. **Next row:** *K2, kfb, rep from *to end.

40 sts

Work 3 rows starting with a p row.

Next row: *K3, inc, rep from to end.

Starting with a p row, work 13 rows in st st.

Shape top

Next row: *K3, skp, rep to end. 40 sts

Next row: Purl.

Next row: *K2, skp, rep to end. 30 sts

Next row: Purl.

Next row: *K1,skp, rep from * to end.

20 sts

Next row: Purl.

Next row: K2tog across row. 10 sts

Next row: Purl.

Break yarn and run through sts on needle, pull up and fasten off.

Sew side seam, but leave a small opening to stuff at the base. Stuff quite firmly. Embroider face using photo as a guide.

Hat

Using 4mm needles cast on 50 sts.

Knit 4 rows st st.

Next row (picot row): K1, *yo, k2tog; rep from * to last st. k1.

Next row: Purl.

Starting with a k row, work 3 rows st st. **Next row:** Knit (this forms ridge). Starting with a k row, work 4 rows st st.

Decrease for top

Next row: *K3, skp, rep from * to end.

40 sts.

Next row: Purl.

Next row: *K2, skp, rep from * to end.

30 sts

Next row: Purl.

Next row: *K1, skp, rep from * to end.

20 sts

Next row: Purl.

Next row: *K2tog, rep across row. 10 sts.

Next row: Purl.

Break yarn and pull through sts on needle.

Flower for top knot

Using 4mm needles cast on $30\,\mathrm{sts}.$

Knit 1 row.

Cast off as follows: Cast off first stitch in the normal way, leaving one st left on the right hand needle, *yrn, slip first st over yrn, k1, slip first over knitted stitch*, continue in this way until all stitches are cast off. The work will curl as you cast off. Coil piece tightly into a flower shape and secure with a few stitches.

MAKING UP

1 Sew side seam neatly.

2 Fold picot edge onto wrong side of work and sew all around.

3 Place hat onto head of doll, secure with neat stitches.

4 Fold the main piece of knitting into four, mark the centre of the work.

5 Sew the head to the centre point.

6 Sew flower on the top of the hat firmly.

BONNET

Add a zig-zag edging to a simple bonnet and it becomes an heirloom-worthy knit!

Using 3.25m needles and starting with a k row, cast on 76 sts. Work 6 rows in st st.

Next row (picot row): K1, *yo, k2tog; rep from * to last st, k1.

Next row: Purl.

Change to 3.75m needles.

Row 1: Knit to end.

Next row: K13, k2tog, (K14, k2tog) three

times, K13. 72 sts

Shape crown

Row 1: *K10, skpo, rep from * across row.

66 sts

Row 2 and alternate following rows: Knit.

Row 3: *K9, skp, rep from * across row. 60 sts

Row 5: *K8, skp, rep from * across row. 54 sts

Row 7: *K7, skp, rep from * across row. 42 sts

Row 9: *K6, skp, rep from * across row. 48 sts

Row 11: *K5, skp, rep from * across row.

Row 13: *K4, skp, rep from * across row. 30 sts

Row 15: *K3, skp, rep from * across row. 24 sts

Row 17: *K2, skp, rep from * across row. 18 sts

Row 19: *K1, skp, rep from * across row. 12 sts

Row 20: K2tog across row. 6 sts

Break yarn and run through sts on needle, draw up and fasten off.

Ties (make 2)

Using 3.75mm needles cast on 44 sts fairly loosely, then knit 6 rows. Cast off loosely.

MAKING UP

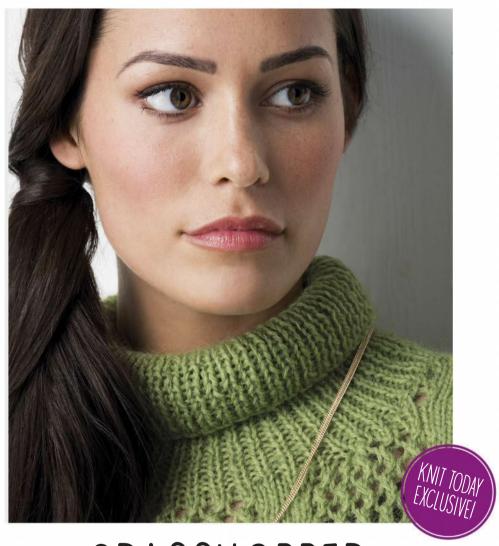
1 Sew back seam on g st shaping on back of bonnet.

2 Fold over picot edging at face edge of bonnet and sew in place on WS of work.

3 Sew a tie to each side of the bonnet.







GRASSHOPPER

Sarah Hatton's cropped poncho is gorgeous, green and made to be seen!



MATERIALS

- Yarn
 4 (5:6) x 50g balls of Rowan Kid Classic in Grasshopper (shade 886)
- Needles4.5mm (UK 7, US 7) and5mm (UK 6, US 8) knittingneedles

YARN DETAIL

- Rowan Kid Classic knitrowan.co.uk 01484 681881
- Aran weight
- 70% lambswool, 22% kid mohair, 8% polyamide
- 50g/140m (153yds)
- Hand wash only
- £6.99

TENSION

19 sts and 25 rows over st st using 5mm needles to make a 10cm or 4in square

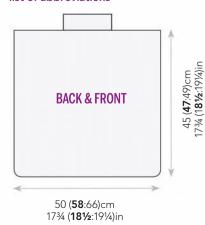
YARN ALTERNATIVE

Debbie Bliss
 Cashmerino Aran
 debbieblissonline.com

SPECIAL ABBREVIATION

Where it says 'Patt 5 as set', work 1 g st, then 4 sts in 1 x 1 rib

■ Turn to page 96 for full list of abbreviations



ever tried lace stitch before?
Well, now could be the perfect
moment – this garment has a
simple, repeated pattern that knits up
quickly once you get going! We're sure
you'll fall in love with it in no time.

BACK

Using 4.5mm needles cast on 97 (111:127) sts.

Row 1 (RS): K2, *p1, k1, rep from * to last 2 sts, k2.

Row 2 (WS): K1, *p1, k1, rep from * to end. These 2 rows set k1, p1 rib with g st edging.

Work 4 rows more as set and dec 1 (0:1) st at centre of last row. 96 (111:126) sts

Change to 5mm needles.

Row 1 (RS): Patt 5 as set, knit to last 5 sts, patt 5 as set.

Row 2 (WS): Patt 5, purl to last 5 sts, patt 5. Rows 3 and 4: As rows 1 and 2.

Row 5: Patt 5, k2, yfwd, sl1, k2tog, psso, yfwd, k3, *(yfwd, sl1, k1, psso) 5 times, k5; rep from * to last 23 sts, (yfwd, sl1, k1, psso) 5 times, k3, yfwd, sl1, k2tog, psso, yfwd, k2, patt 5.

Row 6: Patt 5, purl to last 5 sts, patt 5. Row 7: Patt 5, k8, *(k2tog, yfwd) 5 times, k5, rep from * to last 23 sts, (k2tog, yfwd) 5 times, k8, patt 5.

Row 8: Patt 5, purl to last 5 sts, patt 5. Rows 9 to 16: As rows 5 to 8 twice more. Row 17: Patt 5, k2, yfwd, sl1, k2tog, psso, yfwd, knit to last 10 sts, yfwd, sl1, k2tog, psso, yfwd, k2, patt 5.

Row 18: Patt 5, purl to last 5 sts, patt 5. Row 19: Patt 5, knit to last 5 sts, patt 5.

Row 20: Patt 5, purl to last 5 sts, patt 5. Rows 5 to 20 set pattern. **

Cont in patt as set until work meas 41 (43:45)cm, 16 (17:17¾)in, ending with RS facing for the next row.



Increases and decreases create delicate lacy panels, contrasting with plain stocking stitch

Shape shoulders

Cast off 6 (7:8) sts at beg of next 10 (8:6) rows, then cast off 0 (8:9) sts at beg of next 0 (2:4) rows. 36 (39:42) sts
Leave these sts on a holder.

FRONT

Work as given for back to **. Cont in patt as set until work meas 37 (39:41) cm, 14½ (15¼:16) in, ending with RS facing for next row.

Shape front neck

Next row (RS): Patt 36 (**42**:48), turn and leave rem sts on a holder.

Cont on these sts only for first side of neck. Dec 1 st at neck edge of next 6 rows. 30 (36:42) sts

Work three rows without shaping, ending with RS facing for next row.

Front should now match back to start of shoulder shaping.

Shape shoulder

Cast off 6 (7:8) sts at beg of next and 3 (3:2) foll RS rows, then cast off 0 (0:9) sts at beg of next RS row. 6 (8:9) sts

Work 1 row. Cast off rem sts.

With RS facing, working on rem sts, leave 24

MEASUREMENTS PONCHO

TO FIT SIZE		S	M	L
TO FIT BUST	cm	81-92	96-107	112-122
	in	32-36	38-42	44-48
WIDTH	cm	50	58	66
	in	19¾	223/4	26
LENGTH	cm	45	47	49
	in	17¾	181⁄2	191⁄4

LACY PONCHO

(27:30) sts on a holder for front neck, rejoin yarn to rem sts and patt to end. Complete to match first side of neck, reversing all shapings.

MAKING UP

Join right shoulder seam.

Neckband

With RS facing, using 4.5mm needles pick up and knit 18 sts down left side of neck, 24 (27:30) sts from holder at front neck, 19 sts up right side of neck and 36 (39:42) sts from back neck holder. 97 (**103**:109) sts **Row 1 (WS):** K1, * p1, k1, rep from * to end. Row 2 (RS): * P1, k1, rep from * to last st, p1. These 2 rows set rib. Work 7cm (234in) in rib as set. Change to 5mm needles and cont in rib

Join left shoulder and neckband seam, reversing seam for last half of neckband to form turnback.

until work meas 15cm (6in). Cast off.

SARAH HATTON

One of Rowan's most celebrated designers, Sarah is well known for her amazingly wearable, textured knits, just like this one!





www.sarahhatton.com @hattonknits



SIMPLE STEPS SIMPLE CAST OFF

The simple cast off creates a firm, hard-wearing edge to your fabric. It can end up being quite tight and pull in the edges of your work, so if you find this happening make sure you aren't tightening your yarn after dropping off your stitch (step 2). If you are still finding it's too tight, try going up a needle size or two, by using a larger needle in your right-hand to create bigger stitches to cast off with.



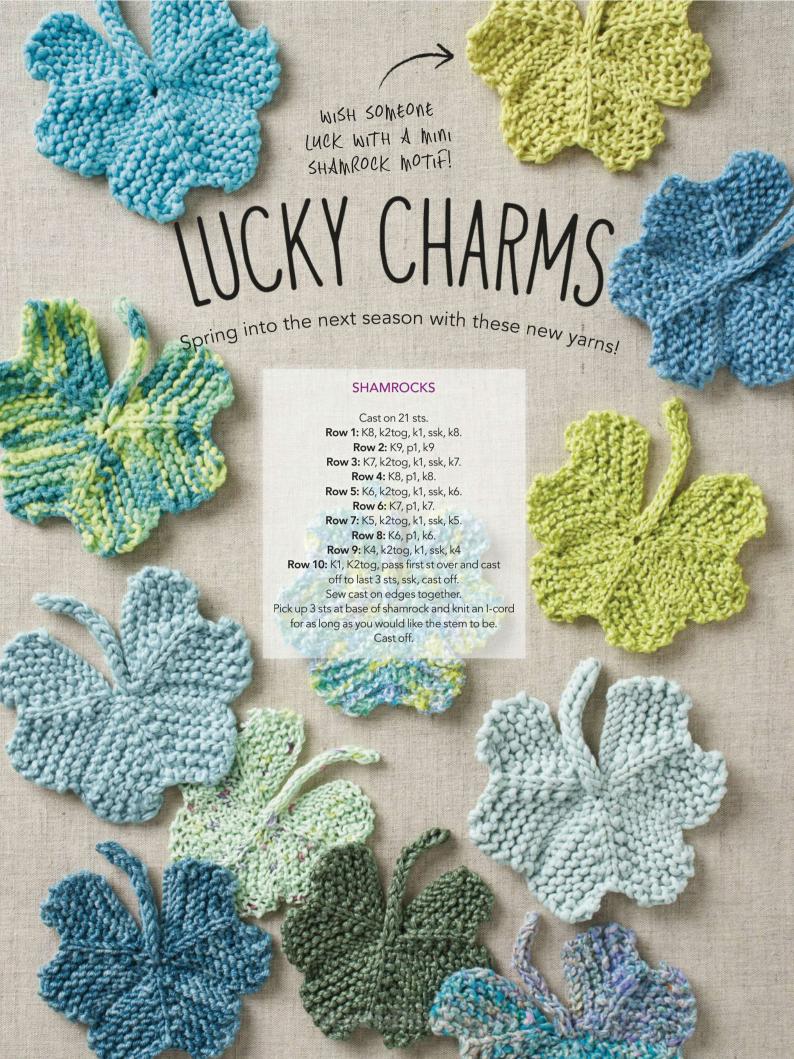
1 Knit two sts. Now insert the tip of your left-hand needle into the first stitch you knitted on your right-hand needle, from left then right, as in the above picture.



2 Continuing to use left-hand needle tip, lift first stitch up and over the second stitch you knitted, drop it off the right needle first then off the left-hand needle.



3 Knit a stitch so that you have two stitches on your right needle and repeat the cast off as before until your last stitch. Break your yarn, thread it through the final stitch and pull taut.





PATONS SUMMER COTTON

CONTENT 44% cotton, 36% acrylic, 20% polyamide RRP £2.95 BALL 50g/90m (98yds) NEEDLE 6-7mm (UK 4-2, US 10) TENSION 17 sts and 25½ rows to 10cm or 4in square



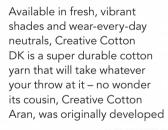


choice for kids' knits! The shade range includes pastels, neutrals and bold brights, like this cheery sky blue. Roll on the warm weather – we can't wait to knit with this! makeitcoats.com

01484 681881

RICO DESIGN CREATIVE COTTON

CONTENT 100% cotton BALL 50g/115m (126yds) NEEDLE 4mm (UK 8, US 6) TENSION 22 sts and 28 rows to 10cm or 4in square RRP £1.89





for making dishcloths! It's one of the best value pure cotton yarns out there, in our opinion – use it for everyday garments and accessories, and dishcloths, of course! whichcraftwools.co.uk 0208 643 3211

ROWAN SOFTYAK DK

CONTENT 76% cotton, 15% yak, 9% nylon BALL 50g/135m (148yds) NEEDLE 4mm (UK 8, US 6) TENSION 22 sts and 30 rows to 10cm or 4in square RRP £7.50

With a soft handle, a beautiful sheen that complements any stitch, and a range of deep, earthy shades, this is a transseasonal yarn that has 'knit with me' written all over it! Yak hair has all the softness of cashmere with a more



reasonable price tag, plus it stands up to plenty of wear and washing. Some shades have a marbled appearance as yak hair and cotton absorb colour differently.

knitrowan.com 01484 681881

MONDIAL COTTON SOFT PRINTS

CONTENT 100% cotton RRP £3.95 BALL 50g/180m (197yds) NEEDLE 2.5-3mm (UK 12/13-11, US 1/2-2/3) TENSION 28 sts and 33 rows to 10cm or 4in square

Cotton Soft Speciale Baby from Italian company Mondial, one of the oldest brands in Europe, is a 4ply pure cotton yarn with a softness that makes it perfect for baby garments like hats, bibs and booties – it's also great for crocheting,



should you swing both ways when it comes to yarn craft! Choose from solid colours and flecked shades, like this mint green with splashes of yellow, pink and purple.

intercontinentalyarns.co.uk 01535 664222

DEBBIE BLISS BABY CASHMERE TONAL

CONTENT 55% wool, 33% acrylic, 12% cashmere
BALL 50g/125m (137yds)
NEEDLE 3.25mm (UK 10, US 3)
TENSION 25 sts and 34 rows to 10cm or 4in square
RRP £5.50

Baby Cashmerino is one of Debbie Bliss's most popular yarns – not only because it's gentle against the skin, but because it's machine washable, making it an obvious choice when it comes to knitting for young'uns. And



what could be better than that? Brand-new variegrated shades, that's what! Tonals come in gorgeous hues, from bold terracotta/coral to this dreamy blend of sea greens. designeryarns.uk.com 01535 664222

SIRDAR SNUGGLY JOLLY

CONTENT 51% bamboo, 37% acrylic, 12% nylon
BALL 50g/165m (180yds)
NEEDLE 4mm (UK 8, US 6)
TENSION 22 sts and 30 rows to 10cm or 4in square
RRP £3.44

New to Sirdar's brilliant baby and child range, this yarn really deserves it's name! Sirdar call it 'scrumptiously textured' and they're right on the mark – the strand of bouclé running through adds an extra dose of snuggliness to the bamboo



blend. There are eight eyepoppinally bright shades to choose from, with names like Pinky Pops, Pizazz and Doodle, that knit up to create a variegated fabric kids will love. sirdar.co.uk 01924 371501



SUBLIME EVIE

CONTENT 94% cotton, 6% nylon BALL 50g/115m (126yds) NEEDLE 5mm (UK 6, US 8) TENSION 18 sts and 24 rows to 10cm or 4in square RRP £5.67

Made in Italy using the luxuriously fine Mako cotton, Evie is one of our favourite releases to have hit the yarn shops of late. Unbelievably fluffy and squishable, it's plump, light-as-a-cloud and available in a palette of fresh,



punchy sweet shop shades and classic neutrals that work perfectly on their own or with one another. Evie just gets better with age, fluffing up the more you wear it – we love! sublimeyarns.com 01924 369666

EURO BABY SOFT COTTON WORSTED

CONTENT 55% acrylic, 45% cotton BALL 100g/225m (246yds) NEEDLE 4.5mm (UK 7, US 7) TENSION 20 sts and 28 to 32 rows to to 10cm or 4in RRP £4.95

Euro Baby's soft, DK blend of acrylic and cotton is cable plied, and has a cord-like construction with a much less obvious twist to it than most yarns – that means it shows off any stitch beautifully. It also does the colour work for you,



creating bold, bright stripes before your very eyes – great if you're not ready to try colour changing, or if you want to make an eyecatching knit but don't have much time to spare. intercontinentalyarns.co.uk 01535 609798

RICO DESIGN FASHION JERSEY

CONTENT 64% cotton, 36% polyamide BALL 50g/80m (87yds) NEEDLE 4.5mm (UK 7, US 7) TENSION 16 sts and 23 rows to 10cm or 4in square RRP £2.89

This bouncy little summer yarn has a cotton chainette construction that's almost like an i-cord, making it unbelievably strong. It knits up to give a super-stretchy fabric that recovers its shape, so it's made for comfy knits with



plenty of give. Use it to knit or crochet slouchy sweaters and tees, comfy hoodies and baby blankets. Fashion Jersey comes in eight shades, from a bright cobalt blue to clean, crisp white and rose pink. whichcraftwools.co.uk

BERGERE BERLAINE

CONTENT 100% worsted wool BALL 50g/90m (98yds) NEEDLE 10-15mm (US 4) TENSION 22 sts and 28 rows to 10cm or 4in square RRP f 3.52

Berlaine has all the qualities you'd expect from pure wool – warmth, softness and durability – and very easy to care for, too. Not only can you pop it in the machine as much as you like, you can toss it in the tumble dryer, too! That



makes it the perfect choice for family knits, and especially for out-and-about types. The worsted spinning technique creates a smooth finish that gives great stitch definition – the proof is in the knitting! bergeredefrance.co.uk

STYLECRAFT MALABAR ARAN

CONTENT 78% cotton, 22% silk BALL 100g/164m (179yds) NEEDLE 5mm (UK 6, US 8) TENSION 18 sts and 24 rows to 10cm or 4in square RRP £4.45



This aran weight yarn is a lustrous blend of silk and cotton, with a subtle sheen thanks to the pure natural fibres. You'll find that the knitted fabric has beautiful drape, and that the colour palette balances brights and

neutrals perfectly, from zingy lime to the softest powder blue. Not only is this a lovely yarn, it's excellent value for money as well – we love a little bit of affordable luxury! stylecraft-yarns.co.uk 01535 664222

NORO MIRAI

CONTENT 40% cotton, 25% silk, 25% viscose, 10% polyamide BALL 100g/300m (328yds) NEEDLE 4mm (UK 8, US 6) TENSION 22 sts and 30 rows to 10cm or 4in square RRP £13.95

You can always count on Noro to produce luxurious yarns, and it's worth paying a little bit extra to get such quality. With so many colours in the mix, it makes for a truly mesmerising knitted fabric, with stripes of colour that blend in and out



of one another beautifully.
Mirai is a Japanese girl's name meaning 'future' and we're sure that this brand will be coming up with the goods for many years to come!

designeryarns.uk.com
01535 664222



DIAMOND TEASER

Twinkle up using **Rosee Woodland**'s motif and Rowan's sparkly new yarn

SPARKLY MOTIF







MATERIALS

Yarn
 1 ball of Rowan Kidsilk
 Haze Shine in Majestic
 (shade 589)

■ Needles & accessories

4mm (UK 8, US 6) knitting
needles

Tapestry needle
Large dressmakers pins
and foam mat, cork board
or thick towel
Sewing needle and clear
thread for beading and
Collection Swarovski
3-8mm size beads and
crystals. (182 beads per
pack, £22) are optional.
Top in your size

YARN DETAIL

- Rowan Kidsilk Haze Shine knitrowan.com 01484 681881
- DK weight
- 45% mohair, 20% silk, 28% wool, 7% cotton
- 6g/10m (11yds) and 100 crystals per 6.35g ball
- £16

TENSION

20 sts and 28 rows over st st using 4mm needles to make a 10cm or 4in square

■ Turn to page 96 for full list of abbreviations



owan's new Shine yarn is utterly delectable, strung with sparkly Swarovski crystals. But what to do with such a tiny luxury? This beautiful diamond embellishment is bang on trend and a fun nod to the yarn itself. Take your design one step further and add more than a touch of extra luxury by picking out graphic diamond shapes using Rowan's curated Swarovski crystal collections.

DIAMOND

Worked downwards from the top. Using 4mm needles cast on 8 sts.

Set up row: Purl.

Row 1 (RS): (Kfb, k2) twice, kfb, k1. 11 sts

Row 2 and all WS rows: Purl.

Row 3: Kfb, k3, (kfb) twice, k3, kfb, k1.

15 sts

Row 5: Kfb, k4, kfb, k2, kfb, k4, kfb, k1.

19 sts

 $\textbf{Row 7:} \ \mathsf{Kfb}, \ \mathsf{k5}, \ \mathsf{kfb}, \ \mathsf{k4}, \ \mathsf{kfb}, \ \mathsf{k5}, \ \mathsf{kfb}, \ \mathsf{k1}.$

23 sts

Row 9: K7, ssk, k5, k2tog, k7. 21 sts

Row 11: K7, ssk, k3, k2tog, k7. 19 sts

Row 13: k7, ssk, k1, k2tog, k7. 17 sts **Row 15:** K7, sl1, k2tog, psso, k7. 15 sts

Row 17: Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 13 sts

Row 19: Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 13 sts

Row 21: Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 9 sts

Row 23: Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog. 7 sts

Purl 1 row.

Break yarn leaving tail and thread through

rem sts and pull tight. You may find it easier to thread the yarn through the rem sts if you first remove any remaining beads from the yarn tail. The easiest way to do this is to untwist the yarn and pull the beads off gently one by one. Store the beads safely until you have completed the blocking.

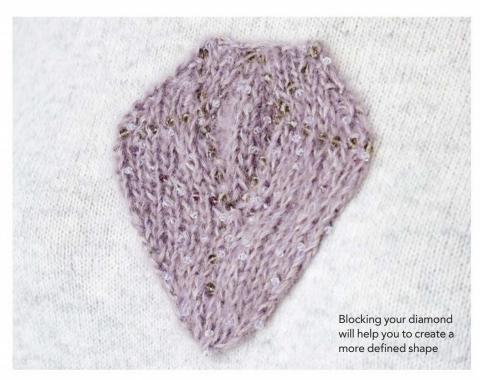
BLOCKING

Soak piece in warm (not hot) water and press gently with a towel to remove excess water. Pin out the diamond to the desired shape and leave to dry. It should be $20\text{cm} \times 20\text{cm}$ (8 in x 8 in) at its tallest and widest point. Remove pins and weave in ends on WS of work.

MAKING UP

If you want to embellish your diamond with extra beads, it is easier to do so after you have sewn it to your chosen garment.

Taking care to push all the crystals to the RS of the piece, sew the diamond to your chosen garment, working first around the edges and then working across the piece in straight lines. We used a fine jumper and sprayed the piece with starch first to make it easier to work with. You can use any leftover crystals and other beads to pick out the lines of the diamond. Use the image as a guide or follow all or some of the lines on our template left. (1)



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KNITTING PATTERNS, MADE EASY!

Tormented by tension? Boggled by blocking? We take the pain out of using patterns with our in-depth guide...

ew knitters often fall into two categories - those who instinctively understand patterns, and those who struggle to work them out. The second group often end up as improvisational knitters, making up their own simple designs and declaring that they "just don't get patterns". There's absolutely nothing wrong with doing your own thing of course, this is how some of the best knit designers are created! But if you're feeling frustrated at not being able to use patterns, read on!

NOTE This feature uses Knit Todav pattern layouts as a guide but the lessons here are applicable to all knitting patterns.

YARNS (THE BEST BIT!) The brands, quantities, colours and usage

Most patterns will specify the brand and type of yarn to use and how much you will need of each colour. In this example Hayfield is the name of the yarn company and Super Chunky is the specific yarn – most yarn companies make more than one kind.

Patterns which use more than one colour may describe the different colours in a number of ways. Yarn labeled MC is the main colour yarn – this is the yarn you will use the most of while knitting the pattern. Any other colour in the pattern may be called **CC** – **contrast colour**. If there is more than one contrast colour. they may be called CC1, CC2 and so on. Alternatively, the yarns may be labeled by letter, for example, yarn A, yarn B. Or, less commonly, by number, like this: yarn 1, yarn 2 and so on.

More old fashioned patterns may simply give the name of the varn colour to be used. Each time you need to change colour there should be an instruction to do so, probably in bold.



Yarn

6 (7:8:8:9) x 100g balls of Hayfield Super Chunky in Hollyberry (shade 769)

- Needles 9mm (UK 00, US 13) (35-40cm/14-16in long) 10mm (UK 000, US 15) straight needles (35-40cm/14-16in long) Large tapestry needle
- Accessories Stitch holders

NEEDLES From metric to UK and US sizes

Just to confuse things, there are three different systems of needle sizes in operation at the moment. These are metric sizes in **millimeters** (more commonly seen as, mm) and UK and **US** sizes, which both give numbers. If you've inherited some needles and you're not sure what size they are, use a needle gauge to measure them. This is a piece of plastic

or wood that comes with different-sized, labeled holes. Then check out our needle size conversion chart on page 96.

Lots of patterns use more than one needle size. European patterns may only give the mm size, American patterns may only give the US size, old British patterns may only give the UK size. If in doubt, check with a needle gauge!

YARN DETAIL & ABBREVIATIONS The important technical bits

Yarn weight refers to how thick the yarn is rather than how much it weighs. It determines what needle size you should use and the recommended tension. Knowing the yarn weight helps if you want to use a different kind or brand of yarn for your project. If you're not sure if your chosen yarn is a good substitute, check the tension given on the ball band. If it's the same or very similar to the tension given for the pattern there's a good chance it'll be OK. Check our yarn weights guide on page 95 or see our feature in issue 120.

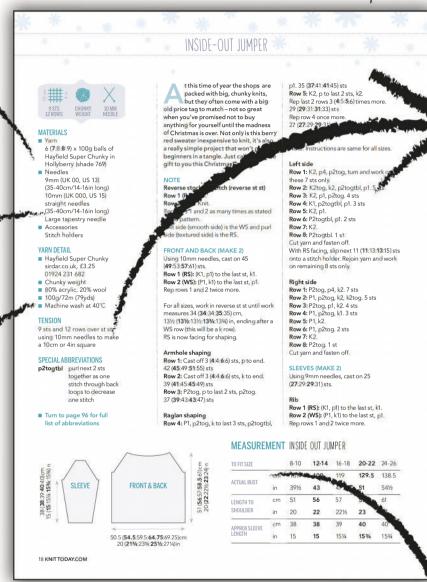
SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

All but the simplest knitting patterns are likely to include an unusual or tricky stitch. And like all the other stitches, these will have their own abbreviation. The Special Abbreviations section helps you understand what these slightly unusual stitches are, so read it thoroughly before casting on! Knit Today has an extensive list of standard abbreviations for the more common terms (p96), plus step by step photo tutorials (p91), and great video tutorials at knit-today.com to help you.

YARN DETAIL

- Hayfield Super Chunky sirdar.co.uk, £3.25 01924 231 682
- Chunky weight
- 80% acrylic, 20% wool
- 100g/72m (79yds)
- Machine wash at 40°C
- Turn to page 96 for full list of abbreviations

STANDARD PATTERN IN KNIT TODAY



TFNSION

9 sts and 12 rows over st st using 10mm needles to make a 10cm or 4in square

TENSION

Important for sizing and shaping

Tension (or gauge) refers to how many stitches and rows it takes to knit a certain sized piece of knitting. This is usually 10cm (4in) wide and 10cm (4in) tall measured over stocking stitch. The best way to check your tension is to knit a small swatch, sometimes called a tension square.

MEASURING YOUR TENSION SQUARE

Because stocking stitch (knit one row, purl one row) curls at the edges, it can be hard to count stitches and rows accurately. To find out if you are knitting to the right tension, using the recommended needle size, cast on a few more stitches than the tension specified and knit a few more rows. Measure across the central area using a ruler or tape measure, first horizontally to count the stitches and then vertically to count the rows. It's better to measure across 5cm (2in) in several different areas and then take an average. If you have more stitches/rows than the specified tension you will need to try a larger needle. If you have fewer have another go with a smaller needle - knitting looser or tighter it's unlikely to work! Don't worry about what needle size you're using as long as you get the right tension. Tension swatches may take time but if you don't do one you could spend ages knitting something in the wrong size!

FRONT & BACK FRONT & BACK 50.5 (54.5:59.5:64.75:69.25)cm 20 (21%:23%:25½:27%)in

MEASUREMENTS & BLOCKING DIAGRAM The perfect fit

Whether you're knitting a blanket, a hat or a jumper, your knitting pattern should tell you what size the finished item will be. For garments, the difference between your measurements and those of the finished item will determine how tight or baggy it is. Hats should be about 5cm (2in) tighter in their finished size than your head circumference and socks should be about 2.5cm (1in) tighter than the measurement around the ball of your foot to help them stay on. Sleeve lengths are normally measured from the armhole to the wrist along the inside seam, not from the top

of the shoulder. Length is normally measured from the nape of the neck to the bottom hem. Many patterns give finished width, which is measured at the chest, rather than chest circumference, so don't get caught out!

BLOCKING DIAGRAM

These drawings give you the basic measurements laid out in a schematic and should provide a clear idea of the shape of the finished garment or accessory. This will help you understand the garment shaping, which can be handy when you're knitting.

FOLLOWING THE PATTERN...

s a new knitter, you may feel overwhelmed by all the technical detail in your chosen knitting pattern. A good rule of thumb is to make sure you read the pattern from beginning to end before you even buy your yarn, making sure you understand where the pattern will take you. Thankfully,

most patterns will be divided into clearly defined sections to help break down what you should be doing and when.

Start from the top left column and read the pattern in columns from top to bottom and left to right on each page, just as if you were reading a newspaper article.

NOTE

Reverse stocking stitch (reverse st st)

Row 1 (RS): Purl. Row 2 (WS): Knit.

Rep rows 1 and 2 as many times as stated in the pattern.

PATTERN NOTES Essential info

Your pattern may begin with some notes, or instructions for how to knit specific parts of the pattern. Make sure you read these thoroughly before starting!



SLEEVES (MAKE 2)

Using 9mm needles, cast on 25 (**27**:29:**29**:31) sts.

Rib

Row 1 (RS): (K1, p1) to the last st, k1.

GETTING STARTED The right yarn and needle size

If your pattern requires more than one needle size and colour it should tell you what needle size and yarn you need to cast on with, right at the beginning of the pattern. If your chosen pattern is worked in just one needle size and one colour it'll probably just advise you to cast on a certain number of stitches.

Change to 10mm needles and continue with main sleeve.

Main sleeve

Note: work increase row as follows: k1, m1, k to last st, m1, k1.

Continue to work in reverse st st and

NEEDLE CHANGES Keep your eyes peeled for these

Commonly, smaller needles are used for the edgings of garments and accessories to give them a neat look. If this is the case you would expect to cast on with the smaller needle size at the beginning of the pattern. Then, whenever the needle size changes up or down it would be shown in bold.

DIFFERENT SIZES Find your garment size to make sure you're knitting the perfect fit

If your project comes in multiple sizes (like a jumper in small, medium and large) the pattern lists instructions for the smallest size first, and the next sizes in brackets. Like this:

Using 4mm needles and yarn A cast on 54 (**60**:66) stitches.

This system will be used throughout the pattern whenever different sizes are being used, so it can also be applied to measurements like this: Work in stocking stitch for 15 (17:19) cm, 6 (63/4:71/2) in, ending with a RS row.

Sometimes patterns are different for a specific size or group of sizes. This will be shown with a header and stitch counts for other sizes may be left out. For example:

Sizes 16 and 18 only
Work in stocking stitch for – (–:15:17) cm

And when that specific section is finished:

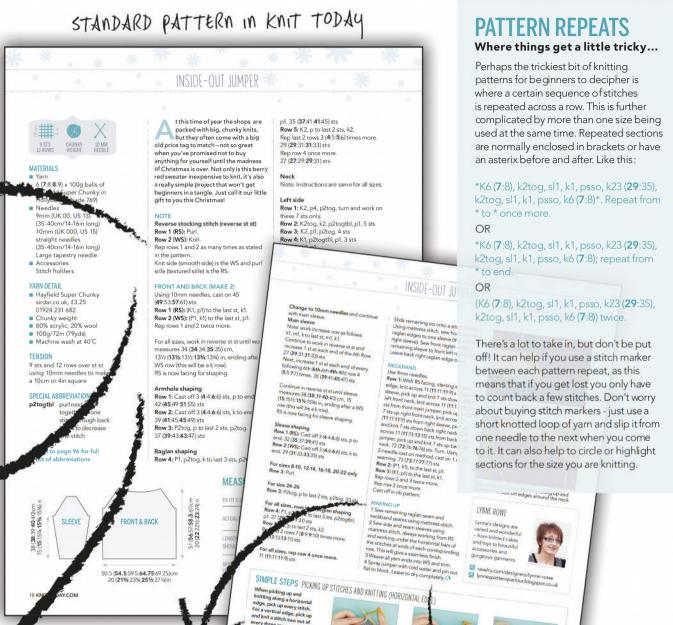
All sizes

Next row (RS): Decrease one stitch at each end of the next three rows. 14 (16:17:18:18:20:22) stitches remain.

Sleeve shaping

Row 1 (RS): Cast off 3 (4:4:6:6) sts, p to end. 32 (35:37:39:41) sts
Row 2 (WS): Cast off 3 (4:4:6:6) sts, k to

end. 29 (31:33:33:35) sts



HEADINGS

Every time you are starting on a new part of the pattern, for example, the sleeves, there should be a new header. For garments, you'll usually cast on a new set of stitches for the front and back, and the sleeves. For neckbands or front edgings you may pick up and knit new stitches along an existing edge. Where the pattern refers to 'left' and 'right' pieces, this is as you wear it, not as you look at it!

MAKING UP

1 Sew remaining raglan seam and

MAKING UP

Most patterns will include instructions for 'making up' or 'finishing' your project at the end. This may include telling you how to stitch the various pieces of your garment together. It may also tell you to 'weave in ends' - meaning to weave in any loose tails of yarn.



4 Spray jumper with cold water and pin out flat to block. Leave to dry completely. ()

BLOCKING

Blocking is used in some knitting patterns to make the individual pieces of your knitted fabric lie flatter (and therefore easier to sew up). Yarn made from different fibres needs to be blocked in different ways, so the pattern should give you specific information on how to do this.



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ALL THE TRIMMINGS

Start this **Rico** knit with a cool, cream cowl ...then unleash the embellishing excitement!







PER 10 MM NKY NEEDL

MATERIALS

Yarn
 Rico Essentials Super Super
 Chunky

Main colour (MC):

1 x 100g balls in Cream (shade 001) Yarn remnants for embroidery and embellishment, we've used:

Black (shade 008) Lemon (shade 015) Light Blue (shade 016) Orange (shade 019

Azure (shade 020) **Rico Pompon** in

Mint (shade 023) Green (shade 024) Coral (shade 022)

Needles

 10mm (UK 000, US 15)
 knitting needles
 10mm (UK 000, US N/15)
 crochet hook (optional)

YARN DETAIL

- Rico Essentials Super Super Chunky, £7.50 deramores.com 0845 519 4573
- Super chunky weight
- 50% acrylic, 50% wool
- 100g/100m (109yds)
- Handwash only

TENSION

 10 sts and 10 rows to 10cm, 4in, measured over rows of patt using 10mm needles

FINISHED SIZE

Length is approximately 24cm (9½in). Width is approximately 30cm (11¾in).

■ Turn to page 96 for full list of abbreviations



Let your creativity shine through with your own version of this brilliantly crafted cowl

hen the weather looks dull. cold and grey there's no better therapy than wrapping yourself up in a cowl that's packed with bright colours and fun detail. Designed to celebrate all the bright colours of the rainbow, this Rico garment is worked in Super Super Chunky yarn and Rico Pompom, which comes in a whole range of bright and bold colours. The fun really begins once you've knitted up the cream cowl as the rest of the colourful trimming is done in creative mode. Work up a bobble cord, some icord or plait a few lengths together and weave through or stitch on for a truly unique knit.

EMBELLISHED SNOOD

Using 10mm needles, MC and thumb method cast on 27 sts.

Row 1: K1tbl, *p1, k1tbl, rep from * to last 2 sts, p1, s11p wyif.

Row 2: K1tbl, *k1, p1tbl, rep from * to last 2 st, k1, s11p wyif.

These 2 rows form the patt.
Work in patt until your work measures 60cm (23½in).

Cast off.

MAKING UP

1 Pin out the snood to the finished size given above left.

2 Join the cast on and cast off edges together using mattress stitch.

3 Embellish as illustrated (for example with crochet, embroidery, plaits or weaving in with yarn remnants).

4 Cover with clean, damp tea towels and leave until dry.

5 See ball band for washing and further care instructions. (1)

SIMPLE STEPS THUMB/LONGTAIL CAST ON



1 Make slip knot leaving a long tail and place it on your needle. The tail should be at roughly three times the finished width of stitches.



2 Hold the working yarn in your left-hand and the tail in your right. Scoop your left thumb under the yarn and pull through to create a loop.



3 Catch the loop with the tip of the needle, wrap the tail yarn around the needle, while still holding the loop taut with your thumb.



4 Slip the loop off your thumb and off the needle. Repeat from step 2 until you have cast on your desired number of stitches.



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MATERIALS

■ Yarn

Rowan Pure Wool Superwash Worsted

Yarn A: 2 x 100g balls in Black (shade 109)

Yarn B: 1 x 100g ball in Cream (shade 102) – please note, only a small amount of cream is needed for the motif and stripes

- Needles
 4.5mm (UK 7, US 7) knitting needles
 Sewing needle
 Tapestry needle
- Accessories
 50cm (19¾in) of contrast fabric
 Sewing thread
 71cm (28in) yellow leather bag handles (code BC16B) from bagclasps.co.uk
 Stitch marker

YARN DETAIL

- Rowan Pure Wool Superwash Worsted knitrowan.com 01484 681881
- Worsted weight
- 100% wool
- 100g/200m (219yds)
- Machine wash at 40°C
- £8.29

TENSION

20 sts and 25 rows over pattern using 4.5mm needles to make a 10cm or 4in square.

FINISHED SIZE

35cm (13½in) wide and 38cm (15in) deep

■ Turn to page 96 for full list of abbreviations

e're sure that having made this great bag once, you'll want to make it over and over again. It's the perfect project for trying out Swiss darning and comes with a supersimple chart. This quick-to-learn technique is where you use a tapestry need and yarn to embroider over a previously knitted stitch to make a motif, following the 'V' shape of the stitch.

BACK

Using 4.5mm needles and yarn A, cast on 67 sts.

Work in st st until work measures 38cm (15in) from cast on edge, ending with WS facing for next row.

Next row, top foldline (WS): Knit. Beg with a k row, work 12 rows in st st. Cast off.

FRONT

Using 4.5mm needles and yarn A, cast on 67 sts.

Rows 1-22: Beg with a k row, st st 22 rows. Join in yarn B (do not cut yarn A).

Rows 23-26: Work 4 rows st st in yarn B. Rows 27-28: Work 2 rows st st in yarn A.

Rows 29-32: Work 4 rows st st in yarn B. Rows 33-56: Work 24 rows st st in yarn A. Mark 16th st on row 35 with a stitch marker.

Rows 57-66: Rep rows 23-32. Cut yarn B. Continue in st st in yarn A until front measures 38cm (15in) from cast on edge, ending with WS facing for next row.

Next row, top foldline (WS): Knit. Beg with a k row, work 12 rows in st st. Cast off.

MOTIF

Use yarn B and Swiss darn (also known as

duplicate stitch) the motif onto the bag front, from chart below, starting from marked stitch on row 35. Yarn A stitches are already knitted, so Swiss darn the yarn B sts using a needle and thread to 'trace' the 'V' of the stitches. Take care not to pull too tightly. Work evennumbered rows from right to left and odd numbered rows from left to right. The numbers along the bottom of the chart are the stitch numbers, counting from the right. Weave all yarn ends into WS and trim.

MAKING UP

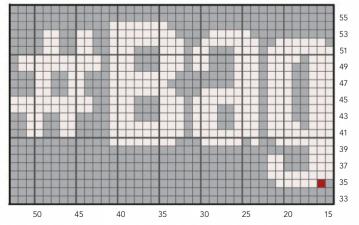
1 Pin out and block both pieces to the same size. Leave to dry completely. 2 Place front and back pieces together with WS together and RS outermost. Join side and bottom seam with matching varn and mattress stitch (mattress stitch creates a neater and less bulky seam). Tie off and trim all yarn ends inside the bag. 3 Use the bag as a template to cut out two pieces of fabric, adding 1cm (1/4in) extra all around for seam allowance. Stitch sides and bottom of fabric pieces with RS together. Turn top edge seam allowance to WS and stitch in place. 4 Slide lining into bag with WS of lining against WS of bag. Slip stitch lining to

bag around top edge.
5 Fold the hem of the bag to inside and slip stitch it to the lining.

6 Place the straps in place on each side of bag and stitch to bag, though lining and hem for stability.

7 If desired, cut four circles of felt to stitch over the visible stitches on the inside of bag from sewing the handle. Pin and stitch the felt neatly in place. (1)

BAG CHART



Yarn A
(k on RS, p on WS)

Yarn B
(k on RS, p on WS)

Starting point
(k on RS, p on WS)

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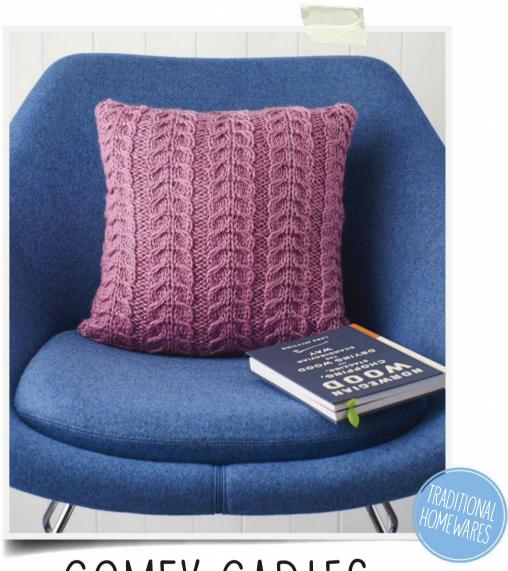
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COMFY CABLES

Sit back and relax with this traditional cushion design by **Monica Russell**

CABLE CUSHION







MATERIALS

- Yarn
 Sirdar Wool Rich Aran
 3 x 100g balls in Dusky
 Pink (shade sh318)
- Needles & accessories
 7mm (UK 2, US 10.5/11) and
 6.5mm (UK 3, US 10.5)
 knitting needles
 Cable needle
 4 x buttons

YARN DETAIL

- Sirdar Wool Rich Aran sirdar.co.uk 01924 231 682
- Aran weight
- 60% wool, 40% acrylic
- 100g/190m (208yds)
- Machine wash at 40°C
- £4.69

TENSION

15 sts and 14 rows over pattern using 7mm needles (with yarn held double) to make a 10cm or 4in square

FINISHED SIZE

40cm x 40cm (15¾in x 15¾in)

YARN ALTERNATIVES

- Patons Wool Blend Aran makeitcoats.com
- Turn to page 96 for full list of abbreviations



hand-knitted cushion cover in your choice of colour will add style to your favourite armchair or sofa. Here, this yarn is knitted double so it works up satisfyingly quickly. Monica has knitted this pattern in a soft rose shade that really shows off the cable stitches, but you could choose from eight classic colours, each one beautiful and soft.

FRONT

**Cast on 57 sts using 7mm needles using yarn held double.

Row 1 (RS): P2 *k9, p2, rep from * to end. Row 2 (WS): K2, * p9, k2 rep from * to end

Row 3 (RS): K2 * Work right cross on 4sts as follows: slip 3 to cable needle and hold in back of work, k1, k3 from cable needle, k1, work left cross on 4 sts as follows: slip 1 to cable needle and hold in front of work, k3, k1 from cable needle, p2. Rep from * to end.

Row 4: K2, *P9, K2 rep from * to end. ** Repeat the 4 row pattern 16 times more (or until work measures approx 40cm (15¾in). Cast off sts using 6.5mm needles, leaving a long tail for sewing up.

BACK

Upper back

Work as for front from ** to ** Repeat the 4 row pattern 6 times more. Change to 6.5mm needles.

Button border

Row 1 (RS): *k2,p2, rep from * to last st k1. Row 2, buttonhole row, (WS): P1, *(k2, p2) twice, cast off 2, p1 (2 sts now on RH needle after cast off), rep from * until last 8sts, (K2, p2) twice.

Row 3: Work as row 1, casting on 2 sts over where you have cast off in the previous row.

Row 4: P1, *k2, p2, rep from * to end Cast off.

Lower back

Work as for front from ** to ** Repeat the 4 row pattern 9 times more. Change to 6.5mm needles. Cast off.

MAKING UP

- 1 Join the lower back to the front with right-sides facing using a mattress stitch. Use the cables to guide you to keep the pattern in place.
- 2 Join the upper back to the front with the buttonhole rib overlapping the last section of the cables
- 3 Sew four buttons in place using your knitting yarn, matching them up with the centre of the buttonholes.

MONICA RUSSELL

Monica runs theknitknacks co.uk and loves working with natural yarns. She has taught as part of the Campaign for Wool.



- Markenitknacks.co.uk
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SIMPLE STEPS PURL STITCH



1 Holding working yarn in your right-hand at front of work as you look at it, insert right-hand needle diagonally into first stitch on left-hand needle, from back to front.



2 Wrap working yarn around front of right-hand needle anti-clockwise and push this new loop to back of stitch, taking right-hand needle tip through the old stitch.



3 Let the old stitch fall off the left-hand needle, keeping the new stitch on the right-hand needle. You've purled one stitch. So do some more!



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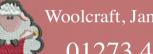
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KNITTING KNOW-HOW



These step-by-steps, from casting on to casting off, will help you feel confident when you pick up your needles

BACKWARD LOOP CAST ON

The simplest of all cast ons, use this to cast on mid row, or if you need a very loose starting edge.



1 To work backward loop cast on you need to start off with a slip knot with a long tail. To do this you need to pull out about 12cm of yarn from your yarn ball. Make a loop in the yarn. Place the loop on top of the yarn to the side of the loop. Pick up the yarn from inside the loop and pull it through. Pull the knot tight, keeping the loop at the top open. Slip the knot onto a knitting needle, and pull it nice and snug.



2 Holding the working yarn taut, scoop your thumb underneath it.



3 Catch the loop with the tip of the needle and pull tight. Repeat from step 2 until you have enough stitches.

THUMB OR LONG TAIL CAST ON

The cast on your mum knows! This creates a nice stretchy edge and should be your first cast on choice.



1 Make a slip knot leaving a long tail and place it on your needle. The tail should be at roughly three times the finished width of stitches.



2 Hold the working yarn in your left hand and the tail in your right. Scoop your left thumb under the yarn and pull up to create a loop.



3 Catch the loop with the tip of the needle, wrap the tail yarn around the needle, while still holding the loop taut with your thumb.



4 Slip the loop off your thumb and off the needle. Repeat from step 2 until you have cast on your desired number of stitches.

KNIT STITCH

The stitch you learn first. Knit stitch is what you knit on the 'right side' when making stocking stitch.

Knit stitch is where most knitters start. It's easy to learn, and garter stitch fabric (which is knitted every row) is lovely and squishy, although it is naturally shorter than stocking stitch (knit one row, purl one row and repeat). Start here, but make sure you give purl stitch a go soon. It's just over the page...



1 Insert your right needle diagonally, front to back into the first stitch on your left needle. Your needles should be roughly at right angles.



2 Wrap the working yarn around the right needle clockwise and pull this yarn through to the front of the stitch with your right needle.



3 Let the old stitch fall off the left hand needle, keeping the new stitch on the right hand needle. That's your first stitch done!



PURL STITCH

Essentially the same as knit stitch, but worked from the other side of your fabric.

Lots of new knitters stick with knit stitch for a really long time before tackling purl stitch. We think it's worth trying to learn them both at the same time, as it means that you will be able to work stocking stitch fabric straight away. Stocking stitch fabric grows more quickly than garter stitch (knit every row) so you'll feel like you're making faster progress on your project, and that's got to be good, right?



1 Holding the working yarn in your right hand at the front of the work as you look at it, insert your right hand needle diagonally into the first stitch on your left hand needle, from back to front.



2 Wrap the working yarn around the front of your right hand needle anti-clockwise and push this new loop to the back of the stitch, taking your right hand needle tip through the old stitch.



3 Let the old stitch fall off the left hand needle, keeping the new stitch on the right hand needle. You've purled one stitch. So do some more!

SIMPLE CAST OFF

You've finished your first project, but now what? This cast off makes a nice firm edge and is easy to learn.

The simple cast off creates a firm, hard-wearing edge to your fabric. It can end up being quite tight and pull in the edges of your work, so if you find this happening make sure you aren't tightening your yarn after dropping off your stitch (step 2). If you are still finding it's too tight, try going up a needle size or two, by using a larger needle in your right hand to create bigger stitches to cast off with.



1 Knit two sts. Now insert the tip of your left hand needle into the first stitch you knitted on your right hand needle, from left then right, as in the above picture.



2 Continuing to use your left hand needle tip, lift the first stitch up and over the second stitch you knitted, and drop it off the right needle first and then off the left hand needle.



3 Knit a stitch so that you have two stitches on your right needle and repeat the cast off as before until your last stitch. Break your yarn, thread it through the final stitch and pull taut.

STRETCHY CAST OFF

This cast off is a little more work, but creates a lovely stretchy edge, so it's worth the extra effort!

This stretchy cast off is also known as the Russian cast off. In order to do it you need to know how to knit two stitches together, so see our handy tutorial for this at the top of the opposite page. When you get to the end of this cast off, and have just one stitch left, treat it as you would for the simple cast off – break your yarn, then thread it through the final stitch and pull taut.



1 Knit two stitches onto your right hand needle, one at a time, and slip them back to your left hand needle without twisting them.



2 Knit the first two stitches on your left hand needle together (see top of next page for help!). You will end up with a single stitch on your right hand needle.



3 Knit another stitch and repeat steps 1 and 2 again until the final stitch. You should find that the edge is quite stretchy.



K2TOG

This is the simplest way to decrease stitches and is also used on the stretchy cast off.

There are lots of ways to decrease stitches but the easiest one to learn is probably 'knit two together', commonly known as k2tog. This decrease results in a stitch that 'leans' right, so if a pattern asks for a 'right leaning decrease' this is the one you need to use. For the left leaning decreases (SSK and SSP) see our tutorials over the page.



1 Insert your right hand needle into the next two stitches as if to knit them. Your needle should go into the second stitch on your left hand needle, before the first stitch (see above image).



2 Wrap the working yarn around your right hand needle and pull the loop to the front.



3 Slip the two old stitches off the left hand needle. You should now have a single new stitch on your right hand needle to replace the two old stitches. You've now decreased one stitch.

P2TOG

Your go-to decrease for purl rows, and when you need to decrease on the 'wrong' side in stocking stitch.

The purl two together stitch (p2tog) is used to combine two stitches on a purl row, decreasing one stitch each time you use it. From the purl side of the work it leans left, so when viewed from the right (knit) side in stocking stitch it will lean right, and look like you've made a k2tog stitch on the knit side of the work.



1 With your yarn held at the front of the work, insert your right hand needle into the next two stitches purlwise, from right to left.



2 Wrap the yarn around the front of both stitches anti-clockwise, and push the new loop to the back.



3 Drop the two old stitches off the left hand needle and you will be left with a single stitch on your right hand needle. You've decreased one stitch.

SLIPPING A STITCH PURLWISE AND KNITWISE

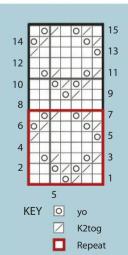
Two ways to move a stitch without working it.



1 To slip a stitch knitwise, insert your right needle into it from front to back as if to knit it and let it fall off the left hand needle. This twists the stitch, and tightens it up.



2 To slip a stitch purlwise, insert your right needle into it from back to front, as if to purl it, and let it fall off the left hand needle. This moves it to the right hand needle untwisted so it stays loose.



HOW TO READ KNITTING CHARTS

Knitting charts follow the same rules unless the pattern states otherwise. Right side rows are usually odd numbers and are worked right to left. Wrong side rows are normally even numbers and are worked left to right. Pattern repeats will be contained in an area outlined in red and some charts will have further coloured outlines for different sizes. The key will give you each symbol and tell you what stitch it is.



SSK

This left leaning decrease is easy to do, and the finished stitch is neater than some other options.

There are several common options for a left leaning decrease. Patterns may also tell you to knit two stitches together through their back loops (k2togtbl) or to slip one stitch, knit the next one, and then pass the slipped stitch over the knitted one and (skp). However, we think slip, slip knit (ssk) is the neatest and easiest way to do it, so unless the pattern says otherwise we use this one every time!



1 Slip the next two stitches knitwise, one at a time, from the left hand needle to the right hand needle. This twists them to tighten them up.



2 Insert your left hand needle through both front loops of the stitches you've just slipped, from back to front.



3 Wrap the yarn around anti-clockwise and pull the loop to the front, and off the left needle. You've decreased one stitch.

SSP

This purled decrease leans right, so if you make it on the wrong side, from the front it looks like an SSK.

Of all the decreases shown in this section slip, slip, purl (ssp) is probably the trickiest to master, as working purl stitches through their back loops can feel a bit fiddly until you get used to it. You'll need to insert the right hand needle from back to front and pull this needle to the front of the left one so that you can purl the two stitches together. Don't give up! It's not as hard as it looks.



1 Slip the next two stitches knitwise, one at a time, from the left hand needle to the right hand needle, as you would if working ssk.



2 Slip them back to the left hand needle by putting your left needle through the front of both of them from left to right and pull them off your right hand needle.



3 With yarn held in front, put your right hand needle through the back loops of both two stitches from back to front, and purl them together. You've decreased one stitch.

YARN OVER & YARN ROUND NEEDLE

These simple increases create a small hole in your work, so they're also used in lace stitch patterns.



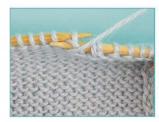
1 Yarn overs are used to make increases on knit rows. To make a yarn over, get to the increase point in your row and then take your yarn through your needles to the front of your work.



2 Now take the yarn over the top of your needle to the back of your work before knitting the next stitch as normal. You will now have one extra stitch on your right hand needle.



3 Yarn round needle is used to make increases on purl rows: Get to the increase point, and wrap the yarn around the work, taking the yarn over the needle and then through your needles to the side facing you again.



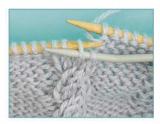
4 When you work your next stitch you'll find that you now have an extra stitch on your right hand needle. As with a yarn over, there will be a small hole underneath this stitch. This is correct so don't worry about it!



CABLE LEFT/FRONT

Cables have great impact and are surprisingly easy. Here's how to do them over four stitches.

Cable stitches are known by two different sets of names, which can be pretty confusing! To make a left leaning cable, you hold half your stitches at the front of the work on a cable needle, so, for example, a four stitch cable like this may be called C4L or C4F. Usually half the stitches are cabled and half worked as normal. For odd cables (eg, C5L/F) the pattern should tell you what to do with the extra stitch.



1 To make C4L/F slip two sts purlwise onto a cable needle and hold them at the front of your work. This can be a spare double pointed needle, or a special cable needle with a notch in it to stop the stitches sliding off.



2 With the two stitches on the cable needle left 'in wait' for a moment, knit the following two stitches on your left hand needle.



3 Now return to your stitches on the cable needle and knit them onto your right hand needle as well. You should now have two twisted stitches that lean left. The pattern will tell you when to work the next cabled row.

CABLE RIGHT/BACK

Cables are often worked on a background on reverse stocking stitch to make them stand out.

To make a right leaning cable you hold the cable needle at the back of the work as you make the cable – that's why it's also known as the cable back stitch. You may find this stitch more straightforward to work than the cable left. When working a cable stitch be gentle as you hold the yarn, if you hold it too tightly you'll make a hole.



1 Slip two stitches onto your cable needle as for C4L/F. You can hold the cable needle at the front to do this if it's easier, but remember to then move it to the back of your work.



2 Knit the next two stitches on your left hand needle, leaving the stitches on your cable needle at the reverse of your work.



3 Now insert your right hand needle into the first stitch on the cable needle, and knit it, and the following stitch off the cable needle. You should now have two twisted stitches that lean right.

YARN WEIGHTS GUIDE

Yarn comes in different thicknesses, known as weights. Some yarns will include the yarn weight in the name (eg, Rowan Superwash Merino DK), but some weights have several different names!

If you want to swap the yarn suggested in a pattern for a different one, the best way to do this is to find a yarn of the same tension. It is important to remember that there may be more or

less meterage in the yarn you are swapping. So a pattern calling for 10 balls of double knit yarn at 100m per ball (1000m of yarn in total) will need 13 balls of a substituted double knit yarn which only has 80m per ball. If you only use 10 balls you'll be 200m short!

The finest yarn weights all use similar needle sizes, and for lacy patterns may be knitted on much larger needles too.



W		
NAMES	Typical needle size	Typical tension to 10cm or 4in square
Lace	2.25mm to 3.25mm	34 sts and 42 rows
3ply	2.25mm to 3.25mm	32 sts and 40 rows
4ply/ fingering/sock	2.25mm to 3.25mm	28 sts and 36 rows
Baby/sport/ light DK	3.75mm	24 sts and 32 rows
DK (double knit)	4mm	22 sts and 30 rows
Worsted/ light aran	4.5mm	20 sts and 28 rows
Aran	4.5mm to 5mm	18 sts and 24 rows
Chunky	6mm to 8mm	14 sts and 19 rows
Super chunky	9mm upwards	10 sts and 12 rows



PICKING UP STITCHES AND KNITTING

This is a great way to add an edging to a garment, and is often used for neckbands.

When picking up and knitting along a horizontal edge, pick up every stitch. For a vertical edge, pick up and knit a stitch two out of every three rows, or three out of every four rows. If you pick up every row on a vertical edge it will flare out and it won't look good. It is usual to go down a needle size when working an edging, again, to stop the edge flaring out.



1 Insert your right hand needle into centre of the 'V' of your stitch and wrap the working yarn around your right hand needle.



2 Pull the edging yarn through the middle of the picked up stitch. You have now got a single new stitch on your needle.



3 Put your right hand needle back into the 'V' of the next stitch and repeat until you have picked up and knitted the required number of stitches for your edging.

STANDARD ABBREVIATIONS

alt	alternate	sl1	slip one stitch
beg	beginning	slm	slip marker from one
C4L/F	cable 4 left/front		needle to the other
C4R/B	cable 4 right/back	ssk	one by one, slip the
cm	centimetre(s)		next 2 sts kwise. Put
cont	continue(ing)		the left needle through
dec	decrease(ing)		front loops of both
dpn	double-pointed		slipped sts and
·	needles		k2togtbl
g st	garter stitch, knit	ssp	one by one, slip the
	every row		next 2 sts kwise and
foll	following		back to the left hand
inc	increase(ing)		needle. Put the left
in	inch(es)		needle through the
k	knit		stitches from back to
kfb	knit into front and back		front and purl them
	of next stitch		together
k2tog	knit two stitches	st(s)	stitch(es)
	together	st st	stocking stitch
k3tog	knit three stitches	tbl	through the back of
	together		the loop(s)
kwise	knitwise	W&T	wrap and turn (or short
m	marker		rows). Knit row: slip
m1	make one stitch, by		next st pwise, bring
	picking up the		yarn to front, return
	horizontal loop before		slipped st to LH needle
	next stitch and knitting		without twisting. Turn
	into the back of it		work. Purl row: slip
meas	measure(s)		next st pwise, bring
р	purl		yarn to back of the
pm	place marker		work, return slipped st
p2tog	purl two stitches		to LH needle without
24	together	WS	twisting. Turn work.
p3tog	purl three stitches		wrong side
200	together	wyib	with yarn in back
psso	pass slipped stitch over	wyif	with yarn in front
rem	remaining	yb yf/yfwd	yarn back yarn forward
rep rev st st	repeat(ing) reverse stocking stitch	yoh	yarn over hook
RS	right side	•	yarn over needle
skp	slip 1 st, k1, pass	yo	yarn round the needle
2Kh	silp i st, k i, pass	yrn	yann round the needle

NEEDLE SIZ	E CUNVEKSI	UN CHART
UK	METRIC	US
14	2mm	0
13	2.25mm	1
12	2.75mm	2
11	3mm	2/3
10	3.25mm	3
10/9	3.5mm	4
9	3.75mm	5
8	4mm	6
7	4.5mm	7
6	5mm	8
5	5.5mm	9
4	6mm	10
3	6.5mm	10.5
2	7mm	10.5/11
1	7.5mm	10.5/11
0	8mm	11
00	9mm	13
000	10mm	15
-	12mm	17
-	16mm	19
-	19mm	35
-	25mm	50

NEEDI E SIZE CONVEDSION CHADT

slipped stitch over



XMY FAVOURITES X





MY COSY THROW

Obsessed with oversized knits, **Melanie Porter** tells us why she loves to snuggle up with her chunky throw

iant knits seem to be appearing everywhere at the moment, from the catwalk to interiors, and I can't stop working on my 25mm and 35mm giant needles! Oversized beanies and accessories are perfect for the winter months and chunky furnishings like my Shadow Ombré Throw add a luxurious, cosy feel to your home.

My throw is knitted in 100% British wool, which is hand-spun to create a unique felted yarn and dyed by hand to create a striking shadow effect. And the best thing is, it works up unbelievably quickly, like all the best large-scale knits do! I'm so passionate about my big

needles I've written a book called *Big Needle Knits*, which is full of bold projects knitted on 10mm needles and above.

I spin my own yarn to knit on extralarge needles, but you can easily use yarn designed for arm knitting – or just hold together lots of odds and ends from your stash to create a unique yarn, full of the history of your old projects. I've even been known to knit with rope in the past, and I've cut up rags to create a modern take on the classic rag rug. Large-scale knitting emphasises the textures of different knit structures, and gives even simple stocking stitch a theatrical quality!

See more big knits at melanieporter.com



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