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Image from The Studio Collection - 7 Knitted Winter Accessories For You & Your home by Deramores at Quail.

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ALAN DART'S OLD FATHER TIME PES

## Hello

re you all ready for Christmas, with your knitted presents cast off and wrapped up under the tree? If not, don't worry! We've got some fantastic last-minute gifts and ideas for you this issue. Knit up the simple stocking fillers starting on page 53,

including a sweet colourwork purse from Jessica Biscoe, and be sure to add the luxury yarns on page 78 to your wish list for Santa. We're also looking ahead to the new year, with cosy knits for the whole family that will see you through the cold winter months.

Whatever you decide to cast on, make sure you take a break from knitting to have a look at our new website. We've teamed up with our sister magazines *The Knitter* and *Knit Today* to launch www.theyarnloop.com, your go-to destination for news, free patterns and more.

Happy knitting, and see you in 2016!

Linstie



THIS FANTASTIC FAIR ISLE HAT WILL BE A HIT WITH THE WHOLE FAMILY THIS WINTER, AND IT'S QUICK, EASY AND FUN TO KNIT TOO!





See page 28 for more information.

Subscribe digitally from just £3.99! Learn more at www.simplyknitting.co.uk/digital.

## Knitting January

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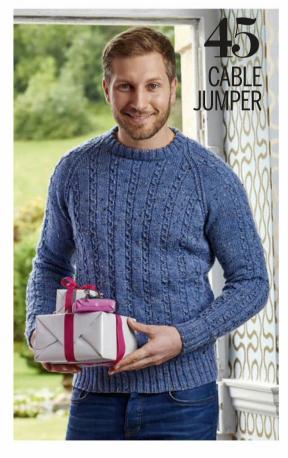
Whip up these quick gifts for friends and family this Christmas. They make fantastic stashbusters too!





























### CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

'Holly Berry' and New Accent Colour 'Cherry Drop' in Our Popular Signature 4 Ply





Visit our website **www.wyspinners.com** for stockist details or for more information call 01535 664500 or email sales@wyspinners.com



### EXCLUSIVE FREE FESTIVE PATTERN

by Emma Wright

We are giving away this fantastic festive sock pattern with every purchase of Holly Berry Signature 4 Ply. Available in printed or digital format\* from early November.

\*printed copies whilst stocks last, maximum 15 copies per stockist ordermaximum 1 copy per individual order





## January

### KNITTING IDEAS & INSPIRATION FOR THE MONTH AHEAD



### **SOFT TOUCH**

Ideal for snuggly winter accessories and oh-so-cuddly teddies, Sirdar Touch may be the softest fur varn we've ever petted! A blend of 50% nvlon and 50% polyester, it comes in 100g/67m balls and knits up in a jiffy on chunky 10mm needles. There's a pattern for a snood on the ball band to get you started, and vou can choose from 10 great shades, including brights and neutrals. Call 01924 231682 for details or visit

www.sirdar.co.uk.

### ON TREND

Party time!

Add a touch of festive sparkle to your outfit with a shimmering varn worked into a pretty party top. Wear this wrap-front top from Wendy (leaflet 5922, £1.50) with a skirt for a night out, or dress it down with dark jeans during the daytime. It's knitted in beautiful Celeste DK yarn, which is dotted with little sequins that will catch the light and ensure you turn heads wherever you go.



Call 01943 872264 for more details or buy the pattern from www.tbramsden.co.uk.



MAGM



Can you knit food that looks good enough to eat? Enter the Knitted Feast competition and your design could go on display at The Spring Knitting & Stitching Show's banqueting table in London on 3-6 March. The organisers are looking for full-scale models of fruit, vegetables and more, as well as knitted crockery - and there are some great prizes up for grabs too! Entries must be submitted by 19 February 2016. Find more information at www.the knittingandstitchingshow.com/spring.

### **KNITPRO** GIVEAWAY!

Here's your chance to win the KnitPro Magma Knitting Chart Keeper (£21.95) from last issue's Ten of the Best Stocking Fillers, courtesy of www.the knittinggiftshop.co.uk (07528 812731). See page 83 to enter, using the code SKCHART141.





Glitter & shine

Rowan has collaborated with Swarovski to create a range of patterns using the luxurious Create Your Style crystals. Treat yourself to an exquisite beaded knit from the Daytime or Evening Collection (£9.50 each) - and if you're feeling ambitious, you could even knit your own wedding dress! For more details call 01484 681881 or visit www.knitrowan.com.

CHILD'S PLAY BABY CASHMERINO & BY DEBBIE BLISS (£7.95) is packed with Bright And Cheerful Knits FOR tots AND OLDER KIDS. WHO COULD RESIST this ADORABLE COLOURWORK JUMPER? 01535 664222 www.DESignERYARns.uk.com



Alan Dart's Piggles are preparing for the festive season with their new Christmas Costumes. A great gift knit, the pattern for these outfits (£4) is available from Alan's website, where you can also find the designs for the Piggles toys.

**Download 'The Piggles Christmas** Costumes' from www.alandart.co.uk.



### LAST-MINUTE GIFTS

Quick knits to make for friends and family.



TREATS FOR TINY TOES

King Cole, 4325. Self-patterning yarn makes these baby slippers an easy knit. www.kingcole.co.uk, 01756 703670



**COLOUR GRADIENT** 

Stylecraft, 9221. Choose from three accessories in bold, variegated aran yarn. www.stylecraft-yarns. co.uk, 01535 609798



**SHIMMER** & SPARKLE

DY Choice, DYP253. Little girls will love dressing up in this party top. www. designeryarns.uk. com, 01535 664222



**GOT IT COVERED** 

Sirdar, 7506. These cushion covers are speedy to knit using chunky Boufflé yarn. www.sirdar.co.uk, 01924 231682



**PUT THE KETTLE ON** 

Wendy, 5927. Add some fun to tea time with a set of cosies. We love the chicken! www.tbramsden. co.uk, 01943 872264

LOVE tHESE? FIND MORE GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS STARTING ON PAGE 49!

### QUICK QUESTION

### YARN CHOICF

from the one that's suggested in the pattern I'm working from, how do I decide which one to choose? Claire Sparks, Oxford

All patterns come with a tension, which determines the weight of the yarn you should use. You can use any yarn that has the same suggested tension as the one in your pattern. Always swatch and check your tension carefully, using whatever needle size is needed to obtain the same tension as the pattern. It's also best to choose a yarn that has the same fibre content as the original. The website www.yarnsub.com is a great resource to help you choose substitute yarns.

### **FANTASTIC FELT**



■ Wool fleece isn't just for making yarn! Have a go at needle felting and create a sweet decoration with this Robin sculpture kit (£15) by Jenny Barnett. Buy it at www.coriandr. com/shop/jennymade.



8 JANUARY Socks – Heels and Toes with Anniken Allis, Berkshire, 0118 950 3350

www.artesanoyarns.co.uk

**16 JANUARY** Beginners Knitting, Herefordshire, 01885 488103 www.lupinandrose.co.uk

17 JANUARY Waltham Abbey Wool Show, Essex, 01992 679261 www.walthamabbey woolshow.co.uk

23 JANUARY Professional Finishing Workshop with Sarah Hatton, Warrington, 01925764231 www.blacksheepwools.com

30 JANUARY Knitting with Colour Workshop, Leeds, 0113 278 1788 www.baaramewe.co.uk

31 JANUARY Learn To Knit (Part One), Nottingham, 0115 947 4239 www.knitnottingham.co.uk



OMBRÉ +REND! BERGERE DE FRANCE'S CYCLONE KNITS up to REVEAL GORGEOUS COLOUR SHIFTS. THIS WARM, FUZZY YARN IS MADE FROM 78% ACRYLIC, 18% WOOL AND 4% polyester, And comes in soq185m BALLS (£3.95). WWW.BERGEREDEFRANCE.CO.UK



### Canine *knits*

Give a rescue dog a gift this Christmas and help them stay warm and comfortable as they wait for a new home. Jerry Green Dog Rescue, which has five centres in northern England, is looking for crafters to support its Great Doggy Knit Off by making jumpers, blankets, snoods or toys for the dogs in its care. You can request canine knitting patterns by contacting Jerry Green Dog Rescue on fundraising@ jerrygreendogs.org.uk or calling 01652 650886. www.jerrygreendogs.org.uk



No time to knit? Splurge or save with these ready-made designs!



Seeing red

Bright cable stocking with button details, £11.99, 0131 561 6406. www.dobbies.com



Hit the slopes

ChunkiChilli's organic cotton stocking has a fun skiing Santa motif, £22. www.chunkichilli.com



### **SPLURGE**

Go traditional

A Fair Isle design in classic Christmas colours, £54. www.etsy.com/uk/ shop/SantasSockCentral

You can subscribe to the digital edition of Simply Knitting from just £3.99. For more details visit our website: www.simplyknitting.co.uk/digital.



### 5 MINUTES WITH...

### JESSICA

We chat with Jessica Biscoe, knitwear designer, blogger and author of Knitting Smitten.

Favourite knitting technique? Knitting in the round – I very rarely make flat-knit projects for myself.

Describe vour design style. Playful and modern.

Metal or wooden needles? Slick, speedy metal needles.

Desert island yarn? A really squishy and springy Merino DK.

Biggest knitting ambition? To own a few alpacas and maybe one day produce my own yarn.

Must-have knitting gadget? Stitch markers, of all shapes and sizes.

Why do you particularly enjoy designing knitting patterns? I love creating something from scratch and having so many options for colour, fit, construction, weight – if you can dream it up, you can most likely make it.

Favourite varn in your stash? I have a scrumptious hank of Juniper Moon Farm Herriot Great that I can't wait to use - it feels like marshmallow!

Worst knitting habit? Doing too much at once!

Find Jessica's purse pattern on page 55, and visit her website, www.jessicabiscoe.co.uk.

### **FAVOURITE BOOKS**



### **KNIT THE SKY**

Lea Redmond (Storey Publishing, £14.99) In this playful book, Lea Redmond shows you how to use your knitting like a journal, recording memories and observations in your stitches. Among the inventive, charming design ideas are a weather report scarf, where you add a stripe each day to match the colour of the sky, and a postcard blanket made out of patchwork squares inspired by your travels. Rather than rigid patterns to follow. Lea instead provides jumping-off points to help you come up with your own unique creative projects. If you want to try something a bit different, this is the book for you!



### THE KNITTER'S HANDBOOK Eleanor

van Zandt (Hamlyn, £9.99) An essential guide to yarns and patterns, with clear, easy-to-follow

instructions and step-by-step illustrations, this book is great for beginners or more experienced knitters who want a few more techniques under their belt.



### **TOASTY: VOL 2**

Rachel Coopey (Rachel Coopey, £12) Rachel of Coop Knits has designed nine cable and colourwork knits in Baa Ram Ewe Titus.

As the name suggests, they'll keep you toasty through the coldest months.



### HUSH

Kim Hargreaves (Kim Hargreaves, £17.95) Featuring 21 designs for soft, fluffy cardigans, chunky accessories and slouchy sweaters, the

new collection from Kim Hargreaves is a must-have for winter knitting sessions. Just add a log fire and a mug of hot chocolate!

Missed a recent issue of SK? There are three easy ways to buy a back issue: call 01604 828737, fill in the order form on page 86 or visit http://craft.buysubscriptions.com/Back-Issues.

### 4 SUPER TIPS On ...

### 1. Be a little selfish

After all those gifts, perhaps your first resolution for 2016 should be to knit something for yourself!

### 2. Shop your stash

Before heading to the nearest yarn shop, don't forget to check what you already have at home.

### 3. Try something new

Whether it's colourwork, cables or a clever cast on, make this the year you learn a new knitting skill.

### 4. Get things done

Find all those long-forgotten half-finished projects and either unravel them or finish them!

### **TICKET GIVEAWAY!**

Find all the newest knitting



### YOUR FREE GIFT!

with your January issue...

### WINTER HAT PATTERN



\* Add a splash of colour to your winter outfits with a bold and bright Fair Isle hat.



### **YOUR KNITTING**

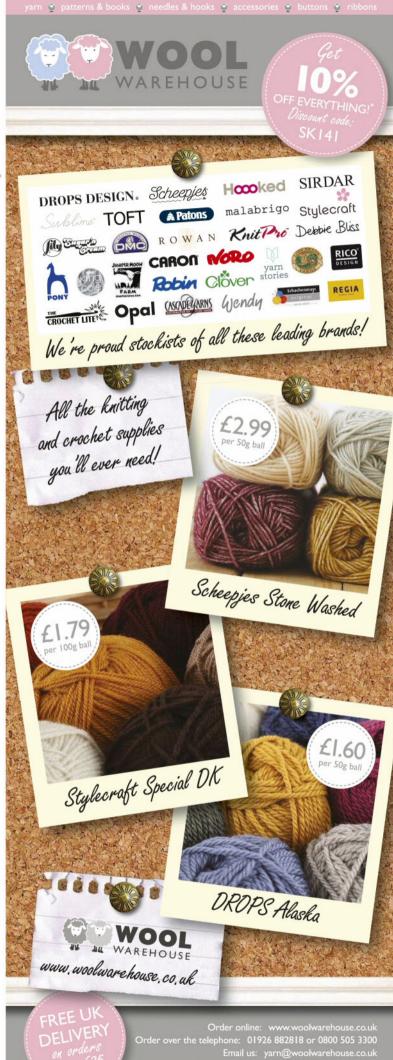
Notebook



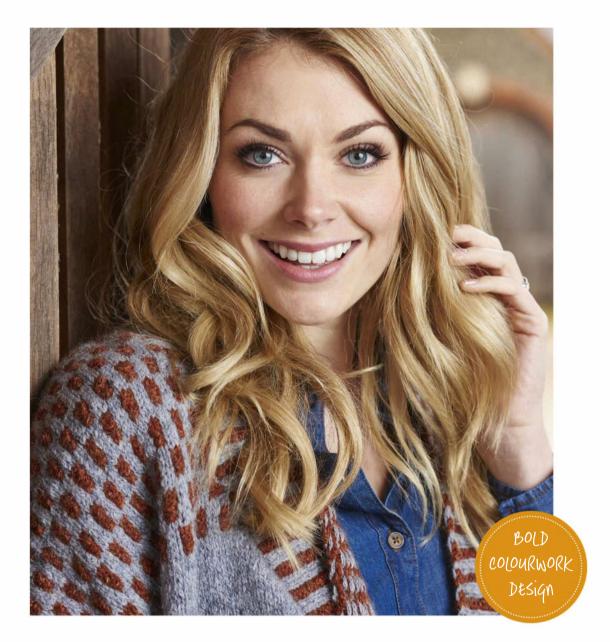
### ISSUE 142 ON SALE FRIDAY 1 JANUARY

ENJOY GREAT GIFTS EVERY MONTH WITH SIMPLY KNITTING – TURN TO PAGE 28 FOR MORE DETAILS AND TO SUBSCRIBE TODAY!

> Contents are subject to chang







### CHESTNUT

**Sarah Hatton**'s kimono-style jacket, with its geometric detailing, is the softest, warmest cover-up you'll find this winter.





### YOU WILL NEED

- Rowan, Lima (84% baby alpaca, 8% Merino wool, 8% nylon, 50g/110m)
- A pair of 5mm needles
- A pair of 5½mm needles
- A 5mm circular needle, 80cm long

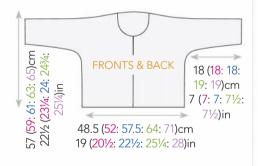
For varn stockists contact Rowan 01484 681881 www.knitrowan.com

### **TENSION**

Yarn used knits as aran to this tension: 20 sts and 26 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st and patt using 5½mm needles

### **ABBREVIATIONS**

For a full list see page 90



hree sets of contrasting design elements make Sarah Hatton's jacket outstanding. Stripes and brick-like blocks are a striking team. Their rusty-brown colour is beautifully set off on a misty grey background and the effect is enhanced by working the contrast stitches in purl, an intriguing texture placed next to stocking stitch.





Cast on 94 (106: 118: 130: 142) sts using 5mm needles and Yarn A. Join in Yarn B and work as folls: Row 1 (RS) K2A, \*P2B, K2A; rep from

\* to end.

Row 2 P2A, \*K2B, P2A; rep from \* to end.

These 2 rows set rib.

Work a further 16 rows in rib, dec 0 (1: 1: 1: 0) st at each end of last row. [94 (104: 116: 128: 142) sts]

Change to 5½mm needles and using Yarn A only, beg with a K row, working in st st (throughout) cont until Back meas 26 (28: 28: 30: 30)cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

### SHAPE SLEEVES

[102 (112: 124: 136: 150) sts] Cast on 6 (6: 6: 7: 7) sts at beg of next 2 (4: 4: 6: 4) rows, then 7 (7: 7: 0: 8) sts at beg of next 4 (2: 2: 0: 2) rows. [142 (150: 162: 178: 194) sts] Place markers at each end of last row. Work 26 rows straight.

Inc 1 st at each end of next 4 rows.

Join in Yarn B and breaking off and rejoining where necessary, work as folls: Row 1 (RS) K2A, \*K2B, K2A; rep from \* to end

Row 2 \*P2A, K2B; rep from \* to last 2 sts, P2A.

Row 3 K2A, \*P2B, K2A; rep from \* to end.

Row 4 \*P2A, P2B; rep from \* to last 2 sts, P2A.

Row 5 Using Yarn A, K to end.

**Row 6** \*P2B, P2A; rep from \* to last 2 sts. P2B.

Row 7 P2B, \*K2A, P2B; rep from \* to end.

Row 8 \*K2B, P2A; rep from \* to last 2 sts, K2B.

Row 9 K2B, \*K2A, K2B; rep from \* to

Row 10 Using Yarn A, P to end. These 10 rows from patt. Cont in patt (throughout) as folls:

Work 24 (24: 30: 30: 34) rows.

### SHAPE SHOULDERS

Cast off 8 (9: 10: 11: 12) sts at beg of next 4 rows, keeping patt correct. [110 (114: 122: 134: 146) sts]

### SHAPE BACK NECK

Cast off 8 (9: 10: 11: 12) sts, patt until there are 31 (32: 34: 39: 43) sts on right needle, turn and leave rem 71 (73: 78: 84: 91) sts on a holder.

Dec 1 st at beg of next row.

[30 (31: 33: 38: 42) sts]

Cast off 9 (9: 10: 11: 13) sts at beg and dec 1 st at end of foll row.

[20 (21: 22: 26: 28) sts]

Dec 1 st at beg of next row.

[19 (20: 21: 25: 27) sts]

Cast off 9 (9: 10: 12: 13) sts at beg and dec 1 st at end of foll row.

SIZE		8-10	12-14	16-18	20-22	24-26
TO FIT DUCT	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127
TO FIT BUST	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50
ACTUAL BUST	cm	97	104	115	128	142
	in	38	41	451/4	501/2	56
LENGTH	cm	57	59	61	63	65
	in	221/2	231/4	24	24¾	251/2
	cm	18	18	18	19	19
SLEEVE LENGTH	in	7	7	7	71/2	71/2
YARN Rowan, Lima					0m balls)	
Yarn A Andes (880) 8		8	8	9	10	11
Yarn B Machu Picchu (885)		3	4	4	4	5
6 <del>1</del>						

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.

### KIMONO JACKET

[9 (10: 10: 12: 13) sts]

Cast off rem 9 (10: 10: 12: 13) sts.

With RS facing, rejoin yarn to 71 (73: 78: 84: 91) sts left on a holder, cast off next 32 (32: 34: 34: 36) sts, patt to end. [39 (41: 44: 50: 55) sts]

Cast off 8 (9: 10: 11: 12) sts at beg and dec 1 st at end of next row, then dec 1 st at beg of foll row.

[29 (30: 32: 37: 41) sts]

Cast off 9 (9: 10: 11: 13) sts at beg and dec 1 st at end of next row, then dec 1 st at beg of foll row.

[18 (19: 20: 24: 26) sts]

Cast off 9 (9: 10: 12: 13) sts at beg of next row.

[9 (10: 10: 12: 13) sts]

Work 1 row.

Cast off rem 9 (10: 10: 12: 13) sts.

### LEFT FRONT

Cast on 48 (52: 60: 64: 72) sts using 5mm needles and Yarn A. Join in Yarn B and work as folls: Row 1 (RS) \*K2A, P2B; rep from \* to

Row 2 K2A, P2B; rep from \* to end. These 2 rows set rib. Work a further 16 rows in rib, dec 1 (0:

2: 0: 1) st at end of last row. [47 (52: 58: 64: 71) sts]

Change to 5½mm needles and using Yarn A only, beg with a K row, working in st st (throughout) cont until Left Front meas 26 (28: 28: 30: 30)cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

### SHAPE SLEEVE

Inc 1 st at beg of next row and at same edge on 3 foll rows.

[51 (56: 62: 68: 75) sts]

Cast on 6 (6: 6: 7: 7) sts at beg of next

row, and foll 0 (1: 1: 2: 1) alt rows.

[57 (68: 74: 89: 89) sts]

Cast on 7 (7: 7: 0: 8) sts at beg of foll

2 (1: 1: 0: 1) alt rows. [71 (75: 81: 89: 97) sts]

Place a marker at end of last row.

Work 10 (10: 14: 14: 14) rows straight.

### SHAPE NECK

Keeping patt correct, dec 1 st at neck edge of next row, then on 7 (7: 5: 5: 5) foll alt rows.

[63 (67: 75: 83: 91) sts]

Work 1 row.

Join in Yarn B and breaking off and rejoining where necessary, work as folls: Row 1 (RS) K2A, \*K2B, K2A; rep from \*

to last 5 sts, K2B, K1A, k2togA.

[62 (66: 74: 82: 90) sts]

Row 2 \*P2A, K2B; rep from \* to last 2 sts, P2A.

Row 3 K2A, \*P2B, K2A; rep from \* to last 4 sts, P2B, k2toqA.

[61 (65: 73: 81: 89) sts]

Row 4 P1A, P2B, \*P2A, P2B; rep from \* to last 2 sts, P2A.

Row 5 Using Yarn A, K to last 2 sts, k2tog. [60 (64: 72: 80: 88) sts]

Row 6 P2A, \*P2B, P2A; rep from \* to last 2 sts, P2B.

Row 7 P2B, \*K2A, P2B; rep from \* to last 2 sts, k2togA.

[59 (63: 71: 79: 87) sts]

Row 8 P1A, \*K2B, P2A; rep from \* to last 2 sts, K2B.

Row 9 K2B, \*K2A, K2B; rep from \* to last 5 sts, K2A, K1B, k2togB.

[58 (62: 70: 78: 86) sts]

Row 10 Using Yarn A, P to end.

These 10 rows set patt.

Cont as set dec 1 st at neck edge of next row, and foll 0 (0: 3: 3: 3) alt rows, then on 5 (5: 5: 5: 6) foll 4th rows.



The short sleeves on this knit are perfect for revealing a peep of contrast colour.

[52 (56: 61: 69: 76) sts] Work 3 rows.

### SHAPE SHOULDER

Cast off 8 (9: 10: 11: 12) sts, patt to last 2 sts, patt2tog. [43 (46: 50: 57: 63) sts] Next row Patt to end.

Cast off 8 (9: 10: 11: 12) sts at beg of next and 1 (3: 3: 2: 1) foll alt rows, then 9 (0: 0: 12: 13) sts at beg of foll 2 (0: 0: 1: 2) alt rows. [9 (10: 10: 12: 13) sts]

Next row Patt.

Cast off rem 9 (10: 10: 12: 13) sts.

### RIGHT FRONT

Cast on 48 (52: 60: 64: 72) sts using 5mm needles and Yarn A. Join in Yarn B and work as folls: **Row 1** (RS) \*P2B, K2A; rep from \* to end.

### STEP-BY-STEP HOW TO JOIN IN YARN



1 Whenever possible, join in a piece of yarn at the beginning of a new row. Holding both strands of yarn, insert your needle in the first stitch of the row.



2 For the first stitch, wind both yarns around the needle and pull both through as usual. On the following row, knit the two strands for this stitch as one.



3 Now drop the 'old' yarn and continue working along the row, winding just the 'new' yarn around the needle for each stitch.



4 The wrong side shows the new yarn worked in. Tie off the ends of the yarn loosely until you finish the piece and weave in the ends.

Row 2 \*P2B, K2A; rep from \* to end. These 2 rows set rib. Work a further 16 rows in rib, dec 1 (0: 2: 0: 1) st at beg of last row. [47 (52: 58: 64: 71) sts]

Change to 5½mm needles.

Using Yarn A only, beg with a K row, working in st st (throughout) cont until Right Front meas 26 (28: 28: 30: 30)cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

### SHAPE SLEEVE

Inc 1 st at end of next row and at same edge on 3 foll rows.

[51 (56: 62: 68: 75) sts]

Cast on 6 (6: 6: 7: 7) sts at beg of 2nd row (WS), then on foll 0 (1: 1: 2: 1) alt rows.

[57 (68: 74: 89: 89) sts]

Cast on 7 (7: 7: 0: 8) sts at beg of foll

2 (1: 1: 0: 1) alt rows. [71 (75: 81: 89: 97) sts]

Place a marker at beg of last row.

Work 9 (9: 13: 13: 13) rows straight.

### SHAPE NECK

Keeping patt correct, dec 1 st at neck edge of next row, then on 7 (7: 5: 5: 5)

foll alt rows. [63 (67: 75: 83: 91) sts] Work 1 row. Join in Yarn B and breaking off and rejoining where necessary, work as folls: Row 1 (RS) K2togA, K1A, \*K2B, K2A; rep from \* to end. [62 (66: 74: 82: 90) sts] Row 2 \*P2A, K2B; rep from \* to last 2 sts, P2A. Row 3 K2togA, \*P2B, K2A; rep from \* to end. [61 (65: 73: 81: 89) sts] 1: 2) alt rows. Row 4 \*P2A, P2B; rep from \* to last st, P1A. Row 5 Using Yarn A, k2tog, K to end. [60 (64: 72: 80: 88) sts] FRONT BORDER Row 6 \*P2B, P2A; rep from \* to end. Row 7 K2togA, P2B, \*K2A, P2B; rep from \* to end.

Row 8 \*K2B, P2A; rep from \* to last 3 sts, K2B, P1A. Row 9 K2togB, K1B, \*K2A, K2B; rep from \* to end. [58 (62: 70: 78: 86) sts] Row 10 Using Yarn A, P to end. These 10 rows set patt. Cont as set dec 1 st at neck edge of next and foll 0 (0: 3: 3: 3) alt rows, then on 6 (6: 6: 6: 7) foll 4th rows. [51 (55: 60: 68: 75) sts] SHAPE SHOULDER

Cast off 8 (9: 10: 11: 12) sts at beg of next and 2 (4: 4: 3: 2) foll alt rows, then 9 (0: 0: 12: 13) sts at beg of foll 2 (0: 0:

[9 (10: 10: 12: 13) sts]

[59 (63: 71: 79: 87) sts]

Next row Patt.

Cast off rem 9 (10: 10: 12: 13) sts.

Join shoulder seams. With RS facing, using 5mm circular needle and Yarn A, pick up and knit 60 (64: 65: 73: 73) sts along right front to beg of neck shaping, 54 (54: 56: 56: 59) sts along neck edge, 5 sts down right side of back neck, 32 (32: 34: 34: 36) sts from back neck, 5 sts up left side of back neck, 54 (54: 56: 56: 59) sts along neck edge to beg of neck shaping and 60 (64: 65: 73: 73) sts along left front. [270 (278: 286: 302: 310) sts] Join in Yarn B and beg with row 2 of rib as given for Back, work 20 rows. Cast off in rib.

### CUFFS (BOTH ALIKE)

With RS facing, using 5mm needles and Yarn A, pick up and knit 102 (102: 110: 110: 118) sts evenly between markers. Join in Yarn B and beg with row 2 of rib as given for Back, work 18 rows. Cast off in rib.

### TO MAKE UP

Join side and cuff seams. Gently block to measurements, following any yarn care instructions on the ball band.

> **MONTH** Enjoy some more colourwork with a polka dot jumper. Issue 142, February, is in the shops from Friday 1 January.



The geometric pattern is worked in purl stitches to give extra texture to this cosy cover-up, with soft, subtle shades allowing the striking motifs to steal the show.





### PHIL SAUL

### MODERNKNITTER

One crafter shares what she's learned from knitting.

## "I confess that I'm a knitting stalker"

ou know, it's truly a miracle I've never been arrested. I'm not doing anything properly dodgy, you understand, but I do go a bit weird when I catch sight of someone wearing lovely stranded or Fair Isle knitwear – and all the more so if the garment is also an interesting shape and design. I just can't help myself - I have to stare. A lot.

I don't mean any harm by it, really I don't, but if I see your jumper and I like your jumper, then I'm going to want to understand your jumper, and that's going to involve some staring. And possibly muttering. And in really extreme cases, note-taking. Hence the fear of arrest, because people can be awfully funny about that sort of behaviour, I've discovered.

But what on earth do folks expect? If your knitwear is patterned with a delightful motif, then you're going to have knitters clustering round you, trying to better understand the stitchwork. There might be counting. And poking of seams. It's inevitable - think of it as the equivalent of me walking through the woods covered in honey and wondering why every bear in the neighbourhood is giving me hassle. Honestly, be reasonable, people! Oh, and I'd love to know whether that scarf you're wearing is made of alpaca or wool, by the way.

### IT'S NOTHING PERSONAL

It's not as though I discriminate on the basis of anything other than the quality of the knitwear. I've stared at women, I've stared at men, old and young, large and small. Heck, I've even stared at a Jack Russell terrier that was wearing a quirky knitted doggy coat. I scarcely notice the person (or animal) wearing the clothes. So please don't assume any sinister motives if I'm peering at your midriff, or trying to count the pattern repeats on your skirt. Or even doing a funny dance to keep up with you whilst I frown at your raglan sleeves. I'm not frowning to be mean, I'm just trying to figure out whether your cardigan was worked top-down or bottom-up. It's nothing personal.

It's not just the design that catches my eye, but the colours, too. Sometimes I see a combination of shades that stops me dead in my tracks because I'm awestruck by how perfectly they work together. I just want to stand and gaze forever, which is problematic, because that would involve following a stranger home and living with them for a couple of years until they threw out the garment in question, or until it faded. Completely impractical, and quite likely illegal.

I look at clothes in shops differently these days, too, casting a handknitter's eve over them even though they were produced by machine in batches of a thousand. Am I the only person here who's studied a garment in a shop with a view to reproducing aspects of it on the needles at home? Please tell me you've done that too!

So yes, I confess that I'm a knitting stalker. I can't help it. And if the police do come to arrest me, please will you be my alibi? I was here all along, chatting with you about knitting, right? Right?

Read more at www.thetwistedvarn.com.







Clockwise from top left: A spot of sneaky measuring; Phil stealthily pursues her latest subject; the secret diary of a knitting stalker!





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### KNII knitting knitter





















### YOU WILL NEED

- King Cole, Merino Blend DK (100% wool, 50g/112m)
- A pair of 31/4mm needles
- A pair of 4mm needles
- Darning needle
- Locking stitch markers For yarn stockists contact

King Cole 01756 703670 www.kingcole.com

### TENSION

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension: 22 sts and 28 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st using 4mm needles

### **ABBREVIATIONS**

For a full list see page 90



31 (32.5: 34.5: 38: 40: 42.5)cm 12 (13: 13½: 15: 15¾: 16¾)in



ane Burns' sweet children's jumper is mostly simple – a stocking stitch body and sleeves, trimmed with moss stitch. The additon of lovely little pockets with colourwork deer contrast well with the background. If you don't want to tackle Swiss darning, try intarsia, or just plain stocking stitch.





\*Cast on 68 (72: 76: 84: 88: 94) sts using 31/4mm needles and Yarn A.

Row 1 \*K1, P1; rep from \* to end.

**Row 2** \*P1, K1; rep from \* to end. Rep rows 1 & 2, 3 (3: 4: 5: 6: 6) times more.

Change to 4mm needles.

Row 1 Knit.

Row 2 Purl.

Cont working in st st until piece meas 24 (25.5: 28: 33: 35: 37.5)cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row. **Next row** Cast off 3 (3: 4: 5: 6: 6) sts, knit to end

**Next row** Cast off 3 (3: 4: 5: 6: 6) sts, purl to end. [62 (66: 68: 74: 76: 82) sts]\*\*

Cont to work in st st until piece meas 36 (38: 42: 48: 52: 56)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a RS row.

**Next row** P15 (17: 17: 19: 18: 21), PM in last st, P32 (32: 34: 36: 40: 40), PM in next st, P15 (17: 17: 19: 18: 21).

Cast off, keeping markers in place.

### FRONT

Using Yarn A, work as for Back from \* to \*\*.

Cont to work in st st until piece meas 28.5 (30.5: 34.5: 40.5: 44.5: 48.5)cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row.

### **BEGIN NECK SHAPING**

**Next row** K26 (28: 28: 31: 31: 34), turn, leave rem 36 (38: 40: 43: 45: 48) sts on holder

Next row Purl.

Working on these 26 (28: 28: 31: 31: 34) sts only continue as follows:

Dec 1 st at neck edge every row 11 (11: 11: 12: 13: 13) times.

[15 (17: 17: 19: 18: 21) sts]

Cont working in st st until piece meas 36 (38: 42: 48: 52: 56)cm, ending after a WS row.

Cast off.

With RS facing, and working on rem 36 (38: 40: 43: 45: 48) sts, slip next 10 (10: 12: 12: 14: 14) sts onto stitch holder, rejoin Yarn A to rem 26 (28: 28: 31: 31: 34) sts and knit to end.

Next row Purl.

Working on these 26 (28: 28: 31: 31: 34) sts only continue as follows: Dec 1 st at neck edge every row 11 (11:

11: 12: 13: 13) times. [15 (17: 17: 19: 18: 21) sts]

Cont working in st st until piece meas 36 (38: 42: 48: 52: 56)cm, ending after a WS row.

Cast off.

AGE		12-24mths	2-3yrs	4-5yrs	6-7yrs	8-9yrs	10-11yrs			
TO FIT	cm	53	56	61	65.5	69	73.5			
CHEST	in	21	22	24	25¾	27	29			
ACTUAL CHEST	cm	62	65.5	69	76.5	80	85.5			
	in	241/2	25¾	271/4	30	31½	33¾			
LENGTH	cm	36	38	42	48	52	56			
	in	141⁄4	15	161/2	19	201/2	22			
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	24	26	31	35	39	40			
	in	12	12¾	13¾	14¾	151/2	161/2			
YARN		King	King Cole, Merino Blend DK (50g/104m balls)							
Yarn A Copper (109)		5	6	7	8	10	12			
Yarn B Aran (46)		1	1	1	1	1	1			

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.

### CHILD'S JUMPER

### **SLEEVES**

**Cast on** 36 (40: 44: 48: 52: 56) sts using 3½mm needles and Yarn A.

**Row 1** \*K1, P1; rep from \* to end. **Row 2** \*P1, K1; rep from \* to end. Repeat rows 1 & 2, 3 (3: 4: 5: 6: 6) more times.

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

### 4TH SIZE ONLY

**Next row** Inc 1 st at each end of 7th and 7 following 6th rows.

**Next row** Inc 1 st at each end of every following 8th row once. [66 sts]

1ST, 2ND, 3RD, 5TH & 6TH SIZES ONLY **Next row** Inc 1 st at each end of 5th and every following 4th row 5 (3: 2: -: 2: 4) times.

**Next row** Inc 1 st at each end of every following 6th row 2 (4: 6: -: 9: 8) times. [52 (56: 62: -: 76: 82) sts]

### **ALL SIZES**

Continue in st st until piece measures 24 (26: 31: 35: 39: 40)cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row.

Cast off.

### **NECKBAND**

Join right shoulder seam. With RS facing, using 3½mm needles and Yarn A, pick up and knit 23 (23: 23: 24: 23: 23) sts evenly along left side of neck, work across 10 (10: 12: 12: 14: 14) sts left on holder at front of neck, pick up and knit 23 (23: 23: 24: 23: 23) sts evenly along right side of neck, pick up and knit 32 (32: 34: 36: 40: 40) sts from cast-off stitches at back of neck. [88 (88: 92: 96: 100: 100) sts]

Row 1 \*K1, P1; rep from \* to end.
Row 2 \*P1, K1; rep from \* to end.
Repeat rows 1 & 2 twice more.

Cast off in moss st as set.

### TO MAKE UP

Join left shoulder and neckband seams. Hold sleeves in half lengthwise and place stitch marker at centre line of sleeve. Line up the centre of the sleeve cap with the shoulder seam and pin sleeve into place. Sew into position. Join side and sleeve seams. Block the sweater gently, following any yarn care instructions given on the ball band.

### **POCKETS**

Each pocket measures approx 10cm in width. If knitting the smallest sizes of

sweater, you may prefer to add one pocket, possibly as a breast pocket.

The pocket can be worked using the stranded knitting method, but this will affect the tension and may make sewing the pocket in place a little more difficult.

We recommend using small bobbins of Yarn A to work the edges of the pocket and using Swiss darning (also called duplicate stitch) to add the motif once the pocket is knitted.

**Cast on** 23 sts using 4mm needles and Yarn A.

Work Reindeer Pocket Chart, paying attention to the moss stitch edging at the top. Sew into position, using photo as a guide.



### HOW TO USE OUR CHARTS

Start at the bottom right-hand corner. Read right side rows from right to left and wrong side rows from left to right. A row of squares represents a row of knitting.

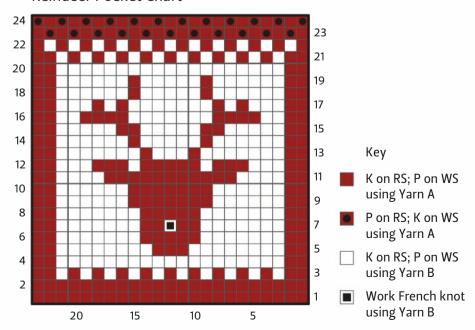


Stocking stitch keeps things simple, while moss stitch stops the edges from curling.



The reindeer on the pockets can either be knitted in intarsia or Swiss darned.

### Reindeer Pocket Chart





### SIDEWAYS-KNIT JACKET



### PARTYPIECE

Rich hues and a rippling slip stitch pattern combine to create **Pat Menchini**'s gorgeous knit, inspired by the famous painter Turner.





### YOU WILL NEED

- Artesano, Hand-Painted Alpaca Blend DK (50% alpaca, 50% wool, 50g/100m)
- A pair of 3¼mm needles
- A pair of 4mm needles
- A 4mm crochet hook
- A stitch holder
- Locking stitch markers
- A large button

For yarn stockists contact Artesano 0118 950 3350 www.artesanoyarns.co.uk

### **TENSION**

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension: 22 sts and 32 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over main patt using 4mm needles

### **ABBREVIATIONS**

For a full list see page 90



his boxy jacket is inspired by the British oil painter Turner, as the gorgeous flashes of colour in the hand-painted yarn are reminiscent of his style. Knitted sideways in two pieces, the jacket requires minimal making up, and the sleeve length is easily adjustable by adding or subtracting rows before shaping the underarm. Perfect!



### RIGHT HALF (WORKED SIDEWAYS)

**Cast on** 79 (83: 85: 89: 93: 95: 99) sts using 4mm needles.

Beg at sleeve edge, work border patt as folls:

**Row 1** (RS) P2, \*sl1 pwise wyif, P1; rep from \* to last st, P1.

Row 2 (WS) Purl.

**Row 3** P3, \*sl1 pwise wyif, P1; rep from \* to last 2 sts, P2.

Row 4 Purl.

Rows 5 & 6 Rep rows 1 & 2. These 4 rows set border patt. Work 2 more rows in border patt. Beg with a RS knit row, work 6 rows in st st.

Change to main patt:

**Row 1** (RS) P2, \*sl1 pwise wyif, P1; rep from \* to last st, P1.

**Rows 2–8** Beg with a WS purl row, work 7 rows in st st.

These 8 rows set main patt.

Cont in main patt until sleeve measures 21cm from cast-on edge, ending with a WS row.

**NOTE** Sleeve length can be adjusted here by working more repeats of main patt – ensure you have sufficient yarn for any changes.

WORK UNDERARM SHAPING

Inc 1 st at each end of next row, then on every foll RS row until there are 89 (93: 95: 99: 103: 105: 109) sts.

Inc 1 st at each end of every row until there are 103 (107: 109: 113: 117: 119: 123) sts, thus ending with a WS row. Work 1 row straight.

**Next row** (WS) P51 (53: 54: 56: 58: 59: 61), M1P, P1, M1P, P51 (53: 54: 56: 58: 59: 61).

[105 (109: 111: 115: 119: 121: 125) sts]

**Next row** (RS) Work across 52 (54: 55: 57: 59: 60: 62) sts and place these sts on a stitch holder and leave, cast off next st (centre st), work to end. \*\*

Cont on last group of sts for right half of Back as folls:

Cast on 48 (48: 49: 49: 49: 50: 50) sts onto needle holding working sts, purl across these sts, then purl across 52 (54: 55: 57: 59: 60: 62) sts.
[100 (102: 104: 106: 108: 110: 112) sts]

\*\*\* Place a locking stitch marker in centre st of last row.

WORK SHOULDER SECTION

Work 5 (9: 7: 5: 13: 11: 11) rows straight. **Next row** (WS) (Inc) P to last st, M1P, P1. [1 st inc]

Cont working inc row on every foll 10th (10th: 12th: 14th: 14th: 16th: 18th) row until there are 105 (107: 109: 111: 113: 115: 117) sts.

Cont straight until work measures 17 (19: 22: 23: 26: 28: 30)cm from marker, ending with a RS row. \*\*\*

Place another locking stitch marker on last row at shoulder edge.

SIZE		6-8	10-12	14-16	18-20	22-24	26-28	30-32
TO FIT BUST	cm	76-81	86-91	97-102	107-112	117-122	127-132	137-142
	in	30-32	34-36	38-40	42-44	46-48	50-52	54-56
ACTUAL BUST	cm	97	107	117	127	137	147	157
	in	38	42	46	50	54	58	62
LENGTH	cm	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
	in	19	191/2	19¾	20	201/2	21	211/4
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	21	21	21	21	21	21	21
	in	81⁄4	81/4	81⁄4	81/4	81⁄4	81⁄4	81⁄4
YARN Artesano, Hand-Painted Alpaca Blend DK (50g/100m balls)							balls)	
Sea Serpent (EZ87)		10	10	11	11	12	12	12

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.

### SIDEWAYS-KNIT JACKET

Work straight for a further 7 (7: 7: 8: 8: 8: 9)cm from last marker placed, ending with RS row.

Cast off loosely knitwise.

### **RIGHT FRONT**

With WS facing, slip sts from stitch holder onto 4mm needle.

Next row (WS) Rejoin yarn. P to end, cast on 48 (48: 49: 49: 50: 50) sts onto needle holding sts.

[100 (102: 104: 106: 108: 110: 112) sts] Work from \*\*\* to \*\*\* noting that inc row will be: P1, M1, P to end.

### SHAPE FRONT NECK

Cast off 20 (20: 20: 21: 21: 22) sts loosely, P to end.

[85 (87: 89: 90: 92: 94: 95) sts]

Dec 1 st at neck edge on next 8 rows. [77 (79: 81: 82: 84: 86: 87) sts]

Finally dec 1 st at neck edge on every foll alt row until 71 (73: 75: 75: 77: 79: 79) sts rem.

Change to 31/4mm needles and work 5 rows in border patt.

Cast off evenly knitwise.

### LEFT HALF

Work as Right Half to \*\*.

Cont on last group of sts for left front. **Cast on** 48 (48: 49: 49: 49: 50: 50) sts to needle holding working sts, purl across these sts, then purl across 52 (54: 55: 57: 59: 60: 62) sts.

[100 (102: 104: 106: 108: 110: 112) sts] Work as Right Half from \*\*\* to \*\*\*, but ending with a WS row.

[105 (107: 109: 111: 113: 115: 117) sts]

### SHAPE FRONT NECK

**Cast off** 20 (20: 20: 21: 21: 22) sts loosely, work to end.

[85 (87: 89: 90: 92: 94: 95) sts]

Dec 1 st at neck edge on next 8 rows.

[77 (79: 81: 82: 84: 86: 87) sts]

Finally dec 1 st at neck edge on every foll alt row until 71 (73: 75: 75: 77: 79: 79) sts rem.

Change to 31/4mm needles and work 5 rows in border patt.

Cast off evenly knitwise.

Work 1 row straight.

With WS facing, slip sts from stitch holder onto 4mm needle.

**Next row** (WS) Rejoin yarn and purl to end

Complete to match right half of back.

LOWER FRONT BORDER (BOTH ALIKE) With RS facing, using 3¼mm needles, pick up and knit 65 (71: 79: 85: 93: 99: 107) sts evenly along a lower front edge. Beg with row 2, work 6 rows in border patt as given on Right Half.

### LOWER BACK BORDER

Join cast-off edge of the 2 back sections to form centre back seam. With RS facing, using 31/4mm needles, pick up and knit 129 (139: 151: 161: 173: 183: 195) sts evenly along lower back edge.

Work as lower front borders.

### **NECK BORDER**

Join shoulder seams. With RS facing, using 31/4mm needles, pick up and K3 sts from top of right front border, then 19 (19: 19: 23: 23: 23: 24) sts round shaped edge of right front neck, 20 (20: 21: 21: 21: 21: 22) sts from cast-off neck sts, pick up and K37 (37: 41: 41: 45: 45: 45) sts from back of neck, 20 (20: 21: 21: 21: 21: 22) sts from



This cardigan is knitted sideways, in just two pieces, so there's minimal sewing up!

cast-off sts of left front neck, 19 (19: 19: 23: 23: 23: 24) sts around shaped edge, finally pick up and K3 stitches from left front border.

[121 (121: 127: 135: 139: 139: 143) sts] Work as Lower Front Borders.

### TO MAKE UP

Join side and sleeve seams and weave in ends. Sew button to top of left front. Make a slip knot and secure onto a 4mm crochet hook. Insert hook into top of right front border to correspond with button. Ch5 and join back into first chain with a slip stitch. Fasten off. Gently block to measurements.

NEXT MONTH KNIT A STYLISH BEAD AND LACE SWEATER. ISSUE 142, FEBRUARY, WILL BE IN THE SHOPS FROM FRIDAY 1 JANUARY.

### STEP-BY-STEP SSK SLIP, SLIP, KNIT



1 With the yarn at the back of your knitting, slip the first stitch on the left-hand needle knitwise.



2 Now slip the next stitch on the left-hand needle knitwise.



3 Push the left-hand needle through the front of both the slipped stitches.



4 Bring the yarn round just as you would for a knit stitch and knit the two stitches together. Your two slipped stitches will create a left-leaning decrease.

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to tell us where to send your prize!





### Star letter

I've been charity knitting for ten years. I started by knitting dog coats for Dogs Trust and crocheting blankets for Happy Breed Dog Rescue before switching to making snoods for greyhounds. Now I'm using odd lengths knitting catnip mice for local charities Paws and Claws, Cat Welfare and Lost Cats Brighton. I've donated over 150 makes so far. The mice are mostly multicoloured but

sometimes I do a realistic colour which is not for the faint-hearted - they look quite real on the carpet! All mice are quality tested by Florence, who gives the 'paws up' for her approval,

when she's not fast asleep! Clare Marsh, Sussex They're so cute, Clare. Your cat must love them!



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### **TROPHY KNITS**

Recently my Women's Institute held a craft competition and to my surprise, my Three Blind Mice entry won! I love Simply Knitting magazine and I love the Women's Institute. Life in retirement is just great! I really don't think I can give my mice to the grandchildren just yet... I think I will keep them for a little while longer.

Yvonne King, New Zealand Well done on your success, Yvonne. We don't know why you're surprised, though – your gorgeous mice look like winners to us too!



Jessica made her shrug with the free yarn she received for subscribing to Simply Knitting.



I find I can never remember the washing instructions for my hand knits, so now I keep all the ball bands in a folder so I can refer back to them at any time. June Godwin, Cardiff

Yvonne's mice won a WI craft competition.

### **JOIN THE CLUB**

I wanted to write to say thank you for the great service I've recently received from you and for the inspiration your magazine has given me. A short while ago I decided to subscribe and wow, what a service!

A week after I subscribed, I had my free gift and my first magazine through the post. This dazzling display inspired me to set myself a challenge of using my free gift yarn to make a project from my very first subscription copy – and to make it in the same speedy fashion! Two weeks later I had the beautiful lace shrug from issue 137 in my lovely Caron Simply Soft yarn and I love it.

Thank you for such a great service and for the ideas – I now have my favourite magazine delivered direct to my door and I have a lovely commemorative project from when I joined the Simply Knitting 'club'. Jessica Seager, Blackburn You're very welcome! You've done a grand job on the shrug, Jessica - it really suits you.



**MINI MARVELS** 

I've been knitting since I was four years old and only discovered miniature knitting around six years ago through a friend. I've knitted and crocheted dozens of items and sent them all over the world, but just a year ago discovered Alan Dart's patterns. I started by doing them to their true size before someone approached me to ask if I could do some bunnies for her miniature scene she was building. She was, to say the least, overjoyed with them and has commissioned more... Virginia Sullivan, via email They look delightful! We'd love to know which yarn and needles you used to make them so teeny tiny.

### **ABOUT TIME**

I was so inspired by the cuckoo clock pattern in issue 132 that I just knew

Aren't Virginia's mini mice with all their tiny

children simply

charming?

I had to make it. However, I kept thinking how nice it would be if it was a proper clock so I adapted the pattern to put a working clock mechanism inside.

I belong to a small knitting group in Shepton Mallet and we sell our makes to raise money for charity. I intend to raffle the clock and all the money will go to the charity fund. This year we're raising money for the YMCA for two local projects in Shepton: the youth club and a house for homeless young people.

I'm quite proud of my effort and am hopeful that it makes a bit of money for charity.

Cathryn Kingstone, via email Good luck with charity fundraising, Cathryn. We're sure your clock will be a hit and that the recipients of the funds will be delighted.

### **TOY-TASTIC!**

I've always loved knitting toys and every month I'm inspired by Alan Dart's wonderful patterns. I've been fortunate to win a handicraft class at →



Cathryn has made a knitted cuckoo clock that actually tells the time!



On the morning I was going on my holidays my Simply Knitting magazine came through the letterbox so I took it with me to read on the plane. However, as you can see it also came on my trip to Graceland, Memphis with me. Plus my knitting, of course. Sandy Thornton, via email

We hope you enjoyed your trip, Sandy.

We'd love to see more pictures of you with Simply Knitting (or even just your knitting!) in foreign lands. The sender of every letter will receive a circular needle from Coats Crafts UK.





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Can be viewed in full here: www.simplyknitting.co.uk/competition-rules



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GET MORE CHAT YOU CAN ALSO GET IN TOUCH WITH US VIA FACEBOOK AND RAVELRY, AND YOU CAN TALK TO OTHER SIMPLY KNITTERS THERE TOO. IF YOU HAVE AN URGENT ENQUIRY THOUGH, IT'S ALWAYS BEST TO PHONE OR EMAIL US.



a local country show two years running and have followed Alan's designs – I'm sure his attention to detail helped me to achieve my goal. I just wish there were more hours in a day as I have an ever-growing list of patterns I want to knit.

Not sure what I'll knit for next year but I'm sure Alan Dart will solve this conundrum.

Donna Attias, via email
Alan to the rescue! His characters
are simply wonderful, aren't they?
Look out for fantastic designs
coming up in future issues of SK,
and visit www.alandart.co.uk

### **SNUGGLY SHEEP**

I was looking back through an earlier issue of *Simply Knitting* and came



### MYBEST IDEA

■ I love ceramic wool holders but, having two dogs, I find them very impractical! Instead, I use plastic cereal containers. They're cheap, come in a variety of sizes and can cope with most thicknesses of yarn. Helen Clark, Worthing

across the wonderful 'Counting Sheep' hot water bottle cover from Monica Russel (issue 131).

I slightly altered the pattern to make it into a cushion cover so I can snuggle up with it at any time of the year and not just in cold spells!

Karena Key, Cambridgeshire

What a great idea, Karena – we love how you've adapted the pattern to make it your own, and those fluffy sheep are just adorable!



We love hearing from our readers. If you'd like to get in touch, you can email us at simplyknitting@ immediate.co.uk or write to us at 'Talking Points', Simply Knitting, Immediate Media, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN.

When you include a photo, please make it as clear as possible, and take it somewhere with plenty of light so your knitting really looks its best. Please don't resize or edit the photo before sending it to us – we can make your pictures smaller here, but we can't make them larger, so if you make it too small we won't be able to use it.

We're sorry, but unfortunately we can't guarantee to return photos, so please don't send us anything irreplaceable.

Our hot water bottle cover provided the inspiration for this cushion.



### Knit and Natter

in Stifford Clays, Essex

loveknitting

This issue, our club of the month wins a fabulous goodie bag of knitting products worth £50, courtesy of LoveKnitting. For more info visit www.loveknitting.com.



VIOLETS NEEDLECRAFT is a wool and haberdashery shop located in Stifford Clays, Essex. It's been a family-run business for 61 years, and was originally started by Maria Moffitt's grandmother. When she passed away three years ago, Maria decided to take over.

"Many of the customers would come in and ask for advice and ideas for knitting, so I decided to set up a weekly club in the shop," says Maria.

"We advertised in the events section of the local newspaper

and new members started to join. As the membership grew, we expanded to two days a week, and have been running now since October 2013."

The club welcomes all knitters, from beginners to those who have been wielding the needles for years. The more experienced members are on hand to give help and advice to those who need it, and there are always lots of different projects going on when they meet!

"Everyone works on various projects, both for themselves

and charities," says Maria.
"Sometimes the members will
knit items to display in the shop
window, which hopefully will
encourage more people to take

up the craft!"

The latest display included a teddy bears' picnic, sheep, ducks, rabbits, daisies, flowers, hot air balloons, hedgehogs, chicks and teddies.

"Since the display has been on show, we've attracted many lovely comments from passers-by and have had a few newbies attend the club as a result of seeing it in our window," says Maria.

Throughout the year the members make knitted items for the local premature baby unit, and a Macmillan coffee morning was held to raise money. Last year they supported The Royal British Legion by making lots of Remembrance Day poppies, which sold out within days.

This year the group decided to go for an even bigger challenge: "As several people had seen the amazing poppy display at the Tower of London,

### Out & about

Great things to see and do in and around Stifford Clays.



### GREAT DAYS OUT **STIFFORD**

Stifford Clays, in the borough of Thurrock, sits next to the Thames river and got its name from the Stifford Clays housing estate built in the late 1950s. Together with North and South Stifford, the area makes up the Stifford region. With various parks and beautiful nature reserves nearby, including Thurrock Thameside Nature Park, it's an ideal place to take a countryside stroll close to the city, www.visitessex.com



### TAKE A HIKE!

If you're fond of walking and talking, why not pay a visit to Thurrock 100? Taking place each July, the event includes ten walks, taking in the borough's most interesting places, all decorated with volunteer-made flags.

www.thurrock100.com



OUT & ABOUT IMAGES © THURROCK COUNCIL. OTHER IMAGES © MARIA MOFFITT







they thought it would be a good idea to recreate the image with knitting," explains Maria.

Planning for the project began way back in March, and a lot of hard work has gone into the knitted display. In addition to the sale of the poppies, the group also made wreaths and crosses for sale, and 100% of the proceeds will go to charity. And the plans don't stop there!

"A fundraising street party was organised for 11 November, helped by a grant from the local authority, which was attended by the Mayor of Thurrock," says Maria. "There was also a display of knitting during WWI and WWII, kindly provided by the Thurrock Museum. The local school choir attended to sing wartime songs, and a bugler played the Last Post at 11am."

The group often go on day trips together, and this year some of the ladies attended the Knitting & Stitching Show at Alexandra Palace, returning with lots of brilliant new ideas for projects and items that the shop might be able to stock.

Maria has plenty of exciting plans up her sleeve for next year, which she's more than happy to share with our readers. "Next on the agenda will be a Christmas feature window, and work has already started," says Maria, adding: "I hope the club and the shop continues for many more years to come!"

Needles and Chat meet every Monday from 7-9pm at Craft Candy, London Road, Grays, Essex, and costs £5 per person. For further details please contact Maria Moffitt on 01375 374255.

If your knitting group would like to be featured as our club of the month, write to the usual address on page 32 or email us at simplyknitting @immediate.co.uk.



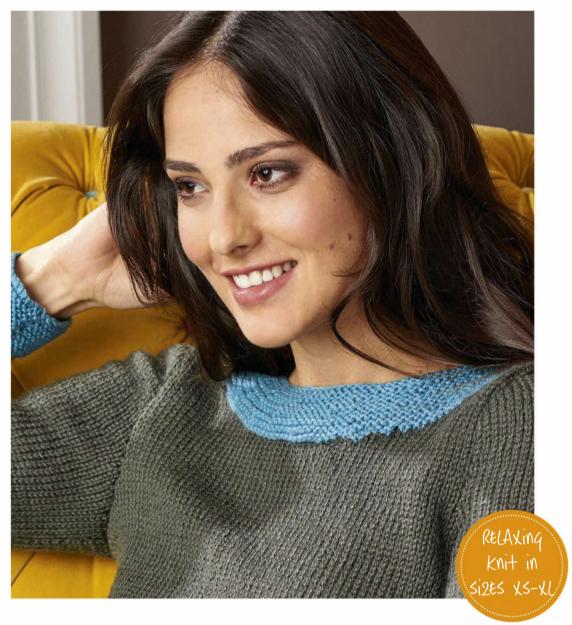
### YOUR CLUBS

- The Ladies Who Knit meet on the last Tuesday of each month from 10am-12pm at the Globe House in Colchester. Contact Frankie at enquiries@ageukcolchester.co.uk.
- Loving Hands Essex meet up at 7pm on the third Tuesday of each month at Beauchamps High School in Wickford to knit up projects for charity. Contact Carol at ca.webster@hotmail.com.
- Knit 'n' Natters meet every other Wednesday from 2-4pm at the North Romford Community Centre. Contact Jill at jillgoddard89@hotmail. com or call 01708 347000.





## LACE HEM JUMPER



# SEAMIST

Made in cosy Cashmerino, **Ruth Maddock**'s flattering jumper features a wave-like feather and fan border and a striking neckline.



- Debbie Bliss, Cashmerino Aran (55% wool, 33% acrylic, 12% cashmere, 50g/90m)
- A pair of 4mm needles
- A 4mm circular needle, 60cm long
- A pair of 5mm needles
- A stitch holder
- A stitch marker

For yarn stockists contact Designer Yarns 01535 664222 www.designeryarns.uk.com

#### **TENSION**

Yarn used knits as aran to this tension: 18 sts and 24 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st using 5mm needles

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

M1 Lift horizontal bar before next stitch, place on left-hand needle and knit into the front of this stitch, thus making a hole

For a full list see page 90



42.5 (49: 55: 61: 67)cm 16¾ (19¼: 21½: 24: 26½)in



ith its textured border and contrasting neckline, this elegant jumper is a joy to knit. Worked mostly in stocking stitch, with a gorgeous undulating lace pattern at the hem, it's a combination of simple, fly-off-the-needles stitches and more involved techniques – a great lazy day project for knitters of all abilities!



#### NOTES

When working the Feather and Fan sections, it is important to use the M1 technique given left, (which differs from the usual M1 technique) to create a hole which forms part of the stitch pattern. Using a different technique will not produce the effect illustrated.



\*\* **Cast on** 77 (88: 99: 110: 121) sts using 5mm needles and Yarn D.

Work in Feather and Fan patt as folls:

Row 1 (RS) Knit.

Row 2 (WS) Purl.

Yarn D Denim (205)

**Row 3** \*[K2tog] twice, [M1, K1] 3 times, M1, [k2tog] twice; rep from \* to end of row.

Row 4 Knit.

Rep rows 1-4 twice more.

Change to Yarn C and rep rows 1–4 three times.

Change to Yarn B and rep rows 1–4 three times.

Change to Yarn A and cont in st st until work measures 41cm from cast-on edge, ending with a WS row.

SHAPE ARMHOLES

**Cast off** 4 (4: 5: 5: 6) sts at beg of next 2 rows. [69 (80: 89: 100: 109) sts] Dec 1 st at each end of next 4 (4: 4: 6: 6) rows. [61 (72: 81: 88: 97) sts]

Dec 1 st at each end of next row, then 1 (2: 3: 4: 5) foll alt rows.

[57 (66: 73: 78: 85) sts] \*\*

Cont straight until armhole meas 12 (12: 13: 13: 14)cm, ending with a WS row.

#### SHAPE NECK

\*\*\* K23 (26: 28: 29: 31) sts, cast off centre 11 (14: 17: 20: 23) sts, knit to end of row.

Turn and cont on last group of 23 (26: 28: 29: 31) sts as follows leaving rem sts on a stitch holder:

**Next row** (WS) P to last 2 sts, p2tog. [1 st dec'd]

**Cast off** 3 sts, K to end. [3 sts dec'd] Rep last 2 rows once more.

[15 (18: 20: 21: 23) sts]

Dec 1 st at neck edge only of next 2

rows. [13 (16: 18: 19: 21) sts]

Dec 1 st at neck edge only of next 5 alt rows. [8 (11: 13: 14: 16) sts]

Cont without shaping until armhole meas 20 (20: 21: 22: 23)cm.

Cast off remaining 8 (11: 13: 14: 16) sts for shoulder.

With WS facing, rejoin yarn to rem 23 (26: 28: 29: 31) sts and cont as folls: Cast off 3 sts, P to end. [3 sts dec'd] Next row (RS) K to last 2 sts, k2tog. [1 st dec'd]

Rep last 2 rows once more.

SIZE		XS	S	М	L	XL
TO FIT BUST	cm	76-81	88-91	96-101	106-111	116-121
	in	30-32	34-36	38-40	42-44	46-48
ACTUAL BUST	cm	85	96	109	121	133
	in	33½	38	43	48	521/2
LENGTH	cm	60	61	62	63	64
	in	23½	24	241/2	24¾	25
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	44	45	45	47	48
	in	17	18	18	181⁄2	19
YARN		Debb	ie Bliss, Cas	hmerino Ara	an (50g/90m	balls)
Yarn A Grey Green (041)		7	8	10	11	13
Yarn B Aqua (047)		2	2	3	3	3
Yarn C Mallard (056)		1	1	2	2	2

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.

## LACE HEM JUMPER

[15 (18: 20: 21: 23) sts]

Dec 1 st at neck edge only of next 2 rows. [13 (16: 18: 19: 21) sts]

OWS. [13 (16: 18: 19: 21) Sts]

Dec 1 st at neck edge only of next 5 alt rows. [8 (11: 13: 14: 16) sts]

Cont without shaping until armhole meas 20 (20: 21: 22: 23)cm.

Cast off rem 8 (11: 13: 14: 16) sts for shoulder. \*\*\*

FRONT

Work as for Back from \*\* to \*\*. Cont straight until armhole meas 8 (8: 9: 9: 10)cm, ending with a WS row. Work neck shaping as for Back from \*\*\* to \*\*\*.

#### SLEEVES (MAKE 2)

54 (58: 62: 68: 76) sts.

Cast on 38 (40: 42: 44: 48) sts using 4mm needles and Yarn B. Work 16 rows in garter stitch. Change to 5mm needles and Yarn A. Starting with a RS knit row, work in st st and AT THE SAME TIME inc 1 st at each end of every foll 6th row until there are

Work without shaping until Sleeve meas 44 (45: 45: 47: 48)cm from cast-on edge, ending with a WS row.

#### **SHAPE TOP**

**Cast off** 4 (4: 5: 5: 6) sts at beg of next 2 rows. [46 (50: 52: 58: 64) sts]

Dec 1 st at each end of next 4 (4: 4: 6: 6) rows. [38 (42: 44: 46: 52) sts]

Dec 1 st at each end of next and every foll alt row 4 (4: 5: 5: 6) times total.

[30 (34: 34: 36: 40) sts]

Work 14 (16: 18: 20: 22) rows.

Dec 1 st at each end of every alt row

3 (4: 4: 4: 5) times. [24 (26: 26: 28: 30) sts]

Dec 1 st at each end of every row

5 (6: 6: 6: 7) times. [14 (14: 14: 16: 16) sts]

Cast off 4 sts at beg of next 2 rows.

[6 (6: 6: 8: 8) sts]

Cast off rem sts.

#### TO MAKE UP

Pin out and press according to ball band instructions. Join both shoulders using small backstitches.

#### **NECKBAND**

With RS facing, using 4mm circular needle and Yarn B, starting at left shoulder seam, pick up and knit 31 (32: 33: 34: 35) sts evenly along left side of front neck, 11 (14: 17: 20: 23) sts along centre front neck, 31 (32: 33: 34: 35) sts along right side of front neck, 28 (29: 30: 31: 32) sts along right side of back

neck, 11 (14: 17: 20: 23) sts along centre back neck, and 28 (29: 30: 31: 32) sts along left side of back neck. Join to work in the round and place marker for start of round.

[140 (150: 160: 170: 180) sts]

Round 1 (RS) Purl.

Round 2 Knit.

Round 3 Purl.

**Round 4** \*K4, k2tog, K4; rep from \* to end of round.

[126 (135: 144: 153: 162) sts]

Rep rounds 1–3 once more.

**Next round** \*K7, k2tog; rep from \* to end of round.

[112 (120: 128: 136: 144) sts] Rep rounds 1–3 once more.

**Next round** \*K3, k2tog, K3; rep from \* to end of round.

[98 (105: 112: 119: 126) sts]

Rep rounds 1–3 once more.

Next round Purl.

Cast off purlwise.

#### **FINISHING**

Using small backstitches, sew side seams and sleeve seams. Pin sleeve into armhole and using small backstitches sew into place.
Weave in ends and gently block to



The feather and fan pattern is simple to work – just keep careful count of the M1s!

measurements, following any yarn care instructions on the ball band.

NEXT MONTH KNIT A WARM JUMPER FOR WINTER. ISSUE 142, FEBRUARY, IS ON SALE ON FRIDAY 1 JANUARY.





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Note If you wish to make a single coloured hat you will only need 1 ball of Big Brit.

MEASUREMENTS:- Approx. 50cm (19%in) circumference

ABBREVIATIONS:-cm centimetres, cont continue, g grammes, in inch(es), k knit, mm millimetres, p purl, rem remaining, rep repeat, st(s) stitch(es), tog together.

Using 8mm needles and thumb method, cast on 51 sts.

1st Row. \* K1, p1, rep from \* to last st,

2nd Row. P1, \* k1, p1, rep from \* to end. These 2 rows will now be referred to as

Work 5 rows more in 1x1 rib. 8th Row. P7, p2tog, (p5, p2tog) 5 times, p7. 45 sts.

Change to 10mm needles and proceed as follows:

1st Row. Knit.

2nd Row. Purl.

These 2 rows will now be referred to as st-st (stocking stitch).

Working in st-st (throughout) proceed as

follows:-

Work 14 rows more.

Shape Crown

Next Row. (K7, k3tog) 4 times, k5. 37 sts. Next Row, Purl.

Next Row. (K5, k3tog) 4 times, k5. 29 sts.

Next Row. Purl.

Next Row. (K3, k3tog) 4 times, k5. 21 sts. Next Row. P1, (p2tog) 10 times. 11 sts.

Next Row. (K2tog) 5 times, k1. 6 sts.

Break off yarn, run yarn through rem 6 sts, draw up and fasten off.

Join back seam. Make a pompom and attach to top of hat. Swiss darn detail following chart below. See ball band for washing and further care instructions.









- Rooster, Almerino Aran (50% baby alpaca, 50% Merino wool, 50g/94m)
- A pair of 5mm needles
- Locking stitch markers
- 4 x 20mm buttons

For yarn stockists contact Rooster Yarns 01829 740903 www.roosteryarns.com

#### **TENSION**

Yarn used knits as aran to this tension: 20 sts and 34 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over garter st using 5mm needles

#### ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list see page 90



22 (26: 30: 34)cm 8¾ (10½: 12: 13¼)in



h, so cute! Babies will be like little pixies all ready for winter in this adorable cardigan and pompom hat set. Both are made in garter stitch so they're super easy projects to make while watching TV, listening to the radio or chatting with friends at your Knit 'n' Natter group.





Cast on 44 (52: 60: 68) sts using 5mm needles and work in garter stitch for 53 (71: 87: 105) rows. Place marker for armhole at each end of this row. (Work measures 17 (21: 26: 31)cm.)

Cont in garter stitch until work measures 10 (11: 12: 13)cm from armhole marker.

Cast off, place marker in the st each side of the centre 18 (20: 22: 24) sts. [13 (16: 19: 22) sts for each shoulder]

## RIGHT FRONT (WITH BUTTONHOLES FOR GIRL)

Cast on 26 (30: 34: 38) sts using 5mm needles and work in garter stitch for 38 (52: 68: 86) rows.

Next row K1, k2tog, yo, knit to end. Work 17 rows in garter stitch.

Next row K1, k2tog, yo, knit to end. Place marker at end of this row.

(Work measures 17 (21: 26: 31)cm.)

Work 17 rows in garter stitch.

Next row K1, k2tog, yo, knit to end.

Work 3 rows in garter stitch.

#### SHAPE NECK

**Next row** Cast off 3 sts (neck edge), K1, place marker in this stitch, knit to end.

[23 (27: 31: 35) sts]

Next row Knit to last 2 sts, k2tog.

[22 (26: 30: 34) sts]

Next row Cast off 2 sts, knit to end.

[20 (24: 28: 32) sts]

Next row Knit to last 2 sts, k2tog.

[19 (23: 27: 31) sts]

Rep last 2 rows 2 times more.

[13 (17: 21: 25) sts]

Dec 1 st at neck edge only of next 0 (1:

2: 3) rows.

Cont in garter stitch on rem 13 (16: 19: 22) sts until work measures 10 (11: 12: 13)cm from armhole marker.

Cast off.

#### LEFT FRONT

Work as for Right Front omitting buttonholes.

**NOTE** For a boy swap the sides round when making up – RS and WS of work are the same.

#### SLEEVES (MAKE 2)

Cast on 24 (28: 32: 36) sts using 5mm needles and work in garter stitch for 14 rows, place marker at each end of last row, then cont in garter stitch and AT THE SAME TIME inc 1 st at each end of every foll 4th (6th: 6th: 8th) row until there are 40 (44: 48: 52) sts.

Cont in garter stitch until work meas 16 (16: 28: 30)cm from marker.

Cast off.

#### **COLLAR**

Cast on 45 (50: 55: 60) sts using 5mm needles and work in garter stitch for 6

SIZE		3-6mths	9-12mths	18-24mths	3-4yrs	
TO FIT	cm	40.5-43	44-45.5	48-53	56-58.5	
CHEST	in	16-17	171/2-18	19-21	22-23	
ACTUAL	cm	44	52	60	68	
CHEST	in	171/2	20¾	231/2	26¾	
LENCTH	cm	27	32	38	44	
LENGTH	in	10½	121/2	15	171⁄4	
SLEEVE	cm	16	16	28	30	
LENGTH	in	61/4	61/4	11	113/4	
YARN Rooster, Almerino Aran (50g/94m balls)						
Ocean (309)		5	6	7	9	

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.

## BABY'S CARDIGAN & HAT

**Next row** \*K4 (5: 5: 6), M1, K5 (5: 6: 6); rep from \* to end. [50 (55: 60: 65) sts]

Cont in garter stitch for 6 rows more. **Next row** \*K5 (5: 6: 6), M1, K5 (6: 6: 7); rep from \* to end. [55 (60: 65: 70) sts]

SIZES 3-6MTHS & 9-12MTHS ONLY Cont in garter stitch for a further 4 (6: -: -) rows.

Cast off loosely.

SIZES 18-24MTHS & 3-4YRS ONLY Cont in garter stitch for a further 6 rows

Next row \*K- (-: 6: 7), M1, K- (-: 7: 7); rep from \* to end. [- (-: 70: 75) sts] Cont in garter stitch for a further - (-: 2: 4) rows.

Cast off loosely.

#### TO MAKE UP

Pin out and press all pieces on WS according to ball band instructions. Sew in all ends. Place WS of body together, sew shoulders so that work lies flat when opened out. Place centre of top of sleeve to shoulder seam with WS together, sew top of sleeve to body between markers.

With WS of body together oversew underarm seam to marker on sleeve. Sew remainder of sleeve from right side. Place right side of collar to wrong side of neckline between markers. Oversew edges together.

Turn work to outside, fold sleeves at marker. Sew buttons in to place to correspond with buttonholes.

#### НДТ

Cast on 60 (64: 68: 72) sts using 5mm needles and long tail thumb method,



The hat is super easy – it's knitted in one rectangular piece, folded over and then stitched along one seam. A tab is added for buttoning up under the chin.

and work in garter stitch until work measures 15 (16: 17: 18)cm from beg. **Cast off** loosely.

#### TAB

With RS facing pick up 5 sts at beg of cast-on edge.

Work 18 (20: 22: 24) rows in garter

**Next row** K2, yo, k2tog, K1. Work in garter stitch for 4 rows. **Cast off.** 

#### TO MAKE UP

Fold hat in half with RS together so that tab is on right side for a boy and left side for a girl (when viewed from right side). Sew centre back seam. Make and add a pompom, and sew button into place.

NEXT MONTH MAKE A CUTE PAIR OF BOOTEES AS A GIFT FOR A NEWBORN ISSUE 142, FEBRUARY, WILL BE IN THE SHOPS FROM FRIDAY 1. JANUARY

#### STEP-BY-STEP YO YARN OVER



1 Bring the yarn to the front before you work the next stitch.



2 Insert the needle into the next stitch and take the yarn from front to back over the needle and wrap it around the needle as usual.



3 Pick up the yarn and pull it through the stitch on the needle.



4 Slip the stitch off the needle. You will notice that the yarn over forms an extra loop to the right of the stitch you have just worked. When you purl back across the row, it will create a hole.

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- Stylecraft, Life DK (75% acrylic, 25% wool, 100g/298m)
- A pair of 3¼mm needles
- A pair of 4mm needles
- A cable needle
- 2 stitch holders

For yarn stockists contact Stylecraft 01535 609798 www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

#### **TENSION**

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension: 22 sts and 30 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st using 4mm needles 25 sts and 30 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over patt using 4mm needles

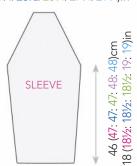
#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

**C4L** Slip next st on cable needle to front of work, K3, K1 from cable needle

**C4R** Slip next 3 sts on cable needle to back of work, K1, K3 from cable needle For a full list see page 90



50.5 (55: 60: 65.5: 70.5: 75)cm 19¾ (21¾: 23½: 25¾: 27¾: 29¾)in



at Menchini's raglan-sleeved cable jumper is ever so easy to throw over jeans, making it ideal for casual wear, yet the cables give it a style that won't look out of place at occasions that require a little more formality. Going for a walk in the park? Having dinner on the terrace? Whatever your plans, this sweater will do nicely!



**K** BACK

**Cast on** 110 (122: 134: 146: 158: 170) sts using 3½mm needles.

Row 1 (RS) K2, (P2, K2) to end.

Row 2 P2, (K2, P2) to end.

Rep these 2 rib rows for 8cm, ending after row 1.\*\*

**Next row** P3 (2: 2: 5: 4: 2), \*M1P, P8 (9: 10: 9: 10: 11); rep from \* to last 3 (3: 2: 6: 4: 3) sts, M1P, P to end.

[124 (136: 148: 162: 174: 186) sts]

Change to 4mm needles and patt as folls:

**Row 1** (RS) K5 (5: 5: 6: 6: 6), (P1, K4, P1, K6) to last 11 (11: 11: 12: 12: 12) sts, P1, K4, P1, K to end.

Row 2 and all alt rows Purl.

**Row 3** K5 (5: 5: 6: 6: 6), (P1, C4L, P1, K6) to last 11 (11: 11: 12: 12: 12) sts, P1, C4L, P1, K to end.

**Row 5** K5 (5: 5: 6: 6: 6), (P1, K4, P1, K6) to last 11 (11: 11: 12: 12: 12) sts, P1, K4, P1, K to end.

**Row 7** K5 (5: 5: 6: 6: 6), (P1, C4R, P1, K6) to last 11 (11: 11: 12: 12: 12) sts, P1, C4R, P1, K to end.

Row 8 Purl.

These 8 rows form patt.

Cont in patt until Back measures 42cm, ending after a P row.

SHAPE RAGLAN

Cast off 3 (4: 4: 5: 6: 7) sts at beg of next 2 rows, work to end.
[118 (128: 140: 152: 162: 172) sts]

**Row 1** K1, k2tog tbl, work to last 3 sts, k2tog, K1. [2 sts dec'd]

Row 2 K1, p2tog, P to last 3 sts, p2tog tbl, K1. [2 sts dec'd]

**Row 3** K1, k2tog tbl, work to last 3 sts, k2tog, K1. [2 sts dec'd]

Row 4 K1, P to last st, K1.

Rep the last 4 rows 7 (8: 11: 14: 15: 16) times more. [70 (74: 68: 62: 66: 70) sts]

Rep rows 3 & 4 only until 36 (38: 40: 40: 42: 44) sts rem, ending after a row 4. Leave rem sts on a holder.

#### FRONT

Work as Back until 56 (58: 62: 62: 66: 68) sts rem in the raglan shaping, ending after a WS row.

#### SHAPE NECK

**Next row** K1, k2tog tbl, work across 14 (14: 15: 15: 16: 16) sts, turn.

Cont on this group of sts for left half of neck

Work 5 rows dec at neck edge on every row, and at raglan edge on each RS row only. [9 (9: 10: 10: 11: 11) sts]
Cont dec at raglan edge only on RS rows until 2 sts rem.

Work 1 row.

Cast off.

With RS facing, slip next 22 (24: 26: 26: 28: 30) sts (centre sts) on a stitch holder.

Rejoin yarn neatly to rem sts.

SIZE		XS	S	M	L	XL	XXL	
TO FIT CHEST	cm	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127	132-137	142-147	
	in	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50	52-54	56-58	
ACTUAL CHEST	cm	101	110.5	120	131.5	141	151	
	in	39¾	431/2	471/4	51¾	551/2	591/4	
LENGTH	cm	65	67	68.5	70.5	72.5	74.5	
	in	25¾	261/2	27	27¾	281/2	291/4	
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	46	47	47	47	48	48	
	in	18	181/2	181/2	181/2	19	19	
YARN		Stylecraft, Life DK (100g/298m)						
Denim Nepp (2368)		5	5	6	6	7	7	

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.

## MEN'S CABLED SWEATER

**Next row** Work to last 3 sts, k2tog, K1. Complete as left half.

#### SLEEVES

**Cast on** 46 (46: 50: 50: 54: 54) sts using 3½mm needles.

Work as Back to \*\*.

**Next row** Purl, inc 4 (6: 4: 6: 4: 8) sts evenly across row.

[50 (52: 54: 56: 58: 62) sts]

Change to 4mm needles.
Work in st st with centre patt as folls:

Row 1 (RS) K13 (14: 15: 16: 17: 19), (P1, K4, P1, K3) twice, P1, K4, P1, K to end. Row 2 and all alt rows Purl. Row 3 K13 (14: 15: 16: 17: 19), (P1, C4L, P1, K3) twice, P1, C4L, P1, K to end. Row 5 K13 (14: 15: 16: 17: 19), (P1, K4, P1, K3) twice, P1, K4, P1, K to end. Row 7 K13 (14: 15: 16: 17: 19), (P1, C4R, P1, K3) twice, P1, C4R, P1, K to end. Row 8 Purl.

These 8 rows set the patt. Cont in patt shaping Sleeve by inc 1 st at each end of next row, then on every foll 4th row until there are 62 (64: 72: 80: 92: 100) sts, then on every foll 6th row until there are 86 (90: 94: 100: 106: 112) sts.

Cont straight without shaping until Sleeve measures 46 (47: 47: 47: 48: 48) cm from beg, ending after a WS row.

#### SHAPE RAGLAN

Cast off 3 (4: 4: 5: 6: 7) sts at beg of next 2 rows, work to end. [80 (82: 86: 90: 94: 98) sts]

#### 1ST SIZE ONLY

**Row 1** K1, k2tog tbl, work to last 3 sts, k2tog, K1.

**Row 2** K1, p2tog, P to last 3 sts, p2tog tbl, K1.

**Row 3** K1, k2tog tbl, work to last 3 sts, k2tog, K1.

Row 4 K1, P to last st, K1. Rep rows 1–4 once more. [68 sts]

3RD, 4TH, 5TH & 6TH SIZES ONLY

**Row 1** K1, k2tog tbl, work to last 3 sts, k2tog, K1.

Row 2 K1, P to last st, K1.

Row 3 K2, work to last 2 sts, K2.

Row 4 K1, P to last st, K1.

Rep the last 4 rows - (-: 0: 1: 2: 3) times more. [- (-: 84: 86: 88: 90) sts]

#### **ALL SIZES**

**Next row** K1, k2tog tbl, work to last 3 sts, k2tog, K1.

Next row K1, P to last st, K1. Rep the last 2 rows until 10 (10: 12: 12: 12: 12: 12) sts rem, ending after a RS row. Work 1 row dec 1 st in each of the 3 cable sts.

Slip rem 7 (7: 9: 9: 9) sts on a length of waste yarn.

#### **NECKBAND**

First join all raglan shapings, except right back raglan.

With RS facing and 31/4mm needles, knit across 36 (38: 40: 40: 42: 44) back neck sts dec 2 sts evenly on 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th sizes only, knit across 7 (7: 9: 9: 9: 9) left sleeve sts, pick up and knit 15 (15: 16: 16: 18: 18) sts evenly down left front neck, knit across 22 (24: 26: 26: 28: 30) centre sts, pick up and knit 15 (15: 16: 16: 18: 18) sts evenly up right front neck, finally knit across 7 (7: 9: 9: 9: 9) right sleeve sts.

[102 (106: 114: 114: 122: 126) sts] Beg row 2 work 20 rows in rib. Cast off loosely in rib.



Deep ribbing and raglan sleeves create a solid framework to set off the cables.

#### TO MAKE UP

Omitting ribbing, press work lightly on WS. Join side and sleeve seams. Fold neckband in half to WS and hem lightly in place. Press seams. Weave in ends and gently block to measurements, following any yarn care instructions on the ball band.

NEXT MONTH Kids and adults alike will love our cosy hooded scarf. Issue 142, February, is in the shops from Friday 1 January.

#### STEP-BY-STEP P2TOG PURL TWO TOGETHER



1 Push the point of your right-hand needle through the first two stitches on your left-hand needle, going from right to left as you would for a purl stitch.



2 Now bring the yarn anti-clockwise around the needle, between the two needles.



3 Pull the yarn through both stitches, as you would if working a purl stitch, and drop both from the left-hand needle.



Purling two stitches together decreases your stitch count by one, and the decrease stitch leans to the right. This is how a series looks on the right side of stocking stitch.

New at Wool Warehouse!

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## The Exhibition for needle crafters, stitchers and knitters





### Make it a date in your diary

26 February - 27 February 2016, 9am-5.30pm

FIVE, Farnborough, Hants (access via Gate F: Sat Nav GU14 6TQ)

### Book in advance and save

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2 day adult pass £11.25, 2 day concession pass £9 2 day pass offered on a "buy 1 get one ½ price" basis – only available in advance

Accompanied U16's free of charge

#### How to book

www.make-it.org.uk or call 08444 771 000 NB. Small booking fee applies

Group bookings call 01784 212 887 (10 persons or more)



Why not make this snowman his own festive scene to sit in, with some tiny trees and a miniature house? If you'd like to put him on your Christmas tree instead, all you need to do is attach a hanging loop to the top of his hat using a piece of sparkly silver or gold thread.



#### YOU WILL NEED

■ Stylecraft, Special DK (100% acrylic, 100g/295m) 1 ball of each:

**Yarn A** White (1001)

Yarn B Lipstick (1246)

Yarn C Walnut (1054)

- A set of four 3mm doublepointed needles (DPNs)
- Stitch marker
- Stuffing
- Star-shaped button or bead
- Oddments of black and orange yarn for features
  For yarn stockists contact
  Stylecraft 01535 609798

www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

#### **TENSION**

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension: 24 sts and 32 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st using 3mm needles

#### SIZE

13cm high including hat

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

For a full list see page 90

ot a ball of white yarn left over from your Christmas knitting? Why not use it to make this chilly chap? Everyone will adore his cheerful face and woolly hat, and the best thing about him is that he'll never melt, no matter how warm he gets – so he'll be loved for years to come. This little chap is a quick knit for a cold winter's evening.



#### **NOTES**

The head and body of the snowman are each knitted in one piece in the round and are made up of four identical sections. If you are using a set of five DPNs you can work a section on each needle, otherwise work two sections on one of the DPNs and use a stitch marker between the two sections, slipping the marker when you reach it.

#### **K** BODY

**Cast on** 12 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn A, and join to work in the round, taking care not to twist sts. PM to mark beg of round.

**Round 1** \*K2, kfb; repeat from \* to end of round. [16 sts]

Round 2 Knit.

**Round 3** \*Kfb, K2, kfb; repeat from \* to end of round. [24 sts]

Round 4 Knit.

**Round 5** \*Kfb, K4, kfb; repeat from \* to end of round. [32 sts]

Round 6 Knit.

**Round 7** \*Kfb, K6, kfb; repeat from \* to end of round. [40 sts]

Round 8 Knit.

**Round 9** \*Kfb, K8, kfb; repeat from \* to end of round. [48 sts]

Rounds 10-13 Knit.

**Round 14** \*K2tog, K8, k2tog; repeat from \* to end of round. [40 sts]

Round 15 Knit.

**Round 16** \*K2tog, K6, k2tog; repeat from \* to end of round. [32 sts]

Round 17 Knit.

**Round 18** \*K2tog, K4, k2tog; repeat from \* to end of round. [24 sts]

Round 19 Knit.

**Round 20** \*K2tog, K2, k2tog; repeat from \* to end of round. [16 sts]

Round 21 Knit.

Round 22 \*K2tog, K2; repeat from \* to end of round. [12 sts] Break yarn and thread through remaining 12 sts.

#### **HEAD**

**Cast on** 12 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn A and join to work in the round, taking care not to twist sts. PM to mark

beg of round.

**Round 1** \*K2, kfb; repeat from \* to end of round. [16 sts]

Round 2 Knit.

**Round 3** \*Kfb, K2, kfb; repeat from \* to end of round. [24 sts]

Round 4 Knit.

**Round 5** \*Kfb, K4, kfb; repeat from \* to end of round. [32 sts]

Round 6 Knit.

**Round 7** \*Kfb, K6, kfb; repeat from \* to end of round. [40 sts]

Rounds 8-10 Knit.

**Round 11** \*K2tog, K6, k2tog; repeat from \* to end of round. [32 sts]

Round 12 Knit.

**Round 13** \*K2tog, K4, k2tog; repeat from \* to end of round. [24 sts]

Round 14 Knit.

**Round 15** \*K2tog, K2, k2tog; repeat from \* to end of round. [16 sts]

Round 16 Knit.

Round 17 \*K2tog, K2; repeat from \* to end of round. [12 sts] Break yarn and thread through remaining 12 sts.

#### HAT

**Cast on** 30 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn A, and join to work in the round, taking care not to twist sts. PM to mark beg of round.

Round 1 Purl.

Join in Yarn B.

Rounds 2-5 Knit.

**Round 6** \*K2tog, K4; repeat from \* to end of round. [25 sts]

Rounds 7-9 Knit.

**Round 10** \*K2tog, K3; repeat from \* to end of round. [20 sts]

Rounds 11-13 Knit.

**Round 14** \*K2tog, K2; repeat from \* to end of round. [15 sts]

Rounds 15-17 Knit.

**Round 18** \*K2tog, K1; repeat from \* to end of round. [10 sts]

Rounds 19-21 Knit.

Break yarn and thread through remaining 10 sts.

#### **SCARF**

**Cast on** 36 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn B.

Row 1 Knit.

Cast off.

#### **BOBBLE (MAKE 3)**

**Cast on** 1 st using 3mm needles and Yarn A.

**Row 1** K into front, then back, then front, then back, then front of st. [5 sts] **Row 2** Purl.

Row 3 Knit.

## SNOWMAN DECORATION

#### Row 4 Purl.

Row 5 SI 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th sts over 1st st. [1 st]

Break yarn and fasten off. Sew running st around edge of bobble, use cast on tail as stuffing, pull running thread tight and sew bobble closed.

#### ARMS (MAKE 2)

Cast on 9 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn C.

#### Cast off.

#### TO MAKE UP

Stuff body and head. Attach head to body. Attach bobble to hat and sew hat to head. Attach a bobble to each end of the scarf and tie or stitch scarf around neck. Sew arms to body. Sew star button between arms. Use black yarn to embroider two coal eyes and coal buttons. Use orange yarn to embroider carrot nose using image as a guide. Weave in ends. @\_

> Make our cuddly cowl as a speedy gift or stashbuster. Issue 142, February, is in the shops from Friday . 1 January.



The finishing is key to giving your snowman his charm. If you're not sure where you want to put the arms and scarf, attach them with pins first. Make sure you stuff the body firmly, and check that he sits up straight before sewing the piece closed.

#### STEP-BY-STEP KFB INCREASE 1 BY KNITTING INTO FRONT AND BACK



1 Insert the tip of the right-hand needle into the front of the stitch and knit as normal, but don't drop it from the left-hand needle.



2 Then take the right-hand needle behind the left and insert the tip of the needle down through the back of the stitch on the left-hand needle.



3 Wrap the yarn round the tip of the right-hand needle to knit the stitch. Bring the needle through to make the stitch, keeping it on the right-hand needle.



4 Take the stitch off the left-hand needle. You will have increased one stitch by knitting twice into the original stitch, first at the front, then at the back.

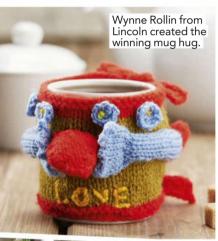


## FRIENDSHIP MONTH

# KNIT1PURLFUN

The Oddfellows invited you to knit a friendly mug hug.

# "What fun you can have with tea, friends and inspiration!"





These entries captured the theme using colourwork



e love settling down for a good natter with a friend, a warming cuppa in one hand and our knitting within easy reach! A beautifully knitted mug cosy only improves this scenario, which made teaming up with the Oddfellows for a special Friendship Month competition a given!

Friendship Month ran from 1-30 September 2015, encouraging people to spend time with the people they care for, and make new friends too. The theme of this year's local events was SociabiliTEA, which resulted in a mass of ingenious tea-centric gatherings - so it made sense to launch a competition inviting people to design and knit mug cosies on the theme of friendship.

"Receiving entries became a real highlight of our day, as they were so inventive!" says Dawn Walters, Branch Development Manager at the Oddfellows. "It's amazing what fun you can have with a pot of tea, a gathering of friends and a dash of inspiration. It was great to see how people interpreted the competition's theme."

The prize on offer was a National Trust day out with cream tea for two, plus £100 spending money, so that winning entry had to be really eye-catching, as well as capturing the spirit of Friendship Month. The mug cosy that achieved all of this was designed and knitted by Mrs Wynne Rollin from Lincoln. SK's Editor-in-Chief Debora Bradley helped out with the judging. "I love the amount of thought and creativity that's gone into Wynne's 3D design," Debora says. "She's a really deserving winner!"

By creating a mug hug complete with a pair of caring arms to keep your favourite beverage hot, as well as incorporating the word 'love' in sunny yellow lettering, Wynne's design reminded us how much the Oddfellows does in the community to help people feel less alone.

"It was incredibly difficult to select only one winner from all the fun, colourful entries, as each and every one of them raised a smile," says Dawn. "Our congratulations go to Wynne, and thank you to everyone who took part."

"It was such a surprise to find out I'd won," says Wynne, who is a member of the Boston and Lincoln district branch of the Oddfellows. "I was quite excited! I've never won something like that before, and it's very nice to do it with my knitting, which I've been doing for so long." Written by Judy Darley

Find out more about the Oddfellows by visiting www.oddfellows.co.uk or calling 01618 329361.









design also attracted the judges' attention.





■ DROPS, Karisma (100% wool, 50g/100m)

1 ball of each:

Yarn A Dark Mustard (52)

Yarn B Light Dusty Pink (66)

Yarn C Off White (01)

- A pair of 4mm needles
- 4 small heart buttons
- 2 stick-on eyes
- 6.5 x 9.5cm hand warmer sachet (sample from Amazon)

For yarn stockists contact Wool Warehouse 01926 882818 www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

#### **TENSION**

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension: 21 sts and 28 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st using 4mm needles

#### SI7F

10cm x 7cm (excluding ears)

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

For a full list see page 90

rrrr! There's nothing worse than getting ice-cold hands on bitter, frosty days. This cute little knit is the answer – simply fill the pouch with a hand warmer sachet, sold in sports and camping stores, then give kitty a cuddle or pop her in your pocket. Instant toasty fingers! It's a fun knit too, and a clever gift for outdoorsy types.



#### (K) HAND WARMER

**Cast on** 17 sts using 4mm needles and Yarn A.

Row 1 Knit.

Row 2 Purl.

**Row 3** K2, k2tog, yo, K3, k2tog, yo, K4, yo, k2tog, K2, cast on 18 sts. [35 sts] **Row 4** Purl.

**Row 5** K1, (sl1 pwise, K1) to end of row. **Row 6** K1, (wyif, sl1, wyib, K1) to end of row.

Change to Yarn B.

**Row 7** K2, (sl1 pwise, K1) to last st, K1. **Row 8** K2, (wyif, sl1, wyib, K1) to last st, K1.

Change to Yarn C.

Row 9 K1, (sl1 pwise, K1) to end of row. Row 10 K1, (wyif, sl1, wyib, K1) to end of row.

Change to Yarn A.

**Row 11** K2, (sl1 pwise, K1) to last st, K1. **Row 12** K2, (wyif, sl1, wyib, K1) to last st, K1.

Change to Yarn B.

**Row 13** K1, (sl1 pwise, K1) to end of row.

**Row 14** K1, (wyif, sl1, wyib, K1) to end of row.

Change to Yarn C.

**Row 15** K2, (sl1 pwise, K1) to last st, K1. **Row 16** K2, (wyif sl1, wyib, K1) to last st, K1

Change to Yarn A.

Row 17 K1, (sl1 pwise, K1) to end of

**Row 18** K1, (wyif, sl1, wyib, K1) to end of row.

Change to Yarn B.

**Row 19** K2, (sl1 pwise, K1) to last st, K1. **Row 20** K2, (wyif, sl1, wyib, K1) to last st, K1.

Change to Yarn C.

**Row 21** K1, (sl1 pwise, K1) to end of row.



A row of heart-shaped buttons is a pretty finish. You'll also use one for kitty's nose.

**Row 22** K1, (wyif, sl1, wyib, K1) to end of row.

Change to Yarn A.

**Row 23** K2, (sl1 pwise, K1) to last st, K1. **Row 24** K2, (wyif, sl1, wyib, K1) to last st, K1.

Change to Yarn B.

**Row 25** K1, (sl1 pwise, K1) to end of row.

**Row 26** K1, (wyif, sl1, wyib, K1) to end of row.

Change to Yarn C.

**Row 27** K2, (sl1 pwise, K1) to last st, K1. **Row 28** K2, (wyif, sl1, wyib, K1) to last st, K1.

Continue in Yarn C, work in stocking stitch until your knitting measures 13cm, ending on a purl row.

#### ΕΛRS

Next row (RS) K2tog, K3, k2tog, turn.

Next row Purl.

Next row K2tog, K1, k2tog, turn.

Next row Purl.

Next row SI1, k2tog, psso.

Break yarn and fasten off remaining st.

With RS facing, rejoin yarn.

**Next row** (RS) Cast off 3 sts, K2tog, K3, k2tog, turn.

Next row Purl.

Next row K2tog, K1, k2tog, turn.

Next row Purl.

Next row SI1, k2tog, psso.

Break yarn and fasten off remaining st. Rejoin yarn and cast off remaining sts.

#### TO MAKE UP

With the RS facing sew together the side seam. Turn the cover the right way out and sew along the top seam behind the ears. Attach the buttons and eyes using the photo as reference.





■ Erika Knight, British Blue Wool (100% wool, 25g/55m) 2 balls of each:

Yarn A Milk

- Yarn B Dance
- A set of five 4mm DPNs
- 7.5cm (3in) purse frame
- A stitch marker
- A darning needle
- Fabric glue and toothpicks

For yarn stockists contact TB Ramsden 01943 872264 www.tbramsden.co.uk

#### **TENSION**

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension: 22 sts and 30 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st using 4mm needles

#### **MEASUREMENTS**

9 x 8cm (3½ x 3in)

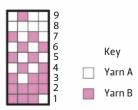
#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

For a full list see page 90

#### HOW TO USE OUR CHARTS

Start at the bottom right-hand corner. Read right side rounds from right to left. A row of squares represents a round of knitting.

#### Chart



eep loose change and keys in this pretty little purse. It includes a lining, making it quite sturdy and giving it a thick, chunky feel. The Fair Isle pattern is dainty and we've chosen a delicate colour combination, but Erika Knight's British Blue Wool also comes in richer colours, so you could go for something more dramatic instead.



#### K OUTER PIECE BASE

**NOTE** The base is worked flat with just 2 DRNs

**Cast on** 15 sts using 4mm needles and Yarn B.

Row 1 K to end.

Row 2 P to end.\*

Rep rows 1 & 2 twice more, and row 1 once again.

#### SIDES

With a fresh needle for each side, pick up and knit 7 sts down side of work, 15 sts along cast on edge, and 7 sts up other side of work. [44 sts]

Pm and join for working in the round.

Round 1 K to end.

Rep this round 3 more times, then cont in st st working Chart A.

When Chart is complete, cont in Yarn A as folls:

**Next round** K17, k2tog, K20, k2tog. Leave the rem 3 sts unworked. [42 sts]

#### SHAPE THE TOP

Rearrange sts on 2 needles, 21 on each. \*\*Work flat on each side in turn.

**Row 1** Ssk, K to last 2 sts on needle, k2tog. [2 sts dec'd]

**Row 2** P to end of needle.

Row 3 K to end of needle.

Row 4 P to end of needle.

**Row 5** Ssk, K to last 2 sts on needle, k2tog. [2 sts dec'd]

Row 6 P to end of needle.\*\*\*

**Row 7** Ssk, K to last 2 sts on needle, k2tog. [15 sts]

Cut yarn and rejoin to sts on other needle, and repeat on these sts from \*\*. Set aside, leaving both sets of sts on the needles.

#### LINING

BASE

**NOTE** The base is worked flat with just 2 DPNs.

**Cast on** 13 sts using two 4mm needles and Yarn A and work as for Outer Piece to \*.



The purse has a lining, which gives it extra strength for carrying lots of cash!

Rep rows 1 & 2 once more, and row 1 once again.

#### SIDES

With a fresh needle for each side, pick up and knit 6 sts, down side of work, 13 sts along cast on edge, and 6 sts up other side of work. [38 sts]

Pm and join for working in the round.

Round 1 K to end.

Rep this round 13 times more.

Next round K35, leave the rem 3 sts unworked.

#### SHAPE THE TOP

Rearrange sts on 2 needles, 19 on each. Work as for Outer Piece from \*\* to \*\*\*. Cut yarn and rejoin to sts on other needle, and repeat on these sts from \*\*. [15 sts]

#### TO MAKE UP

Turn the Lining inside out and arrange it inside the Outer Piece. Join the pieces on each side using 3-needle cast off. Use tail ends to stitch down all four sides and close up the gaps. Weave in ends.

Use a toothpick to spread fabric glue into the space of the purse frame, one side at a time. Gently manoeuvre the purse into the frame from one end to the other, using a clean toothpick to push the edges as far as they will go. Repeat on the other side and leave the glue to dry for the required time.

## PHONF COVFR



#### YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft, Special DK (100% acrylic, 100g/295m) 1 ball of Gold (1709)
- A pair of 3½mm needles
- A 3.5mm crochet hook
- A button

For yarn stockists contact Stylecraft 01535 609798 www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

#### **TENSION**

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension: 28 sts and 32 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st using 3½mm needles

#### SIZE

7.5cm x 14cm

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

For a full list see page 90

Measure your phone then check your tension. If the size of the cosy won't be perfect it will be easier to change needle size than to work out how many stitches and rows to add to maintain the pattern.



## CHIT-CHAT

### Cast on Kirstie McLeod's fun phone cosy!

e love little stashbusters like this – it's so satisfying to cast on in the morning and have a finished project ready to show off by nightfall. This textured cosy has a great practical use too, protecting your precious mobile phone from accidental bumps and scrapes. So what are you waiting for? Let's get started...



#### R PHONE COVER

Cast on 43 sts using 3½mm needles. Row 1 (RS) K1, \*K1, P1, K1, P1; rep from \* to last 2 sts, K2.

**Row 2** P1, \*P1, K1, P1, K1; rep from \* to last 2 sts, P2.

Repeat these 2 rows once more. [4 rows of rib]

**Row 5** (RS) K1, \*P1, K3; rep from \* to last 2 sts, P1, K1.

**Row 6** P1, \*K1, P3; rep from \* to last 2 sts. K1, P1.

Row 7 (RS) K1, \*K1, P1, K1, P1; rep from

\* to last 2 sts, K2.

**Row 8** P1, \*P1, K1, P1, K1; rep from \* to last 2 sts, P2.

**Row 9** (RS) K1, \*K2, P1, K1; rep from \* to last 2 sts, K2.

**Row 10** P1, \*P2, K1, P1; rep from \* to last 2 sts, P2.

**Row 11** (RS) K1, \*K1, P1, K1, P1; rep from \* to last 2 sts, K2.

**Row 12** P1, \*P1, K1, P1, K1; rep from \* to last 2 sts, P2.

Rows 5–12 form the stitch pattern. Repeat these rows until your knitting measures 14cm.

Cast off.

#### TO MAKE UP

With right sides facing, join the bottom and side seams.

Weave in any loose ends and turn the cover the right way out.

Using the 3.5mm crochet hook work a length of chain stitch to measure 7cm. Sew this to the centre back of the cover. Attach a button to the front.

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- Stylecraft, Life DK (75% acrylic, 25% wool, 100g/298m)1 ball of Rose (2301)
- A set of 3¼mm double-pointed needles (DPNs)
- Mug, approximate circumference 27cm
- Pink felt
- Pink sewing thread and needle For yarn stockists contact Stylecraft 01535 609798 www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

#### **TENSION**

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension: 24 sts and 34 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st using 31/4mm needles

#### SIZE

27cm circumference x the height of your mug

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

For a full list see page 90

ake a break from time-consuming, intricate knits to make a speedy stocking filler that's guaranteed to put smiles on your friends' faces.

You'll get quite a few mug hugs out of one 100g ball – or you can use odds and ends from your stash.

This might look like a simple stocking stitch mug hug, but it has a special secret on the bottom – a pink snout, so that as you drink, you're transformed into a perfect piggy. Genius!





**Cast on** 6 sts using 31/4mm needles and join to work in the round, taking care not to twist sts.

**Round 1** \*Kfb; rep from \* to end. [12 sts]

Round 2 Knit.

**Round 3** \*K2, M1; rep from \* to end. [18 sts]

**Round 4** \*K3, M1; rep from \* to end. [24 sts]

Round 5 \*K4, M1; rep from \* to end. [30 sts]

**Round 6** \*K5, M1; rep from \* to end. [36 sts]

**Round 7** \*K6, M1; rep from \* to end. [42 sts]

**Round 8** \*K7, M1; rep from \* to end. [48 sts]

Round 9 Knit.

**Round 10** \*K8, M1; rep from \* to end. [54 sts]

Round 11 Knit.

Round 12 Purl.

Rounds 13–16 Knit.

#### SIDE

From this point on the piece is worked back and forth in rows.

Row 17 (WS) Turn, sl1, purl to end. Row 18 (RS) Turn, sl1, knit to end.



A small scrap of light pink felt is stitched onto the bottom to make the pig's nose.



The side of the mug hug is mostly worked flat in order to leave a gap for the handle.

Repeat these 2 rows until piece reaches the top of the mug handle with a little stretching.

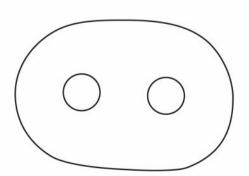
Join edges to work in the round for the remaining rows.

Knit every round for desired length.

#### Cast off.

Using cast-on tail, place running stitches around cast-on edge and pull tight to close, secure with stitches.

Cut snout from felt and sew into position using image as a guide.



Template for felt nose



The beauty of mosaic (slip stitch) knitting, compared with intarsia and Fair Isle, is that you use just one yarn at a time per row. This technique is ideal for knitters who have struggled with the other techniques but still yearn to knit colourwork projects.



#### YOU WILL NEED

- West Yorkshire Spinners, Aire Valley DK (75% wool, 25% nylon, 100g/230m)
  - 3 balls of **Yarn A** Cream (010)
- 1 ball of **Yarn B** Rainbow (827)
- A pair of 4mm needles
- 5 buttons
- Cushion blanks (46cm square, 56cm square)

For yarn stockists contact West Yorkshire Spinners 01535 664500 www.wyspinners.com

#### **TENSION**

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension: 20 sts and 27 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st using 4mm needles

#### SIZE

Medium: 46 x 46cm (18 x 18in) Large: 56 x 56cm (22 x 22in)

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

For a full list see page 90

#### PATTERN NOTES

Colourwork for the trees pattern is worked in slip stitch (mosaic work). When slipping stitches for the mosaic colourwork, always have the slipped stitches on the WS of the work.

Each row on the chart represents two rows of knitting, a RS row which is knitted and the following WS row which is purled. The RS row, beginning with an odd number at the right-hand edge, works from right to left. The WS row brings the same colour back from the left to the right-hand edge of the knitting. The other colour is left at the right-hand side of the row waiting to be used later. The mosaic colourwork is formed by slipping stitches (purlwise) so that the colour of the previous row is now included on the row you are working on. When slipping the stitches the working yarn should be held to the back of the work.

his fabulously festive cushion, with its Christmas tree motifs, will add a magical touch to your seasonal décor. Choose a soft, squidgy cushion pad to make it extra cuddly, and pick from two finished sizes – medium or large. The button band closure, with a lovely stripy rib pattern, makes the cushion practical as well as beautiful.



#### **K** FRONT

**Cast on** 91 (113) sts using 4mm needles and Yarn A using the cable cast on.

Row 1 (RS) Knit.

Row 2 Purl.

Continue to work in st st for a further 12 (16) rows.

Now work the mosaic slip stitch pattern from the Trees Chart (see notes) or written instructions below.

**Row 1** (RS) Using Yarn B, K1, \*K1, sl3, K1, sl1, K1, sl3, K3, sl3, K1, sl1, K1, sl3; rep from \* to last 2 sts, K2. **Row 2** Using Yarn B, P2, \*sl3, P1, sl1, P1, sl3, P3, sl3, P1, sl1, P1, sl3, P1; rep from \* to last st, P1.

Row 3 Using Yarn A, K1, \*sl1, K9, sl3, K9; rep from \* to last 2 sts, sl1, K1.

Row 4 Using Yarn A, P1, sl1, \*P9, sl3, P9, sl1; rep from \* to last st, P1.

Row 5 Using Yarn B, K1, \*K2, sl3, K1, sl4, K3, sl4, K1, sl3, K1; rep from \* to last 2 sts, K2.

**Row 6** Using Yarn B, P2, \*P1, sl3, P1, sl4, P3, sl4, P1, sl3, P2; rep from \* to last st, P1.

Row 7 Using Yarn A, K1, \*sl1, K10, sl1, K10; rep from \* to last 2 sts, sl1, K1. Row 8 Using Yarn A, P1, sl1, \*P10, sl1, P10, sl1; rep from \* to last st, P1. Row 9 Using Yarn B, K1, \*K3, sl2, K13, sl2, K2; rep from \* to last 2 sts, K2. Row 10 Using Yarn B, P2, \*P2, sl2, P13, sl2, P3; rep from \* to last st, P1. Row 11 Using Yarn A, K1, \*sl1, K10, sl1, K10; rep from \* to last 2 sts, sl1, K1. Row 12 Using Yarn A, P1, sl1, \*P10, sl1, P10, sl1; rep from \* to last st, P1. Row 13 Using Yarn B, K1, \*K4, sl2, K11, sl2, K3; rep from \* to last 2 sts, K2. Row 14 Using Yarn B, P2, \*P3, sl2, P11, sl2, P4; rep from \* to last st, P1. Row 15 Using Yarn A, K1, \*sl1, K10, sl1, K10; rep from \* to last 2 sts, sl1, K1. Row 16 Using Yarn A, P1, sl1, \*P10, sl1,



The pattern on the buttonhole row, combined with the buttons, is gorgeous enough for the back to be the front! Pick beautiful buttons and there's no reason it can't be.

## TREE CUSHION

P10, sl1; rep from \* to last st, P1. Row 17 Using Yarn B, K1, \*K5, sl2, K9, sl2, K4; rep from \* to last 2 sts, K2. Row 18 Using Yarn B, P2, \*P4, sl2, P9, sl2, P5; rep from \* to last st, P1. Row 19 Using Yarn A, K1, \*sl1, K10, sl1, K10; rep from \* to last 2 sts, sl1, K1. Row 20 Using Yarn A, P1, sl1, \*P10, sl1, P10, sl1; rep from \* to last st, P1. Row 21 Using Yarn B, K1, \*K6, sl2, K7, sl2, K5; rep from \* to last 2 sts, K2. Row 22 Using Yarn B, P2, \*P5, sl2, P7, sl2, P6; rep from \* to last st, P1. Row 23 Using Yarn A, K1, \*sl1, K10, sl1, K10; rep from \* to last 2 sts, sl1, K1. Row 24 Using Yarn A, P1, sl1, \*P10, sl1, P10, sl1; rep from \* to last st, P1. Row 25 Using Yarn B, K1, \*K7, sl2, K5, sl2, K6; rep from \* to last 2 sts, K2. Row 26 Using Yarn B, P2, \*P6, sl2, P5, sl2, P7; rep from \* to last st, P1. Row 27 Using Yarn A, K1, \*sl1, K10, sl1, K10; rep from \* to last 2 sts, sl1, K1. Row 28 Using Yarn A, P1, sl1, \*P10, sl1, P10, sl1; rep from \* to last st, P1. Row 29 Using Yarn B. K1. \*K2. sl4. K1. sl3, K3, sl3, K1, sl4, K1; rep from \* to last

Row 30 Using Yarn B, P2, \*P1, sl4, P1, sl3, P3, sl3, P1, sl4, P2; rep from \* to last st, P1.

Row 31 Using Yarn A, K1, \*sl2, K9, sl1, K9, sl1; rep from \* to last 2 sts, sl1, K1. Row 32 Using Yarn A, P1, sl1, \*sl1, P9, sl1, P9, sl2; rep from \* to last st, P1. Row 33 Using Yarn B, K1, \*K2, sl3, K1, sl1, K1, sl3, K1, sl3, K1, sl1, K1, sl3, K1; rep from \* to last 2 sts, K2. Row 34 Using Yarn B, P2, \*P1, sl3, P1, sl1, P1, sl3, P1, sl3, P1, K1, P1, sl3, P2; rep from \* to last st, P1.

Continue to work in st st in Yarn A for a further 70 (92) rows.

Cast off all sts.

#### I OWFR BACK

Cast on 91 (113) sts using 4mm needles and Yarn A.

Row 1 (RS) Knit.

Row 2 Purl.

Continue to work in st st for a further 50 (64) rows.

#### **BUTTON BAND**

Row 1 (RS) K1 with Yarn B, \*K1 with Yarn A, K1 with Yarn B; rep from \* to

Row 2 P1 with Yarn B, \*K1 with Yarn A, P1 with Yarn B; rep from \* to end. Row 3 K1 with Yarn B, \*P1 with Yarn A, K1 with Yarn B; rep from \* to end. Rep rows 2 & 3 a further 4 times and

then row 2 again.

Cast off in Yarn A.

#### **UPPER BACK**

Cast on 91 (113) sts using 4mm needles and Yarn A.

Row 1 (RS) Knit.

Row 2 Purl

Continue to work in st st for a further 50 (64) rows.

#### **BUTTONHOLE BAND**

Work as Buttonhole Band, replacing rows 6 & 7 as folls:

Row 6 Rib as pattern as set working 11 (16) sts, \*cast off 5 sts, work 11 (14) sts (inc st rem from last cast off); rep from \* to last 16 (21) sts, cast off 5 sts, work 11 (16) sts (inc st rem from last cast off). Row 7 Rib as pattern as set, casting on 5 sts over where you have cast off in

#### TO MAKE UP

the previous row.

Block gently to measurements, following any yarn care instructions on the ball band.

Join the Lower Back to the Front with RS facing using mattress stitch. Join the Upper Back to the Front with the buttonhole rib overlapping the Lower Back rib.

Sew 5 buttons on the button band, making sure they line up with the buttonholes.

#### HOW TO USE OUR CHARTS

Start at the bottom right-hand corner. See pattern notes for working chart in slipped stitch – a row of squares represents two rows of knitting.

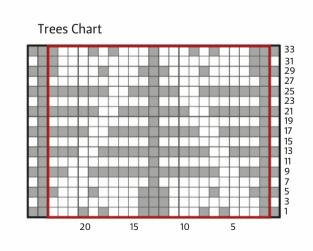


Rainbow colourway yarn is perfect for getting a decorated Christmas tree look.



For a neat finish, position buttons so the stitching is in the same direction for each.

MONTH Our TV tidy will revolutionise your viewing experience! Issue 142, February, is on sale from Friday 1 January.



Key

Yarn A

Yarn B

Repeat



# (a)simplyknitting

GET IN TOUCH THROUGH EMAIL, TWITTER AND FACEBOOK!

## **BEAR-ILLIANT TOYS!**

I've been knitting Alan Dart's French Bears ('Monsieur Bearnard', issue 123) for a school fête, and decided to make them in some different colours and make some of them more girly to appeal to little girls. Keep the Alan Dart

patterns coming, Simply Knitting - I love them! Sue Laity, Bristol We're glad to hear you enjoyed making the bears, Sue, and what a great collection! We love how you've given them their own personalities.



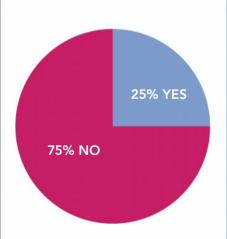


THE YARN LOOP CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE FOR FANTASTIC FREE PATTERNS, INCLUDING THESE SNOWFLAKE mittens by RhiAn DRinkWAter. WWW.theyARNLOOP.com

#### FACEBOOK POLL

## NTAGE YARN

We asked... Is any of the yarn in your collection over 10 years old?



25% YES A quarter of you have a few antiques in your stash - and one reader even has yarn that's over 60 years old! 75% NO The majority prefer to use up older yarns or give them to charity.



#### @SHIBAGUYZ

Take better photos of your #crochet and #knitting: three fab tips from @ShibaguyzPhoto http://buff.ly/1kTgQzm

#### @WITTIKNITTY

Had another letter published in this month's @SimplyKnitMag. It cheered me up today after being stuck in traffic and awful rain! TY:)

#### @PEYTONHEART13

#knit #crochet Please help us make hearts to #EndTheStigma of #mentalhealth issues. www.thepeytonheartproject.org

#### @PURLEMMA

Excited! My lace sweater design is in @SimplyKnitMag 139 #knitting

You can subscribe to Simply Knitting digitally from just £3.99. See www.simplyknitting.co.uk/digital for more information.

#### THREE OF THE BEST...

## **GREAT KNITS** ON PINTEREST

We love to see all your photos!



#### LITTLE KNIT

Natalie Macerola made this sweet sweater for her nephew using the pattern 'Baby Sophisticate' by Linden Heflin as her inspiration.



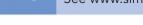
#### **IN PROGRESS**

This sleeveless Sirdar jumper (pattern 7083) in cotton yarn is on Amanda Hurrell's needles. We can't wait to see the finished project!



#### YUMMY YARN

Karen Mitchell from Over the Moon hand-dyed this yarn using Wilton food dye! She plans to make it into a pair of fingerless gloves.















- Hayfield, Bonus DK (100% acrylic, 100g/280m) 1 ball of each: Flesh Tone (963), Cream (812), White (961), Chocolate (947), Walnut (927) and Silver Grey (838)
- Stylecraft, Eskimo DK (100% polyester, 50g/90m)1 ball of Silver (5007)
- 50cm (18in) length of black DK yarn
- A pair of 3mm needles
- A stitch holder
- 60g of washable toy stuffing
- 2 plastic drinking straws, 20cm (8in) long
- 3 x 7.5cm (3in) cotton buds
- Scrap of corrugated cardboard
- Scrap of stiff card
- Pale grey sewing thread
- Long tweezers
- Pair of compasses
- Clear adhesive

For yarn stockists contact LoveKnitting 0845 544 2196 www.loveknitting.com

#### **TENSION**

Hayfield Bonus DK knits as DK to this tension: 26 sts and 36 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st using 3mm needles

#### **MEASUREMENTS**

23cm (9in) tall

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

For a full list see page 90



he year is nearly over, and that means looking forward to 2016 with excitement. Alan Dart has designed another wonderful character especially for us, and this issue he's the personification of time itself! Use eyelash yarn to create a bushy beard, and make sure his eyelids are suitably droopy – he's had a tiring year, after all.



#### NOTE

Use 3mm needles throughout and cast on by using the cable (2 needle) method. This is most important when knitting the smaller pieces. Also begin all pieces with a K row, and always work 'inc 1' by knitting into the front and back of the stitch, otherwise your stitch count will not be correct. Treat the purl side of all pieces knitted in Eskimo as right side.

Unless otherwise stated, sew seams and join pieces using mattress stitch, working with right side of knitting uppermost. A one-stitch knitted seam turning has been allowed on most pieces to accommodate this method.

## K LEGS, BODY & HEAD (MAKE 1 PIECE) RIGHT LEG

\*Cast on 18 sts with Flesh Tone for ankle edge and work in st st for 2 rows. Dec row (K3, skpo, k2tog, K1) twice, K2. [14 sts]

Work in st st for 11 rows.

Change to White and K 2 rows.

Inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [21 sts]

P 1 row.\*

Break yarn and slip sts on to a stitch holder.

#### LEFT LEG

Work as given for Right Leg from \* to \*\*

#### JOIN LEGS FOR BODY

**Next row** Inserting marker threads at beg and end, K3, (inc 1, K1) 7 times, K2, skpo from left leg sts, then k2tog, K3, (inc 1, K1) 7 times, K2 from held right leg sts. [54 sts]

P 1 row.

**Dec row** K1, (k2tog, K22, skpo) twice, K1. [50 sts]

P 1 row.

**Inc row** (K2, inc 1, K2) to end. [60 sts] Work in st st for 9 rows.

#### SHAPE TOP OF BODY

**Dec row 1** (K5, k2tog, K5) to end. [55 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows.

**Dec row 2** (K5, k2tog, K4) to end. [50 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows.

**Dec row 3** (K4, k2tog, K4) to end. [45 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows.

**Dec row 4** (K4, k2tog, K3) to end. [40 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows.

Change to Flesh Tone for head and work in st st for 20 rows.

#### SHAPE TOP OF HEAD

**Dec row 1** (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [30 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows.

**Dec row 2** (K1, k2tog) to end. [20 sts] P 1 row.

**Dec row 3** K1, (k2tog) 9 times, K1. [11 sts]

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

#### FEET (MAKE 2 PIECES)

**Cast on** 14 sts with Flesh Tone for back edge and work in st st for 2 rows.

**Inc row 1** K1, (inc 1, K3, inc 1, K1) twice, K1. [18 sts]

Work in st st for 7 rows.

Inc row 2 K1, (inc 1, K5, inc 1, K1) twice, K1. [22 sts]

Work in st st for 9 rows.

#### SHAPE FRONT

**Cast off** 4 sts at beg of next 2 rows. [14 sts]

**Cast off** 3 sts at beg of next 2 rows. [8 sts]

Cast off.

SANDAL SOLES (MAKE 2 PIECES)
With Walnut, work as given for Feet.

#### SANDAL STRAPS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 18 sts with Walnut for front edge and work in st st for 4 rows.
Cast off for back edge.

#### GOWN (MAKE 1 PIECE)

**Cast on** 90 sts with Cream for base edge and work in st st for 4 rows.

**Dec row 1** (K8, k2tog, K8) to end. [85 sts]

Work in st st for 4 rows.

**Dec row 2** (P7, p2tog, P8) to end. [80 sts]

Work in st st for 4 rows.

**Dec row 3** (K7, k2tog, K7) to end. [75 sts]

Work in st st for 4 rows.

## ALAN DART TOY IN ASSOCIATION WITH



Dec row 4 (P6, p2tog, P7) to end.

Work in st st for 4 rows.

Dec row 5 (K6, k2tog, K6) to end.

Work in st st for 4 rows.

Dec row 6 (P5, p2tog, P6) to end. [60 sts]

Work in st st for 4 rows.

Dec row 7 (K5, k2tog, K5) to end.

Work in st st for 4 rows.

Dec row 8 (P4, p2tog, P5) to end. [50 sts]

Work in st st for 2 rows.

Cast off for neck edge.

#### ARMS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 12 sts with Cream for top edge of sleeve and work in st st for 13 rows. P 2 rows for cuff.

Change to Flesh Tone for hand and P 1

Inc row (K1, inc 1, K2, inc 1) twice, K2. [16 sts]

P 1 row.

Cast on 4 sts at beg of next 2 rows for thumb. [24 sts]

Work in st st for 2 rows.

Cast off 4 sts at beg of next 2 rows. [16 sts]

Work in st st for 6 rows.

Dec row K1, (k2tog, K3, skpo) twice, K1. [12 sts]

P 1 row.

Cast off.

#### NOSE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 10 sts with Flesh Tone for base edge and work in st st for 2 rows.

Inc row Inc into every st to end. [20 sts] Work in st st for 5 rows.

**Dec row** K1, (k2tog) 9 times, K1. [11 sts] Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off

#### BEARD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 25 sts with Eskimo for top edge and work in st st for 2 rows. Inc 1 st at beg and end of next row. P 1 row.

Repeat the last 2 rows once more. [29 sts]

Work in st st for 12 rows.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row. P 1 row.

Repeat the last 2 rows 6 times more. [15 sts]

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next 6 rows.

Next row SI1, k2tog, psso, break yarn and draw through st.



Most of the pieces are joined together using mattress stitch, which means a smooth finish with no bulky seams. Use the same colour yarn for the seams as for the pieces.

#### HAIR (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 30 sts with Eskimo for base edge and work in st st for 14 rows. Cast off for top edge.

#### EYES (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 12 sts with White for back edge and work in st st for 5 rows.

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

#### EYELIDS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 9 sts with Flesh Tone for base edge and work in st st for 3 rows. Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

#### EYEBROWS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 6 sts with Eskimo. Cast off.

#### EARS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 12 sts with Flesh Tone for outside edge, work in st st for 2 rows. Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

#### SCYTHE HANDLE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 6 sts with Chocolate for base edge and work in st st for 69 rows. Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

#### SCYTHE BLADE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 10 sts with Silver Grey for handle edge, work in st st for 12 rows.

**Dec row 1** K3, skpo, k2tog, K3. [8 sts] Work in st st for 9 rows.

**Dec row 2** K2, skpo, k2tog, K2. [6 sts] Work in st st for 7 rows.

Dec row 3 K1, skpo, k2tog, K1. [4 sts] Work in st st for 5 rows.

Dec row 4 Skpo, k2tog. [2 sts] Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

#### HOURGLASS FLASK (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 12 sts with White for base edge and work in st st for 12 rows.

Dec row Change to Silver Grey and (k2tog) to end. [6 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows. **Inc row** Inc into every st to end. [12 sts]

Work in st st for 11 rows. Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly

and fasten off.

HOURGLASS TOP & BOTTOM (MAKE 2 PIECES)

**Cast on** 11 sts with Chocolate and work in st st for 2 rows.

**Inc row 1** Inc into every st to end. [22 sts]

P 1 row.

**Inc row 2** (Inc 1, K1) to end. [33 sts] P 5 rows for side edge.

K 1 row.

**Dec row 1** (P2tog, P1) to end. [22 sts] K 1 row.

**Dec row 2** (P2tog) to end. [11 sts] Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

#### TO MAKE UP

First join each leg seam, from cast-on ankle edge up to marker thread, then join back seam of body, starting at marker threads and stopping 5cm away from neck edge, and remove markers. Now, starting at gathered top edge, join head seam, stopping at neck edge. This will leave an opening in back of body. Stuff legs and body firmly through this opening, then join remainder of seam.

Fold cast-off front edge of each foot in

half and sew across, then join side edges, leaving back edge open. Use tweezers to stuff, then fold back edge in half and sew across. Turn one foot over so they make a pair, then mark toe positions with pins. Place the first pin 1 knitted stitch in from side seam, then insert 3 more pins, each 2 knitted stitches apart. Thread a needle with a length of Flesh Tone yarn, insert into foot and draw out at first marked point on top, 4 knitted rows down from front seam. Take yarn round front of foot and insert needle into underside, drawing out at starting point on top. Draw up yarn slightly to indent toe, remove pin and repeat once more. Work the remaining toes in same manner. Position and sew ankle edges of legs to feet, placing 2 knitted rows in from back seam of foot.

Fold cast-on back edge of each sandal sole in half and sew across, then join side edges, leaving front edge open. Place sole on stiff card and use a pencil to draw round outside edge for sole former. Cut out this piece, then use as a pattern to cut out another piece. Fit a former inside each knitted sole piece then sew across front edge to enclose card. Attach a sole to base of each foot with a line of glue, then wrap sandal

straps over feet and sew ends to side edges of soles.

Following instructions printed on ball band, press gown piece lightly on wrong side, then join seam. With this seam at centre back, fit gown over top of head and pin in position so that neck edge of gown covers last row knitted in White on body. Sew in place by working backstitch over every stitch along neck edge and remove pins. Fold cast-off edge of each hand in half and sew across, then join side edges of hand, round thumb, and sleeve seam, leaving cast-on edge open. Use tweezers to stuff hand and sleeve firmly. Mark fingers with 3 pins and indent in same manner as given for toes, this time placing the first pin 2 knitted stitches in from hand seam and the other 2 pins 2 knitted stitches apart, and sewing 7 knitted rows down from front seam. Position and sew arms to sides of gown so that thumbs are pointing upwards, placing sleeve seam 2 knitted rows down from neck edge and sewing through to body. Wrap and pin hair piece round back of head so side edges are 14 knitted stitches apart at centre front, and base edge is directly above neck edge of gown. Use sewing thread to sew

#### IT'S ALL IN THE DETAIL



The eyebrows are made using the same silvery yarn as his beard and hair.



His ears are given a shell shape by pulling yarn through the last row of stitches.



The uprights of the hourglass are made with the stalks from cotton buds.



Make a solid curve for the blade of the scythe with stiff card inside your knitting.



The legs and feet are knitted separately, stuffed into shape, then joined together.



Attach the soles with a little glue, then sew the straps into place on each side.

## ALAN DART TOY



securely in place, then remove pins. Now wrap and pin beard piece across front of head so that top edge is 6 knitted rows above neck edge of gown, and side edges overlap hair piece by one knitted stitch. Sew top edge in place with thread and remove pins. Count 3 knitted stitches in from each end of hair piece and sew ears vertically in place, so that top of ear is 3 knitted rows above top of hair piece. Starting at gathered edge, join nose seam, then use tweezers to stuff firmly. Work a gathering thread through every stitch along cast-on edge, draw up tightly and fasten off. Squeeze nose between thumb and forefinger to form into an oval shape, then position and sew centrally to face, placing directly above top of beard.

Starting at gathered edge, join each eye seam and use tweezers to stuff firmly. Work a gathering thread through every stitch along cast-on edge, draw up tightly and fasten off. Position and sew eyes in place directly above nose, spacing 2 knitted stitches apart. Draw out a single strand from a length of black yarn and use the remaining 2 strands to embroider a circle of 5 tiny chain stitches in the centre of each eye. Fit an eyelid over top of each eye and sew in place, then use thread to sew eyebrows directly above eyelids and trim pile to 6mm with a pair of small, sharp scissors.

To make scythe handle, first trim off bendy end of one straw and discard. Fold the remaining straight piece flat, then fold in half along length and push into bendy end of second straw to stiffen. Cover straw by winding closely with Chocolate yarn, securing ends with spots of glue. Wrap bound straw with knitted handle piece and, starting at gathered edge, oversew side edges together to enclose straw. Work a gathering thread through every stitch along cast-on edge, draw up tightly and fasten off.

Fold scythe blade piece in half, bringing side edges together, and curve slightly. Place blade on stiff card and use a pencil to draw round outside edge for former, then cut out this piece. Wrap former with knitted piece and oversew side edges together to enclose card. Position and sew cast-on edge of blade to one end of scythe handle, then fit handle into right hand and hold with a spot of glue before sewing securely to hand.

Starting at gathered edge, join seam

on hourglass flask, stopping on increase row, then use tweezers to stuff this top section before joining remainder of seam. Stuff bottom section, then work a gathering thread through every stitch along cast-on edge, draw up tightly and fasten off. Use compasses to draw two 4cm diameter circles on to corrugated card and cut out. Fit a card circle into the hourglass top and bottom knitted pieces and, starting at gathered edge, oversew side edges together to enclose, then work a gathering thread through every stitch along cast-on edge, draw up tightly and fasten off. At this point you can choose to make an easier version of the hourglass by simply gluing the flask between the top and bottom pieces.

If making the pictured version, leave the pieces unattached. Pick off the cotton wool from the ends of each cotton bud, then cover stem by winding closely with Chocolate yarn, securing ends with spots of glue and leaving 3mm uncovered at each end. Use pins to mark 3 points around the edge of the top piece, each point 11 knitted stitches apart. Using a large, pointed needle, insert 2 knitted rows in from one marked point and make a hole in card, large enough to fit the cotton bud. Spread a spot of glue over one uncovered end of bound stem. remove needle and insert stem into hole. Repeat at other 2 marked points with remaining bound stems. Fix opposite uncovered ends of stems to



Use a few small stitches to secure the hourglass to Old Father Time's hand.



A cut-down drinking straw provides a firm support for the scythe's staff.

bottom piece in same manner and leave glue to set completely. Dab a spot of glue in centre of bottom piece and carefully fit the White end of the flask in place. When set, fit Silver Grey end of flask to top piece in same manner. Fit hourglass into left hand and hold with a spot of glue before sewing securely to hand.

# All you need to bring your toys to life

#### START KNITTING OLD FATHER TIME

We love Alan Dart's incredibly detailed toys and know you do too.
Knitting each part then carefully sewing the pieces together is such a delight – and it's really exciting when you can proudly put your finished toy on the shelf or give it as a gift. Did you know you can get everything you need to make Alan Dart toys from LoveKnitting? The site stocks all your favourite yarn brands, heaps of needles, buttons and accessories, plus lots of knitting kits and inspiring books too. So don't delay, get the right tools for the job and start making Old Father Time today! www.loveknitting.com





ommunity spirit is a wonderful thing. Back in 2008, Norfolk resident Linda Brown published a knitting pattern in her parish magazine. "A lady from the village phoned to say she was having difficulty with the pattern, so they got together to knit and the rest, as they say, is history," says Edna Standley, who is resources manager of Norfolk Knitters and Stitchers, the group started by the duo.

The history she's talking about is remarkable, not least due to the speed at which the initial twosome expanded into an enormous network of knitting groups. "From this small beginning the group grew, and further groups were formed," says Edna, who also organises two of the 90 spin-off clubs.

"By March 2009 we had 40 people knitting for us, by November 2010 we had 400 and now there are close to 2,300 knitters across Norfolk."

The community grew via word of mouth, local newsletters and parish

magazines. "We use social media such as Facebook," says Edna, "and local radio, TV and newspapers give us coverage. We have special events twice a year, and are now planning The Big Norfolk Knit In. Members of our Action Group give talks to the WI and other women's groups."

Right from the start, community members were keen to knit for charities both locally and abroad, and Linda started publishing a newsletter to let everyone know what had been knitted. "In those days it was easy to count the items, unlike now when it amounts to thousands!"

Today, the charities benefiting from Norfolk Knitters' efforts range from the local Samaritan's Purse shoebox appeal to The Louise Hamilton Centre – offering palliative care in the Great Yarmouth area – to maternity hospitals in Kenya.

#### A FRESH PURPOSE

Edna is keen to point out that Norfolk Knitters, which is part of Community Service Volunteers' Retired and Senior Volunteer Programme, also has an aim that's closer to home. "Apart from providing aid to lots of charities, we also give many of our members a fresh purpose in life," says Edna.

At first, she explains, new members love the idea of being able to help others, "but very often gain as much themselves by being part of a community. They make friends, learn new skills and go home inspired."

Edna thoroughly enjoys her role overseeing the smooth running of Norfolk Knitters. "No two days are the same," she says. "We always have something needing attention, from sourcing patterns to booking venues, giving talks and encouraging people to join. Working with our Action Group – a fantastic, dedicated group of ladies – is wonderful. But the best thing for me is the personal contact with members, who often feel like part of a family."

Fitting the needs of the community around other commitments is certainly a challenge. "It's a struggle









Clockwise from far left: Hethersett group; flowers created for a pergola at John Grooms Court, a home for young disabled adults in Norwich; Washbrook group; a display at The Louise Hamilton Centre; the knitters help charities worldwide.

to find time to get my housework done," Edna admits. "However, every one of our members is very important and we want them all to feel part of our community, so giving time to achieve that is worthwhile."

Brilliantly, Norfolk Knitters and Stitchers received a £250,000 grant earlier this year from the Big Lottery Fund. "Linda Brown is still our leader and driving force, and without Linda we certainly wouldn't have won the grant," says Edna. "We got the funding, not only for the work we do supporting numerous charities, but also for our work in taking ladies out of isolation and helping people to have a purpose again. We work with all ages and abilities, from six-yearolds to people aged 100 and up!"

#### **NEW RESOURCES**

The funding is enabling Norfolk Knitters to set up three new resource centres in King's Lynn, Sheringham and Lowestoft. "This means that members who want to visit don't have to travel to Norwich," says

Edna. "Members can buy yarn, patterns, buttons and other craftrelated items at affordable prices, meet friends, get new ideas and see what others have achieved."

Once the centres are open, they hope to open another in South Norfolk, to cater for as many knitters and stitchers as possible.

There are also a number of costs associated with running 90 knitting groups across the county, including sewing machines for the resource centres, printing and distributing the newsletter for members not online. as well as providing support to new groups with a welcome pack and publicity materials.

In addition, many members knit on their own at home, meaning that 20 collection points are needed for people to take their knitted and sewn items to. "For the housebound, we're usually able to arrange for it to be collected," says Edna.

The knitters are happy to knit for any charity that catches their attention, including baby clothes for

Norfolk and Norwich Hospital's premature baby unit, Christmas decorations for fairs and fêtes, teddies for Uganda, and many more.

"We have numerous patterns we distribute to members, but members can knit just about anything they want," says Edna. "Lots of charities are now becoming aware of what we can provide, so we get more and more requests for specific things."

However, all this excellent work can only happen thanks to the enthusiasm of the community's individuals. "Norfolk Knitters and Stitchers has expanded so much because so many people help doing different things," Edna says. "Members come forward and volunteer to run groups, or help with the distribution of newsletters, or bring knitting in for a friend or local contact, or suggest another charity we can support. Any ideas and suggestions are welcome!" Written by Judy Darley Visit www.norfolkknitters.org.uk or call Edna on 01603 811814 to get involved.



### ROLL-NECK SWEATER



ROLLUP

Gemma Atkinson's eye-catching slip stitch and cable sweater is guaranteed to keep you warm in the wildest of weathers.



### YOU WILL NEED

- Rowan, Felted Tweed (50% Merino wool, 25% alpaca, 25% viscose, 50g/175m)
- A pair of 3¾mm needles
- A pair of 4mm needles
- A cable needle

For yarn stockists contact Rowan 01484 681881 www.knitrowan.com

### **TENSION**

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension: 28 sts and 34 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over patt using 4mm needles

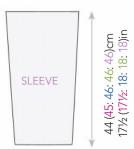
### **ABBREVIATIONS**

C3B Slip next 2 sts to cn and hold at back, K1; K2 from cn C3F Slip next st to cn and hold at front, K2; K1 from cn

For a full list see page 90



55 (60.5: 66.5: 72: 80.5)cm 21½ (24: 26: 28½: 31½)in



nitted in Rowan's Felted Tweed and patterned with slip stitches and cables, Gemma Atkinson's sweater is ideal for wearing in the great outdoors – and the roll neck means never having to hunt for a scarf! The yarn's nature-inspired colour range is gorgeous, from light Clay to dark Granite, all spotted with tweedy flecks.



### **K** BACK

Cast on 154 (170: 186: 202: 226) sts using 3¾mm needles and Yarn A. Joining in Yarn B when required, work in patt as folls:

**Row 1** (WS) Using Yarn A, K2, \*P6, K2; rep from \* to end.

Row 2 Using Yarn A, P2, \*sl1 wyib, K4, sl1 wyib, P2; rep from \* to end.

**Row 3** Using Yarn B, K2, \*sl1 wyif, P4, sl1 wyif, K2; rep from \* to end.

Row 4 Using Yarn B, P2, \*sl1 wyib, K4, sl1 wyib, P2; rep from \* to end.

Row 5 As row 3.

**Row 6** Using Yarn B, P2, \*C3F, C3B, P2; rep from \* to end.

These 6 rows form patt. Cont in patt until Back meas 6cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

Change to 4mm needles. Cont straight in patt until Back meas 72 (74: 76: 78: 80)cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

### SHAPE SHOULDERS

**Cast off** 8 (9: 10: 12: 14) sts at beg of next 2 rows keeping patt correct, then 8 (9: 11: 12: 14) sts at beg of foll 2 rows. [122 (134: 144: 154: 170) sts]

### SHAPE BACK NECK

Next row (RS) Cast off 8 (10: 11: 12: 14) sts, patt until there are 30 (34: 37: 41: 46) sts on right needle and turn, leaving rem sts on a holder. Work each side of neck separately.

Dec 1 st at neck edge of next 4 rows AND AT THE SAME TIME cast off 8 (10: 11: 12: 14) sts at beg of 2nd row, then 9 (10: 11: 12: 14) sts at beg of foll alt row. Work 1 row.

Cast off rem 9 (10: 11: 12: 14) sts. With RS facing, slip centre 46 (46: 48: 48: 50) sts onto a holder, rejoin appropriate yarn and patt to end. Complete to match first side, reversing shapings.

### **FRONT**

Work as given for Back until 20 (20: 24: 24: 28) rows less have been worked than on Back to beg of shoulder shaping, ending with RS facing for next row.

### SHAPE FRONT NECK

**Next row** (RS) Patt 62 (70: 78: 86: 98) sts and turn, leaving rem sts on a holder.

Work each side of neck separately. Keeping patt correct, dec 1 st at neck edge of next 6 rows, then on foll 4 alt rows, then on 1 (1: 2: 2: 3) foll 4th rows. [51 (59: 66: 74: 85) sts]

Work 1 row, ending with RS facing for next row.

### SHAPE SHOULDER

Cast off 8 (9: 10: 12: 14) sts at beg of next and foll 3 (1: 0: 4: 4) alt rows keeping patt correct, then 9 (10: 11: -: -)

SIZE		8-10	12-14	16-18	20-22	24-26
TO FIT	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127
BUST	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50
ACTUAL BUST	cm	110	121	133	144	161
	in	43	48	52	57	63
LENGTH	cm	75	77	79	81	83
	in	291/2	301/2	31	32	321/2
SLEEVE	cm	44	45	46	46	46
LENGTH	in	171/2	171/2	18	18	19
YARN		I	Rowan, Felte	d Tweed (50g	g/175m balls)	300
Yarn A Granite (191)		4	5	5	6	6
Yarn B Clay (177)		7	8	9	10	11

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.

### ROLL-NECK SWEATER

sts at beg of foll 1 (3: 4: -: -) alt rows and at same time dec 1 st at neck edge of 3rd row.

Work 1 row.

Cast off rem 9 (10: 11: 13: 14) sts. With RS facing, slip centre 30 sts onto a holder, rejoin appropriate yarn and patt to end.

Complete to match first side, reversing shapings.

### SLEEVES

Cast on 50 (54: 56: 56: 58) sts using 334mm needles and Yarn A. Joining in Yarn B when required, work in patt as folls:

Row 1 (WS) Using Yarn A, P0 (2: 3: 3: 4), K2, \*P6, K2; rep from \* to last 0 (2: 3: 3: 4) sts, P0 (2: 3: 3: 4).

Row 2 Using Yarn A, K0 (2: 3: 3: 3), (sl1 wyib) 0 (0: 0: 0: 1) times, P2, \*sl1 wyib, K4, sl1 wyib, P2; rep from \* to last 0 (2: 3: 3: 4) sts, (sl1 wyib) 0 (0: 0: 0: 1) times, KO (2: 3: 3: 3).

Row 3 Using Yarn B, P0 (2: 3: 3: 3), (sl1 wyif) 0 (0: 0: 0: 1) times, K2, \*sl1 wyif, P4, sl1 wyif, K2; rep from \* to last 0 (2: 3: 3: 4) sts, (sl1 wyif) 0 (0: 0: 0: 1) times, PO (2: 3: 3: 3).

Row 4 Using Yarn B, K0 (2: 3: 3: 3), (sl1 wyib) 0 (0: 0: 0: 1) times, P2, \*sl1 wyib, K4, sl1 wyib, P2; rep from \* to last 0 (2: 3: 3: 4) sts, (sl1 wyib) 0 (0: 0: 0: 1) times, KO (2: 3: 3: 3).

Row 5 Using Yarn B, P0 (2: 3: 3: 3), (sl1 wyif) 0 (0: 0: 0: 1) times, K2, \*sl1 wyif, P4, sl1 wyif, K2; rep from \* to last 0 (2: 3: 3: 4) sts, (sl1 wyif) 0 (0: 0: 0: 1) times, PO (2: 3: 3: 3).

Row 6 Using Yarn B, K0 (2: 3: 3: 1), (C3B) 0 (0: 0: 0: 1) times, P2, \*C3F, C3B, P2; rep from \* to last 0 (2: 3: 3: 4) sts, (C3F) 0 (0: 0: 0: 1) times, K0 (2: 3: 3: 1). These 6 rows form patt.

Cont in patt as set until Sleeve meas 6cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

Change to 4mm needles. Cont in patt, shaping sides by inc 1 st at each end of 3rd (3rd: 3rd: next: next) and every foll 4th (4th: 4th: alt: alt) row to 96 (102: 112: 62: 72) sts, then on every foll 6th (6th: 6th: 4th: 4th) row until there are 106 (112: 118: 124: 130) sts, taking inc sts into patt. Cont straight until Sleeve meas 47 (48: 49: 49: 49)cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

Cast off.

### TO MAKE UP

Block out each piece of knitting and following the instructions on the ball band press the garment pieces, omitting the ribs. Join right shoulder seam using backstitch, or mattress stitch if preferred.

### COLLAR

With RS facing, using 3\mum needles and Yarn A, pick up and knit 30 (30: 33: 33: 36) sts down left side of front neck, knit across 30 sts on front holder, pick up and knit 30 (30: 33: 33: 36) sts up right side of front neck, and 5 sts down right side of back neck, knit across 46 (46: 48: 48: 50) sts on back holder, then pick up and knit 5 sts up left side of back neck. [146 (146: 154: 154: 162) sts] Beg with patt row 1 (so that WS of patt is RS of collar once turned back), work in patt as given for Back until collar meas approx 22cm from pick-up row, ending after patt row 1.

#### Cast off.

Join left shoulder and collar seam, reversing collar seam for last 14cm. Mark points along side seam edges 20 (21: 22: 23: 24)cm either side of shoulder seams (to denote base of armhole openings).

Place centre of cast-off edge of sleeve to shoulder seam. Sew top of sleeve to body. Join side and sleeve seams, reversing side seams for first 6cm and sleeve seams for first 4cm. Around lower edge of body, fold 5cm to right side (so that WS of work shows) and neatly sew in place. Around lower edge of sleeves, fold 3cm to RS (so that WS of work shows) and neatly sew in

NEXT MONTH KNIT A FLATTERING JUMPER WITH SIMPLE LACE DETAILS. ISSUE 142, FEBRUARY, WILL BE IN THE SHOPS FROM FRIDAY 1 JANUARY.

place. Fold collar in half to RS (so WS of



The combination of Merino wool and alpaca gives this knit a super-soft feel.



The chunky roll neck offsets the slim silhouette, giving a sophisticated finish.



A combination of slipped stitches and cables creates a textured, intricate effect.



patt shows).

This women's pattern by Gemma Atkinson is from Rowan Knitting & Crochet Magazine 58. To find a stockist and for more info go to www.knitrowan.com or call 01484 681881.









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# Meet a designer who wants knitters to have



Since Claire Fairall discovered felting, she hasn't looked back! She now makes fabulous bags, toys and homeware using the technique.

y learning tends to be led by my designing," says Leicester-based knitter Claire Fairall. "I'll learn a technique to meet the needs of a new pattern I'm developing or a yarn I want to work with. Then I'll start creating patterns just to play with my new technique."

It's a practical and enjoyable way for Claire to make sure her knitting remains interesting and challenging. "I learnt short row shaping so I could create teddy bear paws and ended up making a menagerie of felt toys, then some felted multicoloured mats and coasters using short rows and modular knitting.

### **FABULOUS FELT**

Claire was drawn to felt for a simple reason: because it's fun! "Projects are forgiving for new knitters, as once the knitting is shrunk no one sees mistakes," she says. "Wobbly edges disappear and if you added or lost stitches along the way no one knows! The magic of seeing a piece of oddly-proportioned knitting transform into thick, tactile felt still excites me."

Claire finds the design challenges of felting satisfying as well: "Felt shrinks more in length than it does in width, so creating soft curves for bags or detailed ears for a teddy is interesting. There's always another direction felting can take me, whether it's a new technique like modular knitting or creating a new soft toy character."

### **ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES**

Soon after she discovered felted knitting, Claire decided she wanted to make herself a bag. "I couldn't find a pattern I liked so I took what I'd learnt from making felted slippers and used the techniques to create a curvy handbag."

"My daughter and her friends loved it so I started making more," Claire says. "I started playing with the design and before I knew it I had five bag patterns!" Each pattern is named after a member of Claire's family, like the 'Charlotte' handbag, named after her sister. The next step was to start making and selling her bags at craft fairs. "I came up with new ideas in response to customer comments and requests.

It was some time before I started to sell my patterns."

Designing, Claire says, is a passion both in terms of the process itself, and the creative challenge it presents her with. "Designing motivates me to visit shows, libraries and museums. It keeps my sketch book by my side, and excuses me gazing out of the window thinking for whole afternoons!"

These days Claire receives frequent pattern commissions, and has discovered that Ravelry is a great place for support. "The best thing about Ravelry is the great community of folk who use it. My early listings quickly improved with the generous encouragement of my customers, and the forums are a friendly place to get advice."

Knitting remains a joy, too. "I love to sit in the sun or a cosy chair, letting the yarn slip over my needles as the hours slide past. I love the challenge of creating something three-dimensional from a written pattern, wool and patience." Written by Judy Darley

Find Claire's patterns at www.ravelry. com/stores/claire-fairall-designs.



From left to right: The 'Charlotte' handbag, named after Claire's sister; two of her handy Japanese knot bags; bright, multi-coloured modular mats; Claire loves the challenge of creating designs such as this teddy bear.



### UK Alpaca BABY ALPACA AND SILK 4-PLY

BALL WEIGHT 50g
BALL LENGTH 225m
YARN CONTENT 80% baby
alpaca, 20% Tussah silk
KNITS AS 4ply
RRP from £8.80
REC NEEDLE SIZE 2¾mm-3½mm



### Mabel & Ivy SUPERSOFT

BALL WEIGHT 50g
BALL LENGTH 287m
YARN CONTENT 100% pure wool
KNITS AS light fingering
RRP £4.20
REC NEEDLE SIZE 3-3½mm



Alpaca and silk is a match made in heaven, creating a beautifully cosy yarn with a luxurious sheen. The baby alpaca fleeces used for this yarn are hand-selected for their softness, resulting in a fabric that's exquisite to touch.

The yarn is available in natural parchment and a variety of classic muted

shades. It would be perfect for light and airy heirloom shawls, and there are some beautiful patterns to choose from on the UK Alpaca website. You'll also find designs for a fitted vest top and silky-soft sweater.

Wash on wool cycle at low temperature, or hand wash. www.ukalpaca.com 01884 243579 Mabel & Ivy is Tangled Yarn's own yarn label, and this 100% pure new wool yarn is a real winner for winter. Situated between lace and 4ply weight, with a two-ply construction, it's ideal for warm accessories and lighter weight jumpers to take you through to springtime.

Supersoft comes in a huge range of 83 shades, including

neutrals, bold brights and everything in between, making it a great choice for colourwork. Slight variations in the dyeing also give the knitted fabric lots of depth and character.

It's suitable for cold machine washing, and becomes softer after its first wash.

www.tangled-yarn.co.uk 01612 170858





### Cashmered 100% CASHMERE

BALL WEIGHT 25q BALL LENGTH 160m YARN CONTENT 100% cashmere **KNITS AS 3ply** RRP £13.95 **REC NEEDLE SIZE 3mm** 



### Rowan **FINEST**

BALL WEIGHT 25q **BALL LENGTH 87m** YARN CONTENT 50% wool, 30% alpaca, 20% cashmere KNITS AS 4ply RRP £6.50 **REC NEEDLE SIZE 31/4mm** 



This 100% cashmere yarn is the height of affordable luxury. Made in Italy, it uses best quality Grade A cashmere to produce garments that are warm but not weighty. As well as being a joy to work with, the yarn is super-soft and begs to be worn next to the skin.

Mallard (shown) is one of 22 colours in the range, which

features a good mix of cool and warm shades. Pattern support includes baby knits to pass down through the generations, from tiny beanie hats to flowing christening gowns, while for adults there are classic jumpers and modern accessories.

Hand wash cold and dry flat. www.cashmered.net 01242 256797

For a classic solid-colour yarn that will add elegance and comfort to your wardrobe while staying in style for many years to come, we recommend this sumptuous blend of wool, alpaca and cashmere.

Finest is very evenly spun, giving good stitch definition and a neat, consistent fabric. Show it off with dainty textures or intricate cables - there are lots to choose from in the accompanying Rowan Finest collection by Sarah Hatton. The colour palette covers pale and strong shades to suit a wide variety of skin tones.

Hand wash this yarn and iron on a low heat.

www.knitrowan.com 01484 681881



### Lang Yarns **SILKMERINO**

BALL WEIGHT 50a **BALL LENGTH 150m** YARN CONTENT 58% Merino wool, 38% silk, 4% polyester KNITS AS aran RRP £8.25 REC NEEDLE SIZE 41/2-5mm



### Juniper Moon Farm **MOONSHINE**

BALL WEIGHT 100a BALL LENGTH 180m YARN CONTENT 40% wool, 40% alpaca, 20% silk KNITS AS worsted RRP £12.95 REC NEEDLE SIZE 41/2mm



Haven't heard of Juniper Moon Farm? You're in for a treat! This independent American seller creates some gorgeous yarns, including Moonshine, a special blend of wool, alpaca and silk.

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The Cotton Candy colourway (above) is one of many bold, on-trend shades, all with subtle variations in their colours. Pattern leaflets are available for tops, jumpers and more.

Hand wash this yarn in mild detergent and do not wring. For stockist information contact www.intercontinental yarns.co.uk 01535 664222

If you're searching for a little extravagance at a modest price, look no further than this luscious blend from Lang Yarns. Silkmerino is a springy single ply yarn with a nubbly texture that adds interest to the fabric. The silk gives it a flattering drape that works well with fitted garments - look for aran patterns in a mix of wool

and silk. We think simple textures or lace designs would make this yarn really shine.

There's something for everyone in the colour range, whether you prefer subdued, sophisticated pale shades or eye-catching jewel tones.

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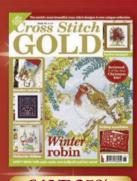
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or many of us, Christmas really is the most wonderful time of the year, filled with family, food and all the holiday merriment that goes with the snowy white dream. But for the thousands of homeless who face spending Christmas on the streets, the cheerful celebrations can amplify the loneliness of their present and flag up the uncertainty of the future. After all, what would Christmas be without a tree, some turkey or – most precious of all – a roof over your head?

But thanks to the national homeless charity Crisis, the door to a peaceful holiday is open to everyone and they're now calling on knitters and craft enthusiasts to help them spread the Christmas cheer far and wide.

Running from 23-30 December, Crisis centres across the country offer warmth, companionship and hot meals for anyone who needs them. Set to go the extra mile, they're also looking for a sewing service team who can fix up guests' belongings, whether stitching on buttons or taking up hems, and people to run craft classes in everything from knitting to T-shirt making, helping guests try something new and develop their creative talents.

For Diane Stilwell, who has volunteered with the charity for almost a decade, it's a win-win situation. "I get to do something I enjoy that makes a real difference to the guests. It's a great feeling when you've restored someone's treasured coat or rucksack so that it will survive another winter," she explains.

Homelessness has increased markedly in recent years, with rough sleeping rising by 55% since 2010 and by 14% in the last year alone. Jon Sparkes, Chief Executive of Crisis, feels that the statistics somehow sting most at this time of year. "Christmas

can be a lonely, isolating time for those without a home to call their own," he says. "This year has seen an alarming rise in the number of rough sleepers, all of whom deserve the shelter, companionship and support many of us take for granted."

Jon says that the compassion and dedication from Crisis volunteers is needed now more than ever. "By helping to make Christmas happen for homeless people, volunteers can not only bring some much-needed cheer, they can also give guests a chance to have a more positive year ahead."

Diane insists that everyone from all walks of life can bring something as a volunteer. "Don't worry that you'll be asked to do something beyond your capabilities – there's always someone to ask and help," she says. • Written by Catriona Burns For more information about Crisis at Christmas, visit www.crisis.org.uk.

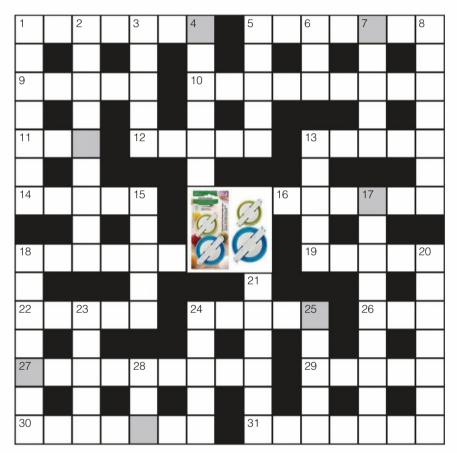


From left to right:
Volunteers with craft
skills can offer invaluable
help by mending guests'
clothes or teaching them
their know-how; guests
gain confidence by
developing new skills
and learning how to
make and mend things.

# PRIZE PUZZLES

Parplelinda Grafts

As a crossword prize five people will get £10 worth of goodies from Purplelinda Crafts (www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk). Ten lucky sudoku prize winners can make a whole pile of pocket-sized festive gifts with the adorable Mini Knitted Christmas by Sue Stratford, courtesy of Search Press (www.searchpress.com, 01892 510850).



#### Across

- Meat vendor (7)
- Pre-ordered taxi (7)
- Stitches per inch measure (5)
- Spaghetti ---, Italian dish (9)
- Curve (3)
- 12 Church communion table (5)
- 13 Sew together loosely and temporarily (5)
- 14 Welcome (5)
- 16 Popular bird eaten at Christmas (6)
- 18 Expel (6)
- 19 Find a solution (5)
- 22 Arrogant (5)
- 24 Father Christmas (5)
- 26 Navigational chart (3)
- Compensate, refund (9)
- Milky coffee (5)
- 30 Enigma (7) 31 Gossips (7)

#### Down

- The --- Theory, US sitcom (3,4)
- Police baton (9)
- Laughing mammal? (5)
- Automatons (6)
- Large tooth (5)
- Harass, badger (3)
- Strategic game (5) Beer-making
- facility (7)
- 13 Feelings of sadness or depression (5)
- 15 Delicious (5)
- 17 Unit of length (9)
- 18 Stiff, open-weave fabric (7)
- 20 Fast train (7)
- 21 Apprentice (6)
- 23 Chocolate stocking filler (5)
- 24 Word of apology (5)
- 25 Allocate (5)
- 28 Honey-producing insect (3)

Issue 139 solution Across: 1 Disturb, 5 Possess, 9 Child, 10 Billiards, 11 It's, 12 Rally, 13 Carve, 14 Epoch, 16 Eyelet, 18 Allots, 19 Timid, 22 Aargh, 24 Snack, 26 UFO, 27 Retaliate, 29 Icing, 30 Midwife, 31 Present. wn: 1 Decline, 2 Swiss roll, 3 Under, 4 Bobble, 5 Polly, 6 Ski, 7 Error, 8 Suspect, 13 Crypt, 15 Hutch, 17 Limousine, 18 Anagram, 20 Drought, 21 Make-up, 23 Rated, 24 Scare, 25 K-wise, 28 Lei. Prize word: Firework

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To enter any of our competitions visit www.simplyknitting.co.uk and click on the 'Competitions' tab. Then, all you have to do is enter the correct code, your name and your address. You will need an email address to enter online, but if you don't have one of your own, feel free to use ours! Just type simplyknitting@immediate.co.uk into the box on the form.

Here are this month's competition codes: Crossword: SKXWORD141 (then a space

followed by the Prize Puzzle Word) Sudoku: SKSUDOKU141 (then a space followed by the Prize Number)

Knitting chart holder: SKCHART141

Show tickets: SKSHOW141

Find full terms and conditions on p32. The competitions close on 1 January 2015.

		7		9	2	8		
4					8	7	3	
	6			4				1
9			2			5		
	2		4		6		7	
		5			9			3
7				8			1	
	4	1	6					7
		9	3	7		6		





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1	6	5	8	2	3	4	9	7
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7	9	3	6	5	4	2	1	8
9	4	1	2	3	6	8	7	5
8	7	2	5	4	9	3	6	1
5	3	6	7	8	1	9	4	2
4	1	8	9	7	2	6	5	3
6	5	9	3	1	8	7	2	4
3	2	7	4	6	5	1	8	9

**ISSUE 139 SOLUTION** 

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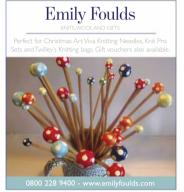
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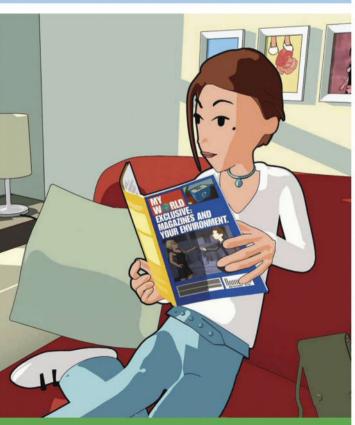


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# MAKE IT EASY

Everything you need to know to help you make the most of the projects in this issue!



THREE-NEEDLE CAST-OFF Join seam by casting off two sets of stitches together.



Hold your knitting so both pieces Hold your knitting so both pieces have the WS facing out. Put the tip of a third needle knitwise through the first stitch on both needles.



2 Knit both stitches together, dropping them from the needles.



Repeat this for both needles. Repeat this for the second stitch on



Now cast off one of the stitches on the third needle, just as you would when working a regular cast off.



KFB Increase 1 by knitting into front and back



Insert the tip of the right-hand needle into the front of the stitch and knit as normal, but don't drop it from the left-hand needle.



Then take the right-hand needle behind the left and insert the tip of the needle down through the back of the stitch on the left-hand needle.



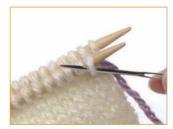
3 Wrap the yarn round the tip of the right-hand needle to knit the stitch. Bring the needle through to make the stitch, keeping it on the right-hand needle



 $4^{\text{Take}}$  the stitch off the left-hand needle. You will have increased one stitch by knitting twice into the original stitch, first at the front, then at the back.



KITCHENER STITCH This creates an invisible join between two pieces of knitting.



1 Cut the yarn, leaving a long tail. Thread yarn purlwise through the first stitch at the front and knitwise through the first stitch at the back.



2 Back to the front. Pass through first stitch knitwise, then slip the stitch from the needle. Sew into the next front stitch purlwise, pulling the yarn through both stitches



3 Take the sewing needle to the back needle and 'purl' a stitch, then slip that stitch from the needle. 'Knit' into the next stitch on the back needle.



 $4^{\text{Repeat steps 2-3 across until all the} \atop \text{stitches have been grafted and}$ weave the yarn in to finish off neatly.

### How to Knit

CAST ON: CABLE METHOD Use it for a firm edge, and when adding stitches in your work.



Make a slip knot. Insert right-hand needle into the stitch as if to knit. Wrap the yarn around the point and pull through, slipping the stitch on to the left-hand needle.



2 Push the point of the right-hand needle between the first and second stitches. Wrap the yarn anti-clockwise round the point of the right-hand needle.



3 Pull the loop out with the righthand needle, then slip it over the tip of the left-hand needle.



4 Repeat steps 2-3 until you have the number of stitches you require.

### KNIT Follow our simple steps to make the most important stitch you'll learn.



Hold the needle with the stitches on it in your left hand. Keeping the yarn in your right hand and at the back of your work, insert the point of the right-hand needle up into the front loop of the first stitch, as shown.



Wind the yarn anti-clockwise around the point of the right-hand needle using your index finger. It's important to keep the yarn in your right hand relatively taut to maintain an even tension as you go.



Bring the right-hand needle down through the loop, making sure that you catch the yarn you wound around the needle. This creates the stitch. Don't pull the free yarn too tightly, let out some slack.



4 Push the point of the right needle further through the stitch you created, then gently pull the right needle up and to your left, taking the original loop with it. You've now created one knit stitch. Repeat points 1-4 across the row.

### PURL To make purl stitches, just reverse the action of plain knit stitches.



1 Holding the needle with all the stitches on in your left hand, and ensuring that the yarn is at the front of your work, insert the right-hand needle down through the front loop of your first stitch as shown.



2 Wind the yarn around the tip of the right-hand needle from right to left, in an anti-clockwise motion, constantly keeping a slight tension on the yarn.



Now slip the right-hand needle back through the stitch, ensuring that you catch the yarn that you've already wound around the needle. This creates a stitch on your right-hand needle.



Pushing the point of the right-hand needle a little further through the stitch you've just created, pull the original loop up and off the left-hand needle. That's your first purl stitch!

Repeat points 1-4 across the row.

### CAST OFF Finish off your knitting with this straightforward cast-off technique.



Start by knitting the first two stitches of the row as normal, but don't go any further along as you usually would.



2 Insert the left-hand needle through the first stitch, as shown. Lift this stitch over the other stitch on the right-hand needle and over the needle point.



3 Knit another stitch so you have two on the right needle. Lift the first stitch over the second, then repeat steps 1-3.



When you get to the last stitch, cut the yarn about 15cm (6in) away, feed it through the loop and pull through firmly to fasten off.

### How to Crochet

CHAIN STITCH This is the foundation of all crochet stitches.



About 15cm (6in) from the end of the yarn, make a loop with the ball end on top. Insert the hook through this loop and catch the yarn, pulling it through the loop. Slide the slipknot up to the hook.



2 With the hook in your right hand, hold the slipknot between thumb and finger of the left hand. Move the hook under and over the yarn.



**3** Pull the hook and yarn back through the slipknot loop to form your first chain (ch) stitch. Now repeat steps 1-2 until you've formed a chain.



4 This is what your row of chains will look like. Keep going until you have the number of chains that are stated on your pattern. (Don't count the slipknot.)

### SLIP STITCH This stitch won't add height.



Insert the hook from front to back under the top of the second chain from the hook. Wrap the yarn round the hook (this is known as yrh).



2 Pull the yarn through both loops on the hook to make a slip stitch (sl st). To carry on working a row of slip stitches, insert the hook into the next chain down and so on, repeating step 2

### FOUNDATION RING Carry on for a spiral.



Make a short length of foundation chain as stated in your pattern instructions, for example, ch 5. Insert hook into the first chain.



 $2^{\text{Close the ring with a slip stitch (yarn round hook and pull through). You}$ can continue the spiral. If working in the round, add a stitch marker here.

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### **MATTRESS STITCH**

Thread your yarn on to a needle, then weave along an edge to where you want to start. Bring it to the front between the first and second stitches of this edge, then insert the needle between the first two stitches of the other edge. Bring it back up through the opposite piece, between the two stitches and below the horizontal strand you just made. Keep stitching in this way, pulling the yarn tight every few stitches.



### **BACKSTITCH**

First, pin your two pieces together and secure the yarn by making a couple of stitches over each other at the base of the seam. Now working from right to left, bring the needle up a couple of stitches away at 11. Take the needle down at 2 and up again at 3. Repeat, keeping the stitches regular and ensuring you put the needle through the middle of each knitted stitch to avoid splitting the fabric.





M1L

M1R

M<sub>1</sub>P

### Abbreviations & Useful Info

alt	alternate	P/p	purl	ssp	slip 2 sts one at a time,
approx	approximately	patt(s)	pattern(s)		purl 2 slipped stitches
beg	beginning	patt			together through back
C2B	slip next st to cn &	rep(s)	pattern repeat(s)		of the loops (1 stitch
	hold at back, K1;	PB	place bead	-+/-\	decreased)
C2F	K1 from cn	pfb	purl into front and back	st(s)	stitch(es)
CZF	slip next st to cn & hold at front, K1;	PM	of stitch	st st tbl	stocking stitch
	K1 from cn	P2tog	place marker	tbi	through the back of the
C4B	slip next 2 sts to cn &	FZtog	purl 2 stitches together (1 stitch decreased)	T2B	loop slip next st to cn &
C4D	hold at back, K2; K2	P3tog	purl 3 stitches together	120	hold at back, K1;
	from cn	ratog	(2 stitches decreased)		P1 from cn
C4F	slip next 2 sts to cn &	prov	previous	T2F	slip next st to cn &
C+1	hold at front, K2; K2	prev psso	pass slipped stitch over	121	hold at front, P1;
	from cn	p2sso	pass 2 slipped stitches		K1 from cn
C6B	slip next 3 sts to cn &	pzsso	over	T5L	slip next 3 sts to cn &
COD	hold at back, K3; K3	p(1)tbl	purl (1) into back loop	132	hold at front, P2; K3
	from cn	pwise	purlwise; by purling the		from cn
C6F	slip next 3 sts to cn &	pwise	stitch	T5R	slip next 2 sts to cn &
001	hold at front, K3; K3	rem	remain/remaining	1010	hold at back, K3; P2
	from cn	rep(s)	repeat(s)		from cn
cb	cable back	rev st st		tog	together
CC	contrast colour	RH	right hand	W3	Wrap 3 stitches – with
cf	cable forward	rib2tog	either k2tog or p2tog		yarn held at back of
cn	cable needle	3	dep on what next st in		work, slip next 3 sts to
со	cast on		ribbing should be		cable needle and
cont	continue		(keeps ribbing looking		hold at front of work.
dec	decrease(ing) (by		neat on buttonholes)		Wrap yarn 3 times
	working two stitches	rnd(s)	round(s) (on a circular		around these 3 sts,
	together)		needle/DPNs)		being careful not to
est	established	RS	right side		pull it too tight and
DK	double knitting	RT	right twist		ending up with yarn at
DPNs	double-pointed	skpo	slip 1 stitch, knit 1 stitch,		back of work. Slip the
	needles		pass slipped stitch over		3 sts to right needle
foll/s	following/follows		(1 stitch decreased)		without knitting them
g st	garter stitch (knit every	sk2po	slip 1 stitch, knit 2	WS	wrong side
	row)		stitches together, pass	wyib	with yarn at back
inc	increase (usually knit		slipped stitch over (2	wyif	with yarn in front
14.11	into same stitch twice)		stitches decreased)	ybk	yarn to the back
K/k	knit	sl	slip	yfwd	yarn forward
kfb	knit into front and back	sl st	slip stitch	yo	yarn over
It.	of stitch	sm	stitch marker	yrn	yarn round needle
kwise	knitwise; by knitting the	ssk	slip 2 stitches one at a	yon	yarn over needle
l-2+	stitch		time, knit 2 slipped	^	work instructions
k2tog	knit the next two		stitches together		immediately
I-/4\+ -	stitches together	le	(1 stitch decreased)		following *, then repear
k(1)tbl LH	knit (1) into back loop left hand	sssk	slip 3 sts one at a time,		as directed
LT	left twist		knit 3 slipped stitches		
meas	measure(s)		together (two stitches decreased)		
M1	make one by knitting		stitules decieased)		
	into back of loop				
	between two sts				
		I VA RNI	WEIGHT LIK/LIS CONV	/ERSIONI	

YARN WEIGHT UK/US CONVERSION					
4ply	Sport				
Double knitting	Light worsted				
Aran	Fisherman/Worsted				
Chunky	Bulky				
Super chunky	Extra bulky				

#### **NEEDLE SIZES** UK **METRIC** US 14 0 2<sub>mm</sub> 13 21/4mm 21/2mm 12 23/4mm 11 3mm 314mm 10 3½mm 9 334mm 5 8 4mm 6 7 7 41/2mm 8 5mm 5 51/2mm 9

6mm

61/2mm

7mm 7½mm

8mm

9mm

10mm

12mm

15mm 20mm

25mm

4

3

0

00

000

10

101/2

11

13

15

17 19

36

50

### **HOOK SIZES**

UK	METRIC	US
14	2mm	B/1
13	2.25mm	-
12	2.5mm	C/2
11	3mm	-
10	3.25mm	D/3
9	3.5mm	E/4
8	4mm	G/6
7	4.5mm	7
6	5mm	H/8
5	5.5mm	1/9
4	6mm	J/10
3	6.5mm	K/10½
2	7mm	-
0	8mm	-
00	9mm	-
000	10mm	-

### YARN WEIGHTS

(increase 1 stitch)

make one twisted to the left (increase 1 stitch)

make one twisted to the right (increase 1 stitch)

make one purlwise by purling into back of loop between two sts (increase 1 stitch) make a bobble main colour

### CHOOSE THE RIGHT YARNS TO KNIT WITH.

1, 2 & 3ply Knit on 2-3½mm needles. Use for delicate lace knitting and baby garments. Good for socks and gloves.

**4ply** Knit on 3-4mm needles.

Great for baby clothes, heavier socks and lightweight tops.

**Double knitting (DK)** Knit on 3½-4½mm needles. Usually double the weight of 4ply, this is the most widely used weight. Suitable for most garments and quick to knit up.

**Aran** Knit on 4-5½mm needles. Originally created for fishermen's jumpers. Use when DK isn't heavy enough, and chunky is too bulky. Perfect for outdoor or warm clothing.

**Chunky** Knit on 5½-7mm needles. Associated with outdoor wear and winter jumpers, great for oversized garments.

**Super chunky** Knit on 7-12mm needles. A great weight for beginners, as it produces quick results. Good for furnishings.

**Big** Knit on 9-20mm needles. Perfect for eye-catching scarves and coats, as well as cosy cushions and throws.

THE WASHINGTON THE WASHINGTON TO THE STREET





### YOU WILL NEED

■ John Arbon Textiles, Alpaca Sock Yarn (60% alpaca, 20% Exmoor Blueface wool, 20% nylon, 100g/309m)

1 skein of: Yarn A Oatmeal 1 skein of: Yarn B Sapphire YARDAGE NOTE

If you are knitting the large size for feet bigger than UK 7, you will need an extra skein of Yarn A

- A set of 2¼mm DPNs (or circular needle, 60cm long for Magic Loop method)
- 3 stitch markers For varn stockists contact John Arbon Textiles 01598 752490 www.jarbon.com

#### TENSION

Yarn used knits as 4ply to this tension: 32 sts and 44 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st using 21/4mm needles

NOTE You may find you need a larger needle for the colourwork sections if you struggle to maintain the same tension between stocking stitch and colourwork. Adjust accordingly to maintain even tension

### SI7F

To fit foot circumference up to 21 (23: 26)cm / 81/4 (9: 101/4)in

### **ABBREVIATIONS**

For a full list see page 90

old colourwork and eye-catching contrast details mean these socks are striking - yet they're very easy to knit. Worked from the top down with a standard heel flap and simple-to-work wedge toe, the end result looks more complicated than it actually is. You're guaranteed to impress everyone with your sock-knitting skills. Too nice to hide in boots, wear these socks with shoes and a skirt and show them off!



#### NOTE

If you prefer a more relaxed cuff you can knit in standard rib without twisting the knit stitches.



Cast on 56 (64: 72) sts using 21/4mm needles and Yarn B. Join for working in the round, being careful not to twist. PM for start of round.

Round 1 \*K1tbl, P1; rep from \* to end. Rep this round until the cuff meas 3cm, or desired length.

#### LEG

Next round Knit.

Change to Yarn A.

Rounds 1-4 Knit.

Rounds 5-18 Work from Chart.

Chart repeats 14 (16: 18) times around. Next round Change to Yarn A and knit. Continue to knit every round in Yarn A

until Leg meas 12cm or desired length.

### HEEL

Change to Yarn B.

Work back and forth in rows over the first 28 (32: 36) sts as folls:

Row 1 \*SI1, K1; rep from \* to end.

Row 2 Sl1, P to end.

Rep last 2 rows 12 (14: 16) times more. [26 (30: 34) rows worked]

### **HEEL TURN**

Row 1 (RS) SI1, K16 (18: 20), ssk, K1. [1 st dec'd]

Row 2 (WS) Sl1, P7, p2tog, P1.

[1 st dec'd]

Row 3 SI1, K to 1 st before gap, ssk, K1, turn. [1 st dec'd]

Row 4 Sl1, P to 1 st before gap, p2tog, P1, turn. [1 st dec'd]

Rep rows 3 & 4 until all sts have been worked and 18 (20: 22) sts rem.

### GUSSET

Change to Yarn A.

Round 1 K18 (20: 22), pick up and knit 13 (15: 17) sts, M1, PM(A), knit instep,



This geometric Fair Isle pattern is worked from a chart and repeats around the leg.

PM(B), M1, pick up and knit 13 (15: 17) sts, K9 (10: 11), PM for new beg of round.

[74 (84: 94) sts]

Round 2 K to 2 sts before marker, k2tog, sm, knit across instep, sm, ssk, K to end. [2 sts dec'd]

Round 3 Knit.

Rep rounds 2 & 3 a further 8 (9: 10) times. [56 (64: 72) sts]

Next round Knit to M(A), this is now the start of your round.

#### Next round Knit.

Rep last round until Foot meas 3.5 (4: 5) cm less than total desired Foot length. **Next round** Work 1 round in Yarn B.

Next round Work 1 round in Yarn A. Rep last 2 rounds once more.

### TOE

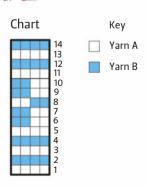
Change to Yarn B.

Round 1 \*K1, ssk, K to 3 sts before marker, k2tog, K1; rep from \* once more. [4 sts dec'd]

Round 2 Knit.

Rep rounds 1 & 2 a further 9 (10: 12) times. [16 (20: 20) sts]

Use Kitchener stitch to graft the toe closed.



### HOW TO USE OUR CHARTS

Start at the bottom right-hand corner. Read right side rows from right to left and wrong side rows from left to right. A row of squares represents a row of knitting.



### STITCH LIBRARY

## MAJESTIC MOSS

Knit tantalisingly textured patterns with moss stitch and stocking stitch combos.







### SPECKLED CABLES

Cast on a multiple of 12 sts.

Row 1 (RS) K1, (K1, P1) 5 times, K1.

Row 2 P1, (K1, P1) 5 times, P1.

Row 3 K1, (P1, K1) 5 times, K1.

Row 4 P1, (P1, K1) 5 times, P1.

Repeat rows 1–4 three more times.

Row 17 K1, (K1, P1) 5 times, K1.

Row 18 P1, (K1, P1) 5 times, P1.

Row 19 K1, Tw10, K1.

Row 20 P1, (P1, K1) 5 times, P1.

Rows 1–20 form pattern.

### CHEQUERBOARD

**Cast on** a multiple of 12 sts plus 7. **Row 1** (RS) K3, P1, K3, \*P2, K1, P2, K3, P1, K3; rep from \* to end.

**Row 2 and all WS rows** K the K sts and P the P sts.

Row 3 K2, P1, K1, P1, K2, \*P2, K1, P2, K2, P1, K1, P1, K2; rep from \* to end. Row 5 (K1, P1) 3 times, K1, \*P2, K1, P2, (K1, P1) 3 times, K1; rep from \* to end. Row 7 K2, P1, K1, P1, K2, \*P2, K1, P2, K2, P1, K1, P1, K2; rep from \* to end. Row 9 K3, P1, K3, \*P2, K1, P2, K3, P1, K3; rep from \* to end.

Row 11 (K1, P2) twice, \*K3, P1, K3, P2, K1, P2; rep from \* to last st, K1. Row 13 (K1, P2) twice, \*K2, P1, K1, P1, K2, P2, K1, P2; rep from \* to last st, K1. Row 15 (K1, P2) twice, \*(K1, P1) 3 times, (K1, P2) twice; rep from \* to last st, K1. Row 17 (K1, P2) twice, \*K2, P1, K1, P1, K2, P2, K1, P2; rep from \* to last st, K1. Row 19 (K1, P2) twice, \*K3, P1, K3, P2, K1, P2; rep from \* to last st, K1. Row 19 (K1, P2) twice, \*K3, P1, K3, P2, K1, P2; rep from \* to last st, K1. Row 20 K the K sts and P the P sts. Rows 1–20 form pattern.

### STIPPLES & STRIPES

**Cast on** a multiple of 11 sts plus 5. **Row 1** (RS) K5, \*(K1, P1) 3 times, K5; rep from \* to end.

**Row 2** \*P5, (P1, K1) 3 times; rep from \* to last 5 sts, P5.

Rows 1 & 2 form pattern.

### **ABBREVIATIONS**

K knit P purl rep repeat st(s) stitch(es)

**Tw10** slip 5 sts to cable needle and hold in front, P1, K1, P1, K1, P1, then K1, P1, K1, P1, K1 from cable needle



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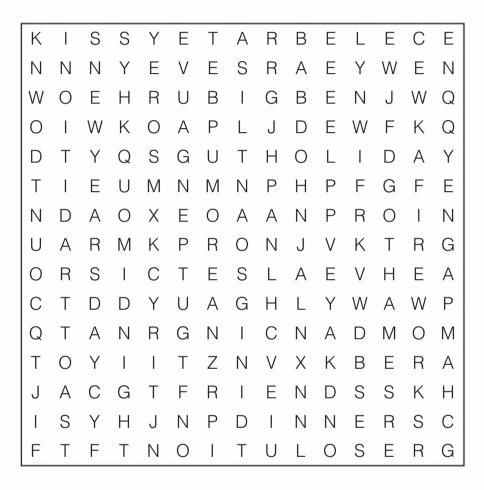
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# JUST FOR FUN

Get a cuppa and enjoy a brainstretcher and a giggle with the Knitall family. Can you find the word that's missing from the list?



### WORDSEARCH

All of these New Year words can be found in the grid, but there's one that's not listed. Have a go at finding it and next issue we'll tell you which it was. There's no prize – just satisfaction!

BALLOONS / BIG BEN
CELEBRATE / CHAMPAGNE
COUNTDOWN / DANCING
DINNER / FRIENDS
HOGMANAY / HOLIDAY
JANUARY / KISS
MIDNIGHT
NEW YEAR'S DAY
NEW YEAR'S EVE
PARTY / RESOLUTION
THAMES / TOAST
TRADITION

Last issue's word: NATIVITY











See more of Malcolm's great art work on his website www.malcolm-bird.co.uk

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FEBRUARY ISSUE ON SALE FRIDAY 1 JANUARY 2016





# On the needles

## PATMENCHINI

This talented designer shares her favourite things.



**BEST KNITTING MEMORY** My granny taught me to knit when I was five and I remember sitting on a little stool at her feet. The stool still has pride of place in our house. The first thing I actually knitted was a doll's outfit when I was about six or seven. I then progressed to an early school sweater. I can still remember the exact design!

**BEST HOBBIES** Gardening and going for walks with our beautiful dog, Maggie.

**BEST CHILDHOOD AMBITION** A fashion designer. I actually achieved this as I worked as an assistant designer for two couturiers after leaving art school. The extraordinary thing is that I made a special outfit from a gorgeous Jaeger yarn that I then cut and sewed into a cowl neck top and slim skirt. I even lined the skirt. Of course, I also knitted a beret to match. This must have been an omen for my future career!

**BEST COLOURS** I'm always drawn to vibrant and cool colours in interesting combinations.

**BEST INSPIRATION** People ask me this a lot and it's very hard to pinpoint. Sometimes I'll just see something such as a collar and it gives rise to thinking about transferring that into a knitting project. Often something from a design I've just finished will lead to the next idea. At the moment I'm designing a shawl in shaped lace segments.



**BEST HOLIDAY KNITTING TIP** I usually try not to get involved in too much knitting when on holiday, but I do often take some balls of yarn and needles with me for swatching. My family are unhappy if I work when we're away, but sometimes it's necessary when a deadline is looming!

BEST PLACE TO LIVE Cornwall or Italy.

**BEST DISTRACTION** I'm pretty good at not neglecting my duties when I'm knitting, but dinner can sometimes be late on the table!

**BEST PIECE OF ADVICE** Just keep going! Once you've made an item you can actually wear, you'll be hooked.

Turn to page 24 for Pat's pattern for a women's jacket, and page 45 for her men's cable jumper. See more of her designs at www.ravelry.com/designers/pat-menchini.











# Debbie Bliss

Baby Cashmerino 6





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\* Poncho \* Christmas
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\* Shaun the Sheep hat \*
Donkey hoodie \* Festive
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Cable and lace socks \*
Seaside cushion \* Boy's
jumper \* Key ring trio \*
Scallop-edged top \* Hot
pink top \* Alan Dart's sea
creature mobile \* Lacy
scarf \* Rosebud tea cosy
\* Holiday knits Collection
\* Lace and stripe top



### Issue 135 July 2015

Textured soft pink cardigan \* Animal wash mitts \* Trendy tear-detail cardigan \* Al fresco tableware Collection \* Kimono-style cardigan \* Lacy green T-shirt \* Beach bag \* Handy pet organiser \* Alan Dart's Pretty Polly



### Issue 134 June 2015

Lace tee \* Robot bib \*
Cable tunic \* Shopping
bag \* Father's Day
Collection \* Long-line
coral jumper \* Catthemed child's set \*
Men's shawl collar
cardigan \* Alan Dart's
Odd Job Man \* Fair Isle
ankle socks



### Issue 133 May 2015

Textured summer T-shirt

\*Men's round-neck
jumper \*Crochet
wristwarmers \*Baby
pirate outfit \*Tartan
collection \*Cable jumper
\*Appliqué bunting \*
Stocking stitch cardi \*
Casual ankle socks \*Alan
Dart's Raoul Raccon



### Issue 132 Spring 2015

Lacy cardi \* Ribbed jumper \* Ruffle-edged cardi \* Men's Fair Isle jumper \* Kids' tunic \* Cable cushion \* Lace socks \* Chic kitchen collection \* flower brooch trio \* Donkey purse \* Alan Dart's Hickory Dickory Dock



### Issue 131 April 2015

Boat-neck jumper \* Easy cable poncho \* Fair Isle cowl \* Casual cardigan \* Finger puppets \* Shaun the Sheep mug hug \* Easter Collection \* Stylish waistcoat \* Cabled skirt \* Intarsia hottie cover \* Sporty ankle socks \* Alan Dart's Little Bo Sheep



### Issue 130 March 2015

Sparkly jumper \* Cowl neck sweater \* Fair Isle top \* Child's tunic \* Alan Dart's Petey the Penguin \* Fair Isle zip jumper \* Craft Room Collection \* Cable bobble hat \* Stripy mittens \* Apple cushion \* Shaun the Sheep hat \* Basketweave socks



### Issue 129 February 2015

Chunky cardi \* Robot jumper \* Alan Dart's Sugar Plum Fairy \* Roll neck jumper \* Winter Warmers Set \* Textured bag \* Wrap cardi \* Men's cable cardi \* Fair Isle cushion \* Shoulder cape \* Mock cable socks PLUS! Scarf & hat pattern



### Issue 128 January 2015

Cable jumper \* Fair Isle roll neck \* Lace cardi \* Child's hoodie \* Bobbled tea cosy \* Six coin purses \* Legwarmers \* Light lace scarf \* Bedroom Collection \* Alan Dart's Grandma Holly \* Pig pencil case \* Dainty socks PLUS! Cowl pattern



# Fair Isle Fun

A bobble hat to knit for the family!



### YOU WILL NEED

■ Rooster, Almerino DK (50% baby alpaca, 50% Merino wool, 50g/113m) 1 ball of each:

Yarn A Blueberry

Yarn B Custard
Yarn C Starfish

- A pair of 3¾mm needles
- A pair of 4½mm needles
- Card for pompom (optional)

For yarn stockists, contact Rooster Yarns 01829 740903 www. roosteryarns.com

#### **TENSION**

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension: 21 sts and 28 rows to measure 10x10cm, (4x4in) over st pattern using 4mm needles

#### SI7F

To fit S (M: L) head 40 (45: 51.5)cm

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

**K1B/C** knit 1 in Yarn B/C

skpoC skpo in Yarn C

For a full list see page 90 of *Simply Knitting* magazine

Presented with issue 141 of *Simply Knitting*. Printed in the UK veryone needs a handmade bobble hat to see them through the cold winter months – so make it this one by Monica Russel! The Fair Isle pattern is super fun to work, and you'll be casting off your finished knit in no time.



Cast on 84 (96: 108) sts using 3¾mm needles and Yarn A.
Rows 1–10 (K2, P2) to end in Yarn A.
Rows 11–22 (K2, P2) to end in Yarn B.
Change to 4½mm needles.

Work rows 1–40 from Chart, using the Fair Isle technique.

Row 63 (SkpoC, K3B, K1C) to end. [70 (80: 90) sts] Row 64 (P2C, P1B, P2C) to end. Cont in Yarn C only: **Row 65** (Skpo, K3) to end. [56 (64: 72) sts] Row 66 and all even rows Purl. **Row 67** (Skpo, K2) to end. [42 (48: 54) sts] Row 69 (Skpo, K1) to end. [28 (32: 36) sts] Row 71 (Skpo) to end. [14 (16: 18) sts] Cut off yarn leaving a long tail for sewing up.

### TO MAKE UP Using a tapestry needle

thread yarn tail through rem sts and draw them up tightly. With RS

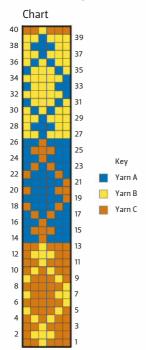


### FAIR ISLE HAT

facing, sew up back seam until you reach the second colour of cuff. Sew this rib with WS facing so that when you turn it back the seam is not noticeable. Weave in all ends and make a pompom in Yarn A to sew to the top of the hat. 🕦

### **HOW TO USE OUR CHARTS**

Start at the bottom right-hand corner. Read RS rows from right to left and WS rows from left to right. A row of squares represents a row of knitting.





A long ribbed edge, striped to match the rest of the hat, helps to give a close fit – ideal for keeping your ears warm!



MAKES A GREAT LAST-Minute gift!



