

21 Must-See Novelty Knits! CUTE CHARACTERS & FUN MAKES FOR ALL!

ISSUE 112 Nov 2016



YULE LOVE OUR FESTIVE IDEAS!

Start Lenny the cat tonight!

TOYS FOR

BFGINNFR

THE UK'S BESTSELLING KNIT MAG







REAL

HIS



WAS STILL

Readers confess!



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MAKE THIS IN

SIZES 6-30



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If you haven't started your Christmas knits vet then we're here to say, "Don't panic!" There's still plenty of time, and we've got heaps of helpful tips and ideas, not to mention some fantastic patterns that will easily be finished in time for the big day. The adorable Frosty & Friends are

a great place to start as we've provided all the yarn you need for free. Find the patterns in your bonus booklet, along with 11 other great gift ideas.

Before you commit yourself to too many festive knits check out our cautionary tales from readers on the perils of Christmas knitting, including Sewing Bee winner Charlotte Walford's lament on knitting socks for a husband with massive feet! You'll find it, along with some great tips for easing the burden, on page 62.

Feeling lucky this month? Turn to page 72, where we have over \pounds 3,000 of goodies to be won, including three amazing Stylecraft bundles worth £149. Plus we've got more great offers for you throughout the mag including 20% off at Wool & The Gang and a free pattern download. Just the treat you need after all that Christmas knitting!

We would love to see your makes from this issue - find the details below for how to get in touch. Happy knitting

sarah.neal@aceville.co.uk



Photo props to knit (p77)



Our top textured yarns (p65)



Fun festive homewares (p55)

ADORABLE! The cutest kits around (p33)

KnitPro Zing Double Pointed Needle set

THAT'S

Subscribe today and receive this terrific gift see page 34



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DISCLAIMER: We recommend that readers use the main specified yarn for every project as this will produce the best results. The alternatives given are suggestions only, and as no two yarns are exactly the same we advise readers to swatch an alternative yarn carefully before choosing to use it for their project. The publishers are not responsible for any safety issues the same we advise readers to swatch an alternative yarn carefully before choosing to use it for their project. ety issues arising from any items knitted from patterns contained within Let's Knit magazine. Prices are all correct at time of print

Isoto November 2016



Who cares? ... WE DO!

At Let's Knit we understand that nothing is more annoying than errors in knitting patterns. As part of our total commitment to ensuring that your experience of our magazine is as enjoyable as possible, we're proud to offer

> as soon as possible. By phone: 01206 508622 (office

> By email: support@letsknit.co.uk

on page 95 (please mark your envelope 'Support')

(Please note we cannot offer assistance with patterns not published in Let's Knit)

By post: at the address

THE LET'S KNIT PATTERN PROMISE:

• Exclusive patterns featured in Let's Knit have been professionally checked and reproduced with the utmost care. Updates can be found at www.letsknit.co.uk

• Should you encounter any problems we are more than happy to provide support and assistance. Contact us and we



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WIN OVER £3,000 OF PRIZES ON PAGE 72!



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This month's FREE GIFTS!

FROSTLY & FRIEN

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WHITE

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- FREE GIFT WHEN YOU SUBSCRIB
 See more on page 34











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*T&C's: additional £2 delivery charge on all orders. Limited stock available.



DON'T MISS! Free Wool & The Gang pattern download and exclusive discount! Read more on page 40.





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November Is the Month...

PERSONALISED TREATS

Just a note

Printed with a knitting motif and your own special message, these folded note cards are a great way to send your greetings of the season. £20 for ten, **01892 300711, www.fraserandparsley.com**

Time for a brew

We love these woolly hat-inspired mugs and you can even get them personalised, so no-one will pinch your mug in the office kitchen. \pounds 12.95 for two, **01202736414**, www.thekitchengiftco.com



Stocking up!

It may be machine knitted but we don't mind, not when the colourwork is as impressive as this! £42, **01603 627448**, www.charlottecot blankets.com



sj

LK reader Christine Rome has been super speedy and knitted up Jane Burns' Santa cushion from last issue. We think it looks brilliant. Well done, Christine!

Yarn NEWS!

Get yarn delivered to your door every month with Wool 'n' Stuff's new subscription box! Each Yarnaholic box comes with luxury yarn and exclusive patterns, and there are different options for knitting and crochet. They cost £27.99 per month with free postage, so why not ask Santa for one this Christmas? To learn more and for the terms and conditions, call **01924 565740** or go to **www.wooInstuff.co.uk/products/ subscription-box**



... TO KNIT YOUR CHRISTMAS **GIFTS. INDULGE IN COSY** YARNS AND SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP!

Share photos of

your Christmas

knits with us on

our Facebook

page!

Purrfect kitty

We love Louise Watling's knitted kitty in a festive red sweater! Find the easy-knit pattern on page 31!





EAMILY CHRISTMAS!

Knit your clan a co-ordinating trio of seasonal knits from Susie Johns, Find the patterns for free at www.letsknit.co.uk

FREE PATTERNS ONLINE

to download at www.knit rowan.com

It's scarf

season and this

charming design

from Sarah

Hatton is free



23rd

27th NOV

25th

27th

NOV

1st-4th

THE CHRISTMAS SHOPPING SHOW, MALVERN www.thechristmas

What to do, WHERE

OG

DON'T MISS THESE SPECIAL **CRAFTY SHOWS AND EVENTS!**

WOKING

CRAFT IN FOCUS,

www.craftinfocus.com

PRESENTS GALORE,

www.presentsgalore.org

COUNTRY LIVING

NEWMARKET

shoppingshow.co.uk



Don't Miss THIS!

BRITISH CRAFT WEEKENDS!

Starting on the 12th November and running across the five following weekends, Blackthorpe Barns in Suffolk is showcasing some of the UK's best designers and makers. Each weekend there will be over 60 exhibitors selling handcrafted goodies from gorgeous textiles to jewellery and ceramics. It's the perfect place to find a unique gift and entry is just $\pounds 2$ for adults. Children go free! Find out more at www.blackthorpebarn.com

WORKSHOPS TO BOOK NOW!

EXTREME KNIT MERINO SNOOD DATE: THURS 17TH NOV, LONDON PRICE: £35

Go super sized and super stylish with a maxi knit snood. What better way to spend an evening than knitting a cosy accessory? Email hello@imakeknots. com to reserve your colours or book online at www.imakeknots.com

🌗 FAIR ISLE HEART DATE: SAT 19TH NOVEMBER. WARRINGTON PRICE: £49.95

Decorate your home with a pretty Fair Isle heart. It's great for the Christmas season and you'll learn you how to master the technique and follow colourwork charts. 01925 764231, www.blacksheepwools.com

CROCHET FESTIVE **DECORATIONS** DATE: FRI 2ND DEC, CHORLTON PRICE: £24

Learn how to crochet adorable holly and star decorations in just two hours! They'd make great embellishments for all sorts of festive projects. 0161 881 6858, www.themakeitshop.co.uk



www.letsknit.co.uk

CUD OP JOUS



Heidi Wilkins brings you all the latest knitty news



New CRAFT STORE!

Knitters, we've got some exciting news, there's a new craft store on the scene (hoorah!) The site is jam packed with adorable craft kits for toys and garments alike, including these jolly elves. You're certain to find a new project for the festive season! Once you've knitted everything in LK, grab yourself some new kits from there. www.craftstoreuk.com

Did You

WOOL IS PERFECT TO WEAR DURING WINTER AS IT'S A NATURAL INSULATOR, BUT IT CAN ALSO WICK AWAY MOISTURE



.....

Xmas Bumper Box

Here at LK we're positively beaming over KnitPro's latest needle collection which combines two of our favourite things, music and knitting!

The box, named Melodie, includes eight colourful pairs of zing needles in a range of sizes, alongside knitting accessories. There's even a beautiful pair of knitted earrings, sure to jazz up any winter outfit. It costs \pounds 60, for a list of stockists please visit the website at www.knitpro.eu



Look alive knitters, as Stylecraft has announced its daily bumper Advent giveaway! Prizes such as subscriptions and special gifts from bloggers are up for grabs on the brand's facebook page, so be sure to enter every day. To kick it all off, Stylecraft is sharing this beautiful corsage pattern, free to download from www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk



CARRY THE FUTURE

Carry The Future is an American based charity which has helped over 4000 refugee families across the world, and this Christmas, it requires the help of us knitters! The organisation is looking for donations of handmade blankets approximately 32"x 32"- 48"x 48", as well as baby hats, gloves, and sweaters for ages 0 - 24 months. These items will be included in the charity's baby boxes that are distributed throughout refugee camps in Greece. All donations to be received by the end of the year at: Carry The Future, c/o Little GEMs, 243 Victoria Park Road, London E9 7HD. For more information please contact Erin@carrythefuture.org



Festive Flamingoes

Exotic animals aren't what you'd normally associate with Christmas, but James C. Brett's new line of crocheted toys, which includes a flamingo and an elephant, make for the most adorable stocking fillers. The collection is made from James C Brett's Flutterby, one of the softest yarns we know, which makes these cuddly toys perfect for little ones. For stockist information and to find out more, call **01274 565959** or email **sales@ jamescbrett.co.uk**



Ve asked **t**our readers...

"I love gift knitting for babies. There's nothing as cute as seeing a baby snuggled up in a hand-knit. So adorable"

MICHELLE BOLGER

"I enjoy knitting scarves. The other year I made over 30 for Christmas gifts." TRACY NOLL

WHO DO YOU LIKE TO KNIT FOR MOST?

"I love knitting blankets for my sons, scarves for my mom, tiny baby hats for the hospital, and complicated designs for myself."

SANDY DAVIS

"I knit for my nephew, friends & family. Plus lots of tiny hats for preemies & newborns at the hospitals"

MYNANNAKNITS

SNUG style

We're feeling spoilt for choice at Let's Knit, as Sirdar announces the release of three new yarns, and accompanying patterns! The new yarns, Gorgeous, Aura and Wild, are all unique in their texture and composition, but all equally suitable for creating beautiful garments. This striking poncho was crocheted using Aura in shade 133 Marni, and the pattern is available separately. For stockist information and to find out more, call **01924 371501** or visit **www.sirdar.co.uk**



Knit Kit

Gifts

.....

Moss Stitch Cushion Knit

This 100% wool cushion knit kit is perfect for those who may be looking to spruce up their sofa this festive season. With a robust and springy nature, this cushion's Jacob wool knits up beautifully. £25 from www. theknittinggiftshop.co,uk

Knitted Hot Water Bottle Cover

With cold winter nights ever approaching, fight away the cold with this gorgeous posied hot water bottle cover. This single ply yarn is available in a range of exciting colours that will be sure to suit every knitter. £19.95 from www.thelittle knittingcompany.co.uk

Super Chunky Blanket Knit Kit

Get funky and chunky with this luxury blanket knit kit from Wool Couture. The yarn is made from high quality merino wool which is both easy to knit with and incredibly soft, a perfect gift for beginner and experienced knitters alike! £54.99 from **www.woolcouture**

company.com





220 Superwash® 100% Wool (Machine Washable and Dryable)



Over 140 Colors To Choose From

Animal House Pullover by Amy Bahrt

FREE Pattern W299 www.cascadeyarns.com



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS KNIT

Get ready for the party season with our EASY SEQUIN SEQUIN

ometimes you just have to let the yarn do the talking and this simple lace pattern is a great example. Designed by Pat Menchini, the shape is a pretty standard sweater template, but it's the sequin yarn and well-positioned eyelets that make it really special. If you have some yarn left over, you can make a matching neck tie like we have here!

"If you're using a smooth yarn, you'll be able to use an i-cord for the neck ties, but if you've got a sequin yarn it'll be easier to follow the pattern"

13 www.letsknit.co.uk

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS KNIT

Measurements & Sizes

Dress size (approx): 6-8 (10-12, 12-14, 16-18, 20-22, 24-26, 28-30) **To fit chest (cm):** 76-81 (86-91, 94-99, 104-109, 114-119, 122-127, 132-137)

Actual bust (cm): 84 (93, 102, 112, 121, 130, 139) Length from shoulder (cm): 60 (62, 62, 63, 63, 64, 64)

Sleeve length: 44cm

Knit Kit

Yarn: King Cole Galaxy DK, shade 1881 Crocus, 5 (6, 6, 7, 7, 7, 8) 50g balls Needles: 3.25mm straight and circular, 4mm straight Stitch holders Buttons: bobble-style, four Tapestry needle Stitch markers

- -

Tension Square

• 22 sts x 30 rows

- 10cm x 10cm
- stocking stitch
- 4mm needles

For abbreviations see page 92

About the Yarn

King Cole Galaxy DK mixes 31% wool, 65% acrylic and 4% soft payette sequins for a real showstopper yarn. You can wash it in the machine but do not iron. It costs £3.19 per 50g (175m) ball from www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk

Need an Alternative?

If you'd prefer a more understated look, try a smooth yarn like **Wendy Merino DK.** It knits to a standard tension and costs £3.49 per 50g (116m) ball from **01829 740903**, www.laughinghens.com

Let's Shop

Buttons from **Duttons for Buttons**, 01423 502092, michelle@ duttonsforbuttons.co.uk

knitwise

When you're slipping your stitches for the double decrease during the lace pattern, slip your stitch knitwise. However, all other slipped stitches, like those on the shaping for the top of the sleeves, should be slipped purlwise to give you the neatest finish.

Start knitting here... FRONT

Using 3.25mm straight needles, cast on 93 (103, 113, 123, 133, 143, 153) sts □ Row 1 (RS): k2, [p1, k1] to last st, k1 □ Row 2: [k1, p1] to last st, k1 These two rows set rib □ Work 16 more rows in rib ** Change to 4mm needles and commence patt as folls: □ Rows 1-4: beg with a k row, work in st st □ Row 5: k2, [yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, psso, yfwd, k7] to last st, k1 □ Rows 6, 8 and 10: p □ Row 7: k4, [yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, psso, yfwd, k7] to last nine sts, yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, psso, yfwd, k6 Row 9: k6, [yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, psso, yfwd, k7] to last seven sts, yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, psso, yfwd, k4 □ Row 11: k8, [yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, psso, yfwd, k7] to last five sts, yfwd, sl 1, k2tog, psso, k2 🗌 Row 12: p These 12 rows set patt □ Cont in patt until work meas 40cm from top of rib, measured through centre of work and ending after a WS row

Shape left neck

□ Next row: patt 29 (33, 37, 41, 44, 48, 52) sts, turn Pm in centre of last group of sts, cont on this group of sts for left half of neck

 □ Dec one st at neck edge on next six rows, then on four foll alt rows.
 19 (23, 27, 31, 34, 38, 42) sts
 □ Cont without shaping until work meas 15 (17, 17, 18, 18, 19, 19) cm from marker ending at side edge

Shape left shoulder

□ Loosely cast off 5 (6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11) sts at beg of next and two foll alt rows. 4 (5, 6, 7, 7, 8, 9) sts
 □ Patt one row
 □ Cast off

Shape right neck and shoulder

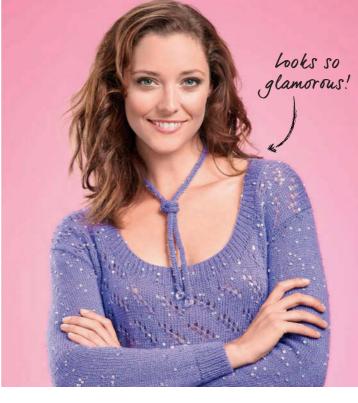
With RS facing slip next 35 (37, 39, 41, 45, 47, 49) sts on to a holder
Rejoin yarn to rem 29 (33, 37, 41, 44, 48, 52) sts, patt to end
Complete to match left neck and shoulder

BACK

□ Omitting neck shaping, work as for Front to shoulder shaping ending after a WS row

Shape shoulders

□ Loosely cast off 5 (6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11) sts at beg of next six rows, then 4 (5, 6, 7, 7, 8, 9) sts at beg of next two rows. 55 (57, 59, 61, 65, 67,69) sts Slip rem sts on a holder-



SLEEVES

:

Using 3.25mm straight needles, cast on 43 (45, 47, 49, 51, 53, 55) sts Work as for Front to **

Change to 4mm needles

□ Beg with a k row, work in st st **AT THE SAME TIME** inc one st at each end of next row, then on every foll 8th (6th, 6th, 6th, 6th, 4th, 4th) row until there are 55 (51, 61, 79, 71, 69, 77) sts, then on every foll 10th (8th, 8th, 8th, 6th, 6th, 6th) row until there are 67 (73, 77, 83, 87, 93, 97) sts □ Cont without shaping until Sleeve meas 44cm at centre, ending after a p row

Shape top

NOTE: slip sts firmly so you do not stretch sts

Row 1: k to last five sts, turn
Row 2: sl 1, p to last five sts, turn
Rows 3-4: sl 1, patt to last ten sts, turn
Rows 5-6: sl 1, patt to last
15 sts, turn
Rows 7-8: sl 1, patt to last
20 sts, turn
Rows 9-10: sl 1, patt to last
25 sts, turn
Rows 11-12: sl 1, patt to last
30 sts, turn
Row 13: sl 1, k to end
Cast off

NECK TIE (make two) Using 3.25mm circular needles, loosely cast on 200 sts Do not join in the rnd

 Beg with a k row, work four rows in st st
 Cast off loosely

NECKBAND

Join left shoulder Using 3.25mm circular needle and with RS facing, k across sts from Back neck, pick up and k 44 (47, 47, 50, 51, 55, 55) sts evenly down left Front neck, k across centre Front sts, pick up and k 45 (48, 48, 51, 52, 56, 56) sts evenly up right Front neck. 179 (189, 193, 203, 213, 225, 229) sts Beg with Row 2, work ten rows in rib as for Back Cast off firmly in rib

TO MAKE UP

Join right shoulder. Sew in sleeves. Join side and sleeve seams. Sew a button to each end of Neck tie strips. Tie them loosely round neck with a double knot **LK**

coming next issue stunning sparkly shawl by anniken allis

December issue of Let's Knit on sale FRIDAY 25th NOVEMBER



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30% Wool, 70% Premium Acrylic

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JEW

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For every King Cole pattern you buy, a donation will be made to the Pink Ribbon Foundation. Patterns featured: 4624 & 4626 & 4628

Measurements & Sizes

Dress Size (approx):									
8	(10,	12,	14,	16,	18,	20	22)		
To fit chest (cm):									
81	(86,	91,	97,	102,	107	112,	117)		
Actual chest (cm):									
90	(95,	100,	105,	110,	120,	125,	130)		
Length to Back Neck (cm):									
51	(52,	52,	54,	55,	55,	57,	57)		
Sle	eve le	ngth	(cm):						
43	(46,	46,	46,	46,	47,	47,	48)		

Knit Kit

Yarn: Cygnet Bumper Bouclé, shade 5533 Dock, 7 (7, 8, 8, 8, 9, 9, 9) 100g balls **Needles:** 8mm

Tapestry needle

••••••

Tension Square

- 8 sts x 14 rows
- 10cm x 10cmstocking stitch
- Stocking stitch
 8mm needles

For abbreviations see page 92

About the Yarn

Cygnet Bumper Bouclé is a super chunky acrylic yarn that has a wonderfully bouncy bouclé texture. It costs £3.60 per 100g (60m) ball from **0845 003 0775**, www.wool4less.com

knit*wise*

Raglan sleeves make for an easy-to-wear comfy sweater. The decreases run diagonally from the underarm to the neckline and the shape matches the sleeves making the seams easy to sew. The stitches from the front, back and sleeves are left on holders, then picked back up to work the neckband.

AMAZINGLY SOFT JUMPER

The great value **SNUGGLE-UP SWEATER**

veryone who's touched this jumper at LK HQ has marvelled at its softness. The bouclé finish not only adds texture but makes it light and lofty to wear. It's quick and easy to knit too as the front and back are identical. You may want to keep a row counter handy though as the stitches are less defined than on a smooth yarn.

Start knitting here...

BACK AND FRONT (alike) Using 8mm needles, cast on 38 (40, 42, 44, 46, 50, 52, 54) sts Row 1 (RS): [k1, p1] to end This row sets rib Work seven rows more in rib Commence Main patt as folls:

Row 1 (RS): k3 (3, 3, 4, 4, 4, 5,
 p2, k2, p2, k20 (22, 24, 24, 26, 30, 30, 32), p2, k2, p2, k3 (3, 3, 4, 4, 4, 5, 5)

□ Row 2: p3 (3, 3, 4, 4, 4, 5, 5), k2, p2, k2, p20 (22, 24, 24, 26, 30, 30, 32), k2, p2, k2, p3 (3, 3, 4, 4, 4, 5, 5) □ Rep last two rows until work meas 34cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row

Shape raglans

Keeping patt correct cast off 3
 (3, 3, 4, 4, 4, 5, 5) sts at beg of next two rows. 32 (34, 36, 36, 38, 42, 42, 44) sts
 Next row (RS): p2, k2, p2, ssk, k

□ Next Tow (K3), p2, k2, p2, ssk, k
 to last eight sts, k2tog, p2, k2, p2.
 30 (32, 34, 34, 36, 40, 40, 42) sts
 □ Next row: k2, p2, k2, p to last six
 sts, k2, p2, k2

 \Box Next row: p2, k2, p2, k to last six



sts, p2, k2, p2

□ Next row: k2, p2, k2, p to last six sts, k2, p2, k2
□ Rep last four rows 1 (1, 0, 1, 1, 0, 1, 0) times more
□ Next row (RS): p2, k2, p2, ssk, k to last eight sts, k2tog, p2, k2, p2. 26 (28, 32, 30, 32, 38, 36, 40) sts
□ Next row: k2, p2, k2, p to last six sts, k2, p2, k2
□ Rep last two rows until 14 (14, 14, 14, 14, 14, 16, 16, 16) sts rem, ending after a WS row
Leave sts on a holder

SLEEVES (make two)

Using 8mm needles, cast on 18 (18, 20, 20, 20, 20, 22, 22) sts. □ Row 1 (RS): [k1, p1] to end This row sets rib \Box Rep last row five times more Beg with a k row, work in st st **AT** THE SAME TIME inc as set below on Row 5 and every 10th (8th, 8th, 8th, 8th, 6th, 6th, 6th) row until there are 28 (30, 32, 32, 34, 36, 38, 38) sts □ Inc row (RS): k1, m1, k to last st, m1, k1 \Box Cont in st st without shaping until work meas 43 (46, 46, 46, 46, 47, 47, 48) cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row

Shape raglans

□ Cast off 3 (3, 3, 4, 4, 4, 5, 5) sts at beg of next two rows. 22 (24, 26, 24, 26, 28, 28, 28) sts □ Next row: ssk, k to last two sts, k2tog \Box Work three rows in st st without shaping □ Rep last four rows 3 (3, 3, 5, 5, 4, 5, 5) times more. 14 (16, 18, 12, 14, 18, 16, 16) sts □ Next row: ssk, k to last two sts, k2tog \Box Work one row in st st without shaping □ Rep last two rows 2 (3, 3, 0, 1, 3, 2, 2) times. 8 (8, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10, 10) sts

Place sts on a holder

NECKBAND

 $\hfill\square$ Using 8mm needles and with RS facing, beg at Back left raglan, k





"This is a cosy jumper for the winter, knitted in an on-trend bouclé yarn that's easy to knit and grows super quick!" JO ALLPORT Sleeve sts as folls: k7 (7, 9, 9, 9, 9, 9, 9, 9, 9, 9)49, 49, 49, 49) sts9), p last Sleeve st tog with first \Box Next row (WFront st, p1, k2, p2, k2 (2, 2, 2, 2, 4, 4, 4), k2, 2, 2, 4, 4, 4), k4, 4), p2, k2, p1, p last Front st tog8, 8, 8, 8), rep fromwith first Sleeve st, k6 (6, 8, 8, 8, 8, 8), p last Sleeve st tog with FirstNext row: k1, 8), p2, k2, p2, k2 (2, 2, 2, 2, 4, 4), kback st, p1, k2, p2, k2 (2, 2, 2, 2, 4, 4), p2, k2, p2, k2 (2, 2, 2, 2, 4, 4), p2, k2, p2, k2 (2, 2, 2, 2, 4, 4), p2, k2, p2, k2 (2, 2, 2, 2, 4, 4), p2, k2, p2, k2 (2, 2, 2, 2, 4, 4)

49, 49, 49) sts □ Next row (WS): * k2, p2, k2, p2 (2, 2, 2, 2, 4, 4, 4), k2, p2, k2, p6 (6, 8, 8, 8, 8, 8, 8), rep from * once more, p1 □ Next row: k1, * k6 (6, 8, 8, 8, 8, 8, 8), p2, k2, p2, k2 (2, 2, 2, 2, 4, 4, 4), p2, k2, p2, rep from * once more □ Rep last two rows six times more □ Cast off in patt

TO MAKE UP

Sew raglans and Neckband seams. Sew Sleeve and side seams. Weave in ends. See ball band for further care instructions **LK**

EASY ONE-BALL KNIT

hen the weather is dark and dreary this season, make sure you stand out from the crowd in these bright and fun mittens. Knitted in a basic repeating stitch pattern, these mittens are simple to master, with the self-striping yarn doing all the difficult colourwork for you!

Measurements & sizes

Tension square

22 sts x 30 rows 10cm x 10cm st st 4mm needles

You will need:

YARN: Stylecraft Cabaret DK, shade 3572 Rainbow, one 100g ball NEEDLES:

4mm

Start knitting here

MITTENS

(make two) Using 4mm needles, cast on 90 sts * Row 1: (k1, p1) to end.

- This row sets rib
- * Row 2-20: as Row 1
- Row 21: k1, (k2tog) to last st,
- k1. 44 sts
- Row 22: k1, (k1, kfb) to last st, k1. 90 sts
- k1. 90 sts * Row 23: k
- ✗ Row 23: k
- ✗ Row 24: p
 ✗ Row last for
- Rep last four rows 18 more times
 Work six rows in rib
- Cast off

TO MAKE UP

Sew side seams together, leaving a gap for the thumbhole ${\rm L}{\rm K}$



Stylecraft Cabaret DK costs £4.49 per 100g (230m) ball from 01789 773021, www.wisebadger.com



Be ready for wintery days with Julie Ferguson's quick make



We know a lot of skill and patience goes into creating your knitting and crochet projects. It's the same with our yarn.

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Beautifully soft, and rich in colour, handle and heritage, our Fine Merino yarn is available in DK and 4 ply.

8



Be part of the story: available online at yarnstories.com

y f



Spruce up your winter wardrobe with these cosy knitting & crochet projects made in King Cole Riot DK. Only £3.69 a ball











*



Visit us online for a fantastic range of yarns for the festive season. www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk



COLLECT THE SERIES Part 8: THE FAIR ISLE SWEATER

Have a go at colourwork with Penny Hill's yoke-style top



21

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.......

Measurements & sizes

Dress size (approx):

8 (10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20) **To fit chest (cm):** 82 (87, 92, 97, 102, 107, 112) **Actual chest (cm):** 90 (97, 104.5, 111.5, 119, 126, 133.5) **Length to shoulder (cm):** 52 (53, 55, 56, 57, 59, 60)

Sleeve length (cm):

33cm

Knit Kit

Yarn: Debbie Bliss Rialto DK, shades (A) 74 Cyclamen, 9 (10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15) 50g balls, (B) 02 Ecru, (C) 71 Jade, one 50g ball of each

Needles: 3.25mm circular, 3.75mm straight, 4mm straight and circular

Tapestry needle

Stitch holder

Tension Square

- 22 sts x 30 rows
- 10cm x 10cm
- stocking stitch
- 4mm needles

Special abbreviations

Working wrap tog with st: on a k row: insert RH needle up through the wrap then into the st, k st and wrap tog

Working wrap tog with st: on a p row: slip wrapped st from LH to RH needle, insert LH needle into wrap, return st to LH and p wrap tog with st

For abbreviations see page 92

Tor appreviations see page 72

About the Yarn

Debbie Bliss Rialto DK is made from 100% merino wool and is soft, smooth and easy to knit with. It can be machine washed but do not tumble dry. It costs £5.49 per 50g (105m) ball from **0845 519 4573, www.deramores.com**

To get 15% off all orders at Deramores, use the code 5501

Need an alternative?

Animal fibres naturally bind together giving a good finish on colourwork projects. **Rico Essentials Merino DK** is a similar yarn that costs £3.95 per 50g (120m) ball from **01376 743123, www.sconch.com**

knit*wise*

When you're working the Fair Isle charts, you'll be stranding (carrying two colours across the row at once). Tension one colour over your index finger and one over your middle. When changing colour, bring the contrasting shade, in this case yarns C or B, up from underneath yarn A. To change back to the first colour, bring yarn A over the top of your contrast colour. Keep track of which colour is carried above the other and make sure you don't pull the stranded yarn too tightly or your work will pucker.

Start knitting here... BACK

Using 3.75mm needles and yarn C, cast on 99 (107, 115, 123, 131, 139, 147) sts \square Row 1: k1, [p1, k1] to end Cut yarn B, join yarn A □ Row 2: p1, [k1, p1] to end These two rows set rib \Box Cont in yarn A only, work ten more rows in rib Change to 4mm needles Beg with a k row, work two rows in st st Commence Chart A as folls, noting that 'v' sts on Chart will be Swiss darned later: □ Starting in 1st (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 1st, 2nd) st, work Row 1 of Chart A, working ten-st rep 9 (10, 11, 12, 13, 13, 14) times, work next 5 (4, 3, 2, 1, 5, 4) sts from Chart □ Starting in 1st (2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 1st, 2nd) st, work Row 2 of Chart A, working ten-st rep 9 (10, 11, 12, 13, 13, 14) times, work next 4 (3, 2, 1, 0, 4, 3) sts from Chart These two rows set position of Chart □ Cont as set working next row of Chart until Chart Row 6 has been completed \Box Beg with a k row and using yarn A only, cont in st st until work meas 30cm from cast-on edge. ending after a p row Shape raglans

Cast off 4 (6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16) sts at beg of next two rows. 91 (95, 99, 103, 107, 111, 115) sts
 Work two rows in st st
 Next row (dec): k2, skpo, k to last four sts, k2tog, k2
 Next row: p to end **
 Rep last two rows 10 (12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22) times, then dec row again. 67 sts
 Next row: p2tog, p to last two sts, p2tog. 65 sts
 Leave rem sts on a holder

FRONT

Work as for Back to **
 Rep last two rows 5 (7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 17) times. 79 sts

Shape Front neck

Next row: k2, skpo, k15, w&t. 18 sts
 Next row: p to end
 Next row: k2, skpo, k to last two sts before gap, w&t
 Rep last two rows four times more

CHART A

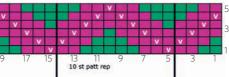
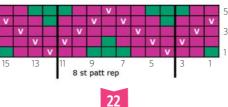


CHART C



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Next row: p1, p2tog. 12 sts
Leave these 12 sts on a holder
With RS facing place centre 41 sts on a holder, rejoin yarn to rem 19 sts, k to last four sts, k2tog, k2
Next row: p to last two sts, w&t
Next row: k to last four sts, k2tog, k2
Next row: p to last two sts before gap, w&t
Rep last two rows three times more, then first row again
Next row: p2tog, p1
Leave all 65 sts on a holder

SLEEVES

Using 3.75mm needles and varn C, cast on 49 (55, 61, 67, 73, 79, 85) sts □ Row 1: k1, [p1, k1] to end Cut yarn B, join yarn A □ Row 2: p1, [k1, p1] to end These two rows set rib □ Cont in yarn A only, work ten rows in rib Change to 4mm needles \Box Beg with a k row, work two rows in in st st Commence Chart C as folls, noting that 'v' sts on Chart will be Swiss darned later: □ Starting in 4th (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 3rd, 2nd) st, work Row 1 of Chart C, working eight-st rep 6 (6, 7, 8, 9, 9, 10) times, work next 1 (4, 3, 2, 1, 4, 3) sts from Chart □ Starting in 4th (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 1st, 2nd) st, work Row 2 of Chart C, working eight-st rep 6 (6, 7, 8, 9, 9, 10) times, work next 0 (3, 2, 1, 0, 3, 2) sts from Chart These two rows set position of patt □ Cont as set working next row of Chart until Chart Row 5 has been completed Cont in yarn A only \Box Work three rows in st st \Box Next row (inc): k3, m1, k to last three sts m1 k3 \Box Work five rows in st st \Box Rep last six rows nine times more, then inc row again. 71 (77, 83, 89, 95, 101, 107) sts □ Cont without shaping until Sleeve meas 33cm from cast-on edge, ending after a p row

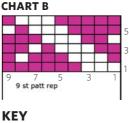
Shape raglan

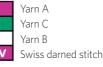
□ Cast off 4 (6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16) sts at beg of next two rows. 63 (65, 67, 69, 71, 73, 75) sts

Second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth and seventh sizes only

 \Box Next row (dec): k2, skpo, k to last four sts,







k2tog, k2
Next row: p
Next row: k
Next row: p
Rep last four rows - (0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5) times. 63 sts

All sizes

Next row (dec): k2, skpo, k to last four sts, k2tog, k2
 Next row: p
 Rep last two rows 11 times, then dec row again. 37 sts
 Next row: p2tog, p to last two sts, p2tog. 35 sts
 Leave these 35 sts on a holder

YOKE

Join raglan seams

NOTE: work wrapped sts tog with wraps and read all Chart rows from right to left, noting that 'v' sts on Charts A and C will be Swiss darned later

Using 4mm circular needle, k35 from left sleeve, k65 from Front, k35 from right sleeve, k65 from Back, join in the rnd, pm for beg of rnd. 200 sts Rnd 1: work ten-st patt rep of Row 1 of Chart A to end Rnds 2-6: work Rows 2-6 of Chart A to end Rnd 7: using yarn A, k Rnd 8 (dec): using yarn A [k8, k2tog] to end. 180 sts Rnd 9: using yarn A, k Rnd 10: work nine-st patt rep of Row 1 of Chart B to end Rnds 11-15: work Rows 2-5 of Chart B to end Rnd 16: using yarn A, k Rnd 17 (dec): using yarn A, [k7, k2tog] to end. 160 sts Rnd 18: using yarn A, k Rnd 19: work eight-st patt rep of Row 1 of Chart C to end Rnds 20-23: work Rows 2-5 of Chart C to end Change to yarn A only 🗆 Rnd 24: k □ Rnd 25 (dec): [k6, k2tog] to end. 140 sts 🗆 Rnds 26-30: k □ Rnd 31 (dec): [k5, k2tog] to end. 120 sts Rnd 32-36: k Rnd 37 (dec): [k4, k2tog] to end. 100 sts Rnd 38-40: k to end Change to 3.25mm circular needle □ Rnds 41-45: [k1, p1] to end Cut yarn A, change to yarn B Next rnd: k Cast off in rib

TO MAKE UP

Join side and sleeve seams. Swiss darn white stitches as shown on Charts A and C $\ensuremath{\mathsf{LK}}$

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Looks great with jeans

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wenay Supreme Cotton SIIK DK is a luxurious blend of silk and cotton, which work together to create this unique flecked yarn. It is available in a range of fun colours for £6.15 per 100g (201m) ball from 0845 544 1296, www.loveknitting.com

Debbie Bliss Lhasa is an exquisite blend of cashmere and yak, making for a chunky yet beautifully soft yarn. As a luxury yarn whose feel and shape will last, it's perfect for small accessories and investment pieces. It costs \pounds 22.95 per 50g (100m) skein from **0800 505 3300**, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

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Measurements & Sizes

Base: 24cm x 16cm Log: 16cm long Robin: 11.5cm tall

Knit Kit

Yarn: Rico Essentials Merino DK, shades (A) 61 Beige, (B) 56 Dark Brown, (C) 05 Red, (D) 60 Natural, one 50g ball of each

Needles: 3.25mm straight, 3.25mm double-pointed

Stitch holder

Tapestry needle

Thick cardboard

Safety toy stuffing

Wire: 12cm long, two piece

For abbreviations see page 92

Tension Square

- 26 sts x 36 rows
- 10cm x 10cm
- stocking stitch
- 3mm needles

About the Yarn

Rico Essentials Merino DK is both soft and smooth and has a lovely stitch definition for a wool yarn. Although it is machine washable, we'd suggest carefully dabbing this project with a damp cloth. The yarn costs £3.95 per 50g (120m) ball from **01376 743123**, www.sconch.com

Need an Alternative?

Any smooth DK yarn will work for this project. As just one ball of each shade is needed, why not see what's in your yarn stash?

knit*wise*

When you are instructed to "turn" midway through a row, simply swap the needles over in your hands so the other side is facing you. Leave the rest of the stitches from that row unworked and continue back across the stitches you've just knitted or purled.

CLASSIC CHRISTMAS DEC

Yuletide **Blessings**

Knit an everlasting yule log and robin with **Susie Johns'** traditional decoration

his delightful yule log is neither to be eaten nor put on the fire, but knitted and admired for years to come, and we're sure it will be too. The log and base are really simple to make, while the robin is a bit more detailed. He's mostly knitted in the round and the legs are made from wire wrapped with yarn. We suggest using florists' wire for this as it's easy to bend. He'd also make a great decoration in his own right!

Start knitting here...

LOG

Using 3.25mm straight needles and yarn A, cast on five sts Rows 1-2: (kfb) to end. 20 sts Row 3 and all odd-numbered rows: k

□ Row 4: (k1, kfb) to end. 30 sts
□ Row 6: (k2, kfb) to end. 40 sts
□ Row 8: (k3, kfb) to end. 50 sts
□ Row 10: (k4, kfb) to end. 60 sts
Cut yarn A and join in yarn B

Bark

- □ Next row: * p2, k1, rep from * to end □ Next row: * p1, k2, rep from
- * to end Rep last two rows until work meas 16cm

Cut yarn B and join in yarn A

Shape end

Row 1: (k4, k2tog) to end. 50 sts
Row 2 and all even-numbered rows: k
Row 3: (k3, k2tog) to end. 40 sts
Row 5: (k2, k2tog) to end. 30 sts
Row 7: (k1, k2tog) to end. 20 sts
Row 9: (k2tog) to end. Ten sts
Row 11: (k2tog) to end. Five sts
Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem five sts, pull tight and fasten off

Using 3.25mm straight needles and yarn D, cast on 12 sts \Box ** Rows 1-2: k

□ Row 3: kfb in first st, k to end.
13 sts
□ Rep Row 3 five times more.

- 18 sts
- \Box K three rows
- □ Next row: k2tog, k to end. 17 sts □ Rep last row five times more.
- 12 sts
- \Box Next row: k
- □ Rep from ** three times more □ Cast off

BASE

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn D, cast on 52 sts Work in garter st (k every row) until work meas 32cm Cast off

ROBIN HEAD AND BODY

NOTE: patt starts at top of head

Using 3.25mm dpns and yarn C, cast on six sts and distribute evenly between three needles Rnd 1: (kfb) to end. 12 sts Rnd 2: k Rnd 3: (k1, kfb) to end. 18 sts Rnd 4: k Rnd 5: (k2, kfb) to end. 24 sts K six rnds Rnd 12: (k3, kfb) to end. 30 sts Rnd 13: k Rnd 14: (k4, kfb) to end. 36 sts Rnd 15: k Rnd 16: (k5, kfb) to end. 42 sts

Shape breast

NOTE: worked using short-row shaping (see Knitwise panel)

🗆 Row 2: p34, turn □ Row 3: k32, turn □ Row 4: p30, turn Row 5: k28. turn Row 6: p26, turn 🗆 Row 7: k24, turn Row 8: p22, turn □ Row 9: k20, turn □ Row 10: p18, turn 🗆 Row 11: k30. do not turn Resume working in rnds as folls 🗌 Rnd 1: k Join in yarn A **NOTE:** letter foll each instruction indicates yarn shade \square Rnd 2: * k1 A, k1 C, rep from * to end Cut yarn C, cont in yarn A only \Box K ten rnds □ Rnd 13: (k5, k2tog) six times. 36 sts 🗆 K two rnds □ Rnd 16: (k4, k2tog) six times. 30 sts 🗆 Rnd 17: k □ Rnd 18: (k3, k2tog) six times. 24 sts 🗆 Rnd 19: k □ Rnd 20: (k2, k2tog) six times. 18 sts



"The base is made from thick cardboard, but if you are planning to store the finished item and bring it out year after year, you may want to use hardboard or plywood instead." SUSIE JOHNS



"This project uses smaller needles than you'd usually expect for a DK yarn to create a nice, firm fabric." LK Deputy Editor, Adrienne Chandler



Embroider the rings using chain stitches:

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□ Rnd 21: (k1, k2tog) six times. 12 sts □ Cast off

BACK

Using 3.25mm straight needles and yarn B, cast on two sts

 \square Row 1: (kfb) twice. Four sts

- □ Row 2 and all WS rows: p
- □ Row 3: k1, m1, k2, m1, k1. Six sts □ Row 5: k1, m1, k4, m1, k1. Eight sts
- \square Row 7: k1, m1, k6, m1, k1. Ten sts
- \Box Beg with a p row, work five rows
- in st st Row 13: k1, m1, k8, m1, k1. 12 sts Row 15: k1, m1, k5, m1, k5, m1,
- k1. 15 sts Row 17: k1, m1, k6, m1, k1, m1, k6,
- m1, k1. 19 sts
- □ Row 19: k1, m1, k6, m1, k5, m1, k6, m1, k1. 23 sts
- \Box Beg with a p row, work 15 rows in st st

.....

Next row: k1, skpo, k to last two sts, k2tog, k1. 21 sts
Next row: p
Rep last two rows four times more. 13 sts
Next row: k1, skpo, k2, sl 1, k2tog, psso, k2, k2tog, k1. Nine sts
Next row: p3, p3tog, p3.
Seven sts
Cast off

TAIL

Using 3.25mm straight needles and yarn B, cast on 12 sts Beg with a k row, work 20 rows in st st Cast off

WING (make two)

Using 3.25mm straight needles and yarn B, cast on three sts Row 1 and all WS rows: p □ Row 2: k1, (m1, k1) twice. Five sts □ Row 4: k2, m1, k1, m1, k2. Seven sts

Row 6: k3, m1, k1, m1, k3. Nine sts
Row 8: k4, m1, k1, m1, k4. 11 sts
Row 10: k1, skpo, k2, m1, k1, m1, k2, k2tog, k1
Rows 12 and 14: as Row 10
Row 16: k1, skpo, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1. Nine sts
Rows 17-19: cont in st st
Rep Rows 16-19 twice more. Five sts
Next row: k1, sl 1, k2tog, psso, k1. Three sts

□ Beg with a p row, work three
 rows in st st
 □ Cast off

BEAK

Using 3.25mm straight needles and yarn A, cast on two sts □ Row 1 (WS): p □ Row 2: (kfb) twice. Four sts □ Rows 3: p

- □ Row 4: kfb, k to last st, kfb. Six sts
 □ Row 5: p
- Rows 6-7: rep Rows 4-5. Eight sts
- □ Cast off

TO MAKE UP

Sew seam of Log, stuffing as you go. Sew running stitch around cast-on row, then pull tight to gather. Fasten off yarn. Using yarn B, embroider circles of small chain stitches to look like the rings of a tree. Position Snow on Log so it covers seam and stitch in place. Cut cardboard 24cm x 16cm and fold Base piece around it. Sew around remaining three sides. Sew running stitch around cast-on row for Robin's Head and body and pull to gather. Stuff body firmly. Stitch seam on Tail then cut cardboard to fit. Insert card into Tail then insert Tail into base of Body and sew to secure. Sew side seam of Beak and stitch to face. Using yarn B, embroider eyes, as shown. Wrap Back piece around Head and body and sew in place. Attach Wings. Bend one end of each length of wire into a foot shape with three toes, leaving the raw end pointing down to secure into Log. Wrap yarn tightly around wire until Leg and foot part is completely covered, leaving section to be inserted into Log uncovered. Insert top of Leg into base of body, securing with a dot of glue. Insert uncovered end of wire into Log **LK**

coming next issue

LUCINDA GANDERTON'S CUTE AND SPEEDY ELF

December issue of Let's Knit on sale FRIDAY 25TH NOVEMBER







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GREAT TOY FOR NEW KNITTERS

EXCLUSIVE TO

Lenny the Cat

Knit Louise Watling's sweet and simple feline in a weekend!

hristmas gifts don't have to be complicated – as this cute and cuddly cat proves! Lenny is a quick and easy knit that uses basic stitches and simple shaping. He's adorably chubby, which we suspect is down to eating all the office mince pies!

"Make sure Lenny's head, ears, feet and tail are really securely attached, because he's sure to have a lot of playtime adventures!"

LK Deputy Editor Adrienne Chandler

Measurements & Sizes 12cm x 23cm

Knit Kit

Yarn: Hayfield Bonus DK, shades (A) 816 Wheat, (B) 977 Signal Red, one 100g ball of each, oddments of Black DK

Needles: 3mm

Safety toy stuffing

Tapestry needle

Tension Square

- 26 sts x 36 rows
- 10cm x 10cm
- stocking stitch
- 3mm needles

For abbreviations see page 92

About the Yarn

Hayfield Bonus DK is a good value acrylic DK which comes in over 70 shades and is machine washable. This makes it a practical choice for toys. It costs £2.20 per 100g (280m) ball from **0131 558** 1747, www.mcadirect.com

Need an Alternative?

Why not opt for a glittery yarn for Lenny's jumper? **King Cole** Glitz DK is an acrylic yarn with a metallic polyester thread running throughout. It's available in a jolly red shade or a multi-coloured red, white and green combo! It costs £2.99 per 100g (290m) ball from www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk

knitwise

The embroidering of a toy's face can often make or break a project, so it's always wise to practise your sewn face before you commit to stitching directly onto your toy. Our Lenny has eyes that are close together, giving him a cute expression, but moving them further apart could create a completely different look.

Start knitting here... BODY

- Using 3mm needles and varn A, cast on 12 sts Row 1 (WS): p □ Row 2: (kfb) to end. 24 sts □ Row 3: p \square Row 4: (kfb, k1) to end. 36 sts □ Rows 5-7: cont in st st □ Row 8: (kfb, k2) to end. 48 sts Rows 9-11: cont in st st □ Row 12: (kfb, k3) to end. 60 sts □ Beg with a p row, work ten rows in st st Cut yarn A and join yarn B 🗆 Row 23: p \square Row 24: (k1, p1) to end □ Rows 25-27: as Row 24 □ Beg with a k row, work 22 rows in st st □ Row 50: (k2, k2tog) to end. 45 sts □ Rows 51-53: cont in st st \square Row 54; (k1, k2tog) to end. 30 sts 🗆 Row 55: p \Box Row 56: (k2tog) to end. 15 sts 🗆 Row 57: p □ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off
- **HEAD** Using 3mm needles and yarn A, cast on 24 sts □ Row 1 (WS): p \Box Row 2: k4, (kfb) four times, k8, (kfb) four times, k4. 32 sts □ Row 3: p □ Row 4: k4, (kfb, k1) four times, k8, (kfb, k1) four times, k4. 40 sts □ Rows 5-7: cont in st st □ Row 8: k4, (kfb, k2) four times, k8. (kfb, k2) four times, k4, 48 sts □ Beg with a p row, work 11 rows in st st □ Row 20: k4, (k2, k2tog) four

times, k8, (k2, k2tog) four times, k4. 40 sts □ Rows 21-23: cont in st st Row 24: k4, (k1, k2tog) four times, k8, (k1, k2tog) four times, k4. 32 sts 🗌 Row 25: p \Box Row 26: (k2tog) to end. 16 sts □ Row 27: p □ Row 28: (k2tog) to end. Eight sts 🗌 Row 29: p □ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off NOSE

Using 3mm needles and black DK, cast on six sts \Box Row 1 (RS): kfb, k4, kfb. Eight sts □ Row 2: p2tog, p4, p2tog. Six sts □ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

EARS (make two)

- Using 3mm needles and yarn A, cast on two sts
- □ Row 1 (WS): p
- \Box Row 2: kfb, k1. Three sts □ Row 3: p
- □ Row 4: (kfb) twice, k1. Five sts
- □ Row 5: p □ Row 6: kfb, k2, kfb, k1. Seven sts □ Row 7: p
- \Box Row 8: kfb, k4, kfb, k1. Nine sts
- □ Rows 9-13: cont in st st
- □ Row 14: k2tog, k5, k2tog. Seven sts 🗌 Row 15: p
- □ Row 16: k2tog, k3, k2tog. Five sts
- 🗆 Row 17: p
- □ Row 18: k2tog, k1, k2tog. Three sts C Row 19: p
- 🗆 Row 20: k1, k2tog. Two sts □ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

FOOT (make four)

Using 3mm needles and yarn A, cast on ten sts □ Row 1 (WS): p \Box Row 2: (kfb, k1) to end. 15 sts □ Row 3: p \Box Row 4: (kfb, k2) to end. 20 sts \Box Beg with a p row, work five rows in st st □ Cast off

TAIL

Using 3mm needles and yarn A, cast on 12 sts \Box Beg with a k row, work 18 rows in st st □ Row 19: (k1, k2tog) to end. Eight sts \Box Rows 20-22: cont in st st □ Row 23: (k2, k2tog) to end. Six sts □ Row 24: p \Box Row 25: (k2tog) to end. Three sts □ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and

TO MAKE UP

fasten off

Sew running stitch around cast-on edge of Body, pull to gather then sew row-ends together leaving front edge open. Stuff, then close gap. Sew row ends of Head together. Flatten Head with seam down centre back. Sew seam, stuff, then sew across cast-on edge. Pin Nose in place. Using oddment of black DK, embroider eves and mouth as shown. Fold Ear in half then sew row-ends. Attach to top of Head. Attach Head to Body. Sew running stitch around cast-on edge of Foot, pull to gather, then sew row-ends. Stuff, then sew Feet to Body. Sew row-ends of Tail, leave cast-on edge open. Stuff and sew to back of Body $\boldsymbol{\mathsf{LK}}$

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TOP FESTIVE BUYS

TINSEL TOWN

This adorable penguin family prove that tinsel need not stay on the tree! Knitted from King Cole's Tinsel Chunky and Dolly Mix DK, these penguins have a glittery sheen that make them sure to stand out. King Cole pattern 9025 is available for £2.50 from www.purplelindacrafts.com

TIME FOR TEA

A knitted teapot cosy kit might not have been on your Christmas list this year, but it certainly will be now! This spectacular design depicts the events of Christmas Eve. We can only hope that Santa and his reindeer are this adorable in real life! It's £33 from www.teacosyfolk.co.uk

FROSTY THE SNOWMAN

Kids in Christmas jumpers are one of the highlights of the festive season, especially when they're this cute! What better to wear for opening Santa's gifts? Stylecraft pattern 9309 is available for ages 1-11, and costs £2.99 from 0800 505 3300, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk





POCKET-SIZED PROJECTS

Here at LK we recognise that the smaller a project is, the cuter it is, making this just about the cutest book we've ever come across! These pocket sized knits are great

.....

for using up leftover yarn, and make for great stocking fillers! Mini Knitted Christmas is available to buy for £9.99 from **01892 510850**, www.searchpress.com



Get crafty this festive season with these adorable patterns, books and toys!

MERRY ELF

-•ΛΛ [Λλ

If your front door is looking a little bare this season, decorate it with this crochet wreath, complete with its own cheeky elf! It's a fun project for those looking to try their hand at crochet, and it's certain to charm for many years to come. It costs £29.99 from 0800 923 3005, www.craftstoreuk.co.uk



polyester, this hardy yarn is perfect for knitting the mittens on page 18. Cascade Fixation Spray Dyed costs £4.75 per 50g (91m) from 0845 544 2196, www.loveknitting.com



SCANDINAVIAN STYLE

If you're confident knitting in the round, then this gorgeous stocking duo is perfect for you! Featuring traditional Scandinavian design, this pair are sure to add a little cuteness to your fireplace this season. The kit for these two costs £13.49 from www.thewoolfactoryonline.com



WHAT A CARD!

If you're looking to branch out from giving traditional Christmas tree cards, then this knitted project might be ideal for you! Perfect for beginners, this kit includes instructions and materials to create two knitted sheep cards and one knitted tree card, perfect for loved ones! It costs £15 from **0203 318 5115**, www.notonthehighstreet.com

IT'S SNOWING!

If you're planning to a garment like our Lace Detail Sweater on page 69, then these adorable stitch markers will be a life saver! They're available in a wide range of designs, but you can keep it festive with these handy snowflakes. Charmed Knitting stitch markers cost £6.49 from www.amazon.co.uk

a number of LK

festive projects!

of acrylic and

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Stylish sequin sweater

FREE Knit Pro **ZING DOUBLE POINTED NEEDLE SET** When you subscribe to Let's Knit magazine!

These light weight needles ensure comfort in the hand and hours of stress free, satisfying knitting. Durability of light metal guarantees minimal wear and maximum life and with the exceptionally smooth surface enables the stitches to move quickly and with no resistance. The needle sets are organized in an elegant and smart see through zipper case & includes the most often used sizes – an ideal gift or treat for yourself.

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STRESS-FREE CHRISTMAS

All present & CORRECT

Make your Christmas gift knits stress-free and easy with our simple patterns and top tips

hen it comes to knitting gifts, it's all about choosing the perfect pattern. Let's be practical, it's not just a case of spotting something the intended recipient will love – although that's a good place to start! It has to be a pattern you know you can knit well, so it doesn't get buried in your unfinished objects drawer. And while Christmas is the same date every year, it does have a habit of sneaking up on an honest crafter, so choose a relatively quick project. There's no-one better to advise on gift knitting than a fellow knitter. They've been there, done it and have learnt the hard way (see page 62!). Read on for some great hints from our brilliant readers!



Everyone loves to accessorise!

It's winter, so it's cold. We all need to keep warm so this cowl from the new Katia Concept range is sure to be well received. The pattern is in the Woman 2 Concept magazine or can be bought individually online. Find your nearest stockist at **www.katia.com**

> 36 www.letsknit.co.uk

Elf & safety is important

Our fabulous family of knitted elves were designed by the very talented Zoe Halstead. Here, she offers some words of wisdom about making toys for tiny tots: "When knitting toy knits as Christmas gifts for babies and children under three, make sure the yarns and stuffing are machine washable to withstand spills and cuddles! Consider embroidering all features using yarn, embroidery or sewing thread rather than using toy eyes, buttons or beads as these can pose a choking risk." Download the patterns for Bernard, Bernadette, Buddy and Belle for free at www.letsknit.co.uk

> "If you're making garments, especially with unusual or more expensive yarns, tuck in a note about washing and care instructions so all your hard work isn't ruined if the recipient isn't familiar with looking after handmade items."

LK Reader Ruth Lutt

STRESS-FREE CHRISTMAS



Babies love bright colours!

This fun robot blanket from Cascade Yarns is just the thing for tiny tots. Each of the nine squares is made separately, then sewn together at the end – this makes it a much more manageable project. There's a bit of intarsia colourwork involved but it's definitely worth it. It's knitted in the brand's Anthem yarn, an aran-weight acrylic that's colourful and practical. To find your nearest stockist and download the free pattern, visit **www.cascadeyarns.com**

Homewares can never be too small!



"If things don't go right then stop have a break (perhaps a cuppa) then go back to your knitting feeling refreshed. Never give up, believe in yourself and you will get there in the end!"

LK Reader Denise Clennell



Choose sparkle!

This stunning crocheted wrap from Scheepjes is made in the brand's Merino Soft yarn with hundreds of luxurious glass beads. It's designed by Atty Van Norel and is perfect for adding a hint of glitz to grey wintry days. As it's a kit, you get everything you need to make it! It's called Melting Snowflakes and comes in four colourways, including Star, shown here. To find your nearest stockist, visit **www.scheepjes.com**

"The swatch! It may seem like a waste of time, but it will make the difference between 'handmade' and 'homemade'."

LK Reader Martha Brown



Big is beautiful – and knits quickly too!

Super chunky yarns are perfect for gifts as you can start and finish a project in just an hour or so. Big and bold accessories are also a winter trend, meaning this super sized hat is just the ticket! It's from Rowan's Big Wool Knits pattern book. To find your nearest stockists, call **01484 950630** or go to www.knitrowan.com

> "I knit small embellishments or make pompoms which I then incorporate into the wrapping process. If I use a gift bag, I dangle a handknitted stocking from the bag with a folded note tucked inside, instead of using a gift tag. Then the recipient can then hang the stocking from their tree, year after year." LK Designer LYNNE ROWE

www.letsknit.co.uk

Measurements & Sizes Hat: Circumference: 51cm

Length: 22cm

Circumference (after blocking) 118cm Width (after blocking): 28cm

Knit Kit

Yarn: Drops Cotton Merino, shade

26, Storm Blue, five 50g Balls **Needles**: 4mm (40cm and 60cm) circular, 4mm, double-pointed

Stitch marker Tapestry needle

Tension Square

• 24 sts x 30 rows

- 10cm x 10cm
- over patt

• 4mm needles

For abbreviations see page 92

About the Yarn

Drops Cotton Merino is a great value wool and cotton blend yarn that is light yet drapey and comes in 29 gorgeous shades. It can be machine washed but we'd suggest handwashing this lacy design. It costs £3.10 per 50g (110m) ball from 0800 505 3300, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

To get 10% off all orders at Wool Warehouse, use the code LK112

Need an Alternative?

Sirdar Snuggly Baby Bamboo DK

is a mix of 80% bamboo-sourced viscose and 20% wool. It has a lovely drape, great stitch definition and a pretty sheen. It costs £3.70 per 50g (95m) ball from **0131 558 1747**, **www.mcadirect.com**

Stormy Seas

Have a go at lace and mock cables in Kelly Menzies' hat and cowl combo!



e never cease to be amazed by the number of great effects you can create with sticks and string - or needles and yarn to be precise. This set uses lace techniques of yarn forward increases and left and right leaning decreases. By choosing the shaped decreases carefully, you can create all sorts of motifs, including this one that looks rather similar to a cable! The yarn amounts given will make both the hat and cowl. The set would be a great gift, or why not keep it for yourself? You deserve it!

Start knitting here..

HAT

Using 4mm (60cm) circular needle, cast on 96 st, join in the rnd taking care not to twist sts, pm for beg of rnd Rnd 1: (k1, p1) to end This rnd sets rib Rep last rnd until work meas 3cm

 □ Next rnd (inc): * rib 5, m1, rep from * to last six sts, rib to end. 114 sts
 Commence main patt as folls:
 □ Rnd 1: * yfwd, k1, yfwd, k2, skpo,

k4, skpo, k2, (yfwd, k2tog) three times, rep from * to end □ Rnd 2 and all alt rnds: k □ Rnd 3: * k3, yfwd, k2, (skpo, k2) twice, (yfwd, k2tog) three times, vfwd, rep from * to end □ Rnd 5: * k4, yfwd, k2, (skpo) twice, k2, (yfwd, k2tog) three times, yfwd, k1, rep from * to end □ Rnd 7: * k2, skpo, k4, skpo, k2, yfwd, k1, (yfwd, k2tog) three times, yfwd, rep from * to end \square Rnd 9: * yfwd, k2, (skpo, k2) twice, yfwd, k2, (yfwd, k2tog) three times, k1, rep from * to end □ Rnd 11: * k2tog, yfwd, k2, (skpo) twice, k2, yfwd, k4, (yfwd, k2tog) twice, yfwd, k1, rep from * to end 🗆 Rnd 12: k Rnds 1-12 set main patt □ Rep Rnds 1-12 twice more

Shape crown

NOTE: change to smaller circular then dpns when sts won't fit around larger circular needle

□ Rnd 1: * yfwd, k1, yfwd, k2, skpo, k4, skpo, k2, k2tog, (yfwd, k2tog) twice, rep from * to end. 108 sts
 □ Rnd 2 and all alt rnds: k
 □ Rnd 3: * k3, yfwd, (k2, skpo) twice, k3, (yfwd, k2tog) twice, rep from * to end. 102 sts
 □ Rnd 5: * k4, yfwd, k2, (skpo) twice, k3, (yfwd, k2tog) twice, rep from * to end. 96 sts
 □ Rnd 7: * k2, skpo, k4, skpo, k2, (yfwd, k2tog) twice, yfwd, rep from * to end. 90 sts
 □ Rnd 9: * yfwd, (k2, skpo) twice, k2, (yfwd, k2tog) twice, k1, rep from

* to end. 84 sts Rnd 11: * k2tog, yfwd, k2, (skpo) twice, k1, (yfwd, k2tog) twice, yfwd,



knit*wise*

.....

This pattern indicates repeated sections in two different ways. Small sections to be repeated are shown in brackets, while larger pattern sequences are marked by asterisks. These larger sequences often have smaller repeated sections within them, so make sure you pay close attention to how many times instructions should be worked.



GREAT FOR GIFTS



"A make one increase is worked between two stitches. Be sure to use this and not a kfb or the pattern won't work!"

LK Deputy Editor, Adrienne Chandler



k1, rep from * to end. 78 sts □ Rnd 13: * k1, yfwd, k2, skpo, k2, k2tog, (yfwd, k2tog) twice, rep from * to end. 72 sts □ Rnd 15: * k2, yfwd, k2, skpo, k2tog, (yfwd, k2tog) twice, rep from * to end. 66 sts □ Rnd 17: * k3, yfwd, (skpo) twice, (yfwd, k2tog) twice, rep from * to end. 60 sts □ Rnd 19: * k1, skpo, k3, (yfwd, k2tog) twice, rep from * to end. 54 sts \square Rnd 21: * skpo, k3, (yfwd, k2tog)

NOTE: from this point alt rnds are no longer k rnds

□ Rnd 22: * skpo, k2, (yfwd, k2tog) twice, rep from * to end. 42 sts □ Rnd 23: * skpo, k1, (yfwd, k2tog) twice, rep from * to end. 36 sts □ Rnd 24: * skpo, (yfwd, k2tog) twice, rep from * to end. 30 sts □ Rnd 25: * k1, k2tog, yfwd, k2tog, rep from * to end. 24 sts 🗆 Rnd 26: * k2tog, yfwd, k2tog, rep from * to end. 18 sts □ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread tail through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off Weave in ends

COWL

Using 4mm (60cm) circular needle, cast on 266 sts, join in the rnd taking care not to twist sts, pm for beg of rnd □ Work in rib as for Hat until work meas 3cm \Box Work Rows 1-12 of main patt as for Hat four times □ Work in rib for 3cm □ Cast off in rib Weave in loose ends and block to measurements (see p93) LK



Parplelinda Grafts

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Teddy Bears Picnic!

Fall in love with these cute Teddy Bears from the New Sirdar 'The Bear Book'



£2.99 per ball

Projects are created in the Sirdar Snuggly Snowflake Chunky & Snuggly DK



www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk

coming next issue **COSY CO-ORDINATING SET BY HELEN ARDLEY**

twice, rep from * to end. 48 sts

December issue of Let's Knit on sale FRIDAY 25TH NOVEMBER

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JOHN ARBON VIOLA shade Aquarius. £15 per 100g skein. 01598 752490, www.jarbon.com



WEST YORKSHIRE SPINNERS Bluefaced Leicester. Shade Teal. £4.85 per 50g (112m) ball. 01535 664500 www.wyspinners.com TEAL BELTED WRAP DRESS, £39, 0871 683 7000, www.missselfridge.co.uk

STYLECRAFT Cardigan pattern number 8726. £2.99 from 0845 519 4573, www.deramores.com

PRETTY

eacock

ROWAN Kid Silk Haze shade 671 Peacock. £8.95 per 25g (210m) ball. **03456 049 049,** www.johnlewis.co.uk



ERIKA KNIGHT Fat Fur Wool shade 06 Mallard. £12.95 per 100g hank. www.amazon.co.uk

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DROPS AIR, shade 11 Peacock Blue. £4.20 per 50g (130m) ball. 0800 505 3300,

www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

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PLEATED TOP, £25, 0333 014 8000, www.marksandspencer.com **CYGNET CHUNKY** shade 428 Teal. £1.89 per 100g (156m) ball, **01274 743374,** www.cygnetyarns.com



ADRIAFIL CANDY, shade 72 Peacock Blue. £6.95 per 100g (100m) ball. 0845 544 2196, www.loveknitting.com PINTUCK Jersey Blouse, £20, 0330 026 2728, www.bonmarche.co.uk

HEELS, £80,

0207 258 3605.

www.dunlelondon.com



BARRY M NAIL PAINT SHADE 5 THE WAY YOU

MAKE ME TEAL, £4.99,

www.superdrug.com

03456 710709,

NIKKIM PEACOCK shade 590 Peacock. £4.99 per 50g (119m) ball. 01925 764231, www.blacksheepwools.com

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HOT READS THIS MONTH **BIG BOOK OF KNITTED MITTENS**

Jorid Linvik (£19.99, Seach Press)

With the help of this book, Let's Knit is planning to fashion a new pair of mittens every week this season! The book explores unique patterns which combine traditional Scandinavian design with exciting elements such as exotic animals. Jorid provides 45 double-sided mitten patterns that are sure to suit all the family. The detailed colour diagrams coupled with guidance for creating your own patterns make this book a mitten-knitting all rounder! 01892 510850, www.searchpress.com



BIG NEEDLE KNITS Melanie Porter (£12.99, Ryland Peters and Small)

Here at Let's Knit, we love chunky scarves, hats and blankets, as they're both cosy and stylish, and this book is jam-packed with fashionable designs for all three. Melanie shares 35 designs ranging from lighter knits such as a knitted bracelet to megaknits including a chunky bodywarmer. Some of our personal favourites include the supersized scarf and the multi-strand blanket. This book is perfect for winter time when as all of us knitters know, the chunkier a knit the better!

0207 025 2200, www.rylandpeters.com

NORAH GAUGHAN'S KNITTED CABLE SOURCEBOOK

Norah Gaughan (£19.99, Abrams and Chronicle Books)

Jazz up a plain cardigan, jumper, throw or cushion by incorporating cabling into the design. In this helpful book the intricacies of the technique are laid bare, and Norah provides clear and concise instructions in both written and chart form. Projects include entire garments, alongside detailed



instructions for specific cables. If you're keen to try your hand at cable knits this winter, then this is the perfect book for you!

01903 828503, www.abramsandchronicle.co.uk

Pick up a skill! **OO LITTLE CHRISTMAS**

Search Press (£12.99, Search Press)

With projects available for all sorts of crafts, this handy book really does have Christmas covered! Ever fancied your hand at felting a winter owl, or perhaps sugarcrafting Santa? Give it a go, or simply stick with knitting classic scarves, wrist warmers and decorations! 01892 510850, www.searchpress.com

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A quick chat with... **SARAH SIMI, NUDINITS**

Nudinits is a stop-motion production

"The designs for Nudinits were in part inspired by shows such as Bagpuss, but the comedy aspect came from the naked rambler, where the image of a man climbing a mountain with nothing but his walking boots and binoculars tapped right into my British appreciation of

naughty humour.

I used so many yarns for the project, from assorted the book are knitted using super chunky wool, whilst the puppets and props are largely knitted with assorted DK wools. My favourite yarn to use for knitting Bernard and Barbara is Hayfield Bonus DK in Flesh tone 93, as it's one of the only accurate light skin-toned yarns that I've found.

The advice I would give to those knitting my designs is

Don't rush knitting the faces of the puppets, as you'll find that sometimes re-positioning features by even just a few millimetres can transform



MAKE THESE WITH JUST ONE BALL!

Happy Feet

Treat your toes with this gorgeous pair from Stylecraft

There are few things we like more than new yarn here at LK HQ, but when that new yarn comes with great pattern support, we just grin from ear to ear. Stylecraft Head Over Heels is a brand new self-patterning 4ply yarn that can be used for socks, shawls and other great accessories. We love the pretty lace detail and picot edging on this perfect pair.

Measurements & Sizes Leg circumference (cm): 18.5 (21.5,

Knit Kit

Yarn: Stylecraft Head Over Heels, shade 3099 Kilimanjaro, one 100g ball

Needles: 2.75mm, double-pointed, set of four

Stitch markers

Tapestry needle

••••• Tension Square

- 32 sts x 36 rows
- 10cm x 10cm stocking stitch •
- 2.75mm needles

. For abbreviations see page 92

About the Yarn

Stylecraft Head Over Heels is a brand new sock yarn that comprises 75% superwash wool and 25% nylon, which adds durability and practicality to the yarn. It knits into a self-patterning effect and costs £6.49 per 100g (400m) ball from 01925 764231, www.blacksheepwools.com

To get 10% off all orders at Black Sheep Wools use the code LK112

"Who wouldn't want socks for Christmas when they're knitted by hand and look like this?

LK Deputy Editor **Adrienne Chandler**



Start knitting here...

SOCKS (make two)

Using 2.75mm dpns, cast on 60 (68, 72) sts and distribute evenly over three needles, pm, join in the rnd, pm for beg of rnd □ K five rnds

□ Next rnd: * yfwd, k2tog, rep from

* to end □ K five rnds

□ Fold cast-on edge to inside of work, k each st on needle tog with corresponding st from cast-on edge Work in patt as folls:

Rnds 1-5: * k3, p1, rep from * to end

Rnd 6: yfwd, k3tog, yrn, p1, * yon, k3tog, yrn, p1, rep from * to end □ Rnds 7-11: k1, * p1, k3, rep from * to last three sts, p1, k2 □ Rnd 12: k2, * p1, yon, k3tog, yrn, rep from * to last two sts, p1, k1 These 12 rows set patt □ Work in patt until work meas 15cm

Heel flap

Work Heel flap back and forth over next 30 (34, 36) sts, place rem 30 (34, 36) instep sts on waste yarn □ Row 1 (RS): * sl 1, k1, rep from * to end. 30 (34, 36) sts \square Row 2 (WS): sl 1, p to end □ Rep Rows 1-2 until heel flap is approximately square, ending after a Row 2. Cont on these sts as folls:

Turn heel

□ Row 1 (RS): * k17 (19, 21), k2tog tbl, k1, turn Leave rem 10 (12, 12) sts unworked □ Row 2 (WS): p6 (6, 8) p2tog, p1, turn

Leave rem 10 (12, 12) sts unworked □ Row 3: k to one st before gap,

k2tog tbl, k1, turn \square Row 4: p to one st before gap, p2tog, p1, turn

□ Rep Rows 3-4 until all sts have been worked. 18 (20, 22) sts

Heel Gusset

□ Set up rnd: k9 (10, 11), pm for end of rnd. 9 (10, 11), pick up and k one st in each slipped st along side of heel flap, pick up and k one st between heel flap and instep, pm, k across rem instep sts, pm, pick up and k one st between heel flap and instep, pick up and k one st in each slipped st along other side of heel flap, k to end

□ Rnd 1: k to two sts before marker, k2tog, sm, k to marker, sm, k2tog, k to end

□ Rnd 2: k to marker, sm, k to marker, sm, k to end □ Rep Rnds 1-2 until 30 (34, 36) sole sts rem. 60 (68, 72) sts \Box Cont without shaping until foot meas 5cm shorter than desired foot length

ΔΔ

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Toe

□ Next rnd: * k15 (17, 18), pm, rep from * to end \Box Next rnd (dec): * k to two sts

before marker, k2tog, rep from

* to end

🗆 Next rnd: k

□ Rep last two rnds seven

times more

 \Box Rep dec rnd 5 (7, 8) times more

□ Cut yarn leaving a long tail and

pull through rem sts □ Fasten off

Weave in all ends and block foll ball band instructions LK



A yarn over needle (yon) and yarn forward (yfwd) are worked in similar ways - by bringing the yarn over the top of the right hand needle to create an extra stitch. The main difference is that for a yfwd the yarn starts at the back of the work and needs to be moved to the front of the work first. For a yon, the yarn is already at the front.



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www.vanessabeedesigns.co.uk email: info@vanessabeedesigns.co.uk Tel 017687 71447 dd a burst of brightness to your wardrobe this season with this easy to knit, bold scarf! Bursting with character and unrivalled softness, it's the perfect outerwear for a wintry evening's walk with loved ones. It's incredibly simple to knit, with the one-row eyelet pattern repeated throughout showing off the texture beautifully.

Measurements & sizes 200cm long

Tension square 7 sts x 11 rows, 10cm x 10cm, stocking stitch, 10mm needles

You will need:

YARN: Robin Firecracker Super Chunky, shade 4123 Purple, two 100g balls NEEDLES: 10mm

Stort knitting here

Using 10mm needles and yarn A, cast on 12 sts * Row 1: p1, (yon, p2tog) to last st, p1 * Rep this row until work meas approx 200cm * Cast off **LK**





Robin Firecracker Super Chunky costs £2.25 per 100g (100m) ball from www.thewoolfactoryonline.com

Mip up a super easy BOLDKNIT SCARF

Be brave this festive season with a statement scarf from Robin!



GREAT GIFT IDEA

Y our favourite colouring pencils need a safe home, and you can give them just that with this stylish knitted pencil case! This simple knit is comprised of a standard 4ply yarn, and practices basic knit and purl stitches on its textured edge. It's a great gift to give any colouring fan.

EXCLUSIVE TO

Quick and easy slip stitch PENCIL CASE

Store stationery in style with this sleek knit!

Measurements & sizes Pencil case: 22cm wide x 12cm long



YARN: DMC Natura Just Cotton Medium, shade (A) 77, (B) 177, one 50g ball of each NEEDLES: 4mm and 4.5mm ZIP: 20cm COTTON FABRIC: 24cm square TAPESTRY NEEDLE MATCHING SEWING THREAD SEWING NEEDLE DRESSMAKER'S PINS

For abbreviations see page 92

Start knitting here

BODY

- Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 49 sts
- ⊁ Rows 1-2: k
- Change to 4.5mm needles and yarn B ★ Row 3: k4, (sl 1 pwise, k1) to last three
- sts. k3. 28 sts
- ✤ Row 4: k4, (wyif sl 1 pwise, yb, k1) to last three sts, k3
- ★ Keeping colours correct, rep last four rows 21 times
- Fasten off yarn B, change to 4 mm needles and join yarn A
- 🗚 Row 89: k
- Row 90: k5, p1, (k1, p1) to last five sts, k5
 Row 91: k
- ROW 91: K
 Cast off
- , cust on

LINING

Fold fabric in half with right side inwards, join side edges leaving 1cm seam allowance. Turn right side out and press back 1cm turning around opening

DMC Natura Just Cotton Medium

from www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk

costs £2.75 per 50g (75m) ball

TO MAKE UP

Open zip. Pin one side centrally to reverse of cast-on edge of pencil case, easing stitches so they lie evenly along tape. Back stitch in place. Join other side of zip to cast-off edge. Keeping zip open, fold pencil case in half lengthways and join side edges. Turn wrong side out. Slip lining over case, matching up bottom corners. Pin and stitch folded edge to zip tape, 4mm from teeth. Turn right side out and oversew a few stitches at each end of zip to conceal ends of tape **LK**

COMING UP IN THE DECEMBER ISSUE OF **Knit**





Dear Let's Knit,

A few issues ago you asked if people should knit for their dogs. My answer is, yes! This was Bruno my rescue greyhound who, as you can see, was very frail and elderly. This was only a year after his adoption. I always knew he wouldn't be with me long so every precious moment was treasured. I knitted this personalised baseball-style letter jacket, knowing it would probably be the last knit I made for him. Every stitch was loaded with love. Bruno died in my arms only 28 months after I rescued him. I was



heartbroken and this cardigan was my comforter after he was gone.

I'm about to start knitting a new letter jacket – this time for Bruno's baby brother, Reuben! He's another greyhound, adopted aged three and as he suffers from anxiety and panic attacks, he finds a knitted coat comforting. SALLY ANNE G. ADAMS

WE LOVE TO HEAR YOUR STORIES!

Thank you so much for sharing your story Sally Anne! Bruno was a lovely dog and his jacket is perfect for him. We hope Reuben loves his new coat. Enjoy your prize!

STORIES AND MAKES GALORE FROM YOU, OUR WONDERFUL READERS Here's what you've been busy making this month:

STOP & Share



Sarah Murdoch

He's brilliant, Sarah! Merry

Christmas from all of us at LK!

.....

Festive folk

"Gingerbread man" Hayley Borley Aw, we love his cheery smile!



Amazing Advent

"Just finished this Christmas stocking Advent tree for my grandsons. They were fun to make but going to have more fun filling them"

Karen Inglis These are fab, Karen! We love the tree arrangement!



Dancing Darcey

Leanne MacKenzie

We love the yarn choice for her outfit.



Perky parrot "Made a few of these" Amanda Jex

Jason the Parrot is one of our faves too, Amanda!



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Toys at Christmas are not just for small people, you know! Whether you're an expert or beginner knitter, you'll always find a festive plaything that suits your skill level. We've found a few of our favourites and added them to our Christmas Knits Pinterest board. Take a look and be inspired!



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WHYILOVE

JUUUUU

MY LOCAL YARN SHOP "MAVIS OF BUSHEY -GREAT SELECTION, LOVELY PEOPLE, ALWAYS WORTH TRAVELLING THERE, NEVER LEAVE EMPTY-HANDED.

LOVE IT." Fredi Smith

Let us know why you love your local yarn shop by emailing us at the address below



PRINTED TIPS WIN

A £10 VOUCHER TO

SPEND AT BLACK

SHEEP WOOLS

Tip of the Month...

"YouTube never gets impatient or tired of explaining the same thing over and over again. And if you don't understand one explanation: just try a different video." SARAH WEIR This month, our Star Letter winner, Sally Anne, has won A Little Course in Knitting & A Little Course in Crochet

Sal Croche

Our Star Make winner, Sarah, has won two balls of Twilley's Freedom Wool and three reels of Christmas ribbon.

WE ASKED ON TWITTER... What knitting treat will you be asking Father Christmas to bring you this year?

My own fully stocked private wool shop. I've been a very good girl. Jacqueline Jacques

Several pairs of magical

knitting needles like

Molly Weasley so I can

actually get all my

projects finished!

#solittletime

Santa, please bring me a beautiful leather case to hold all my dpns. I think I might need several of them! Sandy

The cure for second sock syndrome – help! Chloe Gordon



Get in touch send us photos of your makes, tell us about your experiences, share tips or answer questions and polls.

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.....

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Send tips and letters to Let's Knit, 1 Phoenix Court, Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JY

.....

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Break We've jumbled up three knitty terms. Can you work out what they are? Not tricking ma (5, 8) SETTLE DOWN WITH A CUPPA TO READ, RELAX AND TEST YOUR KNITTY KNOWLEDGE! iob peaches (5, 5) Winches a ham (7, 4) LET'S KNIT'S

OUICK OUIZ

How much do you know about our favourite hobby?

- Which character can be seen knitting in the film. The Dark Knight?
- Selbu knitting comes from which country?
- What is an alternative name \bigcirc for yarn made from plastic?
- A standard aran weight yarn is usually knitted with what size needles?
- Where might you find a maiden bearing?

Name that yarn

Here are three clues to our mystery yarn. Is it one that's in your stash?

- It's a great value, soft acrylic yarn
- It won the Best Yarn For Crochet
- There are over 80 shades to

Caption competition Email adrienne.chandler@aceville. co.uk with your caption and we'll publish the winning entry in our next issue!

Here's our favourite caption from last issue "Only 12 Fridays till Christmas and another 20,000,000 to knit'

Congratulations to Frances Holden



PURLS OF WISDOM **By Claire Thomas** Think I'm In Lab

It's so easy to get into a rut, isn't it? It happens regularly. I realise I've been making variations on the same things for a while. The patterns that are reliable, easy, and yes - comforting. They're enjoyably undemanding, as cosy as pyjamas... but then the faint sense of boredom asserts itself again, and I seek out something new.

This time I began science knitting. I started off with a dopamine molecule, made out of i-cord with floral wire to stiffen it. I made a DNA scarf with a double helix cable. Then I made some internal organs. If you're going to do this yourself, I have a tip for you: make something like a womb or a kidney that already has its own recognisable shape. Don't make a liver, because that will just look like a brown lump. Then people make rude

.....

comments. Then you have to threaten divorce until they apologise. I even knitted a bacterium. Before I knew it, there was a little colony of them in the corner of the sitting room. Those things don't half multiply.

After a few weeks of this I became vaguely addicted - addicted enough to be seriously considering an intarsia periodic table blanket. (There are 118 elements in the periodic table, so I decided against it). I was really enjoying knitting stuff so different from my usual range of makes, and the cleverness of interpreting scientific concepts in knitting was stimulating my brain in lots of different ways. That's when disaster struck.

Check out

the answers below to see

how many you got right!

I scoured the internet, but couldn't

"AFTER A FEW WEEKS TD BECOME VAGUELY ADDICTED - ADDICTED FNOLIGH TO BE SERIOLISI Y CONSIDERING AN INTARSIA PERIODIC TABLE BLANKET"

find anything substantially new, only small variations on what I'd already made: the less immediately recognisable internal organs, different molecules. It was time to move on again... but I wasn't ready to leave science and conceptual makes behind.

There had got to be something that would give me that fix - but what?

Leafing through some old magazines for inspiration, I found an article on mathematical crochet. Two days later and I had a crocheted model of a hyperbolic pseudosphere (I know, right?!). The world of maths was opening up before me like it never did at GCSE. Thing is, I'm now crowded out. I need to get rid of some of these science makes. Anyone in the market for a knitted liver?

Claire Thomas is a freelance journalist and founder of Stitch 'n' Bitch group, Knit Pickers

.....

QUICK QUIS: 1. Bane, 2. Norway, 3. Plarn, 4. 5mm, 5. On a spinning wheel WORD PLAY: 1. Macro knitting, 2. Jacob sheep, 3. Machine wash NAME THAT YARN: 5tylecraft Special DK



Start knitting here

FRONT (not shown) Using 7mm needles, cast on 57 sts

Foundation row: p
 Work in patt as folls:
 Row 1 (RS): p2, * (k2, p2) twice,

k1, (p2, k2) twice, p1, rep from * to last st, p1

Row 2: k2, * (p2, k2) twice, p1, (k2, p2) twice, k1, rep from * to last st, k1

Rows 3-4: rep Rows 1-2
Row 5: p3, (k2, p2, k2, p3)

to end

★ Row 6: k3, (p2, k2, p2, k3) to end

- ★ Rows 7-8: rep Rows 5-6
- ⊁ Row 9: as Row 2

≭ Row 10: as Row 1

- **≭** Row 11: as Row 2
- **≭** Row 12: as Row 1
- **≭** Row 13: as Row 2
- **≭** Row 14: as Row 5
- **≭** Row 15: as Row 6
- **≭** Row 16: as Row 5
- These 16 rows form patt
- Work a further 56 rows in patt
- ⊁ Cast off

LOWER BACK

Using 7mm needles, cast on 57 sts

- Foundation row: pWork 56 rows in patt as
- for Front
- 🔻 Cast off

UPPER BACK

Using 7mm needles, cast on 57 sts * Rows 1-4: work as for Front * Buttonhole row: p3, k2, p2, k2, (p2tog, yrn, p1, k2, p2, k2) four times, p2tog, yrn, p1, k2, p2, k2, p3 * Beg with Row 6, work a further 19 rows in patt * Cast off

TO MAKE UP

Overlap eight rows of Upper back over last eight rows of Lower back and tack in place. Join backs to Front. Sew on buttons to correspond with button holes. Undo tacking and insert cushion pad **LK**

YARN SHOP

Stylecraft Weekender costs £3.45 per 100g (100m) ball from www.loveknitting.co.uk

Spruce up your sofa with this STYLISH KNITTED KNITTED CUSHION

Siân Brown's chunky textured knit would make a great gift

ere at LK we're firm believers that there is no such thing as too many cushions, and with the festive season just around the corner, we're dreaming of curling up on the sofa with this gorgeous knitted number and a mug of hot chocolate. This cushion follows a set 16 row pattern, making it a super easy knit!

Measurements & sizes To fit a cushion

45cm x 45cm

Tension square

13 sts x 16 rows, 10cm x 10cm, 7mm needles



CUSHION PAD:

45cm

For abbreviations see page 92



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EASY KNIT DECORATIONS

Frosted Forest



Knit Nicola Valiji's gingerbread-inspired tree decs

e'll admit it, we're often inspired by food, especially around Christmas time! This trio of trees are decorated like gingerbread houses with white icing patterns. Some parts are worked as stripes and others are embroidered afterwards. Read the Knitwise (overleaf) for a more detailed explanation of the edging.



"These unique Christmas decorations will look great on your festive table" NICOLA VALIJI

www.letsknit.co.uk

Measurements & Sizes

Excluding skewers and pots Small: 13cm tall Medium: 16.5cm tall Large: 21cm tall

Knit Kit

Yarn: Deramores Studio DK, shades (A) Oatmeal, (B) Frost, one 100g ball of each

Needles: 3.75mm Tapestry needle

Toy stuffing Bamboo skewers Mini pompom maker

Buckets: mini, white

Tension Square

- 22 sts x 28 rows

10cm x 10cmstocking stitch

3.75mm needles

• 5.75mm needles

For abbreviations see page 92

About the Yarn

Deramores Studio DK is a soft acrylic yarn that comes in 33 shades. Although it can be machine washed and tumble dried, you're better off dabbing these trees with a damp sponge. It costs £1.99 per 100g (250m) ball from **0845 519 4573, www.deramores.com**

Need an Alternative?

Use oddments of DK from your stash.

knitwise

The edging is worked as a mock picot. Simply cast on the instructed number of stitches and work in stocking stitch as directed. Work one row of eyelets, then carry on in stocking stitch again. After casting off, fold the piece in half so the wrong sides are together. You'll see that your eyelet row has turned into a row of decorative points. Magic!



LARGE TREE

FRONT

Using 3.75mm needles and varn A, cast on 31 sts □ Row 1: k 🗆 Row 2: p □ Row 3: skpo, k to last two sts, k2tog. 29 sts \Box Rows 4-6: cont in st st □ Rows 7: skpo, k to last two sts, k2tog. 27 sts Change to yarn B □ Row 8: p Change to yarn A □ Rep last eight rows four times more. 11 sts \Box Next row: skpo, k to last two sts, k2tog. Nine sts □ Next row: p □ Rep last two rows twice more. Five sts □ Next row: skpo, k1, k2tog. Three sts □ Next row: p □ Next row: sl 1, k2tog, psso. One st □ Fasten off

BACK

□ Work as for Front using yarn A only

EDGING

Using 3.75mm needles and yarn B, cast on 31 sts Row 1: k Row 2: p Row 3: k1, (yfwd, k2tog) to end Rows 4-5: cont in st st Cast off

MEDIUM TREE

FRONT Using 3.75mm needles and yarn A, cast on 25 sts Row 1: k Row 2: p

□ Row 3: skpo, k to last two sts, k2tog. 23 sts □ Rows 4-6: cont in st st □ Rows 7: skpo, k to last two sts, k2tog. 21 sts Change to yarn B □ Row 8: p Change to yarn A \Box Rep last eight rows three times more. Nine sts $\hfill\square$ Next row: skpo, k to last two sts, k2tog. Seven sts □ Next row: p □ Rep last two rows once more. Five sts □ Next row: skpo, k to last two sts, k2tog. Three sts □ Next row: p □ Next row: sl 1, k2tog, psso. One st □ Fasten off

BACK

□ Work as for Front using yarn A only

EDGING

Using 3.75mm needles and yarn B, cast on 25 sts Work as for Large tree

SMALL TREE

FRONT

Using 3.75mm needles and yarn A, cast on 19 sts Row 1: k Row 2: p Row 3: skpo, k to last two sts, k2tog. 17 sts Rows 4-6: cont in st st Row 7: skpo, k to last two sts, k2tog. 15 sts Change to yarn B Row 8: p Change to yarn A Rep last eight rows twice more.
Seven sts
Next row: skpo, k to last two sts, k2tog. Five sts
Next row: p
Next row (dec): skpo, k to last two sts, k2tog. Three sts
Next row: p
Next row: sl 1, k2tog, psso.
One st
Fasten off

BACK

 \Box Work as for Front using yarn A only

EDGING

Using 3.75mm needles and yarn B, cast on 19 sts — Work as for Large tree

BUCKET BAND

(make three) Using 3.75mm knitting needles and yarn B, cast on 28 sts Row 1: k Change to yarn A Rows 2-4: cont in st st Change to yarn B Row 5: k Cast off

TO MAKE UP

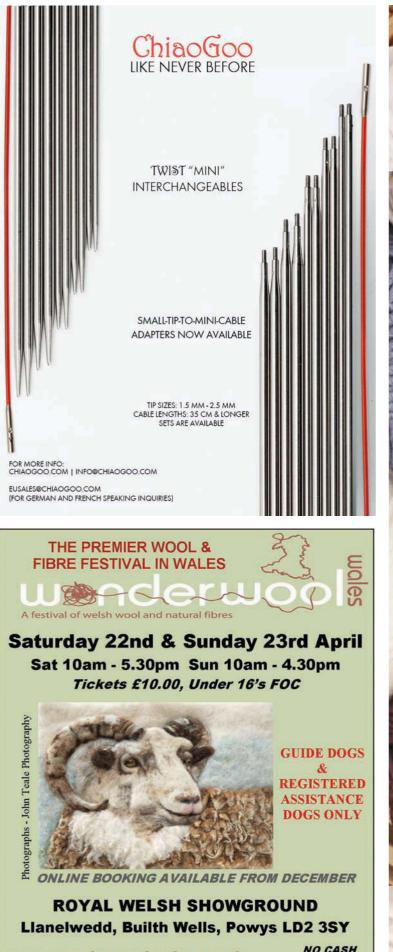
Lightly press all pieces. Sew side seams of each tree, leaving cast-on edge open. Stuff, then sew base closed and attach edging. Using yarn B, embroider front side of trees, using photo as a guide. Make three mini pompoms and sew one to top of each tree. Join ends of Bucket Bands and slide onto mini buckets. Tie bows using yarn B and sew to front of bands. Wind a ball of yarn B big enough to sit in each bucket. Insert skewer into knitted tree then push other end into wound yarn ball **LK**

coming next issue

I-CORD CUSHION BY JANE BURNS

December issue of Let's Knit on sale FRIDAY 25TH NOVEMBER





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The gift of giving!

Our brand NEW snowflakes jumper kit will make the perfect gift for any fellow crafter or as a treat for yourself this festive season

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SIMPLE SCANDI STYLE

Festive Feast



Decorate **Helen Ardley's** easy-knit homewares with Christmassy cross stitch!

ur seven-piece set is a jolly addition to any seasonal spread, with the red and white colours managing to look both classic and contemporary at the same time. There's no complicated colourwork to worry about as the motifs are embroidered at the end using cross stitch. If you're feeling really creative, you can design your own cross stitch chart!

The motifs are added on afterwards - easy!

Measurements & Sizes Coasters: 13cm x 13cm Teacosy: 21cm x 23cm Table mat: 30cm x 53cm Napkin rings: 6cm x 7cm

..... Knit Kit

Yarn: Wendy Merino DK, shades (A) 2352 Red, four 50g balls, (B) 2350 Cloud Dancer, one 50g ball

Needles: 3.75mm, 4mm

Tapestry needle

Tension Square

- 20 sts x 28 rows
- 10cm x 10cm
- stocking stitch • 4mm needles

For abbreviations see page 92

About the Yarn

.

Wendy Merino DK is a soft, smooth pure wool yarn. As wool is a brilliant natural insulator, it's a good choice for this project. It's machine washable too and a 50g (116m) ball costs £3.49 from **01829 740903**, www.laughinghens.com

Need an Alternative?

Why not add some festive sparkle with King Cole Glitz DK? It's an acrylic yarn with a metallic thread running throughout. It costs £3.59 per 100g (290m) ball from 01621 815576, www.thecheapshoptiptree.co.uk

knitwise

The contrasting white patterns on this set are embroidered using cross stitches. Try not to make your stitches too tight or they'll cause the work to pucker and your mat and coasters won't lie flay. You may find it helps to work all the diagonal lines in one direction, then work your way back completing the stitches. Alternatively, you could use Swiss darning for a different effect.

Start knitting here...

COASTER (make four) Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 27 sts \Box Row 1: k1, * p1, k1 rep from * to end

This row sets moss st □ Rows 2-4: as Row 1 □ Row 5: k1, p1, k23, p1, k1 □ Row 6: k1, p1, k1, p21, k1, p1, k1 These two rows set st st with moss st edge □ Work 29 rows more in patt \Box Work four rows in moss st □ Cast off Weave in ends. Embroider snowflake motifs in centre of each

CHART A

26 24

18

16

12

Coaster using yarn B **TABLE MAT**

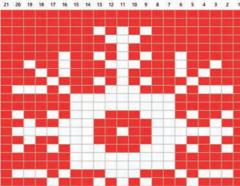
Using 4mm needles and yarn A cast on 63 sts \Box Work six rows in moss st as for Coaster \Box Next row: (k1, p1) twice, k55, (p1, k1) twice □ Next row: (k1, p1) twice, k1, p53, (k1, p1) twice, k1 These two rows set st st with moss st edge □ Work 135 rows more in patt \Box Work six rows in moss st □ Cast off Weave in ends. Embroider chosen

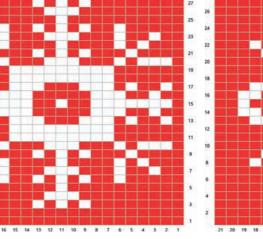
CHART B

snowflake motif five times evenly down centre of mat

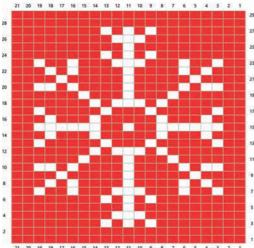
TEACOSY

(make two pieces) Using 3.75mm needles and yarn A, cast on 47 sts \Box Work five rows in moss st as for Coaster Change to 4mm needles □ Next row: k1, p1, k43, p1, k1 □ Next row; k1, p1, k1, p41, k1, p1, k1 These two rows set st st with moss st edge □ Work 22 rows more in patt □ Next row: k1, p1, k1, skpo, k37, k2tog, k1, p1, k1. 45 sts

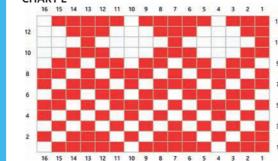


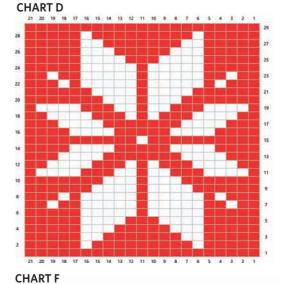






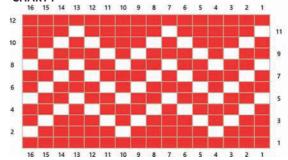






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8



60 www.letsknit.co.uk









10%

LK112

□ Next row: k1, p1, k1, skpo, k35, k2tog, k1, p1, k1. 43 sts \Box Work three rows in patt \Box Cont to dec as set on every alt row until 39 sts rem □ Work three rows in patt □ Next row: k1, p1, k1, skpo, k29, k2tog, k1, p1, k1. 37 sts □ Work one row in patt □ Next row: k1, p1, k1, skpo, k27, k2tog, k1, p1, k1. 35 sts □ Work one row in patt □ Next row: k1, p1, k1, skpo, k2, p1, k1, p1, * k3, p1, k1, p1, rep from * to last seven sts, k2, k2tog, k1, p1, k1. 33 sts □ Next row: k1, p1, k1, * p4, k1, p1, rep from * to last six sts, p3, k1, p1, k1 □ Next row: k1, p1, k1, * k3, p1, k1, p1, rep from * to last six sts, k4, p1, k1 □ Rep last two rows until work meas 21cm, ending after a WS row □ Cast off

 \Box Work three rows in patt

2cm from base. Leave gap for handle and spout then sew rest of each seam. Using chart, embroider Chart E design across bottom edge of teacosy. Make two pompoms using yarns A and B and attach to top of cosy with lengths of yarn A wound tight around top to secure

NAPKIN RING (make two)

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on 27 sts Work four rows in moss st as for Coaster Row 5: k1, p1, k23, p1, k1 Row 6: k1, p1, k1, p21, k1, p1, k1 These two rows set st st with moss st edge Work eight more rows as set Work four rows in moss st Cast off Weave in ends. Embroider

Chart F in centre of ring.

stitch in place **LK**

Overlap moss st edges and

TO MAKE UP

With WS together, join side edge for

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The Knitmare BEFORE Obstables

Ever found yourself still stitching as Santa's sleigh arcs overhead? You're not alone, learns **Anna Blewett**

hristmas is coming, and with it a tutting queue of virtuous merrymakers ready to tell you to get organised. "Baste your turkey a week ahead!" some Nigella or Kirstie will tell you. "Get your presents wrapped in November!" Personally I side with LK reader Sandra Brown, who knows proper festive heroics don't begin until the advent calendar has

yielded its last chocolate. "I made a Noah's Ark complete with lots of animals one year, but was still embroidering the second giraffe's eyes at 7am on Christmas morning," she recalls. "Luckily I didn't have to cook Christmas dinner that year!" Frankly Sandra sounds like the kind of woman who could cater for a family of 14 and still get a few crocheted baubles knocked out while the sprouts were bubbling.

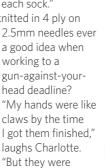
For Christmas, unless you're under 20, is as much about keeping calm and carrying on as celebrating the birth of the bonnie baby Jesus. We hold this truth to be self-evident: Christmas may not break your love for knitting, but it can sorely test it.

Love's Labours Soft

Champion crafter Charlotte Newland, whose summer included winning the BBC's Great British Sewing Bee, was

almost cured of her passion for knitting by a pair of socks, a gift for her husband-to-be. "I had totally failed to absorb the fact he has size 14 feet," she remembers. "That's a whole 12 inches of foot right there. I, being a newbie at the time, went for a cuff-down pattern and had to play 'yarn chicken' for the last two inches of each sock." Are projects knitted in 4 ply on

"I was still embroidering the giraffe's eyes at 7am on Christmas morning!"



ready just in time. Thank goodness they fitted, otherwise I would have cried. Needless to say, I haven't knitted him another pair!"

The trouble with non-knitting recipients is they have no idea how lucky they are. I recall the year my Auntie Rosemary embellished the Christmas crackers with 16 lovingly fashioned garter stitch penguins, 50% of which had to be covertly scooped from the bin after being tossed aside with ripped foil and loo roll tubes in the scramble for paper hats and novelty table toys. Oh, the nonchalance with which those non-knitters cast makes aside, or make outlandish requests for new ones. "Can you knit me a Sarah Lund?," my sister asked with shining eyes one November when the Fair Isle-sweatered Danish detective was at the height of her powers. Eight months and six balls of Lopi yarn later she got her wish, in the 26°C heat of a July that came long after Nordic noirs had faded from favour.

Mistletoe and Twine

LK designer Lynne Rowe knows better than most that these TV requests so rarely stop at one 50g ball and a couple of evening's work. "Many years ago, when Starsky and Hutch were all the rage, my mum asked for an Aran cardigan for Christmas," she recalls. "Mum chose the yarn – two huge 400g-balls of Sirdar Aran. It really was

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a labour of love but I managed to finish it in time for Christmas, extremely relieved and pleased with the finished product. Mum loved it; I noticed her wearing it a few times, then saw it no more. I wondered if there was a problem - maybe it had fallen apart or started to unravel? - only to discover my mum had washed, tumble-dried and pressed it (she irons everything!), and hence it had grown exponentially and was no longer wearable. I think she was as upset as I was!"

Adding care labels is certainly a wise move, especially since it allows you to hammer home the generosity of your gift. '100% baby alpaca' I scrawl grandly on luggage labels that dwarf the mittens I like to make small children. 'Tumble dry AT YOUR PERIL!' In fact, if the benevolence of your varn choice, or virtuosity of your stitching is lost on loved ones, you could always take a lesson from LK regular Lucinda Ganderton. "I once bought a beautiful cut-price scarf from a pre-Christmas designer sample sale, specially chosen as a gift for a family member," she starts." I carefully unpicked the Paul Smith label from the corner - it had been marked with a large black cross and I didn't want to look like a cheapskate - but when she unwrapped the parcel, she assumed I'd knitted it specially for her. I have to confess that I have never disillusioned her!"

Merry Mohair

Reader Linda Nagle, meanwhile, has a cautionary tale of an under-researched gift. "I knitted a mohair sweater for my sister-in-law who informed me she was allergic to it," she recalls. "Her mother wore it." Personal experience from my own childhood tells me never to waste 100% lambswool on the ungrateful. "It's ITCHY!" we used to whine every year as Granny held panels of an unfinished festive jumper up for size. Our complaints would resurface on Christmas Day as Mum surreptitiously yanked at the tight neck holes - a Granny trademark as distinctive as her famous asymmetric Arans.

Giving, they say, is the true meaning of Christmas so perhaps this year it's time we find a new starting point for our labours. Take my advice; forget about what your loved ones actually want and grasp the opportunity to embark on a host of projects that you will really enjoy!



"I started a lovely snowman jumper but didn't have enough wool for the last sleeve. I went back to get more only to find it was a different colour." Julia Brown

READER'S CONFESSIONS

"I was up until silly o'clock one Christmas after realising my daughter's knitted doll was missing a skirt to cover its pants! As I went to bed she got up thinking she'd caught Santa!" Em Day



"I adapted a pattern I found online for stockings big enough to fit a pack of Top Trumps. In hindsight I should have made a tension square..." Nastassia Player

CHRISTMAS CRACKERS



Knit Tactically

Making scarves for the family? Susie Johns is, "Instead of finishing one before I begin the next I'm working on all of them so if I start to run out of time they can end up a bit shorter than planned but no one goes without."



Be Resourceful

Lucinda Ganderton's father was due a beautiful Christmas cardi, "But finishing it on Christmas Eve I couldn't find the buttons anywhere. I was practically in tears, when my grandmother suggested I take an old shirt from the back of his wardrobe, cut off the buttons and sew them onto my gift!" Genius.



Not enough knitting days 'til Christmas? "Give a voucher promising to knit your recipient a gift in the near future," says LK editor **Sarah Neal**. "That way you can finish it in your own time and also ensure it's something they'll like."



"Starting from January each month, dive into your stash and find enough yarn to knit up a small project that will make a great Christmas gift," says Lynne Rowe. "By the time next December comes around you'll have 12 ready-made hand knitted gifts.

Store 'Makeaheads' Wisely

"Old-fashioned moth balls are effective but the smell is not nice," says **Susie** Johns, "so a few days before Christmas give your knitted gifts a bit of an airing, then wrap them up with a lavender bag, a bar of scented soap or some lightlyperfumed tissue paper.'

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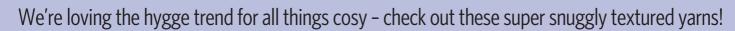
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rom soft faux fur to the heavenly embrace of a mohair halo, we just want to cosy up in all these fabulous yarns. They're great for
huggable sweaters and cuddly accessories, and there's something for every budget. Which will you choose?



www.letsknit.co.uk

1. Stylecraft Eskimo

This classic eyelash is a fun addition to any yarn stash and it's affordable too. It comes in subtle shades like Natural or Silver (shown here) or bold pinks, reds and lilac which will certainly make a statement. It costs £1.89 per 50g (80m) ball from **01621 815576**, www.thecheapshop

www.thecheaps tiptree.co.uk

3. Sirdar Bouffle Chunky

For more of a woolly finish, try this loopy mix of cotton, acrylic, wool and nylon. It's spun into a two-colour bouclé effect and is so fuzzy that you can use the most basic of stitches and still create a great piece of knitting. It costs \pounds 3.72 per 50g (109m) ball from **0845 003 0775**,

www.wool4less.co.uk



5. Wendy Fleur

If you prefer a more understated look, you'll love the brushed finish of this gentle, fuzzy yarn. It's an unusual mix of cotton, acrylic and tencel and is really light to wear. There are eight elegant shades, making it a good choice for stylish cardies and tops. A 100g ball costs £3.99 per (350m) ball from www.awoollytail.com

7. King Cole Embrace

This is a yarn in which you would be more than happy to cocoon yourself! It's a blend of nylon and acrylic with an eyelash finish yet has lovely drape and is impressively soft. There's a great range of supporting patterns for adult and children's garments, accessories and blankets. A 100g (245m) ball costs £4.29 from **0800 505 3300,** www.woolwarehouse.co.uk



2. James C. Brett Faux Fur

The realistic colour effects make this a fab vegan-friendly alternative to fur – and it's just as soft. A light and dark strand combine to recreate that natural look. Use a 6mm needle to get the best effect. It has an RRP of \pounds 4.99 per 50g (90m) ball. For stockists, call **01274 565959** or go to **www.jamescbrett.co.uk**

1. Erika Knight Fur

Go home grown with this fab and furry super chunky yarn! It's made from 97% British wool and is spun here in the UK. It creates a thick and woolly fabric that's great for cosy accessories. Make sure you wash it by hand to avoid accidental felting! It costs £12.95 per 100g (40m) skein from **0845 519 4573,** www.deramores.com

6. Design Ette Andrea di Bonaiuto

Kid mohair with 30% silk is a classic blend that brings instant luxury to any project. This yarn from Danish company Design Ette is wonderfully gentle with a fabulous halo of fuzzy fibres that give both lightness and warmth. There are 11 colour options and it costs £9.13 per 25g (220m) from**www.designette.co.uk**



8. Conway & Bliss Elektra

It's the bold colour combos that make this yarn really stand out from the crowd. The mix of wool with acrylic and nylon fibres keeps it light to wear, despite knitting up on 8mm needles. It's fabulously fuzzy and is perfect for statement knits for fashionistas. It costs £4.95 per 50g (130m) ball from **0845 544 2196,** www.loveknitting.com



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> Catch up with us at: StitchFest (Totnes, 5-6 Nov) West Country Quilt & Textile Show (Bristol, 11-13 Nov) Christmas Lace, Quilt & Needlecraft Fair (Solihull, 3 Dec) Waltham Abbey Wool Show (Marriott Hotel, 15 Jan 2017)

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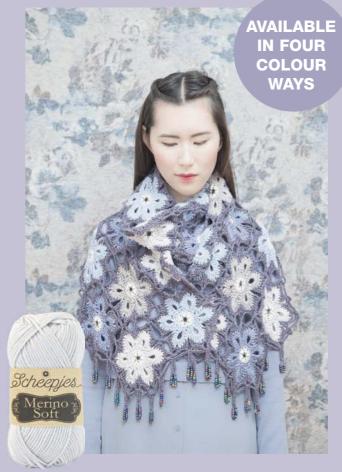
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chemicals and dyes used within the processing of yarns! Treat your friends – and yourself – to DermaGuard. Pump dispenser bottle, 250ml for \pounds 6.50 or 500ml for \pounds 12, with free P&P. Order online at **www.dermaguard.com** or call FREE on **0800 917 2219**.



Knit 'n' Caboodle

Find something perfect for the knitter in your life, or even just yourself, at Knit 'n' Caboodle. With all sorts of goodies for all sorts of knitters, there really is something for everyone! For the knitter on the go, try the quick knit kits you can take anywhere, from only £7.50. Or perhaps you'd be more interested in the irresistible yarn pack, which contains five 100g balls of colourful sock yarn alongside patterns and stitch markers, and costs only £35 including free UK P&P! Unsure what to get the knitter who has everything? Try the specially selected must-have tools, accessories and rare patterns. Browse all this and more at **www.knitncaboodle.co.uk** or call **01788 561010**.

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Baa Baa Brighouse

Jump straight into autumn/ winter 2016 with brand new shades from Baa Baa Brighouse! Warm orange shade 'Bailiff Bridge' and deep pinky red 'Wellholme' from the Baa Baa Brew range are 100% British Bluefaced Leicester DK yarn which is reared and sheared in the UK, then spun and hand dyed in Yorkshire using traditional methods. It's a versatile yet luxurious yarn, perfect for both children's clothes and adult garments. This seasonal duo is also available in a Baa Baa Bew Gift Box, Yarn Pops and Sprig Beanie Hat Knit. Head over to **baabaabrighouse.co.uk** to find out more.

Vanessa Bee Designs

There's a great new range of knitting bags available from Vanessa Bee Designs, just in time for your Christmas list! They range in size from a shoulder knitting bag to a crochet hook holder, so there is something for everyone's storage needs, and they're available in four lovely

colours. There's free delivery on UK orders over £20. Find out more information by visiting **www.vanessabeedesigns.co.uk** or calling **017687 71447**.



The Little Wool Company

If you're keen to find a gift for a fellow crafter take a look at The Little Wool Company's fabulous selection of kits and gift baskets. If you're after something a little different, also have a peek at the yarn range spun from its own herd of alpacas. One of the art deco Brittany Birch needles or hooks would also make a great gift, but if you'd prefer to stick with familiar territory, browse its selection of luxury yarns for classic favourites. Visit **www.thelittlewoolcompany. com** to view its full range.



The one-stop shop for all knitting and crochet accessories. At Christmas it is hard to find that perfect gift for crafters, but with the help of funky needles, you'll have it sorted in no time! Needles and hooks, cases, accessory jars and wrist pin cushions. Let your gift be the one that makes that special person say WOW! Visit their online store to see the full range at **www.funkyneedles.co.uk**.

The Knitters Attic

If you're unsure what gifts to buy this Christmas, The Knitters Attic is full of inspiration with a gift range that is exclusive to them! Take a look at the handmade embroidered project bags, their own sheep logo as a wooden needle gauge and their sock ruler if you're looking for presents this Christmas. If you'd prefer to stick to yarn, browse their selection of luxury brands including Debbie Bliss, Juniper Moon Farm, James C. Brett and Stylecraft. Gift wrapping services are also available. Visit **www.theknittersattic.co.uk** or call **01394 547077** for more information.



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FLATTERING KNIT FOR ALL SIZES

Layer up this winter with a simple LACE DETAIL SWEATER

e love garments that are easy to knit and easy to wear and this one's great for layering too - perfect for the indecisive British weather! The main body of the top is worked in the round, then divided at the underarms for the Front and Back. The lace pattern is worked over the top section and as it doesn't interfere with the shaping, you can focus on mastering the technique. This is one of those tops that can easily be dressed up or down, which makes us love it even more!



meet our DESIGNER

"This sweater is a perfect layering garment and is an easy first sweater project. The sweater is worked in the round to the underarms, and the front and back are worked separately to the shoulders. The shaping and the lace pattern are simple.' ANNIKEN ALLIS

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Measurements & Sizes

Dress size (approx):

 8-10
 (12-14, 16-18, 20-22)

 To fit chest (cm):

 86
 (97, 107, 117)

 Circumference at chest (cm):

 120
 (131, 142, 151)

 Length from shoulder (cm):

 54
 (55.5, 57, 58)

Knit Kit

Yam: Rowan Baby Merino Silk DK, shade SH682 Deep, 6 (7, 7, 8) 50g balls **Needles:** 4mm (80cm) and (40cm) circular, 4mm straight

Stitch markers

Stitch holder

Tapestry needle

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- 22 sts x 30 rows
- 10cm x 10cm
- stocking stitch
- 4mm needles

For abbreviations see page 92 About the Yarn

Rowan Baby Merino Silk DK

comprises 66% wool and 34% silk, meaning it is soft, smooth and has a pretty sheen. There are 20 semi-solid shades to choose from and the yarn can be machine washed. It costs £5.99 per 50g (135m) ball from **0800 505 3300**, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

To get 10% off all orders at Wool Warehouse, use the code LK112

Need an Alternative? 👫

Any standard DK yarn would work for this project, but try to choose a smooth yarn with good stitch definition. Why not go British with **West Yorkshire Spinners' Bluefaced Leicester DK**? It has an RRP of £4.85 per 50g (112m) ball from **01535 664500**, www.wyspinners.com

knit*wise*

This top uses the three-needle cast-off instead of sewing the shoulder seams. It creates a neat, strong join and is really easy to work. Hold the two pieces to be joined with RS together and hold both needles parallel in your left hand. Insert a third needle through the first stitch on the front then back needle, and knit them together. * Insert the needle through the next stitch on both needles and knit them together, lift the first stitch on the right needle over the second stitch and off the needle, just like a normal cast-off. Repeat from * until all your stitches are cast off.

WRITTEN CHART

Row 1 (RS): k1, yfwd, ssk, k2tog, yfwd, k1
Row 2 (WS): p to end
Row 3: k1, k2tog, (yfwd) twice, ssk, k1
Row 4: p3, p1 tbl, p2
Row 5: k2tog, yfwd, k1, k1 tbl, yfwd, ssk
Row 6: p to end
Row 7: yfwd, ssk, k2, k2tog, yfwd
Row 8: p to end
These eight rows set patt

Start knitting here...

BODY

30.5) cm

Using 4mm (80cm) circular needles, cast on 208 (236, 260, 280) sts, join in the rnd, pm for beg of rnd and pm after 104 (118, 130, 140) sts to mark side Rnd 1: p to end Rnd 2: k to end □ Rnds 3-6: rep Rnds 1-2 twice \Box Rnd 7: p to end □ K six rnds □ Next rnd: k1, m1, k to one st before marker, m1, k1, sm, k1, m1, k to one st before end of rnd, m1, k1. 212 (240, 264, 284) sts \Box Cont to inc as set on every 6th (6th, 8th, 8th) rnd 13 (12, 12, 12) times more. 264 (288, 312, 332) sts □ Cont in st st without shaping until Body meas 30 (30, 30.5,

BACK

Cont to work in rows across next 132 (144, 156, 166) sts only Chart 7 (7, 8, 8) times, k44 (56, 56, 66), work Row 1 of Chart 7 (7, 8, 8) times, k2 Row 2 (WS): p to end These two rows set placement of Chart Cont as set working next row of Chart until Back meas 53 (54.5, 56, 57) cm, ending after a WS row

Shape right back neck

□ Row 1 (RS): k2, work next row of Chart 7 (7, 8, 8) times, k6 (11, 10, 14), turn. 50 (55, 60, 64) sts Leave rem sts on holder
□ Row 2 (WS): p1, p2tog, p to end. 49 (54, 59, 63) sts
□ Row 3: k2, work next RS row of Chart 7 (7, 8, 8) times, k2 (7, 6, 10), k2tog, k1. 48 (53, 58, 62) sts Leave sts on holder

Shape left back neck

Leave 32 (34, 36, 38) sts on holder for centre Back neck, with RS facing rejoin yarn at neck edge \Box Row 1 (RS): k6 (11, 10, 14), work next row of Chart 7 (7, 8, 8) times, k2. 50 (55, 60, 64) sts \Box Row 2 (WS): p to last three sts, p2tog tbl, p1. 49 (54, 59, 63) sts \Box Row 3: k1, ssk, k2 (7, 6, 10), work next RS row of Chart 7 (7, 8, 8)

> Easy-towear shape



FRONT

With RS facing, rejoin yarn to rem 132 (144, 156, 166) sts Row 1 (RS): k2, work Row 1 of Chart 7 (7, 8, 8) times, k44 (56, 56, 66), work Row 1 of Chart 7 (7, 8, 8) times, k2 Row 2 (WS): p to end Row 3: k2, work Row 3 of Chart 7 (7, 8, 8) times, k44 (56, 56, 66), work Row 3 of Chart 7 (7, 8, 8) times, k2 Row 4: p to end Cont as set until Front meas 40 (40.5, 41.5, 42) cm, ending after a WS row

Shape left front neck

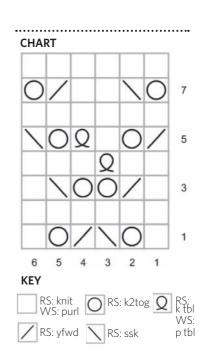
□ Row 1 (RS): k2, work next row of Chart 7 (7, 8, 8) times, k22 (28, 28, 33), turn. 66 (72, 78, 83) sts Leave rem sts on holder
□ Row 2 (WS): p1, p2tog, p to end. 65 (71, 77, 82) sts
□ Row 3: k2, work next RS row of Chart 7 (7, 8, 8) times, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1. 64 (70, 76, 81) sts
□ Rep last two rows a further 4 (4, 5, 5) times. 56 (62, 66, 71) sts
□ Cont to dec as set on every RS

row only 8 (9, 8, 9) times more. 48 (53, 58, 62) sts □ Cont in patt without shaping until left Front matches Back

Shape right front neck

Leave sts on holder

With RS facing, rejoin yarn to rem 66 (72, 78, 83) sts at neck edge





 □ Row 1 (RS): k22 (28, 28, 33), work next RS row of Chart 7 (7, 8, 8) times, k2
 □ Row 2 (WS): p to last three sts, p2tog tbl, p1. 65 (71, 77, 82) sts
 □ Row 3: k1, ssk, k to last 44 (44, 50, 50) sts, work next RS row of

Chart 7 (7, 8, 8) times, k2 Rep last two rows 4 (4, 5, 5) times. 56 (62, 66, 71) sts Cont to dec as set on every RS row only 8 (9, 8, 9) times more. 48 (53, 58, 62) sts Cont in patt as set until right front matches Back Leave sts on holder

TO MAKE UP

Join shoulders by working a three-needle cast-off (see Knitwise)

NECKBAND

 \Box Using 4mm (40cm) circular needle, with RS facing and beg at left shoulder, pick up and k 35 (37, 39,

40) sts to centre of v-neck, pm, pick up and k 35 (37, 39, 40) sts to right shoulder, four sts to back neck, k32 (34, 36, 38) sts from Back neck, pick up and k four sts to left shoulder, join in the rnd, pm for beg of rnd. 110 (116, 122, 126) sts ☐ Rnd 1: p ☐ Rnd 2: k to three sts before marker, k2tog, k1, sm, k1, ssk, k to end. 108 (114, 120, 124) sts

ARMBANDS (alike)

□ Cast off pwise

□ Using 4mm (40cm) circular needle, with RS facing and starting at underarm, pick up and k 52 (56, 57, 59) sts to shoulder and 52 (56, 57, 59) sts down to underarm, join in the rnd, pm for beg of rnd. 104 (112, 114, 118) sts □ Rnd 1: p □ Rnd 2: k

- \Box Cast off pwise
- Weave in ends and block garment
- to measurements (see p93) **LK**



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Stylecraft bundle

Yarn, glorious yarn! Win a selection of fabulous yarns from Stylecraft, including the glitzy and colourful Cabaret and super chunky Special XL. There's also a bundle of Batik DK to be won in the fabulous shades shown here. We've also got three pattern books to throw into the mix. Just as well as there are three lucky winners! For stockist information and to see the other yarns available, visit **www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk Stylecraft bundle**



Vouchers for The Craft Store

Win a £25 voucher to use at The Craft Store, a new online site for patterns and yarn kits. You could get your knitting mitts on this fab elf duo and still have a penny to spare! There are also papercrafting goodies, such as dies and card kits, plus fabric and sewing pattern collections. We've got four vouchers to give away. To find out more, call **0800 923 3005** or go to **www.craftsstoreuk.co.uk**

Craft Store





lucky

Beat the winter chills with a Noozie[®] Electronic Bottle! Unlike a traditional hot water bottle, there's no water involved, so no kettles, no filling and no burns. It's fully rechargeable, stays warm for up to six hours and charges in just 10-12 minutes. It's great for keeping you cosy while you're sitting and knitting during the winter months, and you can rest your hands on it to soothe aching wrists. We've got six to give away! For more information, visit **www.nooziecomfort.com**

V Noozie



Luxury goodies from Designer Yarns

New Debbie Bliss Lhasa is a sumptuous 50/50 mix of cashmere and yak fibres. It's fabulously soft and cosy and we've got a set of three skeins to give away, plus the Debbie Bliss Lhasa supporting pattern booklet, which includes 13 gorgeous garments and accessories – seven of which can be made with your prize. This neat bundle is worth over £80! For more details on this delightful new collection or to find out where you can buy more, call **01535 664222** or go online at **www.designeryarns.uk.com**

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Tickets to the Knitting & Stitching Show

Win tickets to one of the year's biggest textile shows! The Knitting & Stitching Show returns to Harrogate on 24th-27th November and is the perfect place for replenishing

your stash, learning new skills and being inspired.

There'll be over 300 stalls showcasing their wares and nearly 200 workshops and demonstrations so you can become a master crafter! We've got 50 pairs of tickets to give away. To find out more and book your classes online, visit **www.theknittingandstitchingshow.co.uk/harrogate Closes 9/11/2016.**

Knitting & Stitching Show

to win

Mystery knitting bundles

Win a surprise stash of yarn, needles, notions and more, worth £150 each! There'll be goodies from some of the industry's biggest name brands and probably a few that you've never tried before. Whether you're a toy knitter or prefer garments and accessories, there's sure to be plenty there to set you off on your next make. We've got four bundles to give away, enter below or online for your chance to win!

Knitting bundle

Giveaway FORM To enter our giveaways, just tick the box (or boxes) corresponding with the prize you want to win and send your entry to us, to arrive no later than 07/12/16. Mark your envelope: Let's Knit Nov Giveaways, PO Box 443, Ipswich, Suffolk, IP2 8WG

Postcode

Noozie Designer Ya	irns 🔄 Stylecraft I	oundle 📋 Craft Store	
Knitting & Stitching Show	v 🗌 Knitting bund	lle 🗌 Thomas B. Ramsden [Books
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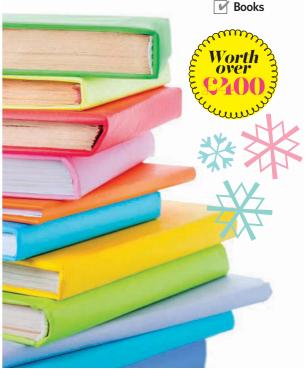
Yarn packs from Thomas B. Ramsden

Yarn and patterns are two of our favourite things and we've got a great assortment of gifts to give away, courtesy of Thomas B. Ramsden, distributors of Wendy and Robin yarns. We've got ten packs of yarn up for grabs, including offerings from both brands, and some even come with a supporting pattern! To find out more about the full range of yarns available or to find your nearest stockist, call **01943 872264** or visit **www.tbramsden.co.uk W** Thomas B. Ramsden



Craft book sets

Restock your crafting bookshelf with a selection of instruction and pattern books! We've got eight mystery stacks to give away, including titles covering knitting, crochet and spinning. You'll discover new designs and techniques, alongside a whole world of creative inspiration. Each bundle is worth over £50!



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Measurements & Sizes

Brim circumference (cm): 43.5 (49, 54.5)

NOTE: our sample is shown in the smallest size

V_a;+ V;+

Knit Kit

Yarn: West Yorkshire Spinners Aire Valley DK, shade 05 Wine, one 100g ball

Needles: 3.75mm, double-pointed, set of five

Stitch markers

Tapestry needle

Tension Square

- 22 sts x 28 rnds
- 10cm x 10cm
- over patt (after blocking)
- 3.75mm needles

For abbreviations see page 92

15

About the Yarn

West Yorkshire Spinners Aire Valley DK is a mix of 75% British wool and 25% nylon, so it's soft yet will withstand daily wear. It has an RRP of £4.99 per 100g (230m) ball. For stockists, call 01535 664500 or visit www.wyspinners.com

Need an Alternative?

If you're sensitive to the lanolin in wool, try **Rico Baby Classic DK**. It's an acrylic and polyamide blend and costs £2.49 per 50g (165m) ball from **01925 764231**, www.blacksheepwools.com

To get 10% off all orders at Black Sheep Wools, use the code LK112

knitwise

Some knitters find they get ladders in their knitted fabric that show the joins between the double-pointed needles. This is because the stitches have become stretched. Try to keep your movements as small as possible between the last stitch on one dpn and the first stitch on the other, and tug the yarn firmly when knitting the first stitch of a new needle. You can also try redistributing the stitches so the joins are not in the same place on each round. FAB ONE-BALL KNIT

Katya Frankel's hat shows how stylish knit and purl stitches can be!

EXCLUSIVE TO

Comes in three sizes!

> "If you decide to follow the chart, remember that all the rows need to be read from right to left." LK Deputy Editor

> > Adrienne Chan

74 www.letsknit.co.uk

ow about a cheery red beanie to brighten up a grey winter morning? This design uses basic knit and purl stitches to create a subtly textured diamond pattern. It's worked in the round, so there are no uncomfortable seams to worry about. Remember to keep your cast-on row nice and loose to allow your rib to stretch. _____

Start knitting here...

NOTE: start at brim Using 3.75mm dpns, cast on 96 (108, 120) sts, join in the rnd taking care not to twist, pm for beg of rnd □ Rnd 1: [k1, p2] to end 🗆 Rnd 2: as Rnd 1 Beg Diamond patt as folls (or work from Chart): □ Rnds 1-2: [k1, p2] to end □ Rnds 3-8: [k1, p2, k1, p5, k1, p2] to end □ Rnds 9-10: [k1, p5] to end □ Rnds 11-12: [k1, p4, k3, p4] to end □ Rnds 13-14: [k1, p3, k5, p3] to end □ Rnds 15-16: [p3, k7, p2] to end □ Rnds 17-18: [p2, k9, p1] to end □ Rnds 19-20: [p3, k7, p2] to end □ Rnds 21-22: [k1, p3, k5, p3] to end □ Rnds 23-24: [k2, p3, k3, p3, k1] to end □ Rnds 25-26: [k3, p3, k1, p3, k2] to end □ Rnds 27-28: [k4, p5, k3] to end □ Rnds 29-30: [k5, p3, k4] to end 31 30 29 .

□ Rnds 31-32: [k6, p1, k5] to end \Box Cont in st st (k every rnd) until Hat meas 12.5cm from cast-on edge

Crown

Working from Chart or written instructions below, shape crown as folls:

□ Rnds 1-2: [p1, k11] to end □ Rnds 3-4: [p2, k9, p1] to end □ Rnds 5-6: [p3, k7, p2] to end □ Rnd 7: [k1, p3, k1, sl 2, k1, p2sso, k1, p3] to end. 80 (90, 100) sts □ Rnd 8: [k1, p3, k3, p3] to end □ Rnds 9-10: * k2, [p3, k1] twice, rep from * to end □ Rnd 11: [k3, p1, sl 1 wyif, p2tog, psso, p1, k2] to end. 64 (72, 80) sts □ Rnd 12: [k3, p3, k2] to end □ Rnds 13-14: [k4, p1, k3] to end □ Rnd 15: [k2, k2tog, p1, ssk, k1] to end. 48 (54, 60) sts □ Rnd 16: [k3, p1, k2] to end □ Rnd 17: [k1, k2tog, p1, ssk] to end. 32 (36, 40) sts □ Rnd 18: [k2, p1, k1] to end, remove marker, wyib sl 2, pm for new beg of rnd □ Rnd 19: [p1, sl 2, k1, p2sso] to end. 16 (18, 20) sts \square Rnd 20: [p1, k1] to end □ Rnd 21: [k2tog] to end. 8 (9, 10) sts □ Cut yarn, leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

25 Block hat to size (see p93) and leave to dry flat. Weave in all ends **LK**

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PERFECT FOR PARTIES

Picture This!

Say "Cheese!" and make your party pics one-of-a-kind with our fab photo props!



e're always looking to bring you something a bit different here at LK and this quintet is sure to cause a stir at your Christmas celebrations. Susie Johns has designed three different wigs, including long plaits and an Elvis-style quiff, along with Groucho Marx-inspired glasses and a knitted moustache. Which one suits you?



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Measurements & Sizes

Wigs: to fit average sized ladies' head Glasses: 16cm wide x 13cm long (excluding eyebrow fringes) Moustache: 20cm wide x 6cm deep

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Knit Kit

Yarn: Patons Wool Aran, shades (A) 212 Mocca, (B) 299 Black, two 50g balls of each, (C) 220 Maize, (D), 205 Camel, (E) 256 Heaven, one 50g ball of each Needles: 4mm, 4.5mm **Crochet hook (optional)** Stitch holder **Tapestry needle** Sponge rollers: 18-20 Wadding: 15cm square **Plastic glasses** Elastic: 50cm

Tension Square

- 20 sts x 36 rows
- 10cm x 10cm
- garter stitch
- 4.5mm needles

For abbreviations see page 92

About the Yarn

Patons Wool Aran is a pure wool yarn that should be handwashed. It comes in a mixture of earthy and bright shades and costs £2.95 per 50g (85m) ball, **0845 544 2196,** www.loveknitting.com

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Need an alternative?

If you'd prefer a machine washable yarn, try Stylecraft Special Aran. It's an acrylic yarn that is soft and easy to knit with. It costs £1.79 per 100g (196m) from **0800 505** 3300, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

To get 10% off all orders at Wool Warehouse use the code LK112

knit*wise*

To make a bigger or smaller wig, first work out the head circumference you need. You can work out how many stitches you'll need to cast on by looking at the tension square. Divide the number of stitches by ten to give you the number of stitches per centimetre. Then multiply this by the head circumference. Don't forget to adjust the number of knit rows before shaping the top, too.

Start knitting here... **ROLLERS WIG**

Using 4mm needles and varn A, cast on 110 sts □ K four rows Change to 4.5mm needles □ K 22 rows

Shape top

 \Box Row 1: (k9, k2tog) to end. 100 sts 🗆 Rows 2-4: k □ Row 5: (k8, k2tog) to end. 90 sts □ Rows 6-8: k □ Row 9: (k7, k2tog) to end. 80 sts 🗆 Rows 10-12: k \Box Row 13: (k6, k2tog) to end. 70 sts

🗆 Rows 14-16: k □ Row 17: (k5, k2tog) to end. 60 sts 🗆 Rows 18-20: k \Box Row 21: (k4, k2tog) to end. 50 sts 🗆 Rows 22-24: k \Box Row 25: (k3, k2tog) to end. 40 sts 🗆 Row 26: k \Box Row 27: (k2, k2tog) to end. 30 sts □ Row 8: k \square Row 29: (k1, k2tog) to end. 20 sts □ Row 30: (k2tog) to end. Ten sts \Box Cut yarn and thread tail through rem sts, pull tight and





Let's get this party started!



"I first encountered the party photo booth at my son's wedding reception last year and couldn't believe how popular it was, with guests queuing up to put on silly wigs and glasses and have their pictures taken!" SUSIE JOHNS

"We'd love to see your photos of your friends and family modelling your knitted props. Share them on our Facebook and Twitter pages -find the details on page 51" LK Deputy Editor, **Adrienne Chandler**

fasten off



Butter wouldn't melt.

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TO MAKE UP

Use yarn tail to sew back seam. Open up a sponge roller and wind yarn A around roller, to resemble hair. Use ends to attach roller to wig. Repeat for remaining rollers and space them evenly across wig

ELVIS WIG SIDEBURNS (make two)

Using 4mm needles and yarn B,

cast on ten sts 🗌 Rows 1-11: k □ Row 12: k4, sl 1, k2tog, psso, k to end. Eight sts □ Rows 13-22: k Row 23: k7. turn 🗆 Row 24: k □ Row 25: k6, turn □ Row 26: k Row 27: k5. turn 🗆 Row 28: k 🗆 Row 29: k4, turn 🗆 Row 30: k 🗌 Row 31: k3, turn 🗆 Row 32: k □ Row 33: k2, turn □ Row 34: k 🗆 Row 35: k Transfer sts on to a holder

QUIFF

Using 4mm needles and yarn B, cast on 50 sts Uvrk in garter st (k every row) dec one st at each end of fifth and every foll alt row until 30 sts rem K 16 rows

Transfer sts to a holder

MAIN WIG

Using 4mm needles and yarn B, cast on 27 sts using two-needle method, k8 from one Sideburn, cast on five sts, k30 from Quiff, cast on five sts, k8 from second Sideburn, cast on 27 sts. 110 sts Work as for Rollers wig

TO MAKE UP

Use yarn tail to sew back seam. Roll Quiff backwards, adding wadding to bulk it out. Stitch in place

PLAITED WIG

 \Box Using yarn C, work as for Rollers wig

TO MAKE UP

Use yarn tail to sew back seam. Cut 34 strands of yarn each 15cm long. Fold strand in half and pull fold through centre front stitch on cast-on edge. Pass ends through

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folded loop and pull tight, just like for a tassel. Repeat until fringe is complete, working outwards from centre strand. Cut 48 strands of yarn, each 60cm long. Attach 24 strands to each side in same way as for fringe, then separate into three equal bundles, and plait. Tie yarn around each plait to secure.

GROUCHO GLASSES

Using 4mm needles and yarn D, cast on four sts □ Row 1 and all WS rows: p \Box Row 2: (kfb) to end. Eight sts \Box Row 4: (kfb) to end. 16 sts □ Row 6: k6, kfb, k2, kfb, k6. 18 sts □ Row 8: k6, kfb, k4, kfb, k6. 20 sts 🗆 Row 10: k16, turn □ Row 11: p12, turn □ Row 12: k11, turn □ Row 13: p10, turn 🗆 Row 14: k9, turn □ Row 15: p8, turn \Box Row 16: k to end □ Row 17 and all WS rows: p □ Row 18: k3, k2tog, k10, skpo, k3. 18 sts □ Row 20: k3, k2tog, k8, skpo, k3. 16 sts □ Row 22: k3, k2tog, k6, skpo, k3.14 sts □ Row 24: k3, k2tog, k4, skpo, k3.12 sts □ Row 26: k3, k2tog, k2, skpo, k3. Ten sts □ Row 28: k3, k2tog, skpo, k3. Eight sts \Box Row 29: (p2tog) to end. Four sts □ Cast off

MOUSTACHE AND EYEBROWS (make three)

Using 4mm needles and yarn B, cast on 14 sts K two rows Cast off

FRAME COVER

Using 4mm needles and yarn E, cast on 70 sts Beg with a p row, work nine rows in st st Cast off

TO MAKE UP

Remove lenses from plastic glasses. Stitch short ends of Frame cover, then wrap it around glasses frame, stretching it slightly to fit. Sew cast-on and cast-off edges together. Stitch top edges of nose to Frame cover. To create a bulbous end to Nose, lightly stuff end and secure with a few stitches. Sew Eyebrows to back of Frame cover and Moustache to lower part of Nose. Add small tassels along both Eyebrows and Moustache to make the fringes using same technique as Plaited wig

HANDLEBAR MOUSTACHE MOUSTACHE

(make two pieces)

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on four sts Row 1: kfb, k to last two sts, k2tog Row 2: k2tog, k to last st, kfb Rows 3-6: rep Rows 1-2 twice more Row 7: kfb, k to end. Five sts Rows 8-11: k Row 12: kfb, k to end. Six sts Row 13: k to last st, kfb. Seven sts Row 14: cast on two sts, k to end. Nine sts

- \Box Row 15: k to last st, kfb. Ten sts
- Row 16: k to end
- □ Row 17: k to last st, kfb, 11 sts □ Rows 18-19: k
- \square Row 20: k to last two sts.
- k2tog. Ten sts
- 🗆 Rows 21-22: k
- \square Row 23: k2tog, k to end. Nine sts
- □ Row 24: k
- □ Row 25: k2tog, k to end. Eight sts
- 🗆 Row 26: k
- □ Row 27: k2tog, k to last two sts,
- k2tog. Six sts
- 🗆 Row 28: k
- Row 29: k2tog, k to last two sts,
- k2tog. Four sts
- □ Rows 30-31: k □ Cast off

TO MAKE UP

Sew cast-off edge of both halves together so one side has RS facing and the other has WS facing. Measure elastic cord to fit around face, knot, and sew moustache to cord **LK**



Did someone say home time?



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Winner of Best Independent Yarn Store, Wales: CAROLINE'S WOOL SHOP

> "Helen, Fred and Mandy are overwhelmed with the support the shop has received and are delighted to have won this category

Winner of Best Independent Yarn Store, South West England: GET KNITTED

"We are delighted to have won an award again this year, we pride ourselves on our friendly atmosphere. Those who love knitting and crochet are able to enjoy their time here, get inspired by the beautiful yarn, and receive great help and advice. As knitters/crocheters ourselves, we love sharing our enthusiasm. Our very popular Knit & Natter groups, workshops and events are friendly and lots of fun." **www.getknitted.com**

Visit us: 39 Brislington Hill, Brislington, Bristol, BS4 5BE Call us: 0117 3005211

again. All crafters receive a warm and friendly welcome at the shop and will be sure to find all they could
 need for their next knitting or crochet project at fabulous range of yarns, patterns, needlecraft the beautiful ters ourselves, Natter groups.

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Winner of Best Independent Yarn Store, South East England: JENNY WREN'S YARNS

"We were delighted to even be nominated for a British Knitting Award, so to have won Best Independent Yarn Store in the South East against such stiff competition is beyond our wildest dreams! We want to say a huge thank you to all our customers and everyone else who voted for us. We're glad you love our shop as much

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as we do." Knit group runs on Wednesdays 2-4pm and Fridavs 12-2pm. Our full programme of classes can be found by telephoning 01473 805208 or visiting www.jennywrens yarns.co.uk. Visit us: 14 St Peter's St. Ipswich IP11XF Call us: 01473 805208



Winner of Best Independent Yarn Store, Midlands: KNIT NOTTINGHAM

"We are thrilled to have won the award again after moving to a bigger, more

beautiful shop! We've added to our impressive collection of King Cole yarns with brands such as Sirdar and Opal, and we continue to update our stock of locally knit and crocheted goodies. We run workshops every weekend, and host regular party days where we welcome everybody into our relaxed (and sometimes slightly raucous) shop. We look forward to meeting you!" www.knitnottingham.co.uk

Visit us: City Centre, 9 Trinity Walk, Nottingham NG1 2AN Call us: 0115 947 4239

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Here at let's Knit, we have arranged a free snood pattern! Wool and the Gang's Snood Dogg is elegant, warm knit up using their extra chunky Crazy Sexy Wool. Wear this black dress. It's the essential accessory to warm up the neck, ears and even shoulders.



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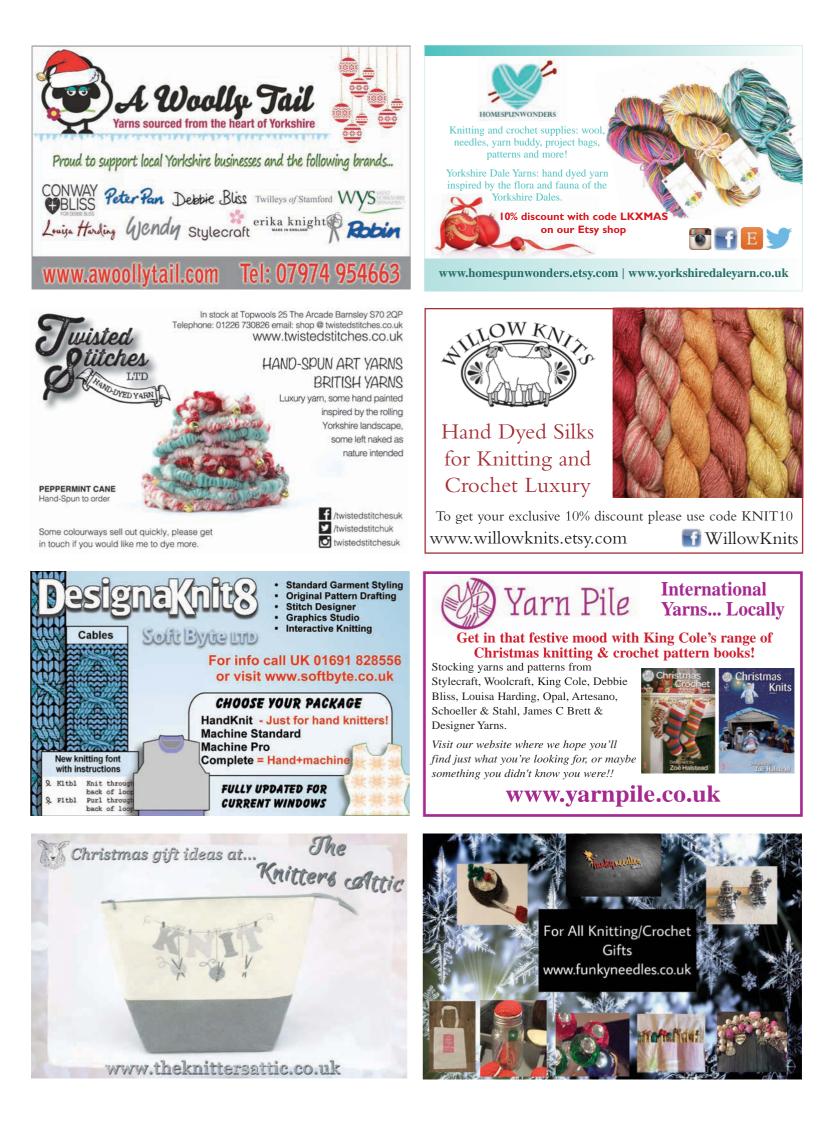


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*T&C's: Discount expires on the 9th December 2016. Offer is only available online. Delivery charges are not included in the discount. Previous purchase are not eligible for this offer. Not to be used in conjunction with any other offer. Open to UK residents only. Subject to availability.





Hi there! This month we're talking texture - fleece, bouclé, mohair and more!



Our Teddy Bear and Panda puppets are knitted in a fleecy yarn similar to your free gift. Find the pattern at www.letsknit.co.uk

BOUCLE?

Bouclé yarn, such as that used to knit our cosy sweater on page 16, is a textured yarn with loops along its length. These can range in size from small to large, and help create a dense fabric that's been likened to poodle fur! As well as Cygnet, other brands that produce bouclé varn are Sirdar, Drops, Bernat and Lana Grossa. Opting for a bouclé yarn is a great way to easily create this season's fashionable • plush textures if you don't fancy 🕂 full-on faux fur!

What can I knit with... **TEXTURED OR MOHAIR YARN**

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Fur Gilet by Erika Knight, £3 from www.ravelry.com



Petunia the Piglet by Bernat Design Studio, free from www.marymaxim.com



Ice Queen by Romi Hill, free from www.knitty.com



Ask Martine

What can I do with tiny scraps of leftover yarn?

Throwing away even the tiniest scrap of leftover yarn just feels wrong, doesn't it? Particularly if the yarn was

handspun or expensive. I know lots of knitters (myself included) with a massive stash of scraps. Due to the variety of colours, fibres, and weights, it's tricky to find a suitable knitting pattern. So what can we do with our scraps?

A quick Pinterest search suggests displaying leftover yarn in a decorative bowl. This is not going to work for cat owners, and think of the dust!

A better, more enjoyable solution is weaving. Think small art pieces, for example, a wall hanging. If it goes well, you can consider graduating to garments and investing in a loom it really depends on how much leftover yarn you have.

For a low-cost experiment, try circular weaving on an embroidery hoop. If you don't have an old embroidery hoop at home, try your local charity shop. For tutorials and inspiration check out www.theweavingloom.com which is a wonderful

website by a talented American lady called Kate. She has many helpful posts about circular weaving.

If you're going to experiment with more traditional 'straight' weaving, try making your own lap loom. All you need is wood, nails, and a hammer. You can even make a loom out of a sturdy piece of cardboard and some sticky tape. I'd recommend the weaving classes available on www.abeautifulmess.com

If you fall in love with weaving and want to take things to the next level, Ashford rigid heddle looms are highly recommended. There is a steeper learning curve involved in using a rigid heddle loom, but Ashford has some great video tutorials to help you. Happy weaving!

Martine Ellis is a knitter, teacher, crafter, blogger and podcaster based in Guernsey. www.martineellis.com

HOW ABOUT YOU?

We asked for your favourite stashbusting tips

"One way of using oddments is to make up kits for items such as toys using a copyright free pattern - or one of your own. These kits can then be donated or sold." Michiko Clarke

"If you have a lot of wool ends that are the same weight you can spit-splice them together to make your own self-striping yarn." Roberta Nowicki

NEXT ISSUE:

We're looking for Fair Isle knitting inspiration. Email your thoughts to adrienne.chandler@aceville.co.uk. Printed ones win a prize!

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KNIT WITH USI

Learn to knit Sponsored by **QUICK & COSY SLIPPERS**

SUSIE JOHNS' PERFECT PAIR MAKE GREAT CHRISTMAS GIFTS!

Here's what you need...

Two 50g balls of Patons Wool Aran. This lovely shade is called 265 Beach Blue. It costs £2.95 per 100g (210m) ball from 0845 544 2196, www.loveknitting.com

You'll also need oddments of aran or DK yarn to make your pompoms

A pair of 4.5mm needles

Tapestry needle

For the pompoms you can use either a pompom maker or the old fashioned method of cutting out cardboard rings.

To make your soles non-slip, apply a latex solution such as Rico Sock Stop, £3.50 for a 50ml bottle from www.loveknitting.com

When working in garter stitch with 4.5mm needles, you should be getting 20 stitches and 36 rows over a 10cm square. We used an aran-weight yarn as we wanted a tighter, firmer fabric for these slippers.

The slippers will fit UK ladies' shoe sizes 5-7.

Don't forget to look on page 92 for our list of abbreviations.



liyaHiy

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Pinnacle Plus Set, and the Darn It! Tapestry needles. For stockists and to explore the full range, visit **www.** hiyahiya-europe.com/stockists



Adrienne Chandler shows you how...

Start knitting here...

SLIPPER (make two)

Each slipper is worked in one piece, then sewn together along the length of the sole and up the back of the heel. Start with the sole.

SOLE

Using 4.5mm needles, make a slipknot and place it on your knitting needle. This counts as your first stitch. Now, cast on 93 more stitches, giving you 94 stitches in total.

You can see how to make a slipknot and cast on over on page 94.

🗆 Row 1: k

Insert right needle into stitch as shown. Wrap the yarn around the right needle tip from left to right, then use the needle to pull the wrapped yarn though the stitch. Leave this loop on your right needle and let the original stitch drop off the left needle.



Row 2: kfb, k to last st, kfb. 96 sts $\mathfrak{N}\mathfrak{b}$ (knit front and back)

This is a really commonly used increase stitch so is a good one to know. Here's how you do it: Knit the next stitch as normal but keep the original stitch on the left needle.



Move the right needle around then insert the tip into the back of the original stitch as we show in step 2.

Wrap the yarn around the right needle tip from left to right and pull the yarn through the stitch. Now, let the original stitch drop from the left needle.



Rows 3-4: as Row 2. 100 sts □ Knit 12 rows

UPPER

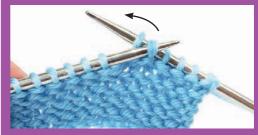
□ Next row: k43, skpo, k10, k2tog, k to end. 98 sts This row uses two types of decrease. Here's how you do them:

This stands for 'slip one, knit one, pass slipped

were going to knit it. Don't knit it. Just let it slide



of the left needle into the slipped stitch on the



84

K2TOG

Insert the needle into the next two stitches as shown, then wrap the yarn around the needle tip and pull the loop through both stitches. Allow both original stitches to drop off the left needle.



□ Next row: k42, skpo, p10, k2tog, k to end. 96 sts

To purl a stitch, make sure the yarn is forward and insert the right needle into the next stitch as shown below. Wrap the yarn around the needle from left to right. Use the right needle to hook the wrapped yarn back through the stitch. Leave this loop on the right needle and let the original stitch drop off the left needle.



 $\hfill\square$ Next row: k41, skpo, k10, k2tog, k to end. 94 sts

□ Next row: k40, skpo, p10, k2tog, k to end. 92 sts

□ Continue like this, decreasing either side of the centre ten sts, until 52 sts rem

This means you work one stitch fewer before the skpo at the beginning of the row, and alternate between knit and purl for the central ten stitches.

- Next row: k
- 🗌 Next row: k21, p10, k21

□ Next row (eyelets): k1, * yfwd, k2tog, rep from * to last st, k1

A yarn forward (yfwd) is an easy-to-work increase which, when paired with the k2tog you were shown earlier, creates deliberate holes in your work. To do a yfwd, bring the yarn to the front of the work between the tips of the knitting needles, then take it over the top of the right needle to make an extra stitch.



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"These slippers make great Christmas gifts, especially if you are posting them off to relatives, as they are fairly lightweight and they pack fairly flat in a padded envelope."

□ K three rows□ Cast off

To cast off, knit two stitches as normal, then insert the left needle tip into the second stitch on your right needle. Lift this stitch over the nearest stitch and off the needle, just like you did with the skpo. You have now cast off one stitch. Knit the next stitch on the left needle, then again pass the second stitch on the right needle over the nearest stitch and off the needle. Keep doing this until all your stitches have been cast off. When you have one loop remaining on your right needle, cut the yarn, thread it through this last stitch and pull it tightly to fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Fold each slipper in half and sew two halves of cast-on edge together. Try to keep your stitches small and seam as flat as possible. Stitch side edges together to form back heel seam. Mattress stitch will work well for this. You can see how to do it on page 95. Weave in all ends. Make a long plaited cord from matching yarn and thread this through eyelet row, making sure ends meet at centre front. Make two 3.5cm diameter pompoms and sew to each end of the plaited cord.

CONGRATULATIONS

You have just knitted a pair of super snuggly slippers. Perfect for yourself or a friend who feels the cold!

LVE YOURYARNSHOP LVE YOURYARNSHOP

Measurements & Sizes

Small: 11cm x 7cm **Medium:** 12cm x 8cm **Large:** 13cm x 8.5cm **X-Large:** 15cm x 10cm

Crochet Kit

Yarn: Katia Cotton 100%, shades (A) 04 Red, (B) 16 Blue, (C) 24 Fuchsia, (D) 30 Orange, (E) 42 Green, two 50g balls of each

Hook: 3mm

Cardboard discs: 2mm, 24 Number stickers: silver

••••••••••••••••••

Special Abbreviations

fptr: front post treble – yoh, insert hook through front of work between next two tr, take hook behind next st, yoh, then bring back out to front of work. Complete tr as usual.

For abbreviations see page 92

About the Yarn

Katia Cotton 100% is a pure cotton DK yarn with a soft finish. It comes in both neutral and bright shades so you'll find something to suit your festive scheme. It has an RRP of $\pounds 2.85$ per 50g (120m) ball. For stockists, go to www.katia.com



Pick up everything you need from your local yarn store. Check out our directory <u>on pages 89 - 91</u>

crochet*clever*

Change colour during the last stitch of the previous round. In this case, that's during a double crochet stitch. To do it, insert the hook into the stitch and using the old colour, wrap the yarn around the hook and pull it through. Now use the new colour to wrap the yarn around the hook and complete your stitch.

Crochet Countdown

Sarah Shrimpton's advent stockings are a joy to behold!

e've taken a step away from the traditional red and green in favour of a bold, bright colour scheme. Here are 24 assorted stockings in four different sizes and kids will love finding a treat in the run-up to the big day. They're crocheted in the round but the heel section is worked in rows. Designer Sarah has suggested a stripe pattern for the largest stocking, but has left the other designs up to you so you can really get creative for Christmas! Buy all your tools and materials from your local yarn and craft shop!

Start to crochet here...

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NOTE: stockings are worked from the toe up in the round, except for heel section, which is worked in short rows.

Colour changes (see Crochet clever) are given for the X-Large stocking only. For the others, mix and match colours to suit your style. Work 1dc in each st unless instructed otherwise

X-LARGE STOCKING

(make one)

Using 3mm hook and yarn A, make a magic ring Foundation rnd: 6dc in ring. Six sts

- \square Rnd 1: 2dc in each st to
- end. 12 sts □ Rnd 2: 1dc in each st to end
- □ Rnd 3: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 18 sts

 \Box Rnd 4: (2dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 24 sts

 \Box Rnd 5: (3dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 30 sts

 \Box Rnd 6: (4dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 36 sts

□ Rnds 7-9: 1dc in each st to end, changing to yarn C in last st (see Crochet clever) □ Rnds 10-13: 1dc in each st to end, changing to yarn E in last st ☐ Rnds 14-15: 1dc in each st to end, changing to yarn D in last st ☐ Rnds 16-18: 1dc in each st to end, changing to yarn B in last st

Heel

🗆 Row 19: 18dc, turn. 18 sts □ Row 20: 1ch, 12dc, turn. 12 sts 🗆 Row 21: 1ch, 6dc, turn. Six sts Row 22: 1ch. 6dc. 1dc in next st from Row 19, turn. Seven sts 🗆 Row 23: 1ch, 7dc, 1dc in next st from Row 20, turn. Eight sts Row 24: 1ch, 8dc, 1dc in next st from Row 19, turn. Nine sts Row 25: 1ch, 9dc, 1dc in next st from Row 20, turn. Ten sts Row 26: 1ch, 10dc, 1dc in next st from Row 19, turn. 11 sts Row 27: 1ch, 11dc, 1dc in next st from Row 20, turn. 12 sts Row 28: 1ch, 12dc, 1dc in next st

from Row 19, turn. 13 sts Row 29: 1ch, 13dc, 1dc in next st from Row 20, turn. 14 sts Row 30: 1ch, 14dc, 1dc in next st from Row 19, turn. 15 sts Row 31: 1ch, 15dc, 1dc in next st from Row 20, turn. 16 sts Row 32: 1ch, 16dc, 1dc in next st from Row 19, turn. 17 sts Row 33: 1ch, 17dc, 1dc in next st from Row 20, turn. 18 sts Fasten off yarn B

Leg

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Resume working in rnds, join yarn A with a sl st Rnds 34-35: 1dc in each st to end, changing to yarn E in last st. 36 sts Rnds 36-40: 1dc in each st to end, changing to yarn C in last st Rnds 41-45: 1dc in each st to end, changing to yarn D in last st



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Rib with hanging loop

Rnd 46: 1 sl st, 2ch (counts as 1tr throughout), 1tr in each st to end, sl st in second of beg 2ch
Rnd 47: 2ch, 1 fptr (see Special abbreviations on page 86), (1tr, 1 fptr in next st) to end, sl st in second of beg 2ch
Rnd 48: 2ch, 1 fptr, (1tr, 1 fptr) 13 times, 1tr, 20ch, sl st in first ch, (1 fptr in next st, 1tr) three times, 1 fptr, sl st in second of beg 2ch
Fasten off
Weave in ends

LARGE STOCKING

(make seven) Rnds 1-5: work as for X-Large stocking. 30 sts Rnds 6-16: 1dc in each st to end

Heel

□ Row 17: 15dc, turn. 15 sts Row 18: 1ch, 10dc, turn. Ten sts □ Row 19: 1ch, 5dc, turn. Five sts 🗆 Row 20: 1ch, 5dc, 1dc in next st from Row 17, turn. Six sts 🗆 Row 21: 1ch, 6dc, 1dc in next st from Row 18, turn. Seven sts Row 22: 1ch, 7dc, 1dc in next st from Row 17, turn. Eight sts Row 23: 1ch, 8dc, 1dc in next st from Row 18, turn. Nine sts □ Row 24: 1ch, 9dc, 1dc in next st from Row 17, turn. Ten sts 🗆 Row 25: 1ch, 10dc, 1dc in next st from Row 18, turn. 11 sts □ Row 26: 1ch, 11dc, 1dc in next st from Row 17, turn. 12 sts 🗆 Row 27: 1ch, 12dc, 1dc in next st from Row 18, turn. 13 sts Row 28: 1ch, 13dc, 1dc in next st from Row 17, turn. 14 sts 🗆 Row 29: 1ch, 14dc, 1dc in next st from Row 18, turn. 15 sts

Leg

Resume working in rnds Rnds 30-38: 1dc in each st to end. 30 sts

Rib with hanging loop

Rnd 39: 1 sl st, 2ch (counts as 1tr throughout), 1tr in each st to end, sl st in second of beg 2ch
 Rnd 40: 2ch, 1 fptr, (1tr, 1 fptr in next st) to end, sl st in second of beg 2ch

□ Rnd 41: 2ch, 1 fptr, (1tr, 1 fptr) 11 times, 1tr, 20ch, sl st in first ch, (1 fptr in next st, 1tr) twice, 1 fptr, sl st in second of beg 2ch □ Fasten off Weave in ends

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MEDIUM STOCKING

(make eight)

□ Rnds 1-3: work as for X-Large stocking. 18 sts
 □ Rnd 4: (1dc, 2dc in next st) to end. 27 sts
 □ Rnds 5-15: 1dc in each st to end

Heel

□ Row 16: 14dc, turn. 14 sts Row 17: 1ch, 9dc, turn. Nine sts 🗆 Row 18: 1ch, 4dc, turn. Four sts Row 19: 1ch, 4dc, 1dc in next st from Row 16, turn. Five sts Row 20: 1ch, 5dc, 1dc in next st from Row 17, turn. Six sts 🗆 Row 21: 1ch, 6dc, 1dc in next st from Row 16, turn. Seven sts Row 22: 1ch, 7dc, 1dc in next st from Row 17, turn. Eight sts Row 23: 1ch, 8dc, 1dc in next st from Row 16, turn. Nine sts Row 24: 1ch, 9dc, 1dc in next st from Row 17, turn. Ten sts Row 25: 1ch, 10dc, 1dc in next st from Row 16, turn. 11 sts □ Row 26: 1ch, 11dc, 1dc in next st from Row 17, turn, 12 sts Row 27: 1ch, 12dc, 1dc in next st from Row 16, turn. 13 sts Row 28: 1ch, 13dc, 1dc in next st from Row 17, turn. 14 sts

Sock

Resume working in rnds Rnds 29-36: 1dc in each st to end. 27 sts

Rib with hanging loop

Rnd 37: 1 sl st, 2ch (counts as 1tr throughout), 1tr in same st, 1tr in each st to end, sl st in second of beg 2ch. 28 sts
Rnd 38: 2ch, 1 fptr, (1tr, 1 fptr in next st) to end, sl st in second of beg 2ch
Rnd 39: 2ch, 1 fptr, (1tr, 1 fptr) ten times, 1tr, 20ch, sl st in first ch, (1 fptr in next st, 1tr) twice, 1 fptr, sl st in second of beg 2ch
Fasten off
Weave in ends

SMALL STOCKING

(make eight) Rnds 1-4: work as for X-Large stocking. 24 sts Rnds 5-13: 1dc in each st to end

Heel

 Row 14: 12dc, turn. 12 sts
 Row 15: 1ch, 8dc, turn. Eight sts
 Row 16: 1ch, 4dc, turn. Four sts
 Row 17: 1ch, 4dc, 1dc in next st from Row 14, turn. Five sts
 Row 18: 1ch, 5dc, 1dc in next st from Row 15, turn. Six sts Row 19: 1ch, 6dc, 1dc in next st from Row 14, turn. Seven sts Row 20: 1ch, 7dc, 1dc in next st from Row 15, turn. Eight sts Row 21: 1ch, 8dc, 1dc in next st from Row 14, turn. Nine sts Row 22: 1ch, 9dc, 1dc in next st from Row 15, turn. Ten sts Row 23: 1ch, 10dc, 1dc in next st from Row 14, turn. 11 sts Row 24: 1ch, 11dc, 1dc in next st from Row 15, turn. 12 sts

Leg

Resume working in rnds Rnds 25-31: 1dc in each st to end. 24 sts

Rib with hanging loop

□ Rnd 32: 1 sl st, 2ch (counts as 1tr throughout), 1tr in each st to end, sl st in second of beg 2ch
 □ Rnd 33: 2ch, 1 fptr, (1tr, 1 fptr) eight times, 1tr, 20ch, sl st in first ch, (1 fptr in next st, 1tr) twice,
 1 fptr, sl st in second of beg 2ch
 □ Fasten off
 Weave in ends

TO MAKE UP

Stick numbers to cardboard discs, then stitch in place on each stocking ${\rm L}{\rm K}$

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PRACTICAL GUIDES

Turn the TABLES

ABBREVIATIONS

0	no stitches, times or rows
	no stitches, times or rows
- 14	for that size
alt	alternate
approx	approximately
beg C4F	beginning (cable 4 front) slip two
C4r	stitches on to cable
	needle, hold at front of
C4B	work, k2, k2 from cable needle (cable 4 back) slip two stitches
645	onto cable needle, hold at back
	of work, k2, k2 from cable needle
ch	chain stitch
ch sp	chain space centimetres
cm	
cn	cable needle
cont	continue (ing)
dc dc2tog	double crochet (insert hook into next stitch,
utitog	varn over hook, pull through
	loop) twice, yarn over hook, pull through all three loops on hook
dec	decrease (ing)
dpn(s)	double pointed needle(s)
dtr	double treble crochet
foll	following
htr	half treble crochet
inc	increase (ing)
k	knit
kfb	knit into the front and the back
	of the next stitch
k2tog	knit two stitches together
kwise	knitwise
	knitwise make one stitch, by picking
kwise	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and
kwise m1	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it
kwise	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before
kwise m1	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the
kwise m1 m1p	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it
kwise m1	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the
kwise m1 m1p meas	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it measure (s)
kwise m1 m1p meas mm	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it measure (s) millimeters
kwise m1 m1p meas mm V1 (2, 3)	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it measure (s) millimeters needle 1 (2, 3)
kwise m1 m1p meas mm v1 (2, 3) p	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it measure (s) millimeters needle 1 (2, 3) purl
kwise m1 m1p meas mm v1 (2, 3) p pb	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it measure (s) millimeters needle 1 (2, 3) purl place bead purl into the front and back of next st
kwise m1 m1p meas mm v1 (2, 3) p pb pfb pm	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it measure (s) millimeters needle 1 (2, 3) purl place bead purl into the front and back of next st place marker
kwise m1 m1p meas mm (1 (2, 3) p pb pfb pm p2tog	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it measure (s) millimeters needle 1 (2, 3) purl place bead purl into the front and back of next st place marker purl two stitches together
kwise m1 m1p meas mm t1 (2, 3) p pb pfb pm p2tog prev	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it measure (s) millimeters needle 1 (2, 3) purl place bead purl into the front and back of next st place marker purl two stitches together previous
kwise m1 m1p meas mm (1 (2, 3) p pb pfb pm p2tog prev psso	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it measure (s) millimeters needle 1 (2, 3) purl place bead purl into the front and back of next st place marker purl two stitches together
kwise m1 m1p meas mm t1 (2, 3) p pb pfb pm p2tog prev	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it measure (s) millimeters needle 1 (2, 3) purl place bead purl into the front and back of next st place marker purl two stitches together previous pass slipped stitch over and off needle pass two slipped stitches
kwise m1 m1p meas mm t1 (2, 3) p pb pfb pfb pm p2tog prev psso p2sso	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it measure (s) millimeters needle 1 (2, 3) purl place bead purl into the front and back of next st place marker purl two stitches together previous pass slipped stitch over and off needle pass two slipped stitches over and off needle
kwise m1 m1p meas mm (1 (2, 3) p pb pfb pm p2tog prev psso	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it measure (s) millimeters needle 1 (2, 3) purl place bead purl into the front and back of next st place marker purl two stitches together previous pass slipped stitch over and off needle pass two slipped stitches
kwise m1 m1p meas mm t1 (2, 3) p pb pfb pm p2tog prev psso p2sso p2sso pwise rem	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it measure (s) millimeters needle 1 (2, 3) purl place bead purl into the front and back of next st place marker purl two stitches together previous pass slipped stitch over and off needle pass two slipped stitches over and off needle purlwise remain (ing)
kwise m1 m1p meas mm t1 (2, 3) p pb pfb pfb pm p2tog prev psso p2sso p2sso	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it measure (s) millimeters needle 1 (2, 3) purl place bead purl into the front and back of next st place marker purl two stitches together previous pass slipped stitch over and off needle pass two slipped stitches over and off needle purlwise remain (ing) repeat (ing)
kwise m1 m1p meas mm t1 (2, 3) p pb pfb pfb pm p2tog prev psso p2sso p2sso pwise rem rep	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it measure (s) millimeters needle 1 (2, 3) purl place bead purl into the front and back of next st place marker purl two stitches together previous pass slipped stitch over and off needle purl wise remain (ing) repeat (ing) reverse stocking stitch (p on RS row, k on WS row)
kwise m1 m1p meas mm t1 (2, 3) p pb pfb pfb pm p2tog prev psso p2sso p2sso pwise rem rep	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it measure (s) millimeters needle 1 (2, 3) purl place bead purl into the front and back of next st place marker purl two stitches together previous pass slipped stitch over and off needle purl wise remain (ing) repeat (ing) reverse stocking stitch (p on RS row, k on WS row) remove marker
kwise m1 m1p meas mm v1 (2, 3) p pb pfb pfb pfb pfb prov psso p2sso p2sso p2sso pwise rem rep rev st st	knitwise make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into the back of it make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and purling into the back of it measure (s) millimeters needle 1 (2, 3) purl place bead purl into the front and back of next st place marker purl two stitches together previous pass slipped stitch over and off needle purl wise remain (ing) repeat (ing) reverse stocking stitch (p on RS row, k on WS row)

skpo	slip one, knit one, pass slipped stitch over
sk2po	slip next stitch purlwise, knit two together, pass slipped stitch over and off needle
i 2, k1 ,	slip next two stitches knitwise at the same time,
o2sso	knit one, pass both slipped stitches over
sl 1	slip one stitch
si st	slip stitch
sm	slip marker
sp (s) ssk	space(s) one by one slip the next
224	your left needle through the front loops of both slipped stitches and knit them together
st (s)	stitch (es)
st st /, p on W	stocking stitch (k on RS /S row)
tbl	through the back loop (s)
tr	treble crochet
w&t	(on knit rows) take the yarn between the needles to the front of the work, slip the next stitch from the Left Hand needle to the Right Hand needle purlwise, take the yarn between the needles back to its original position, slip the stitch back to the Left Hand needle and turn (on purl rows) take the yarn between the needles to the back of the work, slip the next stitch from the Left Hand needle to the Right Hand needle to the Right Hand needle purlwise, take the yarn between the needles back to its original position, slip the stitch back to the Left Hand needle and turn
WS	wrong side
wyib	with yarn in back
wyif	with yarn in front
yb yfwd	yarn back yarn forward (between
уо	knit stitches) work yfwd/yon/yrn as appropriate
yoh	yarn over hook
yon	varn over needle (between
yrn	a purl and a knit stitch) yarn round needle (between purl stitches and between a knit and a purl stitch)
y2rn	purl stitch) wrap yarn twice around needle
*	repeat instructions following the asterisk as many times as instructed

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Keep these pages handy to guide you on your way

YARN WEIGHTS

YARN TYPE	STANDARD TENSION	STANDARD NEEDLE SIZE
Lace	30-33 sts-36-50 rows	2mm-3mm
4ply	28 sts-36 rows	3.25mm
DK	22 sts-28 rows	4mm
Aran	18 sts-24 rows	5mm
Chunky	14 sts-19 rows	6.5mm
Super Chunky	9 sts-12 rows	10mm

NE SI2	ED ZIN	LE G	2
UK (mm)	U.S.A	Old UK/ Canada	
2		14	1.
2.25	0 1	13	Sec.
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16	19	-	lf ye
19	35	-	me ma
20	36	-	if yo
			200

ENSION HEADACHE

really important to knit a tension uare before you begin a project. Not erybody knits the same way - some t more tightly than others - and this affect how the stitch pattern looks d the finished size of the item. Tension uares are usually presented like this:

sts x 30 rows cm x 10cm ocking stitch nm needles

knit your tension square, cast on the tructed number of stitches, in this se 22, plus five more. Then, using the edle size and same stitch pattern given, ork the instructed number of rows, plus e more. Using a ruler and taking your easurements from the centre of the uare, count the number of stitches d number of rows over a 10cm square. ou have more than you should do, it eans your knitting is a little tight and you ay need to use larger needles. Similarly, ou have fewer stitches and rows, use smaller needles to get the correct tension.

"Using the correct size of needles for the yam weight helps to produce a taut, neat fabric"

92

work instructions inside

the brackets as many times as instructed

0[]

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PRACTICAL GUIDES



AT A LOOSE END?

Follow these steps for weaving in any tails of yarn:

 Thread the yarn on to a tapestry needle and work with the WS of the project facing upwards.
 Insert the needle under the loop of each stitch, and draw it through. Work it up

.

and down the loops of the stitches for 8cm. An alternative method is to weave through the back of the stitch, splitting the strand of yarn as you sew. **3.** Cut the yarn close to the fabric. NOTE: In colourwork, weave the yarn tails into the matching colour section.

SUBSTITUTION

There are many reasons to want to substitute the yarn given in a project, from price to colour selection, but there are some important points to remember.

Choose a yarn with a similar tension to the suggested yarn. Match the tension given on the ball band of the yarns, as the pattern may use a different stitch. Remember to do a tension square in the new yarn before you begin.

Consider the fibre content of the yarn and how this might affect the finished project. For example, cotton yarn will knit up very differently to a wool yarn.



Don't forget to check the care instructions of your new yarn. Not all yarns are machine washable.

Look at the meterage of the new yarn, rather than the weight of the ball. Not all 50g balls have the same meterage and you don't want to run short when nearing the end of your project.

ON THE BLOCKS

Blocking is the process of stretching and shaping your finished items to create the correct dimensions from the pattern and even out your stitches. It is also really useful for ensuring that pieces to be joined fit well together. There are a few different ways to achieve this, so check the information on the yarn ball band and pick the most suitable option.

Wet blocking: dampen the pieces so that they are wet through and gently squeeze out the excess water. Lay out the pieces and pin them to the correct measurements, then leave them to dry. For delicate fibres and lace projects, you can just spritz the pieces with a water spray, rather than submerging them fully. Steaming: lay a damp cloth over your work and gently iron over the top - do not iron directly on to your knitting. Continue to iron until the cloth is dry. Another option is to gently hover over your work with the iron and apply steam until the knitting relaxes, this is good for delicate projects and textured stitches. Pin to the desired measurements and allow to set.

Pattern UPDATES

Here at LK we try our hardest to make sure our patterns are free from errors, but sometimes they do slip through the net. You can find out pattern updates on our website at **www.letsknit.co.uk**. We apologise for any inconvenience caused. If you have any queries about one of our patterns, please call 01206 508622 (office hours only) or email **support@letsknit.co.uk** and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

LK 109 SEPTEMBER Chunky Cardigan, p13

This cardigan was actually photographed in James C. Brett Lakeland, shade K11. You will need 4 (5, 5, 5, 5, 7) 100g balls.



Man of Steel, p33

You may need an extra ball of yarn for this hat. The brim template is printed at the correct size so does not need enlarging. Also, when sewing the brim to the hat, it is the cast-on edge (26 sts) and sloped edge (4 sts on each side) that are sewn to the 35 stitches of the hat. We do apologise for this.

LK111, CHRISTMAS SPECIAL Lace Cardigan, p82

The cast-on row is missing from the Sleeves, it should say: 'Using 5.5mm needles, cast on 34 (34, 38, 38, 42, 42, 46) sts'



Step-BY-Step

Learn to knit today with these clear guides

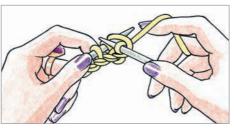
Go to www.letsknit.co.uk for video tutorials and knitting how-to guides!



KNIT STITCH



1 Once cast on, insert the tip of the right needle upwards and from front to back into the top stitch on the left needle. The right hand needle should sit behind the left hand one. Wrap the ball end of yarn anticlockwise around the tip of the right hand needle.



2 Using the right hand needle, pull a loop of the wrapped yarn through the original stitch to create a new one on the right hand needle. Slide the original stitch off the left hand needle. Repeat from step one. You are now knitting! The knit stitch can be combined with other stitches to create hundreds of different stitch patterns.

HELPING HAND

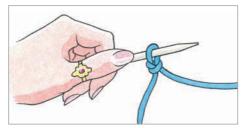
If you need a refresher on basic knitting techniques, visit our website **www.letsknit.co.uk**. You'll also find the following step-by-step instructions in the magazine: **Knit**, p84 **Purl**, p84 **K2tog**, p84 **Yarn forward**, p84 **Sl 1, k1, psso**, p84 **Three-needle cast-off**, p70







1 Holding the yarn under your left thumb, wrap it twice around your left index and middle fingers, with the second loop closer to the base of the fingers. With the backs of the fingers uppermost, insert the tip of the needle beneath the first loop and over the second, and pull the second loop under the first.



 $2\,$ Remove the two fingers and gently tug on both ends of yarn to tighten the slip knot around the needle.

GRAFT THE TOE



Kitchener Stitch is the method used to acheive this. It is worked as follows:

SET UP: Before starting you need to prepare the stitches on the needle. Hold the two needles with the remaining stitches parallel. The loose end of yarn should be coming from the back needle and lying to the right of the work.

1 Thread yarn end onto a tapestry needle and insert it purlwise into the first stitch on the needle closest to you. Pull the yarn through but leave the stitch on the needle.



2 Insert the tapestry needle knitwise into the first stitch on the back needle and pull the yarn through, leaving the stitch on the needle.



B Having set up as shown in steps 1 and 2, repeat steps 3 and 4 until all stitches have been grafted. Insert the tapestry needle knitwise into the first stitch on the front needle and slide the stitch off. Before you pull the yarn through this stitch insert the tapestry needle into the next stitch on the front needle purlwise and pull the yarn through, this time leaving the stitch on the needle.

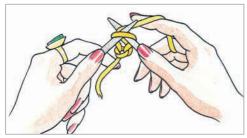


A Insert the tapestry needle purlwise into the first stitch on the back needle and slide it off. Before pulling the yarn through this stitch, insert the tapestry needle into the next stitch on the back needle knitwise and pull the yarn through, leaving the stitch on the needle.

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PRACTICAL GUIDES

CASTON



Create a slipknot on your left hand needle, pulling it taut (but not too tight). Carefully insert the right needle into the knot from front to back, passing under the left hand needle. Wrap the ball end of yarn anticlockwise around the point of the right needle.



 $\sum_{i=1}^{2} Pull the loop that forms back through the original stitch (knot) and insert the tip of the left hand needle into the new stitch from underneath to transfer it from the right hand to the left hand needle. There should now be two stitches on the left hand needle.$

ne leit hand needle.



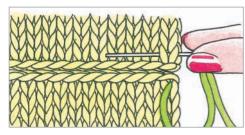
3 Repeat the above steps, knitting into the top stitch on the left needle and returning the new stitches from the right to the left needle until you have the required number of stitches.

BACK STITCH



Pin the pieces to be joined, with the right sides together. Thread the loose end of yarn onto a tapestry needle. Start by stitching the two outer edges together, then bring the needle through the two pieces 1cm from back to front ahead of the previous stitch.

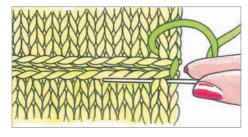
JOINING CAST OFF EDGES



Lay the two pieces to be joined right side up and with the cast off edges touching. Thread a tapestry needle with the loose yarn and push this through the centre of the first stitch, and then in and out through the centres of two stitches on the opposite side.

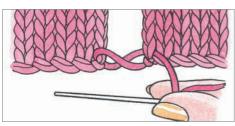


 $2^{\rm Push}$ the needle back through at the position where the yarn emerged from the previous stitch. Return it to the front of the work, approx 1cm ahead of the stitch just made. Repeat this until the whole join is complete, working in a straight line.



ned with needle ntre of entres to ut through the centre of the next stitch. Repeat this process alternating sides and stitching single stitches until the pieces are joined.

BEGINNING A SEAM



1 With the pieces placed next to each other with right side upwards, thread the yarn tail through the fabric after the first stitch, moving the needle from front to back. Then, take the needle behind the first stitch on the second piece from the back of the work to the front. The yarn will form a figure 8. Tug gently to secure.

MATTRESS STITCH



1 With the two pieces to be joined lying next to each other, hook the horizontal bar of the first stitch with the tapestry needle. Move to the other piece and hook the first horizontal bar of the stitch on that side. 2 Repeat this moving from one piece to the next and pulling the yarn to tighten the join.

LET'S KNIT 1 Phoenix Court, Hawkins Road, Colchester, Essex, CO2 8JY

EDITOR Sarah Neal, sarah.neal@aceville.co.uk

DEPUTY EDITOR Adrienne Chandler, adrienne.chandler@aceville.co.uk

.....

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT Heidi Wilkins, heidi.wilkins@aceville.co.uk

GROUP EDITOR Lynn Martin

PUBLISHING DIRECTOR Helen Tudor

SUBSCRIPTION ENQUIRIES 44(0)1795 414715 letsknit@servicehelpline.co.uk

SENIOR ACCOUNT MANAGER Samantha Dean 01206 505114, samantha.dean@aceville.co.uk

ART EDITOR Richard Allen

DESIGNERS Gemma Eales & Cat Morton

AD PRODUCTION Emma Hamidi

PHOTOGRAPHY CliQQ Photography, www.cliqq.co.uk

HAIR AND MAKE UP Dottie Monaghan FASHION STYLIST Boo Hill

PROMOTIONS OFFICER Fiona Burrows fiona.burrows@aceville.co.uk

CREDIT CONTROL MANAGER Anne Marie Hartley 01206 505902, annemarie.hartley@aceville.co.uk SUBSCRIPTIONS EXECUTIVE Zöe Charge zoe.charge@aceville.co.uk

MARKETING MANAGER Andrea Turner

PUBLISHER Matthew Tudor

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WHAT'S IN Store? GET THE HOT GOSSIP FROM YOUR FAVOURITE SHOPS AND BRANDS

Spotlight on yarn shops!

The Association of Independent Yarn Shop Owners (AIYSO) was formed to help promote independent yarn stores and give owners a voice in the industry. Every issue we'll be catching up with a member store. For more details on AIYSO, visit **www.aiyso.org.uk** or email **aiysocommittee@gmail.com**

We chat to Lesley Wildman & Claire Jarvis from The Fibreworks



We believe our shop is a creative haven where knitters can get a good selection of yarns not often found elsewhere, alongside help and advice. We stock classic brands such as Debbie Bliss and Rowan, as well as lesser known yarns from Lang,

CashmeRed and Juniper Moon Farm. We also have a range of yarns from local flocks, which help support small-scale producers.

We run a wide variety of workshops in our studio above the shop. There are also two weekly knit groups and monthly sewing and quilting sessions.



We teach one-to-one, too, and go out to local schools, WIs and craft groups. Over the years we've helped with some very interesting knitterly challenges, including knitted chain mail, miniature meerkats and cacti. We produce our own range of patterns and have collaborated with several designers.

Much has been written recently about the therapeutic benefits of knitting for the knitters, but it is also an expression of love. If you're knitting for someone else, you have them in your thoughts as you choose your pattern and yarn, as well as during the knitting itself. A knitted gift is truly a 'thoughtful' gift.

.....

The Fibreworks, 10a Middle Row, Chipping Norton, OX7 5NH, 01608 645970, www.thefibreworks.co.uk



The Dropped Stitch

Get your knitting mitts on beautiful British yarn from West Yorkshire Spinners! It's just arrived at The Dropped Stitch and includes the brand's Aire Valley DK, Aire Valley Aran and Signature 4 Ply. To celebrate the East Sussex-based store is giving you a fab 15% discount on all its West Yorkshire Spinners yarn until 31st December. Find out more at **www.thedroppedstitch.co.uk** or call **01273 424529**



Into the Wild

Use Sirdar's brand new textured yarn Wild to knit an adorable husky pup! Get the pattern at **www.purplelindacrafts.co.uk**



Stock up on great value yarns from Red Heart, now available at KnitUK. There's a brilliant range of affordable and versatile yarns that can be used for gifts, garments and more. Whether you're a fan of hand knitting, loom knitting, or crochet, see them for yourself at **www.knituk.com**

.....



Jolly Stitcher

Treat yourself to gorgeous yarns from Juniper Moon Farm, now in store at The Jolly Stitcher. You'll find soft Herriot Heathers DK, a pure alpaca yarn in stunning semi-solid shades. There's also Findley Dappled, a beautiful laceweight yarn with 50% silk! Findley DK is a silk and wool blend that can be used to create all sorts of luxurious knits. See the full selection at **www.jolly-stitcher.co.uk** or call **01329 608017**



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"I'm very lucky to have the opportunity to create, and it's my goal to share what I learn through books and teaching!"

York City. For six years I was usually

working as a freelance artist making

speciality items for plays, musicals

When I realised I wasn't going

to be the next hot and in-demand

designer, I found my way into a job

making them, and later became the

was here that I learnt about spinning,

about knitting. I was lucky enough to

America, and my personal skills rose

to a whole new level. I am very lucky

and it is my goal to share what I learn

I can often be found at my end of

to have the opportunity to create,

through my books and teaching.

the sofa with at least two projects

oversized bed cover that I started

about five years ago. The finished

piece will have 1,444 squares and

at hand. I'm currently working on an

work with some of the top gurus in

book editor at Interweave Press. It

with a theatrical book publisher.

I fell in love with the process of

weaving, and a whole lot more

employed in a costume shop or

and advertisements

udith Durant is a knitter, author and has coproduced 13 fantastic books. With over 50 years experience in crafting and 25 in publishing, she has worked her way up to become a wellrespected professional within the industry. We spoke to Judith about her experience, her life and her books...

"My mother taught me to knit when I was eight years old. I took to it immediately and recall that my first projects were a dishcloth, and a royal blue fisherman knit jumper to pair with the pleated skirt that I'd just sewn for myself. It's still hard for me to believe that in the last ten years I've authored, co-authored, or edited 13 books about knitting or crocheting, especially because I came to this profession in a somewhat sideways manner.

I trained in theatrical costume design and then worked in New

Cable Left Cable Right

Judith's new book eliminates the mystery of knitted cables, with a go-to guide on how to create one of the most common elements in knitting. With over 94 different styles and clear instructions, this read is the perfect companion to have beside you whilst making projects. (£11.99, Storey Publishing)

.....



measure about 90 inches. I'm now only 57 squares away from completion! I'm also working on a two-colour scarf that is reminiscent of ocean waves, a lace-weight bamboo draped top, and a pair of pillows that will sit perfect in my dear friend's living room. Once they're all done, I'd like to knit myself a three-quarter length coat in sport or DK weight yarn, something just right for spring and autumn in New England.

I love to experiment with different knitting techniques, and brioche knitting recently caught my eye. I purchased Nancy Marchant's lovely book, 'Knitting Fresh Brioche', and I'm now off and running. I adapted a stitch pattern from it for knitting in the round, I fiddled with decreasing in pattern, and came up with a very satisfactory hat design. I plan to work with this technique some more, hoping to create some unique stitch patterns. Of course, this will have to sit in the pile on my couch with all the other projects! The trouble I have, is to fit all of this personal knitting in with my book work. The latest edition in the One-Skein Wonders® series, Crochet One-Skein Wonders for Babies, was published in early May of this year, then my latest technique book, Cable Left, Cable Right came out at the end of May. So 2016 has been a very busy year for me!"

JUDITH'S STASH SECRETS

If I could describe my yarn stash in one word it would be: Monster! Meaning really big and out of control!

SOCK YARN

Some solid, some variegated and some self-patterning, I've yet to meet someone who doesn't appreciate handknit socks, so these make great gifts.

SMOOTH COTTON

For knitting with beads, enough for swatching is perfect to have on hand, but that has never stopped me buying more!

WOOL

I like to have at least 12 colours, so I can swatch for just about anything I want to create.

SOMETHING LUXURIOUS

Cashmere, alpaca, silk, yak. Just enough for a cowl, gloves or other small indulgence.

coming next issue

LOUISE CROWTHER FROM BOO-BILOO! December issue of Let's Knit on sale FRIDAY 25TH NOVEMBER



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Frosty & Friends

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Measurements & sizes

Frosty the polar bear: 14cm tall (when seated) Chilly the penguin: 10cm tall Snowy the seal: 16cm long

Knit Kit

Yarn: (A) Fleecy White, one 25g ball, (B) Snow White, (C) Midnight Black, one 20g ball of each, (D) Sunset Orange, (E) Ocean Blue, one 10g ball of each, all FREE with this issue of LK

You'll also need:

Needles: 3mm, 3.25mm, 4mm, extra 3mm and 4mm needles for three-needle cast-off (optional)

Safety toy stuffing

Tapestry needle

Tension square

26 sts x 32 rows 10cm x 10cm stocking stitch 3.25mm needles

Special abbreviations

rev st st: reverse stocking stitch where RS rows are p and WS rows are k

Working wrap tog with st - on a k row: insert RH needle up through the wrap then into the st, k st and wrap tog

Working wrap tog with st - on a p row: slip wrapped st from LH to RH needle, insert LH needle into wrap, return st to LH and p wrap tog with st

French knots: bring yarn out through fabric from back to front. Tensioning yarn in your left hand, wrap needle around yarn from back to front - the more wraps, the larger the knot - still holding yarn tightly with left hand, insert needle back into fabric and pull yarn through

About the Yarn

This yarn has been made exclusively for LK. Yarns B, C, D and E are acrylic and knit to a standard DK tension.

Need an Alternative?

Any DK yarn can be used for the smooth yarns. Try **Sirdar Snuggly Snowflake DK** as a substitute for yarn A. It costs £1.99 per 25g (85m) ball from **www.purplelinda crafts.co.uk**

For abbreviations see page 92 of your main magazine

FROSTY

NOTE: p rows are RS rows to gives a fluffier finish

BODY

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on ten sts Row 1 (WS): k to end Row 2 and all even rows: p to end Row 3: k1, m1, k2, m1, k4, m1, k2, m1, k1. 14 sts

 \Box Row 5: k1, (m1, k4) three times, m1, k1. 18 sts

 $\hfill\square$ Beg with a p row, work nine rows in rev st st

□ Row 15: (k1, k2tog) to end. 12 sts □ Row 17: (k1, k2tog) to

end. Eight sts

□ Divide rem sts evenly over two needles, place with WS together and cast off using three-needle cast-off (see p70 of main magazine). Alternatively, cast off, fold work in half and sew seam

HEAD

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on seven sts Row 1 and all odd rows: p to end Row 2 (WS): (k1, m1) twice, k3, (m1, k1) twice. 11 sts Row 4: k4, m1, k3, m1, k4. 13 sts Row 6: k5, m1, k3, m1, k5. 15 sts Row 8: k to end Row 10: k1, ssk, k2, k2tog, k1, ssk, k2, k2tog, k1. 11 sts Row 12: k1, (k2tog) twice, k1, (k2tog) twice, k1. Seven sts Cast off



Snowy the Seal



Frosty the Polar bear

LEG (make two)

cast on six sts

□ Beg with a k row, work six rows in rev st st □ Row 7 (WS): (k2, m1) twice, k2. Eight sts □ Row 8 (RS): p3, m1, p2, m1, p3. Ten sts \Box Beg with a k row, work three rows in rev st st □ Divide rem sts evenly over two needles, place with WS together and cast off using three-needle cast-off. Alternatively, cast off, fold work in half and sew seam

Using 4mm needles and varn A,

ARM (make two) Using 4mm needles and yarn A,

cast on six sts

 \Box Beg with a k (WS) row, work six rows in rev st st

□ Row 7 (WS): k1, m1, k2, m1, k2, m1, k1. Nine sts

 \Box Beg with a p (RS) row, work three rows in rev st st

Row 11: (k2tog) to last st, k1. Five sts □ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread

through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

EAR (make two)

Using 4mm needles and yarn A, cast on three sts \square Row 1 (WS): (k1, m1) twice. k1. Five sts

- Row 2 (RS): p to end
- Row 3: ssk, k1, k2tog. Three sts

Chilly the Penguin

□ Row 4: sl 1, k2tog, psso. One st □ Fasten off

HAT

Using 3mm needles and yarn E, cast on 24 sts □ K four rows Change to 3.25mm needles □ Beg with a k row, work six rows in st st □ Row 11 (RS): (k1, k2tog) to end, 16 sts □ Row 12 (WS): p to end □ Row 13: (k2tog) to end. Eight sts □ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off Sew side seam. Make 3cm pompom and attach to top of hat

SCARF

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn E, cast on seven sts Row 1: sl 1, k6 Rep Row 1 until Scarf meas 23cm Cast off

TO MAKE UP

Sew centre back seam of Body. Fill with toy stuffing. Sew running stitch around cast-on edge and pull to gather. This is top of Body. Sew centre back seam of Head, fill with toy stuffing. Sew running stitch around cast-on edge and pull to gather. This forms nose. Sew Head to Body. Fold Ear in half and sew small side seam. Repeat for second Ear and attach Ears to Head. Using yarn C, embroider nose and eyes. Sew Arm and Leg seams stuffing as you go. Sew Arms and Legs to Body with seams underneath. Weave in ends

CHILLY THE PENGUIN BODY

Using 3mm needles and yarn B, cast on 11 sts Row 1 (WS): p to end Row 2 (RS): (k2, m1) to last st, k1. 16 sts Row 3 and all rows unless specified: work in st st Row 6: (k2, m1) to last two sts, k2. 23 sts Cartering Row 10: (k4, m1) to last three sts, k3. 28 sts Row 22: (k3, k2tog) to last three sts, k3. 23 sts k0w 23: (p2, p2tog) to last three sts, p3. 18 sts Rows 24-25: cast off seven sts, work in st st to end. Four sts Row 29: p1, p2tog, p1. Three sts Cast off

OUTER BODY

Using 3mm needles and varn C. cast on seven sts □ Row 1: (k1, m1) to last st, k1. 13 sts □ Row 2 and all even rows: p to end Row 3: (k2, m1) to last st, k1. 19 sts Row 5: (k2, m1) to last st, k1, 28 sts Row 7: cast off two sts, ssk, k to end. 25 sts Row 8: cast off two sts, p2tog, p to end. 22 sts Row 9: k1, ssk, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1, 20 sts \Box Beg with a p row, work three rows in st st □ Row 13: k1, m1, k to last st, m1, k1. 22 sts Beg with a p row, work three rows in st st Row 17: k1, ssk, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1. 20 sts

Row 18: p to end



Rep last two rows twice more. 16 sts
Row 23: k1, ssk, k4, k2tog, k1, turn
Row 24: p3, turn
Cont on these three sts only
Beg with a k row, work four rows in st st
Row 29: k3, k3 from unworked sts, k2tog, k1. 13 sts
Row 30: p1, p2tog, p to last three sts, p2tog tbl, p1. 11 sts
Cast off

WING (make two)

Using 3mm needles and yarn C, cast on 11 sts Row 1 (RS): k5, sl 1, k5 Row 2 and all even rows: p Rows 3-6: rep Rows 1-2 twice more Row 7: k1, ssk, k2, sl 1, k2, k2tog, k1. Nine sts Row 9: k1, ssk, k1, sl 1, k1, k2tog, k1. Seven sts Row 11: k1, ssk, sl 1, k2tog, k1. Five sts Row 13: ssk, sl 1, k2tog. Three sts Row 14: sl 1, k2tog, psso. One st Fasten off

FOOT (make two)

Using 3mm needles and yarn D, cast on three sts Beg with a k row, work two rows in st st Row 3 (RS): (k1, m1) twice.

- □ Row 3 (RS): (k1, m1) twice
- k1. Five sts
- Rows 4-6: p

Row 7: ssk, k1, k2tog. Three sts

Row 8: p to end

□ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

BEAK

Using 3mm needles and yarn D, cast on seven sts Beg with a k row, work two rows in st st Row 3 (RS): k2tog, k1, (k2tog) twice. Four sts Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off Sew side seam of beak



□ Row 5: p3, w&t

TO MAKE UP

Sew centre back seam of Body. Stuff, then sew base of penguin closed. Sew running stitch around cast-on edge of Outer body, pull tight to gather. Sew small seam which will be top. Place over Body of penguin, using photo as a guide and mark position of eyes. Remove Outer body. Embroider eves and sew on Beak. Pin Outer body in place. stretching edges to get correct shape. Sew in place and sew small seam either side of tail. Fold each Wing in half and sew side seam. Sew to Body with curved edge towards front. Fold each foot in half along Row 5 and sew side seams. Pin to base of penguin, ensuring it will stand. Sew into place. Weave in ends

SNOWY SEAL TAIL AND BODY

NOTE: start at tail and work all wraps tog with st when reached

** Using 3mm needles and yarn B, cast on nine sts Row 1 (WS): p to end □ Row 2 (RS): k7, w&t □ Row 3: p5, w&t □ Row 4: k4, w&t

Row 6: k to end Beg with a p row, work two rows in st st Row 9: p1, p2tog, p3, p2tog tbl, p1. Seven sts Row 10: k1, ssk, k1, k2tog, k1. Five sts Row 11: p to end Cut yarn ** □ Rep from ** to ** to make second tail piece Place both tail pieces on your needle with RS facing and work as folls: Row 12: join yarn B, k4, k2tog, k4. Nine sts □ Row 13 and all odd rows: p to end Row 14: k1, m1, k3, m1, k1, m1, k3, m1, k1, 13 sts □ Row 16: k1, (m1, k2) twice, m1, k3, m1, (k2, m1) twice, k1, 19 sts □ Row 18; k1, m1, (k2, m1) twice. (k3, m1) three times, (k2, m1) twice, k1. 27 sts Beg with a p row, work five rows in st st □ Row 24: k12, w&t Row 25: p to end 🗆 Row 26: k to two sts before wrap, w&t \square Rep last two rows three times more Row 33: p to end

□ Row 34 and all even rows: k to end □ Row 35: p12, w&t 🗆 Row 37: p to two sts before wrap, w&t Row 38: k to end □ Rep last two rows three times more □ Row 45 and all odd rows: p to end □ Beg with a k row, work two rows in st st Row 48: k1, ssk, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1, 25 sts Row 49: p to end Rep last two rows once more, 23 sts Row 52: k1, ssk, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1, 21 sts Row 53: p1, p2tog, p to last three sts, p2tog tbl, p1. 19 sts Row 54: (k1, k2tog) to last st, k1. 13 sts Row 55: p to end Cast off

HEAD

Using 3mm needles and yarn B, cast on eight sts □ Row 1 (RS): k3, m1, k2, m1, k3. Ten sts Row 2 (WS): p4, m1, p2, m1, : p4. 12 sts

□ Row 3: k1, m1, k4, m1, k2, m1, k4, m1, k1. 16 sts

□ Row 4: p1, m1, p6, m1, p2, m1, p6, m1, p1. 20 sts

□ Row 5: k1, m1, k8, m1, k2, m1, k8, m1, k1. 24 sts

 $\hfill\square$ Beg with a p row, work five rows in st st

□ Row 11: k1, ssk, k6, k2tog, k2, ssk,

k6, k2tog, k1. 20 sts

Row 12: p to end

□ Row 13: k1, ssk, k4, k2tog, k2, ssk, k4, k2tog, k1. 16 sts

□ Row 14: p1, p2tog, p2, p2tog tbl, p2, p2tog, p2, p2tog tbl, p1. 12 sts □ Fold work in half with RS facing and cast off using three-needle cast-off (see page 70 of main magazine). Alternatively, cast off, fold work in half and sew seam

FRONT FLIPPER (make two)

Using 3mm needles and yarn B, cast on 11 sts Row 1 (RS): k8, w&t Row 2 (WS): p5, w&t Row 3: k4, w&t Row 4: p3, w&t Row 5: k to end Beg with a p row, work five rows in st st Row 11: k1, ssk, k to last three sts, k2tog, k1. Nine sts Beg with a p row work three rows in st st Cast off

TO MAKE UP

Fold one tail section in half and carefully sew around edge. Repeat for second tail section. Sew long underneath seam, stuffing as you go. Sew running stitch around cast-off stitches and pull tight to gather. Sew running stitch around cast-on edge of Head and pull to gather, then sew underneath Head seam, stuffing as you go. Fold cast-off edge in half and sew together for back of Head. Sew Head over cast-off edge of Body. Using yarn C, embroider two French knots for eyes (p2) and straight stitches for nose. Fold each Front flipper in half with WS together and sew seam. Attach flippers with seam towards Body. Weave in ends

Tiny Toys Lucinda Ganderton's mini critters are perfect for stocking fillers!

hese little guys will fit in the palm of your hand! They're fun to knit too and involve a few different techniques, including stripes, i-cords and slip stitch colourwork.

Measurements & sizes

9cm tall

Knit Kit

Yarn: DMC Natura Just Cotton, shades (A) N61 Crimson, (B) N75 Moss Green, (C) N01 Ibiza, (D) N18 Coral, (E) N49 Turquoise, (F) N41 Siena, (G) N85 Girofflée, (H) N03 Sable, one 50g ball of each

Needles: 3mm straight and double-pointed

Safety toy stuffing

Sewing needle and thread

Tapestry needle

Beads: 3mm, black, two per toy

Tension square

27 sts x 34 rows 10cm x 10cm stocking stitch 3mm needles

Special abbreviations

Four-st i-cord: cast four sts on to one dpn, then use a second dpn to k with. * K one row, but do not turn, slide sts to other end of needle and pull yarn across back of row, ready to k next row. Rep from * until enough rows have been worked

About the Yarn

DMC Natura Just Cotton is a 4ply pure cotton yarn with a soft matte finish. It costs £3.55 per 50g (155m) ball from **0845 544 2196**, www.loveknitting.com

For abbreviations see page 92 of your main magazine

CAT BODY AND HEAD

Using 3mm straight needles and yarn A, cast on 20 sts Row 1: k □ Row 2: p Join in yarn B Rows 3-4: cont in st st Change to yarn A \square Row 5: (k1, sl 1 pwise) nine times, k2 \Box Row 6: k2, (wyib sl 1, wyif k1) to end Change to varn B Rows 7-8: cont in st st Change to yarn A Rows 9-10: cont in st st □ Rows 11-14: rep Rows 7-10 Join in varn C Rows 15-16: cont in st st Row 17: k4, (kfb in next st) twice, k8, (kfb in next st) twice, k4. 24 sts Rows 18-20: cont in st st □ Row 21: k4, k2tog, ssk, k8, ssk, k2tog, k4. 20 sts □ Row 22: p Row 23: k3, k2tog, ssk, k6, ssk, k2tog, k3. 16 sts □ Row 24: p □ Cut yarn, leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

ARMS AND LEGS (make four)

Using two 3mm dpns and yarn C, cast on four sts Work a six-row i-cord (see Special abbreviations) Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

TAIL

Using 3mm dpns and yarn C, cast on four sts Uvork a 15-row i-cord Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

TO MAKE UP

Join side edges. Stuff lightly. Starting at centre back, sew running stitch around neckline using yarn A. Pull to gather. Pin cast-off edges of Legs to base of body, then sew base closed,



Cat

working through both layers. Attach Arms and Tail. Using black thread, embroider a triangular nose and a smiling mouth. Sew on beads for eyes, just above nose. Use straight stitches to embroider three whiskers on each cheek

EARS (make two)

Bunny

□ Using 3mm straight needles and yarn C, pick up and k four sts along side of Head □ Row 1: p

- 🗆 Row 2: k1, k2tog, k1. Three sts
- 🗆 Row 3: p



Bear

EXCLUSIVE TO

Lion

"When stitching the loops for the Lion's mane and tail, wrap the yarn around a pencil to keep the loops even" LUCINDA GANDERTON □ Row 4: sl 1, k2tog, psso. One st □ Fasten off Weave in ends

BEAR BODY AND HEAD

Using 3mm straight needles and yarn D, cast on 20 sts □ Row 1 (WS): k Join in yarn E □ Row 2: k □ Row 3: p Change to varn D Row 4: k Row 5: k Rows 6-9: rep Rows 2-5 □ Rows 10-12: rep Rows 2-4 C Row 13: p Join in yarn F 🗆 Row 14: k Row 15: p □ Row 16: k4, (kfb in next st) twice, k8. (kfb in next st) twice, k4. 24 sts Rows 17-21: cont in st st □ Row 22: k4, k2tog, ssk, k8, ssk, k2tog, k4. 20 sts □ Row 23: p □ Row 24: k3, k2tog, ssk, k6, ssk, k2tog, k3, 16 sts □ Row 25: p □ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

ARMS (make two)

Using two 3mm dpns and yarn F,

cast on four sts Work a four-row i-cord Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

LEGS (make two)

Using two 3mm dpns and yarn F, cast on four sts Uvork an eight-row i-cord Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

TO MAKE UP

Make up as for Cat (p6), omitting whiskers

EARS (make two)

Using 3mm straight needles and yarn F, pick up and k four sts along the side of head
Row 1: p
Row 2: ssk, k2tog. Two sts
Pass second st over first st and off needle
Fasten off
Weave in ends

TIGER BODY AND HEAD

Using 3mm straight needles and yarn G, cast on 20 sts Rows 1-2: k Join in yarn F Rows 3-4: k



Change to yarn G □ Rows 5-12: rep Rows 1-4 twice □ Rows 13-15: rep Rows 1-3 🗆 Row 16: p Change to yarn G Row 17: k 🗆 Row 18: p Change to yarn F Row 19: k4, (kfb in next st) twice, k8, (kfb in next st) twice, k4. 24 sts □ Row 20: p Change to yarn G 🗆 Row 21: k □ Row 22: p Change to yarn F □ Rows 23-24: cont in st st Change to yarn G □ Row 25: k4, k2tog, ssk, k8, ssk, k2tog, k4, 20 sts □ Row 26: p Change to yarn F Row 27: k3, k2tog, ssk, k6, ssk, k2tog, k3. 16 sts Row 28: p Cut varn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

ARMS AND LEGS (make four)

 \Box Using yarn G, work as for Cat (p6)

TAIL

Using two 3mm dpns and yarn G, cast on four sts

- □ Work a 12-row i-cord
- □ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

TO MAKE UP

Make up as as for Cat (p6), omitting whiskers

EARS (make two)

\Box Using yarn G, work as for Bear

LION BODY AND HEAD

Using 3mm straight needles and yarn B, cast on 20 sts Row 1: (k1, p1) to end Row 2: (p1, k1) to end These two rows set moss st Rows 3-16: rep Rows 1-2 seven times Rows 17: p Row 18: k4, (kfb in next st) twice, k8, (kfb in next st) twice, k4. 24 sts
Rows 19-23: beg with a p row, work in st st
Row 24: k4, k2tog, ssk, k8, ssk, k2tog, k4. 20 sts
Row 25: p
Row 26: k3, k2tog, ssk, k6, ssk, k2tog, k3. 16 sts
Row 27: p
Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

ARMS AND LEGS

 \Box Using yarn B, work as for Cat (p6)

TAIL Using yarn B, work as for Tiger (p8)

TO MAKE UP Make up as as for Cat (p6), omitting whiskers

EARS (make two)Using yarn B, work as for Bear (p8)

MANE

Using yarn F held double. Embroider a row of looped stitches around Head. Finish off end of Tail in same way

RABBIT BODY AND HEAD

Using 3mm needles and yarn E, cast on 20 sts Row 1: k Row 2: p Join in yarn A NOTE: letter foll instruction indicates yarn shade

🗆 Row 3: (k1 A, k1 E) to end □ Row 4: using yarn A, p □ Row 5: using yarn A, k □ Row 6: (p1 E, p1 A) to end Cont using yarn E only □ Rows 7-12: beg with a k row, work in st st Join in yarn H 🗆 Row 15: k 🗌 Row 16: p □ Row 17: k4, (kfb in next st) twice, k8. (kfb in next st) twice, k4. 24 sts Rows 18-20: cont in st st □ Row 21: k4, k2tog, ssk, k8, ssk, k2tog, k4. 20 sts □ Row 22: p □ Row 23: k3, k2tog, ssk, k6, ssk, k2tog, k3. 16 sts • 🗆 Row 24: p

□ Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off

ARMS (make two) Using yarn E, work as for Cat (p6)

LEGS (make two)Using yarn A, work as for Cat (p6)

TO MAKE UP

Make up as for Cat (p6), omitting whiskers

EARS (make two)

□ Using 3mm straight needles and yarn H, pick up and k four sts along side of head
□ Row 1: k
□ Row 2: p
□ Row 3: k1, (kfb) twice, k1. Six sts
□ Row 3: k1, (kfb) twice, k1. Six sts
□ Row 7: k1, ssk, k2tog, k1. Four sts
□ Row 8: p
□ Row 9: ssk, k2tog. Two sts
□ Cast off
Weave in ends

Easy Knit Gifts 9

November Poppy

Knit **Alison Howard's** poignant bloom



aken from Knitted Flowers by Alison Howard (£5.99, GMC), this pretty flower uses mohair yarns for a truly

special knit. www.thegmcgroup.com

Measurements & sizes

13cm diameter

Knit Kit

Yarn: (A) Red DK mohair, (B) Green DK yarn, (C) Black DK, oddments of each

Needles: 3.75mm straight and double-pointed

Brooch back

Tapestry needle

•••••

About the Yarn

This patterns uses oddments of textured and smooth DK yarn, so see what's in your yarn stash!

For abbreviations see page 92 of your main magazine

PETALS (make five)

Using 3.75mm straight needles and yarn A, cast on seven sts $\hfill\square$ Row 1: k





Row 2: kfb, k to last st, kfb. Nine sts
 Row 3: kfb, k to last st, kfb. 11 sts
 Row 4: kfb, k to last st, kfb. 13 sts
 Row 9: (ssk) twice, k to last four sts, (k2tog) twice. Nine sts
 Rows 10-12: k
 Row 13: (ssk) twice, k1, (k2tog) twice. Five sts
 Rows 14-15: k
 Row 16: ssk, k1, k2tog. Three sts
 Row 17: k
 Cast off

CENTRE

Using 3.75mm straight needles and yarn C, cast on 15 sts Row 1: k Row 2: (k1, k2tog) to end. Ten sts Join in yarn B K one row Cut yarn, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off Join side seam matching colours

STEM

Using two 3.75mm dpns and yarn B, cast on four sts * K one row, do not turn, slide sts to opposite end of needle pulling yarn across back of work Rep from * until work meas 10cm Do not cut yarn

Leaf

Work back and forth in rows as folls: \Box Row 1: k2, m1, k2. Five sts

: 🗆 Row 2: k2, p1, k2 Row 3: kfb, k3, kfb. Seven sts □ Row 4: k3, p1, k3 Row 5: kfb, k5, kfb, Nine sts □ Row 6: k4, p1, k4 Row 7: ssk, k to last two sts, k2tog. Seven sts □ Row 8: k3, p1, k3 Row 9: ssk, k3, k2tog, Five sts □ Row 10: k2, p1, k2 □ Row 11: (kfb) twice, k1, (kfb) twice. Nine sts Row 12: k4, p1, k4 □ Row 13: kfb, k7, kfb. 11 sts □ Row 14: k5, p1, k5 □ Row 15 (dec): ssk. k7. k2tog. Nine sts □ Row 16: k4, p1, k4 □ Rows 17-20: rep Rows 13-16. Nine sts Row 21: ssk, k5, k2tog. Seven sts Row 22: k3, p1, k3 Row 23: ssk, k3, k2tog. Five sts □ Row 24: k2, p1, k2 Row 25: ssk, k1, k2tog. Three sts □ Row 26: k1, p1, k1 Row 27: sl 1, k2tog, psso. One st Fasten off

TO MAKE UP

Lay Petals out, slightly overlapping edge, then sew together. Lightly stuff Centre with yarn tails and sew in place. Weave in ends. Attach Leaf and Stem to back of poppy. Add brooch back if you wish

Whale Watching

Fiona Goble's phone cosy makes a unique gift



his brilliant, fun make is from Knitted Animal Cosies by Fiona Goble (£12.99, CICO Books). It's available from all good bookshops or to

get your copy for £9.99 with free UK p&p, call 01256 302699 and quote HW3. www.rylandpeters.com

Measurements & sizes

To fit phone: 14cm x 6.5cm Actual size: 20.5cm x 8cm

Knit Kit

Yarn: Lion Brand Wool-Ease, shade 123 Seaspray, one 85g ball, oddment of Dark Grev DK Needles: 3.25mm Button: 8mm Tapestry needle

Tension square

24 sts x 32 rows 10cm x 10cm stocking stitch 3.25mm needles

Special abbreviations

Working wraps together with st: see Frosty & Friends (p2)

About the Yarn

Lion Brand Wool-Ease blends 80% acrylic and 20% wool. It's close to an aran in tension but this project uses smaller needles. It costs £4.99 per 85g (180m) ball from **0800 505** 3300, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

For abbreviations see page 92 of your main magazine

FRONT

Using 3.25mm needles, cast on 22 sts □ Rows 1-45: beg with a k row, work in st st

Row 46: cast off 14 sts pwise, p to



end. Eight sts Rows 47-50: cont in st st Row 51: k7, w&t Row 52 and every WS row: p Row 53: k6, w&t Row 55: k5, w&t □ Row 57: k4, w&t □ Row 59: k3, w&t □ Row 61: k2, w&t □ Row 63: k1, w&t Row 64: p □ Rows 65-68: cont in st st working wraps tog with st

Shape tail fin

Row 69: k1, ssk, k2, k2tog, k1. Six sts Row 70: p □ Row 71: k1, m1, k to last st, m1, k1. Eight sts Row 72: p □ Rep Rows 71-72 twice more. 12 sts : □ Rows 5-34: beg with a k row,

🗆 Row 77: k1, m1, k5, turn Cont on these seven sts only, leaving rem sts on needle ** Beg with a p row, work three rows in st st □ Next row: ssk, k3, k2tog. Five sts Next row: p2tog, p1, p2tog. Three sts □ Next row: sl 1, k2tog, psso. One st ** □ Fasten off Rejoin varn to rem sts on RS of work □ Next row: k5, m1, k1, Seven sts □ Work from ** to ** once more

TAIL END OF BACK

Using 3.25mm needles, cast on 22 sts Row 1: [k1, p1] to end Rows 2-4: as Row 1

work in st st Row 35: cast off 14 sts, k to end. Eight sts Rows 36-39: cont in st st Row 40: p7. w&t □ Row 41 and every RS row: k □ Row 42: p6, w&t □ Row 44: p5, w&t □ Row 46: p4, w&t □ Row 48: p3, w&t Row 50: p2, w&t □ Row 52: p1, w&t Row 53. k □ Beg with a p row, work three rows in st st working wraps tog with st □ Shape tail fin as for front

HEAD END OF BACK

Using 3.25mm needles, cast on 22 sts Row 1: [k1, p1] to end Rows 2-4: as Row 1 Beg with a k row, work ten rows in st st Cast off

TO MAKE UP

Place RS of Front and Tail end of back pieces together. Oversew around tail. Turn right way out and join remaining seams using mattress stitch. Position Head end of back piece overlapping other back piece. Join edges using mattress stitch. Lightly stuff tail. Sew on bead for eye. Using oddment of grey DK, embroider mouth using chain stitch. Weave in all loose ends

Bear Hugs Laura Strutt's teddy comforter is an adorable knit for babes



his cute and cuddly snuggle blanket is from 35 Knitted Baby Blankets (£12.99, CICO Books). It's

available from all good bookshops or to get your copy for just £9.99 with free UK p&p, call 01256 302699 and quote HW2.

www.rylandpeters.com



Measurements & sizes

51cm x 51cm

Knit Kit

Yarn: Cascade 220 Worsted, shades (A) 9499 Sand, (B) 8622 Camel, (C) 9421 Blue Hawaii, (D) Cascade 220 Heathers, shade 2451 Nectarine, one 100g skein of each, oddment of black

Needles: 5mm straight, 4mm double-pointed, set of five

Crochet hook: 5mm

Stitch marker

Safety toy stuffing

Tapestry needle

Tension square

18 sts x 24 rows 10cm x 10cm stocking stitch 5mm needles

About the Yarn

Cascade 220 Worsted is a hand wash, pure wool yarn that knits to a light aran weight. **Cascade 220 Heathers Worsted** is the same yarn, but comes in semi-solid colourways. Both cost £5.49 per 100g (200m) ball from **0800 505 3300**, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

For abbreviations see page 92 of your main magazine

BLANKET

Using 5mm needles and yarn A, cast on 60 sts Rows 1-100: k Cast off kwise

BORDERS

□ Using 5mm needles and yarn C, pick up and k 60 sts along cast-on edge Rows 1-3: k Change to varn D Rows 4-8: k Row 9: k1, kfb, k to last two sts. kfb, k1. 62 sts Rows 10-11: k Row 12: k1, kfb, k to last two sts, kfb, k1, 64 sts C Rows 13-17: k Row 18: k1, kfb, k to last two sts, kfb, k1. 66 sts Rows 19-20: k Row 21: k1, kfb, k to last two sts. kfb, k1, 68 sts Rows 22-24: k □ Cast off kwise □ Rep along cast-off edge and along two side edges

BEAR HEAD

Using 4mm dpns and yarn A, cast on 20 sts, divide over four needles, join in rnd, pm for beg of rnd 🗆 Rnd 1: k \Box Rnd 2: * k1, kfb, k to last two sts on needle, kfb, k1, rep from * three more times, 28 sts □ Rnds 3-10: rep Rnds 1-2. 60 sts 🗆 Rnds 11-13: k Cut yarn A and join yarn B 🗌 Rnds 14-19: k Rnd 20: * ssk, k to last two sts on needle, k2tog, rep from * three times more. 52 sts 🗆 Rnd 21: k □ Rnds 22-29: rep Rnds 20-21. 20 sts □ Rnd 30: as Rnd 20. 12 sts Firmly stuff head with toy stuffing Cut yarn leaving a tail, thread through rem sts, pull tight and fasten off Weave in ends

EARS (make two)

Using 4mm dpns and yarn B, cast on eight sts, divide equally over four



needles, join in the rnd, pm for beg of rnd Rnd 1: k Rnd 2: (kfb) in each st to end. 16 sts Rnd 3: k Rnd 4: * k1, (kfb) twice, k1, rep from * three times more. 24 sts Rnds 5-7: k Move sts on to two needles, hold sts parallel and cast off using three-needle cast off (see p70 of main magazine)

join yarn anywhere along one side edge with a sl st 1 ch, 1dc in each row-end and st working (1dc, 1ch, 1dc) in each corner Cast off

TO MAKE UP

Sew Ears to Bear head. Use oddment of black DK to embroider eyes, nose, and mouth. Sew Bear head securely in centre of blanket. Weave in all loose ends and block blanket to measurements

Using 5mm hook and yarn A,

BORDER

Pompom Party

Use your oddments of yarn to decorate your home for Christmas



A lison Howard's book Pompom Crafts (£5.99, GMC) features 17 easy projects to use up your stash.

www.thegmc group.com

Measurements & sizes

30cm diameter

Knit Kit Yarn: oddments of yarn Pompom maker, assorted Glue Felt Ribbon Tapestry needle

For abbreviations see page 92 of your main magazine

WREATH

□ Cut out a circle approx 30cm diameter from plastic canvas or cardboard, then cut a small circle in the centre □ Use ring as a template and cut out felt backing Set to one side □ Using assorted yarns, make enough medium-sized pompoms to fit around outer and inner edges of ring □ Using yarn tails, tie pompoms to ring □ Make an assortment of small and tiny pompoms in different shades and weights of yarn Trim yarn tails □ Glue smaller pompoms



 Trim all yarn ends on reverse
 Glue felt to back of ring, concealing ends

 \Box Thread ribbon or cord on to

tapestry needle and push through the top of the wreath from front to back to make a hanging loop

Christmas Cooks

We love these festive potholders from Drops!

se Fair Isle to create thick and practical homewares with a fabulously festive feel. Finish them off with a pretty crochet edging.

Measurements & sizes

Snowmen: 20cm x 21cm

Angels: 20cm x 20cm

Knit Kit

Yarn: Drops Paris, Snowmen: shades (A) 12 Red, (B) 17 Off white, two 50g balls of each, (C) 15 Black, (D) 13 Orange, one 50g ball of each, Angels: shades (A) 12 Red, (B) 17 Off white, (C) 23 Light Grey, two 50g balls of each, oddments of yellow DK

Needles: 4mm circular

Crochet hook: 4mm

Stitch marker

Tapestry needle

Tension square

19 sts x 25 rows 10cm x 10cm stocking stitch 4mm needles

About the Yarn

Drops Paris is a soft, matte cotton yarn that knits to a light aran tension. Working this pattern on smaller needles than usual gives a thicker, more protective fabric. It costs £1.05 per 50g (75m) ball from 0800 505 3300, www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

For abbreviations see page 92 of your main magazine

SNOWMEN

Using 4mm needles and yarn B, cast on 74 sts, join in the rnd taking care not to twist sts, pm for beg of rnd and in 38th st to mark side edges

NOTE: charts are overleaf

□ Rnd 1: * work Row 1 of Chart A once, work Row 1 of Chart B three

times, rep from * once more Cont as set until Charts A and B have been completed Cast off using yarn B Using yarn C, embroider French knots where shown on Chart. Fold pot holder flat

BORDER

Using 4mm hook and yarn B, starting at top left corner and

working through both layers of knitting, work as folls: Rnd 1: 1dc in corner, 1dc in every st around entire edge, make 14ch for strap, sl st in first dc Rnd 2: * 3ch, 1dc in first of 3ch, miss two sts, 1dc in next dc, rep from * to end, working 1dc in each ch for

- strap, sl st in sl st from prev rnd
- □ Fasten off



ANGELS

Using 4mm needles and yarn B, cast on 80 sts, join in the rnd taking care not to twist sts, pm for beg of rnd and in 41st st to mark side edges \Box K two rnds

□ Next rnd: work Row 1 of Chart C twice across rnd

 Rep last rnd working next row of Chart C until Chart is complete
 Using yarn B, cast off
 Using oddment of yellow DK, embroider halo for each angel

BORDER

Using 4mm hook and yarn B, starting at top left corner and working through both layers of knitting, work as folls:

□ Rnd 1: 1dc in corner, * miss 1cm, 1dc in next st, rep from * around entire edge, make 14ch for strap, sl st in first dc

□ Rnd 2: * 3ch, 1dc in first of 3ch, miss one dc, 1dc in next dc, rep from * to end, working 1dc in each ch for strap, sl st in sl st from prev rnd □ Fasten off **LK**

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