

REVIEWED MODERN KNITS YOUR MAN *WILL* WANT TO WEAR

£4.99 ISSUE 94
JANUARY 2014

Knit

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Cosy cables

Perfect winter knits!

14 Weekend Projects



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Welcome

New Year is almost upon us and it's time to take stock. What are you excited about knitting in 2014? After spending months before the holidays making presents for family and friends, I'm looking forward to picking a project for myself at last. I loved Sian Brown's **classy cable sweater** on page 18 as soon as I saw it. I'll be knitting it up in a cool green to help me think of spring during these long winter nights. By the time I've finished, perhaps the trees in my local park will be in bud once again!

Of course, not every knitting project needs to take a long time. We've got plenty of clever quick-makes to keep the chills away, and you can knit them all in a weekend. Susanne Frank's **luxurious flower cowl** will feel like a treat to knit and wear, but only takes three balls of yarn. And if you're looking to save your pennies, why not cast on Ruth Maddock's rich red boho wrap? We've worked out you can make it for the not-so-princely sum of £10!

It's always lovely to knit for little ones. We've got **fun farm knits** on page 64, and a **cute pink jumper** on page 33 that any little girl would love.

Finally, don't forget to take part in our reader survey. You could win an amazing **£1,000 worth of crafty goodies** - a whole year's worth of yarn, from Minerva Crafts. Find out more on page 9 and get involved!

Rosee Woodland, *Editor*



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for **50% off** on a *Knit Today* subscription
Turn to p12 for details



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Win!

Over £900
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Meet the designers

The temperatures have well and truly dropped, and our team have designed some gorgeous winter knits just for you!

Our cover project

Sian Brown



Introducing your new favourite jumper! This dark teal cabled sweater is a classic knit that will never go out of style – we love it.

I designed this month's cover project because...

Everyone needs a go-to garment – something to rely on when it feels like there's absolutely nothing you want to wear. My cabled sweater, knitted in a deep shade of teal, will never go out of style – you'll find yourself reaching for it for many winters to come. Knitted in pure wool, it'll stand up to lots of wear, which is lucky, as it won't spend much time hanging in your wardrobe!

I've used different cables on the body of the sweater and honeycomb stitch on the sleeves, which I think creates beautiful textural contrast. Although this knit is ideal for laid-back days when only a cosy jumper will do, the slim fit means it's smart enough for work – just add a pencil skirt or tailored trousers.



Our designers this month



Helen Ardley

Wrap up in my scarlet shawl on page 24 – I've used different stitches and cables to create a textured knit that's sure to turn heads.



Susanne Frank

Looking for something to knit for the man in your life? My houndstooth cowl on page 51 is a stylish alternative to a scarf.



Val Pierce

A girl can't have enough handbags – knit my preppy school satchel-style bag in soft wool and alpaca. It's on page 42.



Sarah Heys

Add a splash of colour to your breakfast tray with my Fair Isle place mat, mug cosy and cutlery holder set on page 48.



Ella Austin

You're going to love my mitts and wristwarmers on page 38. If you can't decide which set you like best, knit all three!

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This month's top three stories...

1



How a knitted teddy bear gave one man a fresh start in life

2



Top designer Gudrun Johnston's inspirational knitting blog

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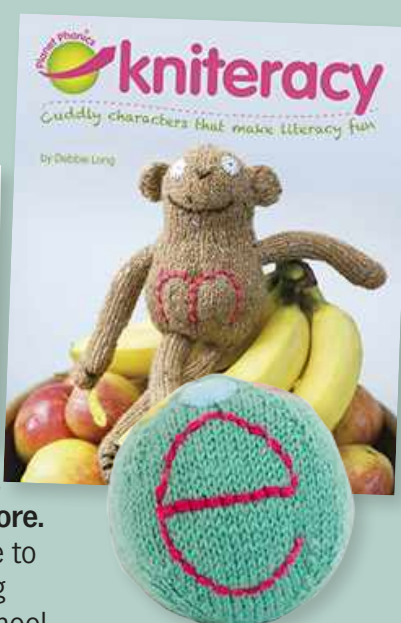


Turn your old sweater into some fancy pants. Yes, we're serious!

Knitting news

Take some time out to read all the latest news and gossip from the wonderful world of knitting...

Get kniterate!



Teacher Debbie Long's book, *Planet Phonics Kniteracy*, is helping kids get to grips with spelling. She told us more.

"Two years ago, my friend Jill – also a teacher – asked me to teach her to knit. Over a few weeks I taught her everything needed to get going. Then we knitted a little mouse. At school that week she was teaching the sound 'sh' to her class, so we called the mouse Shy Sheila. She took it to school the next day and the children loved Shy Sheila. They made her a bed and learnt the 'sh' sound at the same time.

"We decided to make all the phonic sounds into knitted characters. It took over a year but it was great fun. Jill field tested them with her class as we went along. I wanted the knitted characters to be used as teaching aids, but also used by the children for imaginative play. They could have a lesson using them and then use the skills they'd learnt in their free play. Many children have problems learning the vowels so we decided to make vowel planets – little coloured balls embroidered with the letters they represent – to distinguish them from the consonant characters.

"There's also a knitted phone to ring Planet Phonics to send down a character and a rocket that the characters fit in. The phone and rocket both have rhymes that the children soon learn and get excited about. They're really keen to know who's coming from Planet Phonics."

Debbie and Jill are now working on a second book, featuring more of the phonic sounds. Find out more and buy the book at www.planetphonics.co.uk

Celebrity spot

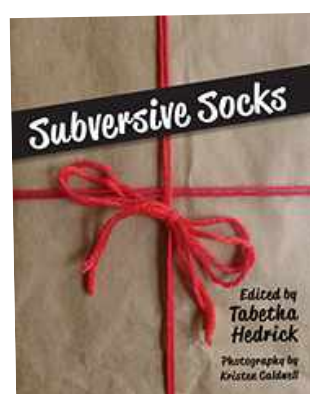


Found celebs who love to knit? Tell us on facebook



Images from Rex Features and Fox Searchlight

Editor's favourite



Oooo, naughty! Co-operative Press' new book *Subversive Socks* goes where other sock designers fear to tread. Some of the patterns are well beyond racy, hence the brown paper 'packaging', but we were won over by the subtle charms of Tabetha Hendrick's XXX design, and the Seditious Stockings by Stefanie Pollmeir, which are based on a vintage 1920s design. The book contains 14 patterns, some seriously outrageous, some mildly rebellious, and is available as a PDF which you can print at home. Just don't say we didn't warn you!

You can buy the complete ebook for US\$16.95 (about £10.50) from cooperativepress.com.

She's already described herself as a 'binge knitter' so we were chuffed to see former *Seinfeld* star Julia Louis-Dreyfus knitting away in her new movie rom com *Enough Said*. Julia, whose character is embroiled in creating a chunky yellow garter stitch blanket during the movie, told Examiner.com; "I do knit. I'm a terrible knitter but I adore knitting. Knitting was a lovely thing to be able to do. It was written (into the script) but I do knit." Pass the popcorn! *Enough Said*, which also stars *Sopranos* legend James Gandolfini in his last role, is out now.

Top of the shops



Minerva Crafts

Tell us a little about your shop

The company was founded by husband and wife team Annette and Phil Ormerod. As a fanatical knitter, dressmaker and embroiderer, it was always Annette's dream to work surrounded by the things she loved. The turning point was when we went online. We continued to expand until we moved into our current premises of over 23,000 sq ft in 2010, and are now one of the largest independent retailers for knitting, sewing, fabrics and crafts in the UK.

What makes Minerva Crafts so special?

We firmly believe the craft industry should be supported by craft enthusiasts and specialists in a 'bricks and mortar' shop. We love to see people's expressions as they visit the Minerva Craft Centre for the first time – it has often been described as 'the ultimate crafter's paradise'. We also offer a discount scheme for loyal customers.

What's the most popular yarn right now?

Our best seller is probably the merino blend from King Cole. It's a 100% wool yarn that is ultra soft and offers great value for money. It is available in 4 Ply, DK, Aran and Chunky so there is something for everyone.

Do you have a favourite yarn this season?

We've just started to stock Wendy Yarns and we love the Traditional 100% Wool Aran. It can be used for felting as well as knitting and offers unbeatable value. You really can't beat it for such a good quality yarn!

Atlas Road
Darwen
Lancashire
BB3 3BY
01254 708068
www.minervacrafts.com

Make sure you check out community website www.lookwhativemade.com

Tour de Bunting

Yorkshire knitters have come up with a woolly concept to welcome riders from the Tour de France next summer – bunting made from mini knitted cycling jerseys! Knitters can get a mini yarn pack with enough yarn to make four jerseys, or use their own. All the bunting is being made in the colours of the main tour jerseys – yellow, green and white.

The event is being supported by local spinners Ramsdens and Cygnet, knitting shop Baa Ram Ewe, and Harrogate Borough Council. Harrogate knitters can drop off their mini jerseys at collection points locally, but if you're further afield you can post them in. For a free jersey pattern visit www.harrogate.gov.uk/LeTourdeBunting or call 01423 500600.



Grin and bear it



When Gregory Patrick lost his job as a waiter in Savannah, Georgia, he was left with little choice but to hole up in a trailer in the woods and try to scrape together a living. With jobs scarce, he turned to knitting teddy bears to pay the bills. In the last two years Patrick has made more than 1,000 bears, allowing him to feed himself, and find a better place to live. Since one of his blog posts (about being "questioned" by police for knitting in public) went viral, he's had more than 3,000 emails and now he spends his days knitting up orders, and finally getting ahead on his rent. You can order a bear via <http://gregorypatrick.bigcartel.com/> or buy a bear pattern at www.craftsy.com. Read more about Patrick's progress at <http://madmanknitting.wordpress.com/>.

Blog we love!

The Shetland Trader

Gudrun Johnston is best known for her beautiful textured and lace designs, which have been featured by top online publications including Twist Collective, Brooklyn Tweed and Knitty. Johnston grew up in the Shetlands and returns often, filling her blog pages with beautiful images of her visits, alongside snapshots from her global knitting adventures. As an international 'name' on the knitting scene, much of her time is spent travelling to teach, giving us a great excuse to ogle as she jets off to knitting haven Iceland, or visits upstate New York for the annual Rhinebeck yarn fair (a key event in the US festival calendar). We may not be heading off to Scandinavia any time soon, but we can always rely on Johnston to do it for us...

Take a look at
www.theshetlandtrader.com/blog/





Picture credit: Stephen West

We want Swants!

When is a sweater not a sweater? When it's transformed into a pair of trousers, of course! Designer and trained dancer Stephen West is already a well-known name in the knitting world, but hit the heady heights of America's *Today* show thanks to his brilliant 'Swants' tutorial. And, of course, there is a 'Swants' dance too. Our production editor Cecilia even held a Swants-making party with her friends, but she won't let us see the pictures!

Find the full tutorial at www.westknits.com or go to <http://bit.ly/16Nms3A> and join in the Swants dance. We're not joking...

Reader Survey

in association with
Minerva Crafts

What do you love to knit? Cosy cable hats and gloves? Simple sweaters? We want to know what you like to make, and what you like best about *Knit Today*. Simply fill out our Reader Survey to be in with a chance of winning £1,000 worth of crafting goodies from Minerva Crafts. It's your chance to tell us what you want from your favourite knitting magazine!

To take part in the survey visit www.knit-today.com/readersurvey. Terms and conditions apply.

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Twitmas Jumper



If you're still hankering after a Christmas jumper, why not tweet for one? A knitting machine powered by Twitter is churning them out as part of a Budweiser campaign to back designated drivers for the holiday season. Help it make more by tweeting with the hashtag **#jumpers4des**

In issue 93 we listed the prices of two patterns on our Patterns Reviews pages incorrectly. The *Debbie Bliss Rustic Knits* pattern collection is available for £5.95. The *Alpaca Colour* book by Rowan costs £8.50.

For more about Debbie Bliss patterns visit www.designeryarns.uk.com or call 01535 664222. To find out more about Rowan patterns go to www.knitrowan.com or call 01484 681881.

Issue
93

Diary dates



24 January

**ABSOLUTE BEGINNERS
CROCHET WITH BECKY
MURRAY** Get Knitted, Bristol

Get hooked on crochet with talented designer Becky, who can whip up a granny square in minutes! The shop sells packs for crochet blankets to get you started, too.

Visit www.getknitted.com or call 0117 3005211

23 - 25 January

THE CREATIVE CRAFTS SHOW Esher, Surrey

Pop along to designer Fiona Morris' free knitting surgery, held each day, or sit and chat in the knitters' area with Neil Morris of neiltheknit.co.uk.

Visit www.sccshows.co.uk or call 01822 614671

30 January - 1 February

CRAFT4CRAFTERS Exeter, Devon

Brace yourself for the bun fight over the bargain packs at the Black Sheep stand at this South West show, which welcomes crafters from all disciplines.

Visit www.craft4crafters.co.uk or call 0845 3040222

28 February - 2 March

KNIT AND STITCH IT SHOW FIVE, Farnborough

With more than 12,000 visitors, this event is a haven for textile fans, who can watch free demos, take part in special workshops or just indulge in a spot of shopping. It's run alongside the Make It craft show. Win tickets on our Giveaways page on page 70.

<http://knitandstitch-it.org.uk/home-kns.php>

21 - 23 February

UNRAVEL 2014

Get your tickets early for this great event showcasing independent yarn companies in the South East. With demonstrations, workshops and a Best in Show competition, there's plenty to keep you occupied at this beautiful old water mill.

[https://farnhammaltings.com/
festivals/unravel/](https://farnhammaltings.com/festivals/unravel/)



Help the homeless

GARY BAKER finds out how one charity is helping to keep heads warm this winter

As the temperatures continue to drop around the UK, there are thousands of people without a home to call their own. And while the number of homeless people in the UK continues to rise, there are charities out there trying to make a difference. One of them needs the help of knitters to do so.

Homeless Beanies UK have a mission: to keep heads warm. A not-for-profit organisation, it's a scheme that originally started in the USA. Now, the new UK version aims to hand out beanies to as many homeless people as possible.

All hands on deck

The charity is looking for donations of yarn, but also for the knitted beanies themselves. They are asking for many hands to make light work of the huge knitting task that lies ahead. The hope is that individuals, friends, knitting groups – and in fact anyone who can wield a set of needles – will be inspired to knit a beanie. The pattern is available on the website and can also be requested via email – simply get in touch at beanies@homelessbeanies.org.uk. Homeless Beanies UK recently ran a competition for the best beanie design and will be launching similar incentive schemes in the future.

Buy a beanie

There is no limit to the number of hats you can knit – the more the merrier. Beanies will also be available to buy at homelessbeanies.org.uk. And for every one sold, another will be handed out to a homeless person who needs one. It's a refreshingly simple way to help people who have a real need and are grateful for the help that they get.

A brighter future

Homeless Beanies UK can't promise to eradicate homelessness, but they have a goal that is simple, measurable and achievable – to make people a little warmer during the winter months. The long-term aim is to follow the American model, where the beanie is just the first step. The funds raised are used to help connect the homeless with the right people and resources to help them find their feet once again.

For more information about Homeless Beanies UK log on to www.homelessbeanies.org.uk. You can also keep up with them on Twitter @HBeaniesUK.

"A goal that is simple, measurable and achievable – to make people a little warmer"



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KnitToday

Dear Editor

Write in and show us what you've been working on.
Every photo printed will win a prize!



Hats off to you

Here are the hats I have knitted from issue 79 of *Knit Today*. I jumped at the chance to knit them for Gloucester City Mission to hand out with their Christmas goodie bags for the homeless. Not only is it a wonderful pattern that knits up quickly, it has shrunk my stash of chunky yarn to almost nothing! Thank you for such a great pattern, from myself and the homeless of Gloucester who will benefit from the inspiration.

Marge Ingram, Gloucester

Rosee says: It's great to see that our patterns have helped towards such a great cause, keeping people without homes a little warmer this winter. Well done for reducing your yarn stash, too. Have any other readers got ideas for using odds and ends? We'd love to see photos of your stashbusting knits.



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Artesano

Next month, our lucky star letter writer will win a fab Artesano pattern and yarn, worth £30. For more information and to find a stockist, visit www.artesanoyarns.co.uk To stand a chance of winning our Star Letter prize, write to the address on page 15 or email knittoday@immediate.co.uk

Jumper for joy

Just wondered if you would like to see my first-ever attempt at knitting a Christmas jumper. I have never tried colour work before, but it was something I wanted to do. So when my daughter requested a jumper, how could I refuse? It's the first time she's ever asked for a hand-knitted jumper, and she is 22! She liked it but it really was a labour of love. Here is the end result. Not perfect but my daughter is really pleased with it.

Heather Wilson,
Belfast

Rosee says:

It's great when children learn to appreciate their parents' talents and that's clearly the case here - well done for rising to the challenge! The jumper looks fantastic, and the fact that this is your first attempt at colour work is really impressive. We can't wait to see your next project!



Snow business

Here is my snowman, which I knitted from a pattern that appeared in your Christmas issue last year. I finally got around to knitting him and finished yesterday, just in time for Christmas. I've changed his face slightly, but knitted the hat and scarf as per the pattern. I love him.

Marie Worley,
Tamworth

Rosee says:

Knitting for Christmas is great fun, even if it sometimes takes a while to finish all your projects. Perhaps he needs a friend...



First past the post

Deck the halls

Just received my *Knit Today* magazine this afternoon and thought you might like to see what I made from the free yarn and the Rudolph bauble pattern.

Lorraine Stanworth, Lancashire

Rosee says: That was quick, Lorraine - almost as a quick as a flying reindeer! Your tree is going to look extra festive this year!

This month our winner receives a goodie bag packed with yarn and knitting patterns.



Like us on Facebook!

Here's what you've been sharing on Facebook this month...



One lil' reindeer
Tina Harvey

Found something interesting?

Tell us on facebook



I've just finished the lighthouse door stop!
Jenny King



Thank you for including me in a feature in your last issue of *Knit Today* for the charity I'm working with.
Diana Clarke



Cat bookmark I knitted for a work colleague who's a big-time cat lover to say thank you. It's from issue 84. Like it so much I'm doing one for myself.
Isabel Freeman

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Write in and win!

This month every reader who has their letter printed will receive an amigurumi Simon the Sheep crochet kit from Toft Alpaca's Edward's Menagerie series.

Write to us at: Dear Editor, *Knit Today*, 9th Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN, or drop us a line at knittoday@immediate.co.uk. Go to www.thetoftalpacashop.co.uk or call 01788 810626 to find out more about Toft and to see the full range of products.



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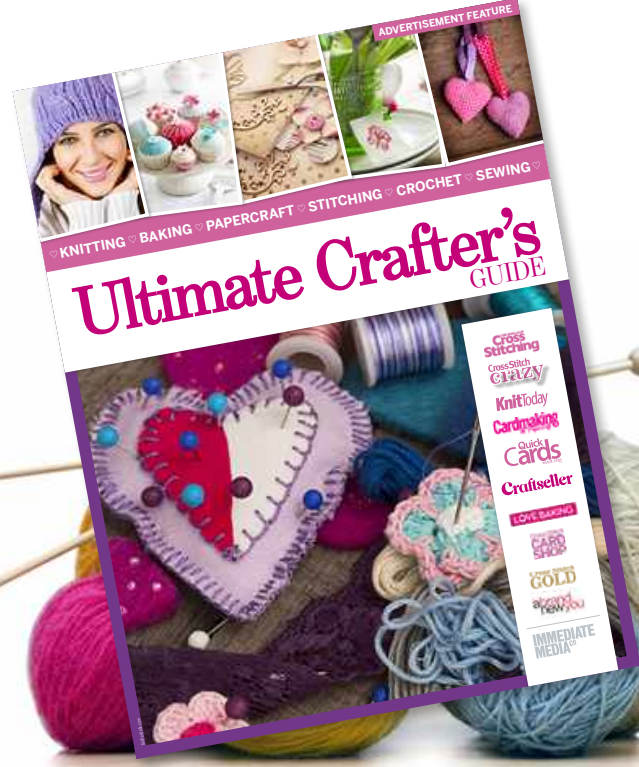
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Knit the look

Rethink **pink** – indulge your girly side with mohair, sequins and polka dots in sugary hues

Rose-tinted spectacles were certainly not needed at fashion week – designers flooded the runways in every shade of pale pink, from candyfloss and sugared almond hues to dusky rose, champagne and cherry blossom.

At Celine, Miu Miu and Mulberry, pink ladies paraded down the catwalk in wool blend coats and polka dots while swathes of shell pink silk and slips in rosy hues featured at Lanvin and Jonathan Saunders. Sequins sparkled at Topshop Unique, and more unusual fabrics like PVC and neoprene gave prim twinsets and princess coats a modern edge at Roksanda Ilincic and Simone Rocha.

While pink is an unexpected hue for winter, it's perfect for adding a dash of femininity to a winter's day, especially if you find yourself veering towards muted greys and blacks and as soon as the temperatures start to drop.

When choosing yarn, go for a strokeable mohair blend like Pure Douceur by Bergère de France in Rose Thé or Kidsilk Haze Glamour in Blushes – the sequins give it an extra dose of girliness. An angora sweater with lace stitch details like Thelma from Rowan's *Angora Haze*, a delicate crochet collar or a lace knit shawl are all great ways to incorporate pink into your winter wardrobe.



Dress, £150 at Phase Eight



Sequin jacket, £99 at Monsoon



Stud dangling earrings, £68 at Konplott

Roksanda Ilincic A/W13



Sequin clutch, £40 at East



Shrug from *Knits for You and Your Home* by Debbie Bliss, £18



Pattern from *Angora Haze* by Rowan, £8.50



Bergère de France Pure Douceur, £9.95 per 50g (250m) ball



Shoes, £35 at Accessorize



Petal pink nail lacquer, £6 at Crabtree & Evelyn

3 ways to wear

1 A pink princess coat is the shape to be seen in. Knit the honeycomb stitch coat from Bergère's Créations 13/14 in Rosée.

2 If all-out girly isn't your thing, add a pop of pink with a scarf, collar or even a Carrie Bradshaw-style corsage.

3 Tone down this look with a slouchy, borrowed-from-the-boyfriend knitted jumper in pastel pink.



Ophelia sweater

This cabled classic by **SIAN BROWN** is a perfect wardrobe staple – you'll want to knit it in every colour!



Sizing guide		8	10	12	14
To fit bust	cm	82-87	92-97	102-107	112-117
	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46
Actual chest	cm	92	102	122	142
	in	36	40	48	56
Length	cm	55	57	59	61
	in	21¾	22½	23¼	24
Sleeve length	cm	47	47	47	47
	in	18½	18½	18½	18½

Pattern details

You will need...

Yarn

13 (15: 17: 19) x 50g balls of Debbie Bliss Rialto DK in Teal (shade 20)

Needles

3.25mm (UK size 10) and 4mm (UK size 8) knitting needles

Other

Cable needle

Tension

Yarn used knits as DK – 22sts and 30 rows to 10cm or 4in over st st using 4mm (UK size 8) knitting needles

Start here!

Cable panel A (worked over 9sts)

Row 1: K9.

Row 2: P9.

Row 3: Cr4R, K1, Cr4L.

Row 4: P9.

These four rows form the patt and are repeated throughout.

Cable panel B (worked over 15sts)

Row 1: P5, T5L, P5.

Row 2: K5, P2, K1, P2, K5.

Row 3: P4, T3B, K1, T3F, P4.

Row 4: K4, P2, K1, P1, K1, P2, K4.

Row 5: P3, T3B, K1, P1, K1, T3F, P3.

Row 6: K3, P2, (K1, P1) twice, K1, P2, K3.

Row 7: P2, T3B, (K1, P1) twice, K1, T3F, P2.

Row 8: K2, P2, (K1, P1) three times, K1, P2, K2.

Row 9: P1, T3B, (K1, P1) three times, K1, T3F, P1.

Row 10: K1, P2, (K1, P1) four times, K1, P2, K1.

Row 11: T3B, (K1, P1) four times, K1, T3F.

Row 12: P2, (K1, P1) five times, K1, P2.

These 12 rows form the patt and are repeated throughout.

Cable panel C for back and front

Note: worked over 16sts.

Row 1: (C4B, C4F) twice.

Row 2: P16.

Row 3: K16.

Row 4: P16.

Row 5: (C4F, C4B) twice.

Row 6: P16.

Row 7: K16.

Row 8: P16.

These eight rows form the pattern and are repeated throughout.

Cable panel C for sleeves

Note: Worked over 8sts.

Row 1: C4B, C4F.

Row 2: P8.

Row 3: K8.

Row 4: P8.

Row 5: C4F, C4B.

Row 6: P8.

Row 7: K8.

Row 8: P8.

These eight rows set the patt and are repeated throughout.

Yarn detail

Debbie Bliss Rialto DK
www.designeryarns.uk.com
01535 664222

Content 100% wool

Weight/length 50g/105m

Wash Machine wash 30°C

RRP £5.50

Back

With 3.25mm needles, **cast on** 122 (134: 146: 158)sts.

Row 1: P2, (K2, P2) to the end.

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

These two rows form the rib.

Work a further 14 rows, increase one stitch at the centre of last row. 123 (135: 147: 159)sts.

Change to 4mm needles.

Row 1: P1 (3: 5: 7), work across first row panel C, (P1 (2: 3: 4), work across first row panel A, P1 (2: 3: 4), work across first row panel B) three times, P1 (2: 3: 4), work across first row of panel A, P1 (2: 3: 4), work across first row panel C, P1 (3: 5: 7).

Row 2: K1 (3: 5: 7), work across second row panel C, (K1 (2: 3: 4), work across second row panel A, K1 (2: 3: 4), work across second row panel B) three times, K1 (2: 3: 4), work across second row of panel A, K1 (2: 3: 4), work across second row panel C, K1 (3: 5: 7).

These two rows set the position for the cable



Combine different cables to create textural contrast

Abbreviations

beg	beginning
cm	centimetre(s)
cont	continue
cont	continue
dec	decrease
fol	following
K	knit
P	purl
patt	pattern
p2tog	purl 2sts together
rep	repeat
RS	right side
st(s)	stitch(es)
st st	stocking stitch
tbl	through the back loop
C4B	cable 4 back, slip next 2sts on cable needle and hold at back of work K2, then K2 from cable needle
C4F	cable 4 front, slip next 2sts on cable needle and hold at front of work K2, then K2 from cable needle
Cr4R	cross 4 right, slip next 3sts on cable needle and hold at back of work K1, then K3 from cable needle
Cr4L	cross 4 left, slip next st on cable needle and hold at front of work K3, then K1 from cable needle
T5L	twist 5 left: slip next 3sts onto cable needle and hold at back of work, K2, then P1, K2 from cable needle
T3B	twist 3 back: slip next st onto cable needle and hold at back of work, K2, then P1 from cable needle
T3F	twist 3 front: slip next 2sts onto cable needle and hold at front of work, P1, then K2 from cable needle
WS	wrong side

panels with reverse st st between.
Cont in patt until back measures 36 (37: 38: 39) cm or 14¼ (14½: 15: 15¼) in from the cast on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape armholes

Cast off 3 (4: 5: 6) sts at beg of next two rows. 117 (127: 137: 147) sts.

Next row: P2tog, patt to last 2sts, p2tog.

Next row: Patt to end.

Rep the last two rows four (five: six: seven) times more. 107 (115: 123: 131) sts.

Cont in patt until back measures 53 (55: 57: 59) cm or 21 (21¾: 22½: 23¼) in from the cast on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape shoulders

Cast off 5 sts at beg of next four rows, 5 (6: 7: 8) sts at the beg of foll four rows and 10 sts at beginning of the next two rows. Leave rem 47 (51: 55: 59) sts on a holder.

Front

Work as given for the back until the front measures 40 (41: 42: 43) cm or 25½ (16: 16½: 17) in from the cast on edge, ending with a wrong side row.

Shape neck

Next row: Patt 40 (42: 44: 46), turn and work on these sts for first side of neck shaping.

Decrease one stitch at the neck edge on every right side row until 30 (32: 34: 36) sts remain.

Cont straight until the front measures the same as back to shoulder shaping, ending at the armhole edge.

Shape shoulder

Cast off five stitches at beg of next and foll right side row.

Work one row.

Cast off 5 (6: 7: 8) sts at beg of the next and foll right side row.

Work one row.

Cast off remaining 10 sts.

With the right side facing, slip next 27 (31: 35: 39) sts on a holder, rejoin the yarn to the remaining sts, pattern to the end of the row.

Dec 1st at neck edge on every right side row until 30 (32: 34: 36) sts rem.

Continue straight until the front measures the same as back to shoulder shaping, ending at the armhole edge.

Shape shoulder

Cast off 5 sts at beg of next and foll wrong side row.

Work one row.

Cast off 5 (6: 7: 8) stitches at the beginning of the next and following wrong side row.

Work one row.

Cast off the remaining 10 sts.

Sleeves

With 3.25mm knitting needles, **cast on** 54 (58: 62: 66) stitches.

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

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

These two rows form the rib.

Work a further 14 rows, inc 1st at centre of last row. 55 (59: 63: 67) sts.

Change to 4mm needles.

Row 1: K1, C4B, C4F, P1 (2: 3: 4), work across first row panel A, P1 (2: 3: 4), work across first row of panel B, P1 (2: 3: 4), work across first row of panel A, P1 (2: 3: 4), C4B, C4F, K1.

Row 2: P9, K1 (2: 3: 4), work across second row panel A, K1 (2: 3: 4), work across second row panel B, K1 (2: 3: 4), work across second row of panel A, K1 (2: 3: 4), P9.

These two rows set the position for the cable panels with rev st st between.

Inc row: K1, M1, patt to last st, M1, K1.

Work seven rows.

Repeat the last eight rows 12 times more and the increase row again, working first 8 sts into cable panel C, and rem sts into reverse st st. 83 (87: 91: 95) sts.

Cont straight until sleeve measures 47 cm or 18½ in from the cast on edge, ending with a WS row.

Shape sleeve top

Cast off 3 (4: 5: 6) sts at beg of next two rows. 77 (79: 81: 83) sts.

Dec 1st at each end of every RS row until 49 sts remain, ending with a WS row.

Cast off 2 sts at beg of next four rows, then 3 sts at beg of foll eight rows.

Cast off remaining 17 sts.

Neckband

Join the right shoulder seam.

With the right side facing, using 3.25mm knitting needles, pick up and knit 32 (34: 36: 38) stitches down the left side of front neck, knit 27 (31: 35: 39) sts from the front neck holder, pick up and knit 32 (34: 36: 38) stitches up the right side of the front neck, K47 (51: 55: 59) sts from the back neck. 138 (150: 162: 174) sts.

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

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

Rep the last two rows four times more and the first row again.

Cast off in rib.

Make up

Join the left shoulder and neckband. Join the side and sleeve seams. Sew in the sleeves, to finish. ■

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Bestbuys



Need a last-minute gift idea or fancy treating yourself? Let these crafty goodies inspire you!

Pretty pom-poms

Super cute and unashamedly girly, these mittens from Toft Alpaca are knitted in pure alpaca yarn, with fluffy alpaca fur pom-poms. The kit contains the yarn you need to make the mittens and two alpaca pom-poms, and comes wrapped up in a printed cotton tote bag that's perfect for carrying your project around with you – great news if you like to knit on the go!

☎ Visit www.thetoftalpachop.co.uk or call 01788 810626 for info.



*Great Scot!
We love this
tartan-
inspired beanie*

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£7.25



£21.00

True colours

If you haven't knitted with Lima Colour yet, then you're in for a treat – created in a chain construction, Rowan Lima's colourful cousin is incredibly soft and lofty, yet appears dense when knitted. The result is perfect stitch definition and a subtle blended colour effect that's perfect for adding a splash of colour to a dull day. A 50g (110m) ball of the yarn costs £7.25.

☎ Visit knitrowan.com or call 01484 681881 to find a stockist in your area.

Fantastic Fox

Woodland animals are so on trend so this little fox is right up our street! Designed especially for beginners, this cute kit from The Little Knit Kit Company contains everything you need to make this foxy fellow, including easy-to-follow, full-colour instructions. You'll only need to know how to cast on, knit, purl, k2tog and cast off to make it, so you'll have it done in no time – perfect if you need a last-minute gift idea.

☎ Visit www.thelittleknitkitcompany.co.uk

Checkmate

Though it might have reminded us of old school skirts at first, we've embraced the tartan trend wholeheartedly – it's everywhere on the high street right now. So imagine how excited we were to see Wool and the Gang's new plaid-inspired collection. Have a highland fling with this chunky knit hat, designed in WATG's signature Crazy Sexy Wool in Forest Green, Midnight Blue and Ivory White. Buy the pattern for £10, or the ready-made hat for £48.

☎ Visit www.woolandthegang.com to buy.





• £15.00

Dream on

With a little help from Youtube tutorials and a learn-as-you-go-along attitude, Sian Parker from Cwmbran in Wales discovered how to spin her own yarns and hand card and prepare fibers – and that's how her online business, Just a Daydream, was born. This handspun fine merino yarn is spun to a chunky weight and comes in a range of beautiful colourways, including Candy Store, a mouth-watering mix of purples, creams, pinks and blues. A 55g (64m) ball costs £15.

☎ Visit www.etsy.com/uk/shop/Justadaydream



• £12.00

Lavender's blue

Made by young Belfast-based design duo and husband and wife team, Abigail and Ryan Bell, these handmade lavender bags by abigail*ryan are digitally printed on upholstery weight cotton using an original botanical drawing of dahlias and rhododendrons. Packed with fragrant lavender grown in high-altitude Provence, they're perfect for hanging inside your wardrobe to deter moths, and will keep your handknits smelling fresh.

☎ Visit www.theestateyard.com to buy.

From the top

After stumbling across a copy of Barbara Walker's renowned book, *Knitting from the Top*, Kristina McGowan felt compelled to bring her techniques to the modern knitter. Inspired by Barbara's top down technique (which allows the knitter to make adjustments as they go, with no seams to sew up at the end) Kristina designed a wardrobe for the modern woman using the techniques she had learnt. *More Modern Top Down Knitting* is Kristina's second book, and features beautiful accessories and garments, from a beautiful sequin-embellished skirt to a fox motif sweater.

☎ Visit www.amazon.co.uk to buy.

***Reader offer!** Call 01903 828503 and quote ref 50430 to buy this book for £13.99 (RRP £16.99) with free UK mainland p&p. Offer ends 16 January 2014, while stocks last.



• £16.99



• £17.99

Happy campers

This kitsch camper van cushion cover knitting kit by Wendy is made for fans of retro style. Included in the kit is everything you need to make it, including the yarn, knitting needles and easy-to-follow pattern.

☎ Visit www.minervacrafts.com or call 01254 708068 to buy.



• £7.50

The best things...

...come in small packages, according to the saying, and since this beautiful brooch from Vivid Please arrives in a matchbox we're willing to believe that's true! Made from laser-engraved obeche wood, it's just the thing for pinning on a handknitted cardigan – it also makes a great gift for a crafty friend.

☎ Visit www.notonthehighstreet.com/vividplease to buy.

Fringed shawl



On the *fringe*

This pillarbox red textured shawl is a beautifully boho alternative to a coat or cardigan. By **HELEN ARDLEY**



Start here!

Shawl

With 4.5mm needles, **cast on** 103sts.

Row 1: K1, *P1, K1 rep from * to end.

This row forms moss stitch.

Rep last row six times more.

Next row (inc row): (K1, P1) three times, (K2, M1, K1, P2, K4, M1, K3, P2, K4, M1, K3, M1, K3, P2) twice, K10, M1, K10, M1, K10, P2, K6, M1, K1, (P1, K1) three times. 114sts.

Change to 5mm needles.

Next row: (K1, P1) three times, P8, K2, P32, (K2, P12, K2, P8, K2, P4) twice, (P1, K1) three times.

Now work in the pattern as follows:

Row 1: (K1, P1) three times, (K4, P2, K8, P2, K12, P2) twice, (C4B, C4F) four times, P2, K8, (P1, K1) three times.

Row 2: (K1, P1) three times, P8, K2, P32, (K2, P12, K2, P8, K2, P4) twice, (P1, K1) three times

Row 3: (K1, P1) three times, (C4B, P2, C4F, C4B, P2, K12, P2) twice, K32, P2, C4F, C4B, (P1, K1) three times.

Row 4: (K1, P1) three times, P8, K2, P32, (K2, P12, K2, P8, K2, P4) twice, (P1, K1) three times.

Row 5: (K1, P1) three times, (K4, P2, K8, P2, C6F, C6B, P2) twice, (C4F, C4B) four times, P2, K8, (P1, K1) three times.

Row 6: (K1, P1) three times, P8, K2, P32, (K2, P12, K2, P8, K2, P4) twice, (P1, K1) three times.

Row 7: (K1, P1) three times, (C4B, P2, C4B, C4F, P2, K12, P2) twice, K32, P2, C4B, C4F, (P1, K1) three times.

Row 8: As row 6.

These eight rows form the pattern.

Continue in pattern until shawl measures 120cm or 47¼in. Change to 4.5mm needles.

Next row: K1 *P1, K1; rep from * to end, decreasing 11sts evenly over row. 103sts.

Work in moss st as start for a further 7 rows.

Cast off.

Making up

Sew in the loose ends. Make the fringes 22cm or 8¾in length and eight strands to a tassel. Edge all along one long length of shawl and up one side, to finish. ■

Pattern details

You will need...

Yarn

4 x 100g balls of Sirdar Supersoft Aran in Red Poppy (shade 824)

Needles

4.5mm (UK size 7) and 5mm (UK size 6) knitting needles

Abbreviations

C4B cable 4 back: slip the next 2sts on the left needle to the cable needle and hold the cable needle to the back of the work. K2 from the left needle. K2 from the cable needle

C4F cable 4 front: slip the next 2sts on the left needle to the cable needle and hold the cable needle to the front of the work. K2 from the left needle. K2 from the cable needle

C6B cable 6 back: slip 3sts onto cable needle, hold the cable needle to the back of work, K next 3sts off the left needle. K the 3sts from cable needle onto right needle

C6F cable 6 front: slip 3sts onto cable needle, hold the cable needle to the front of work, K next 3sts off the left needle. K the 3sts from cable needle onto right needle

cm centimetre(s)
cont continue
in inch(es)
K knit
k2tog knit 2sts together
M1 make 1st
P purl
patt pattern
p2tog purl 2sts together
rep repeat
st(s) stitch(es)
tbl through the back loop

Yarn detail

Sirdar Supersoft Aran

www.sirdar.co.uk
01924 371501

Content 100% acrylic
Weight/length 100g/236m
Wash Machine wash
40°C

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Loop stitch throw

Yarn detail

King Cole Fashion Aran

www.kingcole.co.uk
01535 650230

Content 70% premium acrylic, 30% wool

Weight/length 100g/200m

Wash Machine wash 30°C

RRP £3.89

Pattern details

You will need...

Yarn

5 x 100g balls of King Cole Fashion Aran in Natural (shade 46)

Needles

5mm (UK size 6) knitting needles

Finished size

70 x 96cm or 27½ x 37¾in

Abbreviations

M1 make 1st
RS right side
st(s) stitch(es)

How to make a loop

Knit into the next st but do not slip the st off the LH needle, bring yarn to the front between the 2sts and wrap around thumb, take yarn back between 2sts and knit the st on the LH needle again, pull the loop to length required, about 2.5cm or 1in, then slip the first st over the second st

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01707 331777 or go to www.zipsnclips.com

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Take it easy...

Use loop stitch to make this faux sheepskin throw by **HELEN ARDLEY**

Start here!

Throw

Note: the stitch for this throw takes a little extra effort, but when its finished it looks amazing.

Cast on 26sts.

Row 1: Knit (hereafter given as K)

Row 2: K2, purl to the last 2sts, K2.

Row 3 (RS): K2, make a loop into every st to the last 2sts, K2.

Row 4 (increase row): K2, M1, purl to last 2sts, M1, K2. 28 sts

Rep the last 2 rows until you reach 60sts.

Work a further 10 rows in the pattern with no increase rows.

Continue working the increase rows until 90sts.

Now work a further 22 rows in pattern with no increase rows.

Next row (RS): As Row 3.

Next row (decrease row): K1, k2tog, purl to the last 3sts, k2tog, K1. 88sts.

Next row: K2, make a loop into every st to the last 2sts, K2.

Rep the last two rows until you reach 60sts.

Work 10 rows in the pattern with no decrease rows. Continue working the decrease rows until 26sts.

Next row (RS): Knit to the end of the row.

Next row : K2, purl the top last 2sts, K2.

Cast off.

Finishing

Sew in all the loose yarn ends. Now gently steam the throw around the edges and then pull into shape as this stitch has a tendency to curl under around the edges. ■

Skill level
Advanced

Skater skirt

Flared, flirty and with a shell stitch hem, our forget-me-not blue skater skirt is a wardrobe staple. By **RUTH MADDOCK**



Start
here!

Skirt (worked in one with centre back seam)

With 4mm needles and using the long tail thumb method, **cast on** 376 (398: 420: 442: 464)sts and work two rows in garter stitch, then continue in the border pattern as follows:

Row 1 (RS): *K1, yo, K2; rep from * to the last 2sts K2. 17 (18: 19: 20: 21) repeats and 393 (416: 439: 462: 485)sts.

Row 2 (WS): P2, *(P1, K3) x 5, P3; repeat from * to the end of the row.

Row 3: * K2, yo, (K1, P3) x 5, K1, yo, rep from * to last 2sts, K2. 427 (452: 477: 502: 527)sts.

Row 4: P2, *P2, (K3, P1) x 5, P3; rep from * to end.

Row 5: * K2, yo, K1, yo, (skpo, P2) x 5, (K1, yo) x 2; rep from * to last 2sts K2. 410 (434: 458: 482: 506) sts.

Row 6: P2, *P4, (K2, P1) x 5, P5; rep from * to the end of the row.

Row 7: *K2, (yo, K1) x 3, yo, (skpo, P1) x 5, (K1, yo) x 3, K1; rep from * to the last 2sts, yo, K2. 445 (471: 497: 523: 549)sts.

Row 8: P3, *P7, (K1, P1) x 5, P9; rep from * to the end of the row.

Row 9: *K9, (skpo) x 5, K7; rep from * to the last 3sts K3. 360 (381: 402: 423: 444)sts.

Row 10: P3, *P7, wrap 4, P10; rep from * to the end of the row.

Now continue in cable pattern as follows:

Row 1: *K8, P2, K4, P2, K5; repeat from * to last 3sts K3.

Row 2: P3, * P5, K2, P4, K2, P8.

Rep these two rows once more.

Row 5: K8, P2, C4, P2, K5; rep from * to the last 3sts, K3.

Row 6: P3, * P5, K2, P4, K2, P8.

Rows 1-6 form the pattern, continue in the patt for four more repeats (30 rows of this repeat worked).

Now work as follows:

Row 1: *K4, k2tog, K2, P2, K4, P2, K2, ssk, K1; rep from * to last 3sts K3. 326 (345: 364: 383: 402)sts.

Row 2: P3, *P4, K2, P4, K2, P7.

Row 3: *K7, P2, K4, P2, K4; rep from * to the last 3sts, K3.

Row 4: P3, * P4, K2, P4, K2, P7.

Row 5: *K7, P2, C4, P2, K4; rep from * to the last 3sts, K3.

Row 6: P3, * P4, K2, P4, K2, P7.

Rows 1-6 form the pattern, cont in the patt for four more repeats (30 rows of this repeat worked).

Now work as follows:

Row 1: *K3, k2tog, K2, P2, K4, P2, K2, ssk; rep from * to last 3sts, K3. 292 (309: 326: 343: 360)sts.

Row 2: P3, *P3, K2, P4, K2, P6.

Row 3: *K6, P2, K4, P2, K3; repeat from * to the last three stitches, K3.

Sizing guide		8	10	12	14	16
To fit hip	cm	91.5	96½	101½	106½	111¾
	in	36	38	40	42	44
Actual measurements (hip)	cm	94	99	104	109¾	114.25
	in	37	39	41	43	45
Length	cm	43	43	43	46	46
	in	17	17	17	18	18

Pattern details

You will need...

Yarn
5 (5: 6: 6: 7) x 50g balls Rowan Handknit Cotton in Ice Blue (shade 239), MC

Needles
4mm (UK size 8) knitting needles (use long needles or a long circular needle working in rows).

Other
2.5cm or 1in wide elastic to fit the waist.

Tension
Yarn used knits as DK – 20sts and 30 rows to 10cm or 4in over stst using 4mm (UK size 8) knitting needles. 27sts and 30 rows to 10cm or 4in (not stretched) over the cable pattern

Abbreviations

- alt alternate
- beg beginning
- cm centimetre(s)
- cont continue
- in inch(es)
- K knit
- k2tog knit 2sts together
- P purl
- patt pattern
- p2tog purl 2sts together
- rep repeat
- st(s) stitch(es)
- tbl through the back loop
- Skpo slip 1 st, K1 st, then psso (slip 1 st knitwise) x 2, insert left needle into front of these 2sts from the left and K2tog
- ssk slip 2sts onto cable needle, hold at back, K2, then K2 from cable needle



Row 4: P3, *P3, K2, P4, K2, P6.
Row 5: *K6, P2, C4, P2, K3; rep from * to the last 3sts, K3.
Row 6: P3, * P3, K2, P4, K2, P6.
Rows 1-6 form the pattern, cont in the patt for four more repeats (30 rows of this repeat worked).
Now work as follows:
Row 1: K2, *k2tog, K2, P2, K4, P2, K2, ssk, K1; rep from * to the last repeat, k2tog, K2, P2, K4, P2, K2, ssk, K2. 258 (273: 288: 303: 318)sts.
Row 2: P3, *P3, K2, P4, K2, P4.
Row 3: K5, P2, K4, P2, K2; rep from * to last 3sts K3.
Row 4: P3, *P2, K2, P4, K2, P5.
Row 5: K5, P2, C4, P2, K2; rep from * to the last 3sts K3.
Row 6: P3, *P2, K2, P4, K2, P5.
Rows 1-6 form the pattern, cont in the patt until the work measures 43 (43: 43: 46: 46) cm or 17 (17: 17: 18: 18)in from the cast on edge. (approximately 28 (28: 28: 36: 36) more rows), ending with a WS row.
Now work as follows:

Waistband

Next row (RS): Purl to form ridge.
Now, starting with a purl row, work nine

rows in st st. Rep these 10 rows once more.
Cast off loosely.

Making up

Pin out and press according to the ball band instructions. Using small backstitches or mattress stitch, join the centre back seam. Next, fold the waistband over and hem down on inside, leaving a 5cm or 2in gap. Measure the elastic to fit the waist snugly but not too tight, plus 2cm or ¾in to join, then thread the elastic through this gap. Make sure the elastic is not twisted and overlap by 2cm or ¾in. Sew these ends together. Finish sewing the hem of the waistband to enclose the elastic. ■

Yarn detail
Rowan Handknit Cotton
www.knitrowan.com
01484 681881
Content 100% cotton
Weight/length 50g/85m
Wash Machine wash 40°C
RRP £4.29



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Diary of a *knitting group*

Every month, **Aneeta Patel** hosts a gathering called Knitting SOS where members can learn, chat and drink plenty of tea

Knitting SOS is a service knitters can use for their knitting questions by email (or text in an emergency), but I wanted to have a real-live group too so that people could come together with their crafting and queries. I'm a firm believer in the joy of crafting with others and the monthly, free, drop-in Knitting SOS group is one of my favourite activities of every month!

Our main meeting place is Look Mum No Hands in East London. This is a bicycle-themed cafe with tasty cakes and snacks, good sunny light and plenty of comfy tables we can push together when there are lots of us. For more information, please go to www.knittingsos.co.uk.

November 2013

I'm just home from Knitting SOS's monthly knitting group. What a busy one! With the weather turning chilly and Christmas not far off, there were lots of keen knitters and I definitely had to have my thinking cap on to answer all their questions. We had our usual mixed group with regulars and Knitting

SOS newcomers. I barely had time to get a sip of tea before getting stuck in.

Francine's working on a very complicated textured cardigan/coat pattern. She's a knitter who loves to push herself (and me!) and is doing amazingly well in her knitting. All these textures mean a lot of concentration which isn't always available among all the excitement of a knitting group, but there were lots of impressed knitters when we saw her progress.

Jo's new to Knitting SOS, but I'm sure this isn't the last we'll see of her. She wanted a masterclass in mattress stitch. I'm a big advocate of taking time with sewing up; it doesn't matter how well you knit something, if you don't take care sewing up it'll show! Most knitters don't enjoy sewing up, but it really adds extra finesse and satisfaction to a project.

Deciphering knitting patterns isn't always straightforward as every designer has their own style of knitting. Sometimes two heads are better than one, as Helen and I found out today. She's making great progress on this cardigan for her mum and I'm looking forward to seeing how it looks next month.

Holly's bringing something a bit different to the group as she's a crocheter. Knitting SOS-ers are hoping to get a few crochet tips!

Sam's been knitting a dog blanket to donate to Battersea Dogs' Home for quite a while now and she saved the grand finale of casting off to share with us at Knitting SOS. Sam says, "I started it a good six months ago but ran out of steam a bit over the summer. I'm looking forward to dropping it off and knowing that a little pooch will benefit." For more information and inspiration to knit your own dog blanket, please see www.battersea.org.uk.

Now for something completely different! Ever fancied being King or Queen for the day? I bet this crown is much cosier than any the Queen's ever worn!



Francine's working on a complicated cardigan pattern



Take your time when sewing up – you'll find it pays off in the end



Two heads are often better than one when deciphering a pattern



Holly's a crocheter, and looking forward to sharing a few tips!



Sam's knitted this cosy dog blanket for Battersea Dogs' Home



A knit that's fit for a King or Queen!

It's not just about the knitting!

Gather together any group of creative people and the conversation will never run dry. As well as the usual crafty chit chat, today's topics were so varied, ranging from the history of the Women's Institute to cycle safety in London and coping with bereavement. While we always have lots of laughter at Knitting SOS, it's also an amazingly supportive environment where any subject can be broached and we can find advice and support mixed in with our crafting. So it's no wonder I consider it my favourite day of every month!



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Pretty in pink

Your little girl will love this jumper, with its bobbled sleeves and chunky cables. By **PAULINE BROWN**

Pattern details

You will need...

Yarn

5 (6: 7: 8) x 50g balls of Alpaca Select Cusco DK in shade 16

Needles

3.25mm (UK size 10) and 4mm (UK size 8) knitting needles

Other

4mm (UK size 8) cable needle
Two stitch holders

Tension

Yarn used knits as DK - 21sts and 27 rows to 10cm or 4in over stocking stitch using 4mm (UK size 8) needle

Yarn detail

Alpaca Select Cusco

www.alpacaselect.co.uk
02476 411776

Content 100% alpaca
Weight/length 50g/100m

Wash Hand wash

RRP £4.95

Sizing guide		1-2 years	3-4 years	5-6 years	7-8 years
Actual chest	cm	69	74	80	84
	in	27	29	31½	33
Length from shoulder	cm	33	36	41	46
	in	13	14¼	16	18
Sleeve seam	cm	20	23	26	28
	in	8	9	10	11

Cable and bobble panel

Note: Panel of 17sts.

Row 1 (RS): P2, K13, P2.

Row 2: K2, P13, K2.

Row 3: As row 1.

Row 4: As row 2.

Row 5: P2, C6F, K1, C6B, P2.

Row 6: As row 2.

Row 7: As row 1.

Row 8: As row 2.

Row 9: P2, K6, MB, K6, P2.

Row 10: As row 2.

Row 11: As row 1.

Row 12: As row 2.

Row 13: P2, C6B, K1, C6F, P2.

Row 14: As row 2.

Row 15: As row 1.

Row 16: As row 2.

These 16 rows form pattern.

Start here!

Back

Using 3.25mm needles, **cast on** 77 (83: 89: 93)sts.

Row 1(RS): K1, (P1, K1) to the end.

Row 2: P1, (K1, P1) to the end.

Rep these two rows 3 (3: 3: 4) times more, then work row 1 again.

Inc row: Rib 33 (36: 39: 41), (M1, rib 2) five times, M1, rib to end. 83 (89: 95: 99) sts. Change to 4mm needles. Work in the patt as follows:

Row1(RS): K33 (36: 39: 41), work 17sts as for row 1 of the cable and bobble panel, K33 (36: 39: 41).

Row 2: P33 (36: 39: 41), work 17sts as for row 2 of cable and bobble panel, P33 (36: 39: 41). Cont in this way, repeating the 16 rows of the cable and bobble panel throughout until work measures 18 (20: 24: 28)cm or 7 (8: 9½: 11)in, ending on a wrong side row.

Shape armholes

Cast off 5 (5: 6: 6)sts at the beg of the next two rows. 73 (79: 83: 87)sts.

Cont in the pattern until the back measures 31 (34: 39: 44)cm or 12¼ (13½: 15¼: 17¼)in, ending on a WS row.

Shape neck

Next row: K22 (24: 25: 26)sts, turn and work on these sts for the first side of the back neck.

Dec 1st at the neck edge on the next two rows. 20 (22: 23: 24)sts.

Purl one row.

Shape shoulder

Cast off 10 (11: 12: 12)sts at the beginning of the next row.

Purl one row. Cast off the remaining sts.

With RS facing, slip the centre 29 (31: 33: 35)sts onto a stitch holder and leave. Rejoin the yarn to the remaining stitches and complete to match the first side.

Front

Work as given for the back until the front measures 29 (31: 36: 40)cm or 11½ (12: 14: 15½)in from the beg, ending on a WS row.

Shape neck

Next row: K25 (28: 29: 31)sts, turn.

Cont on this group of stitches for the first side of neck. Dec 1 st at neck edge on the next 5 (6: 6: 7) rows. 20 (22: 23: 24)sts.

Work straight until the front measures the same as the back to shoulder, ending on a WS row.

Shape shoulder

Cast off 10 (11: 12: 12)sts at beg of next row.

Work one row.

Cast off rem sts.

With RS facing, slip next 23 (23: 25: 25)sts onto a stitch holder and leave. Rejoin the yarn to the remaining stitches and complete to match the first side of the neck.

Sleeves

Using 3.25mm needles, **cast on** 35 (37: 39: 41)sts. Work nine rows in rib as given for the back.

Increase row: Rib 4 (5: 6: 7)sts, (M1, rib 3) nine times, M1, rib to end. 45 (47: 49: 51)sts.





Change to 4mm needles.

Work in the patt as follows:

Row 1 (RS): K14 (15: 16: 17), work 17sts as for row 1 of cable and bobble panel, K14 (15: 16: 17).

Row 2: P14 (15: 16: 17), work across 17sts as row 2 of cable and bobble panel, P14 (15: 16: 17).

Cont in this way, repeating the 16 rows of the cable and bobble pattern throughout, at the same time increasing 1st at each end of the next and every following fourth row, working increase sts into st st until there are 67 (73: 79: 83)sts.

Work straight until the sleeve measures 20 (23: 26: 28)cm or 8 (9: 10: 11)in from the beginning, ending on a WS row. Work a further 6 (6: 8: 8) rows straight. Cast off loosely.

Neckband

Join the right shoulder. Using 3.25mm needles and RS facing, knit up 15 (17: 17: 19)sts evenly down left front neck, K across sts of holder, K up 15 (17: 17: 19)sts evenly up front neck, K up 5sts down back neck, K across sts from holder, then knit up 5sts evenly up back neck. 92 (98: 102: 108)sts.

Work seven rows in K1, P1 rib. Cast off in rib.

Making up

Join the left shoulder and neckband. Sew in the sleeves, joining the last 6 (6: 8: 8) straight rows at sides to the cast off sts of armholes. Join the side and sleeve seams, to finish. ■



Abbreviations

beg	beginning
C6B	slip next 3sts onto the cable needle and hold at the back of the work, K3, then K3 from the cable needle
C6F	Slip next 3sts onto the cable needle and hold at the front of the work, K3, then K3 from the cable needle
cm	centimetre(s)
cont	continue
dec	decrease(ing)
in	inch(es)
inc	increase(ing)
K	knit
k2tog	knit 2sts together
M1	make one stitch by picking up loop lying between stitch just worked and next stitch and work into back of it
MB	make bobble: (K1, P1, K1, P1, K1) all into next stitch (5sts), turn, P5, turn, K5, turn, p2tog, P1, p2tog (3sts), turn, sl1, k2tog, pass slipped stitch over (1st) so completing the bobble
P	purl
patt	pattern
p2tog	purl 2sts together
rem	remain(ing)
rep	repeat
RS	right side
sl	slip
st(s)	stitch(es)
st st	stocking stitch
WS	wrong side

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Sarah Heys

Sarah studied textiles at university and specialised in knitting. She loves designing using super-chunky yarn.



Joanna Benner

Jo is a whizz with the knitting needles and a crochet pro. She's also our technical editor.



Susanne Frank

Susanne is one of our designers – look out for her patterns in upcoming issues of *Knit Today*.

Same same

Q I'm relatively new to knitting. Can you explain the difference between 'yarn over' and 'make one'? The result looks the same to me: a hole in the next row.
Fran Cott, Newcastle

A Susanne says: An increase is generally meant to be invisible, whereas a yarn over will result in a visible hole. For an invisible increase, pick up the horizontal thread between two stitches. You have to twist the loop you've picked up, otherwise you'll end up with a hole and it will look like a yarn over – do this by knitting it through the back of the loop. There's another way to increase a stitch: you can knit into the front and back of the stitch (or purl into the front and back of the stitch). Just try out the different methods and see which one suits you best.

Blanket bother

Q Do you have any tips for making the knitting of large items lighter work? I'm knitting a blanket at the moment and it's hard work manoeuvring the needles!
Sophie Benjamin, Surrey

A Susanne says: Why not use a circular needle? The bulk of your knitting will be held by the nylon wire and can rest in your lap, and you'll be able to move the needle ends with ease. Circular needles can be used for straight knitting – just don't join up your first row, but turn around like you would if you were using two needles. They are great for knitting on the go too, as they fit snugly in a bag and are more discreet than straight needles when you knit on a train or plane.



Circular needles can also be used for straight knitting

Bless you!

Q I think I might be allergic to wool – whenever I knit with it I just can't stop sneezing and I get a rash on my hands – what else can I try knitting with?
Sarah Manners, Bath

A Sarah says: Some people think they might be allergic to wool but it can just be that the wool gets dusty which might be what is making you sneeze when you knit! But you could try knitting with a yarn that doesn't contain wool. There are synthetic yarns such as acrylic that you can use or you could try natural fibres like bamboo and cotton. Freedom Sincere is 100% organic cotton. Go to tbramsden.co.uk to find a stockist.



Freedom Sincere is made from 100% organic cotton

A yarn over creates a visible hole in your knitting

A man's world

Q My boyfriend asked me to knit him a hat but he doesn't like itchy yarns. How can I find a suitable yarn?
Helen Boyd, via email

A Susanne says: Nobody likes an itchy hat! Even though nothing provides warmth like wool, you may want to steer clear of pure wool yarn. Even very soft merino wool can become irritating when it comes into contact with skin. I'd suggest using a blended yarn that contains some cotton, microfibre, silk or acrylics. Sirdar Denim Ultra is a good example: it contains acrylic and cotton for comfort, and 15% wool for warmth. Another good choice would be Debbie Bliss Cashmerino Aran, containing cashmere, microfibre and wool (use 5mm needles) or Rowan All Seasons Chunky: a cotton yarn with 40% acrylic, which provides softness and elasticity (use 7mm needles).



Image from *Dalesman* by Rowan

Spring knit

Q I want to knit my husband a thin jumper for the spring but I'm not sure what yarn to use – I want something hardwearing and washable as I want him to wear it a lot.
Louise Hunter, Birmingham

A Sarah says: When knitting a jumper it's sensible to choose a yarn that is hard wearing and machine washable so that it can be worn a lot and stand up to wear and tear. Wool is both hard wearing and soft, which makes it perfect for a jumper. Rowan have a lovely yarn called Pure Wool Aran which is also machine washable. It knits on 4.5/5mm needles so if this is different to your pattern make sure you do a gauge swatch before starting!

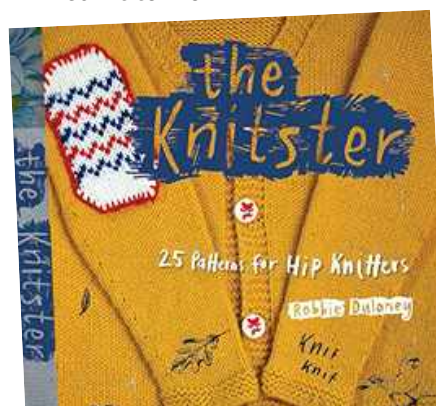


Rowan Pure Wool Aran will stand up to wear and tear

Hip knitter

Q I want to buy a knitting book for my male friend who is a beginner knitter. He's quite trendy and I'm finding it really hard to find anything suitable. Can you help?
Claudia Fitzgerald, Cambridge

A Sarah says: I love *The Knitster*. It features 25 patterns 'for hip knitters' which vary in difficulty. That means there will be something for him to start on while he's learning the ropes, and he'll be able to try the more tricky patterns as he gets to know more techniques. The best project for him might be the freestyle bow tie – he can wear it to work!



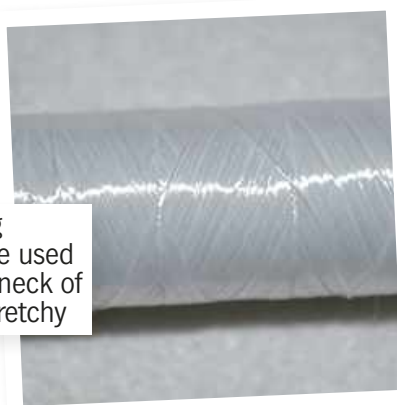
Top down knitting

Most talked about subject

Saggy neck!

Q I've knitted a jumper from a 'top down' pattern but the neck is incredibly baggy. Is there anything I can do to make it better. Also, how do I avoid this in the future?
Heidi Ball, Wandsworth

A Jo says: With any pattern, whether top up or top down, if the neck is a bit baggy you can either work a row of crochet slip stitch around it to tighten it or thread some knitting elastic through instead – following the flow of the stitches. For future top down jumpers or cardis, cast on with the cable cast on to make the neck stretchy and firm. Cast on two stitches as you normally would, then slide the needle between the two stitches and cast on one stitch. Now repeat until you have the desired number of stitches. To buy a reel of clear knitting elastic (£1.99) which is suitable for all projects go to www.calicolane.co.uk.



Clear knitting elastic can be used to make the neck of a garment stretchy

Multi styles

Q I would like to have a go at top down knitting but I'm not sure how to go about it and I'm concerned that there will only be one neck or sleeve type and the garments may be a bit old fashioned?
Sarah Morton, Kent.

A Jo says: You'll find that most garments that can be knitted flat can be knitted top down. As this method of knitting relies on the knitter knitting in the round for jumpers and backwards and forwards on circulars for cardis, you will need to feel comfortable with the weight of the garment when you're knitting. A Fair Isle yoke can be knitted easily because, as there isn't any seaming, the colours and the pattern match perfectly – most other necklines can be knitted top down or collars can be added on after.

Raglan sleeves are the most commonly knitted sleeve but set in sleeves are possible. For modern designs try *More Modern Top Down Knitting* by Kristina McGowan, available to buy for £13.57 from www.amazon.co.uk.



Top down knitting is quick and easy – all you need is a little practice

Perfect for babies

Q Are top down garments suitable for babies, and if so can you find me a pattern simple enough for a beginner?
Karen Shelley, Cardiff

A Jo says: They're fantastic for babies and especially for premature babies as there are no seams for them to lie on – so no risk of chafing. One of my all-time favourite cardis is the garter yoke cardi designed by Jennifer Hoel. It takes one 100g ball and I've made it long-sleeved, short-sleeved, with stripes and in two colours – don't start me on the edgings! It's a versatile, easy pattern for you to knit and for baby to wear. To download it for free go to jenniferhoel.wordpress.com/2008/11/14/garter-yoke-baby-cardi.



We love this fab top down cardi designed by Jennifer Hoel

3 top tips for top down knitting

Tip 1

If you find you like top down knitting invest in circulars in different lengths – it's much easier to knit a sleeve if the cord is the right length.

Tip 2

Markers are essential for top down knitting. A contrast piece of wool tied into a loop is a good option, as it's easy to slip from needle to needle.

Tip 3

I always knit the buttonhole band in with the main body. If you're not sure about buttonholes make them after, the way they do it in France!

Skill level



Intermediate

Winter *warmers*

Beat the chill with these mitts and
wrist warmers by **ELLA AUSTIN**



Skill level



Intermediate



Skill level



Easy

Horseshoe cable pattern

Row 1 and all odd rows: P2, K8, P2.

Row 4: P2, sl2 to the cable needle and hold in the back, K2, K2 from the cable needle, sl2 to the cable needle and hold in front, K2, K2 from the cable needle, P2.

Rows 2, 6 and 8: P2, K8, P2.

Start here!

Cable mittens

Using 5mm dpns **cast on** 24sts and join to work in the round.

Round 1: K1, P1 to the end.

Rounds 2-5: Repeat Round 1 a further four times. Switch to 5.5mm dpns.

Round 1: K1, starting from row 1 work the Horseshoe Cable pattern, knit to the end. Keep the cable pattern consistent throughout the pattern.

Rounds 2-16: Repeat Round 1 a further 15 times. Start of thumb gusset.

Left hand

Round 1: PM, M1, PM, K1, work cable, knit to the end. 25sts.

Right hand

Round 1: K1, work cable, K1, PM, M1, PM, knit to the end. 25sts.

Both hands

Round 2: K1, work the Horseshoe Cable pattern, knit to the end.

Round 3: Work to first M, SM, M1, knit to M, M1, SM, work to the end. 27sts.

Rounds 4-11: Repeat above two rounds a further four times. 35sts.

Round 12: Work to first M, remove M, knit the 11sts between the Ms and then put them on scrap yarn, remove second M, work to the end. Rejoin the round. 24sts.

Rounds 13: K1, work the Horseshoe Cable pattern, knit to the end.

Rounds 14-25: Repeat the round 13 a further 11 times.

Switch to 5mm dpns.

Round 1: K1, P1 to end.

Rounds 2-3: Rep the above round twice more. Cast off in rib.

Thumb

Using 5.5mm dpns, pick up 1st at the base of the hand and pick up the sts from the scrap yarn,

Top tip!

For a larger size or a slouchier fit, simply cast on 2-4 extra sts.

Winter warmers

Pattern details

You will need...

For the cable mittens:

Yarn

1 x 100g skein of Fyberspates Chunky in Teal

Needles

5mm (UK size 6) and 5.5mm (UK size 5) double-pointed needles

Other

Cable needle
Two stitch makers
Scrap yarn
Yarn needle

Tension

12sts and 22 rows to 10cm or 4in on blocked sts using 5.5mm (UK size 5) knitting needles

Finished sizes

Circumference: 16cm or 6¼in

Length: 21cm or 8¼in

Abbreviations

cm	centimetre(s)
cont	continue
in	inch(es)
K	knit
P	purl
rep	repeat
st(s)	stitch(es)
M1	make 1st
M	Marker
PM	place marker
SM	slip marker
sl2	slip 2sts

Yarn detail

Fyberspates Chunky

www.fyberspates.co.uk
01829 732525

Content 55% merino, 45% silk

Weight/length 100g/122m

Wash Hand wash

RRP £14

Pattern details

You will need...

For the short mitts:

Yarn

1 x 100g skein of Sheepshop Wensleydale Longwool DK in Aubergine (shade 54)

Needles

3.25mm (UK size 10) knitting needles

Other

Yarn needle

Tension

Yarn used knits as DK – 22 sts and 30 rows to 10cm or 4in over moss st patt on 3.25mm needles

Finished sizes

Circumference: 17cm or 6¾in

Length: 14cm or 5½in

For the colourwork arm warmers:

Yarn

1 x 25g balls of Jamieson and Smith 2ply jumper weight in yellow, (shade 23), red (shade 125), blue (shade FC41), natural (shade FC17) and white (shade 001), green (shade FC24), MC

Needles

2.5mm and 2.75mm (UK size 12) dpns

Other

Scrap yarn
Yarn needle

Tension

Yarn used knits as 4ply – 28 sts and 36 rows to 10cm or 4in over the colourwork pattern in st st on 2.75mm knitting needles

Finished size

Length: 38cm or 15in

Circumference: 22cm or 8¾in

Top tip!

Weave in yarn ends as you go when knitting colourwork to save time at the end of your project.

and cont to work in the round.

Rounds 1-3: Knit.

Switch to 5mm double-pointed needles.

Round 1: K1, P1 to end.

Rounds 2-3: Rep above round twice more.

Cast off in rib. Weave in all the ends.

Block the mitts by soaking in cool water and leaving flat to dry.

Start here!

Mitts

Using 3.25mm needles, **cast on** 36sts.

Row 1: K1, P1 to the end.

Repeat row 1 until the work measures 3cm or 1¾in.

Next row: K2, P2 to end.

Next row: K2, P2 to end.

Next row: P2, K2 to end.

Next row: P2, K2 to end.

These four rows make double moss stitch.

Continue working double moss stitch until the work measures 13cm or 5in from the cast on edge.

Next row: K1, P1 to end.

Rep the above row four times more.

Cast off loosely in rib.

Weave in the ends and seam the mitt leaving a 5cm or 2in hole for the thumb at 3.5cm or 1¾in up from cast on edge.

Sew two small buttons to the outside edges of the cuffs.

Start here!

Colourwork arm warmers

Using MC and 2.5mm dpns, **cast on** 60sts, join the rnd being careful not to twist.

Round 1: K1, P1 to the end.

Rounds 2-5: Rep the above rnd four times more.

Start of colour work

Switch to 2.75mm needles.

Rounds 1-22: Work from the chart, repeating the charted pattern five times per round.

Left hand

Round 23 (place thumb): Knit the first 9sts with scrap yarn, return these stitches to LH needle and knit them again using charted colour, then continue as charted. You will unpick these scrap stitches later to create an 'afterthought thumb'.

Right hand

Round 23 (place thumb): Work the chart to last 9sts, knit the remaining 9sts using scrap yarn, return these stitches to LH needle and knit them again using charted colour. You will unpick these scrap stitches later to make an 'afterthought thumb'.

Rounds 24-126: Work to the end of the chart and then work the chart a twice more.

Round 127: Using MC, knit all sts.

Rounds 128: K1, P1 to the end.

Rounds 129-133: Rep the above round five times more. Cast off loosely in rib.

Afterthought thumb

An afterthought thumb is worked once the main piece of knitting is finished.

Using 2.5mm dpns, pick up sts above and below those knitted in scrap yarn and then unpick the scrap yarn. You should have 18sts. 9sts will be blue, 9 will be green.

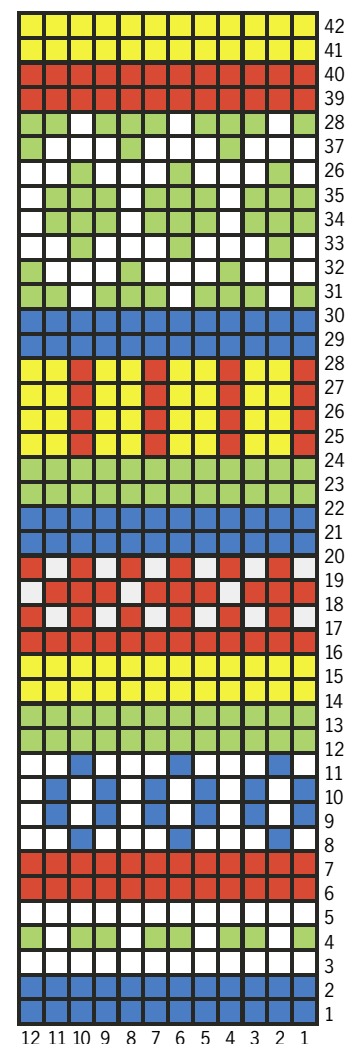
Divide over four dpns.

Using MC knit across the blue sts, pick up 1st at the edge of the thumb opening, knit across green sts, pick up one stitch at other corner of thumb opening. 20sts.

Round 1: K1, P1.

Rounds 2-5: Rep the above row four times more. Cast off loosely in rib. Weave in the ends. ■

Colourwork chart



Key

■ shade: 23 ■ shade: FC41 ■ shade: FC17
■ shade: 125 ■ shade: FC24 ■ shade: 001

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College classic



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Start
here!

Main bag piece

Using 5mm needles, **cast on** 40sts.

Work five rows moss stitch.

Next row: Moss stitch 5, knit to the last 5sts, moss stitch 5.

Next row: Moss stitch 5, purl to the last 5sts, moss stitch 5.

Continue as on last two rows until the work measures 46cm or 18in.

Work five rows moss stitch, then cast off.

Side gusset (make two)

Using 5mm needles, **cast on** 11sts.

Work in moss stitch for 12in and cast off.

Make another piece to match.

Lining

Using 5mm needles, **cast on** 40sts.

Work six rows garter stitch

Next row: Knit

Next row: K3, purl to the last 3sts, K3.

Repeat for 46cm or 18in.

Knit six rows. Cast off.

Shoulder strap

Using 4mm needles, **cast on** 11sts. Work in moss stitch for desired length.

Cast off.

Top handle worked sideways

Using 4mm needles.

Cast on 51sts.

Work seven rows in moss stitch and cast off.

Over straps (make two)

Using 4mm needles, **cast on** 5sts.

Work 5cm or 2in in moss stitch.

Cast off.

Work other strap to match.

Top buckle strap (make two)

Using 3.25mm needles, **cast on** 3sts

Work one row in moss stitch.

Inc 1st at each end of the next and following alternate rows to 9sts.

Work 10 rows moss stitch.

Dec 1st at each end of the next and following alternate rows until 3sts.***

Work 11 rows.

Dec 1st at each end of the next row.

Work 3tog and fasten off.

Bottom straps

Work as for the top straps until you reach.***

Work seven rows in moss stitch. Cast off.

Making up

Cut a piece of interfacing slightly smaller than the size of the knitted lining. Now place the two knitted pieces together, sandwiching the Vilene inside the two. Pin and tack in place. Sew the pieces together all around the outer edges. Measure 14cm or 5½ in from one end of the main piece, mark with a pin, now measure 5cm or 2in from that pin and mark the point with a second pin. Measure 14cm or 5½ from the second pin and mark this with a third pin. Do the same on the other side of the main piece. The remaining piece of the main bag is used for the flapover. This sets the places to sew the gussets in place. Pin the short end of one gusset along the 5cm or 2in marked area on one side, sew in place, then sew each of the side edges in between the designated pinned areas. Do the same for the other gusset. Fold the gussets inwards at the top and catch in place. Sew a D ring to either side at the top of the gusset. Pin the top handle in place on the bag sew on either end. Place the side straps over each end. Sew in place. Fold the front flap over and place top straps on each side, pin in position and then sew neatly in place. Take the bottom straps and pin them in place to correspond with the top straps. Sew in place. Sew a buckle onto each bottom strap. Thread the top straps through the buckles to fasten. Take the shoulder strap and attach a swivel clasp to either end by threading the ends of the strap through the links. Sew in place. Clip onto the D rings on either side of the bag. ■

Yarn detail

Rowan Creative
Focus Worsted

www.knitrowan.com
01484 681881

Content 75% wool, 25% alpaca

Weight/length 100g/200m

Wash Hand wash 30°C

RRP £8.25

Pattern details

You will need...

Yarn

● 2 x 100g balls of Rowan Creative Focus Worsted in Lapis (shade 00007)

Needles

3.25mm (UK size 10), 4mm (UK size 8) and 5mm (UK size 6) knitting needles

Other

Piece of stiff interfacing

Two D rings

Two swivel clasps

Two centre bar buckles

Tension

16 sts and 22 rows to 10cm or 4in using 5mm (UK size 6) knitting needles

Finished size

15x20x5cm or 6x8x2in

Abbreviations

cm	centimetre(s)
in	inch(es)
K	knit
P	purl
st(s)	stitch(es)



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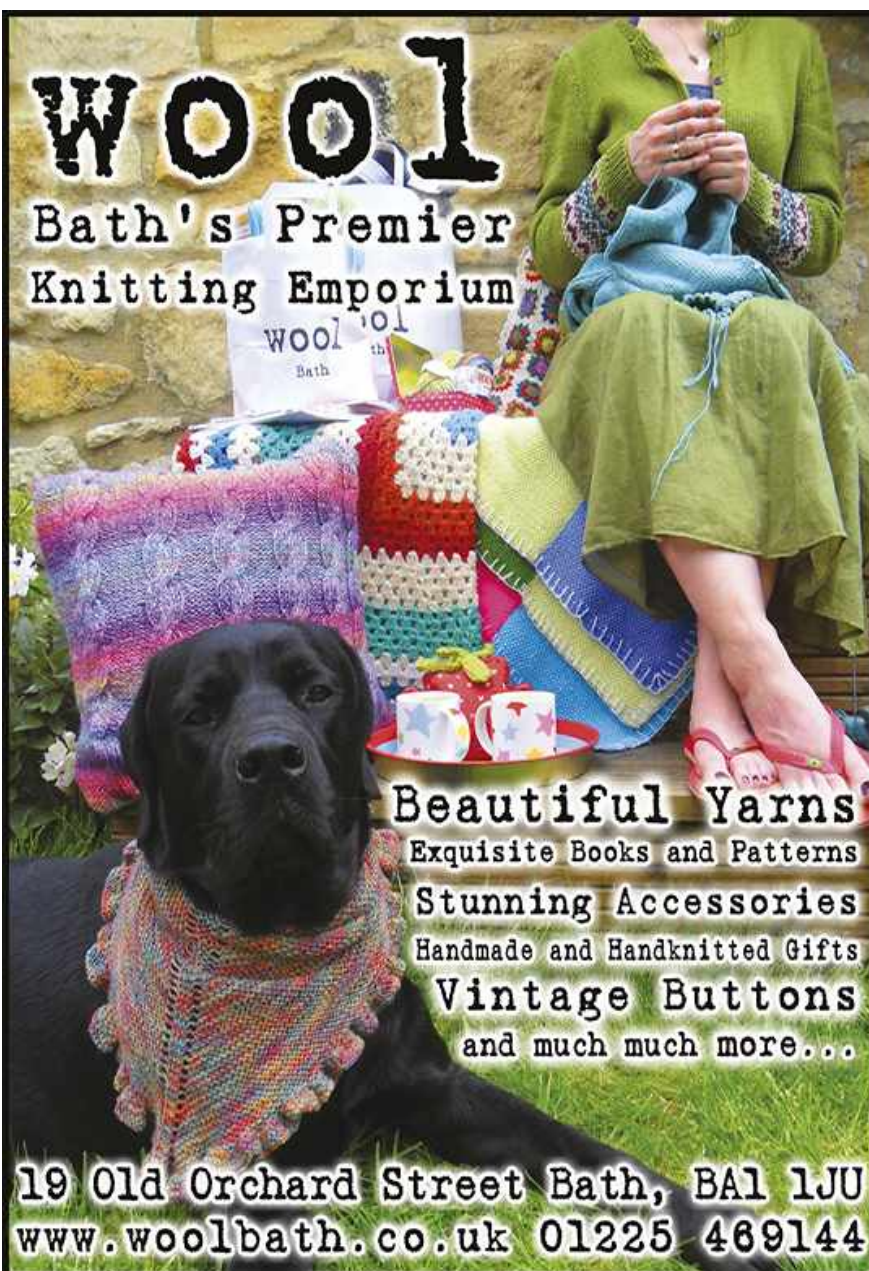
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How to: Read a chart

1. Read a chart from the bottom up.
2. Read right side (RS) rows from right to left.
3. Read wrong side (WS) rows from left to right.
4. Tick off the rows as you get to them – this will be invaluable in helping you keep track of where you are.
5. Remember to count your stitches carefully so that you follow the pattern accurately.

[illegible]

Cable charts

[illegible]

 CR6 (cable right 6): slip 3sts onto cable needle, hold to the back, knit the next 3sts, then knit 3sts from the cable needle. This cable leans right.

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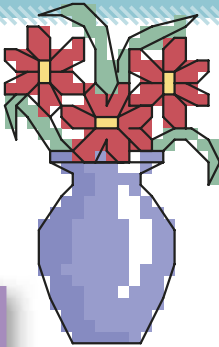
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Table set

Skill level



Intermediate



Sunday breakfast

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Yarn detail

Artesano Superwash
Merino DK

www.artesanoyarns.co.uk
0118 9503350

Content 100% superwash merino

Weight/length 50g/112m

Wash Machine wash 30°C

RRP £4.99



Start here!

Cutlery holder

Cast on 25 stitches using long tail cast on.
Follow chart 1 until row 56.
Knit across the row in A.
K2, purl across the row to the last two stitches, K2.
K2, purl across the row, K2 (reverse st st).
Knit across the row.
Rep for 60 rows (or until it reaches 23cm or 9in).
End on a knit row.
Knit across the row.
K2, purl till the last two stitches, K2.
Cast off.
Fold in half where the stocking stitch reverses and sew up the sides.
Sew in the ends and block.

Start here!

Place mat

Cast on 43sts using a long tail cast on in A.
Row 1: K across row
Row 2: K2, P to last two stitches, K2
Row 3: Knit across the row, starting to follow chart 2.
Continue as set, knitting 11 rows of each colour in the following order:
D, B, C, D.
End on a knit row.
With A, K2, purl to the last two stitches, K2. Cast off. Sew in the ends and block.

Start here!

Mug cosy

Cast on 25sts using long tail cast on.
Follow chart 1.
Cast off.
Fold in half and sew a couple of stitches together at the top and bottom – check against the size of your mug how many you need to work. ■

Chart 1

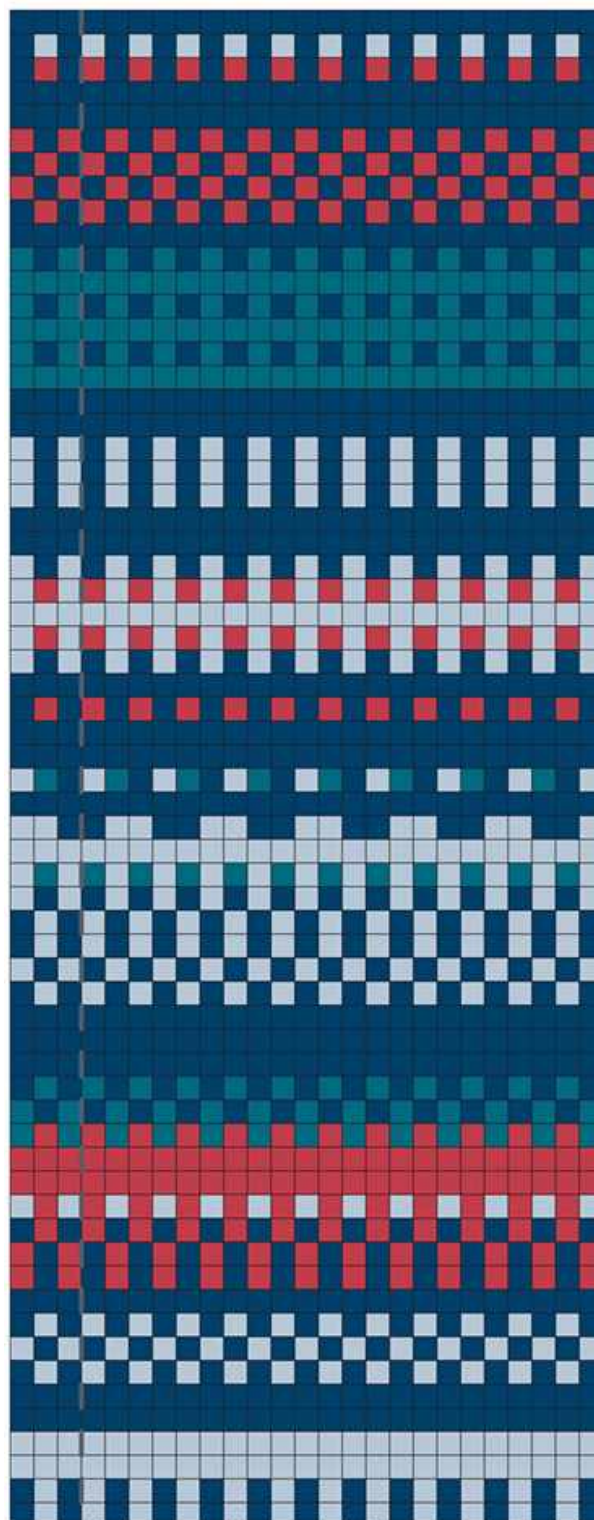
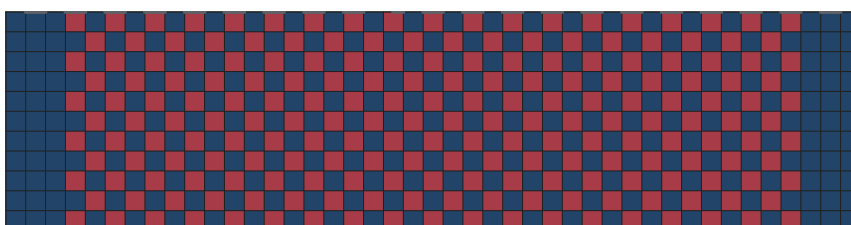


Chart 2



Pattern details

You will need...

Yarn

1 x 50g balls of Artesano Superwash Merino DK in Dark Teal (shade 6701), A, Baby Teal (shade 5771), B, Teal (shade 5167), C and Fuchsia (shade 2083), D

Needles

4mm (UK size 8) needles

Tension

20 sts and 20 rows to 10cm or 4in on 4mm (UK size 8 needles) over Fair Isle pattern

Finished sizes

Mug cosy: 26.5cm or 10½in circumference

Place mat: 18.5 x 19.75cm or 7¼ x 7¾in

Cutlery holder: 10 x 22cm or 4 x 8¾in

Abbreviations

cm	centimetre(s)
in	inch(es)
K	knit
P	purl
rep	repeat
st(s)	stitch(es)
st st	stocking stitch

Key

■	Teal (shade 5167)
■	Fuchsia (shade 2083)
■	Baby Teal (shade 5771)
■	Dark Teal (shade 6701)



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Houndstooth cowl

Pattern details

You will need...

Yarn

- 2 x 50g balls of Debbie Bliss Rialto DK in Scarlet (shade 012)
- 4 x 50g balls of Debbie Bliss Rialto DK in Grey (shade 004)

Needles

- 4mm (UK size 8) circular needle, 60cm or 80cm long

Tension

Yarn used knits as DK – 22sts and 30 rows to 10cm or 4in using 4mm (UK size 8) knitting needles

Finished sizes

Height: 28cm or 11in
Circumference: 65cm or 26in

Abbreviations

cm	centimetre(s)
in	inch(es)
K	knit
rep	repeat
st(s)	stitch(es)

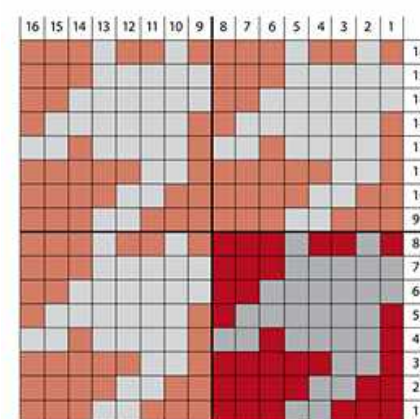
Yarn detail

Debbie Bliss Rialto DK

www.designeryarns.uk.com
01535 664222

Content 100% extra fine merino
Weight/length 50g/105m
Wash Machine wash
RRP £5.50

Houndstooth chart



Key

- Scarlet (shade 012)
- Grey (shade 004)

Skill level



Intermediate

All in check

Earn him style points with this houndstooth cowl by **SUSANNE FRANK**

Start here!

Cowl

With Scarlet, **cast on** 144sts on the circular needle. Bring the two ends of the needle together and knit the first st again, pulling the yarn to prevent a gap. You will now continue to work in the round.

Round 1: Knit in Scarlet.

Round 2: Knit in Grey.

Round 3: Knit in Scarlet.

Round 4: Knit in Grey.

Round 5: Start the houndstooth pattern, following the chart (18 repeats of the eight stitch

pattern). We have highlighted a single repeat on the chart in brighter red for your guidance.

Rounds 5 to 77: Knit rounds 1 to 16 of the chart four times and then rounds 1 to 8 again.

Round 78: Knit in Grey.

Round 79: Knit in Scarlet.

Rep the last two rounds once more.

Round 82: Purl in Scarlet, cut Scarlet strand.

Rounds 83 to 164: Knit in Grey, then cast off.

Making up

Darn in the ends. Lightly block the patterned section. Fold the Grey section to the inside and close the open edge with blanket stitch, using a tapestry needle and Scarlet yarn. ■

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A little luxury

Make these bangles using spare yarn, then stack them and mismatch them to your heart's content. By **DOROTHY WOOD**



Pattern details

You will need...

For the ribbon tie bracelet:

Yarn

1 x 50g balls of Rowan Wool Cotton 4ply in Petal (shade 484) and Hedge (shade 494)

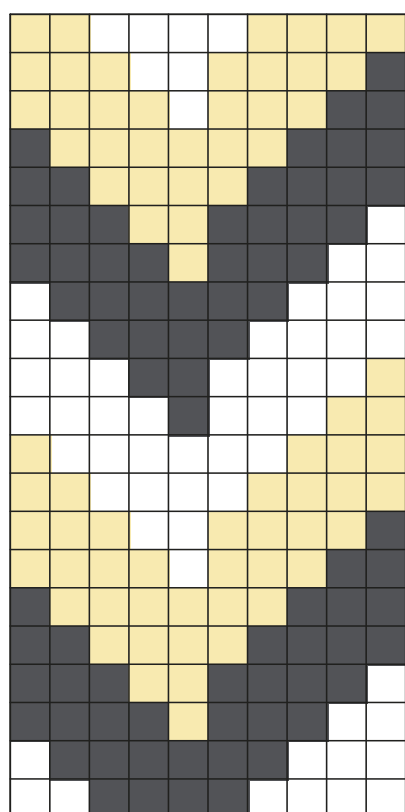
Needles

Size 3.25mm (UK size 10) knitting needles

Other

Ribbon

Chevron chart



Key

- Scotch Broom (shade 1160)
- Mocha (shade 890)
- Eesit White (shade 120)

Ribbon tie bracelet

Note: These simple bracelets don't require any sewing, relying on the natural roll of reverse stocking stitch to create the shape. You can wear the bracelets with the roll facing up or, for a softer effect, have the end of the roll facing down. Rowan Wool Cotton 4ply is a soft comfortable yarn to wear around your wrist.

Start here!

Cast on 47 stitches using the thumb method for a firm edge.

Work the rib as follows:

Row 1 (RS): K1, P1; repeat to end.

Row 2 (WS): P1, (sl1, P1) repeat to the end.

Row 3: K1, (yo, k2tog, P1, K1) repeat to the end.

Row 4: P1, K1; repeat to end.

Row 5-16: Work stocking stitch (one row knit, one row purl) for 12 rows.

Cast off on the next knit row and sew in the yarn ends. Now use a large tapestry needle to weave silky ribbon through the eyelet holes. Weave back along, going down on one side of the ribbon and back up through the next hole on the other side of the ribbon to create a stitched effect. Adjust so that the tails are about 20cm or 8in at both ends.

Making up

Trim the ribbon then tie in an overhand knot at each end and then tie in a bow to fasten, to finish.

Top tip!

To tie the bracelets, buy a silk-like ribbon or try a flat ribbon yarn such as Louisa Harding Kimono ribbon

Chevron bangle

Note: This pattern is designed to fit around a solid bangle 8cm or 3in diameter and 3cm or 1 1/4in deep. If your bangle is slightly deeper, adjust the width of the chart and add the same number of stitches to the outer borders.

Start here!

Cast on 18 stitches in Mocha

Row 1 (RS): K4 in Mocha, K4 in Eesit White, K4 in Mocha and K2 in Eesit White. These last 10 sts form row 1 of the chart opposite. K4 in Mocha. Continue to follow the chart opposite, working in stocking stitch (knit RS rows, purl WS rows) and introducing the other colours as

shown. Beg and end each row with 4 sts in Mocha.

Note: Carry the other colours across the back of you work – there is no need to catch them in as you are only working a few stitches. Work the repeat (rows 7-18) until the knitting fits around the bangle slightly stretched. If possible, finish so the pattern repeats all round.

Cast off neatly and weave in ends.

Yarn detail

Rowan Wool Cotton 4ply

www.knitrowan.com
01484 681881

Content 50% cotton, 50% merino wool

Weight/length 50g/180m

Wash Machine wash 40°C

RRP £6.25

Making up

Steam press the knitting lightly on the reverse side, then graft the two ends of the bracelet together using duplicate stitch to hide the join. Move the knitted band around so you are sewing on the outside all the time. Sew the inner seam. Again, it is much easier to sew the seam when it is along one edge of the bangle. Once finished, rotate the seam to inside of the bangle.





Knitted jewellery

For the Chevron bangle:

Yarn

1 x 25g balls of Jamieson's Shetland Spindrift in Scotch Broom (shade 1160), Mocha (shade 890) and Eesit White (shade 120)

Buy it from thewoollybrew.co.uk
Jamieson's Shetland Spindrift is a 2ply yarn that is equivalent to a traditional 4ply in weight.

Needles

Size 3mm (UK size 11) knitting needles

Needles

8cm or 3in diameter wooden bangle

For the I-cord bead bracelets:

Yarn

1 x 50g ball of Debbie Bliss Rialto Lace in Silver (shade 002)
Buy it from thewoollybrew.co.uk

Needles

2.25mm (UK size 13) double-pointed needles

Other

0.75mm size crochet hook
Double Delicas size 8-9905 sparkling blue lined aqua (stitchncraft.co.uk)
6mm endcaps and lobster clasp (www.beadcrazy.co.uk)
Paracord 550 in grey
E6000 jewellery glue (from your local beading shop)

Finished sizes

All bracelets will fit a 17cm or 6¾ in wrist

Chevron cuff bracelet base:

8cm or 3in diameter

I-cord bead bracelet

Note: This fine yarn is perfect for making tiny neat stitches to give these bracelets an attractive smooth finish and thin enough to string beads easily. You could use a regular seed bead, either size 8 or even a size 6 but these Double Delica (size 8) beads are cylindrical and have a large hole that is perfect for adding to knitting. The fastenings are tubular endcaps with a 6mm internal diameter. You can use this style with a lobster clasp or choose a magnetic tubular clasp. If you have never knitted an I-cord before, then practise without beads first. You can of course simply sew the beads into the bracelet once the Paracord is fitted inside.

Start here!

To make the I-cord, cast on seven stitches and *knit one row. Without turning the needle, slide the stitches along to the other end of the double-pointed needle.

Bring the yarn across the back of the work and knit one row. Slide the stitches along the needle to the right again.

Repeat from * to work the I-cord to the length required. After three or four rows the tubular shape will be more evident.

To add the beads using a crochet hook

Work 2.5cm or 1in of I-cord.

*On the next row, knit three stitches.

Pick up a Double Delica bead on the crochet hook and then pick up the next stitch on the left needle onto the crochet hook too.

Put the stitch with the bead back on the left needle. Knit the stitch so the bead lies vertical in the knitting.

Knit to the end of the row.

Continue knitting three rows of plain I-cord.

Repeat from * to add another bead and until the I-cord, slightly stretched, is the length required to fit around your wrist, allowing for the clasp and end caps.

Cast off.

Adding beads as you knit

Thread about 70 Double Delicas onto the yarn using a fine needle and leave them out of the way for now. Knit 2.5cm or 1in of plain I-cord.

Knit one row. Slide the stitches to the other end of the needle as usual. Bring a bead along the yarn to the work. Bring the yarn across the back and knit the first stitch so that the bead is trapped horizontally behind the I-cord.

Repeat this process until the I-cord, slightly stretched, is the length required allowing for the end caps and lobster clasp. Knit 2.5cm or 1in of plain I-cord.

Making up

Melt the end of a 20cm or 8in length of Paracord (hold near a gas flame or a lighter until it melts and is smooth). Feed the end through the I-cord. Stretch the I-cord slightly and sew the ends through the Paracord to secure.

Check the length again and wrap sewing thread around where you want to trim. Tie securely. Trim close to the thread wrapping. Squeeze a little strong jewellery glue inside the endcap and then smooth around with a cocktail stick. Insert the end of the bracelet so the thread is inside the endcap and leave to dry. ■

Abbreviations

cm	centimetre(s)
in	inch(es)
K	knit
k2tog	knit 2sts together
P	purl
sl1	slip 1st
st(s)	stitch(es)
yo	yarn over

Skill level



Intermediate

Three little birds

These pretty knitted birds are made in one piece using simple increasing and decreasing techniques. By **TRACEY TODHUNTER**

Start
here!

Bird (make three)

Note: The body is knitted flat and then seamed. The wings are knitted separately and sewn onto the finished bird after stuffing.

Body

With 3.25mm knitting needles and chosen yarn, **cast on** 3sts.

Row 1: Purl.

Row 2: K1, M1, K1, M1, K1. 5sts

Row 3 and all odd numbered rows: Purl (unless pattern indicates otherwise).

Row 4: (K1, M1) four times, K1. 9sts.

Row 6: (K1, M1) eight times, K1. 17sts.

Row 8: K2, M1, knit to last 3sts, M1, K2. 19sts.

Row 10: K2, M1, knit to last 3sts, M1, K2. 21sts.

Row 12: K2, M1, knit to last 3sts, M1, K2. 23sts.

Row 14: K1, ssk, knit to last 3sts, k2tog, K1. 21sts.

Row 16: K1, ssk, knit to last 3sts, K2tog, K1. 19sts

Row 18: Knit

Row 20: K2, M1, K to last 3sts, M1, K2. 21sts.

Row 22: K2, M1, knit to last 3sts, M1, K2. 23sts.

Row 24: K2, M1, knit to last 3sts, M1, K2. 25sts.

Row 26: K2, M1, knit to last 3sts, M1, K2. 27sts.

Row 28: K2, M1, knit to last 3sts, M1, K2. 29sts.

Row 30: K2, M1, knit to last 3sts, M1, K2. 31sts.

Row 32: K2, M1, knit to last 3sts, M1, K2. 33sts.

Row 34: K2, M1, knit to last 3sts, M1, K2. 35sts.

Row 36: Knit.

Row 37: **Cast on** 12sts, purl to end. 47sts.

Row 38: **Cast on** 12sts, knit to end. 59sts.

Row 39: Purl (and all subsequent odd-numbered rows unless indicated in the pattern).

Row 40: K17, k2tog (K5, k2tog) to last 12sts, K12. 54sts.

Row 42: K16, k2tog (K4, k2tog) to last 12sts, K12. 49sts.

Row 44: K15, k2tog (K3, k2tog) to last 12sts. 44sts.

Row 46: K14, k2tog (K2, k2tog) to last 12sts. 39sts

Row 47: **Cast off** 12sts, P to end. 27sts.

Row 48: **Cast off** 12sts, K1, (k2tog, K1) to last st, K1. 11sts.

Row 50: **Cast off** all the stitches. Weave in the ends.

Wings (make two)

With 3.25mm needles and chosen yarn, **cast on** 5sts.

Row 1 (and all odd numbered rows): Purl to the end of the row.

Row 2: K2, M1, K1, M1, K2. 7sts.

Row 4: K2, M1, k3, M1, K2. 9sts.

Row 6: K2, M1, k5, M1, K2. 11sts.

Rows 8-13: Continue in stocking stitch (knit a row, purl a row), ending on a purl row.

Row 14: K1, ssk, ssk, K1, k2tog, k2tog, K1. 7sts.

Row 16: K1, ssk, K1, k2tog, K1. 5sts.

Row 18: K1, sl1, k2og, psso, K1. 3sts.

Cut the yarn, leaving a long tail for sewing up and draw loop through remaining sts.

Hanging loop

Make 30ch using a 4mm crochet hook.

Fasten yarn. Alternatively, use a ribbon or cord to make a oop.

Yarn detail

Sublime Baby Cashmere
Merino Silk DK

www.sirdar.co.uk
01924 371 501

Content 75% extra fine merino, 20% silk, 5% cashmere

Weight/length 50g/116m

Wash Machine wash 30°C

RRP £5.99

Making up

Weave in loose ends on the body, leaving long tails on the wings for sewing up. Starting at the head, fold the piece in half with the WS facing and sew the seam using mattress stitch, stopping at centre top of body. Stuff head and body with hollow fibre toy stuffing. Resuming at the

tail, sew the seams together with mattress stitch, stuffing the tail and body as you go. Secure the hanging loop to the centre top of the body and finish the seam. Sew wings to the sides of the body. Use a small piece of paper-covered wire folded into a W to make feet, twist ends together and stitch securely to the underside of the body.



Pattern details

You will need...

For the birds' bodies:

Yarn

23m of Sublime Baby Cashmere Merino Silk DK in Parsley (shade 360), Skipper (shade 276) and Piglet (shade 001)

For the birds' wings:

Yarn

20m of Sublime Baby Cashmere Merino Silk DK in Pearl (shade 590), Blushes (shade 583) and Jelly (shade 597)

Needles

3.25mm (UK size 10) knitting needles

Other

Darning needle to weave in ends
Hollow fibre toy stuffing
Small amounts of black embroidery thread
Two small beads for eyes (optional)
Black paper-covered wire for feet (a small black pipe cleaner could be substituted)

Tension

26 sts and 34 rows to 10cm or 4in over st st using 3.25mm (UK size 10) knitting needles

Finished size

Length from beak to tip of tail 18cm or 7in

Abbreviations

alt	alternate
beg	beginning
cm	centimetre(s)
cont	continue
in	inch(es)
K	knit
K2tog	knit 2sts together
P	purl
patt	pattern
p2tog	purl 2sts together
rep	repeat
st(s)	stitch(es)
tbl	through the back loop
M1	make 1 kfb: knit front and back
ssk	slip, slip, knit

Three shepherds

Complete your knitted Nativity in time for Christmas with the final instalment in our three-part series



Part three

Parts 1 and 2 of our Knitted Nativity appeared in issue 92 and 93 of Knit Today. Call 0844 844 0231 for back issues

Start here!

Basic Body and head

Right leg

Using 3.25mm needles and A, **cast on** 10sts.

Row 1: (Kfb) to the end of the row. 20sts.

Beginning with a purl row, work st st for five rows.

Row 7: K1, (k3tog) x 4, K7. 12sts.

Beginning with a purl row, work st st for 11 rows.

Break off yarn and leave sts on a spare needle.

Left leg

Using 3.25mm needles and A, **cast on** 10sts.

Row 1: (Kfb) to the end of the row. 20sts.

Beginning with a purl row, work st st for five rows.

Row 7: K7, (k3tog) x 4, K7. 12sts.

Beginning with a purl row, work st st for 11 rows.

Break off A and join in B.

Row 19: (Worked across the 12sts of the left leg, and then the 12sts of the right leg from the spare needle) K2, (kfb) x 2, K15 (8sts remaining from left leg, and first 7sts of right leg), (kfb) x 2, K3. 28sts.

Beginning with a purl row, work st st for 15 rows.

Shape shoulders

Row 35: K5, (k2tog) x 2, K10, (k2tog) x 2, K5. 24sts.

Begin with a purl row, work st st for three rows.

Shape neck and head

Break off B and rejoin A.

Row 39: (K1, k2tog) to the end of the row. 16sts.

Row 40: Purl.

Row 41: (Kfb) to the end of the row. 32sts.

Beginning with a purl row, work st st for 13 rows.

Skill level



Basic robe

Using 3.25mm needles and B, **cast on** 50sts.

Knit two rows.

Beginning with a knit row, work st st for 18 rows.

Row 21: (K3, k2tog) to the end of the row. 40sts.

Cast off purlwise.

Basic sleeves (make two)

Using 3.25mm needles and B, **cast on** 18sts.

Knit two rows.

Beginning with a knit row, work st st for four rows.

Row 7: (K1, k2tog) to the end of the row. 12sts.

Beg with a purl row, work st st for three rows.

Row 11: K2togtbl, K to the last 2sts, k2tog. 10sts.

Row 12: P2tog, P to the last 2sts, p2togtbl. 8sts.

Row 13: K2togtbl, K to the last 2sts, k2tog. 6sts.

Cast off purlwise.

Basic headdress

Using 3.25mm needles and C, **cast on** 42sts.

Knit two rows.

Row 3: K24, W&T.

Row 4: K6, W&T.

Row 5: K7, W&T.

Row 6: K8, W&T.

Row 7: K9, W&T.

Row 8: K10, W&T.

Row 9: Knit.

Knit 21 rows straight.

Row 31: K16, (k2tog) x 5, K16. 37sts.

Cast off.

Yarn detail

Hayfield Bonus DK

www.sirdar.co.uk
01924 371 501

Content 100% acrylic

Weight/length 100g/280m

Wash Machine wash 40°C

RRP £3.33

Headband

Using 3.25mm needles and D,

cast on 50sts.

Cast off.

Waistband/sash

Using 3.25mm needles and D,

cast on 38sts. Knit five rows.

Cast off.

Sandals (make two)

Sole

Using 3.25mm needles and E, **cast on** 20sts.

Knit two rows.

Row 3: (K2tog) x 2, K2, (k2tog) x 4, K2, (k2tog) x 2. 12sts.

Row 4: Knit.

Row 5: (K2tog) to the end of the row. 6sts.

B&T.

Strap

Using 3.25mm needles and E, **cast on** 15sts. Cast off

Knitted shepherds

Pattern details

You will need...

For each shepherd:

Note: For shades used, see each individual dolls

Yarn

15g of DK yarn in Colour A (for legs, arms & head)

15g of DK yarn in Colour B (for robe)

10g of DK yarn in Colour C (for head-dress)

5g of DK yarn in Colour D (for sash / headband)

5g of DK yarn in Colour E (for sandals)

10g of DK yarn in Colour F (for waistcoat)

Oddment of DK yarn in Colour G (for mouth)

Needles

3.25mm (UK size 10) knitting needles

Other

20g of toy stuffing

Finished sizes

Height: 21cm or 8¼in

Abbreviations

B&T	Break the yarn off and thread it through the sts on the needle. Pull the yarn end tightly to gather the cast-off stitches into a closed circle
cm	centimetre(s)
in	inch(es)
K	knit
kfb	knit into the front and back of the stitch
k2tog	knit 2sts together
k3tog	knit 3sts together
P	purl
p2tog	purl 2sts together
RS	right side
st(s)	stitch(es)
st st	stocking stitch
tbl	through the back loop
W&T	wrap and turn: bring the yarn forward, slip the next st onto the right hand needle, take the yarn back, then transfer the slipped stitch back onto the left hand needle. Turn the work, ready to work next row

Row 55: (K2, k2tog) to the end of the row. 24sts.

Row 56: Purl.

Row 57: (K1, k2tog) to the end of the row. 16sts.

Row 58: Purl.

Row 59: (K2tog) to the end of the row. 8sts. B&T.

Basic arms (make two)

Using 3.25mm needles and A, **cast on** 5sts.

Row 1: (Kfb) to the end of the row. 10sts.

Beginning with a purl row, work st st for 11 rows.

Row 13: K2togtbl, K to the last 2sts, knit two stitches together. 8sts.

Row 14: P2tog, P to the last 2sts, p2togtbl. 6sts.

Row 15: K2togtbl, K to the last 2sts, k2tog. 4sts. Cast off purlwise.

Pattern details

You will need...

For shepherd one:

Yarn

- Hayfield Bonus DK in Flesh tone (shade 0963), A
- Hayfield Bonus DK in Walnut (shade 0927), B
- Hayfield Bonus DK in Aran (shade 0993), C
- Hayfield Bonus DK in Classic Red (shade 0833), D
- Hayfield Bonus DK in Chocolate (shade 0947), E
- Hayfield Bonus DK in Oatmeal (shade 0964), F
- Hayfield Bonus in Pink (shade 0992), G

For shepherd two:

Yarn

- Hayfield Bonus DK in Flesh Tone (shade 0963), A
- Hayfield Bonus DK in Grouse (shade 0815), B
- Hayfield Bonus DK in White (shade 0961), C
- Hayfield Bonus DK in Orchard (shade 0904), D
- Hayfield Bonus DK in Chocolate (shade 0947), E
- Hayfield Bonus DK in Wheat (shade 0816), F
- Hayfield Bonus in Pink (shade 0992), G

For shepherd three:

Yarn

- Hayfield Bonus DK in Flesh tone (shade 0963), A
- Hayfield Bonus DK in Wheat, (shade 0816), B
- Hayfield Bonus DK in White, (shade 0961), C
- Hayfield Bonus DK in Fox, (shade 0779), D
- Hayfield Bonus DK in Chocolate, (shade 0947), E
- Hayfield Bonus DK in Walnut, (shade 0927), F
- Hayfield Bonus in Pink, (shade 0992), G



Basic waistcoat

Using 3.25mm needles and F, **cast on** 40sts.

Knit 20 rows.

Row 21: K8, turn.

Working on these 8sts only, knit a further 18 rows.

Cast off.

With the right side facing, rejoin the yarn to the remaining 32sts.

Next row: K24, turn.

Working on these 24sts only, knit a further 18 rows.

Cast off.

With the right side facing, rejoin the yarn to the remaining 8sts.

Knit 19 rows. Cast off.

Making up basic figure

Legs, body and head

At the base of each leg, sew a running thread through the cast on stitches and draw up the sts to make a closed circle. Join the side seams of the legs, up to the body portion. Join the main seam of the head and body, matching colour changes, and leaving a small gap for turning. Turn and stuff firmly. Close the gap. Sew a running st through the first row of the neck using A and pull these up slightly to help to form the neck.

Face

Using A, sew two horizontal sts over the centre st, five rows above the head increase row for the nose.

Using E, make the eyes by working two vertical sts over one row of knitting for each eye, three knitted sts apart, and seven rows above the head increase row. Using G, sew a long horizontal stitch over the two centre sts three rows above the head increase row. Catch down the centre of the mouth stitch one row below the ends to form a smile.

Arms

Sew a running thread through the cast on sts and draw these up to make a closed circle. Join the side seam up to the shaped portion at the top of the arm. Turn and stuff the arm. Sew the open, shaped portion to the sides of the body, placing the cast off stitches at the shoulder shaping.

Sleeves

Sew the main side seam up to the shaped portion at the top of the sleeves. Turn to the right side and place over the arms. Sew the shaped portion to the body around the arms.

Robe

Sew the main seam to form a skirt. Place the skirt on the doll, having the main seam at the centre back, and the cast off edge 13 rows down from the neck row. The hem should be level with the bottom of the feet. Sew the cast off edge of the robe to the doll.

Sash/waistband

Join the side seams to form a circle. Place the sash around the centre of the doll, between the



top of the robe skirt and the arms.
Sew in place.

Headdress

Fold in half and sew the two sides of the cast off edge together to form a hood shape. Place on the head, and sew in place.

Headband

Join the sides to form a circle. Place over the head-dress, two rows above the cast on edge at the front, and going around the head. Sew the headband in place.

Sandals

Join the side seams of the sole to form an oval. Sew each end of the strap to each of the long sides of the oval, about halfway down, forming a sandal. Place the sandals on the feet, with the strap lying across the foot's shaping. Sew the sandals in place.

Waistcoat

Join the fronts to the back at the shoulders.

Crook (make two)

One each for shepherd one and shepherd two.
Using 3.25mm needles and H, **cast on** 50sts.

Row 1: Knit.

Row 2: Purl.

Cast off.

Making up

Take the drinking straw and make a cut through one side from the top to the bottom, enabling the straw to be curled inwards on its-self. Cut the pipe cleaner so that it is just a little longer than the straw with the straw's bend extended fully. Fold over each end of the pipe cleaner and twist so that the pipe cleaner is the same length as the straw. Push the pipe cleaner through the straw to act as stuffing. With the 'purl' side out, fold the knitted piece around the straw, and join the side seams, working from the bendy end of the straw downwards. The straw will curl inwards to make it narrower as you sew. If the straw is longer than the knitted piece, trim the long straight length of the straw to fit before closing the ends of the knitting, making sure to twist the ends of the pipe cleaner to fit. Close the two ends of the knitted piece at the top and bottom of the straw. Bend over the top of the straw to make the correct shape for a shepherd's crook. Sew the crook to one arm of the shepherd.

Lamb

Body and head

Using 3.25mm needles and I, **cast on** 10sts.

Row 1 and every alt row: (ML) to end of row.

Row 2: (Kfb) to the end of the row. 20sts.

Row 4: (K1, kfb) to the end of the row. 30sts.

Row 6: Knit.

Repeat rows 5 and 6 once, then row 5 once.

Pattern details

You will need...

For the crook:

□ **Yarn**

● 5g of Hayfield Bonus DK in Chocolate (shade 0947), H

□ **Needles**

3.25mm (UK size 10) knitting needles

□ **Other**

One bendy drinking straw

One 6mm pipe cleaner

Top tip!

Make sure you keep a firm tension so that the stuffing doesn't poke through the holes in the knitting. If you find that you're knitting too loosely use a slightly smaller needle

Three shepherds

Pattern details

You will need...

For the lamb:

Yarn

5g of Hayfield Bonus DK in White (shade 0961), I

5g of Hayfield Bonus DK in Black (shade 0965), J

Needles & accessories

3.25mm (UK size 10) needles

10g of toy stuffing

One 6mm pipe cleaner

Special abbreviation

ML: Knit the next stitch as normal, but leave the new st on the left hand needle. Take the yarn forward between the needles and wrap it around your thumb at the front of the work, then take the yarn back to the rear of the work. Keeping the yarn looped around your thumb, knit onto the same stitch as before. Take both stitches off the left hand needle and onto the right hand needle as normal. Pass the first stitch over the second stitch. One loop made.

Row 10: (K1, k2tog) to the end of the row. 20sts.

Row 11: As row 1.

Row 12: Knit.

Row 13: As row 1.

Break off I and join in J.

Beginning with a purl row, work st st for seven rows.

Row 21: (K2tog) to the end of the row. 10sts.

B&T.

Legs (make four)

Using 3.25mm needles

and J, **cast on** 6sts.

Beginning with a knit

row, st st three rows.

B&T.

Making up

Body and head

Join the main seam, leaving a small gap for turning. Turn to the right side & stuff. Close the gap. Using a length of J, work a running

stitch along the first colour change row and pull this up very slightly to shape the neck. Using I, embroider the eyes on either side of the head, using two tiny back stitches for each eye.

Legs

Sew the main seam, leaving the cast on edge open. Stuff the legs and sew the open cast on edge to the bottom of the main body. Using matching yarn, sew the finished lamb to the arms of the third shepherd. ■



Winter bloom

Knit this beautiful cowl
using soft merino wool. By
SUSANNE FRANK



Note: Use a row counter to help you remember which row you're knitting, especially in the beginning, when you're learning the pattern.

**Start
here!**

Scarf

Cast on 34sts.

Rows 1-3: K1 through the back of the loop (tbl), K1 *K3, P3* to last 2sts, P1, sl1 purlwise.

Row 4: K1tbl, P1 *P3, yo, sl1 purlwise, k2tog through back of loop (tbl), pssso, yo *to the last two sts, K1, sl1 purlwise.

Row 5-7: K1tbl, P1 *P3, K3* to the last two sts, K1, sl1 purlwise.

Row 8: K1tbl, K1 *yo, sl1 purlwise, k2togtbl, pssso, yo, P3* to the last two sts, P1, sl1 purlwise.

Repeat these eight rows until the scarf measures 150cm or 59in. Cast off.

Join the beginning and end of the scarf, making sure the pattern is aligned.

Darn in the loose ends.

Flower

Rose (inner flower)

Cast on 6sts.

Row 1: Purl to the end of the row.

Row 2: *K1, yo* to the last st, K1. 11sts.

Row 3: Purl to the end of the row.

Row 4: *K1, yo* to the last st, K1. 21sts.

Row 5: Purl to the end of the row.

Row 6: *K1, yo* to the last st, K1. 41sts.

Row 7: Purl to the end of the row.

Row 8: * K1, yo* to last st, K1. 81sts.

Cast off. Curl up the knitting to form a rose (the knitting should curl naturally). Fasten together.

Yarn detail

Debbie Bliss Rialto Aran

www.designeryarns.uk.com

01535 664222

Content 100% extra fine merino wool

Weight/length 50g/80m

Wash Machine wash 30°C

RRP £5.50

Outer petals (make five)

Cast on 8sts.

Row 1: P7, K1.

Row 2: P1 *K1, yo * to last 2sts, K2. 13sts.

Row 3: P12, K1.

Row 4: P1, K1, yo, K9, yo, K2. 15sts.

Row 5: P14, K1.

Row 6: P1, K14.

Row 7-16: Repeat rows 5-6.

Row 17: P1, sl1, K1, pssso, K9, k2tog, K1. 13sts.

Row 18: P12, K1.

Row 19: P1, sl1, K1, pssso, K7, k2tog, K1. 11sts.

Row 20: P10, K1.

Row 21: P1, sl1, K1, pssso, K5, k2tog, K1. 9sts.

Row 22: P8, K1.

Row 23: P1, sl1, K1, pssso, K3, k2tog, K1. 7sts.

Row 24: P6, K1.

Row 25: P1, sl1, K1, pssso, K1, k2tog, K1. 5sts.

Cast off, darn in loose ends.

Making up

Pinch base of first petal together and secure to form a crease. Fold over top of petal and attach to base.

The petal forms a loop. Repeat process for other petals. Arrange in a circle, overlapping slightly, and attach to scarf. Secure rose to centre of petals. ■

Reader offer!

Get 10% off Debbie Bliss Rialto Aran

Quote code **KT1912** when you go to
www.norfolkylarn.co.uk or call 01603 417001

This offer ends 16 January 2014

Pattern details

You will need...

For the scarf:

□ **Yarn**

● 3 x 50g balls of Debbie Bliss Rialto Aran in Ecru (shade 016)

□ **Needles**

5mm (UK size 6) knitting needles

Tension

Yarn used knits as aran – 18sts and 24 rows to 10cm or 4in using 5mm (UK size 6) knitting needles

Finished sizes

Width: 15cm or 6in

Length: 150cm or 59in

Abbreviations

cm	centimetre(s)
in	inch(es)
K	knit
k2tog	knit 2sts together
P	purl
pssso	pass slipped st over
sl1	slip one stitch
st(s)	stitch(es)
tbl	through the back loop
yo	yarn over



FARMERS
WEEKLY

Skill level



Intermediate



Down on the farm

Kids will love these fun farmyard motif sweaters. By **RUTH MADDOCK** in association with Farmers Weekly

Yarn detail

King Cole Merino Blend DK

www.kingcole.co.uk
01535 650230

Content 100% pure new wool
Weight/length 50g/112m
Wash Machine wash 40°C
RRP £3.59

Sizing guide		XS	S	M	L	XL
Chest	cm	56	61	66	71	76
	in	22	24	26	28	30
Actual chest	cm	61	66	71	76	81
	in	24	26	28	30	32
Back length	cm	34	38	42	46	50
	in	13½	15	16½	18	19¾
Sleeve	cm	25	29	33	37	41
	in	9¾	11½	13	14½	16

Pattern details

You will need...

For the cow jumper:

Yarn

● 4 [5: 6: 6: 7] x 50g balls of King Cole Merino Blend DK in Sky (shade 05), A

● 1 x 50g ball of King Cole Merino Blend DK in Black (shade 48), B, White (shade 01), C and Caramel (shade 790) D

Needles

3.25mm (UK size 10) and 4mm (UK size 8) knitting needles

Other

Three buttons

Tension

Yarn used knits as DK – 22sts and 28 rows to 10cm or 4in over st st using 4mm (UK size 8) knitting needles

Start here!

Cow Jumper

Back

Note: Use separate balls of yarn for each colour area, do not strand yarns at back of work, twist the yarns together at each colour change.

With 3.25mm knitting needles, **cast on** using colours as follows:

K28 [34: 38: 44: 50] in A and 37sts in B. 65 [71: 75: 81: 87]sts.

Now work five rows in garter st with these colours in position as set, and on the fifth row increase 2sts evenly in the colour A and 2sts evenly in the colour B sections of work. 69 [75: 79: 85: 91]sts. Change to 4mm needles and work as given for the back and follow the chart, the first row being:

Chart row 1 (RS): 30 [36: 40: 46: 52] in A, K39 in B. 69 [75: 79: 85: 91]sts.

Now continue to work in st st from the chart as given until the chart is completed and then continue with A only until the work measures 22 [24: 26: 29: 32]cm or 8¾ [9½: 10¼: 11½: 12½]in, ending with WS row.

Shape armhole

Cast off 4 [4: 5: 6: 6]sts at beg of next two rows, 61 [67: 69: 73: 79]sts.

Now cont in st st until work measures 4 [6: 6: 7: 7]cm or 1½ [2½: 2½: 2¾: 2¾]in from beg of armhole shaping. (end with WS row).

Divide for back neck opening

Next row: Knit 28 [31: 32: 34: 37]sts, cast off 5sts, knit to end.

Working on last group of 28 [31: 32: 34: 37]sts only, work as follows:

Cont in st st until work measures 11 [13: 15: 16: 17]cm or 4¼ [5: 6: 6¼: 6¾]in from beg of armhole shaping, ending with a WS row at neck edge.

Next row: Cast off 4[4:5:5:6] sts knit to end.

Next row: Purl to last 2sts, p2tog.

Next row: K2tog, knit to end.

Cast off rem 22 [25: 25: 27: 29]sts

With WS facing rejoin yarn to rem 28 [31: 32: 34:

37]sts and cont in st st until work measures 11 [13: 15: 16: 17]cm or 4¼ [5: 6: 6¼: 6¾]in from beg of armhole shaping, ending with a RS row at neck edge.

Next row: Cast off 4 [4: 5: 5: 6]sts purl to the end.

Next row: Knit to last 2sts, k2tog.

Next row: P2tog, purl to end.

Cast off rem 22 [25: 25: 27: 29]sts.

Back

Note: Use separate balls of yarn for each colour area, do not strand yarns at back of work, twist the yarns together at each colour change.

With 3.25mm knitting needles, **cast on** using colours as follows:

4sts in B, 12sts in C, and the remaining 49 [55: 59: 65: 71]sts in A. 65 [71: 75: 81: 87]sts.

Now work five rows in garter st with these colours in position as set, and on the fifth row increase 4sts evenly in the colour A section only. 69 [75: 79: 85: 91]sts.

Change to 4mm needles and work as given for the back and follow the chart, the first row being:

Chart row 1 (RS): K4 in B, K12 in C, K53 [59: 63: 69: 75] in A.

Continue working from the chart until it is completed, then cont as given for the back until the work measures 4 [6: 7: 7: 7]cm or 1½ [2½: 2½: 2¾: 2¾]in from beg of armhole shaping ending with a WS row. 61 [67: 69: 73: 79]sts.

Shape neck

Next row: Knit across first 28 [31: 31: 33: 35]sts, cast off centre 5 [5: 7: 7: 9]sts, knit to end. Turn and work on this last group of 28 [31: 31: 33: 35]sts only as follows:

Next row (WS): Purl to last 2sts, p2tog.

Next row: Cast off 2sts, knit to end.

Now cont in st st and dec 1st at neck edge only of next and foll two alt rows.

Cont in st st on the rem 22 [25: 25: 27: 29]sts until work measures 12 [14: 16: 17: 18]cm or 4¾ [5½: 6¼: 6¾: 7]in from beg of armhole shaping. Cast off. With WS facing rejoin yarn to rem 28 [31: 31: 33: 35]sts and cont as follows:

Next row (WS): Cast off 2sts, purl to end.

Next row: Knit to last 2sts, k2tog.

Now cont in st st and dec 1st at neck edge only of



The body of the sweater is worked in stocking stitch

Pattern details

You will need...

For the tractor Jumper:

Yarn

- 1 (1: 1: 2: 2) x 50g balls of King Cole Merino Blend DK in Chocolate (shade 23), A
- 1 (1: 1: 1: 2) x 50g balls of King Cole Merino Blend DK in Bark (shade 857), B
- 4 (5: 6: 6: 7) x 50g balls of King Cole Merino Blend DK in Sky (shade 05), C
- 1 x 50g balls of King Cole Merino Blend DK in Black (shade 48), D and Gold (shade 55), E

Needles

3.25mm (UK size 10) and 4mm (UK size 8) knitting needles

Other

Three buttons

Tension

Yarn used knits as DK – 22sts and 28 rows to 10cm or 4in over st st using 4mm (UK size 8) knitting needles



Work stripes of garter stitch to look like a ploughed field

next and following two alternate rows.

Cont in st st on the rem 22 (25: 25: 27: 29)sts until work measures 12 (14: 16: 17: 18)cm or 4³/₄ (5¹/₂: 6¹/₄: 6³/₄: 7)in from beg of armhole shaping. Cast off.

Sleeves

With 3.25mm needles and A, **cast on** 33 (37: 41: 45: 49)sts and work in garter stitch (every row knit) for six rows, and increase 4sts evenly across last row worked. 37 (41: 45: 49: 53)sts.

Change to 4mm needles and work in st st and inc 1st at each end of next and every foll sixth row, until there are 55 (63: 73: 77: 81)sts.

Now cont without shaping until work measures 25 (29: 33: 37: 41)cm or 9³/₄ (11¹/₂: 13: 14¹/₂: 16)in. Place marker at each end of the last row worked then cont in st st for 6 (6: 7: 7: 8) more rows. Cast off loosely.

Making up

Button band: With 3.25mm needles and A pick up and knit 16 (16: 20: 20: 22)sts along right side edge of back opening.

Work six rows in garter st, then cast off knitwise.

Buttonhole band:

With 3.25mm needles and A pick up and knit 16 (16: 20: 20: 22)sts along left side edge of back opening. Work two rows in garter st – end at neck edge.

Next row: K2, k2tog, yo, K6, k2tog, yo, K4 (4: 8: 8: 10)sts.

Now work three rows in garter st, then cast off knitwise. Using small backstitch, sew both shoulder seams.

Neckband:

With 3.25mm needles and A and working from the RS of work, pick up and knit 5sts from side edge of back buttonhole band, 7 (7: 8: 8: 9)sts from left back neck, 39 (43: 47: 51: 55)sts around front neck, 7 (7: 8: 8: 9)sts from right back neck and 5sts from side edge of back button band. 63 (67: 73: 77: 83)sts.

Work two rows in garter stitch.

Next row: Knit to last 4sts, k2tog, yo, k2.

Next row: K1 (1: 1: 3: 3) *K4 (4: 5: 5: 5), k2tog, K4 (5: 5: 5: 6), rep from * to last 2 (0: 0: 2: 2)sts, knit to the end. 57 (61: 67: 71: 77)sts.

Now work one row in garter stitch.

Cast off purlwise. With WS together place top of sleeve to shoulder seam and pin top of sleeve to armhole. Sew into place using small backstitch.

Place the last few rows after the marker to the cast off sts of body and sew together. Pin underarm seams from wrist to hem and sew using small backstitches. Sew buttonholes to button band to correspond with buttonholes.

Start here!

Tractor jumper

Back

****With 3.25mm needles and A, cast on** 65 (71: 75: 81: 87)sts and work in garter stitch (every row knit) for six rows, and increase 4sts evenly across last row worked. 69 (75: 79: 85: 91)sts.

Change to 4mm needles and B, and work as folls:

Row 1: With B, knit.

Row 2: With B, purl.

Row 3: With B, knit.

Change to A and work five rows knit (garter stitch). Rep these last eight rows one (one: two: two: two) more times. ****22 (22: 30: 30: 30) rows.**

Change to C and work in st st until work measures 22 (24: 26: 29: 32)cm or 8³/₄ (9¹/₂: 10¹/₄: 11¹/₂: 12³/₄)in, ending with WS row.

Shape armhole

Cast off, 4 (4: 5: 6: 6)sts at beg of next two rows, 61 (67: 69: 73: 79)sts.

Now cont in st st until work measures 4 (6: 6: 7: 7)cm or 1¹/₂ (2¹/₂: 2¹/₂: 2³/₄: 2³/₄)in from beg of armhole shaping. (end with WS row).

Divide for back neck opening

Next row: Knit 28 (31: 32: 34: 37)sts, cast off 5sts, knit to end. Working on last group of 28 (31: 32: 34: 37)sts only, work as follows:

Cont in st st until work measures 11 (13: 15: 16: 17)cm or 4¹/₄ (5: 6: 6¹/₄: 6³/₄)in or from beg of armhole shaping, ending with a WS row at neck edge.

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

Next row: Purl to last 2sts, p2tog.

Next row: K2tog, knit to the end.

Cast off rem 22 (25: 25: 27: 29)sts.

With WS facing rejoin yarn to rem 28 (31: 32: 34: 37)sts and cont in st st until work measures 11 (13: 15: 16: 17)cm or 4¹/₄ (5: 6: 6¹/₄: 6³/₄)in from beg of armhole shaping, ending with a RS row at neck edge.

Next row: Cast off 4(4:5:5:6) sts purl to end.

Next row: Knit to last 2sts, k2tog.

Next row: P2tog, purl to end.

Cast off rem 22 (25: 25: 27: 29)sts.

Front

Work as given for the back from ****** to ******.

Now cont in st st and work from the chart, the first chart row being:

Chart row 1: K14 (17: 19: 22: 25) in C, K7 in D, K24 in C, K9 in D, knit the rem 15 (18: 20: 23: 26) in C.

Cont working in st st from chart in position as set until work measures 22 (24: 26: 29: 32)cm or or 8³/₄ (9¹/₂: 10¹/₄: 11¹/₂: 12³/₄)in ending with WS row.

Note: Do not strand yarns behind work but use a separate ball of yarn for each colour area.

Cont working from the chart until it is completed then cont with C only and work shaping as folls:

Shape armhole

Cast off, 4 (4: 5: 6: 6)sts at beg of next two rows, 61 (67: 69: 73: 79)sts.

Cont in st st until work meas 4 (6: 7: 7: 7)cm or or 1½ (2½: 2½: 2¾: 2¾)in from beg of armhole shaping ending with a WS row. 61 (67: 69: 73: 79)sts.

Shape neck

Next row: Knit across first 28 (31: 31: 33: 35)sts, cast off centre 5 (5: 7: 7: 9)sts, knit to end.

Turn and work on this last group of 28 (31: 31: 33: 35)sts only as follows:

Next row (WS): Purl to last 2sts, p2tog.

Next row: Cast off 2 sts, knit to end.

Now cont in st st and decrease 1st at neck edge only of next and foll two alt rows.

Cont in st st on the rem 22 (25: 25: 27: 29)sts until work measures 12 (14: 16: 17: 18)cm or 4¾ (5½: 6¼: 6¾: 7)in from beg of armhole shaping. Cast off.

With WS facing rejoin yarn to rem 28 (31: 31: 33: 35)sts and cont as follows:

Next row (WS): Cast off 2sts, purl to end.

Next row: Knit to last 2sts, k2tog.

Now cont in st st and dec 1st at neck edge only of next and foll two alt rows.

Cont in st st on the rem 22 (25: 25: 27: 29)sts until work measures 12 (14: 16: 17: 18)cm 4¾ (5½: 6¼: 6¾: 7)in from beg of armhole shaping. Cast off.

Sleeves

With 3.25 mm needles and A, **cast on** 33 (37: 41: 45: 49)sts and work in garter stitch (every row knit) for six rows, and inc 4sts evenly across last row worked. 37 (41: 45: 49: 53)sts.

Change to 4mm needles and B, and work in pattern as given for the back, then cont with C only. At the same time inc 1st at each end of every sixth row, until there are 55 (63: 73: 77: 81)sts. Now cont without shaping until work measures 25 (29: 33: 37: 41)cm or 9¾ (11½: 13: 14½: 16)in. Place marker at each end of the last row worked then cont in st st for six (six: seven: seven: eight) more

rows. Cast off loosely.

Making up

Button band:

With 3.25mm needles and C pick up and knit 16 (16: 20: 20: 22)sts along RS edge of back opening. Work six rows in garter st, then cast off knitwise.

Buttonhole band:

With 3.25mm needles and C pick up and knit 16 (16: 20: 20: 22)sts along left side edge of back opening. Work two rows in garter st – end at neck edge.

Next row: K2, k2tog, yo, K6, k2tog, yo, K4 (4: 8: 8: 10)sts.

Work three rows in garter st, then cast off knitwise. Using small backstitch, sew both shoulder seams.

Neckband:

With 3.25 mm needles and C and working from the RS of work, pick up and knit, 5sts from side edge of back buttonhole band, 7 (7: 8: 8: 9)sts from left back neck, 39 (43: 47: 51: 55)sts around front neck, 7 (7: 8: 8: 9)sts from right back neck and 5sts from side edge of back button band. 63 (67: 73: 77: 83)sts. Work two rows in garter stitch.

Next row: Knit to last 4sts, k2tog, yo, K2.

Next row: K1 (1: 1: 3: 3) *K4 (4: 5: 5: 5), k2tog, K4 (5: 5: 5: 6), rep from * to last 2 (0: 0: 2: 2)sts, knit to the end. 57 (61: 67: 71: 77)sts.

Work one row in garter stitch. Cast off purlwise.

With WS together place top of sleeve to shoulder seam and pin top of sleeve to armhole. Sew into place using small backstitch. Place the last few rows after the marker to the cast off sts of body and sew together. Pin the underarm seams from wrist to hem and sew using small backstitches. Sew the buttonholes to the button band to correspond with the buttonholes. ■

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Abbreviations

alt	alternate
beg	beginning
cm	centimetre(s)
cont	continue
dec	decrease
foll	following
in	inch(es)
inc	increase
K	knit
k2tog	knit 2sts together
P	purl
patt	pattern
p2tog	purl 2sts together
rem	remaining
rep	repeat
RS	right side
st(s)	stitch(es)
tbl	through the back loop
st st	stocking stitch
WS	wrong side
yo	yarn over

Cow chart

Key

- Sky (shade 05)
- Black (shade 48)
- White (shade 01)
- Caramel (shade 790) D

Tractor chart

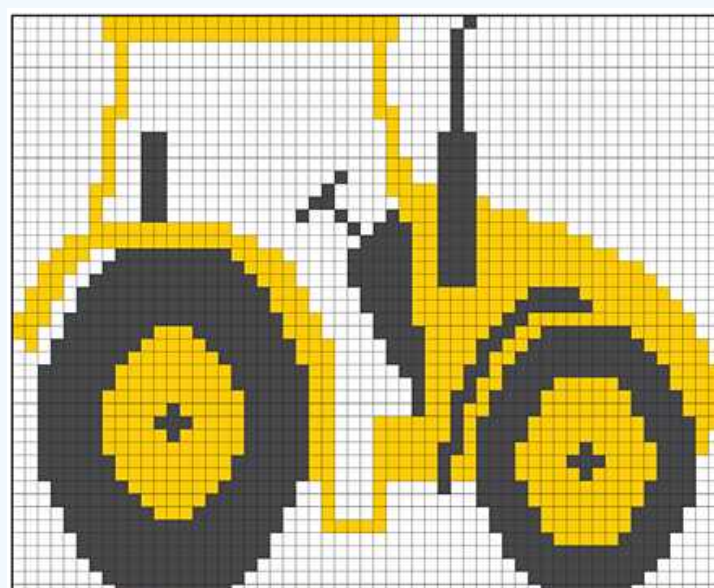
Key

- Gold (shade 55), E
- Sky (shade 05), C
- Black (shade 48)

Cow chart



Tractor chart





Everything for your latest knitting project is just a click away on our easy to use website!

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Choose from thousands of patterns to buy online, plus over 300 yarn ranges, including:

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We love socks and accessories! Whether you're looking for a lace shawl or an easy hat you'll find the perfect pattern and yarn, including hundreds of sock yarns from Trekking, Regia, Opal, Socka, Zauberball and Lorna's Laces.

MODERN knitting.co.uk

inspiration for the creative knitter



We've got scarves and cowls all wrapped up! See the stunning new ranges from Katia including Tutu and Boulevard scarf yarns, plus gorgeous quick-knit cowls in Ushuaia, Maya and Extreme

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Pattern details

You will need...

Yarn

1 x 100g ball of Red Heart Soft in Brown (shade 013), A, Nature (shade 002), B and Orange (shade 003), C

Needles

4.5mm (UK size 7) knitting needles

Other

Darning needle to weave in ends
A box of same dimensions as finished piece (we used a 500g icing sugar box)
500g bag of rice or beans to add weight to the finished doorstep

Tension

Yarn used knits as aran – 14sts and 18 rows to 10cm or 4in over stocking stitch on 4.5mm (UK size 7) knitting needles

Finished sizes

18x10x6cm or 7x4x2³/₄in

Abbreviations

cm	centimetre(s)
in	inch(es)
K	knit
P	purl
sl1	slip 1st
rep	repeat
RS	right side
st(s)	stitch(es)
WS	wrong side
yb	yarn back
yf	yarn forward

Yarn detail

Red Heart Soft

www.deramores.com
0800 488 0708

Content 100% acrylic
Weight/length 100g/167m
Wash Machine wash 40°C
RRP £2.09

Vintage style

Skill level



Intermediate

Add a retro feel to your home with this quirky suitcase doorstep by **TRACEY TODHUNTER**

Start here!

Front & back (make two)

Moss slip stitch:

The following four rows make the pattern.

Row 1 (RS): K1, *sl1 purlwise, K1; rep from * to the end.

Row 2 (WS): Knit one stitch, *yf, slip one stitch purlwise, yb, knit one stitch; repeat from * to the end of the row.

Row 3: K2, *sl1 purlwise, yb, K1, rep from * to the last st, K1.

Row 4: K2, *yf, sl purlwise, yb, K1; rep from * to the last st, K1.

Note: When working the slip stitch pattern, do not fasten off yarn, but carry the unused colours up the side of your work.

All stitches are slipped as if to purl.

Using 4.5mm needles and yarn A **cast on** 35sts.

Work in the moss slip stitch pattern until your piece measures 10cm or 4in from the cast on row, repeating the following three-colour sequence:

Row 1: Yarn A.

Row 2: Yarn B.

Row 3: Yarn C.

Finish with a wrong side row, purl all stitches.
Cast off knitwise.

Top & bottom (make two the same)

With yarn A and 4.5mm needles, **cast on** 24 stitches. Work in stocking stitch until the piece measures 6cm or 2¹/₂in, finishing with a purl row. Cast off knitwise.

Sides (make two)

With yarn A and 4.5mm needles, **cast on** 12 stitches. Work in stocking stitch until the piece measures 10cm or 4in, finishing with a purl row. Cast off knitwise.

I-cord handle

With 4.5mm needles and yarn C, cast on 4sts and make an I-cord 16cm or 6¹/₄in long. Cast off and tie a knit at each end.

Making up

Weave in all the loose ends and press all the pieces to the dimensions. Working with the wrong sides together, stitch the top, bottom, front and back using back stitch. Attach one side piece using back stitch. Turn the doorstep right way out. Slide the cardboard box into position and fill with the bag of rice, then seal the box. Sew the side piece using mattress stitch to seal. Sew the handle to the top of the doorstep, using the photograph as a guide. ■



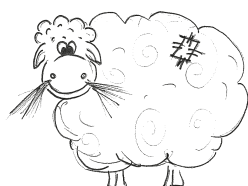
Win prizes

Our giveaways

You could soon be enjoying these wonderful knitting treats – enter our giveaways for your chance to win

Over £690 worth of Clover and Hobby Gift prizes

Spot the sheep



Our sheep has wandered off again. He's hiding somewhere amongst the pages of *Knit Today* and you could win one of these superb prizes if you find him. We've teamed up with Clover and Hobby Gift to offer six prizes worth more than £115 each. Each prize includes the following Clover items, presented in a Hobby Gift knitting bag: Jumbo Wonder Clips, Large Tatting Shuttle, Pattern Chart Marker, Darning needle with Latch Hook Eye, Double Pointed Needle Protectors, Large Pom Pom Maker, Single Needle Felting Tool and Speed Needle Refill. You can find stockists by emailing clover@stockistenquiries.co.uk

Clover
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Gift

Win!

Over £900 worth of prizes to be won



How to enter

Simply search for our missing sheep (he's hiding somewhere in this issue), then send us a postcard telling us what page he's on, plus your name, address, email address and telephone number to: Yarn giveaway, *Knit Today* 93, 9th Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN. The closing date is 28 February 2014.

Prizes will be dispatched within 28 days of judging. There are no cash alternatives. Employees of Immediate Media and contributing companies are not allowed to enter. A list of winners' names is available on request. The judges' decision is final. By entering this competition you are agreeing to receive details of future offers and promotions from Immediate Media Company and related third parties. If you do not want to receive this, please add the words 'NO INFO' at the end of your text message or write 'NO INFO' on your postcard. UK and Channel Islands entrants only. *Texts will be charged at 50p plus your standard network tariff rate. The closing date for competitions is 28 February 2014, unless otherwise stated.

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Gift baskets

This gift basket from The Knitting Gift Shop is worth £40, and includes three of the most popular Natural Knits kits: Wristwarmers in both Shetland DK and Bluefaced Leicester/Alpaca 4ply and Hand Warmers in Bluefaced Leicester DK. The kits come with patterns, wool and needles. We have three up for grabs, so enter today!

Entries to: Basket giveaway 94, *Knit Today*, 9th Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN. Enter online at www.knit-today.com. ***Alternatively, text BASKET** and your name followed by a space to 87474. The closing date is 28 February 2014.

Reader offers



SAVE 10%

Cable jumper p18



SAVE 10%

Flower corsage cowl p63



SAVE 10%

Sheepskin rug p27

We're hooked!

Clover's amazing new Amour Crochet Set is worth £60 and we have two to give away! The hooks have comfortable, easy-grip handles and the hook shape will give you a smooth crocheting experience. Plus, the bright colours make it easy to see which one you need at a glance. There are nine hooks in the set, ranging from 2mm to 6mm.

Entries to: Hook giveaway 94, *Knit Today*, 9th Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN. Enter online at www.knit-today.com. ***Alternatively, text HOOK** and your name followed by a space to 87474. The closing date is 28 February 2014.



Show time

The hugely popular Make It show celebrates its 10th anniversary next year, and to mark the occasion, we have five pairs of tickets up for grabs! Each pair of tickets is worth £24 and is valid for 28 February to 2 March 2014 at FIVE in Farnborough. For more details, go to www.make-it.org.uk

Entries to: Ticket giveaway 94, *Knit Today*, 9th Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN. Enter online at www.knit-today.com. ***Alternatively, text SHOWTICKETS** and your name followed by a space to 87474. The closing date is 28 February 2014.

make it
28th February-2nd March 2014
FIVE, Farnborough



Super snoods

10 lucky readers will be able to knit themselves (or a lucky friend!) a gorgeous chunky snood for winter with this fabulous prize from Sian's Yarns. Each prize is worth £10 and includes a ball of Patons Big Fab yarn, a pair of bamboo needles and a Sian's Yarns pattern.

Entries to: Snood giveaway 94, *Knit Today*, 9th Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN. Enter online at www.knit-today.com. ***Alternatively, text SNOOD** and your name followed by a space to 87474. The closing date is 28 February 2014.



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£1000
worth of yarn!

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www.knit-today.com/readersurvey



A man's world

Here are six sweaters for the man in your life – we guarantee they won't spend any time at the back of his wardrobe

Isn't it infuriating when you spend hours knitting a jumper for your boyfriend, brother or father, but never see him wearing it? From choosing a yarn that's masculine enough, to finding a style to suit him, knitting for a man can be a minefield. Here are six sweaters he'll want to wear – and not just to be polite! From a tweedy number by Martin Storey to a roll-neck pullover by man of the moment, Steven West, here are six of our favourite patterns for men.



Cable Sweater



Bergère de France

Knitted in Baronval, a blend of combed wool and acrylic, this blue-grey sweater from Bergère de France's *Créations 13/14* is a comfy option for casual wear, and a dependable classic that will never go out of fashion. Knitted in reverse stocking stitch and 2x2 rib, with a variety of cables running down the front, shoulders and sleeves, it's knitted on 3mm-3.5mm needles. Pair with the snood (pictured), which is knitted in 4x4 rib in variegated yarn.

For more information and to buy, go to www.bergeredefrance.co.uk

Quilt



Martin Storey for Rowan

With its unique, eye-catching star and cross stitch pattern, Quilt is made for the fashion-conscious man. Taken from the *Pioneer* collection and designed using Rowan Creative Focus Worsted, an aran weight wool and alpaca blend, The intricate intarsia design means this is a project for the experienced knitter. Martin Storey's Quilt is also available as a women's pattern, which means you won't get in trouble for borrowing his!

For more info, go to www.knitrowan.com or call 01484 681881

Textured Sweater



Martin Storey

Designed by Martin Storey for *Designer Knits*, a collaboration with Sarah Hatton, this textured sweater is knitted in Rowan Felted Tweed Aran, a pre-felted, tweedy blend of merino wool, alpaca and viscose, and sports a chunky cable detail at the front and a moss stitch collar and sleeves. We love the contrast in texture created by the combination of different stitches. Perfect for layering, this is the ideal option for that tricky in-between seasons period.

To buy, go to www.knitrowan.com or call 01484 681881



Milas



Rowan

Taken from the *Rowan Knitting & Crochet Magazine 54* and designed by New York-based designer Josh Bennett, Milas features cable panel detail, set in sleeves and a deep v-neck collar that looks great with a shirt. Suitable for the intermediate knitter, it's designed in Rowan Colourspun, a wonderfully luxurious wool and mohair blend. Soft, fluffy and strokeable, but not at all feminine, it's a refreshing break from the norm – he'll love it!

For more info and to buy, go to www.knitrowan.com or call 01484 681881

Hofsós Pullover



Stephen West

Knitted in three shades of 4ply yarn held double, the collar of this turtleneck is knitted sideways with diagonal lace, seed stitch and corrugated ridges. The rest of the sweater features wide bands of stocking stitch stripes finished with twisted rib edges, in contrast to the oversized, slouchy roll neck collar. Stephen's ravelry store is packed with patterns, from stylish textured jumpers to shawls in eye-popping acid brights.

For stockists, go to www.ravelry.com/designers/stephen-west

Cabled Sweater



Debbie Bliss

Debbie Bliss gives the old faithful cable sweater a makeover for her *Blue Faced Leicester DK* collection. Knitted in pure British wool in shades inspired by the tones and textures of the British landscape, this slim-fitting sweater features cables, contrasting sleeves, ribbing and a stylish crew neck that's low enough to wear over a buttoned-up shirt. Smart enough for workwear, this is a stylish design for the modern man.

For stockists, go to www.designeryarns.uk.com or call 01535 664222

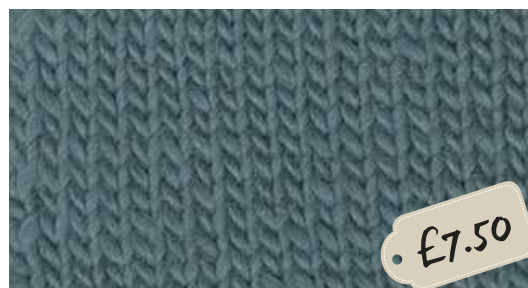
All about alpaca

Soft, hardwearing and silky, alpaca yarn makes for super-luxurious, long-lasting knits. We test six of our favourites.

Similar in structure to sheep's wool, alpaca yarn's softness comes from the fibre's small diameter, while its glossiness is due to the low height of the individual fibre scales. Warmer than wool, even when wet, alpaca isn't at all prickly and contains no lanolin, which makes it the perfect option for those with wool allergies and sensitive skin. No wonder it's known in South America as 'The Fibre of the Gods', and was once reserved for making clothing for Incan royalty!



Rowan



Alpaca Colour

Content: 100% baby alpaca

Weight/length: 50g/120m

Needle size: 4mm

Shade: Jasper

Wash: Machine wash 30°C

Spun from pure baby alpaca, Alpaca Colour from Rowan is a scrumptiously soft DK yarn that just begs to be stroked. The subtle colour blend creates an on-trend ombre effect when knitted up. There are ten shades to choose from, each named after a gem stone – we love the subtle contrast of teal and turquoise in Jasper. Alpaca Colour knits to 22sts and 30 rows on 4mm (UK size 8) needles.

To find a stockist, call 01484 681881 or go to www.knitrowan.com

UK Alpaca



Baby Alpaca

Content: 80% alpaca, 20% superfine merino

Weight/length: 50g/112m

Needle size: 4mm

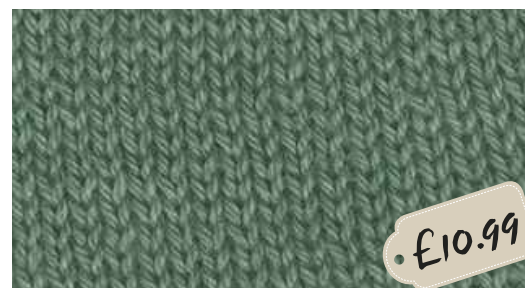
Shade: Cobalt Blue

Wash: Wool wash

New from UK Alpaca, this yarn is spun from the fleeces of alpacas farmed in Britain, with all yarns processed at mills in the north of England. Made from a silky blend of 80% baby alpaca with a touch of wool to make it more hardwearing, Baby Alpaca knits to 24sts and 28 rows using 4mm (UK size 8) knitting needles. Baby Alpaca is also available in a 4ply and aran weight.

For more info go to www.ukalpaca.com or call 01884 243579

Manos



Serena

Content: 60% baby alpaca, 40% pima cotton

Weight/length: 50g/115m

Needle size: 4mm (UK size 8)

Shade: Meadow

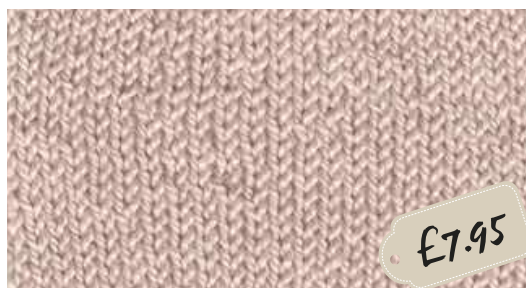
Wash: Hand wash

This light-as-a-feather yarn from Manos del Uruguay combines two fibres – baby alpaca for drape and softness, and pima cotton for trans-seasonal wearability. Serena is hand-dyed in large kettles to create a marbled effect when knitted. No two skeins are alike, so make sure you buy all your yarn for a project at the same time. It knits to 24sts and 28 rows over st st on 3.5-4mm needles.

To find a stockist, call 0118 9503350 or go to www.artesanoyarns.co.uk



Louisa Harding



£7.95

Orielle

Content: 97% baby alpaca, 3% polyamide

Weight/length: 50g/110m

Needle size: 4-3.75mm (UK 8-10)

Shade: Blossom

Wash: Hand wash

A beautiful yarn deserves a beautiful name! Orielle, the baby alpaca yarn from Louisa Harding is given a subtle sparkle by the fine iridescent gold metallic thread running through it. It's fantastically soft and really easy to knit with, and it comes in a range of jewel tones, earthy shades, neutrals and pastels. Orielle knits to 22sts and 30 rows on 4mm (UK size 8) needles.

Visit designeryarns.uk.com or call 0800 4880708 to find a stockist

Artesano



£5.85

Nebula

Content: 50% wool, 33.5% alpaca, 16.5% donegal

Weight/length: 50g/90m

Needle size: 4mm (UK size 8)

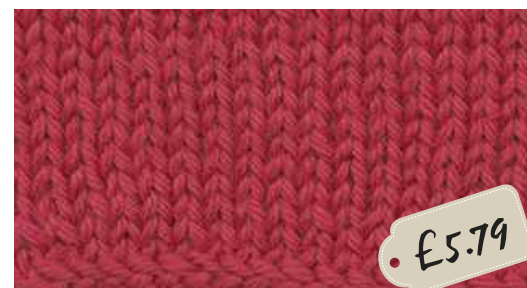
Shade: Rhinestone

Wash: Hand wash

Available in eight shades, ranging from Olive Oil to Powder Blue, soft superfine alpaca blends with merino wool in this DK roving yarn, while flecks of Donegal add texture and create a tweed-effect finish. The pattern support is excellent, with garments and accessories available. Nebula knits to 22sts and 30 rows on 4mm (UK size 8) knitting needles.

To find a stockist, call 0118 9503350 or go to www.artesanoyarns.co.uk

King Cole



£5.79

Baby Alpaca DK

Content: 100% baby alpaca

Weight/length: 100m/50g

Needle size: 4mm (UK size 8)

Shade: Blush

Wash: Hand wash

Made from the first fleece cut from baby alpacas, this yarn from King Cole is the softest in their range. Light, hardwearing and luxuriously soft, it knits up to standard DK patterns and is perfect for extra-special garments and accessories. Three new shades have just been added to the collection – Evergreen, Rust and Heather. Baby Alpaca DK knits to 22sts and 28 rows on 4mm (UK size 8) knitting needles.

To find a stockist, call 0118 9503350 or go to www.artesanoyarns.co.uk

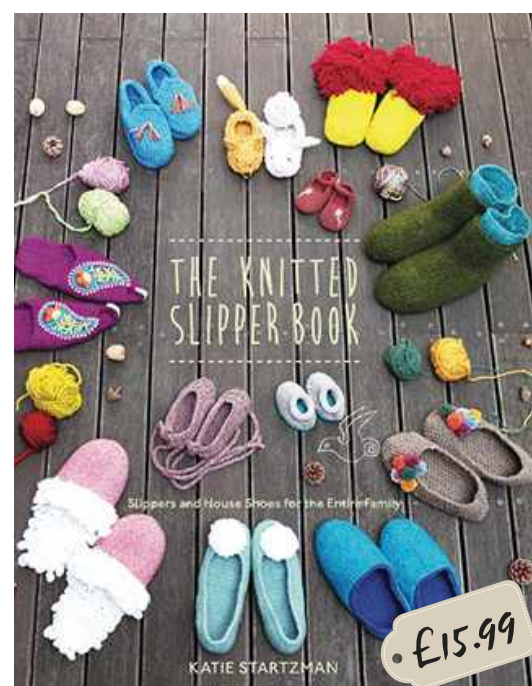
Best books

Cosy up with these reads and enter your own woolly winter wonderland!



The Knitted Slipper Book

Katie Startzman



What does winter mean to you? For us, it's getting cosy in front of a roaring fire, wrapped up in a chunky, oversized sweater and a snuggly pair of slippers. Collections of slipper patterns are surprisingly rare, so we expect Katie Startzman's *The Knitted Slipper Book* to be well received by knitters everywhere. Slippers are the one gift that will please all, young and old. This book has step-by-step instructions for all the techniques you'll need – from felting to shaping – to make 30 pairs for the whole family, including slip-ons, moccasins, clogs, ballet flats and Mary Janes.

Stewart, Tabori & Chang Inc, paperback, 160 pages, ISBN 978-1-61769-058-7

Arne & Carlos Knit-and-Crochet Garden

Arne Nerjordet & Carlos Zachrison



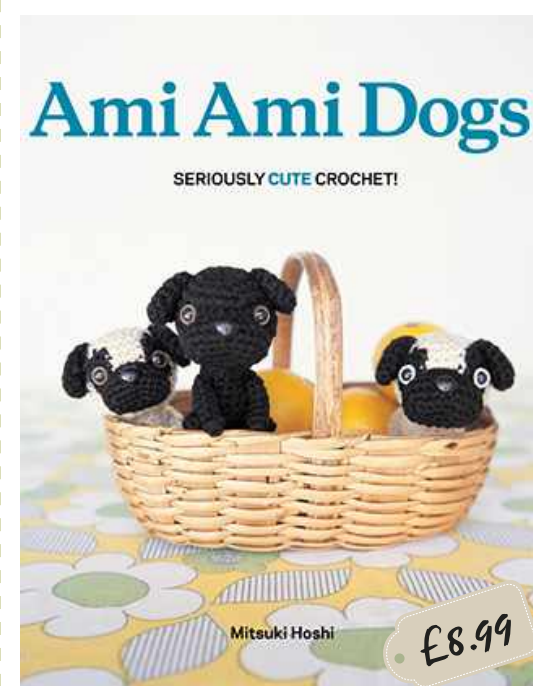
The Scandinavian double act that is Arne and Carlos has worked its magic yet again! You're invited into their very own garden; as you make your way around you'll be treated to projects inspired by it. The most beautiful flowers, butterflies, perennials... and even garden chimes and a mouse named Magnus! We adore the floral throw that's on the cover. The photography is very inviting and even if you never made a thing from this book, you'd still have fun reading it!

Search Press, paperback, 136 pages, ISBN 978-1-78221-047-4

***Reader offer: Call 01892 510850 and quote 'Knit Today 94' to buy this book for £10.99, with free UK p&p. Offer ends 11 February 2014, while stocks last.**

Ami Ami Dogs

Mitsuki Hoshi



Amigurumi is addictive. If you're already a fan, then *Ami Ami Dogs* is a must-have, and if not, Mitsuki's book is just the ticket! She already has a couple of popular titles under her belt, but we think this is her best yet. Rather than reading text, you'll work from little diagrams to bring each pocket-sized pooch to life. From the tiny white chihuahua, who's mischievously found his way into the biscuit cupboard, to the King Charles Spaniel with his loopy ears, you'll fall in love with every one of them. UK crocheters will need to convert hook sizes and yarns, but close equivalents will be fine as the finished size of the dogs isn't critical.

Harper Design, paperback, 72 pages, ISBN 978-0-06202-570-8



200 Crochet Stitches

Sarah Hazell



200 Crochet Stitches

A practical guide with swatches, charts and step-by-step instructions

Sarah Hazell



£12.99

You might think you know crochet, but do you have 200 different stitches in your repertoire? We thought not! Sarah's latest book will get even the most experienced crocheters trying new things. Spikes, trellis, shells, Tunisian, chevrons, puffs, bobbles and nubby patterns... the list goes on and on. The photographed step-by-steps and charts are crystal clear, and the swatches are printed actual size, so you'll see straight away if you're getting it right, or if things have gone awry along the way!

Search Press, paperback, 192 pages, ISBN 978-1-84448-963-3

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The Magic of Shetland Lace Knitting

Elizabeth Lovick



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The delicate beauty of Shetland lace knitting is conveyed perfectly here. As you can see from the cover, it's a technique that produces very intricate patterns, but everyday knitters shouldn't be put off – if you can knit, purl, cast on and off, you can master this technique too. Allow Elizabeth to guide you through your first project, to increasingly more complex ones, with her easy-to-follow step-by-steps. Before you know it you'll have a collection of elegant accessories made just by you.

Search Press, paperback, 144 pages, ISBN 978-1-84448-935-0

***Reader offer:** Call 01892 510850 and quote 'Knit Today 94' to buy for £12.99, with free UK p&p. Ends 11 February 2014, while stocks last

150 Scandinavian Knitting Designs

Mary Jane Mucklestone



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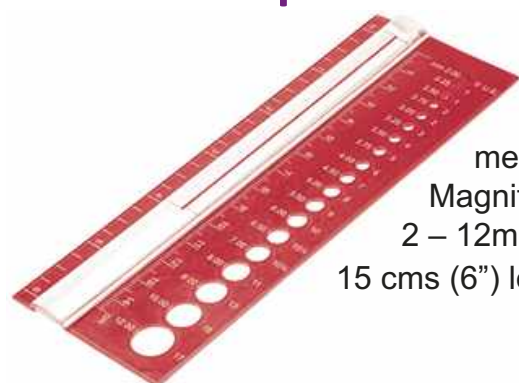
Scandi-style is more popular than ever and now you can incorporate the traditional designs into your knits with the patterns in Mary Jane's book. It's a veritable feast, packed with (yes, you guessed it) 150 different designs to use on winter sweaters, yokes, hats, gloves and more. Four patterns, for a hat, cowl, mittens and a pincushion, are also given. Helpfully, the swatches are all printed at actual size and essential instructions are given for those who are unfamiliar with colour knitting.

Search Press, paperback, 160 pages, ISBN 978-1-84448-934-3

***Reader offer:** Call 01892 510850 and quote 'Knit Today 94' to buy for £12.99, with free UK p&p. Ends 11 February 2014, while stocks last

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Distribution Frontline

Printed in England by William Gibbons

INTERNATIONAL LICENSING

Knit Today is available for licensing overseas. Call Bruce Sawford
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DISTRIBUTION

Knit Today is published 13 times a year and is available through leading
newsagents and supermarkets in the UK.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

BAR rates:

UK £43 annually, EUR £60 annually, ROW £70 annually

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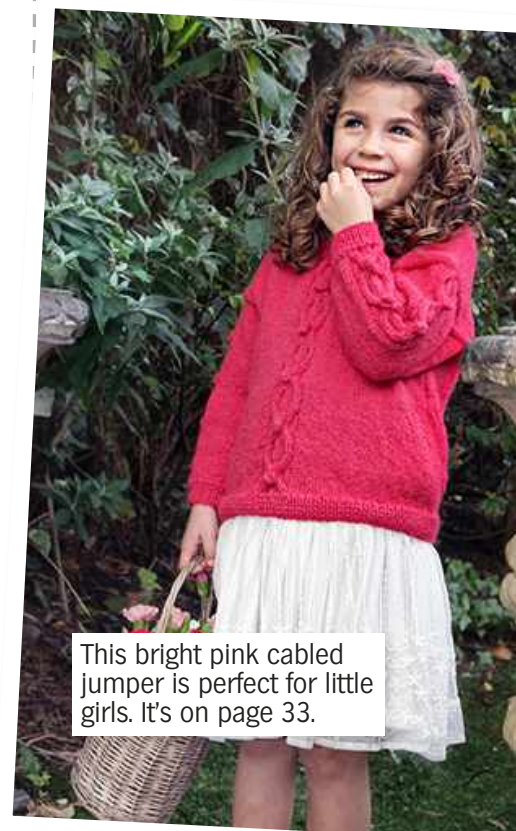
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South East

Princes Risborough Knit Club

Meets the second Thursday of the month at 8pm at The Bird in Hand Pub, Station Road, Princes Risborough, Bucks HP27 9DE.

☎ For more info, email Tracy at tracyannc@tiscali.co.uk.

Herts Stitch & Bitch

Meets on the first and third Thursday of the month from 7pm at The John Gilpin, Ware.

☎ For more information, visit www.meetup.com/hertsstitch-bitch.

Crafty Beggars

Meets every Wednesday afternoon from 2-4pm at Guinea Butt, Calverly Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

☎ For info, call 07850 375420 or email lorraineturley779@btinternet.com.

Knit & Natter

Meets every other Wednesday from 10am-12pm and Thursdays from 6-8pm at Sittingbourne Library. All levels of knitters, crocheters and cross stitchers welcome.

☎ Email celia.rumble@googlemail.com or call 07966 032919.

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Meets Thursdays from 7-9pm at Byfleet Village Hall, 54 High Road, Byfleet, Surrey KT14 7QL £5 per visit.

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Meets on Monday evenings, every three weeks from 7-9pm, alternately in Caversham and Tilehurst at members' houses.

☎ For more information and to join, call Abby on 0118 9431144 or email info@crafty-yarn.co.uk.

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☎ For more details, call 07931 569927 or email hkks0@ntlworld.com. info@cocoonknits.co.uk or call 01273 776176.

I Knit London Knitting Group

Meets on the second Wednesday of the month, in various pub venues, with

members of all ages and abilities.

☎ For more information, visit www.iknit.org.uk.

London Crochet Club

Meets every fortnight, for knitting and crochet. Members will be contacted with venue details.

☎ For more info and to join, visit <http://knitting.meetup.com/1271/> or email heldap@hotmail.co.uk.

Avicraft Knitters Club

Meets Wednesday evenings at Wool@Avicraft, 15 Chatterton Road, Bromley, Kent from 7.15-9pm.

☎ Call Sharon on 020 2901238.

South West

K1SIP1

Meets fortnightly from 8-9.30pm. Wellesley Arms Pub, Sutton Benger, Chippenham.

☎ Call Ed on 07773 254004, Nic on 07788 425475, or visit <http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/k1sip1>.

South West Knit and Natter Group

Meets Wednesdays from 2-4pm at Village Yarns, 7 Whipton Village Road, Exeter, Devon.

☎ Call Jane or Pam on 01392 670443 or email villageyarns@yahoo.co.uk.

Wells Knitting Centre Knitting Club

Meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7pm, at 5 Mill Street, Wells. Open to knitters of all abilities.

☎ For more info, call 01749 677548.

Woolcake Workshop

Meets every six weeks for workshops and a group get-together in Cheddar.

☎ To join in, call Debbie on 01749 870460, Julie on 01934 743263, or visit the website www.woolcake.co.uk.

Liskeard Knitting Club

Meets Thursdays 10.30am-12.30pm at Stuart House, Liskeard, Cornwall. Knitters, machine knitters and crocheters welcome.

☎ Call Hella Tovar on 01579 349397.

Midlands

Stratford-Upon-Avon Knitters

Meets weekly for knit and chat at Patisserie Valerie, Henley Street.

☎ Call Karen on 07925 371557 or email stratfordknitters@hellokitty.com.

Birmingham Stitch 'n' Bitch

Meets on Saturdays from 11am to 1pm, at Caffè Nero coffee shop on Waterloo Street in Birmingham city centre.

Loughborough Knit & Chat

Meets on the second Tuesday each month from 7pm, at each other's homes.

☎ Call 01509 261845 or email trish.moore@virgin.net.

Knit Lincs Lincoln Branch

Meets on the second and fourth Saturday afternoons of the month at the Drill Hall Café in Freeschool Lane, Lincoln, from 2-4pm.

☎ For more information and to join, call 07799 650691 or send an email to nicola_i_sharp@hotmail.com.

RK Knit Chicks

Meets Tuesdays from 2-3.30pm and Wednesdays from 11.30am-1pm at Raptor Crafts, The Heath, St Ives Road, Woodhurst.

☎ Contact Lynne Pope on 01487 840011, email info@raptorkrafts.co.uk or go online to www.raptorkrafts.co.uk.

North

Nattering Knitters

Meets on Tuesday evenings from 7-9pm at The Salvation Army on Oldham Road, Failsworth, Oldham. £1 a week.

☎ To find out how to join, email pauline.ford60@googlemail.com.

A Good Yarn

Meets on the third Tuesday of the month from 7.30-9.30pm in the Community Room at Hope House Church, Blucher Street, Barnsley.

☎ Call 07930 247572 or email agoodyarnbarnsley@gmail.com.

Billingham Knitters, Stockton-on-Tees

Meets Wednesdays from 5.30-7pm at Costa Coffee inside Tesco in Billingham, Stockton-on-Tees. Knitters and crocheters of all abilities are welcome to join in the fun. Free entry.

☎ Call 01642 357180 or email dawnwaugh1@googlemail.com.

Northern Ireland

East Belfast Knitting Group

Meets Wednesdays 7.30-9.30pm at the Christian Fellowship Church, 52 Redcar Street, Belfast BT6 9BP.

☎ Call 07969 724858 or carrascosa10@ntlworld.com.

Knit and Yarn @ Belmont

Meets for knit and chat on Thursday evenings from 8-10pm in Belfast.

☎ For info, call 07731 021566 or email wilma.leech@ntlworld.com.

Scotland

Loving Hands Charity Knitting Club

Meets Mondays from 1-3pm in Kelty Community Centre; the second Wednesday of the month from 2pm at Andrew Leckie Church Hall in Peebles; the second and fourth Friday of the month from 1.30-3.30pm at Invercarron Resource Centre in Stonehaven and every other Thursday from 7-9pm at Morrison's Café in Anniesland, Glasgow West.

☎ Call 01383 830277 or log on to www.lovinghands.org.uk for more information and to join.

Wooly Wags

Meets for knitting and chatter every Thursday evening at 7.30pm at Swansacre Playgroup, Kinross.

☎ For more details and to join, contact Anna on 01577 864232.

Wales

Taff Knitters & Natters

Meets Wednesdays at 11am in TAFF Housing Association, Cardiff.

☎ For more information and to join, visit www.lovinghands.org.uk, email charityknitters@yahoo.co.uk or call 01383 830277.

How to Knit

Use our step-by-step guide to learn the basics of knitting

Make a slipknot

Start all knitting projects with this easy knot



Twist the yarn into a loop and form a second loop of yarn to pull through the first one.



Tighten the first loop into a knot around the second. This will be your first cast on stitch.

Cast on - thumb method

Use this for an extra-stretchy edge



Make a slipknot with a long tail of 2.5cm or 1in per stitch that the pattern has asked you to cast on.



Loop the tail end of the yarn around your left thumb and then slide the needle tip into this loop.



Wrap the ball end of the yarn anticlockwise around the needle. Push the needle through the loop.



Slide the loop off your thumb and tighten both ends. Repeat steps 2-4 for each stitch.

Cast on - two needle method

Use this for a strong, hardwearing edge



With the slipknot on your left needle, insert the right needle from front to back of the loop.



Wrap the ball end of the yarn anticlockwise around the right needle and then pull this through the loop.



Now insert the left needle tip through the front of this new loop, dropping it off the right needle.



Repeat steps 1-3 as needed, forming new stitches from the top stitch on the left needle.

Cast off

What to do when you've reached the end



To begin, knit only the first two stitches in the cast off row.



Push the left needle through the first stitch, then lift it over the second stitch and off the right needle.



With one stitch now on the right needle, knit another stitch and then repeat step 2 until the row end.



Cut the yarn with a 15cm or 6in tail. Pull the tail through the final cast off stitch.

Knit

Learn the most essential stitch



Insert the right needle into the left needle's top stitch, from front to back with the yarn at the back.



Hold the yarn around your right index finger and then wrap it clockwise around the right needle.



Using the right needle, pull this new loop of yarn through the stitch on the left needle.



Ease the stitch off the left needle keeping the new stitch on the right needle. Repeat steps 1-4.

Purl

A knit stitch on other side



Insert the right needle into the front of the left needle's top stitch with the yarn in front.



With your right index finger, wrap the yarn anticlockwise around the top of the right needle.



Using the right needle, pull this new loop of yarn back through the front of the stitch.



Ease the stitch off the left needle, keeping the new stitch on the right. Repeat steps 1-4.

How to follow a knitting pattern

Top tips

You'll find top tips and ideas from expert knitters throughout *Knit Today*, to help you add to your knitting and crochet skills.

You will need

Our handy shopping list tells you what needles to use, how much yarn to buy and whether you need any extra items, such as buttons or zips.

Tension

The tension tells you how many rows and stitches you need to knit your garment to the correct size. Make a tension square to ensure you're getting it right before you start to knit the project.

Girl's jumper

Pattern details

You will need...

- Yarn** 50g 7.8 x 50g balls of Alpaca Select Cusco DK in shade 36
- Needles** 3.25mm (UK size 10) and 4mm (UK size 6) knitting needles
- Other** 4mm (UK size 6) cable needle, two stitch holders

Tension 10cm x 10cm square of stocking stitch using 3.25mm (UK size 10) needle

Yarn detail
Alpaca Select Cusco
www.alpacasselect.co.uk
05476 411776
Content: 100% alpaca
Weight/length: 50g/220m
Wash: 30°C
RRP: £4.95

Sizing guide		1-2 years	3-4 years	5-6 years	7-8 years
Actual chest	cm	69	74	80	84
Length from shoulder	cm	27	29	31	33
Sleeve length	cm	13	14	15	16
Sleeve width	cm	20	21	22	23

Cable and bobble panel

Notes: Panel of 17 sts. Row 1 (RS): K1, P1 to the end. Row 2: As row 1. Row 3: As row 1. Row 4: As row 1. Row 5: P2, C6F, K1, C6B, P2. Row 6: As row 5. Row 7: As row 5. Row 8: As row 5. Row 9: P2, K5, K6, K5, P2. Row 10: As row 9. Row 11: As row 9. Row 12: As row 9. Row 13: P2, C6F, K1, C6F, P2. Row 14: As row 13. Row 15: As row 13. Row 16: As row 13. These 16 rows form panel.

Front

Work as given for the back until the front measures 20 (21, 26, 40cm or 11 (12, 14, 15) sts from the top, ending on a WS row.

Shapeneck

Next row: K2 (2, 2, 2, 2), turn and work on these sts for the first side of the back neck. Dec 1st at the neck edge on the next two rows, 20 (22, 23, 24) sts.

Shapeshoulder

Cast off 10 (11, 12, 12) sts at the beginning of the next row. Purl over row. Cast off the remaining sts. With RS facing, slip the centre 29 (31, 33, 35) sts onto a stitch holder and leave. Rejoin the yarn to the remaining stitches and complete to match the first side.

Sleeves

Using 3.25mm needles, cast on 15 (17, 19, 21) sts. Work one row in rib as given for the back. Increase row: Rib 4 (5, 6, 7) sts, M1, rib 3 (4, 5, 6) sts. M1, rib to end. 45 (47, 49, 51) sts.

Girl's jumper

Abbreviations

beg beginning
C6B slip next 2 sts onto the cable needle and hold at the back of the work, K3, then K3 from the cable needle
C6F slip next 2 sts onto the cable needle and hold at the front of the work, K3, then K3 from the cable needle
cm centimetre(s)
cont continue
dec decreasing
in inch(es)
inc increasing
inc 2 increase by 2
K knit
K2tog knit 2 sts together
M1 make one stitch by picking up loop lying between stitch just worked and next stitch and work into back of it
M1L M1, l, rib 1, K1, P1, K1 all into next stitch (bobbles)
M1R M1, r, rib 1, K1, P1, K1 all into next stitch (bobbles)
p purl
p2tog purl 2 sts together
rem remaining
rep repeat
RS right side
sl slip
st(s) stitch(es)
st st stocking stitch
WS wrong side

Sizing guide

Consult the sizing guide to find measurements for all the different sizes you can knit your garment in, in a clear, colour-coded chart.

Abbreviations

As you knit more patterns, you'll begin to learn all the abbreviations by heart. Until then, find the explanation for each one in the list here.

Use the stitches you've learnt to make these pretty knitted birds



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Kristina Mcgowan

We catch up with the knitwear designer and author of *More Modern Top-Down Knitting*

What's the inspiration behind your designs?

I'm greatly inspired by a sense of nostalgia, and the idea of somehow bringing the past into the present and feeling a sense of comfort and home. I'm inspired by the colours from our 1970s living room or the sky-blue Shetland sweater I once wore to pick out the perfect pumpkin at Hallowe'en as a child. I'm inspired when I think of the leather buttons that were on my father's tweed coat or the raspberry-pink wool afghan my great grandmother crocheted and that lay at the foot of my grandmother's bed. I often nod to these memories when designing and they lift me up.

Which designers inspire you?

I'm often inspired by the work of Tsumori Chisato. I love the fit and ease of her clothing, the whimsy and fun she imparts and I find joy in her colour combinations. I also really like Isabel Marant's work, and I admire how she often achieves that perfect balance of elegant and comfortable.

What is your favourite design?

I don't really have a favorite. With the pieces for the new book, the time I spent developing and working on each occupied such a variety of life events and experiences that they've all become favorites for different reasons.

Who taught you to knit?

I learned primarily from books at the public library when I was about ten. I spent subsequent summers with relatives in Austria and learned more there, primarily from my grandmother and aunt. Both women were exceptional with needlepoint and crochet and died far too soon, when I was only a teenager. I have always liked thinking that the three of us had some sort of special, shared gene – an intense love of needle arts gene – and I have often

wished that I could have even just one more hour with both of them now to talk shop.

What was your first project?

My first real project was a simple red sweater that I made for my twin sister. I remember that the red dye was somehow not set properly in the yarn and that it turned my hands and lap red as I worked. I eventually set the dye in a vinegar bath, but it was all a bit of a mess.

What are your favorite materials to work with, and why?

I like beautiful wool of any kind, primarily in solid, natural colors. I have a soft spot for merino wool with a tight twist. I'm generally not a fan of multi-colored yarn or anything too shiny or unnatural.

What is your advice for young knitwear designers?

I would advise them to remain curious, read everything they can get their hands on (on the techniques front) and, of course, always be willing to experiment and try new things.

To see more of Kristina's designs, buy *More Modern Top-Down Knitting*, available from amazon.co.uk

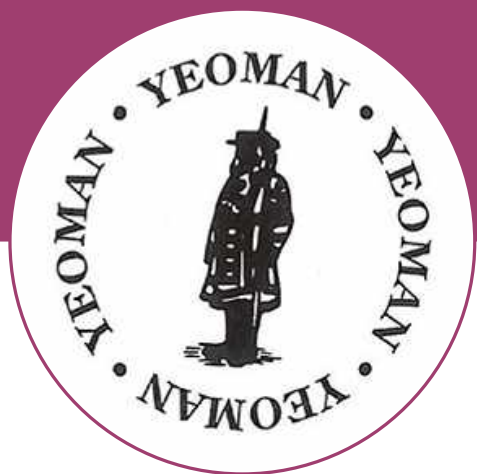


Kristina's fantastic book features tops, dresses, jumpers and accessories, all knitted from the top down



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