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ISSUE 95  
FEBRUARY 2014

# KnitTay

The UK's best knitting magazine

## New season styles

34 patterns for you!

SIZES 6 TO 24



Tweed skirt



Trendy bangles



Rowan cardi

## 18 STASHBUSTERS

Cute hair bows ♥ Mini baskets ♥  
Smart phone covers ♥ Fab necklaces



### Sheep mobile

SWEET DREAMS  
IN SOFTEST WOOL

### REVIEWED

- New season yarns
- Adorable baby patterns
- Darling doggy knits

HOW TOs PERFECT CAST ONS ♥ BEST NEEDLE CHOICES

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Pattern taken  
from our  
spring/summer  
Magazine # 172







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# Welcome

With the new season yarns now hitting the shops, and exciting new pattern books piling up on my desk, I've been dreaming about going shopping at my local yarn store - again! I'm sure I'm not the only one, so we've rounded up the best **new patterns** and yarns for you. Turn to page 7 to make a wishlist of projects and check out the first crop of **spring yarns** on page 84.

Of course, now's the time of year when many people are trying to save their pennies, so why cast on one of our great stashbusters? Tina Barrett's brilliant cartoon phone and tablet cases are sure to raise a smile.

We're crazy about sheep here at *Knit Today*. Anna Franklin's **gorgeous sheep mobile** is knitted in natural undyed yarns, and also features knitted numbers to help little ones get a peaceful night. It would make the perfect gift for new parents, and uses up small amounts of yarn, so it won't break the bank!

For a fun knit, why not try Anna Wilkinson's **tweed skirt**. It uses a great slip stitch technique which makes it super cosy. This skirt comes in two lengths, so just choose which you like best! For the ultimate freebie, there's still time to enter our **reader survey** - one lucky reader will bag £1,000 of knitting goodies! Turn to page 9 for more.

Rosee Woodland, *Editor*



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WORTH  
OVER  
£30!

## Subscribe today!

to receive your free Artesano yarns and patterns for **FREE!**

Turn to p12 for details





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Over £900  
worth of prizes  
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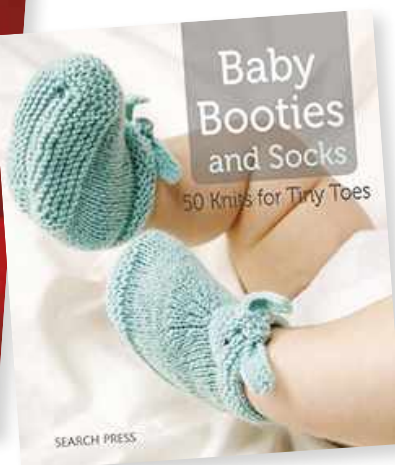
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# Meet the designers

You'll fall head over heels for the gorgeous designs in this month's mag – meet the talented bunch behind them!

## Our cover project

Rita Taylor



We've fallen in love with Rita's simple shift – with its pretty lace pattern on the sleeves and scarlet shade, it's the perfect Valentine's Day dress!

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

...in time for February 14! Valentine's Day is just around the corner and this lipstick red shade is just the thing for wearing on a dinner date or for lunch with the girls – it's sure to earn you lots of admiring looks! I'm a big believer in dressing for your shape, but this simple style will suit anyone. I've designed it in sizes six to 24.

I've used merino wool from one of my favourite online shops, The Mercerie, and added textural interest with a lacy pattern on the sleeves and panels of rib at the centre front and back. The rib panels are worked in twisted stitches to make them stand out. This is an irresistible knit that will see you into spring – I hope you like it as much as I do!



## Our designers this month



### Louise Walker

Embrace the heritage trend and knit my fun faux taxidermy deer head – he's sure to raise a smile! You'll find him on page 62.



### Susanne Frank

A hand-knitted Valentine's Day gift is so much nicer than a card – turn to page 73 to find six quick knits for your sweetheart.



### Ann Franklin

Your baby will adore my cute counting sheep mobile, and you'll love making it! Turn to page 26 to start knitting it now.



### Vanessa Mooncie

Add a stylish splash of colour to your winter look with my brightly coloured bow headbands (page 44) and quick knit I-cord necklace (page 46).



### Tina Barrett

Pow! My comic book-themed gadget covers on page 36 make brilliantly quirky gifts, and are great first-time intarsia projects.

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This month's top three stories...

1



Erika Knight's beautiful blog is chock full of amazing inspiration

2



Gorgeous new sock yarns we just can't wait to cast on

3



When is a bobble more than a mere bobble? When it's detachable!

# Knitting news

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

## New season delights

January means only one thing in our world. New stuff! Yes, it's time for the biggest knitting brands to show us what they've got planned for the coming months. There are oodles of new yarns we're just dying to pore over, smoosh, stroke, and most importantly, cast on.

Sublime have released a DK version of their Luxurious Aran Tweed, while Noro have created a new Silk Garden 4ply, building on the success of their most iconic yarn. Debbie Bliss has a new wool-cotton blend, Mia, which has great stitch definition and is perfect for the transition from winter to spring. It's accompanied by a classic collection of 12 garments for all the family.

Louisa Harding's gorgeous Etoile is a tweedy cotton mix yarn which looks beautiful in the monochrome colourways she's chosen to feature in her new design collection. We love her bright Noema yarn too.

As always, Rowan set the bar high with their biannual magazine, with gorgeous designs from regulars including Sarah Hatton, Marie Wallin, Martin Storey and Lisa Richardson, as well as new faces like Vibe Ulrik. We particularly like the *Essentials* section, which is fully of easy and intermediate knits in on-trend stripes.

Rowan have released a trio of new spring yarns this season, along with Pure Wool Worsted, which we predict will be an instant classic. Truesilk is a real treat made, as the name suggests, with 100% mulberry silk, with a collection of 15 designs by Martin Storey. Silkystones is a silk/linen mix with a marbled effect, while Pure Linen is a rustic yarn with a wonderfully subtle sheen.

Sirdar have created a comprehensive collection of pattern leaflets to underpin new yarns including Soukie, which sparkles with sequins. We also love the new designs in Sirdar's classic Cotton DK, and the great modern kids' knits in Hayfield Baby Chunky.

To find out more, see contact details for stockists on page 89.



## Editor's favourite



There's no point denying it, we love sheep! This cute pattern from Herdy Knits features a loveable sheep motif on a kid's jumper in ages 1-2, 2-3 and 3-4, matching beanie and adult beanie. All the projects are in chunky wool and take just a few balls, so you'll have them knitted up in no time! The jumper takes three or four balls depending on size and the hats take two balls in all sizes. The simple motif is a great way of trying out the intarsia technique for the first time. Herdy Chunky is a pure wool which knits up at 14sts and 19 rows to 10cm on 6.5mm needles. It's available in five bright colours, as well as cream and grey. Each 100g ball has 105m of yarn and costs £7.95. **Buy the book for £4 at [www.herdy.co.uk](http://www.herdy.co.uk) or call 01539 739202.**

Want more?

We review the pick of the new season yarns on page 84



# Top of the shops

## Knits in the City

We speak to owner Christine Feery about her fantastic online store

### Tell us a little about your website

I've knitted since I was a child. I used to be director of a Microsoft company, then took redundancy and decided to open an online business. I have a degree in fashion so it was the perfect combination. We've been open for five years.

### What makes your website special?

We try to make the online shopping experience really easy. We put up books with the yarn quantities needed for each pattern with them. It means people can get everything they need in one go, without having to click all over the site to find what they're looking for.

### What's the most popular yarn right now?

Noro Obi is doing really well at the moment. There's a jacket from the *Noro Sweet Winter* book which people seem to have fallen in love with – so many customers are making it! We have a lot of Noro customers who come back again and again. We are known for stocking Noro and carry all their yarns, so it's a fantastic site for Noro fans.

### Do you have a favourite yarn this season?

My overall favourite of all time is Rowan Kid Classic, just because it's so classic! It's really soft but it doesn't pill. It's a great yarn.

### What plans have you got for this year?

We're going to have a completely new website, hopefully launching in April. It will retain all of the features we've got at the moment. People say the website is very easy to use, but it's going to be even easier!

### What makes your customers so great?

My customers are very loyal to me. When I opened I was worried people would just shop around for prices, but I see a huge amount of repeat business. I think they like the service and range we offer.

0151 4260539

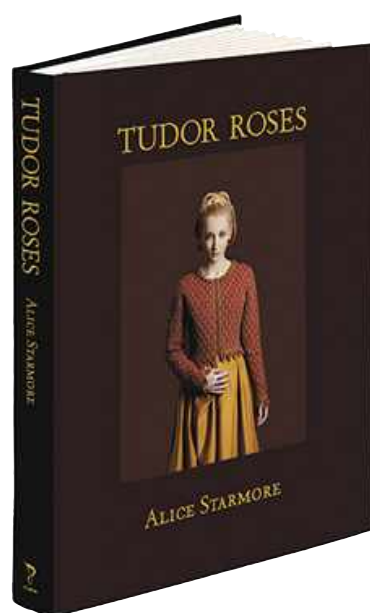
[www.knitsinthecity.co.uk](http://www.knitsinthecity.co.uk)

## Socks appeal

If you're a sock addict you're in for a treat. Cult German sock specialists Opal are re-releasing some of their most sought-after colourways. They've teamed up with UK distributor Viridian to launch the Schafpate range, named after four types of German rare breed sheep. Opal ranges are usually only available for just a short time, so we're delighted to see these shades back in local yarn stores. The colours are Brasil, Petticoat, Confectioner and Tiger, and are made up in Opal's standard, hard-wearing 75% wool/25% nylon mix, which seasoned sock knitters know and love. To see other Opal ranges, and find a local stockist, visit [www.viridianyarn.com](http://www.viridianyarn.com).



## A rose by any other name



Alice Starmore is known to knitters the world over for her iconic colourwork designs. She's most famous for her patterns inspired by the natural world of the Shetland Isles, but her book *Tudor Roses* is a noteworthy exception. Each design is named for the women of Tudor history, including Anne Boleyn, Mary Tudor, Elizabeth I and Mary, Queen of Scots.

Out of print until recently, the only way you could easily get a copy was to fork out a fortune online at eBay or Amazon. Now, much to the relief of our bank managers, it's been reprinted in a brand new edition, which includes the original designs, updated and revised, plus some new gems.

You can preview the book, or order a copy at [www.virtualyarns.com](http://www.virtualyarns.com), where you can also find Starmore's range of traditional yarns.

## Blog we love!

### Erika Knight

With an incredible archive of elegant, ladylike designs to her name, Erika Knight is a UK designer with an impressive legacy.

Erika uses her blog to open the door to her design process, revealing just how much thought goes into every one of her beautiful patterns.

Although she's best known for her chic women's garments, Erika's blog also delves into her recent designs for men, and her growing collection of quick knits, all of which use her gorgeous yarn range, which is spun in the UK. We love the pretty sketches that accompany each pattern, as well as her regular 'inspiration images' – it's like her own brilliantly edited version of Pinterest.com.

You can download the fox stole pattern shown here for free via [www.deramores.com](http://www.deramores.com).



Find more at  
[www.erika-knight.co.uk/blog](http://www.erika-knight.co.uk/blog)







## Woolly wonderland

After the success of their gorgeous Woollen Woods (issue 85), which saw knitted birds, animals and plants installed throughout Cumbria's Acorn Woods, Eden Arts are back with a plan to fill the woodlands at Sizergh, Cumbria with yarny flora and fauna. The National Trust property will play host to an exhibition of creations by members of the public, from April 12 to September 1 this year. There are even plans for a special tree, inspired by Hitchcock's *The Birds*, filled with knitted crows and ravens! Expect birds, bees, butterflies, and plenty more besides. Happily, there's still time to join in. Call 01768 899444 or visit the website, [www.canopyart.co.uk](http://www.canopyart.co.uk), where you'll find lots of ideas for projects, and free patterns, along with entry forms and guidelines. Pictured here are sweet blue tits by Amy Scroggie.

## Brilliant bobbles



Now here's a genius idea – removable pom-poms. We're wishing we'd thought of this first, but all credit must go to clever old Lilli Wicks, who sells them through her Etsy shop.

She recently made a giant pom-pom to show in the window of our dream yarn shop, Liberty. Each standard sized pom-pom features a neat toggle, which means that you can attach it to any knitwear your heart desires. We're pretty sure we need one in every colour! Find your own detachable pom-pom and more of Lilli's lovely knitted designs at [www.etsy.com/uk/shop/ArticleApparel](http://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/ArticleApparel).

## Mountain range

Dreaming up your own knits is now a whole lot easier thanks to yarn brand My Mountain. They've just launched an app which helps you design a simple hat in one of their yarns, complete with optional pom-pom (although as far as we're concerned, we always want a pom-pom – see above!).

The app is free to download and features 21 different designs in fab colourways. You can even upload a picture of yourself to see what you'll look like in your finished tifter.

Get the app via <http://us.schachenmayr.com/hat-designer-app>, where you'll find links to Apple and Google App stores.

# Diary dates

**January 30 – February 1**

**CRAFT4CRAFTERS Exeter**

This South West show welcomes crafters from all disciplines. We can't wait!

Visit [www.craft4crafters.co.uk](http://www.craft4crafters.co.uk) or call 0845 3040222

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[www.knit-today.com/readersurvey](http://www.knit-today.com/readersurvey)

**February 21 – 23**

**UNRAVEL 2014**

With the focus on independent yarn companies in the South East, Unravel returns with a bang. There are demonstrations, workshops and a Best in Show contest, along with plenty of gorgeous stalls to pull at your pursestrings.

<https://farnhammaltings.com/festivals/unravel/>

**February 28 – March 2**

**KNIT AND STITCH IT SHOW FIVE, Farnborough**

Another great local event, which attracts thousands of visitors. There are workshops, demos and plenty of shopping. The Make It craft show is next door at the same time. Bonus! <http://knitandstitch-it.org.uk/home-kns.php>

**February 28 – March 2**

**SEWING FOR PLEASURE & HOBBYCRAFTS 2014**

**Birmingham NEC, Farnborough**

If you love a spot of stitching on the side, why not visit this gorgeous show, which has sewing, embroidery and cross stitch galore, along with papercraft and plenty more. It's the perfect place to stretch your craft skills. Turn to page 71 for your chance to win tickets. The event also comes to Glasgow SECC from March 6 to 9, and London's ExCel from April 3 to 5, so there's no excuse to miss out!

[www.ichfevents.co.uk](http://www.ichfevents.co.uk), or ring 01425 272711

**March 13 – 16**

**THE KNITTING & STITCHING SHOW Olympia 2**

The first of the big events from Twisted Thread this year, Olympia is the unofficial season opener for many crafty types. Alongside all the knitterly products and displays there's usually an incredible quilting exhibition and lots of cross stitching and fabric too. Simply crafting heaven!

[www.theknittingandstitchingshow.com/spring/](http://www.theknittingandstitchingshow.com/spring/)

**April 26 – 27**

**WONDERWOOL Royal Welsh Showground, Builth Wells**

April may seem like a long time away, but we're already getting excited about Wonderwool. One of the biggest independent shows in the yarny year, it's a bucket list event for any knitter. With two huge halls to browse, you'll find amazing indie dyed yarns, plenty of bargains, more than a few sheep and probably the best Scotch eggs on the planet.

[www.wonderwoolwales.co.uk](http://www.wonderwoolwales.co.uk), or call 01938 820495



# Helping hot dogs

If there's one thing many knitters love, it's to help our four-legged friends. **Gary Baker** reports on GetSirius, a new British charity which works to support abandoned and stray dogs in Cyprus

**G**etSirius is a campaign started by Korina Kyriakou, who has been involved with the Sirius Dog Sanctuary in Cyprus for around two years. After seeing how animal welfare charities work in the UK, Korina realised how much more could be done for animals in her home country.

## *Increasing animal population*

The sanctuary – named after Sirius the Dog Star, the brightest star in the night sky – is situated in Moni, near Limassol. As spaying and neutering pets isn't common practice, the country has an increasing animal population, with more and more being abandoned. The sanctuary has a policy of never putting down a dog, but the growing number of animals makes it hard to provide proper medical attention and basic care. It currently houses more than 150 dogs of all ages and breeds in very testing conditions, all waiting to be found caring homes. The sanctuary survives through the hard work of volunteers and via charitable donations.

Korina, now living in London, started looking for a way to help. A knitwear designer by trade, she began the GetSirius campaign, focusing on knitted and crochet accessories for dogs. Knitted by volunteers across the UK, the knits are then sold through the campaign's website ([www.knitadogahome.com](http://www.knitadogahome.com)) – with all proceeds going to the sanctuary. The eventual goal is to build a brand new sanctuary for the dogs, providing clean pens, fresh water and plenty of space to run, exercise and socialise.

## *Calling all knitters!*

To raise as much money for the Sirius Dog Sanctuary as it can, GetSirius wants as many people as possible to get knitting, primarily with their leftover yarns. This not only keeps costs down, but also promotes recycling and keeps the products as green as possible. Korina is always looking for keen knitters eager to help. She has many dog-friendly patterns available, for both knitters and crocheters.

If you're interested in getting your needles out to help, simply get in touch by emailing [get.sirius.get.knitting@gmail.com](mailto:get.sirius.get.knitting@gmail.com). You'll be sent an appropriate pattern, depending on your skill level and project preference. Experienced knitters can also donate written patterns to be published on the website for everyone to try. You can also head to the campaign's Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/getsiriusgetknitting](http://www.facebook.com/getsiriusgetknitting)) to post pictures of your knitting projects, and even share stories about your four-legged friends.



Braid cable dog jumper modelled upside down by Suki!



Korina dreams up doggy patterns to suit knitters of all abilities



Dog jumper designed by Senga Whiteman





Inspirational features, displays, workshops  
and **demonstrations** for all creative crafters

**SPRING 2014 SHOWS** **SPRING 2014 SHOWS** **SPRING 2014 SHOWS** **SPRING 2014 SHOWS**



## **CREATIVE STITCHES & HOBBYCRAFTS**

**EVENTCITY, MANCHESTER**

**6 - 8 FEBRUARY**

**SECC, GLASGOW**

**6 - 9 MARCH**



## **CAKE INTERNATIONAL - THE SUGARCRAFT, CAKE DECORATING & BAKING SHOW**

**EVENTCITY, MANCHESTER**

**7 - 9 MARCH**

**EXCEL, LONDON**

**10 - 12 APRIL**



## **SEWING FOR PLEASURE FASHION EMBROIDERY & STITCH HOBBYCRAFTS**

**NEC, BIRMINGHAM**

**20 - 23 MARCH**



## **CREATIVE STITCHES FASHION & EMBROIDERY HOBBYCRAFTS**

**EXCEL, LONDON**

**3 - 5 APRIL**



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# Dear *Knit Today*

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



## Clowning around

Here are some of the clowns I've knitted. I knit them to ease my depression, fibromyalgia, and most recently to help with becoming an amputee. I've begun knitting more and more to take my mind off things. I find knitting them very helpful when I'm not feeling my best. I've passed them onto friends who have shown an interest in them.

Sheila Riley, Shropshire

### Rosee says:

It sounds like you've been through a lot, Sheila, but it's great to hear that knitting has helped you so much. The clowns are adorable – I'm not surprised your friends loved them. I really hope you enjoy your prize.



**Win!**

Lovely yarn,  
patterns and  
knitting kits

# 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](http://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](mailto:knittoday@immediate.co.uk)

## Wrap up warm

I knitted this balaclava at the request of my nephew, George who is five, to keep him warm as it gets very cold in Scotland where he lives. I had trouble finding a pattern locally but found this quick and easy one on Etsy. Using chunky wool it was finished in no time! George loves it so much, he even wears it in the house!

Sandra Jeffrey,  
Middlesex



**Rosee says:** It's easy to tell how much George loves his balaclava from this picture. He looks very snug and warm. I'm a big fan of chunky wool too as it's fantastic for getting knits finished quickly.



## Bags of imagination

I'm part of the Walderslade Village Library Knitting Group in Medway, Kent, and we meet once a fortnight on a Wednesday afternoon. We knit for charity and support a women's refuge – the women and children who arrive at the refuge fleeing trauma arrive with nothing. We provide a knitted teddy and knitted comfort blanket for each child. We also sell our work and in the summer raised £450 for the refuge.

Two weeks ago we held another sale of work in the library, this time in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support, and on this occasion raised another £450. I wanted to send you a picture of my latest knit – a bag that I made out of supermarket carrier bags! I hope you like it.

Carole Turner, Kent

**Rosee says:** Wow! It's fantastic that your knitting group is making such a huge difference to people's lives. I'm sure the women and children at the refuge are so thankful for everything you do. And your knitted bag made out of carrier bags is so imaginative. I'd love to know how you did it!



## Designed by you!

### Mapped out

I thought you might like to see this. A few of us from West Wales are knitting a map of our town!  
**Sue Howell, West Wales**

### Rosee says:

What a brilliant idea! It looks like it's coming along nicely. We'd love to see a picture when it's finished.

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



## Your say

### This month we asked our Facebook followers:

#### What advice do you have that would help other knitters?

Read the whole pattern before you start – I've started patterns a number of times only to find out that they've put instructions at the end that I needed throughout. So, read it all through – that way you can also check on abbreviations that you haven't heard of before you begin.

**Liz Cole**



## Like us on Facebook!

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



I knitted this years ago and it comes out every Christmas!

**Melissa Tedbury**

I liked these so much I made them in festive colours – not too shabby for my first attempt at working different colours into the same pattern.

**Suzi-Jane Wrigley**



I wanted to share with you my knitted Christmas wreath. I made some of the characters while I was in hospital to keep my spirits up, and finished the wreath when I got home. I can't wait to hang it up for everyone to enjoy.

**Cate Brassington**

## 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](mailto:knittoday@immediate.co.uk). Go to [www.thetoftalpashop.co.uk](http://www.thetoftalpashop.co.uk) or call 01788 810626 to find out more about Toft and to see the full range of products.



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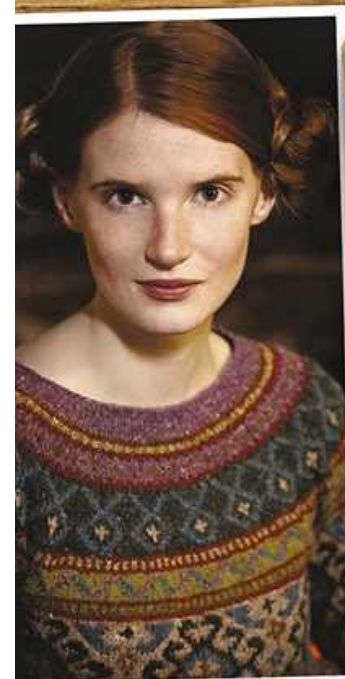
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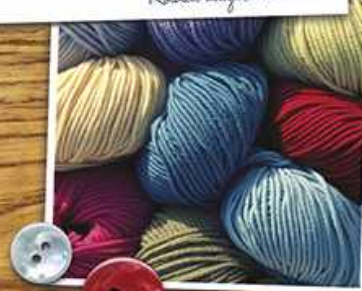


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# Knit the look

Channel old-school ladylike grace and charm with cinched-in waists, florals and lace

If your image of ladylike grace suggests dreary blend-into-the-background tweeds and twinsets, then think again. The look we're going for is less *Downton Abbey's* formidable Dowager Countess, and more *Mad Men's* curvaceous beauty, Joan. This A/W, the catwalks were simply buzzing with exquisite tailored two-pieces with the emphasis firmly on making the most of the feminine form. For Prada, Oscar de la Renta and Lanvin, it was all about the skirt suit – think cinched-in waists and figure-hugging pencil skirts, topped off – of course – with a killer pair of heels. Meanwhile, D Squared brought on the glitz with sparkly accessories and smart leather gloves.

The beauty of this trend is that you can pick the elements you feel comfortable with and leave the rest. So if a suit is too formal for you, how about a beautifully soft peplum sweater with a belt or ribbon tie? Pair Debbie Bliss's lace collar with a plain top and pencil skirt for a look that would be perfect for the office, or lunch with the girls. Or layer Rowan's floral angora cardi over a mini dress or skinny jeans for a cute cover-up that's effortlessly chic. You'll get so many compliments, you won't want to take them off...



The Sparkler – All Over Shimmer, Body Shop, £15



Lace collar from Rialto Lace by Debbie Bliss, £5.95



Best of British pink pencil skirt, Marks & Spencer, £99



Suzy lace dress, Phase Eight, £89



Igloo gloves, Dune, £35



Eclectic mini brooch necklace, Accessorize, £15

Oscar de la Renta, A/W 2013

Floral beaded clutch, Oliver Bonas, £45



Luxury Silk DK yarn in 02 Silver, £9.95 per 50g ball, Debbie Bliss



Floral cardi from Rowan Studio 33, £5.95



Hampton ankle boot, Hobbs, £279

## 3 ways to wear

- 1 Pick a gorgeous ribbon or skinny belt to give your waist maximum definition.
- 2 Add contrasting texture to a delicate, soft sweater with a glam, vintage-style brooch or statement necklace.
- 3 Team a soft knit with a leather skirt or trousers for on-trend easy styling.



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STREET  
EVENTS

Fabrics supplied by Fabrics Galore



Skill level



Intermediate

# Lady in red

Step out with confidence in **Rita Taylor's** scarlet dress, worked in softest merino

If your wardrobe doesn't contain at least one knitted dress, now is the time to put that right! So easy to throw on in the morning for work, it also looks great dressed up with some chunky jewellery and heels for a smarter occasion. Worked in a 100% wool DK, this ravishing red dress by Rita Taylor is a simple shape, but has an extra special element in the form of a lacy pattern on the sleeves, and panels of rib down the centre on both the front and back. These panels of rib are 'grown' from the ribbed hem and worked in twisted stitches to make them stand out and draw the eye. So next time you have a wardrobe dilemma, reach for the red dress!





**Start  
here!**

## Lace pattern for sleeves

**Row 1 (RS):** K1, yf, k1, ssk, p1, k2tog, k1, p1, k1, ssk, p1, k2tog, k1, yf, k1.

**Row 2 (WS):** P4, (k2, p2) twice, k1, p4.

**Row 3:** (K1, yf) twice, ssk, p1, k2tog, p1, ssk, p1, k2tog (yf, k1) twice.

**Row 4:** P5, (k1, p1) 2 x, k1, p5.

**Row 5:** K1, yf, k3, yf, sk2p, p1, sk2p, yf, k3, yf, k1.

**Row 6:** P7, k1, p7.

**Row 7:** K1, yf, k5, yf, sk2p, yf, k5, yf, k1.

**Row 8:** P17.

## Back

**Cast on** 113 (117, 131, 143, 157) sts on size 3.25mm needles. Work in twisted rib for 4cm.

**Row 1 (WS):** (K1, p1) to end, k1.

**Row 2 (RS):** K1, (k1b, p1) to last 2 sts, k1b, k1. Rep these 2 rows 4 times, then row 1 again.

Change to 4mm needles and place a marker each side of the centre 9 stitches. These sts will cont to be worked in twisted rib, with the rem sts in stocking st.

Work 8 (12, 10, 10, 8) rows then begin decreasing.

Work to 2sts before marker, k2tog, rib 9, ssk, work to end on 9th (13th, 11th, 11th, 9th ) row 3 times.

Then every foll 10th row until 93 (99, 111, 121, 135) sts.

When work measures 40 (40, 44, 44, 48)cm begin extra twisted rib panels.

K26(29, 35, 40, 47); (rib9, k7) twice, rib 9, K26 (29, 35, 40, 47).

Continue working in st st and ribbed panels for 15cm then work centre ribbed panel only until work measures 72cm from beg.

## Armhole shaping

Cast off 5 (6, 6, 7, 7) sts at beginning of next 2 rows. 83, (87, 99, 107, 121) sts.

Dec 1 st at each end of next 3 rows, then next 5 alt rows.

Cont until work measures 12cm from beg of armhole shaping.

Knit 23 (25, 31, 36, 43), turn.

Cast off 3, p to end.

**Next row:** K to last 3, k2tog, k1.

**Next row:** K1, p2tog, p to end.

Rep last 2 rows to 14 (16, 18, 20, 22) sts.

Continue until armhole measures 19 (20, 22, 23, 23, 24)cm.

## Shape shoulder

Cast off 7 (8, 9, 10, 11) at beg of next and foll alt row. Leave centre 21 (21, 21, 19, 19) on holder and work other side to match.



UK dress sizes		6/8	10/12	14/16	18/20	22/24
Actual bust measurement	cm	81	91	101	111	121
	in	32	36	40	44	48
Dress length	cm	91	91	91	95	95
	in	36	36	36	38	38
Sleeve length	cm	28	28	28	28	28
	in	11	11	11	11	11

Front

Work as for back until armhole measures 10cm then shape neck as for back and cont straight until front matches back in length to start of shoulder shaping. Now work shoulder shaping as for back and cast off.

Sleeves

**Cast on** 63 (65, 69, 75, 79) on size 3.25mm needles and work in twisted rib as for back for 3cm. Change to 4mm needles and work central rib and lace panel: K16 (17, 19, 22, 24), (p1, k1b) 3times, p1, row 1 of leaf panel, p1 (k1b, p1) 3 times, K16 (17, 19, 22, 24). Continue as set but increasing 1 st at each end of 5th and every foll 4th (6th, 6th, 6th, 6th) to 81 (85, 89, 95, 101) sts. When sleeve measures 39 (39, 39, 43, 43)cm shape sleevehead as folls:

Shape top

Cast off 5 (6, 6, 7, 7) sts at beg of next two rows. Dec 1 st at each end of next 3 rows. Dec 1 st at each end of next 4 (5, 5, 5, 6) RS rows 57 (57, 61, 65, 69) sts.

**4th size only:** Dec 1 st at each end of every 4th row 4 times.

**All sizes:** Work 4 rows, dec 1 st at each end of every RS row 8 (9, 9, 10, 1) times then every row 6 (6, 6, 6, 1) times. Cast off 3 at beg of next 4 rows. Cast off rem sts. Join shoulders.

Neckband

Using a circular 3.25mm needle and with RS facing; begin at top of left shoulder. Pick up and knit 28 down left front, 21 (21, 21, 19, 19) from front holder, 28 up right front, 21 down left back, 21 (21, 21, 19, 19) from back holder, 21 up left back. Work 5 rounds k1 p1 rib. Change to 3mm needles and work 5 more rounds. Cast off loosely. Set in sleeves then join side and sleeve seams. ■

Pattern details

You will need...

- ☐ **Yarn**  
● 10 (11, 12, 14, 15) x 50g balls  
The Mercerie DK Merino in Scarlett
- ☐ **Needles**  
3mm (UK size 11), 3.25mm (UK size 10) and 4mm (UK size 8) needles  
Sewing up needle
- ☐ **Other**  
2 stitch markers

Tension

**Yarn used knits as DK** – 21sts and 29 rows to 10cm or 4in using 4mm needles over st st

Abbreviations

- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| k     | knit                                    |
| p     | purl                                    |
| st(s) | stitch(es)                              |
| st st | stocking stitch                         |
| rep   | repeat                                  |
| RS    | right side                              |
| WS    | wrong side                              |
| alt   | alternate                               |
| beg   | beginning                               |
| dec   | decrease                                |
| foll  | following                               |
| k1b   | knit 1 through the back                 |
| k2tog | knit next 2sts together                 |
| p2tog | purl next 2sts together                 |
| sk2p  | slip 1, k2tog, pass slipped stitch over |
| ssk   | slip, slip, k2togtbl                    |
| tbl   | through the back of the loops           |
| yf    | yarn forward                            |

Use twisted stitch to create the delicately lacy sleeves





# Pots of gold

**Sarah Heys'** smart garter stitch baskets are made from dyed cotton cord. Which colour will you choose?

## Yarn detail

Recycled cotton cord

[www.etsy.com](http://www.etsy.com)

**Content** 100% cotton

**Weight/length** 1000g/180m

**Wash** Machine wash

**RRP** £25

## Skill level



Easy

## Top tip!

Make sure not to knit tightly - it's best to keep the yarn loose, otherwise it will be very difficult to knit with.

## Start here!

### Basket 1 (China Blue Yarn)

Knit a circle base with short rows:

**Cast on** 6 stitches.

**Row 1:** \*K1, turn needles.

**Row 2:** K1 (the same stitch again).

**Row 3:** K2, turn needles.

**Row 4:** K2.

**Row 5:** K3, turn needles.

**Row 6:** K3.

**Row 7:** K4, turn needles.

**Row 8:** K4.

**Row 9:** K5, turn needles.

**Row 10:** K5.

**Row 11:** K6, turn needles.

**Row 12:** K6.

Repeat from \* 6 times.

On 6th repeat, cast off on Row 12.

Sew two edges together.

## Side of basket

**Cast on** 7 stitches.

Knit for 60 rows.

Cast off.



## Pattern details

Knitted using organic cotton cord, these baskets are perfect for holding anything from make-up and bracelets to logs and kindling. Three different styles of basket have been created – all out of just the knit stitch – so they're perfect for beginners!

## You will need...

For the baskets:

### Yarn

Recycled 4mm diameter cotton cord dyed using Dylon fabric dye in China Blue, Lavender and Bahama Blue (dye is handwash for 250g)

Yarn available from:

[www.etsy.com/uk/  
listing/109713446/1000g-  
recycled-cotton-yarn-cord](http://www.etsy.com/uk/listing/109713446/1000g-recycled-cotton-yarn-cord)

### Needles

12mm (UK size 0) needles

## Tension

Yarn used knits as super chunky

9 sts and 15 rows to 10cm or 4in over garter stitch on 12mm needles. Exact tension is not crucial for this pattern.

## Finished sizes (approx)

12cm in diameter x 18cm tall,  
15cm in diameter x 20cm tall,  
20cm in diameter x 12cm tall

**Note:** Dye yarn first before knitting the baskets. Wind off the desired amount, looping it into a skein, and then use more of the same yarn to tie off four or five sections before dyeing. Allow plenty of time for the yarn to dry completely before knitting with it.

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Sew together short sides.

Attach to bottom circle. Backstitch with right sides together and then turn out the correct way.

## Basket 2 (Lavender)

**Cast on** 20 sts.

Knit for 24 rows.

Cut yarn (leaving enough to thread through stitches and sew sides) and thread through stitches on the needle (start from opposite side to the last stitch you knitted).

Pull stitches off the needle and pull tight.  
Sew up sides and loose ends.

## Basket 3 (Bahama Blue)

**Cast on** 14 sts.

Knit for 32 rows.

Cast off.

Sew up sides.

Thread yarn round the end stitch of each row at the bottom and pull tight. This will create a gathered base for the basket.

Sew in loose ends. ■



# Bestbuys

From birdy bags, bright buttons and beaded needles to luxurious yarns and lovely lampshades, there's plenty to heart this month

## Cheep cheep!

Gorgeous new spring yarns? Check. Lovely new beaded needles (see 'Beaded Beauty' right)? Check. Same old knitting bag? Um, check... If this sounds familiar, how about giving those new balls of yarn and needles a treat with a zingy bird motif Pretty Cheep project bag from Blue Sky Alpacas? At £5.50 each, they're true to their name, and as they're made from 100% cotton muslin they're machine washable, too! There are six designs – our favourite is Coral Hummingbird.

☎ Visit [blueskyalpacas.com](http://blueskyalpacas.com) for stockists. Or, go to [www.loopknitting.com](http://www.loopknitting.com) or call 02072 881160 to buy



## Liberty love

Adding a few little buttons to cuffs and cardigans can substantially change the look of a finished garment. But sometimes, finding just the right embellishment can be tricky. If you have a project on the go – maybe a cape or clutch bag – which requires some special buttons to finish it off, your luck is in, as we think you won't be able to resist these Liberty fabric-covered buttons from House of Alistair Home. Made using rust-free alloy shells, they wash brilliantly, while the high quality Liberty print ensures your buttons will stay fade-free for longer. Prices range from £4.95 for four 40-line buttons to £6.95 for six 16-line buttons.

☎ Visit [www.hoahome.co.uk](http://www.hoahome.co.uk) to buy



## Nordic but nice

Perfect for lounging on in front of the TV, using as a comfy footstool, or even as a cosy place for the cat or dog to snooze on, the pouffe certainly is a multi-tasker. Every home deserves one, and this is one of the nicest we've seen. Using Stylecraft's new super chunky Nordic yarn, you'll be able to knit up your pouffe in super-quick time – great news for any little people or animals looking for a cosy new spot to curl up in. Nordic yarn (£4.15 per ball) is 80% acrylic and 20% wool, and is available in three tonal shades and three contrasting on-trend shades.

☎ To find yarn stockists go to [www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk](http://www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk) or call 01535 609798. Go to [ravelry.com/patterns/library/nordic-pouf](http://ravelry.com/patterns/library/nordic-pouf) to buy the pattern

£4.15



£3.25







## Knit the rainbow

£14.45

Rarely does yarn look good enough to eat, but this candy-coloured delight certainly falls under that category! Gorgeously soft, and with just a hint of sparkle thanks to a fine, silver-toned fibre blended in, this 75% merino, 20% silk 2-ply yarn has gone right to the top of our 'Most wanted' list. It would look stunning knitted up as a new-season cardi or cute cover-up on brisker days, and washes beautifully on a cool machine wash. As each skein is individually hand dyed and heat set, the colours stay vivid and strong for many wears to come. Each 100g hank costs £14.45, is dyed to order, and shipped from Canada, so allow two to three weeks for delivery.

☎ Visit [www.etsy.com](http://www.etsy.com) and search for YarnLoftbyElysia



£45.00

## Let there be light

How lovely do these Dot Lampshades look all in a cluster? Great for adding drama to your living room, or directing light over your dining table, they're sure to be a talking point. And the added beauty is that you can say you made it yourself! Each kit costs £45 and includes everything you need to knit and make up one lampshade, which can then be used in a cluster or individually. The yarn used is 100% Chunky Wool from Texere which produces a lovely homespun look, and is available in a choice of Burnt Red, Cerise, Soft White or Turquoise. Each finished lampshade measures 20cm tall.

☎ Visit [www.notonthehighstreet.com/melanieporter](http://www.notonthehighstreet.com/melanieporter)

## Sweetest thing

If you yearn for the elegant style of the Edwardian age, you'll be in heaven with Louisa Harding's *Knits from an English Rose*. Featuring 25 delicately feminine designs, from lacy collars and capes, to cabled hats and gloves, each pattern will add the perfect finishing touch to your outfit. Louisa is renowned for her subtle shaping and well-placed embellishment, and these designs demonstrate her signature style beautifully. With projects suitable for all levels of knitter, and with inspiring location-shot photography, this gorgeous book is a must for every knitting library. *Knits from an English Rose* by Louisa Harding is published by Sixth & Spring, £17.99.

☎ Visit [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) to buy



£17.99

## Beaded beauty

Put a spring in your knitting with a pair of these beautifully bold and bright beaded needles from haven of loveliness the Little Knit Kit Company. Decorated with spots and florals in various patterns against a shiny ladybird red, they'd look beautiful poking out of your project bag. Handmade in the UK from sturdy, smooth bamboo, they'd make a great gift for knitting newbies, or for the more experienced who have all the basic kit and more, but want something extra special. The 4.5mm (UK size 7) needles are 230mm long and cost £4.75 a pair.

☎ Visit [www.thelittleknitkitcompany.co.uk](http://www.thelittleknitkitcompany.co.uk) to order



£4.75

## The look of luxe

For a truly luxurious feel to your new season accessories, we can't get enough of Rowan's latest Fine Art Aran hand-painted yarn (£15.95 per 100g hank). Containing a premium mix of merino wool, kid mohair, mulberry silk and polyamide, the result is a beautifully soft, cosy and durable finish that you'll fall head over heels with. This yarn is ideal for accessories, including hats, cowls, collars, wrist warmers or even a substantial shawl. Available in 14 heritage-style shades, this is *the* yarn for channelling country lady chic.

☎ Visit [www.knitrowan.com](http://www.knitrowan.com) or call 01484 681881 for info



£15.95







# Sweet dreams

Wish baby goodnight with this oh-so-cute counting sheep mobile by **Ann Franklin**

**W**hile we're unable to guarantee a good 12 hours of dream-filled sleep for your baby, we can at least help to set the scene. This delightful mobile is sure to keep your little one entranced while they settle down to sleep. Featuring fluffy sheep, stars and numbers, all knitted up in chunky wool, this mobile uses a simple slipped stitch pattern to create the sheep's textured fleece. The heads are shaped using wrap and turn short rows, while the legs are knitted using the I-cord technique. So all that's left to do now is turn the lights down low, play a soothing lullaby, and pray for a good night's sleep!

**Start here!**

## Sheep

### Make five the same

(4 in Colour A & 1 in Colour B):

**Note:** See abbreviations: when slipping the wool purl-wise, the wool is left at the back of the work at all times.

Using 5mm needles and Colour A or B, **cast on** 7sts.

**Row 1:** (Kfb) to the last st, K1. 13sts

**Row 2:** (K1, Sl1 purlwise) to the last st, K1.

**Row 3:** As Row 1. 25sts

**Row 4:** As Row 2.

**Row 5:** Knit.

**Row 6:** K2, (Sl1 purlwise, K1) to the last st, K1.

**Row 7:** Knit

**Row 8:** (K1, Sl1 purlwise) to the last st, K1.

Repeat rows 5 – 8 six more times.

**Row 33:** (K2tog) to the last st, K1. 13sts

**Row 34:** P9, W&T.

**Row 35:** K5, W&T.

**Row 36:** P4, W&T.

**Row 37:** K3, W&T.

**Row 38:** Purl, working the wraps with the stitches.

**Row 39:** Knit, working the wraps with the stitches.

Beginning with a purl row, stocking stitch three rows.

**Row 43:** (K2tog) x 3, K1, (K2tog) x 3. 7sts

**Row 44:** Purl.

B&T.

## Legs

### Make four the same for each sheep

Using 5mm needles and Colour A or B, **cast on** 4sts.

**Row 1:** Knit.

**Row 2:** Without turning the work, slip all of the stitches back onto the left hand needle and knit them again, pulling the yarn firmly across the back of the work.

Repeat row 2 a further four times.

Cast off.

## Yarn detail

Rowan Purelife  
Chunky Undyed

www.knitrowan.com  
01484 681881

**Content** 100% wool  
**Weight/length** 100g/110m  
**Wash** Hand wash  
**RRP** £8.25

## Tail & ears

### Make three the same for each sheep

Using 5mm needles and Colour A or B, **cast on** 3sts.

St st 6 rows.

Cast off.

## Number one

### Make two the same

Using 5mm needles and Colour A **cast on** 7sts. Knit 3 rows.

**Row 4:** Cast off 2sts, knit to the end of the row. 5 sts

**Row 5:** Cast off 2sts, knit to the end of the row. 3 sts Knit 8 rows.

**Row 14:** **Cast on** 2sts, knit to the end of the row. 5 sts

**Row 15:** Knit to the last 2sts, K2tog. 4 sts

**Row 16:** SKPO, knit to the end of the row. 3 sts Cast off.

## Pattern details

### You will need...

#### Yarn

● 175g of chunky yarn in Colour A (Rowan Purelife British Sheep Breeds Chunky Undyed 100% wool in Bluefaced Leicester cream, shade 00950)

● 25g of chunky yarn in Colour B (Rowan Purelife British Sheep Breeds Chunky Undyed 100% wool in Mid Brown Jacob, shade 00952)

● Oddment of DK yarn in Colour C (Rowan Purelife British Sheep Breeds DK Undyed 100% British wool in Brown Bluefaced Leicester, shade 00781)

#### Needles

5mm (UK size 6) knitting needles

#### Other

40g of toy stuffing  
1 x 30cm diameter embroidery hoop  
6m of 3mm wide ribbon  
1 x 2cm diameter curtain ring  
Sewing cotton / thread to match Colour A  
Glue / double-sided tape (optional)

### Tension

Tension is not crucial for this project. Knit to a firm gauge to prevent the toy stuffing escaping





## Abbreviations

<b>K</b>	knit
<b>P</b>	purl
<b>st(s)</b>	stitch(es)
<b>st st</b>	stocking stitch: 1 row knit, 1 row purl. Unless otherwise instructed, always begin stocking stitch with a knit row.
<b>rep</b>	repeat
<b>alt</b>	alternate
<b>beg</b>	beginning
<b>cont</b>	continue
<b>kfb</b>	Increase by knitting into both the front and back of the next stitch.
<b>k2tog</b>	knit 2sts together
<b>patt</b>	pattern
<b>p2tog</b>	purl 2sts together
<b>SKPO</b>	Slip the next stitch, knit the next stitch, then pass the slipped stitch over the knitted stitch.
<b>sl1</b>	Slip the next stitch
<b>purl-wise</b>	without working it, placing the needle as though you are going to purl the stitch (for this pattern, the yarn remains at the back of the work as you work this stitch, creating a loop effect at the front).
<b>tbl</b>	through the back loop

## Number two

### Make two the same

Using 5mm needles and Colour A, **cast on** 3sts. Knit 2 rows. Leave these 3sts on a holder.

### Main piece

Using 5mm needles and Colour A, **cast on** 9sts. Knit 4 rows.

**Row 5:** Cast off 3sts, knit to the last 2sts, K2tog. 5sts

**Row 6:** SKPO, knit to the last st, kfb.

**Row 7:** Kfb, knit to the last 2 sts, K2tog.

**Row 8:** As Row 6.

**Row 9:** K3, K2tog. 4sts

**Row 10:** SKPO, K2. 3sts

**Row 11:** Knit.

**Row 12:** Kfb, knit to the end of the row. 4sts

**Row 13:** K3, kfb, then knit across the 3sts left on the holder, working these 3sts as kfb, K2. 9sts

**Row 14:** Knit.

**Row 15:** SKPO, knit to the last 2sts, K2tog.

**Row 16:** As row 15.

Cast off.

## Number three

### Make two the same

Using 5mm needles and Colour A, **cast on** 3sts. Knit 2 rows. Leave these 3sts on a holder.

### Main piece

Using 5mm needles and Colour A, **cast on** 5sts. **Row 1:** Knit (right side).

**Row 2:** Kfb, knit to last st, kfb. 7sts

**Row 3:** As Row 2. 9sts

**Row 4:** Knit.

**Row 5:** K3, cast off three stitches, knit to the end of the row.

Working on these last 3 sts only, knit 2 rows. Cast off.

**Row 6:** With the wrong side facing, re-join the yarn to the remaining 3sts & knit.

**Row 7:** K2, kfb. 4sts

**Row 8:** Kfb, knit to the last 2sts, K2tog. 4sts

**Row 9:** SKPO, K1, kfb. 4sts

**Row 10:** SKPO, K2. 3sts

**Row 11:** Knit.

**Row 12:** Knit.

**Row 13:** Knit, **cast on** 3sts, knit across 3sts from holder. 9sts

**Row 14:** Knit.

**Row 15:** SKPO, knit to the last 2sts, K2tog. 7sts

**Row 16:** As Row 15.

Cast off.

## Number four

### Make two the same

Using 5mm needles and Colour A, **cast on** 3sts. Knit 6 rows.

**Row 7:** **Cast on** 2sts, knit to the end of the row. 5sts

**Row 8:** **Cast on** 4sts, knit to the end of the row. 9sts

**Row 9:** Knit.

**Row 10:** Knit.

**Row 11:** Cast off 2sts, K2, cast off 1st, K2.

Working on last 3sts only, knit 5 rows. Cast off these sts.

**Next row:** With the wrong side facing, re-join the yarn to the remaining 3sts.

Knit 5 rows.

Cast off.

## Number five

### Make two the same

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

**Row 1 (RS):** Kfb, knit to the last st, kfb. 7sts

**Row 2:** As Row 1. 9sts

**Row 3:** K3, cast off 3sts, knit to the end.





## Counting sheep mobile

Working on the final 3sts only, knit 1 row.  
Cast off these 3sts.

**Next row:** With the wrong side facing, re-join the yarn to the remaining 3sts & knit.  
Knit 5 rows more.

**Row 10:** Cast on 6sts, knit to the last 2sts, K2tog (8sts).

**Row 11:** SKPO, knit to the end of the row. 7sts

**Row 12:** K3, cast off remaining sts.

**Row 13:** With the right side facing, re-join the yarn to the remaining 3sts, knit.

**Row 14:** Knit.

**Row 15:** Cast on 5sts, knit to the end of the row. 8sts

**Row 16:** Knit.

Cast off.

## Large star

### Make two the same

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

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

**Row 2 & every alt row:** Knit.

**Row 3:** (K1, kfb) to the end of the row. 15sts

**Row 5:** (K2, kfb) to the end of the row. 20sts

**Row 7:** (K3, kfb) to the end of the row. 25sts

**Row 8:** Knit.

**Row 9:** K5, turn.

Working on these 5sts only, knit 3 rows.

**Row 13:** SKPO, K1, K2tog. 3sts

Knit 3 rows.

**Row 17:** Sl1, K2tog, pssso to cast off.

\*With the right side facing, re-join the yarn to the remaining stitches.

Repeat Rows 9 – 17\*\*.

Repeat from \* to \*\* until all sts have been worked.

## Small star

### Make two the same

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

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

**Row 2:** Knit to the end of the row.

**Row 3:** (K1, kfb) to the end of the row. 15sts

**Row 4:** Knit.

**Row 5:** K3, turn.

**Row 6:** Knit.

**Row 7:** Sl1, K2tog, pssso to cast off.

\*With the right side facing, re-join the yarn to the remaining sts.

Work from rows 5 – 7\*\*.

Repeat from \* to \*\* until all sts have been worked.

## Moon

### Make two the same

Using 5mm needles and Colour A, **cast on** 18sts.

**Row 1:** K1, (kfb, K2) to last 2 sts, kfb, K1. 24sts

**Row 2:** Cast off 3sts, knit to the end of the row.

Repeat Row 2 until 6sts remain.

Cast off all sts.

## To make up

**Note:** To make sewing up with chunky wool easier, separate strands and use two only.

### Sheep body & head

Sew a running stitch through the cast-on edge and pull the thread up to close the stitches into a tight circle. Join the main seam, leaving a gap for turning. Turn and stuff lightly. Sew a running stitch along the decrease row at the neck and pull the thread up slightly to help define the neck.

### Legs

Join the side edge stitches of the cast-on edge to complete the tube. Sew the legs to the bottom of the sheep's body, two on either side of the central seam about 3cm apart. Neaten all ends.

### Ears & tail

Fold ears/tail in half so cast-on and cast-off edges lie together and right side of knitting is showing.

## Abbreviations

**PSSO** pass the slipped stitch over the last st(s) worked.  
**B&T** (break & thread): Break the wool and thread the tail onto a tapestry needle. Thread the wool end through the sts on the knitting needle, then take the sts off the needle and pull the tail up to tighten the sts into a circle.

**W&T** **On a knit row:** Work to where it says W&T in the pattern. Bring the wool to the front of the work and slip the next stitch onto the right hand needle. Take the wool around this stitch to the back of the work; then slip the stitch back onto the left hand needle. Now turn the work. The wool will be at the front of the work, ready for a purl stitch and the wool is wrapped around the slipped stitch of the previous row. If working the next row as knit, simply place the wool to the back of the work at this point.

**See next page for W&T purl version**



# Counting sheep mobile



Create the  
fleece effect  
with slip stitch

## Abbreviations

**W&T** **On a purl row:** Work to where it says W&T in the pattern. Take the wool to the back of the work and slip the next stitch onto the right hand needle. Take the wool around this stitch to the front of the work, then slip the stitch back onto the left hand needle. Now turn the work. The wool will be at the back of the work, ready for a knit stitch and the wool is wrapped around the slipped stitch of the previous row. If working the next row as purl, simply bring the wool to the front of the work at this point. W&T produces a small bar (wrap) at the base of the stitch which was wrapped. To avoid the 'wrap' showing on the right side of the fabric, pick up the wrap and knit or purl it (as appropriate) together with the wrapped stitch as you knit or purl the row above the wrap.

Over sew the back to the front around the side seams and sewing the cast-on/ cast-off edge together. Sew the ears to the top of the head, by sewing the cast-on/off edge along the shaped row of the head on either side. Sew the cast-on/off edge of the tail to the back of the sheep.

### Face

Using Colour C, embroider the face onto the sheep's head by sewing three long stitches in a 'Y' shape with the centre of the Y in the centre of the B&T stitches.

Add a wide 'V' to the bottom of the Y shape to form the mouth. Use 3 vertical stitches to form each eye, just in front of the ears.

### Numbers

The numbers are sewn together in (matching) pairs to form a double thickness.

The over sewing of the numbers helps the numbers to form and hold their shape, which on some of the numbers (2, 3 & 5) is reinforced with sewing thread.

### One

Place the two numbers together and over sew together.

### Two

Place the two numbers together and over sew together. Using ordinary sewing thread in a matching colour, loosely sew the cast-on edge of the top curve to the main piece.

The edges of the knitted piece shouldn't touch – the sewing thread is used to prevent the top curve from moving too far apart once the number is suspended.

### Three

Place the two numbers together and over sew together, using the stitching to help hold the form of the number 3. Using ordinary sewing thread in a matching colour, loosely sew the two end pieces (top and bottom) together.

The edges of the knitted piece shouldn't touch – the sewing thread is used to prevent the edges of the open end of the number from moving too far apart once the number is suspended.

### Four

Place the two numbers together and over sew.

### Five

Place the two numbers together and over sew together, using the stitching to help hold the form of the number 5. Using ordinary sewing thread in a matching colour, loosely sew the open end of the straight piece at the top to the curved portion of the number, and the top of the shaped open end to the opposite edge of the straight piece together. The edges of the knitted piece

shouldn't touch – the sewing thread is used to prevent the edges of the open end of the number from moving too far apart once the number is suspended.

### Stars

On each star, sew a running thread through the centre cast-on stitches and pull up tightly to close the stitches into a tight circle. Sew the side seam of the triangle up to the shaped edge.

Neaten all the ends. Place the two large stars together and over sew them together. Do the same for the two small stars.

### Moon

Neaten all the ends on each moon.

Over sew the moons together.

### Adding the knitted pieces to the frame

Using the central piece of the embroidery hoop, make 10 small marks equally spaced along the circumference of the hoop. The marks should be just under 10cm apart. Use these marks as guides for placing the sheep and numbers evenly around the hoop.

Using varying lengths of ribbon (the longest being no more than 30cm, and the shortest being about 15cm), sew one end to the top of each number / sheep by threading the end of the ribbon into the knitting and sewing firmly in place using matching sewing thread.

Wrap the other end of the ribbon around the loop at each marker, so that the long end of the ribbon (with sheep / number attached) lies over the top of the loop on the outside, using a small amount of glue / double-sided tape to hold the top of the ribbon in place while it is sewn.

Sew the wrapped portion sides to the side of the cut edges to hold the ribbon in place.

Make sure that the numbers are facing the correct way, and that all of the sheep are in the same direction.

Cut five 33cm lengths of ribbon and attach one end of each of these evenly spaced around the top of the hoop in the same way as the top of the ribbons holding the sheep / numbers were attached, but working in the opposite direction.

Wrap the other ends of the ribbons to the curtain ring and sew the sides together for about 3cm.

It can be helpful to hold the ends in place with glue or double-sided tape while they are sewn.

Cut a 40cm length of ribbon and thread it through the small star, the moon and the large star in turn, spacing them evenly along the length of the ribbon and having about 15cm of ribbon at the top of the large star.

Sew the end of the ribbon to the bottom of the small star, then sew the top and bottom of each of the shapes to the ribbon, to hold them in place.

Wrap the free end of the ribbon around the curtain ring and sew in place, to finish. ■



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**Tweed** mini skirt

# Retro mini

Rock a little Sixties  
cool. By **Anna  
Wilkinson**

**H**owever you choose to wear this contemporary twist on a tweed-style skirt, you'll find it an invaluable wardrobe staple, so Anna has designed two lengths to choose from to get just the right skirt for you. The wool Anna has chosen comes from native Shetland sheep which is spun in Jamieson's own mill, just as it has been for over a century. Thanks to the extreme weather conditions, the wool has a soft yet resilient texture which is prized by knitters worldwide. We're sure you'll feel – and love! – the difference.





**Start here!**

## Front and back

### The front and the back pattern pieces are the same so make two

Using size 3.75mm (UK size 9) needles **cast on** 124 (136:148) sts with A.

Work the next 8 rows as follows:

**Row 1 (RS):** Using A knit.

**Row 2 (WS):** Using A purl.

**Rows 3 and 4:** Using B K4, \*sl2, K4, repeat from \* to end of row.

**Row 5:** Using A knit.

**Row 6:** Using A purl.

**Rows 7 and 8:** Using C K1, sl2, \*K4, sl2, repeat from \* to last st, K1.

Continuing to work in this 8 row pattern, work until knitting measures 20(22:24)cm from cast-on edge. If knitting the longer version of this pattern, work until knitting measures 35(37:39)cm from cast-on edge. Work until you either finish on Row 2 or Row 6 of the pattern.

### Shaping over hips

Continuing to work in the slip stitch pattern, work the next 4 rows as follows:

**Rows 1 and 2:** Work as pattern. (These rows should be your slip stitch rows either in B or C).

**Row 3:** (A) K2tog, work to last 2 sts, K2tog.

**Row 4:** (A) purl.

Continuing to work in the slip stitch pattern, repeat these 4 rows a further 17 (18:19) times. 88(98:108) stitches remain.

### Waistband

Just working in A now work as follows:

**Row 1 (RS):** Purl.

**Row 2:** Purl.

**Row 3:** Knit.

**Row 4:** Purl.

Continue to repeat rows 3 & 4 until knitting measures

3cm from the ridge created by row 1. The ridge forms the point at the very top of the skirt where the waistband will fold over to hold the elastic in place.

Cast off loosely.

### Patch pockets (make two)

Using size 3.75mm (UK size 9) needles and A **cast on** 28 sts.

**Row 1:** Knit.

**Row 2:** Purl.

These 2 rows form the stocking stitch pattern. Work a further 32 rows in this pattern.

Then:

**Row 1:** \*K1, P1, repeat from \* to end of row.

**Row 2:** \*K1, P1, repeat from \* to end of row.

Repeat these 2 rows one more time and then cast off loosely in the 1x1 rib pattern.

### To make up

Lightly steam all garment pieces so they lie flat – try not to steam the slip stitch pattern too heavily so as not to lose any of the tweed texture. Begin by stitching together the side seams to join the front and the back of the skirt. Then, stitch together the two ends of the elastic to form a hoop. Insert the elastic waistband into the skirt and folding over the knitted waistband to conceal the elastic, loosely stitch into place.

Position and pin the patch pockets so that the 1x1 rib sits at the top of the pockets. Stitch round the outside of the pockets, leaving the top open. ■

## Yarn detail

**Jamieson's of Shetland**  
jamiesonsofshetland.co.uk  
01595 693114

**Content** 100% wool  
**Weight/length** 25g/75m  
**Wash** Hand wash  
**RRP** £2.90



## Pattern details

### You will need...

For the short version:

#### Yarn

- 6 (7: 8) x 25g balls of Jamieson's of Shetland DK - colour "Lupin" (A)
- 1 (2: 2) x 50g balls of BC Garn - Semilla Organic DK - shade 107 "Relish" (B)
- 2 (2: 3) x 25g of Jamieson's of Shetland DK - colour "Sherbet" (C)

For the longer version:

- 8 (10: 11) x 25g balls of Jamieson's of Shetland DK - colour "Lupin" (A)
- 2 (2: 3) x 50g balls of BC Garn - Semilla Organic DK - shade 107 "Relish" (B)
- 2 (3: 3) x 25g balls of Jamieson's of Shetland DK - colour "Sherbet" (C)

#### Needles

1 pair of size 3.75mm (UK size 9) needles

#### Other

Elastic: For the waistband you will need 62 (72:80)cm of 1in black elastic

### Tension

**Yarn used knits as DK** – 23 sts and 36 rows to 10cm or 4in over st on 3.75mm (UK size 9) needles

### Sizing

**To fit UK sizes 8-10 (12-14:16-18)**

Short version meas 42 (45:48) cm long

Long version meas 57 (60:63) cm long

**Shown in the short version**

## Abbreviations

<b>K</b>	knit
<b>P</b>	purl
<b>st(s)</b>	stitch(es)
<b>k2tog</b>	knit 2sts together
<b>sl2</b>	slip 2 stitches from the left needle to the right needle knitwise
<b>RS</b>	right side
<b>WS</b>	wrong side



# Provisional cast on

**Aneeta Patel** helps you master this handy technique

There are many different techniques for casting on. Which one you use may depend on personal preference, and some will be dictated by the pattern you're knitting. The usual process for many garments is to cast on, knit a border, then work the main part of the pattern. However, you may not know exactly the sort of border you want to knit or, for example, when knitting a sleeve, body of a jumper, or perhaps socks or gloves, you may want to have some flexibility in the length of the knitting. If you're short of yarn, using a different yarn for edgings is a great way to do this.

Using the provisional cast on allows you to start the main part of your garment, and later on extend the length or work the border. This means you don't have to stick to the rigidity of following a pattern exactly. I like to use a provisional cast on when I'm not sure how long I want to knit my cardigans, and I recently used it on a pair of gloves as I knew how to knit the main glove section, but I wasn't quite sure what sort of border I wanted. The method below gives an easy edge to pick up from. You can also crochet a chain with waste yarn and knit into the chain loops, or cast on and knit the first few rows in waste yarn, and unpick it later. It's a little fiddly, but it works too!

## How to work provisional cast on:

Start by holding two knitting needles together, with the points of the needles facing to the left. You'll need some contrasting yarn (CY); a bit longer than the width of your cast on.



1 Make a slip knot using the main yarn (shown in pink) and put it on the needles. Have the point of the needles facing to the left. Hold the tail of the yarn in your right hand and the end attached to the ball in your left hand.



2 Wrap the main yarn towards you and under the contrasting yarn (shown in blue), then up and over the back of the needles and then to the front of the contrasting yarn as shown in the photograph above.



7 Continue until you have as many stitches as you need on your needles. The tails of both main and contrasting yarns should be hanging downwards.



8 Now remove one of the knitting needles, ignore the contrasting yarn and start knitting. The stitches will feel a bit baggy, but they'll work out neatly later on.



9 When you've completed what you're knitting and are ready to go back to the provisional cast on, cast off as normal. Turn your work so that the contrasting yarn is at the top edge.



When working sleeves try starting with a provisional cast on, and leave off the edging. When you've finished the sleeve, you can knit on the edging later and get the perfect length to suit you!

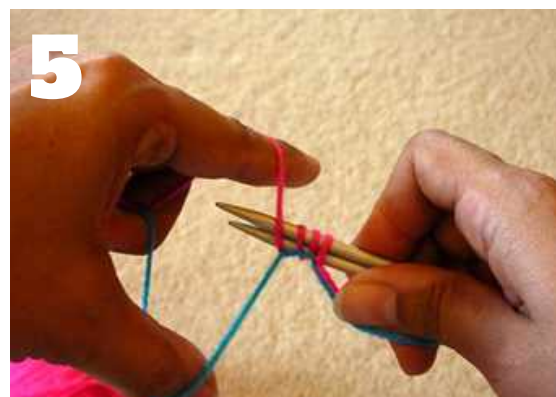
Photos by xxxxx xxxxxx



**3** You should now have two stitches of the main yarn on the needles in your right hand, with the main colour tail now held in your left hand over the contrasting yarn which is also still held firmly in your left hand.



**4** Next, bring the main yarn under the contrasting yarn, and back up and over the needles to the back, then again to the front over the top of the contrasting yarn and held tightly in your left hand.



**5** Continue in this way, bringing the main yarn under the contrasting yarn, back up and over the front of the needles to the back, then again under the needles to the front.



**10** With right side facing, carefully insert a knitting needle into the stitches (with the needle in your left hand and the tip of the needle facing towards the right).



**11** Now you are ready to work a border. You could also now work more length onto your piece of knitting.



**12** I've chosen to knit my border in a contrasting colour, in 1x1 rib. Be sure to use a stretchy cast off when you've finished your border.



# Pop Art power!



These super-bright tablet and phone cases make a great introduction to intarsia. **By Tina Barrett**



**Start  
here!**

## Tablet case

Using Black and 3.25mm needles, **cast on** 72sts  
Change to Red and knit 2 rows (garter stitch).  
Change to Blue (MC) and knit 1 row.  
Work in k2, p2 rib for 9 rows.

Change to 4mm (UK size 8) needles and  
begin bird's eye pattern as follows:

**R1 (RS):** (MC) knit.

**R2:** (MC) purl.

**R3:** (MC) k2, ((A) k1, (MC)k1) rep to end of row.

**R4:** As R2.

**R5:** As R1.

**R6:** (MC)p1,(A)p1), rep to last 2sts, (MC)p2.

These 6 rows form the pattern.

Rep Rows 1-4 then, keeping the bird's eye pattern

correct, begin working from chart as follows;

**R1:** Patt 18, work the 36sts from R1 of the chart,  
Patt 18.

Continue working as set until all 36 rows of the  
chart have been worked.

Continue in bird's eye pattern for further 10 rows.  
Cast off.

## Finishing

Darn in all loose ends and block piece according  
to the ball band instructions. Draw a template  
using thin cardboard (for example, a cereal box)  
and cut out the word POW! using yellow felt.  
Position letters across star motif and pin in place.  
Using the sewing needle and 2 strands of yellow  
embroidery thread held together, sew the letters  
in place using backstitch.

Sew the long seam edge of the cover together  
using mattress stitch and matching yarn. Make  
sure this seam lies at the centre back of the cover.  
Sew short seam at lower edge.

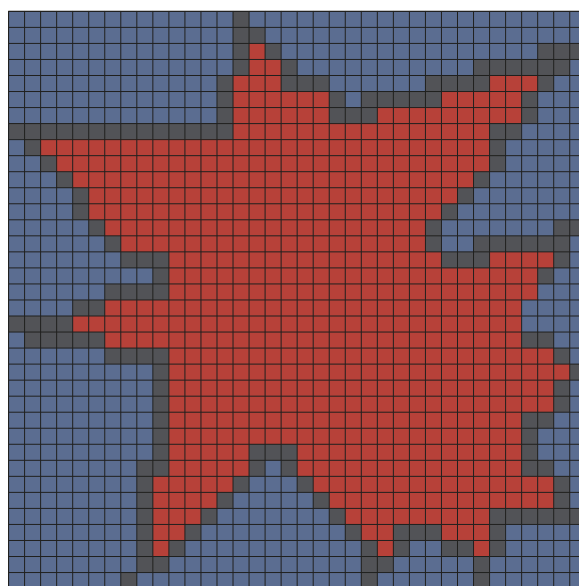
## Top tip!

If you're new to intarsia, this is a  
great first pattern. Alternatively,  
work the bird's eye pattern  
throughout and use red felt for the  
star motif instead.  
Then work a line of black  
backstitch around the edge  
before stitching the  
lettering to the front.

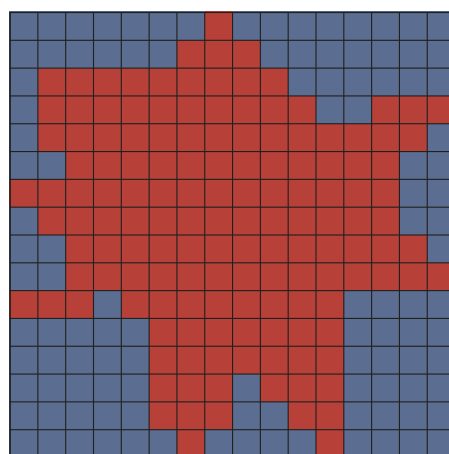




## iPad Chart



## iPhone Chart



**Key**  
 Blue  
 Red  
 Black

## Pattern details

### You will need...

#### Yarn

- Sirdar Hayfield Bonus DK 1 x 100g balls in each of the following shades;
- Aran 0993 (A)
- Bluebell 0969 (MC)
- Black 0965
- Signal Red 0977

#### Needles

3.25mm (UK size 9-10) and 4mm (UK size 8) needles

#### Other

Square of yellow felt  
 Tapestry needle  
 Sewing needle and yellow embroidery thread

## Tension

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

## Finished sizes

**Tablet cover:** 17 x 19cm (6½ x 7½in)

**Phone cover:** 6 x 13cm (2½ x 5in)

## Abbreviations

<b>K</b>	knit
<b>P</b>	purl
<b>st(s)</b>	stitch(es)
<b>rep</b>	repeat
<b>RS</b>	right side
<b>alt</b>	alternate
<b>beg</b>	beginning
<b>cont</b>	continue
<b>k2tog</b>	knit 2sts together
<b>patt</b>	pattern
<b>p2tog</b>	purl 2sts together
<b>tbl</b>	through the back loop

**Start here!**

## Phone case

Using black and 3.25mm needles, **cast on** 32sts.

Change to Red and knit 2 rows (garter stitch).  
 Change to Blue (MC) and knit 1 row.  
 Work 5 rows in k2, p2 rib.

Change to 4mm needles and begin working in bird's eye pattern as set for iPad cover. Work 6 rows in total.

**Next row:** Place Chart Patt 8, work the 16 sts from the chart, patt 8.

Cont working from chart until all rows are complete.

Cont working in bird's eye patt for 6 more rows.  
 Cast off.

## Yarn detail

### Hayfield Bonus DK

www.sirdar.co.uk  
 01924 371501

**Content** 100% acrylic  
**Weight/length** 100g/280m  
**Wash** Machine 40°C  
**RRP** £3.33

## Finishing

Darn in all loose ends and press piece according to the ball band instructions.

Using a tapestry needle and black yarn, work a line of backstitch around the edge of the star.  
 Cut out the exclamation mark using a card template as for the tablet case in the yellow felt.  
 Position across the star motif and pin in place.  
 Using the sewing needle and 2 strands of yellow embroidery thread, sew the letters in place using backstitch.

Sew the long seam edge of the cover together using mattress stitch and matching yarn. Make sure this seam lies at the centre back of the cover. Sew short seam at lower edge, to finish. ■





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# *A rural romance*

Wrap up in **Jennie Atkinson's** high-neck sweater

**T**he feel of fluffiest mohair and finest silk against your skin is second to none, and this delicately pretty jumper knitted in Rowan's Kidsilk Haze and 4ply Pure Wool will add instant luxe to your outfit, even when paired with a favourite pair of jeans. The lace panelled yoke and sleeves elevate this super-soft sweater from simple to stunning, while the high neck adds extra interest. If you're keen to invest in pieces which will take you gently into the current ladylike trend, this sophisticated beauty would make an excellent choice. And because the finished garment is so lightweight, on its own or layered up, it will easily see you through from spring to winter, and everything in between.





**Start  
here!**

## Back

Using 2.75mm (UK size 12) needles and yarn A  
**cast on** 129 [143: 161: 177: 197] sts.

Work in g st for 2 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Break off yarn A and join in yarn B.

Change to 3.25mm (UK size 10) needles.

Beg and ending rows as indicated and repeating the 10 st patt rep 12 [14: 15: 17: 19] times across each row, work rows 1 to 10 from chart for border, ending with RS facing for next row. Break off yarn B and join in yarn A.

Beg with a K row, work in st st for 4 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Counting in from both ends of last row, place markers on 32nd [37th: 44th: 50th: 58th] sts in from both ends of row.

**Next row (RS):** Sl 1, K1, psso, \*K to within 2 sts of marked st, sl 1, K1, psso, K marked st, K2tog, rep from \* once more, K to last 2 sts, K2tog. Work 11 rows.

Rep last 12 rows twice more, then first of these rows (the dec row) again.

105 [119: 137: 153: 173] sts.

Work 19 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

**Next row (RS):** Inc in first st, \*K to marked st, M1, K marked st, M1, rep from \* once more, K to last st, inc in last st.

Rep last 20 rows once more.

117 [131: 149: 165: 185] sts.

Cont straight until back meas 36 [37: 38: 39: 40] cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

## Shape armholes

Cast off 5 [6:8:9:11] sts at beg of next 2 rows. 107 [119: 133: 147: 163] sts.

Dec 1 st at each end of next 5 [9:11:11:15] rows, then on foll 4 [3: 4: 6: 6] alt rows.

89 [95: 103: 113: 121] sts.\*\*

Divide for back opening.

**Next row (WS):** P44 [47: 51: 56: 60] and slip these sts onto a holder for left back, P1 and slip this st onto another holder, P to end.

Work on this last set of 44 [47: 51: 56: 60] sts only for right back as folls:

Break off yarn A and join in yarn B.

Beg and ending rows as indicated and repeating the 10 row patt repeat throughout, cont in patt from chart for yoke as folls:

Cont straight until armhole meas 17 [18: 19: 20: 21] cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

**(Note:** Make a note of which patt row has just been worked so that, for neckband, you can start neckband patt with correct row.)



Sizing Guide		S	M	L	XL	XXL
To fit bust	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127
	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50

## Shape shoulder and back neck

**Next row (RS):** Cast off 7 [8: 9: 11: 12] sts, patt until there are 21 [23: 25: 28: 30] sts on right needle and turn, leaving rem 16 [16: 17: 17: 18] sts on a holder (for neckband).

Cast off 3 sts at beg of next row, 7 [8:9: 11: 12] sts at beg of foll row, and 3 sts at beg of next row.

Cast off rem 8 [9: 10: 11: 12] sts.

With RS facing, slip 44 [47: 51: 56:

60] sts from left back holder

onto needles and rejoin yarn

B to work.

Beg and ending rows as

indicated and repeating

the 10 row patt repeat

throughout, cont in patt

from chart for yoke as folls:

Cont straight until armhole

meas 17 [18: 19: 20: 21] cm,

ending with RS facing for the

next row.

## Shape shoulder and back neck

**Next row (RS):** Patt 16 [16: 17: 17: 18] sts and slip these sts onto another holder (for neckband), patt to end. 28 [31: 34: 39: 42] sts. Cast off 7 [8: 9: 11: 12] sts at beg of next row, then 3 sts at beg of foll row.

Rep last 2 rows once more.

Cast off rem 8 [9:10:11:12] sts.

## Front

Work as given for back to \*\*.

Work 1 row, ending with RS facing for next row.

Break off yarn A and join in yarn B.

Beg and ending rows as indicated and repeating the 10 row patt repeat throughout, cont in patt from chart for yoke as folls:

Cont straight until 30 rows less have been worked than on back to beg of shoulder shaping, ending with RS facing for next row. (Note: This will be after same patt row as on back to beg of shoulder shaping.)

## Shape front neck

**Next row (RS):** Patt 36 [39: 42: 47: 50] sts and turn, leaving rem sts on a holder.

Work each side of neck separately.

Keeping patt correct, dec 1 st at neck edge of next 8 rows, then on foll 4 alt rows, then on 2

foll 4th rows. 22 [25: 28: 33: 36] sts.

Work 5 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

## Shape shoulder

Cast off 7[8:9:11:12] sts at beg of next and foll alt row.

Work 1 row.

Cast off rem 8 [9: 10: 11: 12] sts.

With RS facing, slip centre 17 [17: 19: 19: 21] sts onto a holder, rejoin yarn, patt to end. Complete to match first side, reversing shapings.

## Yarn detail

Rowan Kidsilk Haze

www.knitrowan.com

01484 681881

Content Super kid mohair 70%, silk 30%

Weight/length 25g/210m

Wash Hand wash

RRP £8.89

## Sleeves

Using 2.75mm (UK size 12)

needles and yarn A **cast on**

57 [59: 61: 63: 65] sts.

**Row 1 (RS):** K1, \*P1, K1, rep from \* to end. Row 2: P1, \*K1, P1, rep from \* to end.

These 2 rows form rib.

Work in rib for a further 19 rows,

ending with WS facing for next row.

**Row 22 (WS):** (Rib 2, M1) 12 [12: 11: 11:

10] times, (rib 1, M1) 9 [11: 17: 19: 25] times, (rib 2,

M1) 11 [11: 10: 10: 9] times, rib 2.

89 [93: 99: 103: 109] sts.

Break off yarn A and join in yarn B.

Change to 3.25mm (UK size 10) needles.

Beg and ending rows as indicated, repeating the 10 st patt rep 8 [9: 9: 10: 10] times across each row and repeating the 10 row patt repeat throughout, cont in patt from chart for sleeve as folls:

Cont straight until sleeve meas 46 [47: 48:

48: 48]cm, ending with RS facing for

next row.

## Shape top

Keeping patt correct, cast off 5 [6: 8: 9: 11] sts at beg of next 2 rows. 79 [81: 83: 85: 87] sts.

Dec 1 st at each end of next 3 rows, then on foll

2 alt rows, then on 4 foll 4th rows, then on every

foll alt row until 49 sts rem, then on foll 9 rows,

ending with RS facing for next row.

31 sts.

Cast off 5 sts at beg of next 2 rows.

Cast off rem 21 sts.

## To make up

Press then join both shoulder seams using back stitch, or mattress stitch if preferred.

## Pattern details

### You will need...

#### Yarn

● Rowan Pure Wool 4ply and

Kidsilk Haze

● A 4 (4: 5: 5: 6) x 50gm balls of

PW Raspberry 428

● B 3 (4: 4: 4: 5) x 25gm balls of

KSH Blushes 583

#### Needles

1 pair 2.75mm (UK size 12)

needles

1 pair 3.25mm (UK size 10)

needles

#### Other

Buttons: 5 x BN1365 (11mm) from

www.bedecked.co.uk

## Tension

**Yarn used knits as 4ply** – 28 sts and 36 rows to 10cm measured over st st using 3.25mm (UK size 10) needles and yarn A. 28 sts and 33 rows to 10 cm measured over lace patt using 3.25mm (UK size 10) needles and yarn B

## Abbreviations

<b>K</b>	knit
<b>P</b>	purl
<b>st(s)</b>	stitch(es)
<b>st st</b>	stocking stitch
<b>rep</b>	repeat
<b>RS</b>	right side
<b>WS</b>	wrong side
<b>alt</b>	alternate
<b>beg</b>	beginning
<b>cont</b>	continue
<b>dec</b>	decrease
<b>foll</b>	following
<b>g st</b>	garter stitch
<b>inc</b>	increase
<b>k2tog</b>	knit 2sts together
<b>M1</b>	increase a stitch
<b>patt</b>	pattern
<b>psso</b>	pass slipped stitch over
<b>rem</b>	remaining
<b>sl 1</b>	slip one



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pattern notes on

[www.knit-today.com](http://www.knit-today.com)

/forum

## Neckband

With RS facing, using 3.25mm (UK size 11) needles and yarn B, slip 16 [16: 17: 17: 18] sts from left back holder onto needles, rejoin yarn and pick up and knit 6 sts up left side of back neck, and 29 [29: 32: 32: 30] sts down left side of front neck, patt across 17 [17: 19: 19: 21] sts on front holder, pick up and knit 29 [29: 32: 32: 30] sts up right side of front neck, and 6 sts down right side of back neck, then patt across 16 [16: 17: 17: 18] sts on right back holder.

119 [119: 129: 129: 129] sts.

Keeping patt correct as set by sts from back neck holders, work in lace patt until neckband meas 9 cm from pick-up row, ending with RS facing for next row.

Cast off loosely.

## Back opening border

With RS facing, using 2.75mm (UK size 12) needles and yarn B, beg and ending at top of neckband, pick up and knit 62 sts down right side of back opening, K st on holder at base of opening, then pick up and knit 62 sts up left side of back opening. 125 sts.

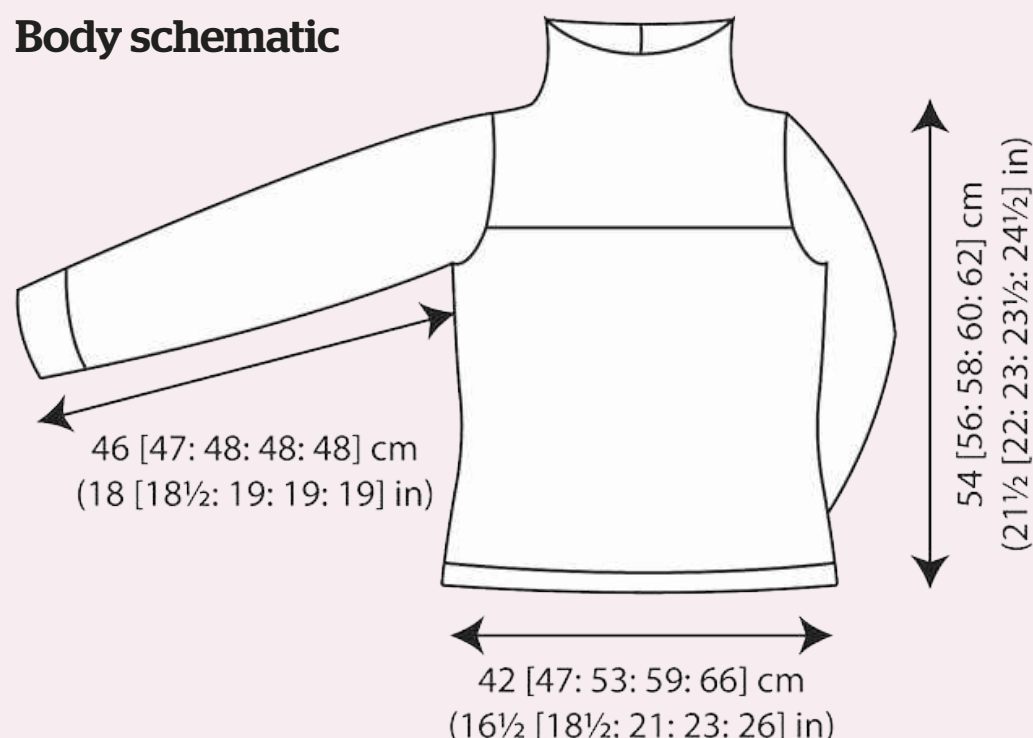
Cast off knitwise (on WS).

To finish, attach sleeves using the set-in method, gather top of sleeve to fit armhole and create puff sleevehead.

Attach 5 buttons along one side of neckband back opening edge and fasten by using 'holes' of lace patt along other edge as buttonholes. ■



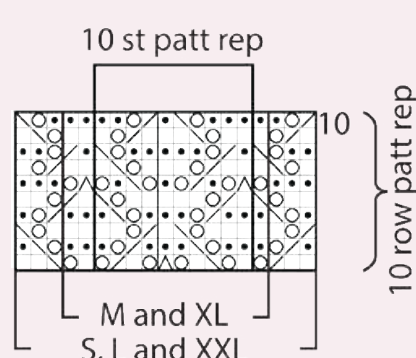
## Body schematic



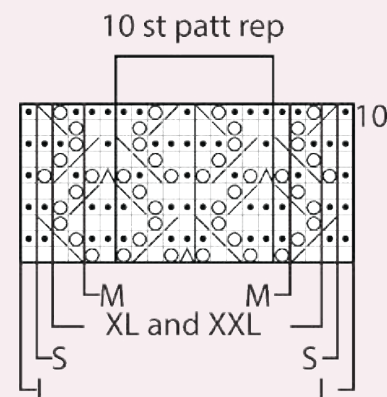
## Key

- K on RS
- K on WS
- y fwd
- sl 1, K1, pssso on RS, K2tog on WS
- K2tog on RS, sl 1, K1, pssso on WS
- sl 1, K2tog, pssso

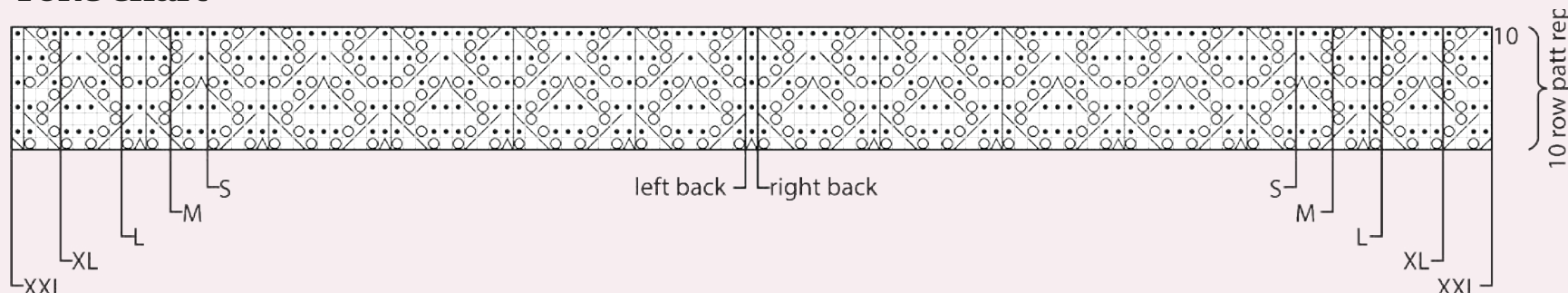
## Sleeve chart



## Border chart



## Yoke chart





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# Bright & beautiful

Make every day a great hair day by sporting **Vanessa Mooncie's** gorgeous bow headbands

**K**eeep ears cosy while looking super-stylish with one of Vanessa's easy-to-knit headbands. Designed in three different stitch patterns and colourways, each is knitted using Katia Maxi Merino yarn for a tactile, chunky finish. If you'd prefer a slightly different finish, feel free to use another chunky yarn, just check your tension to make sure your headband will end up the same size. The diagonal cable-effect rib is actually cleverly created using knit and purl stitches – no cable needle is required – and the star design is produced by knitting three times into three stitches at once. For an even quicker make, why not knit the bow motif separately and attach a pin or hair clip to the back for a cute brooch or hair accessory? It's a great way to use up those small amounts of yarn in your stash.

## Yarn detail

**Katia Maxi Merino**

[www.katia.com](http://www.katia.com)  
0034 938283819

**Content** 55% merino, 45% acrylic

**Weight/length** 100g/125m

**Wash** Machine wash 30°C

**RRP** £6.89





**Start here!**

## Star stitch headband

**Cast on** 15 sts using 5.5mm (UK size 5) needles and A.

**Row 1 (WS):** With A, purl to end.

**Row 2 (RS):** With A, \*star, k1; rep from \* 3 times, star.

**Row 3:** With B, purl to end.

**Row 4:** With B, k2, \*star, k1; rep from \* 3 times, k1. These 4 rows form the star stitch pattern. Work in pattern until the band fits around your head, finishing at the end of the 4th row of pattern. Cast off, leaving a long length of yarn at the end.

### Bow

**Cast on** 14 stitches using 5.5mm (UK size 5) needles and A.

Starting with a knit row, work in st st for 24cm or 9½in. Cast off, leaving long length of yarn at end.

### Knot

**Cast on** 6 stitches using 5.5mm (UK size 5) needles and A.

Starting with a knit row, work in st st for 7cm or 2¾in. Cast off, leaving a long length of yarn.

## Cable headband

**Cast on** 16 stitches using 5.5mm (UK size 5) needles and C.

**Row 1 and 3 (RS):** K3, p3, k4, p3, k3.

**Row 2, 4 and 6 (WS):** K1, p2, k3, p4, k3, p2, k1.

**Row 5:** K3, p3, tw4b, p3, k3.

These 6 rows form the cable pattern. Work in patt until the band fits around your head, finishing with a row 6. Cast off, leaving a long length of yarn to work with later.

### Bow and knot

With yarn C, make bow and knot as for star band.

## Diagonal rib headband

**Cast on** 12 stitches using 5.5mm (UK size 5) needles and D.

**Row 1 (RS):** \*K2, p2; rep from \* to end.

**Row 2 and every alt row:** K the p sts and p the k sts.

**Row 3:** \*K1, p2, k1; rep from \* to end.

**Row 5:** \*P2, k2; rep from \* to end.

**Row 7:** \*P1, k2, p1; rep from \* to end.

These 8 rows form the diagonal rib pattern. Work in pattern until the band fits around your head, finishing with a row 8. Cast off, leaving a long length of yarn at the end to work with later.

### Bow

**Cast on** 12 sts using 5.5mm (UK size 5) needles and D. Work in diagonal rib pattern for 24cm or 9½in. Cast off, leaving long length of yarn at end.

### Knot

With yarn D, make the knot as for the star headband.

### Making up

With right sides together, fold the bow in half width-ways and, with the length of yarn left at the end, stitch the short edges together. Position the seam centrally at the back and sew the long edges from each side together, leaving a small opening. Turn the piece right side out and stitch the opening to close. Wrap the knot piece around the middle, pulling the bow in at the centre and covering the seam. Match the short ends of the knot and sew together stitching into the back of the bow. Pull the bow into shape and stitch the side edges of the knot to the bow at the back to hold it in place. Join the seam of the headband using the length of yarn left after casting off. Run a gathering stitch along the seam and draw up slightly so it can be hidden behind the knot of the bow. Sew the bow over the gathered seam of the headband. Weave in all the short ends. ■

### Top tip!

Twist the two colours of yarn together at the edge of the star headband as you work, to keep it neat. In the 4th row of the cable pattern, purl the centre 4 stitches slightly looser. This will make it easier to twist the stitches of the cable on the next row.

## Bow headbands

## Pattern details

### You will need...

For the star headband:

□ **Yarn**

● 100g ball of Katia Maxi Merino each in shade 41, A and 13, B

□ **Needles**

5.5mm (UK size 5) knitting needles  
Darning needle

For cable headband:

□ **Yarn**

● 100g ball of Katia Maxi Merino in shade 30, C

□ **Needles**

5.5mm (UK size 5) knitting needles  
Darning needle

For diagonal rib headband:

□ **Yarn**

● 100g ball of Katia Maxi Merino in shade 4, D

□ **Needles**

5.5mm (UK size 5) needles  
Darning needle

### Tension

**Yarn used knits as chunky** – 13 sts and 18 rows to 10cm or 4in over st st using 5.5mm (UK size 5) knitting needles

### Finished sizes

Bow is 13 x 8cm or 3¼ x 5¼in  
Headband is 7cm or 2¾in wide

## Abbreviations

<b>k</b>	knit
<b>p</b>	purl
<b>st(s)</b>	stitch(es)
<b>st st</b>	stocking stitch
<b>rep</b>	repeat
<b>alt</b>	alternate
<b>star</b>	insert needle into next 3 stitches, knit into front and back and front again of all 3 stitches at same time
<b>tw4b</b>	pass right-hand needle behind first 3sts on left-hand needle, knit into back of 4th, 3rd, 2nd and 1st sts and slip all 4 sts from left-hand needle at same time





*Upcycle your old scraps of yarn*

# Colour queen

Add a pretty pop of eye-catching colour to liven up any outfit with **Vanessa Mooncie**'s cool I-cord necklaces

**T**he I-cord is a brilliant way of adding a little splash of relaxed colour to your daytime look, and because it's so easy to switch shades, the finished result will be totally individual to you. It's also a really cost-effective piece to make, as you can use up any oddments of yarn you have leftover in your stash! To make your I-cord, each row is knitted without turning the work – the yarn is attached to the last stitch when the first is knitted, joining them to create the cord, rather than producing a flat ribbon. The long necklace can then be looped several times around the neck for an attractive chain effect. If colour isn't your thing, go for monochrome chic – the choice is yours!



Start here!

## To make an I-cord

**Cast on** 3 sts using double pointed needles. Knit the three stitches in the usual way but do not turn the work. \*Slide the stitches along the needle to the other end, so the length of yarn is attached to the last st on the needle. Knit the first st, pulling the yarn taut so as not to leave a gap in the work. Knit the next 2 sts. This will produce the rounded cord. Rep from \* until you have completed the required length.

## Joining new colours

New colours should be joined on the second stitch, so as not to create a gap in the cord. Knit the first stitch, pulling the yarn taut; knit the remaining stitches in the new colour. Knot the ends and twist the unused yarn to the left of the work and over the yarn that is currently in use at the beginning of each row. The unused colour will be carried through the centre of the cord until you wish to use it again. Alternatively, the previous colour yarn can be cut and rejoined when needed. When the I-cord is finished, the ends are woven in and the knots will be hidden inside the cord.

## Long necklace

**Cast on** 3 sts using 3mm (UK size 11) double pointed needles and A.

\*Work 7.5cm or 3in in A.

**Next row:** Work 2.5cm or 1in in G.

**Next row:** Work 7.5cm or 3in in A.

**Next row:** Work 7.5cm or 3in in B\*. Rep from \* to \*.

**Next row:** \*\*Work 7.5cm or 3in in A.

**Next row:** Work 2.5cm or 1in in G.

**Next row:** Work 7.5cm or 3in in A.

**Next row:** Work 7.5cm or 3in in C\*\*. Rep from \*\* to \*\*.

**Next row:** \*\*\*Work 7.5cm or 3in in D.

**Next row:** Work 2.5cm or 1in in H.

**Next row:** Work 7.5cm or 3in in D.

**Next row:** Work 7.5cm or 3in in E\*\*\*. Rep from \*\*\* to \*\*\*.

**Next row:** \*\*\*\*Work 7.5cm or 3in in D.

**Next row:** Work 2.5cm or 1in in H.

**Next row:** Work 7.5cm or 3in in D.

**Next row:** Work 7.5cm or 3in in F\*\*\*\*. Rep from \*\*\*\* to \*\*\*\*.

Cast off, leaving a long length of yarn at the end.

## Making up

Weave in the short ends. Sew the ends of the necklace together using the length of yarn left after casting off.

## Short necklace

**Cast on** 3 sts using 4mm (UK size 8) needles and the first colour.

Work 30cm or 12in in the first colour.

**Next row:** Work blocks of 15cm or 6in in each of the next three colours.

**Next row:** Work 30cm or 12in in the final colour.

## Making up

Weave in the short ends. Tie the ends of the necklace into a bow, adjusting to fit. The bow can be stitched to secure the knot or left so it can be untied.

## Shaped necklace

**Cast on** 3 sts using 3mm (UK size 11) needles and black yarn.

Work 15cm or 6in in black.

## Shaping

**Next row (inc):** K1, kfb, k1. 4 sts

Work 1 row.

**Next row (inc):** K1, kfb, k2. 5 sts

Work 1 row.

**Next row (inc):** \*K1, kfb; rep from \*, k1. 7 sts

Work 2.5cm or 1in on these 7 sts in black.

**Next row:** \*\* Work 2.5cm or 1in in silver.

**Next row:** Work 2.5cm or 1in in black.\*\*

Rep from \*\* to \*\* 4 more times.

Continue in black.

**Next row (dec):** \*\*\*K1, k2tog; rep from \*\*\*, k1. 5 sts

Work 1 row.

**Next row (dec):** K1, k2tog, k2. 4 sts

Work 1 row.

**Next row (dec):** K1, k2tog, k1. 3 sts

Work 15cm or 6in in black. Cast off, leaving a long length of yarn at the end.

## Making up

Weave in the short ends. Sew the ends of the necklace together using the length of yarn left after casting off. ■

## Top tip!

A heavier-weight yarn, such as cotton, works well as the necklace will hang better than one worked in a lighter fibre. Experiment with different weights and textures.

## Pattern details

### You will need...

For the long necklace:

#### Yarn

● Oddments of 4ply yarn in three shades of pink, A, B and C, three shades of blue, D, E, F and two accent colours to go with the pink side, G and the blue side, H

#### Needles

Two 3mm (UK size 11) double pointed needles  
Darning needle

For the short necklace:

#### Yarn

● Oddments of DK yarn in 5 colours

#### Needles

Two 4mm (UK size 8) double pointed needles  
Darning needle

For the shaped necklace:

#### Yarn

● Oddments of 4ply yarn in black and silver

#### Needles

Two 3mm (UK size 11) double pointed needles  
Darning needle

## Tension

Tension is not crucial for this project but we recommend swatching to ensure you get a neat, firm fabric.

## Finished sizes

The long necklace measures around 2m or 21¼yd.

The short necklace measures around 1.15m or 1¼yd before tying the ends together.

The shaped necklace measures around 60cm or 24in.

## Abbreviations

k	knit
st(s)	stitch(es)
rep	repeat
dec	decrease
inc	increase
kfb	knit front and back
k2tog	knit 2sts together



## Phone case



Skill level



Easy

# On the case

Use your free yarn to make this funky phone case! By **Val Pierce**

**Note:** In each kit you will find the spring clip and a metal pin for fastening the open ends of the clip together. Keep the pin in safe place until needed. Take care not to waste yarn as there is just enough to complete each case.

**Start here!**

## Knitted case

With Colour A **cast on** 21 stitches.  
Starting with a knit row, work 5 rows in st st.  
(This part of the case will be turned back onto the wrong side of the work to form the casing for the clip.)  
Now begin pattern, taking yarn not in use neatly





## Pattern details

### You will need...

For the knitted case:

#### Yarn

● A 1 x ball of Dotty Sheep yarn in Purple

● B 1 x ball of Dotty Sheep yarn in Blue

#### Needles

4mm (UK size 8) needles

#### Other

Small pliers for finishing

For the crochet case:

#### Yarn

● A 1 x ball of Dotty Sheep yarn in Purple

● B 1 x ball of Dotty Sheep yarn in Blue

#### Crochet hook

4mm (UK size 8) crochet hook

#### Other

Small pliers for finishing

Using 4mm hook make 15 ch, work 1dc into 2nd ch from hook, 1 dc into each dc to end. 14dc.

**Next row:** 1ch, 1dc into each dc to end.

Repeat last row 3 more times (this part of the case at each end will fold over onto the wrong side of the work to encase the spring clip.)

**Commence pattern:** carry yarn not in use carefully up side of work.

**Row 1:** Using A, 1ch, \*1dc into next dc, 1tr into next dc \* rep from \* to \* to end, turn.

**Row 2:** Using A, 1ch, \* 1dc into tr, 1 tr into dc \*.

**Row 3:** Using B as Row 1.

**Row 4:** Using B as Row 2. Continue as on last 4 rows until work measures approx 25cm.

Work 5 rows dc and fasten off.

### Making up

Make up as for the knitted case.

## To insert the metal clip

**Note:** Take care doing this as you only have one try – once the tiny flap is closed then it cannot be opened again.

Firstly, take the metal clip and look closely at it – one end is hinged while the other end has tiny cylinders on it, one of which has a closed end and the other a tiny flap which sticks up. Close the ends together and see how they fit, aligning the two tubes – this allows you to insert the metal pin into the cylinders that close the spring clip. The tiny flap must be at the top of the clip when you insert it into the knitting or crochet casing.

Take the folded spring clip, open it up, making sure the end with the tiny flap on it is facing upwards. Push the clip through each side of the case, easing through the pattern, push the fabric along each side of the clip to expose the free ends. Push the two ends of the clip together, aligning the tiny holes to enable you to push the metal pin through to secure the clip.

After inserting the metal pin carefully, you need to take a pair of pliers and gently push the tiny flap over the end of the cylinder to enclose the pin. ■

up the side of the work.

**Row 1 (wrong side):** With A Purl.

**Row 2:** With A K2, \*yfwd, k next 3 sts, sl first stitch knitted over the top of the last 2 stitches\* repeat from \* to \* to last stitch, K 1.

**Row 3:** With B Purl.

**Row 4:** With B K1, \* K3, sl first stitch knitted over the top of the last 2 sts, yfwd \* repeat from \* to \* across row to last 2 sts, K2.

Continue in pattern as on last 4 rows until work measures approx 25cm.

Work 5 rows in st st, beginning purl. Cast off.

### Making up

Fold the crochet or knitted case in half lengthways.

Sew the side seams neatly leaving approx 4cm at each end unsewn.

Fold back the dc or st st onto the wrong side and stitch in place on each side.

## Crochet case

**Note:** This pattern uses standard UK crochet terms throughout.

## Abbreviations

<b>K</b>	knit
<b>P</b>	purl
<b>st(s)</b>	stitch(es)
<b>st st</b>	stocking stitch
<b>rep</b>	repeat
<b>alt</b>	alternate
<b>beg</b>	beginning
<b>ch</b>	chain
<b>cont</b>	continue
<b>dc</b>	double crochet
<b>k2tog</b>	knit 2sts together
<b>patt</b>	pattern
<b>p2tog</b>	purl 2sts together
<b>sl</b>	slip
<b>tbl</b>	through the back loop
<b>tr</b>	triple crochet
<b>yfwd</b>	yarn forward



# Bow peep

**Ella Austin's** cute party dress is a new season must-have!

**L**ittle girls are sure to love this pretty, easy-to-wear dress, and they'll get plenty of wear out of it, too, as it also looks super-cute as a short tunic with leggings. You'll find the vintage-style yarn feels lovely to work with, knits up quickly, and gives the finished garment a beautifully classic look. The main body of this dress is really easy to knit – making it a great project for beginners – as it's knitted flat, in one piece, in reverse stocking stitch from the bottom up. If you've never tried moss stitch before the trim on the edges and bow is for a small section only so it's a great way to master the technique.



Skill level



Intermediate

**Start here!**

Using 4.5mm (UK size 7) needles and CC **cast on** 134 sts.

**Row 1:** (K1, p1) to end.

**Row 2:** (P1, k1) to end.

**Rows 3-8:** Rep above two rows a further three times.

**Row 9:** (K1, p1) to end.

Switch to 5mm (UK size 6) needles and MC.

**Row 10:** K32, PM, k70, PM, k32.

**Row 11:** K to 3 sts before M, skpo, k1, SM, k1, k2tog, k to 3 sts before M, skpo, k1, SM, k1, k2tog, k to end. 130 sts.

**Rows 12:** Purl.

**Row 13:** Knit.

**Row 14:** Purl.

Rep above four rows a further 6 times. 106 sts. Continue working reverse stocking stitch until work measures 40cm from cast on edge ending on a WS (knit) row.

**Top tip!**

The dress is made in one piece so the rows can be quite long. You may find using a long circular needle instead of straights more comfortable to knit with.

## Armholes

**Row 1:** Divide the garment into a front and two backs as follows, p to 3 sts before M, cast off 6 sts and remove M, p to 3 sts before M, cast off 6 sts and remove M, p to end. You should have 22sts for each of the two backs and 50 sts for the front.

## Right back

**Row 1:** K to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. 21 sts.

**Row 2:** Purl.

**Rows 3-8:** Rep above 2 rows three times more. 18 sts.

Continue working reverse st st with no further shaping until armhole measures 11cm ending after a RS (purl) row.

**Next row:** Cast off 6 sts, k to end. 12 sts.

**Next row:** Purl.

**\*Next row:** Cast off 4 sts, k to end. 8 sts.

**Next row:** Purl.

**Next row:** K4, leave 4 remaining sts unworked. Break yarn and put these 8 shoulder sts on scrap yarn/st holder.

## Front

With WS facing rejoin MC yarn.

**Row 1:** K1, skp, k to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. 48 sts.

**Row 2:** Purl.

**Rows 3-8:** Rep above 2 rows three times more. 42 sts.

**Row 9:** Knit.

**Row 10:** Purl.

**Row 11:** Knit.

**Row 12:** Purl.

Divide the front into two parts as follows:

**Row 13:** K18, cast off 6 sts, k to end.

## Left front

**Row 1:** Purl. 18 sts.

**Row 2:** Cast off 4 sts, k to end. 14 sts.

**Row 3:** Purl.

**Row 4:** Cast off 3 sts, k to end. 11 sts

**Row 5:** Purl.

**Row 6:** K1, skpo, k to end. 10 sts.

**Row 7:** Purl.

**Rows 8-11:** Rep above 2 rows twice more. 8 sts.

Work in reverse stocking stitch until work measures the same as Right Back \* at shoulders ending with wrong side facing.





K4, cut yarn, leaving remaining sts unworked, put 8 shoulder sts on scrap yarn.

## Right front

With RS (purl) facing rejoin yarn.

**Row 1:** Cast off 4 sts, p to end. 14 sts.

**Row 2:** Knit.

**Row 3:** Cast off 3 sts, p to end. 11 sts.

**Row 4:** K to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. 10 sts.

**Row 5:** Purl.

**Row 6-9:** Rep above two rows twice more. 8 sts.

Work in reverse stocking stitch until work measures the same as Right Back \* at shoulders ending with right side facing.

P4, cut yarn, leaving remaining sts unworked, put 8 shoulder sts on scrap yarn.

## Left back

With WS facing rejoin yarn at left back.

**Row 1:** K1, skpo, k to end. 21 sts.

**Row 2:** Purl.

**Rows 3-7:** Rep above 2 rows three times more. 18 sts.

Work in reverse stocking stitch until work measures the same as Right Back \* at shoulders ending with right side facing.

**Next row:** Cast off 6 sts, p to end. 12 sts.

**Next row:** Knit.

**Next row:** Cast off 4 sts, p to end. 8 sts.

**Next row:** Knit.

**Next row:** P4, leave 4 remaining sts unworked. Break yarn and put these 8 shoulder sts on st holder.

## Finishing

### Shoulder cast-off

Working on each shoulder separately, place sts for front on one knitting needle and sts for back on another needle. With right sides (purl sides) together use a 3 needle cast off to join the shoulders front and back. Weave in all ends.

### Armhole edging

Using 4.5mm (UK size 7) DPNs or circular needle and CC, starting at the bottom centre of the armhole with RS facing, pick up and knit 23 sts to the top of the shoulder and a further 23 sts back down to where you began. 46 sts.

**Rnd 1:** (K1, p1) to end.

**Rnd 2:** (P1, k1) to end.

**Rnds 3-4:** Repeat these last two rnds once more. Cast off all sts in moss st.

### Button and buttonhole bands

Using 4.5mm (UK size 7) needles and CC and RS facing, pick up and knit 80 sts along right back edge.

**Row 1:** (K1, p1) to end.

**Row 2:** (P1, k1) to end.

**Row 3:** (K1, p1) to end.

**Row 4:** P1, k2tog, yo, \*(k1, p1) 3 times, k2tog, yo, repeat from \* to last 5 sts, (k1, p1) to end.

**Row 5:** (K1, p1) to end.

**Row 6:** (P1, k1) to end.

Cast off all sts in moss stitch.

For the second buttonband, pick up and knit 80 sts on other edge.

**Row 1:** (K1, p1) to end.

**Row 2:** (P1, k1) to end.

**Rows 3-6:** Repeat these last 2 two rows twice more.

Cast off in moss stitch.

## Neck

Using 4.5mm (UK size 7) needles and CC and RS facing, pick up and knit 68 sts over the button band, along neck edge and over the next button band.

**Row 1:** (K1, p1) to end.

**Row 2:** (P1, k1) to end.

**Rnds 3-4:** Repeat these last two rows once more.

Cast off all sts in moss st.

Sew buttons opposite buttonholes, weave in ends.

Block dress by soaking in cool water and leaving flat to dry with buttons done up along the back.

## Bow

### Large piece

Using CC and 4.5mm needles **cast on** 26 sts.

**Row 1:** (K1, p1) to end.

**Row 2:** (P1, k1) to end.

Rep above 2 rows until work measures 40cm.

Cast off.

### Small piece

Using CC and 4.5mm needles **cast on** 8 sts.

**Row 1:** (K1, p1) to end.

**Row 2:** (P1, k1) to end.

Rep above 2 rows until work measures 8cm.

Cast off.

Make the bow by sewing the short ends of the large piece together. Wrap the small piece over the centre of the large piece and sew the short ends of the small piece together. Arrange bow so seams are at the back and the bow shape is pretty. Sew the bow onto the front of the dress directly beneath the neck edge. The bow is quite heavy so sew a seam along the width of the bow against the bottom of the neck edge and another short seam along the width of the middle short piece. Sew a couple of stitches to attach the centre of each side of the bow to the dress. ■

Sizing Guide		4-5 years
Chest circumference	cm	62
	in	24½
Length	cm	52
	in	20½
Armhole depth	cm	12
	in	4¾
Skirt circumference at hem	cm	82
	in	32

## Pattern details

### You will need...

#### Yarn

● Erika Knight Vintage Wool

4 skeins MC - Leighton

2 skeins CC - Pitch

**Note:** This yarn could look great with the pastel tones Pretty or Drizzle used as the main colour.

#### Needles

4.5mm (UK size 7) needles

4.5mm (UK size 7) DPNs

5mm (UK size 6) needles

#### Other

2 markers

10 buttons

4 stitch holders/scrap yarn

### Tension

**Yarn used knits as aran** – 17 sts and 23 rows to 10cm or 4in on st st on 5mm needles

## Abbreviations

<b>k</b>	knit
<b>p</b>	purl
<b>st(s)</b>	stitch(es)
<b>st st</b>	stocking stitch
<b>rep</b>	repeat
<b>RS</b>	right side
<b>WS</b>	wrong side
<b>DPNs</b>	double pointed needles
<b>k2tog</b>	knit 2sts together
<b>M</b>	marker
<b>PM</b>	place marker
<b>rnds</b>	rounds
<b>skpo</b>	slip, knit, pass the slipped st over
<b>SM</b>	slip marker
<b>yo</b>	yarn over

## Yarn detail

Erika Knight  
Vintage Wool

www.erikaknight.co.uk  
0333 6665333

**Content** 100% wool  
**Weight/length** 50g/87m  
**Wash** Hand wash  
**RRP** £5.95



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# *Let the sun shine*

Go green with Rowan Revive yarn. By **Sarah Hatton**

**W**e all have times when we could do with a little extra layering, even on a sunny day, and we think we've found the perfect go-with-everything cover-up. This stylish lightweight cardigan, knitted up in Rowan's Purelife Revive yarn (a blend of cotton, silk and viscose), is ideal for throwing on over a summer dress for effortless style. The subtle tweed-effect gives just a hint of added colour, while the coloured buttons provide a playful feel. The added beauty of this yarn is that it's 100% recycled from other garments, then carded to produce a high quality brand new yarn, so you can feel even better in the knowledge that you're doing your bit to reduce waste and make the planet a better place for everyone.



Sizing guide		S	M	L	XL	XXL
To fit bust	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127
	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50

## Pattern details

### You will need...

#### Yarn

8 (9:10:11:12) x 50g Purelife Revive in Scree 475

#### Needles

1 pair 3.25mm (UK size 10) needles  
1 pair 4mm (UK size 8) needles

#### Other

3 x BN1729 buttons from [www.bedecked.co.uk](http://www.bedecked.co.uk)

### Tension

Yarn used knits as DK – 22 sts and 30 rows to 10 cm measured over stocking stitch using 4mm (UK size 8) needles.

## Yarn detail

Rowan Purelife Revive

[www.knitrowan.com](http://www.knitrowan.com)  
01484 681881

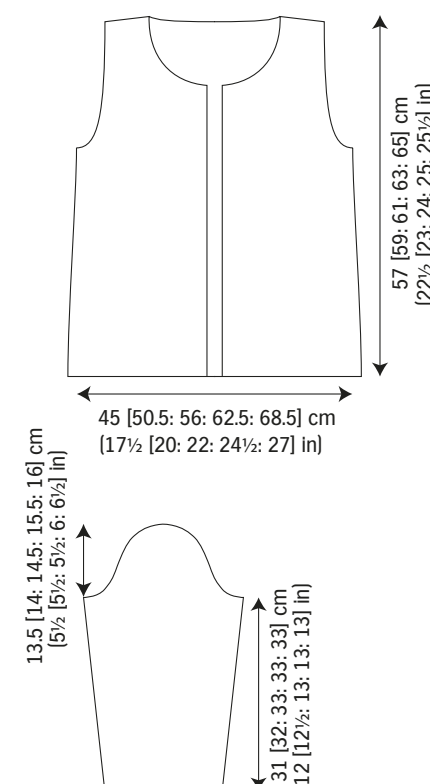
Content 36% silk, 36% cotton, 28% viscose

Weight/length 50g/125m

Wash Hand wash 30°

RRP £6.50

### Schematic



Start here!

## Back

Using 3.25mm (UK size 10) needles and using the Channel Island cast-on method (explained on page 55), **cast on** 105 [117: 129: 143: 159] sts. Work in g st for 20 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Change to 4mm (UK size 8) needles.

Beg with a knit row, now work in st st as folls: Work 20 [22: 22: 24: 20] rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

**Next row (RS)(dec):** K2, sl1, k1, pssso, k to last 4 sts, k2tog, k2. 103 [115: 127: 141: 157] sts.

Working all decs as set by last row, dec 1 st at each end of every foll 22nd [22nd: 22nd: 22nd: 20th] row until 99 [111: 123: 137: 151] sts rem.

Cont straight until back meas 36 [37: 38: 39: 40] cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

## Shape armholes

Cast off 6 [7: 8: 9: 10] sts at beg of next 2 rows. 87 [97: 107: 119: 131] sts.

**Next row (RS)(dec):** K2, sl1, k1, pssso, k to last 4 sts, k2tog, k2. 85 [95: 105: 117: 129] sts.

**Next row:** P2, p2tog, p to last 4 sts, p2tog tbl, p2. 83 [93: 103: 115: 127] sts.

Working all decs as set by last 2 rows, dec 1 st at each end of next 1 [3: 3: 5: 5] rows, then on 2 [2: 3: 4: 5] foll alt rows, then on every foll 4th row until 75 [81: 87: 93: 101] sts rem.

Cont straight until armhole meas 20 [21: 22: 23: 24] cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

Shape shoulders and back neck.

Cast off 5 [6: 6: 7: 8] sts, knit until there are 13 [15: 16: 18: 20] sts on right needle and turn, leaving rem sts on a holder.

Work each side of neck separately.

Dec 1 st at neck edge on next 3 rows, and at same time, cast off 5 [6: 6: 7: 8] sts at beg of 2nd row.

Cast off rem 5 [6: 7: 8: 9] sts.

With RS facing, rejoin yarn to rem sts, cast off centre 39 [39: 43: 43: 45] sts, knit to end.

Complete to match first side, reversing shapings.

## Left front

Using 3.25mm (UK size 10) needles and Channel Island cast-on, **cast on** 54 [60: 66: 73: 81] sts.

Work in g st for 20 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Change to 4mm (UK size 8) needles.

**Next row (RS):** K to last 6 sts and turn, leaving rem sts on a holder for buttonband.

48 [54: 60: 67: 75] sts.

Beg with a purl row, cont in st st as folls:

Work 19 [21: 21: 23: 19] rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

**Next row (RS)(dec):** K2, sl1, k1, pssso, k to end. 47 [53: 59: 66: 74] sts.

Working all decs as set by last row, dec 1 st at beg of every foll 22nd [22nd: 22nd: 22nd: 20th] row until 45 [51: 57: 64: 71] sts rem.

Continue straight until left front matches back to beg of armhole shaping, ending with RS facing for next row.

## Shape armhole

Cast off 6 [7: 8: 9: 10] sts at beg of next row.

39 [44: 49: 55: 61] sts.

Work 1 row.

**Next row (RS)(dec):** K2, sl1, k1, pssso, k to end. 38 [43: 48: 54: 60] sts.

**Next row:** P to last 4 sts, p2tog tbl, p2.

37 [42: 47: 53: 59] sts.

Working all decs as set by last 2 rows, dec 1 st at armhole edge of next 1 [3: 3: 5: 5] rows, then on 2 [2: 3: 4: 5] foll alt rows, then on every foll 4th row until 33 [36: 39: 42: 46] sts rem.

Cont until 30 [30: 32: 32: 34] rows less have been worked than on back to beg of shoulder shaping, ending with RS facing for next row.

## Shape neck

**Next row (RS):** K until there are 28 [31: 33: 36: 39] sts on right needle and turn, leaving rem 5 [5: 6: 6: 7] sts on a holder for neckband.

Working all decs as given for back armhole shaping, dec 1 st at neck edge of next 6 rows, then on 4 [4: 5: 5: 5] foll alt rows, then on every foll 4th row until 15 [18: 19: 22: 25] sts rem.

Cont straight until left front matches back to beg of shoulder shaping, ending with RS facing.

## Shape shoulder

Cast off 5 [6: 6: 7: 8] sts at beg of next and foll alt row.

Work 1 row.

Cast off rem 5 [6: 7: 8: 9] sts.

## Right front

Using 3.25mm (UK size 10) needles and Channel Island cast-on, **cast on** 54 [60: 66: 73: 81] sts.

Work in g st for 19 rows, ending with WS facing for



## Channel Island cast on

Leaving an end six times the length of the edge to be cast on, make a slip knot and place on right hand needle. Leaving a 10cm extension beyond doubled yarn, fold over loose length of yarn on to itself and wind twice around thumb of left hand. Insert needle up and through the two loops on left thumb and knit to form a cast-on stitch. Tighten loop to form knot effect. \*Bring yarn forward and over needle, wind double yarn twice round left thumb, insert right hand needle up and through these loops, knit and tighten (2 more sts on needle), rep from \* until required number of sts are on right hand needle, making one extra st from thumb if an odd number of sts is required.

## Abbreviations

<b>k</b>	knit
<b>p</b>	purl
<b>st(s)</b>	stitch(es)
<b>st st</b>	stocking stitch
<b>dec</b>	decrease
<b>g st</b>	garter stitch
<b>k2tog</b>	knit 2sts together
<b>m1</b>	make 1st
<b>p2tog</b>	purl 2sts together
<b>pssso</b>	pass slipped st over
<b>sl1</b>	slip 1 stitch
<b>sl2</b>	slip 2 stitches from the left needle to the right needle knitwise
<b>RS</b>	right side
<b>tbl</b>	through the back loop
<b>WS</b>	wrong side
<b>yfwd</b>	yarn forward



Find more beautiful patterns in Rowan's *Simple Shapes* Summerspun & Purelife Revive by Sarah Hatton, £6.95

next row.

**Next row (WS):** K to last 6 sts and turn, leaving rem sts on a holder for buttonhole band. 48 [54: 60: 67: 75] sts.

Change to 4mm (UK size 8) needles. Beg with a knit row, now work in st st as folls: Work 20 [22: 22: 24: 20] rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

**Next row (RS)(dec):** K to last 4 sts, k2tog, k2. 47 [53: 59: 66: 74] sts.

Working all decs as set, complete to match left front, reversing shapings.

## Sleeves

Using 3.25mm (UK size 10) needles and Channel Island cast-on method (explained left) **cast on** 55 [57: 59: 61: 63] sts. Work in g st for 16 rows, ending with RS facing for next row. Change to 4mm (UK size 8) needles. Beg with a knit row, now work in st st, inc 1 st at each end of 9th and every foll 8th row to 65 [69: 73: 75: 77] sts, then on every foll 6th row until there are 73 [75: 77: 79: 81] sts. Cont straight until sleeve meas 31 [32: 33: 33: 33] cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

## Shape top

Cast off 6 [7: 8: 9: 10] sts at beg of next 2 rows. 61 sts. Working all decs as given for back armhole shaping, dec 1 st at each end of next 3 rows, then on 3 foll alt rows, then on every foll 4th row until 41 [39: 37: 35: 35] sts rem. Work 1 row. Dec 1 st at each end of next and 3 [2: 1: 0: 2] foll alt rows, then on every foll row until 23 sts rem. Cast off.

## Making up

Press and join both shoulder seams using back stitch or mattress stitch if preferred.

## Button band

With RS facing and using 3.25mm (UK size 10) needles, rejoin yarn to sts from holder for buttonband, m1, k to end. 7 sts.

Cont in g st until button band, when slightly stretched, fits up left front opening edge to neck shaping, ending with RS facing for next row. Slip stitch neatly in place, break yarn and leave rem sts on a holder for neckband.

Mark the positions for 3 buttons, first to come 5cm below level of beg of armhole shaping, last to come 1cm above beg of neck shaping, and rem button spaced evenly between.

## Buttonhole band

With WS facing and using 3.25mm (UK size 10) needles, rejoin yarn to sts from holder for buttonhole band, m1, k to end. 7 sts. Cont in g st until buttonhole band, when slightly stretched, fits up right front opening edge to neck shaping, ending with RS facing for next row, and with the addition of 2 buttonholes to correspond with positions marked for buttons as folls: **Buttonhole row (RS):** K2, k2tog, yfwd, k to end. Slip stitch neatly in place, but do not break yarn.

## Neckband

With RS facing and using 3.25mm (UK size 10) needles, k across 7 sts from buttonhole band, k5 [5: 6: 6: 7] sts from holder at right front, pick up and knit 24 [24: 25: 25: 26] sts up right front neck, 45 [45: 49: 49: 51] sts from back, 24 [24: 25: 25: 26] sts down left front neck, k5 [5: 6: 6: 7] sts from holder at left front, then 7 sts from button band. 117 [117: 125: 125: 131] sts. Work 10 rows in g st, ending with a WS facing for next row, and working a buttonhole in 4th row as folls: **Row 4 (buttonhole row)(RS):** K2, k2tog, yfwd, k to end. Cast off knitwise (on WS). Set in sleeves using the set-in method. Join side seams. ■







# Upcycle this!

Create three cool accessories from upcycled T-shirt yarn. By **Tracey Todhunter**





## Pattern details

### You will need...

For the crochet bangles:

#### Yarn

Upcycled T-shirt yarn such as Hoopla or Hooked Zpaghetti. The yarn pictured here is Hooked Zpaghetti Navy

#### Needles

10mm (UK size 000) crochet hook

#### Other

T-bar bracelet finding  
Matching cotton and needle to attach finding

### Tension

Tension is not crucial for this project but aim for a firm fabric

### Finished sizes

To fit an average woman's wrist, approx 24cm (9½in) in length. The size can be adjusted by working a shorter or longer chain

For the crochet containers:

#### Yarn

Upcycled T-shirt yarn such as Hoopla or Hooked Zpaghetti. The yarn pictured here is Hooked Zpaghetti in Turquoise and Navy

#### Needles

10mm (UK size 000) crochet hook

#### Other

Locking stitch marker  
Darning needle to weave in ends

### Tension

Tension is not crucial for this project but aim for a firm fabric

### Finished sizes

Pot: Diameter 10cm, height 9cm (4 x 3½in)

Start here!

## Crochet bangles

**Note:** We have shown the crochet bangle in navy. With 10mm hook and chosen yarn make 17ch.

**Row 1:** 1 tr into 3rd ch from hook, 1 tr in each ch to end. Fasten off yarn.

Stitch in ends securely with a needle and fine thread. Sew findings to either end of bangle.

Start here!

## Crochet containers

The container is worked in a spiral – do not join rounds with a slip stitch and do not turn work.

**Note:** Use a locking stitch marker to indicate last dc of each round and move up as each round is

completed.

With 10mm hook and chosen yarn make an adjustable ring and work 6dc into ring. Pull yarn to close hole.

**Rnd 1:** 2dc in each dc (12dc).

**Rnd 2:** \*1dc in next st, 2dc in next, repeat from \* to end (18dc).

**Rnd 3:** 1dcblo in each st to end of round.

**Next and following rnds:** Continue working in a spiral until bowl measures 8cm (3in) high.

Finish with 1 round of sl st in same or a contrasting colour. Fasten off yarn.

Weave in all ends.

### Variation

Working a round in dcblo gives a flat bottom to the bowl. For a more rounded bowl omit the round of dcblo and continue to work in dc.

### Top tip!

Try making containers in bold stripes or using a contrasting strip of yarn for the last round.



## T-shirt yarn three ways

### Pattern details

#### You will need...

For the clutch bag:

##### Yarn

200m (approx) Hooked Zpagetti or Hoopla yarn in main colour and 50cm (approx) of contrasting colour. Yarns pictured here are Hooked Zpagetti in Navy and Hoopla in Gold

##### Needles

10mm (UK size 000) knitting needles

##### Other

Magnetic bag closure  
Large eyed tapestry needle for sewing up seams  
Needle and thread in similar colours to yarn  
Cotton lining, approx 30 x 50cm (12 x 19½in)

#### Tension

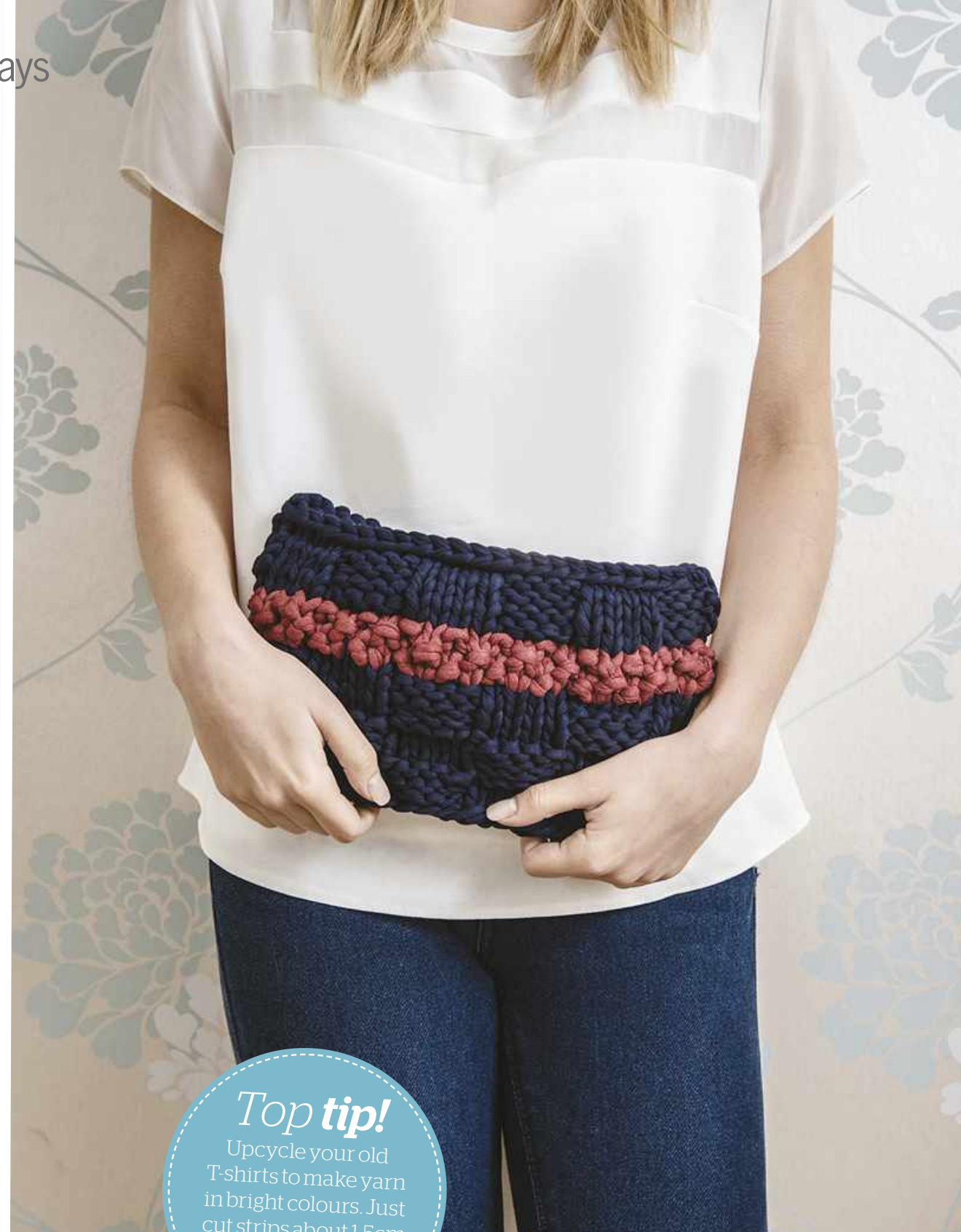
9 stitches and 14 rows to 10cm or 4ins knitted in basket weave pattern on 10mm needles

#### Finished sizes

28 x 18cm (11 x 7in)

### Abbreviations

<b>K</b>	knit
<b>P</b>	purl
<b>st(s)</b>	stitch(es)
<b>ch</b>	chain
<b>dc</b>	double crochet
<b>2dc</b>	make 2 dc into same stitch (an increase of 1 stitch)
<b>dcblo</b>	double crochet into back loop only of each stitch
<b>sl st</b>	slip stitch
<b>tr</b>	treble crochet



#### Top tip!

Upcycle your old T-shirts to make yarn in bright colours. Just cut strips about 1.5cm wide and knit together in cheery stripes.

#### Start here!

### Clutch bag

With 10mm needles and main colour **cast on** 24 stitches.

**Row 1:** (k 4, p4) 3 times.

**Row 2:** (p4, k4) 3 times.

**Row 3:** As row 1.

**Row 4:** As row 2.

**Row 5:** (p4, k4) 3 times.

**Row 6:** (k4, p4) 3 times.

**Row 7:** As row 5.

**Row 8:** As row 6.

**Rows 9–12:** As rows 1–4.

**Row 13:** With contrasting colour, knit all sts.

**Row 14:** (k1, p1) to end of row.

**Row 15:** (p1, k1) to end of row.

**Row 16:** (k1, p1) to end of row.

**Row 17:** With main colour, knit all sts.

**Rows 18–21:** As rows 5–8.

**Row 22:** Knit all sts.

**Row 23:** Purl all sts.

Cast off all sts knitwise.

Make second side in same way. Either with contrasting stripe or by working all rows in basket weave pattern.

#### To make up

With wrong sides together, sew side and bottom seams. Secure all loose ends of yarn with a needle and thread to prevent fraying. Turn bag right side out.

Using bag as a template, cut lining material. Sew side seams, attach to inner bottom edge of bag. Place magnetic bag closure into lining to sit in centre of bag, just below cast-off edge, secure according to manufacturer's instructions. Fold over top of lining and sew securely. ■



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# Happiness *in every stitch*

It's official. The latest research proves that having a creative hobby – such as knitting – really does improve your sense of calm and wellbeing. **Rin Hamburgh** investigates

**A**lice Wright has a job we'd all love – knitting gorgeous things for a living. Her Etsy shop, The Sequinned Sheep, sells everything from woolly jewellery and colourful tea cosies to a range of fashion accessories, all handmade by Alice herself.

But it wasn't always this way. Go back six years to 2007 and Alice had just suffered a complete breakdown. She had recently got married, and should have never been happier, but moving away from friends and family had left her feeling lonely. As she struggled to settle into her new job her sense of isolation grew.

"I became very depressed and was sent home countless times from work as I couldn't stop having panic attacks or crying," explains the 29-year-old, who lives in Guildford. "Eventually, I couldn't leave the house without having a panic attack, and became agoraphobic."

Alice also developed chronic fatigue syndrome, which drained her of her energy and made it even harder to function. Eventually she was forced to give up her job. For the next two years, she focused on her recovery, and gradually, with the support of her

new husband, she began to get well again. But the idea of going back to work was one she simply couldn't face.

By 2009 though, the recession had started to take its toll on the amount of work Alice's husband – a self-employed gardener – was getting, and Alice realised that she needed to find some way of contributing to the household income. That's when she hit upon the idea of making knitted gifts and accessories to sell, and The Sequinned Sheep was born.

"Knitting again after I'd been so ill was wonderful," remembers Alice. "I'd forgotten how much I love to be creative, and working with all the different colours and textures of the wool, seeing what I could make with it, was so soothing to me – and yet somehow exciting, too! It really calmed me down and made me feel good. Focusing on my knitting made me forget how I was feeling, and doing something productive gave me back some self-esteem."

She started off slowly, but Alice has now grown a thriving business on Etsy - some of her work is shown on these pages - and has progressed to making larger and more complex items, such as lace wraps. More importantly, she is healthier than ever.







"I'm sure that knitting has helped me to recover from being so ill and depressed," she says. "It's very healing to pick up the needles and focus on something beautiful, turning a ball of wool into something that someone can love, wear or use."

Alice's experience is by no means unique. Knitting and other creative hobbies have long been thought to improve wellbeing, and in recent years the scientific community has begun to back that up with official research.

One study published earlier this year in The British Journal of Occupational Therapy - which surveyed 3,545 knitters worldwide - showed that there is a "significant relationship between knitting frequency and feeling calm and happy", especially when knitting in a group.

Authors Dr Jill Riley, Professor Clare Morris and Stitchlinks' Betsan Corkhill concluded that knitting "has significant psychological and social benefits, which can contribute to wellbeing and quality of life" and that it even has "therapeutic potential".

So what is it exactly that makes knitting so good for you? According to psychologist and counsellor Roxana Rudzik-Shaw, there are a number of key factors. "Creative hobbies such as knitting open individuals' minds to a whole new world of imaginative thinking and discoveries through further exploration and self-expression," she says. "A sense of achievement is associated with making something from start to finish, such as a knitted baby blanket or tea cosy, gaining knowledge and learning some new skills in the process."

"Often positive self-appraisal or feedback from others acts as a reinforcement or motivator to continue pursuing a hobby. Moreover, some individuals may have a clear purpose and intent

**"Knitting opens individuals' minds to a whole new world of imaginative thinking"**

for knitting, which may have monetary gains such as selling creations in online shops, or fundraising for charity."

Not that you have to be a professional to get a boost from your knitting. And you certainly don't have to feel down or depressed! All of us have bad days, and knitting can be just the thing to help you unwind after a busy week at the office, or provide an escape when the kids are driving you round the bend.

"I'm someone who is constantly trying to do too much, takes on too many things, and generally my brain feels like spaghetti!" says Sarah Mann, 33, a project manager from Lewes. "Knitting sorts that - it untangles my mind with every stitch."

"I occasionally suffer with anxiety and there is nothing more comforting when I'm in that frame of mind than picking up my needles and concentrating on something other than whatever has made me anxious."

For Louise Voss, who is in her mid-40s and lives in London, the joy starts from the moment of choosing her yarn and pattern, and continues right through to the finished product.

"I would say the satisfaction of finishing an item most definitely improves my overall happiness, as does giving something I've knitted as a gift to someone who is thrilled to receive it."

"In fact, almost everything about the process makes me happy, from deciding on a pattern, buying the wool, embarking on the project, spending time watching it develop, and then finishing it. The only thing that I don't like is when it goes wrong - but then it's doubly satisfying when you manage to put it right again and carry on. There must be some sort of life lesson in there somewhere!"

**For more on the health benefits of knitting visit [www.stitchlinks.com](http://www.stitchlinks.com)**



After suffering a breakdown, Alice Wright turned to knitting, and now runs successful Etsy shop The Sequined Sheep



Almost everything about the knitting process makes Louise Voss happy, especially the finishing part!







Skill level



Intermediate

# Hello deer!

Introduce a little country style into your home. By **Louise Walker**

Start here!

## Top piece of deer head

Using 5mm needles and the long tail cast on method **cast on** 6 stitches in A, these will make up the first row.

**Row 2 (WS) and every alt row:** P.

**Row 3:** Kfb in all stitches. 12 sts

**Row 5:** \*Kfb, K1\* all stitches. 18 sts

**Row 7:** \*Kfb, K2\* all stitches. 24 sts

**Row 9:** \*Kfb, K3\* all stitches. 30 sts

**Row 11:** K.

**Row 13:** K.

**Row 15:** K3 B, K24 A, K3 B.

**Row 16:** P6 B, P18 A, P6 B.

**Row 17:** K9 B, K12 A, K9 B.

**Row 18:** P12 B, P6 A, P12 B.

**Row 19:** K all in B, and work in B for the rest of the piece.

**Row 21:** K.

**Row 23:** Kfb, K28, Kfb. 32 sts

**Row 25:** K.

**Row 27:** K1, Kfb, K8, Kfb, K10, Kfb, K8, Kfb, K1. 36 sts

**Row 29:** K.

**Row 31:** K2, Kfb, K9, Kfb, K10, Kfb, K9, Kfb, K2. 40 sts

**Row 33:** K.

**Row 35:** K3, Kfb, K10, Kfb, K10, Kfb, K10, Kfb, K3. 44 sts

**Row 37:** K.

**Row 39:** K4, Kfb, K11, Kfb, K10, Kfb, K11, Kfb, K4. 48 sts

**Rows 41 – 60:** Work in stocking stitch.

**Row 61:** \*K2tog, K4\* to end. 40 sts

**Row 63:** \*K2tog, K3\* to end. 32 sts

**Row 65:** \*K2tog, K2\* to end. 24 sts

**Row 67:** \*K2tog, K1\* to end. 16 sts

**Row 69:** Cast off.

## Under piece of the head

Work rows 1 – 22 of the top piece again.

**Row 23:** Kfb, K28, Kfb. 32 sts

**Row 25:** K.

**Row 27:** Kfb, K30, Kfb. 34 sts

**Row 29:** K.

**Row 31:** Kfb, K32, Kfb. 36 sts

**Row 33:** K.

**Row 35:** Kfb, K34, Kfb. 38 sts

**Rows 37 – 48:** Work in stocking stitch.

**Row 49:** \*Kfb, K1\* across all stitches. 57sts

**Row 51:** K.

**Row 53:** K.

**Row 55:** \*Kfb, K2\* across all stitches. 76sts

**Row 57:** K.

**Row 59:** K.



**Row 61:** \*Kfb, K3\* across all stitches. 85sts

**Row 63:** K.

**Row 65:** K.

**Row 67:** K.

**Row 69:** Cast off.

## Outer ears (make two)

Using 5mm needles and the long tail cast on method **cast on** 6 stitches in B, these will make up the first row.

**Row 2 (WS) and every alt row:** P.

**Row 3:** Kfb, K4, Kfb. 8 sts

**Row 5:** Kfb, K6, Kfb. 10 sts

**Row 7:** Kfb, K8, Kfb. 12 sts

**Rows 9 – 17:** Work in stocking stitch.

**Row 18:** P3tog, K6, P3tog. 8 sts

**Row 19:** K.

**Row 20:** P3tog, K2, P3tog. 4 sts

**Row 21:** Cast off.

## Inner ears (make two)

Using 5mm needles and the long tail cast on method **cast on** 6 stitches in B, these will make up the first row.

**Row 2 (WS) and every alt row:** P.

**Row 3:** Kfb, K4, Kfb (8 sts).

**Row 5:** Kfb, K2 B, K2 C, K2 B, Kfb (10 sts).

**Row 6:** P3 B, P4 C, P3B.

**Row 7:** Kfb, K1 B, K6 C, K1 B, Kfb (12 sts).

**Row 8:** P3 B, P6 C, P3 B

**Row 9:** K3 B, K6 C, P3 B

Repeat rows 8 and 9 three times and then Row 8 once more.

**Row 17:** K5 B, K2 C, K5 B.

**Row 18:** P3tog, P2 B, P2 C, P2 B, P3tog (8 sts).

**Row 19:** K all in B.

**Row 20:** P3tog, K2, P3tog (4 sts).

**Row 21:** Cast off.

## Antlers (make two)

Using 4mm needles and the long tail cast on method **cast on** 6 stitches in E, these will make up the first row.

**Row 2 (WS) and every alt row:** P.

**Rows 3 – 18:** Work in stocking stitch.

**Row 19:** Kfbf, K to the end of the row (8 sts).

**Row 21:** Kfbf, K to end of the row (10 sts).

**Row 23:** K5, slip the remaining 5 sts onto a stitch holder.

Turn and P the 5 sts just knitted (Row 24).

Working on these 5 sts only:

**Row 25:** K

**Row 27:** K

**Row 29:** K

**Row 31:** K2tog, K1, K2tog (3 sts).

**Row 33:** Cast off.

Reattach the yarn and K the 5 sts that were on the stitch holder (Row 23).

Then work rows 24 – 33 again.

## Antlers (make two)

Using 4mm needles and the long tail cast on method **cast on** 6 stitches in E, these will make up the first row.

**Row 2 (WS) and every alt row:** P.

**Row 3 – 18:** Work in stocking stitch.

**Row 19:** K to the last stitch, Kfbf. 8 sts

**Row 21:** K to the last stitch, Kfbf. 10 sts

**Row 23:** K.

**Row 24:** P5, slip the remaining 5 sts onto a stitch holder.

Turn and K the 5 sts just knitted (Row 25).

**Row 26:** P.

**Row 27:** K.

**Row 29:** K.

**Row 31:** K2tog, K1, K2tog (3 sts).

**Row 33:** Cast off.

Reattach the yarn and P the 5 sts that were on the stitch holder (Row 24).

Then work rows 25 – 33 again.

## Nose

Using 5mm needles and the long tail cast on method **cast on** 30 stitches in D, these will make up the first row.

**Row 2 (WS):** P.

**Row 3:** K.

**Row 4:** P.

**Row 5:** K.

**Row 6:** \*P2tog, P3\* across all stitches. 24sts

**Row 7:** K.

**Row 8:** P.

**Row 9:** K.

**Row 10:** \*P2tog, P2\* across all stitches. 18sts

**Row 11:** K.

**Row 12:** P.

**Row 13:** \*K1, K2tog\* across all stitches. 12sts

**Row 14:** P.

**Row 15:** \*K3tog\* across all stitches. 8sts

**Row 16:** Cast off purlwise.

## Pattern details

### You will need...

For the deer head:

#### Yarn

- A Artesano Aran – Maple x 1
- B Artesano Aran – Ochre x 2
- C Artesano Aran – Walnut x 1
- D Artesano Aran – Black x 1
- E Sirdar Hayfield Bonus DK – Flesh Tone x 1

#### Needles

- 5mm (UK size 6) needles
- 4mm (UK size 8) needles

#### Other

- 1 x bag of toy stuffing
- Template
- 2mm card
- 21mm black safety teddy eyes

### Tension

21 sts and 21 rows to 10cm or 4in meas over st st using Artesano and 5mm needles

22st and 28 rows to 10cm or 4in meas over st st using Hayfield Bonus and 4mm needles

### Finished sizes

30cm or 12in tall, 18cm or 7in wide, 28cm or 11in from tip of nose to back

## Abbreviations

<b>K</b>	knit
<b>P</b>	purl
<b>st(s)</b>	stitch(es)
<b>kfb</b>	knit in front and back of stitch
<b>kfbf</b>	Knit front, back and front
<b>k2tog</b>	knit 2sts together
<b>k3tog</b>	knit 3sts together
<b>p2tog</b>	purl 2sts together
<b>p3tog</b>	purl 3sts together

## Yarn detail

### Artesano Aran

[www.artesanoyarns.co.uk](http://www.artesanoyarns.co.uk)  
0118 9503350

**Content** 50% alpaca, 50% wool

**Weight/length** 100g/132m

**Wash** Hand wash

**RRP** £9.65

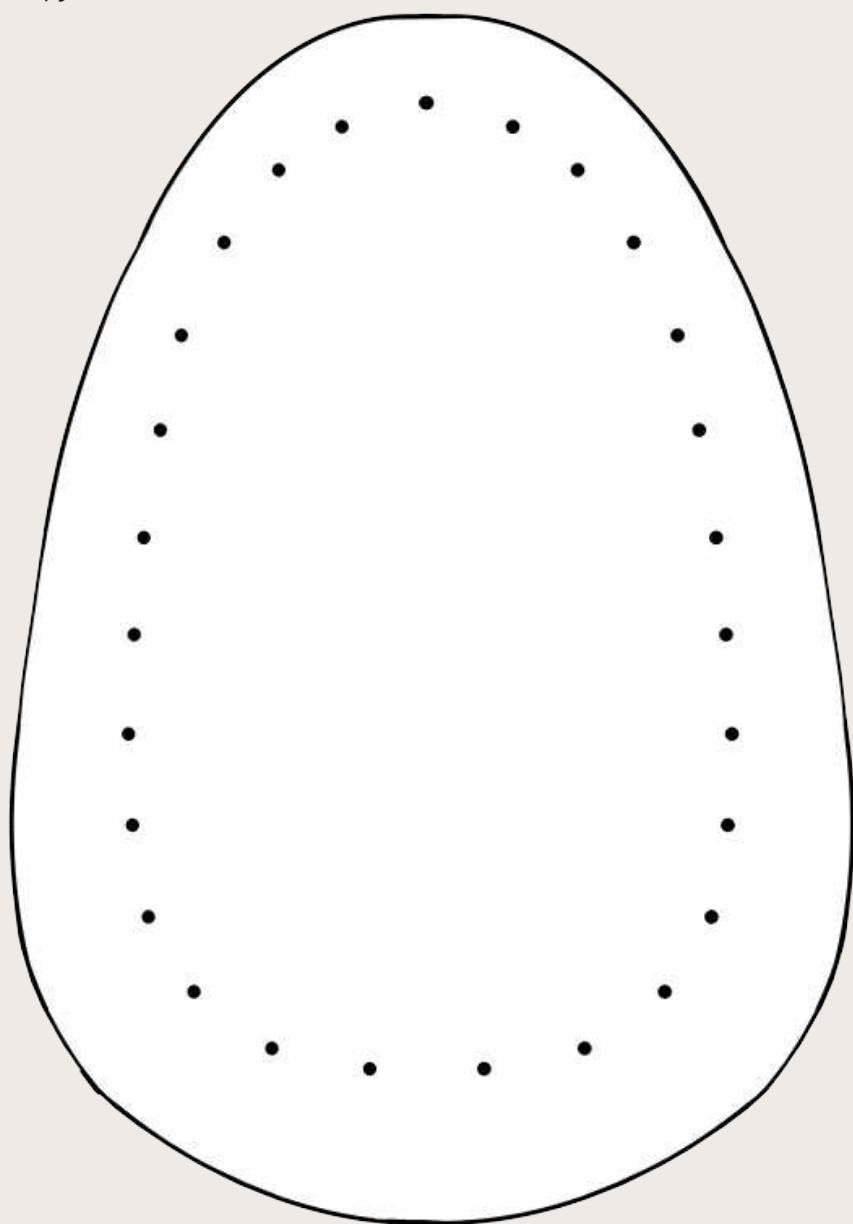
## Need help?

Want advice on any of our knitting patterns? Just email us on [patternhelp@immediate-media.co.uk](mailto:patternhelp@immediate-media.co.uk) or check for any pattern notes on [www.knit-today.com/forum](http://www.knit-today.com/forum)



## Template sample

Photocopy at 200%



*Make a quirky statement!*

## Template

Using the supplied template draw on to a 2mm thick piece of card. Where the small holes are placed, pierce with a sewing needle. Using a large sewing needle push through the pierced marks to make the holes larger.

OPTIONAL: For a firmer base, this piece can be made out of balsa wood, cut to the same size and the holes drilled, but it is a little more work!

The deer is bigger than the template, which allows it to be secure on the board. Pull 3cm excess of the deer over the sides and bottom of the template and 2cm at the top. Sew into place by sewing

through part of the excess deer fabric, through the hole marked and out where the deer sits on top of the cardboard. Sew from the top hole, clockwise, leaving a gap to allow for stuffing. (See photo).

Place each eye 13cm from the bottom of the face (the seam made) on the lines made by the increased stitches. Fasten through the gap made.



## Sewing up

### The head

With the right sides facing in and the two white pieces matching, pin along both sides of the deer, leaving the 'cast off' edges open. Leaving a 0.5cm gap, sew seam in corresponding colours.

Turn to the right side and stuff the main part of the head, being careful not to overstuff and misshape.

### Ears x 2

Use one inner and one outer ear piece; with the right sides pin the ear, leaving the 'cast on' edges open. Stitch, turn to the right side and stuff.

### Antlers x 2

**For each antler:**

With right sides together, pin, leaving the 'cast on' edges open. Stitch, turn to the right side and stuff. You may need to use a needle to help when turning. Then stuff, again using the help of a needle, being careful not to overstuff.

Then pin each ear 22cm from the bottom of the face (the seam made) and 4cm from the side seams. Sew into the deer and then add a tuck stitch at the back, 2cm into the bottom of the ear into 2cm into the deer. This will pull the ears into place. Pin the antlers 24cm from the bottom of the deer and 12cm from the side seams (may need to be re-measured) and sew into the deer.

Sew the nose by pulling the last few stitches tight and sewing along to the 'cast off' edge. Then place onto the centre of the white, with the nose seam facing south. Sew on, leaving a small gap. Very lightly stuff and finish sewing. Push your thumb into the nose to make the indent.

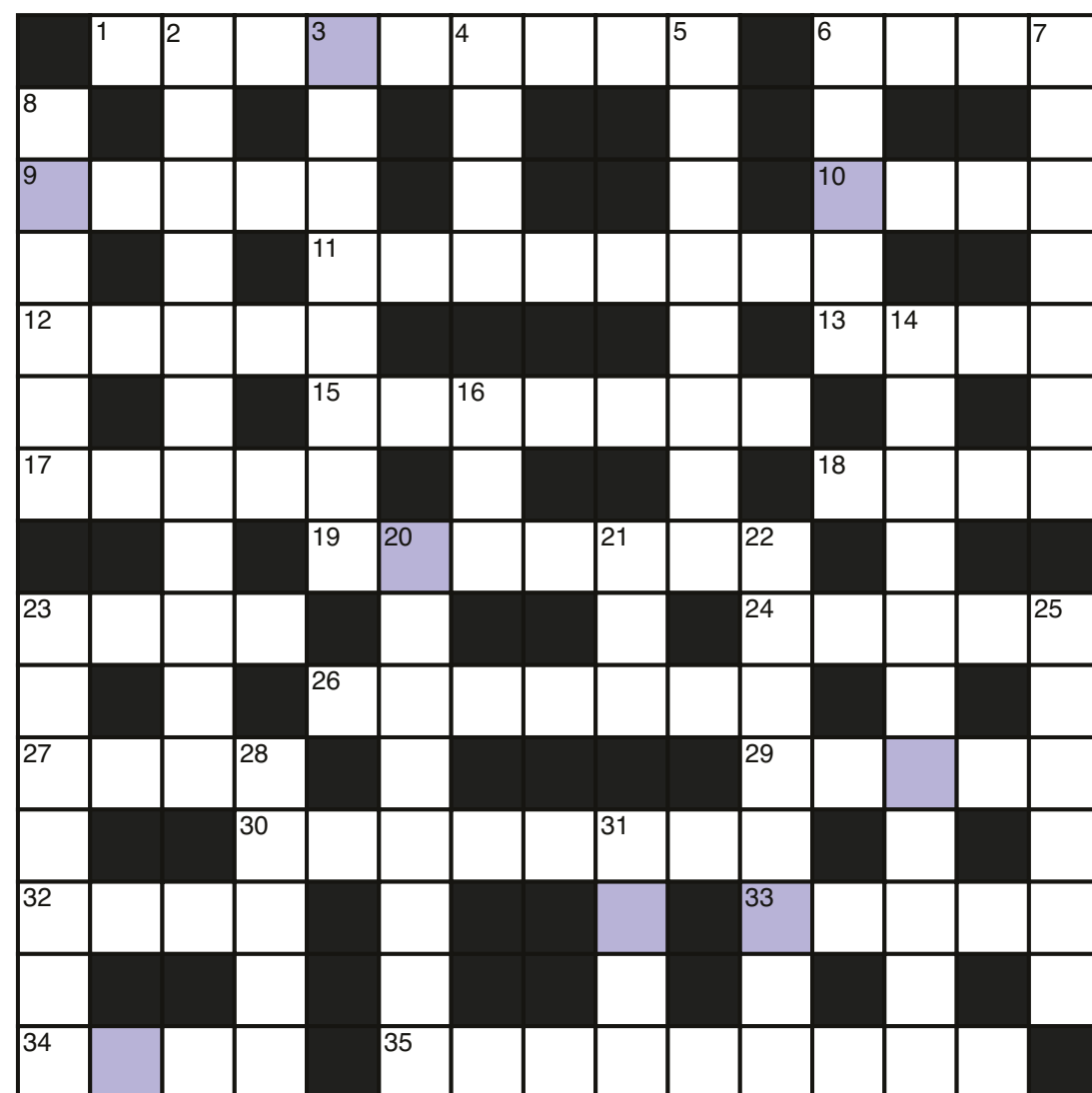
With all the pieces added to the deer, finish stuffing through the hole left, pad out the neck (which should be flat) and any more needed on the head. Then finish sewing up clockwise. Then using the same technique, sew anti-clockwise. Add a small loop onto the top hole and tie securely. This will enable your deer to be hung on any nail. Sew in all loose threads. ■



# Knit puzzle

## Prize crossword

Solve the clues, then rearrange the letters in the shaded squares to spell the name of a baking spice (8)



## ACROSS

- 1** Scottish capital (9)
- 6** Sport played on fairways and greens (4)
- 9** Large sea (5)
- 10** Slightly open (4)
- 11** Dodge, evade (8)
- 12** Church passageway (5)
- 13** Border, side (4)
- 15** Without a pause (7)
- 17** Group of students (5)
- 18** Occupied (4)
- 19** Competitor (7)
- 23** Long country walk (4)
- 24** Historical memento (5)
- 26** Emblems of royalty (7)
- 27** Ancient stringed instrument (4)
- 29** Wall recess (5)
- 30** Thick dark syrup (8)
- 32** Short high-pitched sound (4)
- 33** Animal with flat antlers (5)
- 34** Neat and orderly (4)
- 35** Most minor (9)

## DOWN

- 2** Hat with earflaps (11)
- 3** Foolish talk (8)
- 4** Second-hand (4)
- 5** Tree also called a may (8)
- 6** Fruit made into wine (5)
- 7** Fake, counterfeit (7)
- 8** Picture made with small stones or tiles (6)
- 14** Betray (6-5)
- 16** Mesh fabric (3)
- 20** Not required (8)
- 21** Every one (3)
- 22** Broadcast, communicate (8)
- 23** Edible flatfish (7)
- 25** Talented, bright (6)
- 28** Containing nothing (5)
- 31** Drawback (4)



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### How to enter

Send the correct answer and your name and address on a postcard to: Knit Today Crossword 95, 9th Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN. Closing date 31 March 2014

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# Diary of a knitting group

**Aneeta Patel** reveals her group's latest knitting makes and bakes!

I'm Aneeta. I'm a knitting teacher and author based in East London. I also run a monthly knitting group called Knitting SOS. 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 in the company of others and the monthly, free drop-in Knitting SOS group is one of my very 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 take a look at [www.knittingsos.co.uk](http://www.knittingsos.co.uk)

## December 2013

Knitting in December can feel like running a race as we all try and work towards our Christmas deadlines... at least that's what it felt like at the busiest Knitting SOS I think I've ever had! Over a dozen knitters clacked away as I alternated offering tips and hints with being inspired by all their projects.

Katherine is a great knitter, but wanting a really neat finish on her new cardigan, she wisely sought some extra help. I say it again and again to my Knitting SOS students, it doesn't matter how good a knitter you are, if you don't sew up your work properly it won't have a good fit and won't show off your hard work to its best effect. Even once you're a more experienced knitter, do get some expert advice on sewing up, as every project will be slightly different, and an immaculate finish is invaluable.

Juliette is a new knitter and this sparkly eyelet shawl knitted with Louisa Harding Mila yarn is her first big project. She wants to wear it on Christmas Day and is really pushing herself to get it finished. I'm nearly as excited to see it as she is and I've been promised a photo when she first wears it!

Knitting SOS regular Francine managed to concentrate on a delicate pair of socks as well as having a crafty gossip with Bridget. Bridget is new to SOS and came from Kent to join us. She's an all-round crafter with quilts, knitting and assorted

projects on the go, so we hope to see lots of her as she's very inspiring!

Prolific knitter Cetra came all the way from Derbyshire for the weekend, especially to coincide with Knitting SOS. She can knit a sock faster than any knitter I know and has a very impressive 'things-to-knit' list that'll keep her busy well into 2014!

I'm awarding Knitter of the Month to Teresa and her amazing techni-coloured Christmas jumper. Snowmen, skiing penguins, sparkly snowflakes and much more all in one jumper! I love how it tells a story of the skiing penguin that has a fall and skis off with a bandaged head. She started knitting this in the heat of the summer and is just learning how to neatly sew it up using mattress stitch so it's ready for Christmas Day. Photo when it's finished please, Teresa... you're Knitting SOS's latest knitting star!



Aneeta and Cetra, who came all the way from Derbyshire



We need a wider lens to get all the knitters into one photo!



Knitting SOS members made these fab chocolate lollies for the lovely hosts of Look Mum No Hands



Knitter of the Month Teresa and her amazing penguin sweater

## It's not just about the knitting!

I have to say that the knitters were on a mission today and it was mostly about the knitting. Still, we managed to fit in some seasonal chat and plenty of tea and cakes from our lovely hosts at Look Mum No Hands. There were also bicycle-chocolate lollipops Knitting SOS made as a thank you for being so well looked after all year. Knitting and bicycles – what a perfect combination!





Start  
here!

## Aviator hat

Using the long tail cast on method and 4mm DPNs **cast on** 6 stitches in A. Split them evenly on three needles. Join to work in the round being careful not to twist stitches and place marker.

**Round 1:** \*Kfb\* across all stitches. 12 sts

**Round 2:** \*Kfb\* across all stitches. 24 sts

**Round 3:** Knit.

**Round 4:** \*Kfb, k1\* across all stitches. 36 sts

**Round 5:** Knit.

**Round 6:** \*Kfb, k2\* across all stitches. 48 sts

**Round 7:** Knit.

**Round 8:** \*Kfb, k3\* across all stitches. 60 sts

**Round 9:** Knit.

**Round 10:** \*Kfb, k4\* across all stitches. 72 sts

**Round 11:** Knit.

**Round 12:** \*Kfb, k5\* across all stitches. 84 sts

**Round 13:** Knit.

**Round 14:** \*Kfb, k6\* across all sts. 96 sts

**Round 15:** Knit.

**Round 16:** \*Kfb, k7\* across all stitches. 108 sts

Knit from round 17 to 52.

**Round 53:** Work \*k1, p1\* rib for 74 stitches in A, change to B, working \*k1, p1\* to the end of the round.

Work this round three more times.

**Round 57:** Work \*k1, p1\* rib for 74 stitches in A, change to B, k1, p1, then cast off in B, 30 sts, k1, p1.

**Round 58:** Using the needle that holds the last two k1, p1 B stitches, change to A and work \*k1, p1\* for 20 stitches. K1 B, p1 B, change to A and cast off 30 stitches.

K1 B, p1 B, change to A and work \*k1, p1\* for another 20 stitches, k1B, p1B leaving 24 sts for each earflap.

The stitches left either side of the hat will make up the ear flaps. Place the side that was knitted first onto a stitch holder.

### Right ear flap

**Row 59:** Turn the ear flap just made, and work k1B, p1B, change to A \*k1, p1\* to the last two stitches, k1B, p1B.

Repeat the last row, 14 times more.

**Round 58:** Using the needle that holds the last two k1, p1B stitches, change to A and work \*k1, p1\* for 20 stitches, k1B, p1B, change to A and cast off 30 stitches. K1B, p1B, change to A and work \*k1, p1\* for another 20 stitches, k1B, p1B leaving 24 sts for each earflap.

**Row 59:** Turn the ear flap just made, and work k1B, p1B, change to A \*k1, p1\* to the last two stitches, k1B, p1B. 24 sts

Repeat the last row, 14 times more.

**Row 74:** K1B, p1B, change to A and k2tog, p2tog,

## Yarn detail

Stylecraft Life DK

[www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk](http://www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk)  
01535 609798

**Content** 75% acrylic, 25% wool

**Weight/length** 100g/298m

**Wash Machine** 40°C

**RRP** £3.39

Skill level



Intermediate

# Zoom and fly!

Little ones will adore pretending to soar above the clouds in this cute pilot hat by **Louise Walker**



rib to last 6 stitches, k2tog, p2tog, k1B, p1B. 20sts  
**Row 75:** K1B, p1B, change to A, rib to the last two stitches, k1B, p1B.

Repeat the last row, four more times.

**Row 80:** K1B, p1B, change to A, k2tog, p2tog, rib to the last six stitches, k2tog, p2tog, k1B, p1B. 16 sts

**Row 81:** K1B, p1B, change to A, rib to the last two stitches, k1B, p1B.

Repeat the last row, twice more.

**Row 84:** K1B, p1B, change to A, k2tog, p2tog, rib to the last two stitches, k1B, p1B. 14 sts

**Row 85:** K1B, p1B, change to A rib to the last 2 sts, k1B, p1B.

**Row 86:** K1B, p1B, change to A, k2tog, p2tog, rib to the last 2 sts, k1B, p1B. 12 sts

**Row 87:** K1B, p1B, change to A, \*k1A, p1A\*, to the last two stitches, k1B, p1B.

**Row 88:** K1B, p1B, change to A, k2tog, p2tog, rib to the last two stitches, k1B, p1B. 10 sts

**Row 89:** Repeat row 87.

**Row 90:** Change to B and rib all stitches.

**Row 92:** Cast off in B.

## Left ear flap

Reattach the yarn from where it had been left at round 58.

Work rows 59-83.

**Row 84:** K1B, p1B, change to A, rib to the last six stitches, k2tog, p2tog, k1B, p1B. 14 sts

**Row 85:** K1B, p1B, change to A rib to the last 2 sts, k1B, p1B.

**Row 86:** K1B, p1B, change to A, rib to the last six stitches, k2tog, p2tog, k1B, p1B. 12 sts

**Row 87:** K1B, p1B, change to A, rib to the last two stitches, k1B, p1B.

**Row 88:** K1B, p1B, change to A, rib to the last six stitches, k2tog, p2tog, k1B, p1B. 10 sts

**Row 89:** Repeat row 87.

**Row 90:** Change to B and rib all stitches.

**Row 92:** Cast off in B.

## Goggles

### Outer goggle (make two)

Using the long tail cast on method and 4mm straight needles **cast on** 80 stitches in C.

**Row 1:** \*K2tog, k6\* across all stitches.

**Row 2:** Knit.

**Row 3:** \*K2tog, k5\* across all stitches.

**Row 4:** Knit.

**Row 5:** \*K2tog, k4\* across all stitches.

**Row 6:** Knit.

**Row 7:** \*K2tog, k3\* across all stitches.

**Row 8:** Knit.

**Row 9:** \*K2tog, k2\* across all stitches.

**Row 10:** Knit.

**Row 11:** \*K2tog, k1\* across all stitches.

**Row 12:** Knit.

**Row 13:** \*K2tog\* across all stitches.

**Row 14:** Knit.

**Row 15:** \*K2tog\* across all stitches.

Thread through the remaining 5 stitches and pull, this will make up an almost circular piece, sew the seam up to the cast-on edge.

### Inner goggle (make two)

Using the long tail cast on method and 4mm straight needles **cast on** 60 stitches in B.

**Row 1:** \*K2tog, k4\* across all stitches.

**Row 2:** Knit.

**Row 3:** \*K2tog, k3\* across all stitches.

**Row 4:** Knit.

**Row 5:** \*K2tog, k2\* across all stitches.

**Row 6:** Change to D and purl.

**Row 7:** \*K2tog, k1\* across all stitches.

**Row 8:** Purl.

**Row 9:** \*K2tog\* across all stitches.

**Row 10:** Purl.

**Row 11:** \*K2tog\* across all stitches.

Thread through the remaining 5 stitches and pull, this will make up an almost circular piece, sew the seam up to the cast-on edge.

### Centre goggle strip

Using the long tail cast on method and 4mm straight needles **cast on** 8 stitches in B.

Work 3 rows in garter stitch.

**Row 4:** K2tog, k to the last two stitches, k2tog.

Work 8 more rows in garter stitch.

**Row 14:** Kfb, k to the last stitch, kfb.

Work 3 more rows in garter stitch.

Cast off.

### Strip at the back

Using the long tail cast on method and 4mm straight needles **cast on** 6 stitches in C. Work garter for 32cm.

Cast off.

### Sewing up

The two outer goggles will look like almost circles, with some points where the decreases were made. Place each circle just above the white strip at the front of the hat, leaving a three stitch gap on the hat in the centre and pin.

Fold in the corners made by the decreases – this will make the goggles circular and also raise them up slightly. Sew neatly using C yarn.

Pin the centre goggle strip in the centre of the outer circles, covering the gap made on the hat.

This will connect the two inner goggles. Sew on neatly using B yarn.

Take the inner goggle place it in the centre of the outer one. Using the same technique as the outer ones sew it on using B yarn.

Then taking the long strip made, place onto the edge of both outer circles, bringing it around the back of the hat. Keeping it somewhat in line with the centre goggle strap sew neatly using C yarn.

Then using some scrap Cascade colour yarn add a 1cm rectangle to the top right corner of the black goggles.

Sew in all loose ends. ■

## Pattern details

### You will need...

#### Yarn

● A Stylecraft Life DK – Bracken 100g

● B Stylecraft Life DK – Cream 100g

● C Stylecraft Life DK – Copper 100g

● D Stylecraft Life DK – Black 100g

● A small amount of Stylecraft Life DK – Cascade

#### Needles & accessories

4mm (UK size 8) DPNs

4mm (UK size 8) straight needles

Stitch marker

### Tension

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

### Finished sizes

Fits a 46cm (18in) toddler's head

## Abbreviations

<b>k</b>	knit
<b>p</b>	purl
<b>st(s)</b>	stitch(es)
<b>DPNs</b>	double pointed needles
<b>kfb</b>	knit into the front and back of the stitch
<b>k2tog</b>	knit 2sts together
<b>p2tog</b>	purl 2sts together
<b>k1B, p1B</b>	change to B and work k1, p1 rib

### Top tip!

Try adding a small rectangle on the top right hand corner of the black goggles for a cute reflection.

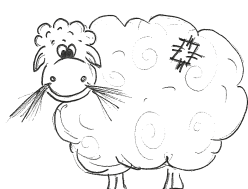


# Our giveaways

We have some superb prize packs up for grabs this issue – you could be a lucky winner if you enter today!

## £500 to spend on patterns!

### Spot the sheep



Our sheep has wandered off again. He's hiding somewhere amongst the pages of *Knit Today* and you could win an amazing prize if you find him. We have 20 vouchers to give away, worth £25 each, to spend at Etsy shop, Richmond Hill Knits. You really are spoilt for choice with contemporary patterns for accessories such as scarves, headbands, bootcuffs, purses, all inspired by nature and the beauty of Richmond Hill in London. The patterns come as instant downloads and are suitable for beginner and intermediate knitters. What will you spend your voucher on if you win?



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### How to enter

Simply search for our missing sheep (he's hiding somewhere in this issue), then send us a postcard telling us which page he's on, plus your name, address, email address and telephone number to: Voucher giveaway 95, *Knit Today*, 9th Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN. The closing date is 31 March 2014.

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## Great reads for your bookshelf

One extremely lucky reader will be getting their hands on all 10 books pictured here! The bumper bundle from Search Press is worth more than £100 and includes the very popular titles *Knit Hats Now*, *Sock Art*, *New Encyclopedia of Crochet Techniques* and *The Magic of Shetland Lace Knitting*.

**Entries to:** Books giveaway 95, *Knit Today*, 9th Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN. Enter online at [www.knit-today.com](http://www.knit-today.com).

**\*Alternatively, text BOOKS** and your name followed by a space to 87474. The closing date is 31 March 2014.



## Dreamy bags

If you're searching for the perfect gift, how about one of these Dreaming about Knitting tote bags from Kelly Connor Designs on Etsy? They're 100% cotton and make ideal project bags or shoppers to stuff full of yarn! The bags cost £13.75 each and we have eight to give away! Check out the other designs available, too – there are loads!

**Entries to:** Bag giveaway 95, *Knit Today*, 9th Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN. Enter online at [www.knit-today.com](http://www.knit-today.com). **\*Alternatively, text BAG** and your name followed by a space to 87474. Send your entry to us by 31 March 2014.



## Knits of whimsy

Ginger 'n Pickles Knits is an Etsy shop full of the most adorable patterns for babies... like this one! Classic Knit Pants and Bonnet is for babies aged 0-3 months and is a good project for a beginner. We have 20 copies of the pattern to give away, with a total prize value of over £100!

**Entries to:** Baby giveaway 95, *Knit Today*, 9th Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN. Enter online at [www.knit-today.com](http://www.knit-today.com). **\*Alternatively, text BABY** and your name followed by a space to 87474.

The closing date is 31 March 2014.



Taylor Anderson Photography

## Show tickets

The NEC in Birmingham is *the* place to be between 20 and 23 March 2014, as that's when it will be hosting Sewing for Pleasure, Fashion Embroidery & Stitch, and Hobbyscrafts. Tickets are available to buy at [www.ichfevents.co.uk](http://www.ichfevents.co.uk), or you could try winning one of 10 pairs of tickets, worth £12 each!

**Entries to:** Tickets giveaway 95, *Knit Today*, 9th Floor, Tower House, Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN. Enter online at [www.knit-today.com](http://www.knit-today.com).

**\*Alternatively, text TICKETS** and your name followed by a space to 87474. The closing date is 28 February 2014.



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# 6 quick knits for Valentine's

Knit heartfelt tokens for the ones you love  
Designed by **SUSANNE FRANK**

## 1. Pin cushion

### You will need...

#### Yarn

Small amount of King Cole Merino Blend DK in 09 Scarlet and 787 Fuchsia

#### Needles

4mm (UK size 8) knitting needles

#### Other

3cm pom-pom maker (optional)  
Filler

### Tension

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

### Finished sizes

12cm (5in) square

**Start here!**

### Make two

Cast on 5 sts.

Rows 1–4: St st, starting with a K row.

Row 5: K2, M1, K1, M1, K2. 7 sts

Row 6 and all following even rows: P.

Row 7: K2, M1, K3, M1, K2. 9 sts

Row 9: K2, M1, K5, M1, K2. 11 sts

Row 11: K2, M1, K7, M1, K2. 13 sts

Row 13: K2, M1, K9, M1, K2. 15 sts

Row 15: K2, M1, K11, M1, K2. 17 sts

Row 17: K2, M1, K13, M1, K2. 19 sts

Row 19: K2, M1, K15, M1, K2. 21 sts

Row 21: K2, M1, K17, M1, K2. 23 sts

Row 23: K2, M1, K19, M1, K2. 25 sts



Row 25: K2, M1, K21, M1, K2. 27 sts

Row 27: K2, M1, K23, M1, K2. 29 sts

### Divide for top of heart

Row 29: Knit the top of the heart:

K2, sl1, K1, pssso, K6, K2tog, K2 (keep these 12 sts on the needle to finish the right hand side later), cast off 1, K1, sl1, K1, pssso, K6, k2tog, K2. 12 sts on left hand side

Row 30: P 12 until you reach the middle, turn work.

Row 31: K.

Row 32: P.

Row 33: K2, sl1, K1, pssso, K4, k2tog, K2. 10 sts

Row 34: Purl to the end of the row.

Row 35: K2, sl1, K1, pssso, K2, k2tog, K2. 8sts

Row 36: P2, P2tog, P2tog, P2. 6 sts  
Cast off rem sts for the left hand side.  
Break yarn.

### Second side of heart

Rejoin yarn and continue with the 12 sts for the right hand side. Follow the instructions for rows 30–36.

Lightly block the two parts and sew them together, right sides facing, leaving a small opening. Darn in the loose ends.

Turn right side out. Stuff with filler, then close the opening. Make the pom-pom in a contrasting colour and attach to the finished heart.



## 2. Wrist warmers

## You will need...

☐ Yarn

2 x 50 g of King Cole Merino Blend Aran  
in 904 Stone and 1 x 50 g in 777 Claret

## □ Needles

Size 6mm (UK size 4), straight and double-pointed needles

☐ Other

Stitch holder or large safety pin

## Tension

**Yarn used knits as aran** – 18 st and 25 rows to 10cm or 4in in stocking stitch, using 6mm (UK size 4) needles

## Finished sizes

23cm (9in) long, 20cm (8in) circumference  
at top

**Start  
here!**

## Make two

Using the straight needles and grey yarn,  
**cast on** 36 sts.

**Rows 1–24: K1, P1.**

**Row 25–28:** St st, starting with a K row.

**Row 29:** Start the thumb gusset: K17, M1, K2, M1, K17. 38sts

**Row 30 and all following even rows: P.**

**Row 31:** K17, M1, K4, M1, K17. 40 sts

**Row 33:** K17, M1, K6, M1, K17. 42 sts

**Row 35:** K17, M1, K8, M1, K17. 44 sts

**Rows 37-38:** St st, starting with a K row

## Begin heart pattern

**Rows 39–42:** St st, starting with a K row, starting the heart chart in row 39. Make the heart pattern the intarsia method, twisting the two colours together when changing between grey and red - do NOT carry the grey yarn across the back of the red heart. For the right hand wrist warmer, start the pattern after 3 sts from the beg of the row, for the left one after 30 sts from the beg of the row.

**Row 43:** K17, place 10 sts on the stitch holder, cast on 2, K17. 36 sts

**Row 44–53:** St st, starting with a P row.

**Rows 54–55:** K1, P1 in red.

**Row 56:** K1, P1 in grey.

**Row 57:** cast off in K1, P1.

Break all threads.

## Finish the thumb

Take the grey yarn. Put the 10 sts from the stitch holder onto dpns and also pick up 6 sts from the cast-on sts from row 43.

Divide the sts evenly over dpns.

**R1-5:** St st in grey.

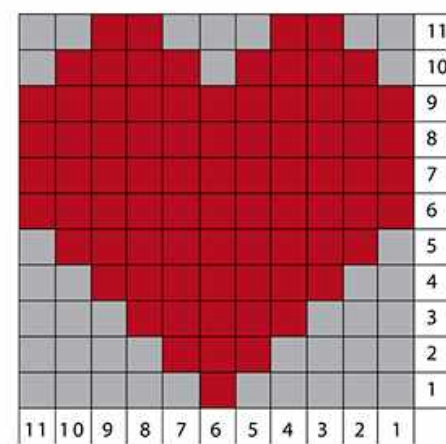
**R6-7:** St st in red.

**R8:** St st in grey and cast off.

Knit the second wrist warmer in the same way, following the instructions for the heart panel for the second side as given.

Close the side seams, darn in loose ends.

## Chart



## Key

■ Stone

■ Claret





### 3. Envelopes

#### You will need...

##### Yarn

Small amount of King Cole Merino Blend DK in 09 Scarlet or 787 Fuchsia

##### Needles

Size 4mm (UK size 8) knitting needles

##### Other

Black and pink embroidery thread

Oddment of white DK yarn

Small piece of white felt

Button

Pinking shears

4mm (uk size 8) crochet hook

#### Tension

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

#### Finished sizes

15cm (6in) by 11cm (4½in)

**Start here!**

**Cast on** 34 sts.

**Rows 1–60:** St st, starting with a K row

**Row 61:** K3, sl1, K1, psso, K24, K2tog, K3. 32 sts. You will now cont in garter st for 3 sts at beg and end of each row, until the end of row 79.

**Row 62:** K3, P26, K3.

**Row 63:** K3, sl1, K1, psso, K22, K2tog, K3. 30 sts

**Row 64:** K3, P2tog, P20, P2tog, K3. 28 sts

**Row 65:** K3, sl1, K1, psso, K18, K2tog, K3. 26 sts

**Row 66:** K3, purl to last 3sts, k3.

**Row 67:** K3, sl1, K1, psso, K16, K2tog, K3. 24 sts

**Row 68:** K3, P2tog, P14, P2tog, K3. 22 sts

**Row 69:** K to end.

**Row 70:** K3, P2tog, P12, P2tog, K3. 20 sts

**Row 71:** K3, sl1, K1, psso, K10, K2tog, K3. 18 sts

**Row 72:** K3, purl to last 3 sts, K3.

**Row 73:** K3, sl1, K1, psso, K8, K2tog, K3. 16 sts

**Row 74:** K3, P2tog, P6, P2tog, K3. 14 sts

**Row 75:** K to end.

**Row 76:** K3, sl1, K1, psso, K2, K2tog, K3. 12 sts

**Row 77:** K3, sl1, K1, psso, K2, K2tog, K3. 10 sts

**Row 78:** K3, purl to last 3 sts, K3.

**Row 79:** K3, sl1, K1, psso, K2tog, K3. 8 sts



**Row 80:** K2, sl1, K1, psso, K2tog, K2. 6 sts

**Row 81:** K1, sl1, K1, psso, K2tog, K1. 4 sts

**Row 82:** K2tog twice. 2 sts

Pull rem sts together and break yarn, leaving a tail.

Block the piece, fold over the straight part, right sides facing and close the side seams. Darn in loose ends and turn right side out. Use the yarn tail to crochet a small chain and secure into a button loop. Sew button in place.

Using pinking shears, cut a postage stamp from the white felt and sew into place with black thread.

Using pink thread, stitch a little heart in the middle of the stamp. Stitch a message onto envelope, using white DK yarn.

*Show your love with a handmade envelope*



## 4. Rose brooch

### You will need...

#### Yarn

Small amount of King Cole Merino Blend DK in 09 Scarlet

#### Needles

Size 4mm (UK size 8) knitting needles

#### Other

Brooch pin

### Tension

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

### Finished sizes

10cm (4in) diameter

Start here!

### Inner rose shape

Cast on 6 sts.

Row 1 (right side): P.

Row 2 (wrong side): (K1, yo) 5 times, K1. 11sts

Row 3: P.

Row 4: (K1, yo) 10 times, K1. 21sts

Row 5: P.

Row 6: (K1, yo) 20 times, K1. 41sts



Row 7: P.

Row 8: (K1, yo) 40 times, K1. 81sts

Cast off.

Curl up the piece to form a rose shape (it curls up naturally) and fasten together.

### Outer petals (make three)

Cast on 10 sts.

Row 1 and all following odd rows: P.

Row 2: K2, M1, K3, M1, K3, M1, K2. 13 sts

Row 4: K2, M1, K4, M1, K5, M1, K2. 16 sts

Row 6: K2, M1, K6, M1, K6, M1, K2. 19 sts

Row 8: K2, M1, K7, M1, K8, M1, K2. 22 sts

Row 10: K2, M1 \* K3, M1 \* to last 3 sts, K3. 29 sts

Row 12: K.

Row 13: P.

Cast off.

Attach the outer petals around the inner rose shape. Darn in loose ends. Attach the brooch pin.

## 5. Heart bunting

### You will need...

#### Yarn

50g each of King Cole Merino Blend DK in 09 Scarlet and 787 Fuchsia

#### Needles

Size 4mm (UK size 8) knitting needles

#### Other

Toy stuffing, an oddment of super-chunky yarn (2.5 metres/3 yd long).

### Tension

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

### Finished sizes

individual heart: 9cm (3½in) square

Start here!

### Make two for each heart (make six hearts in total)

Cast on 5 sts.

Rows 1–4: St st, starting with a K row.

Row 5: K2, M1, K1, M1, K2. 7 sts

Row 6 and all following even rows: P.

Row 7: K2, M1, K3, M1, K2. 9 sts

Row 9: K2, M1, K5, M1, K2. 11 sts

Row 11: K2, M1, K7, M1, K2. 13 sts

Row 13: K2, M1, K9, M1, K2. 15 sts

Row 15: K2, M1, K11, M1, K2. 17 sts

Row 17: K2, M1, K13, M1, K2. 19 sts

Row 19: K2, M1, K15, M1, K2. 21 sts

Row 21: K10, cast off 1, K9.

Row 22: P10, turn around (keep the other 10 sts on the needle to finish the right hand side later).

Row 23: K1, sl1, K1, pssso, K4, K2tog, K1. 8 sts.

Row 24: P8.

Row 25: K1, sl1, K1, pssso, K2, K2tog, K1. 6 sts

Row 26: P.

Cast off. Break yarn and continue with the 10 sts for the right hand side. Follow the instructions for rows 22 to 26.

Lightly block the two parts and sew them together, right sides facing. Leave a small opening. Darn in loose ends. Turn right side out. Stuff with filler, then close the opening.

Thread a tapestry needle with the length of super-chunky yarn and pass through each heart to join them into bunting.





## 6. Pom-pom flowers

### You will need...

#### Yarn

Small amount of King Cole Merino Blend DK in 09 Scarlet (or 787 Fuchsia or 94 Pink), 55 Gold and 36 Silver

#### Needles

Size 4mm (UK size 8) plus 2 dpns 4mm

#### Other

Thin and thick wire  
3cm Pom-pom maker (optional)

### Tension

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

### Finished sizes

28cm (11in) long, 12cm (5in) diameter of the flower

Start  
here!

**Petal (make five):** Using the red, fuchsia or pink yarn, **cast on** 5 sts.

**Row 1:** K.

**Row 2 and all following even rows:** P.

**Row 3:** K2, M1, K1, M1, K2. 7 sts

**Row 5:** K2, M1 \* K1, M1 \* to last 2 sts, K2. 11 sts

**Rows 7–12:** continue in st st.

**Row 13:** K2, sl1, K1, psso, K3, K2tog, K2. 9 sts

**Row 15:** K2, sl1, K1, psso, K1, K2tog, K2. 7 sts

**Row 16:** P1, P2tog, P1, P2tog, P1. 5 sts  
Cast off.

**Stem:** Using the grey yarn double-stranded and 2 dpns, knit a 25cm (10in) I-cord as follows:

**Cast on** 3 sts, then push the sts to the end of the needle, pull the yarn across behind and knit the 3 sts. Push to the end of the needle, pull the yarn across behind and knit the 3 sts. Continue until the I-cord measures 25cm (10in). Make a 3cm diameter Pom-pom with the gold yarn.

Block the petals lightly. Reinforce the outer rim of the petals with the thin wire. Attach the petals to each other, slightly overlapping. Darn in loose ends. Secure the Pom-pom in the middle. Attach the end of the stem. Cut a 25cm (10in) length of the thick wire and push into the stem to reinforce it, pushing the end into the pom-pom.

## Abbreviations

K	knit
P	purl
st(s)	stitches
st st	stocking stitch
dpns	double pointed needles
k2tog	knit 2sts together
M1	make one stitch by picking up horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into back of it
p2tog	purl 2sts together
psso	pass slipped stitch over
rem	remaining
sl1	slip 1st
ssk	slip 2sts and knit into the back of them
yf	yarn forward
yo	yarn over
yrn	yarn round needle





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# Ask the experts

Whatever your knitting or crochet query, our experts can give you a helping hand!

**Artesano**

Sponsored by Artesano Yarns  
artesanoyarns.co.uk



**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.



**Aneeta Patel**

Aneeta, author of beginner's bible *Knitty Gritty*, also teaches knitting professionally.

## Vanna's choice

**Q** I have a pattern that uses a yarn called 'Vanna's Choice Baby'. I've tried to find it in the wool shops local to me but they don't stock it. I also tried using a double knit yarn but the tension was way off. Can you tell me where I can buy it?

**Phillipa Harris, Newbury**

**A Jo says:** It's an American yarn but I'm pleased to tell you it's now on sale in the UK. The reason the tension was off is that Vanna's Choice Baby is more like our aran weight yarn. It has a tension of 16 stitches x 22 rows per 10cm worked on size 5.5mm needles. If you have any 4 ply yarn in your stash you could see if two strands knitted together work; otherwise go to [www.deramores.com](http://www.deramores.com) to buy a 100g/156m ball for £3.49.

Vanna's Choice Baby yarn is available in seven colours

## Vintage vibe

**Q** I really like vintage style, and love knitting, so it would be great if there was a way I could combine the two in a vintage knitting pattern. Do you know where I can find some patterns that might be suitable, please?

**Susan Hart, Bucks**

**A Sarah says:** A great collection of vintage-inspired knitting patterns can be found in *Easy Knitting: Vintage & Retro* by Nikki Trench, published by Hamlyn, £9.99 ([www.octopusbooks.co.uk](http://www.octopusbooks.co.uk)). The items range from homeware projects such as cushions and throws to Fair Isle sweaters and feather-trimmed cardigans. If you're going to knit one of the jumpers, check the sizing listed first as some vintage patterns can be a bit on the small size!



Give your home and wardrobe a vintage and retro makeover

## Smocked coat

**Q** Years ago, I had a wonderful knitting pattern for a baby coat with a smocked yoke, but I've lost it. I know I could try to make a textured yoke on an ordinary pattern but I don't think I'm brave enough. Any help in locating a pattern would be greatly appreciated!

**Tom Wolfe, Staines**

**A Jo says:** Although it's not strictly smocked, this cable yoke pattern gives the look and is easy to knit. The pattern can be found in *The Third Irresistibly Sublime Baby 4 Ply Book* (641) which can be bought for £6.99 at [www.blacksheepwools.com](http://www.blacksheepwools.com). There are 19 designs in the book and each is made

with Sublime baby cashmere merino silk 4 ply, which is available in eight shades. The yarn is made of 75% merino wool, 20% silk, 5% cashmere, and you'll find 170m in each 50g ball. For the smallest size of this coat (0-6 months) you'll need three balls, and six for the largest (2-3 years).



This cable yoke coat is truly Sublime!

## Charity knitting

**Q** I've been knitting baby clothes for my local hospital but they have plenty now, and frankly I'm a bit bored of making baby clothes! Do you know of any other charities that are in need of hand-knitted items? I'm really keen to help out.

**Justine Borwood, by email**

**A Jo says:** If you go to [www.ukhandknitting.com](http://www.ukhandknitting.com), you'll find a list of charities that are looking for hand knits. The Children's Society needs squares to make into blankets, St Mungo's is after woolly hats for the homeless, and Francis House Children's Hospice would love knitters to make little chicks. Each chick fits over a Cadbury Crème Egg, and all the profits raised from selling the chicks and eggs will go directly to the hospice. A fantastic £3,936 was made in 2013, but more is always needed. To find the downloadable pattern for the chicks, go to [www.francishouse.org.uk](http://www.francishouse.org.uk) where you'll also find details of how to donate the money you've raised.



Choose a charity close to your heart and donate your knitted creations



## Tickled pink

**Q** It's my daughter's 6th birthday in a couple of months and I really want to knit her a cardi. Her favourite colour is bright pink but I'm having trouble finding anything suitable – can you suggest a yarn?

**Petra Blake, Derby**

**A Sarah says:** It can be tricky finding yarns in bright shades but I think I have the perfect choice for your daughter – Artesano Superwash 100% Merino in hot pink. It's a beautiful colour and washes really well – handy for a cardigan that'll be worn a lot!



## Weighty issue

**Q** I normally buy my yarn online, but sometimes I find it hard to tell what weight it's going to be. Does the number of ply have anything to do with the weight?

**Lisa Hawkins, Somerset**

**A Sarah says:** There's no consistent way of telling from the number of ply how thick a yarn will be. Traditionally laceweight yarn would be 2ply, sock yarn would be 4ply, DK yarn would be 8ply and so on. However, it's now easier to go by the tension and needle size. 2ply would typically be on 2.5mm needles, 4ply on up to 3.25mm needles, DK on 4mm needles, aran on 5mm needles, chunky on 6mm needles or higher and super-chunky on 10mm needles.



# Knitting needles

Most talked about subject

## Needle knowhow

**Q** I'm a complete beginner, about to start my first scarf. All the needles available in the shops are confusing me! What's best for a beginner? I've done a bit of practice knitting on plastic needles from a kit, but choosing needles for my first project is a bit overwhelming. Help!

**Simone Grainger, Nottingham**

**A Aneeta says:** There are lots of different knitting needle types, and a lot of it is down to personal preference, but I know saying this isn't helpful for a beginner! What I will say is that you should have a look at the stitches on your practice knitting. Most beginners either have very loose tension or very tight. If you find that your practice knitting looks very loose, then I suggest you use wooden or bamboo needles for your first scarf. They are slightly less slippery than metal or plastic needles, so they grip each stitch a bit more firmly, helping to tighten them up. If your practice stitches are quite tight (as mine were when I first started knitting) I would suggest you use metal needles. These are super slippery and will help loosen up your tension. Then, as you continue with your knitting, you'll be able to experiment and find the style of needles that suits you best.



Choose bamboo needles to tighten your tension, or metal to loosen it

## Special set

**Q** I'm really getting into my knitting and would like to buy a set of knitting needles to add to my knitting kit. There are so many great things out there, what would you recommend? I'm looking for something versatile and a bit special so I can really enjoy using them.

**Fran Peterson, York**

**A Aneeta says:** I would definitely recommend a set of interchangeable needles. These can be used for circular and straight knitting, so they will be useful for many of your projects. I'm a huge fan of Addi and KnitPro needle sets. If you prefer wooden needles, KnitPro do a beautiful set called Symfonie which are a delight to look at and to use. Addi Click make interchangeable sets of metal needles that come in standard tips, or extra sharp tips for lace knitting. The lace set are gold – so a good choice if you like that extra bit of bling! All are lovely to use and really add to the enjoyment of the knitting process. If you prefer a straight needle set, however, Susan Bates Crystalites would make a colourful addition to your knitting bag.



Treat yourself to a special set of needles for everyday happy knitting

## Soothing stitches

**Q** I'm suffering a bit with arthritis as I get older. I've heard that some needles are better for this but I don't remember what they are.

**Jenny White, Lancs**

**A Aneeta says:** A lot of people say that the natural feel of wooden and bamboo knitting needles is soothing on the hands, especially if you have arthritic pains. However, I have a few twinges myself and my personal choice is to use metal needles. For me, their slipperiness helps my flow of movement when knitting, so I have to use less force with my hands. Staying active is a definite help with arthritis, so do keep up your knitting the best you can; even if you're knitting less complicated things than you might be used to.

## 3 top tips for choosing knitting needles

### Tip 1

Knitting needle choice is really about personal preference, so do experiment to see what you like the best.

### Tip 2

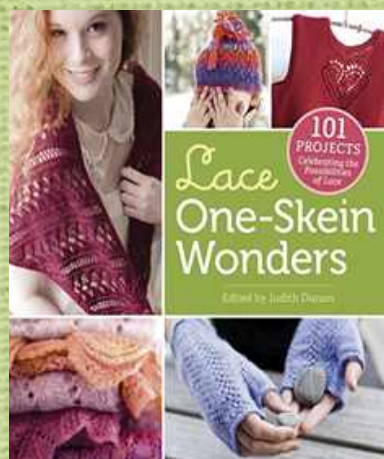
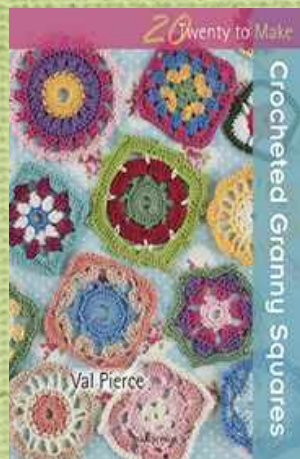
Knitting is all about the journey... make sure your needle choice feels good to your process and your hands, too.

### Tip 3

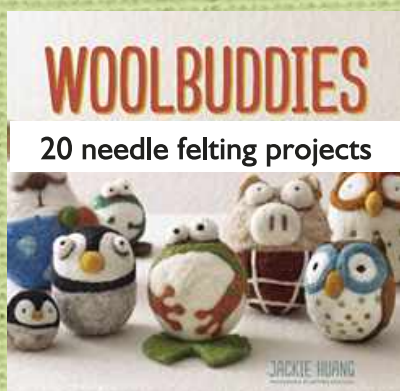
Charity shops often sell knitting needles, so ask for them if you don't see them, as they're sometimes hidden behind the counter. They can be great value for bargain-lovers.



# Collectability.co.uk for Best Value Prices

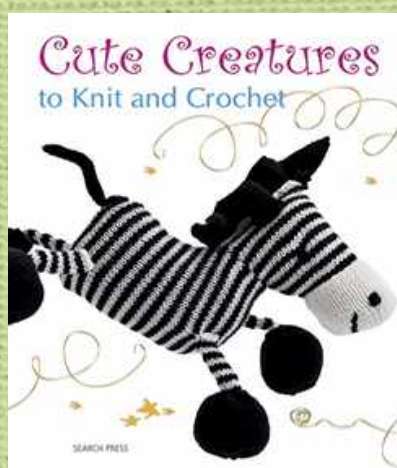


Orderline: 01626 779977 Weekdays 9am-5pm

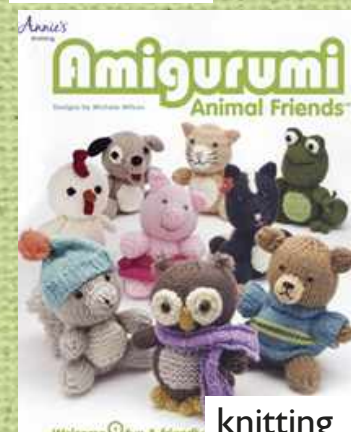


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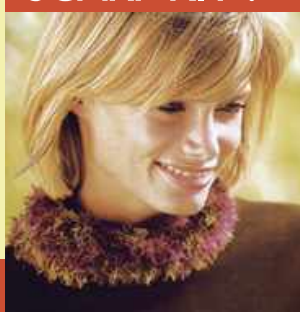
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# Puppy power

There's a reason why they say dogs are man's best friends! Indulge your canine cravings with these perky pup patterns

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Photography by Holly Joliffe



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## Best in Show: Knit Your Own Dog

Sally Muir & Joanna Osborne

From compact Corgis to bruiser Bulldogs, dotty Dalmatians to sleek Afghan hounds, dog-lovers will be in seventh heaven with this brilliantly bonkers book. There are 25 breed patterns to choose from, so whether you want to capture your own dog or your dream hound in stitches, here's your chance. These dinky dogs are all designed in miniature, so the patterns are short, which is great news for those in need of instant gratification. However, don't be lulled into a false sense of security that these patterns won't be challenging enough – there are simpler patterns, yes, such as the Dachsund and Corgi, but plenty to offer the experienced knitter – just look at the fluffiness of the Old English Sheepdog (above) produced with loop stitch!

*Collins & Brown, hardcover, 192 pages, ISBN 978-1843405733. To download the Corgi pattern for FREE visit [www.lovecrafts.co.uk](http://www.lovecrafts.co.uk)*







£9.99

## Doggie slippers

Val Pierce

Seriously, who can resist these adorable baby slippers embellished with tiny 3D dogs' heads? Knitted using Sirdar's Snuggly and Tiny Tots DK in two complementary shades of pale green, baby's feet will be so toasty and protected inside. The dogs' heads are knitted separately and then sewn firmly in place after you've completed the booties, so this project shouldn't take you too long to finish.

**Cutest Ever Baby Knits, New Holland Publishers, hardcover, 96 pages, ISBN 978-1847738561**



£3.13

## Westie hat

Eline Oftedal

Rock a little retro Scandi style with this simple yet striking bobble hat by celebrated Norwegian knitwear designer Eline Oftedal. Featuring a running pattern of, erm, running Westies, this hat is knitted from the bottom up and will retain its firm shape if you use slightly smaller needles (3mm or UK size 11) than usual for the suggested Debbie Bliss Rialto DK yarn.

**For more information and to buy, go to [www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/westie-hat](http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/westie-hat)**



£14.99

## Dog hat

Vanessa Mooncie

Keep your ears warm with this playful puppy and his two-tone lugs! And when you need to have your ears free again, simply button puppy's up to transform it into a tracker-style hat – a two-in-one design! Knitted up in Rowan Purelife Chunky Undyed 100% wool, everyone will fall in love with this cute and cuddly chap. This is just one of 15 patterns found in the quite wonderful *Animal Hats* – other standouts are the cow, lion and koala.

**Animal Hats, GMC Books, paperback, 128 pages, ISBN 978-1861088246**



£14.99

## Daisy Dachsund

Mel Clark

Mel Clark's instant classic *Knitting Everyday Finery* is perfect for adding a little fun and gorgeousness to your life. We couldn't help but notice this adorable and practical pencil case. Daisy Dachsund is sure to appeal to everyone from pre-schoolers upwards and if you like, you could take out the zip, add some stuffing and sew up for a sweet little soft toy.

**Knitting Everyday Finery: Practical Designs for Dressing up in Little Ways, Collins & Brown, paperback, 128 pages, ISBN 978-1843406631**



£5.95

## Dog jacket

Debbie Bliss

Ensure your dog steps out in style in this handsome houndstooth purple coat. One of six elegant patterns included in *A Tweed Story* by Debbie Bliss (the other five include a coat, cable jacket, pleated jacket, shoulder cape and jumper for women), you and your hound will look like the best dressed city dwellers on a day out in the country! This coat is worked in Debbie Bliss Donegal Luxury Tweed Aran – a 90% wool, 10% angora blend – so your dog is sure to stay cosy as well as smart, even on a blustery day.

**A Tweed Story by Debbie Bliss, 42 pages, visit [www.deramores.com](http://www.deramores.com) to buy a copy**





# Spring shines

Give your wardrobe some zing with colourful new-season yarns in cotton, wool and a touch of sparkle!



## Debbie Bliss



### Juliet

**Content:** 52% cotton, 48% acrylic

**Weight/length:** 50g/120m

**Needle size:** 3.25mm (UK size 10)

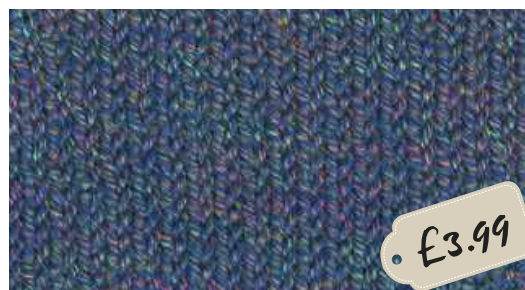
**Shade:** 09

**Wash:** Machine wash 30°C

Loosely spun from four strands of different solid shades, this yarn produces a fabric with a subtle, marbled effect, despite the bright colours of the individual plies. This is a light yarn which knits up to sport weight – 25sts and 34 rows to 10cm – and would create a beautifully airy spring cardigan. The Debbie Bliss *Juliet* book has 12 elegant garments in designs to flatter all shapes and sizes.

Visit [www.designeryarns.uk.com](http://www.designeryarns.uk.com) or call 01535 664222 to find a stockist

## Rico



### Fashion Pixel DK

**Content:** 65% cotton, 35% polyester

**Weight/length:** 50g/115m

**Needle size:** 4mm (UK size 8)

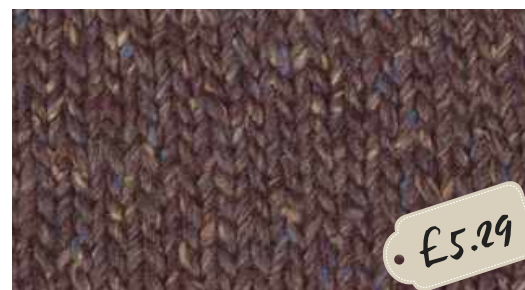
**Shade:** 004

**Wash:** Machine wash 30°C

New from Rico, Fashion Pixel DK picks up on the fluoro trend and runs with it! Made up of seven super-fine strands of matt yarn, each with a thread of fluoro wrapped around it, this produces a very smooth, even fabric, perfectly suited to stocking stitch. It comes in eight vibrant shades and is a classic DK weight, knitting up to 22sts and 28 rows to 10cm on 4mm needles, which makes it super-versatile when it comes to picking patterns.

Visit [www.rico-design.de](http://www.rico-design.de) for information

## Sublime



### Luxurious Tweed DK

**Content:** 60% wool, 40% cotton

**Weight/length:** 50g/135m

**Needle size:** 4mm (UK size 8)

**Shade:** Bergamot 392

**Wash:** Wool machine wash 40°C

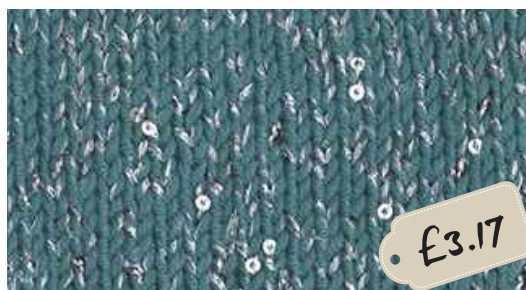
This soft tweedy yarn follows on from the success of Luxurious Tweed Aran, which proved hugely popular with knitters last year. Sublime have stuck to their winning formula, with seven rich shades supported by a lovely pattern collection featuring knits for all the family, and your home, too. It's gently spun from two plies flecked with contrasting neps, and knits to 22sts and 28 rows over st st on 4mm needles.

To find a stockist, call 01924 231682 or visit [www.sirdar.co.uk](http://www.sirdar.co.uk)





## Sirdar



• £3.17

### Soukie DK

**Content:** 40% polyester, 33% acrylic, 27% cotton

**Weight/length:** 50g/110m

**Needle size:** 4mm (UK size 8)

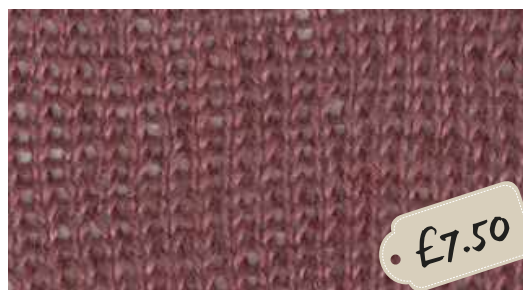
**Shade:** 177 Jasper

**Wash:** Wool machine wash 40°C

The trend for all things sparkly and sequinned just won't go away, but that's OK, because we love it! Sirdar's new yarn ticks both boxes, and comes in eight on-trend shades. There are 14 glamorous designs in a series of leaflets, which feature garments and accessories for women and girls. It knits to 22sts and 30 rows on 4mm knitting needles.

To find a stockist, call 01924 231682 or visit [www.sirdar.co.uk](http://www.sirdar.co.uk)

## Rowan



• £7.50

### Pure Linen

**Content:** 100% linen

**Weight/length:** 50g/130m

**Needle size:** 4.5mm (UK 7)

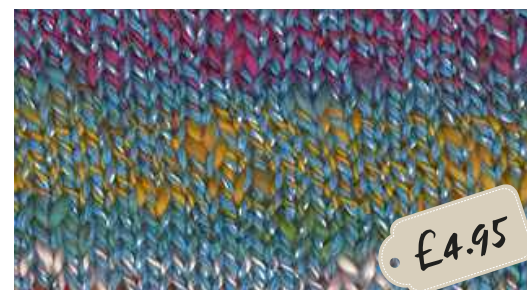
**Shade:** 394 Arabian

**Wash:** Hand wash

A rustic yarn with a soft halo and smooth sheen, Pure Linen is luxurious but should stand up to lots of wear thanks to its fibre content. It knits up into a crisp fabric, perfect for showing off lace stitches. Recommended tension is 17sts and 28 rows on 4.5mm needles. Pattern support comes from a beautiful collection of 12 garment designs by Lisa Richardson featuring lace, beading and on-trend stripes.

Visit [www.knitrowan.com](http://www.knitrowan.com) or call 01484 681881 to find a stockist

## Louisa Harding



• £4.95

### Noema

**Content:** 75% cotton, 20% acrylic, 5% polyamide

**Weight/length:** 120m/50g

**Needle size:** 4mm (UK size 8)

**Shade:** 6

**Wash:** Machine wash 30°C

Noema is a self-striping yarn with a difference, thanks to its slubby texture. Each of the 10 shades is made of three plies – the base colour and the metallic remain the same throughout, while the third colour shifts between different contrasts. It knits to 20sts and 28 rows on 4mm knitting needles. A pattern book with 14 accessories and garments is available.

Visit [www.designeryarns.uk.com](http://www.designeryarns.uk.com) or call 01535 664222 to find a stockist



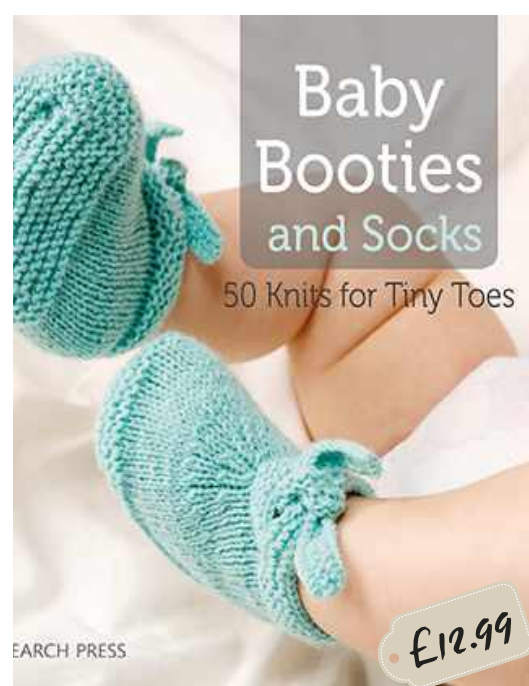
# Best books

Great ideas for looking your best from top to toe, plus gorgeous gifts, too!



## Baby Booties and Socks

Frédérique Alexandre



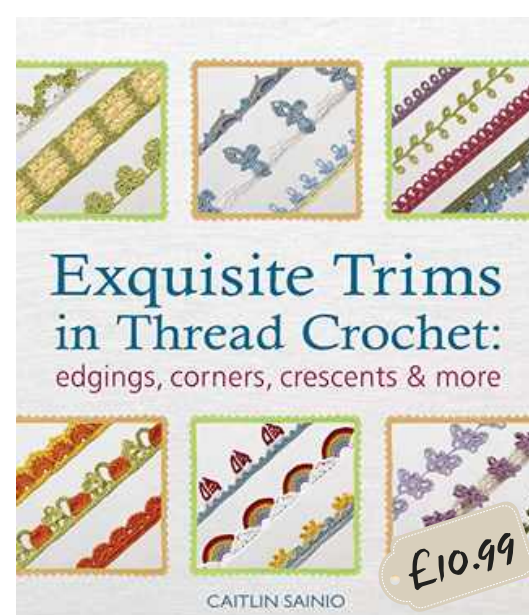
Everyone loves knitting for little ones, and you'll never be stuck for ideas with Frédérique's fabulous collection of 50 baby socks and booties. There are patterns for every season and every occasion, from everyday to special days. Our favourite design? The teeny tiny legwarmers, which are just adorable and so toasty for tots. There's a comprehensive techniques section at the back of the book, so regardless of your knitting ability, you can tackle any pattern you choose, or even all of them!

**Search Press, paperback, 160 pages, ISBN 978-1-84448-995-4**

**\*Reader offer:** Call 01892 510850 and quote 'Knit Today 95' to buy for £10.99, with free p&p. Offer ends 11 March 2014, while stocks last.

## Exquisite Trims in Thread Crochet

Caitlin Sainio



Here's something for both knitters and crocheters. You can add crochet lace edgings to almost any project – clothing, accessories and homewares – to make it even more appealing. Caitlin offers 75 solutions, with both simple and ornate edging patterns to suit all types of project, and all skill levels, too. There are geometric patterns, repeated pictures and chains of leaves and flowers, all with instructions for turning corners and ideas for where you could use them.

**Search Press, paperback, 128 pages, ISBN 978-1-84448-990-9**

**\*Reader offer:** Call 01892 510 850 and quote 'Knit Today 95' to buy for £9.99, with free UK p&p. Offer ends 11 March 2014, while stocks last.

## Knit Hats Now

Search Press



With a collection this comprehensive (there are more than 40 patterns), you're sure to find lots of hats that suit your style, and many more to knit as gifts! There are hats to go with all sorts of outfits – beanies, berets, bobbles, and more. The patterns use a range of techniques, and each project is graded with a difficulty level. Basic techniques are covered, so even if you're a knitting novice, armed with this book you'll be able to create gorgeous hats that are fun to knit and an utter delight to wear.

**Search Press, paperback, 96 pages, ISBN 978-1-78221-046-7**

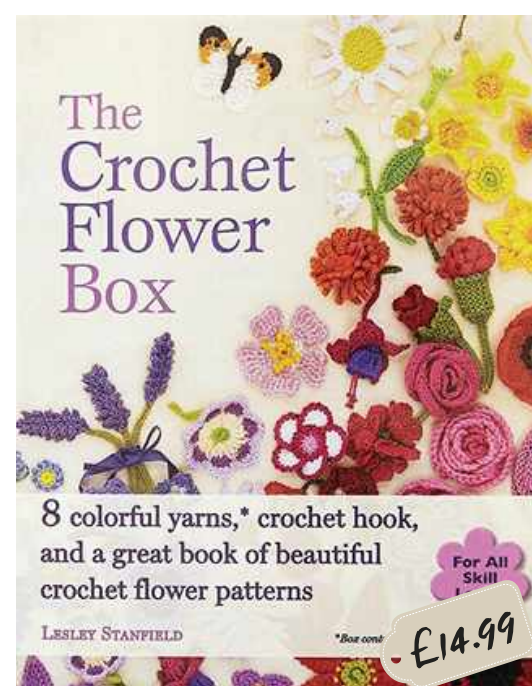
**\*Reader offer:** Call 01892 510850 and quote 'Knit Today 95' to buy for £9.99, with free UK p&p. Ends 11 March 2014, while stocks last.





## The Crochet Flower Box

Lesley Stanfield



Lesley has been a knitting and crochet editor for several women's magazines, so she really knows her stuff. We think her clever little book-in-a-box kit would make an excellent gift for a crochet-loving friend. Inside is a 64-page book with 10 flower patterns from her worldwide best-selling book *100 Flowers to Knit & Crochet*, eight colourful yarns (enough to make three flowers), and a crochet hook. You can use your finished flowers to embellish handmade garments or turn them into eye-catching brooches.

**Search Press, paperback, 64 pages, ISBN 978-1-78221-053-5**

**\*Reader offer:** Call 01892 510850 and quote 'Knit Today 95' to buy for £12.99, with free UK p&p. Ends 11 March 2014, while stocks last.

## 50 Knitted Gifts for Year-Round Giving

Sixth&Spring

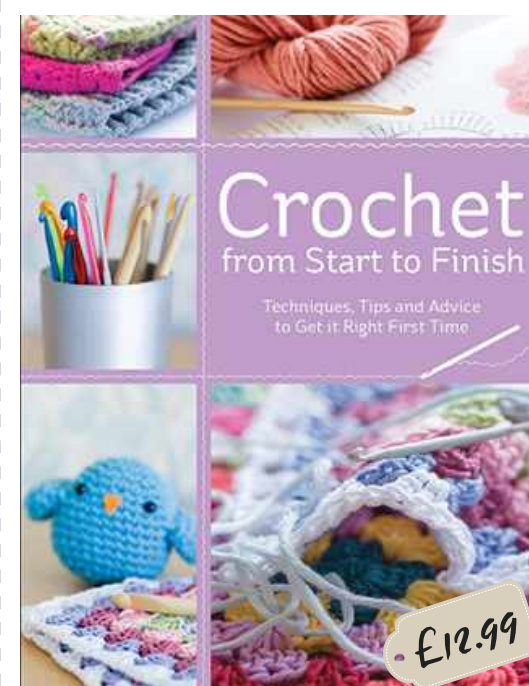


It can be tricky coming up with innovative ideas for knitted gifts, so why not let this book do the hard work for you? The projects are all knitted using yarn from the United States, but it's very easy for UK knitters to find substitutes; your favourite DK in a similar colourway will very likely work just fine. Fire up your creative side to knit inspired gifts for all sorts of pressie-giving opportunities – from Easter to Mother's Day, graduation to Valentine's Day, and many more besides. Most of the patterns – for making toys, clothes and accessories – use basic knitting techniques, and can be completed in just a couple of days.

**Sixth&Spring, paperback, 160 pages, ISBN 978-1-93609-656-5**

## Crochet from Start to Finish

Catherine Hurst



Catherine remembers the first time she crocheted, as a young girl in Pennsylvania, under the careful tuition of her grandmother. Now she's ready to offer the same gentle guidance to you. This reference book is full to bursting with step-by-steps and tips, and answers questions such as, what do you do if your border doesn't lie flat? Or, how do you substitute yarns? It's all presented in the right order too, with the first things first and the last things, ahem, last.

**Search Press, paperback, 192 pages, ISBN 978-1-78221-027-6**

**\*Reader offer:** Call 01892 510850 and quote 'Knit Today 95' to buy this book for £10.99, with free UK p&p. Offer ends 11 March 2014, while stocks last.



# Knit club

Make new knitting friends at a club in your area. Find your nearest one here, or log on to [www.knit-today.com](http://www.knit-today.com) to find even more knitting-related social events to join



Find your local knitting club at [www.knit-today.com](http://www.knit-today.com)

## 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](mailto: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](http://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 [lorrynaineturf779@btinternet.com](mailto:lorrynaineturf779@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](mailto:celia.rumble@googlemail.com) or call 07966 032919.

### Knit & Sew (UFO)

Meets Thursdays from 7-9pm at Byfleet Village Hall, 54 High Road, Byfleet, Surrey KT14 7QL £5 per visit.

☎ Call 07766 110931 or email [cherylfoulkes@hotmail.com](mailto:cherylfoulkes@hotmail.com)

### Crafty Yarn

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](mailto:info@crafty-yarn.co.uk).

### Herts Knattering Knitters & Stitchers

Meets at St Paul's Church Hall, St Paul's Close (off Cranes Way), Borehamwood on alternate Mondays from 6.30-9pm.

☎ For more details, call 07931 569927 or email [hkks0@ntlworld.com](mailto:hkks0@ntlworld.com). [info@cocoonknits.co.uk](mailto: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, and

welcomes members of all ages and abilities.

☎ For more information, visit [www.iknit.org.uk](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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

The club meets on the second Tuesday of each month from 7pm, at each other's homes.

☎ Call 01509 261845 or email [trish.moore@virgin.net](mailto: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](mailto:nicola_i_sharp@hotmail.com).

### RK Knit Chicks

The club 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](mailto:info@raptorkrafts.co.uk) or go online to [www.raptorkrafts.co.uk](http://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 Nattering Knitters, email [pauline.ford60@googlemail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.lovinghands.org.uk), email [charityknitters@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:charityknitters@yahoo.co.uk) or call 01383 830277.



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# Shopping guide

Use our handy shopping guide to buy the yarn for the projects in this issue.

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Unit G, Lamb's Farm  
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VIC 3207 Australia  
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## Erika Knight

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Brighton BN2 5TE  
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www.erikaknight.co.uk

## Jamieson & Smith

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Shetland Islands ZE1 0PQ  
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shetlandwoolbrokers.co.uk

## Katia

Av. Catalunya, s/n - 08296  
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Barcelona  
☎ 0034 938283819  
www.katia.com

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West Yorkshire  
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## Rico Design

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www.rico-design.de

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www.knitrowan.com

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themerцерie.net



Turn to page 50 to start knitting this cute oversized bow dress



# 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

Usually worked on the wrong side of the piece



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.



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**UK dress sizes**

	6/8	10/12	14	16/20	22/24
Actual bust measurement	88	96	104	120	128
Dress length	58	58	58	58	58
Sleeve length	28	28	28	28	28

**Pattern details**

**You will need...**

- Yarn** 3011, 2.34, 15 x 50g balls The Merino DK Merino by Scharlett
- Needles** 3mm UK size 11 2.25mm UK size 10 and 4mm UK size 6
- Other** 2 stitch markers

**Tension** Yarn used Knits as DK - 21sts and 29 rows to 10cm or 4in using 4mm needles over at

**Abbreviations**

- k knit
- p purl
- st stitch
- st st stocking stitch
- rep repeat
- RS right side
- WS wrong side
- alt alternate
- beg beginning
- dec decrease
- fol follow
- k1b knit 1 through the back
- k2tog knit next 2 sts together
- k3p knit 3 together
- k4p knit 4 together
- sloped stitch over
- sts sts 4 2 together through the back of the loops
- yf yarn forward

**Front**

Work as for back with armhole measures 120cm then shape neck as for back and cont straight until front measures back in length to start of shoulder shaping. Now work shoulder shaping as for back.

**Sleeves**

Cast on 63 (65, 69, 75, 79) on size 2.25mm needles and work in twisted rib as for back for 30cm.

Change to 4mm needles and work central rib and lace panel: k2p2 (12, 12, 12, 12, 12) 4 times, then work 1 row of leaf panel: p1 k3 (p1 3) 3 times, k3 (p1 3) 3 times, 22, 24.

Continue as set but increasing 1 st at each end of 8th and every 8th 4th 6th 8th dec, dec to 38 (35, 39, 43, 47) sts.

When sleeve measures 39 (39, 39, 43, 43)cm shape sleevehead as folls.

**Neckband**

Using a circular 3.75mm needle and with RS facing begin at top of front: 12, 21, 21, 18 from front faster, 28 up right front, 21 down left back, 21, 21, 21, 28 from back, middle 21 up left back. Work 5 rounds k2 p1.

Change to 3mm needles and work 5 more rounds. Cast off loosely.

Set in sleeves then join side and sleeve seams.

**Armhole shaping**

Cast off 5 (6, 6, 6, 6) at beginning of next 2 rows, 83, 87, 91, 95, 101, 105.

Dec 1 st at each end of next 3 rows, then next 5 st rows.

Cont until sleeve measures 120cm from beg of armhole shaping.

Arm 2: 25, 31, 36, 43, turn.

Cont 3, p to end.

**Waist row** k to last 3, k2tog, k1.

**Next row** k3, 2tog, p to end.

Rep last 2 rows to 14 (16, 18, 20, 22) sts.

Continue until armhole measures 19 (20, 22, 23, 23, 24)cm.

**Shap shoulder**

Cast off 7 (8, 8, 8, 8) at beg of next row and fold left row.

Leave centre 21 (21, 21, 21, 21) on holder and work other side to match.

### 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 pincushions

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# Standard abbreviations

Use our handy reference guide when knitting the projects in this month's issue

<b>alt</b>	alternate	<b>psso</b>	pass slipped stitch over
<b>beg</b>	beginning	<b>rem</b>	remaining
<b>ch</b>	chain stitch	<b>rep</b>	repeat(ing)
<b>cm</b>	centimetre(s)	<b>rev st st</b>	reverse stocking stitch
<b>cont</b>	continue(ing)	<b>RS</b>	right side
<b>dc</b>	double crochet	<b>skpo</b>	slip 1st, K1, pass slipped stitch over
<b>dec</b>	decrease(ing)	<b>sl1</b>	slip one stitch
<b>dpn</b>	double-pointed needles	<b>sl st</b>	slip stitch
<b>dtr</b>	double treble crochet	<b>ssk</b>	one by one, slip the next 2sts knitwise. Put the left needle through the front loops of both slipped sts and knit them together
<b>fol</b>	following	<b>st(s)</b>	stitch(es)
<b>htr</b>	half treble crochet	<b>st st</b>	stocking stitch
<b>inc</b>	increase(ing)	<b>tbl</b>	through the back of the loop(s)
<b>in</b>	inch(es)	<b>tr</b>	treble crochet
<b>K</b>	knit	<b>WS</b>	wrong side
<b>kfb</b>	knit into the front and back of the next stitch	<b>wyib</b>	with yarn in back
<b>k2tog</b>	knit two stitches together	<b>wyif</b>	with yarn in front
<b>k3tog</b>	knit three stitches together	<b>yb</b>	yarn back
<b>kwise</b>	knitwise	<b>yf</b>	yarn forward
<b>M1</b>	make one stitch, by picking up the horizontal loop before next stitch and knitting into back of it	<b>yoh</b>	yarn over hook
<b>meas</b>	measure(s)	<b>yon</b>	yarn over needle
<b>P</b>	purl	<b>yrn</b>	yarn round the needle
<b>PM</b>	place marker		
<b>p2tog</b>	purl two stitches together		
<b>p3tog</b>	purl three stitches together		

## Needle size conversion chart

Metric Sizes (mm)	UK Sizes	US Sizes
2	14	0
2.25	13	1
2.75	12	2
3	11	-
3.25	10	3
3.5	-	4
3.75	9	5
4	8	6
4.5	7	7
5	6	8
5.5	5	9
6	4	10
6.5	3	10.5
7	2	-
7.5	1	-
8	0	11
9	00	13
10	000	15
12	-	17
16	-	19
19	-	35
25	-	50



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## knit & stitch it 14

28th February-2nd March 2014  
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## A New Exhibition for needle crafters, stitchers and knitters



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28th February - 2nd March, 10am - 5pm (3.30pm close on Sunday)  
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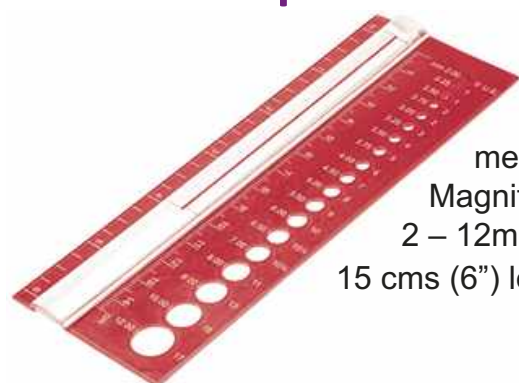
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# Stephen West



The cosmopolitan designer and knitter talks about the beauty of simplicity and being in a 'fuzzy mood'

**What's your favourite design in your collection, and why?**

At the moment I really like the Enchanted Mesa sweater because it's so much fun to knit with the changing colours and short row techniques. It uses a variety of scrap yarns and I wrote the pattern to encourage knitters to make their own colour substitutions and striping sequences. Each version I've seen looks so different from the last. The sweater is like a canvas for playing with colour, so each knitter can make their own artistic statement.

Stephen and his friend Kyli Kleven modelling Swants in Reykjavik!



**What's been the highlight of your career so far?**

One highlight was photographing a knitting collection in Iceland with Jared Flood, Ragga Eiríksdóttir, and Cirilia Rose. We drove up north and spent a weekend taking photos of my designs using Jared's yarn. We took breaks to pet sheep and swim in a pool overlooking the sea. We went in the summer of 2012 and the sun never completely set, so there was magical daylight until midnight. The whole experience was very surreal.

**Which designers inspire you?**

Gudrun Johnston, Ysolda Teague, and Jared Flood. They

each have a very distinctive style that continues to surprise me. I am equally inspired by friends of mine who sew and have their own fashion lines or shops. Íris Eggertsdóttir owns a beautiful shop in Reykjavik called Liber, and sews amazing clothes, often hand dyed. She also crochets beautiful sweaters, accessories and masks. My friend Barbara in Amsterdam does inspiring work appliquéing Indian textiles onto vintage garments under the name Chillimint. I admire her mix of colours and textures with antique embroidered fabrics, metal trims and feathers.

**Who taught you to knit?**

My friends in high school taught me to knit and my first project that I remember was an

acrylic turquoise scarf. I haven't knitted with that shade of blue since.

**What advice would you give to young designers?**

Just make things that you love and don't hold onto things too long until you've mastered them or developed some brilliant collection. I learned a lot by sharing designs online and receiving feedback from knitters who knit them. Don't feel the pressure to invent new masterpieces. You can take something simple, put your own spin on it, and present it in a personal way.

**What are your favourite materials to work with?**

I will always love wool and especially wool and alpaca blends because you get the cosiness and body of the wool alongside the warm draping of the alpaca. I'm in a fuzzy mood at the moment so I'm enjoying mixing mohair, brushed alpaca and bouclé yarns with my other yarns. I've recently started to make a few sweaters and jackets that incorporate other materials such as rope and leather strips. It's fun to play with textures and yarn weights.

**Tell us about a typical designing day**

Most of my work is done actually knitting and figuring out an idea as I do it. Working this way gives me many ideas, so I often get distracted and start several projects at once. I always have a minimum of a dozen projects in progress. I travel a lot, so knitting and designing is the perfect portable project, but my favourite place to work is at home. I love surrounding myself with people and things that I love, so my apartment is stuffed with yarn and colourful artwork that seems to expand every time I walk in and out of my front door.

**Find Stephen here**  
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