

SWEET DREAMS

Knit your way to the land of Nod, with a helping hand from **Alan Dart's** Sandman.

EXCLUSIVE
ALAN DART
DESIGN

ALAN'S LATEST TOY IS
FULL OF CHARACTER
AND EXQUISITE DETAIL,
RIGHT DOWN TO THE
TIPS OF HIS FINGERS!



Tip When sewing up, Alan uses mattress stitch from the right side, which is much less fiddly when working with small pieces. His patterns always have a one stitch seam allowance to accommodate this, and the result is a seam that is virtually invisible.



YOU WILL NEED

- Hayfield, Bonus DK (100% acrylic, 100g/280m)
1 ball of each: Primrose (957), Flesh Tone (963), White (961), Pumpkin (766) and Bright Lemon (819)
- Hayfield, Baby Bonus DK (100% acrylic, 100g/280m)
1 ball of Baby Lemon (852)
- Sirdar, Country Style DK (40% nylon, 30% wool, 30% acrylic, 50g/155m)
1 ball of Honey (399)
- 50cm (18in) lengths of coffee and dusky pink DK yarn
- A pair of 3mm knitting needles
- A stitch holder
- 50g of washable toy stuffing
- A plastic pom-pom maker
- Long tweezers

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

TENSION

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

SIZE

29cm (11½in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list see page 92

The Sandman brings sweet dreams to people as they sleep, but it's Alan Dart's knitted version of this mythical character that's really a dream come true! Each piece is so carefully crafted, you won't believe the level of detail. If you're after a knitting challenge, and a peaceful night's slumber to boot, then start knitting this terrific toy today!



NOTE

Use 3mm needles throughout and cast on by using the cable (two needle) method. This is especially important when knitting the smaller pieces. Also begin all pieces with a K row, unless otherwise stated, and always work 'inc 1' by knitting into the front and back of the stitch, otherwise your stitch count will not be correct. Be aware that shaping will commence on the first row for some pieces.

LEGS & BODY (MAKE 1 PIECE)

RIGHT LEG

*Cast on 16 sts with Flesh Tone for ankle edge and work in st st for 4 rows. Change to White for long Johns and K 3 rows for hem.

Work in st st for 5 rows, beg with a P row.

Inc row 1 (K1, inc 1, K2) to end. [20 sts]

Work in st st for 7 rows.

Inc row 2 (K2, inc 1, K2) to end. [24 sts]

Work in st st for 7 rows.**

Break yarn and sl sts onto a stitch holder.

LEFT LEG

Work as given for right leg from * to **.

JOIN LEGS FOR BODY

Next row Inserting marker threads at beg and end, K22, skpo from left leg sts, then k2tog, K22 from held right leg sts. [46 sts]

P 1 row.

Dec row 1 K1, (k2tog, K18, skpo) twice, K1. [42 sts]

Work in st st for 9 rows.

Dec row 2 K2, (K3, k2tog, K5) to end. [38 sts]

Work in st st for 7 rows.

Dec row 3 K2, (K3, k2tog, K4) to end. [34 sts]

Work in st st for 7 rows.

SHAPE SIDES

Dec row 1 (K6, skpo, K2, k2tog, K4) twice, K2. [30 sts]

P 1 row.

Dec row 2 (K6, skpo, k2tog, K4) twice,

K2. [26 sts]

P 1 row.

Cast off for shoulder edge.

SLIPPERS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 6 sts with Pumpkin for centre edge of sole.

SHAPE SOLE

Inc row 1 K1, (inc 1) four times, K1. [10 sts]

Next row Cast on 6 sts, P to end. [16 sts]

Inc row 2 Cast on 6 sts, K7, (inc 1, K1) four times, K7. [26 sts]

Next row Cast on 6 sts, P to end. [32 sts]

Inc row 3 Cast on 6 sts, K14, (inc 1, K2) four times, K12. [42 sts]

P 3 rows for fold line.

Work in st st for 2 rows, beg with a K row.

SHAPE UPPER

Cast off 4 sts at beg of next 4 rows. [26 sts]

Dec row Cast off 4 sts, which will leave 1 st on right-hand needle, K6, k2tog, skpo, K11. [20 sts]

Next row Cast off 4 sts, P to end. [16 sts]

Cast off for ankle edge.

SLIPPER CUFFS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 28 sts with Honey for base edge and work in st st for 2 rows.

Dec row 1 (K3, k2tog, K2) to end. [24 sts]

P 1 row.

Dec row 2 (K2, k2tog, K2) to end. [20 sts]

Cast off for ankle edge.

NIGHTSHIRT (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 16 sts with Primrose for shoulder edge and work in st st for 2 rows.

SHAPE SIDES

Inc row 1 Inc 1, K13, inc 1, K1. [18 sts]

P 1 row.

Inc row 2 K1, inc 1, K13, inc 1, K2. [20 sts]

P 1 row.

Inc row 3 K2, inc 1, K13, inc 1, K3. [22 sts]

P 1 row.

Inc row 4 K3, inc 1, K13, inc 1, K4. [24 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows.

Inc 1 st at beg and end of next row. [26 sts]

Work in st st for 7 rows.

SHAPE BASE

Inc row 1 K2, (inc 1, K3) to end. [32 sts]

Work in st st for 13 rows.

Inc row 2 K2, (K1, inc 1, K3) to end.

[38 sts]

Work in st st for 13 rows.

SHAPE TAIL

Cast off 2 sts at beg of next 4 rows.

[30 sts]

Cast off 3 sts at beg of next 2 rows.

[24 sts]

Cast off 4 sts at beg of next 2 rows.

[16 sts]

Cast off for base edge.

NECKBAND & PLACKET

(MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 36 sts with Primrose.

Cast off.

NECK & HEAD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 24 sts with Flesh Tone for base edge and work in st st for 6 rows for neck.

WORK CHIN

Row 1 K17, yfwd, sl1, ybk, turn.

Row 2 Sl1, P10, ybk, sl1, yfwd, turn.

Row 3 Sl1, K9, yfwd, sl1, ybk, turn.

Row 4 Sl1, P8, ybk, sl1, yfwd, turn.

Row 5 Sl1, K7, yfwd, sl1, ybk, turn.

Row 6 Sl1, P6, ybk, sl1, yfwd, turn.

Row 7 Sl1, K5, yfwd, sl1, ybk, turn.

Row 8 Sl1, P4, ybk, sl1, yfwd, turn.

Row 9 Sl1, K4, yfwd, sl1, ybk, turn.

Row 10 Sl1, P4, ybk, sl1, yfwd, turn.

Row 11 Sl1, K5, yfwd, sl1, ybk, turn.

Row 12 Sl1, P6, ybk, sl1, yfwd, turn.

Row 13 Sl1, K7, yfwd, sl1, ybk, turn.

Row 14 Sl1, P8, ybk, sl1, yfwd, turn.

Row 15 Sl1, K9, yfwd, sl1, ybk, turn.

Row 16 Sl1, P10, ybk, sl1, yfwd, turn.

Row 17 Sl1, K to end.

Row 18 P across all sts. [24 sts]

SHAPE BASE OF HEAD

Inc row 1 K1, (inc 1, K1) three times, K10,

(inc 1, K1) three times, K1. [30 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows.

Inc row 2 (K2, inc 1) three times, K11,

(inc 1, K2) three times, K1. [36 sts]

Work in st st for 13 rows.

SHAPE TOP OF HEAD

Dec row 1 (K1, k2tog, K1) to end.

[27 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows.

Dec row 2 (K1, k2tog) to end.

[18 sts]

P 1 row.

Dec row 3 (K2tog) to end. [9 sts]

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread

through sts on needle, draw up tightly

and fasten off.

NOSE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 12 sts with Flesh Tone for face edge and P 1 row.

Dec row 1 K4, skpo, k2tog, K4. [10 sts]

P 1 row.

Dec row 2 K3, skpo, k2tog, K3. [8 sts]

Work in st st for 4 rows.

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread

through sts on needle, draw up tightly

and fasten off.

EYELIDS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 8 sts with Flesh Tone for base

edge and work in st st for 6 rows.

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread

through sts on needle, draw up tightly

and fasten off.

EARS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 12 sts with Flesh Tone for

outside edge and K 1 row.

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread

through sts on needle, draw up tightly

and fasten off.



This toy is a joy to behold from every angle – we love the nightshirt shaping and the stripy pom-pom nightcap.



The Sandman's lopsided smile is made of 11 chain stitches in dusky pink yarn.

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



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



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



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



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

Tip Rather than sewing down the flap on the Sandman's satchel, you could leave it open and insert a small piece of paper with a special message for the recipient of your toy. How about a lovely poem to read before bedtime, to help them drift off to sleep?

ARMS & HANDS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 6 sts with Primrose for top edge of sleeve and work in st st for 2 rows.

Inc 1 st at beg of next 6 rows.

[12 sts]

Cast on 2 sts at beg of next 2 rows for underarm. [16 sts]

Work in st st for 16 rows.

Dec row (K1, k2tog, K1) to end.

[12 sts]

K 2 rows.

P 1 row.

K 2 rows for cuff.

Change to Flesh Tone for hand and work in st st for 2 rows, beg with a K row.

SHAPE HAND

Inc row (Inc 1, K4, inc 1) twice. [16 sts]

P 1 row.

Cast on 5 sts at beg of next 2 rows for thumb. [26 sts]

Work in st st for 2 rows.

Cast off 4 sts at beg of next 2 rows.

[18 sts]

Work in st st for 2 rows.

INC FOR FINGERS

Next row K2, inc 1, (K1, inc 1) twice, K3, inc 1, turn and work on these 15 sts only.

WORK LITTLE FINGER

Next row P6, turn and work on these sts only.

Work in st st for 5 rows.

Break yarn, leaving a long end.

Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off, then join finger seam.

WORK RING FINGER

Next row With 9 sts on right-hand needle and RS facing, rejoin yarn to work and K1, inc 1 from first 2 sts on left-hand needle. Turn and work on these 12 sts only.

Next row P6, turn and work on these sts only.

Work in st st for 7 rows.

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

WORK MIDDLE FINGER

Next row With 6 sts on right-hand needle and RS facing, rejoin yarn to work and K1, inc 1 from first 2 sts on left-hand needle. Turn and work on these 9 sts only.

Next row P6, turn and work on these sts only.

Work in st st for 8 rows.

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread

through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off, then join finger seam.

WORK INDEX FINGER

Next row With 3 sts on right-hand needle and RS facing, rejoin yarn to work and knit remaining 3 sts from left-hand needle.

[6 sts]

Work in st st for 8 rows.

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off, then join index finger seam and round thumb, stopping at wrist.

STRIPY NIGHTCAP

(MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 48 sts with Bright Lemon for base edge and continue in alternating 4 row st st stripes of Bright Lemon and Baby Lemon, beg with Bright Lemon.

Work in st st for 6 rows.

Dec row 1 (K2, k2tog, K2) to end.

[40 sts]

Work in st st for 7 rows.

Dec row 2 (K2, k2tog, K1) to end.

[32 sts]

Work in st st for 7 rows.

Dec row 3 (K1, k2tog, K1) to end.

[24 sts]

IT'S ALL IN THE DETAIL



Each finger is knitted with 3mm needles, then carefully sewn together at the seam using mattress stitch. The finishing touch is to sew together the right thumb and forefinger, as if the Sandman is pinching a few grains of sand. Bend the fingers around a pencil to create the right shape, then spritz lightly with hairspray to hold.



The slipper cuffs are folded down so that the purl side becomes the right side.



Use a pom-pom maker to make a 2.5cm diameter bobble for the Sandman's cap.

Work in st st for 7 rows.

Dec row 4 (K1, k2tog) to end.

[16 sts]

Work in st st for 7 rows.

Dec row 5 (K1, k2tog, K1) to end.

[12 sts]

Work in st st for 11 rows.

Dec row 6 (K1, k2tog) to end.

[8 sts]

Work in st st for 11 rows.

Dec row 7 K1, (k2tog) three times, K1.

[5 sts]

Work in st st for 5 rows.

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

SAND SACHEL

(MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 18 sts with Pumpkin for front top edge and work in st st for 15 rows. P 3 rows for base fold.

Work in st st for 16 rows, beg with a K row, for back.

WORK FLAP

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row.

[16 sts]

Work in st st for 11 rows.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next 2 rows.

[12 sts]

Cast off for base edge of flap.

SACHEL FASTENING STRAP (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 10 sts with Pumpkin.

Cast off.

SACHEL SHOULDER STRAP (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 54 sts with Pumpkin.

Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Unless otherwise stated, sew seams and join pieces using mattress stitch, working with right side of knitting uppermost. A one-stitch knitted seam turning has been allowed on most pieces to accommodate this method. Join each leg seam, from ankle edge up to marker thread, then join body back seam, from marker threads up to shoulder edge. Remove markers, then stuff legs and body firmly. With body seam in centre, fold shoulder edge flat and sew across.

Fold cast-on edge of each slipper in half and sew across, then join sole and upper seam. Use tweezers to stuff firmly, then join ankle edges of slipper and leg together, placing front seam on slipper 5 knitted stitches away from leg seam. Wrap slipper cuff round base of leg, with ends meeting at centre front,

and sew in place by working backstitch over every stitch along cast-off ankle edge, then fold down cuff so purl side becomes right side.

Following pressing instructions printed on ball band, press nightshirt pieces lightly on wrong side, then join pieces together down side edges and across shoulder, leaving tails open. Fit on body and hold in place with pins.

Starting at gathered top edge, join head seam, stopping 2.5cm away from neck edge. Stuff firmly, then join remainder of seam. Use tweezers to stuff neck firmly, then position and sew neck edge of head to top of nightshirt and body, sewing through both layers of knitting. Now work a gathering thread under the chin only, sewing through every knitted stitch between the end of each dart. Draw up to shape chin and fasten off securely, sewing ends of yarn into head.

Join each sleeve seam, stopping at underarm. Leaving fingers unstuffed, stuff hands lightly and sleeves firmly, then position and sew sleeve heads to sides of nightshirt and body, sewing through both layers of knitting. Remove pins from nightshirt, then, starting at centre front and pinning in place, wrap neckband and placket strip



Three embroidered satin stitches help to keep the satchel strap firmly secured.



The Sandman clutches his satchel tightly; sew the hand in place with a few stitches.



Work the buttons on his nightshirt using tiny chain stitches in two yarn strands.



His sleepy expression is created with a diagonal stitch worked across each eyelid.



Sew the nightcap in place with a row of backstitches along the cast-on edge.



The slippers should be firmly stuffed, using tweezers to push into the toes.

Tip This project uses lots of similar shades, so it's important to keep track of the colours as you knit each piece. Make sure you double-check which shade you need to use before you cast on, and when making up the pieces at the end.

round neck, from right to left, running remainder down centre front. Hold in place with a few stitches worked down centre of strip and remove pins. Take a length of White yarn and draw out a single strand, then use the remaining 2 strands to embroider three buttons, evenly spaced, down placket, working a circle of 5 tiny chain stitches for each button.

Starting at gathered edge, join nose seam and use tweezers to stuff, then position and sew centrally to face, placing 10 knitted rows up from base of chin. Starting at gathered edge of each eyelid piece, join seam, then use tweezers to stuff firmly. Work a gathering thread through every stitch along cast-on edge. Draw up tightly and fasten off. With seam running down centre back, position and sew eyelids in place, spacing 2 knitted

stitches apart. Position and sew ears to sides of head, spacing 4 knitted stitches away from eyelids and with base of each ear in line with second increase row at base of head. When embroidering features, fasten off ends of yarn at top of head where they will eventually be hidden by nightcap. Use coffee yarn to work a single, diagonal stitch across each eyelid, then use a length of Pumpkin yarn to embroider a single stitch, worked over 3 knitted stitches, placed 2 knitted rows above each eyelid for eyebrows. Draw a single strand from a length of dusky pink yarn and embroider a curved line of 11 tiny chain stitches for mouth, forming a lopsided smile. Starting at gathered edge, join nightcap seam. Using the first two centre rings from each half of the pom-pom maker, wind with two layers of Baby Lemon yarn, then make up as directed on pack, trim to form a 2.5cm diameter bobble and sew to tip of nightcap.

Fit nightcap on head, then mark base edge with a line of pins and remove nightcap. Using Honey yarn, embroider a line of 22 chain stitches 6mm above pinned line, starting and finishing 2 knitted stitches in front of ears. Remove pins and cut 42 10cm lengths of Honey yarn. Thread a needle with two of these strands, then sew up through the first chain stitch and down the second. Adjust yarn ends so they are equal, then repeat with the remaining strands, sewing the next two up the second

chain stitch and down the third, and so on to the end. With seam running down centre back, fit nightcap back on head and hold with pins. Sew in place by working backstitch over every stitch along cast-on edge, then remove pins. Trim hair strands to measure 2.5cm. Fold satchel along knitted base fold line and join side seams. Stuff base lightly, then fold down flap and sew fastening strap vertically in centre, sewing through both layers of knitting to hold down flap. Working directly below base edge of flap, embroider 3 satin stitches across fastening strap. Sew one end of shoulder strap to one side of satchel. Place satchel at left hip and wrap strap over right shoulder. Sew opposite end of strap in place. Wrap fingers of left hand round side of satchel and hold down with a few stitches. Bend right arm at elbow so arm faces forward, and sew pleat now formed inside elbow together with a few stitches. Sew right thumb and forefinger together as if the Sandman is pinching a few grains of sand. ●



All you need to bring your toys to life

START KNITTING THE SANDMAN

We love Alan Dart's incredibly detailed toys and know you do, too. Knitting each part, then carefully sewing the pieces together, is such a delight – and it's really exciting when you can proudly put your finished toy on the shelf or give it as a gift. Did you know you can get everything you need to make Alan Dart toys from LoveKnitting? The site stocks all your favourite yarn brands, heaps of needles, buttons and accessories, plus lots of knitting kits and inspiring books, too. So don't delay, get the right tools for the job and start knitting the Sandman today!
www.loveknitting.com



NEXT MONTH
Get ready for Halloween with Alan Dart's Werewolf. Issue 138, October, is in the shops from Friday 11 September.