

Simply **knitting** presents Alan Dart's... 

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Advent Tree

PLUS! 25 Toy Patterns

Knit an heirloom treat to delight all the family - add a decoration for every day of your Christmas countdown!



FREE with
issue 46
Simply
Knitting

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Advent Tree

✦ Start knitting here...

NOTE Cast on by using the cable (two needle) method and, unless otherwise specified, begin all pieces with a K row.

THE TREE

TREE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 14 sts using 4mm needles for base edge and Signal Red.

St st 2 rows.

1st inc row Inc into every st to end. [28 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [42 sts]

St st 3 rows.

3rd inc row (K1, inc 1, K1) to end. [56 sts]

St st 3 rows.

4th inc row (K1, inc 1, K2) to end. [70 sts]

Next row Purl.

Change to Funky Fur and st st 2 rows.

5th inc row (K2, inc 1, K2) to end. [84 sts]

Next row Purl.

6th inc row (K2, inc 1, K3) to end. [98 sts]

St st 3 rows.

7th inc row (K3, inc 1, K3) to end. [112 sts]

Next row Purl.

8th inc row (K3, inc 1, K4) to end. [126 sts]

St st 3 rows.

9th inc row (K4, inc 1, K4) to end. [140 sts]

Next row Purl.

WORK FIRST ROW OF BRANCHES

Row 1 K18, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

***Row 2** Sl 1, P16, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 3 Sl 1, K15, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 4 Sl 1, P14, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 5 Sl 1, K13, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 6 Sl 1, P12, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 7 Sl 1, K11, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 8 Sl 1, P10, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 9 Sl 1, K9, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 10 Sl 1, P8, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 11 Sl 1, K7, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 12 Sl 1, P6, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 13 Sl 1, K5, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 14 Sl 1, P4, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 15 Sl 1, K3, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 16 Sl 1, P2, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 17 Sl 1, K3, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 18 Sl 1, P4, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 19 Sl 1, K5, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 20 Sl 1, P6, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.



Row 21 Sl 1, K7, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 22 Sl 1, P8, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 23 Sl 1, K9, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 24 Sl 1, P10, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 25 Sl 1, K11, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 26 Sl 1, P12, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 27 Sl 1, K13, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 28 Sl 1, P14, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 29 Sl 1, K15, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 30 Sl 1, P16, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.***

Row 31 Sl 1, K36, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.**

Work from * to ** five more times, then from * to *** once more.

Next row Sl 1, K to end.

Next row Purl. [140 sts]

St st 6 rows.

1st dec row (K4, k2tog, K4) to end. [126 sts]

St st 9 rows.

2nd dec row (K4, k2tog, K3) to end. [112 sts]

St st 9 rows.

WORK SECOND ROW OF BRANCHES

Row 1 K18, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

***Row 2** Sl 1, P14, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 3 Sl 1, K13, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 4 Sl 1, P12, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 5 Sl 1, K11, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 6 Sl 1, P10, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 7 Sl 1, K9, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 8 Sl 1, P8, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.



“The tree doesn’t need any stiffening to keep its shape – store it in a plastic bag.”

Alan Dart, toy and knitwear designer

Row 9 Sl 1, K7, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.
Row 10 Sl 1, P6, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.
Row 11 Sl 1, K5, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.
Row 12 Sl 1, P4, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.
Row 13 Sl 1, K3, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.
Row 14 Sl 1, P2, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.
Row 15 Sl 1, K3, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.
Row 16 Sl 1, P4, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.
Row 17 Sl 1, K5, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.
Row 18 Sl 1, P6, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.
Row 19 Sl 1, K7, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.
Row 20 Sl 1, P8, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.
Row 21 Sl 1, K9, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.
Row 22 Sl 1, P10, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.
Row 23 Sl 1, K11, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.
Row 24 Sl 1, P12, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.
Row 25 Sl 1, K13, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.
Row 26 Sl 1, P14, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.***

Row 27 Sl 1, K32, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.**
 Work from * to ** four more times, then from * to *** once more.

Next row Sl 1, K to end.
Next row Purl. [112 sts]

St st 6 rows.
3rd dec row (K3, k2tog, K3) to end. [98 sts]
 St st 9 rows.

4th dec row (K3, k2tog, K2) to end. [84 sts]
 St st 9 rows.

WORK THIRD ROW OF BRANCHES
Row 1 K16, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

***Row 2** Sl 1, P12, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.
Row 3 Sl 1, K11, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 4 Sl 1, P10, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.
Row 5 Sl 1, K9, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 6 Sl 1, P8, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.
Row 7 Sl 1, K7, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 8 Sl 1, P6, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.
Row 9 Sl 1, K5, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 10 Sl 1, P4, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.
Row 11 Sl 1, K3, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 12 Sl 1, P2, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.
Row 13 Sl 1, K3, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 14 Sl 1, P4, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.
Row 15 Sl 1, K5, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 16 Sl 1, P6, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.
Row 17 Sl 1, K7, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 18 Sl 1, P8, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 19 Sl 1, K9, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 20 Sl 1, P10, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 21 Sl 1, K11, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 22 Sl 1, P12, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.***

Row 23 Sl 1, K28, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.**
 Work from * to ** three more times, then from * to *** once more.

Next row Sl 1, K to end.

Next row Purl. [84 sts]

St st 6 rows.

5th dec row (K2, k2tog, K2) to end. [70 sts]

St st 9 rows.

6th dec row (K2, k2tog, K1) to end. [56 sts]

St st 9 rows.

WORK FOURTH ROW OF BRANCHES

Row 1 K12, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

***Row 2** Sl 1, P10, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 3 Sl 1, K9, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 4 Sl 1, P8, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 5 Sl 1, K7, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 6 Sl 1, P6, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 7 Sl 1, K5, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 8 Sl 1, P4, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 9 Sl 1, K3, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 10 Sl 1, P2, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 11 Sl 1, K3, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 12 Sl 1, P4, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 13 Sl 1, K5, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 14 Sl 1, P6, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 15 Sl 1, K7, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 16 Sl 1, P8, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 17 Sl 1, K9, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 18 Sl 1, P10, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.***

Row 19 Sl 1, K24, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.**

Work from * to ** two more times, then from * to *** once more.

Next row Sl 1, K to end.

Next row Purl. [56 sts]

St st 6 rows.

7th dec row (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [42 sts]

St st 9 rows.

8th dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [28 sts]

St st 9 rows.

WORK FIFTH ROW OF BRANCHES

Row 1 K8, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

***Row 2** Sl 1, P5, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 3 Sl 1, K4, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 4 Sl 1, P3, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

KNIT TIP
 Funky Fur yarn is slippery to knit with so use bamboo needles which will help keep the yarn in place.

How to...

Yf & yb

To have a neat edge when short row shaping.



1

When the pattern says to 'yf' bring the yarn to the front of your knitting.



2

This is how to slip the next stitch purlwise onto your right-hand needle.



3

When the pattern says 'yb' take the yarn through the needles to the back.

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Row 5 Sl 1, K2, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 6 Sl 1, P1, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 7 Sl 1, K2, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 8 Sl 1, P3, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

Row 9 Sl 1, K4, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

Row 10 Sl 1, P5, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.***

Row 11 Sl 1, K14, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.**

Work from * to ** once more, then from * to *** once more.

Next row Sl 1, K to end.

Next row Purl. [28 sts]

St st 8 rows.

9th dec row (K2tog) to end. [14 sts]

St st 7 rows.

10th dec row (K2tog) to end. [7 sts]

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

TUB (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 84 sts using 3mm needles and Signal Red for top edge and st st 8 rows.

1st dec row (K3, k2tog, K2) to end. [72 sts]

St st 9 rows.

2nd dec row (K5, k2tog, K5) to end. [66 sts]

St st 7 rows.

3rd dec row (K5, k2tog, K4) to end. [60 sts]

St st 8 rows.

Purl 3 rows for fold line.

4th dec row (K2, k2tog, K2) to end. [50 sts]

Next row Purl.

5th dec row (K2, k2tog, K1) to end.

[40 sts]

Next row Purl.

6th dec row (K1, k2tog, K1) to

end. [30 sts]

Next row Purl.

7th dec row (K1, k2tog) to end.

[20 sts]

Next row Purl.

8th dec row (K2tog) to end. [10 sts]

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

BERRIES (MAKE 25 PIECES)

Cast on 6 sts using 3mm needles and Signal Red and st st 3 rows.

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

STAR (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 12 sts using 3mm needles and Primrose for centre edge and st st 2 rows.

1st inc row K1, (inc 1) ten times, K1. [22 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row K1, (inc 1, K1) ten times, K1. [32 sts]

Next row Purl, inserting marker threads at beg and end of row.



Hang a new decoration on your tree each day.

WORK FIRST POINT

Next row K6, inc 1, turn and work on these 8 sts only.

***Next row** Purl.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row.

Next row Purl.

Repeat the last 2 rows two more times. [2 sts]

Next row Skpo, break yarn and draw through st.**

WORK SECOND POINT

Next row Rejoin yarn to remaining 25 sts, inc 1, K4, inc 1, turn and work on these 8 sts only.

Work as given for first point from * to **.

WORK THIRD POINT

Next row Rejoin yarn to remaining 19 sts, inc 1, K4, inc 1, turn and work on these 8 sts only.

Work as given for first point from * to **.

WORK FOURTH POINT

Next row Rejoin yarn to remaining 13 sts, inc 1, K4, inc 1, turn and work on these 8 sts only.

Work as given for first point from * to **.

WORK FIFTH POINT

Next row Rejoin yarn to remaining 7 sts, inc 1, K to end. [8 sts]

Work as given for first point from * to **.

TO MAKE UP

Join tree seam from gathered top point down to last row knitted in Signal Red. Stuff firmly, then, starting on top row of branches, insert a small ball of stuffing into each of the branch points. Once these branch points have been stuffed, continue in the same manner on the remaining rows of branches, working downwards in order, until all points have been stuffed. Now join remaining seam on Signal Red section at base, then work a gathering thread

KNIT TIP

If you don't have a stitch marker, take a length of bright yarn and tie it in a small loop, then snip off the ends.



Bright red apples are popular decorations.

through every stitch along base edge, draw up tightly and then fasten off.

Using a length of Funky Fur yarn, work a gathering thread round tree, directly under each row of branches, draw up slightly to shape, then tie securely and darn ends into tree. Cover holes in base of flowerpot with parcel tape, then pour beanbag granules into pot. Top up with a little stuffing, then cut a 4in (10cm) diameter circle of card to fit in top of pot and hold in place with parcel tape. Join seam on tub piece, then fit over flowerpot and sew top edge to base of tree, matching tree and tub seams and following first row knitted in Funky Fur.

Oversew side edges of each berry piece together, use tweezers to stuff with a scrap of matching yarn, then work a gathering thread through every stitch along cast on edge, draw up tightly and fasten off. Sew a berry to the tip of each branch.

On each star piece, work a gathering thread through every stitch along centre edge, draw up tightly and fasten off, then join seam from this point up to marker threads and remove markers. Now sew pieces together, leaving one side of last point open. Use tweezers to stuff each point firmly, then join remainder of seam and sew star to top of the tree.

THE DECORATIONS

NOTE Use 3mm needles throughout, and use tweezers to insert stuffing. To prevent mishaps, squeeze a spot of adhesive on the tip of a toothpick or cocktail stick and use this when gluing small pieces in place. Coat decorations with hair spray once made up, mould into shape and leave to set.

APPLE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 8 sts with Signal Red for base edge and st st 2 rows.

1st inc row Inc into every st to end. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [24 sts]

St st 3 rows.

3rd inc row (K1, inc 1, K1) to end. [32 sts]

St st 9 rows.

1st dec row K2, (k2tog, K1) to end. [22 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row (K2tog) to end. [11 sts]

Break yarn, leaving a long

end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

LEAF (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 3 sts with Summer Lime for base edge and cont in st st.

Inc row (Inc 1) twice, K1. [5 sts]

St st 3 rows.

Dec row Skpo, K1, k2tog. [3 sts]

Next row Purl.

Next row Sl 1, k2tog, pssso, break yarn, leaving a long end, thread through st and draw up.

STALK (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 3 sts with Chocolate and st st 3 rows.

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

TO MAKE UP

Join side edges of apple, starting at gathered top edge and stopping $\frac{1}{2}$ in (12mm) away from base edge. Stuff firmly, then join remainder of seam. Now work a gathering thread through every stitch along base edge, draw up tightly and fasten off, then take needle through centre of apple and draw out at top point. Draw up yarn to indent base, then fasten off securely. Using Chocolate yarn, embroider a French knot at base of apple. Oversew side edges of stalk piece and glue-sew in place. Working on purl side, darn cast off yarn down centre of leaf to base edge, then glue-sew leaf in place. Use white pencil to add gloss to top of apple.

PEAR (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 7 sts with Primrose for base edge and cont in st st.

1st inc row Inc into every st to end. [14 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [21 sts]

St st 3 rows.

3rd inc row (K1, inc 1, K1) to end. [28 sts]

St st 5 rows.

1st dec row (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [21 sts]

St st 7 rows.

2nd dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [14 sts]

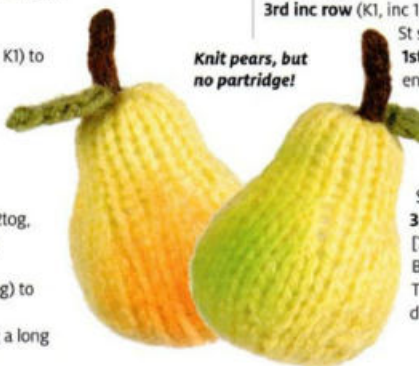
St st 7 rows.

3rd dec row (K2tog) to end. [7 sts]

Break yarn, leaving a long end.

Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

Knit pears, but no partridge!



How to... Draw stitches up

These steps show you how to make a gathered end to finish off.



1

When you reach the final row of knitting, cut the yarn leaving a long length which you then thread onto a needle. Now push the needle through all the stitches on the knitting needle.



2

Pull stitches off the knitting needle.



3

Pull the thread through the stitches.



4

Draw the stitches up together.



5

Keep the stitches tight and sew down the sides. Stuff and stitch in place.

LEAF (MAKE 1 PIECE)

With Khaki, work as given for apple leaf.

STALK (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Work as given for apple stalk.

TO MAKE UP

Make up as given for apple, then bluish pear with red and green pencils.

TANGERINE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 8 sts with Bright Orange for base edge and cont in st st.

1st inc row Inc into every st to end. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [24 sts]

St st 3 rows.

3rd inc row (K1, inc 1, K1) to end. [32 sts]

St st 7 rows.

1st dec row (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [24 sts]

St st 3 rows.

2nd dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd dec row (K2tog) to end. [8 sts].

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

LEAVES (MAKE 2 PIECES)

With Moss, work as given for apple leaf.

TO MAKE UP

Treating purl side of tangerine as right side, make up as given for apple, embroidering French knots at base and top points. Make up leaves as given for apple and glue-sew in place, then use white pencil to add gloss to top of tangerine.

SUGAR PLUM (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 8 sts with Velvet Plum for base edge and cont in st st.

1st inc row Inc into every st to end. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [24 sts]

St st 15 rows.

1st dec row (K1, k2tog) to end.

[16 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row (K2tog) to

end. [8 sts]

Break yarn, leaving a long

end. Thread through sts on

needle, draw up tightly

and fasten off.



Tangerines – the most festive of fruits!

LEAF (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Work as given for apple leaf.

STALK (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Work as given for apple stalk.

TO MAKE UP

Make up as given for apple, but take the yarn remaining after gathering base up to top point on the outside of plum and draw this up to indent a line down side. Make up and attach stalk and leaf, and add gloss, as given for apple.

GINGERBREAD HEART

(MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 2 sts with Copper Beech for base edge and cont in st st.

Next row Purl.

Inc 1 st at beg and end of next 3 rows. [8 sts]

Next row Purl.

Inc 1 st at beg and end of next row.

Repeat the last 2 rows two more times. [14 sts]

St st 5 rows.

DIVIDE FOR TOP, FIRST HALF

Next row K6, inc 1, turn and work on these 8 sts only.

***Next row** Purl.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next 2 rows [4 sts].

Cast off for top edge.**

WORK SECOND HALF

Next row Rejoin yarn to remaining 7 sts, inc 1, K to end. [8 sts]

Work as given for first half

from * to **.

TO MAKE UP

Join pieces together,

leaving a 1/8 in (12mm) space

open. Stuff firmly, then join

remainder of seam. Draw out

a single strand from a length of

White yarn and use the remaining

2 strands to embroider a line of chain

stitch one stitch in from edge of heart.



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LARGE TOADSTOOL

CAP (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 7 sts with White for base edge and cont in st st.

1st inc row Inc into every st to end. [14 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (inc 1, K1) to end. [21 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd inc row (K1, inc 1, K1) to end. [28 sts]

Change to Signal Red and P 3 rows for fold line.

St st 6 rows, beg with a K row.

1st dec row K1, (k2tog, K1) to end. [19 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row K1, (k2tog) to end. [10 sts]

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

STALK (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 10 sts with White for top edge and st st 4 rows.

Inc row K1, (inc 1, K1) four times, K1 [14 sts].

St st 3 rows.

WORK GRASS

Next row Using a ball of yarn for each colour and stranding yarn not in use across P side of work, (K1 Summer Lime, K1 White) to end.

Continue in Summer Lime and st st 2 rows.

Dec row (P2tog) to end. [7 sts]

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

SMALL TOADSTOOL

CAP (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 7 sts with White for base edge and st st 2 rows.

Inc row Inc into every st to end. [14 sts]

Change to Signal Red and P 3 rows for fold line.

St st 4 rows, beg with a K row.

Dec row (K2tog) to end. [7 sts]

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



STALK (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 8 sts with

White for top edge and st st 4 rows.

Toadstools are traditional in Europe.

WORK GRASS

Next row Using a ball of yarn for each colour and stranding yarn not in use across P side of work, (K1 Summer Lime, K1 White) to end.

Cont in Summer Lime and st st 2 rows.

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

TO MAKE UP

Work a gathering thread through every stitch along base edge of large toadstool cap, draw up tightly and fasten off, then join side edges, stopping just above fold line. Glue a 1 1/4in (3.5cm) diameter card circle inside base, stuff cap firmly, then join remainder of seam. Join seam on large toadstool stalk, stuff firmly, then sew top edge to base of cap.

Make up small toadstool in same manner, omitting card circle.

Using White yarn, embroider tiny horizontal lazy daisy stitches over caps to form spots, then sew toadstools together with a few stitches.

WOVEN HEART

BACK (MAKE 1 PIECE)

*FIRST STRIP

Cast on 5 sts with Emerald and st st 5 rows.

Change to Signal Red and st st 5 rows.

Break yarn and slip sts on to a stitch holder.

SECOND STRIP

Cast on 5 sts

with Signal Red

and st st 5 rows.

Change to Emerald

and st st 5 rows.**

JOIN STRIPS

Next row Inserting marker

thread at beg of row, change to

Signal Red and K3, skpo from second strip sts, then k2tog, K3 from held first strip sts. [8 sts]

*** St st 4 rows.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next 2 rows. [4 sts]

Cast off. ****

With right side of work facing and Emerald, K up 8 sts from side of second strip between cast on edge and marker thread.

Work as given from *** to ****.

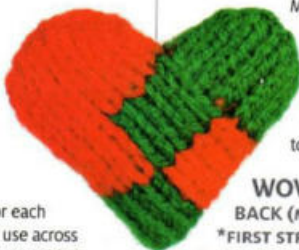
Remove marker.

FRONT (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Work as given for back from * to **.

JOIN STRIPS

Inserting marker thread at end of row, change to Signal Red and K3, skpo from second strip sts, then



Knitting with more than one colour is simpler than it seems.



1

Hold the new colour at the back of your work and insert your needle ready to work the next stitch.



2

Wind the new colour around the right-hand needle and work the stitch.



3

As you knit, twist the tail end of the new colour with the ball end as you go across the row to weave it in.



4

When you finish one section of colour, twist it with the next colour to stop holes forming.

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Sugar mice are an old British favourite.



k2tog, K3 from held first strip sts. [8 sts].
Work as given for back from *** to ****.
With right side of work facing and Emerald, K up 8 sts from side of first strip between marker thread and cast on edge. Work as given for back from *** to ****. Remove marker.

TO MAKE UP

Join first and second strips together down centre on front and back pieces, then join hearts together, leaving a 1/2in (12mm) space open. Stuff firmly, then join remainder of seam.

SUGAR MOUSE

BODY (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 7 sts with Iced Pink for back edge and st st 2 rows.

1st inc row Inc into every st to end. [14 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [21 sts]

St st 9 rows.

1st dec row K1, (k2tog, K2) to end. [16 sts]

St st 3 rows.

2nd dec row K1, (k2tog, K1) to end. [11 sts]

St st 3 rows.

3rd dec row K1, (k2tog) to end [6 sts].

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

EARS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 5 sts with Iced Pink.

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

TO MAKE UP

Join body seam from gathered nose edge, stopping 1/2in (12mm) away from back edge. Stuff firmly, join remainder of seam, then work a gathering thread through every stitch along back edge, draw up tightly and fasten off. With body seam running along underside, glue-sew ears in position, placing on second decrease row, and spacing 2 knitted stitches apart. Draw out a single strand from a length of Walnut yarn and use the remaining

2 strands to embroider two French knots for eyes. Use an 8in (20cm) length of Aran yarn to make a cord tail, knotting 2in (5cm) in from folded end. Trim away excess close to knot, then use a large knitting needle to make a hole in back of mouse, spread knot with glue, and push the tail into hole with tweezers.

GINGERBREAD SNOWFLAKE

(MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 13 sts with Copper Beech for centre edge and st st 2 rows.

Inc row Inc into every st to end. [26 sts]

Next row Purl, inserting marker threads at beg and end.

WORK FIRST POINT

Next row K4, inc 1, turn and work on these 6 sts only.

St st 4 rows.

Cast off.

WORK SECOND POINT

Next row Rejoin yarn to remaining 21 sts, inc 1, K2, inc 1, turn and work on these 6 sts only.

St st 4 rows.

Cast off.

WORK THIRD POINT

Next row Rejoin yarn to remaining 17 sts, inc 1, K2, inc 1, turn and work on these 6 sts only.

St st 4 rows.

Cast off.

WORK FOURTH POINT

Next row Rejoin yarn to remaining 13 sts, inc 1, K2, inc 1, turn and work on these 6 sts only.

St st 4 rows.

Cast off.

WORK FIFTH POINT

Next row Rejoin yarn to remaining 9 sts, inc 1, K2, inc 1, turn and work on these 6 sts only.

St st 4 rows.

Cast off.

WORK SIXTH POINT

Next row Rejoin yarn to remaining 5 sts, inc 1, K2 to end. [6 sts]

St st 4 rows.

Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Join pieces together, leaving one side of last point open. Stuff points and centre firmly, then join remainder of seam. Draw out a single strand from a length of White yarn and use the remaining 2 strands to embroider snowflake with chain stitch.



A knitted version of a snowflake biscuit.

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The pig is a good luck symbol in Europe.

MARZIPAN PIG

BODY (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 10 sts with Flesh Tone for back edge and st 2 rows.

1st inc row Inc into every st to end. [20 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [30 sts]

St st 9 rows.

1st dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [20 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row (K2tog) to end.

[10 sts]

St st 4 rows.

Purl 2 rows for fold line.

Break yarn, leaving a long end.

Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

LEGS (MAKE 4 PIECES)

Cast on 8 sts with Flesh Tone for top edge and st st 3 rows.

Purl 2 rows for fold line.

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

EARS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 5 sts with Flesh Tone for base edge and st st 2 rows.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row. [3 sts]

Next row P3tog, break yarn and draw through st.

TO MAKE UP

Join body seam, starting at gathered snout point and stopping $\frac{1}{2}$ in (12mm) away from back edge. Stuff firmly, join remainder of seam, then fold back edge in half and join. Join each leg seam and stuff firmly, then, with body seam running along underside, position and sew legs in place. Glue-sew ears in position, placing on first decrease row and spacing 2 knitted stitches apart. Embroider eyes and make tail with Flesh Tone yarn as given for sugar mouse. Tie tail into a loose knot, then glue in place as given for sugar mouse and hold knot in position with a couple of spots of glue.

SWEDISH STRAW GOAT

BODY & NECK (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 18 sts with Daisy and K 2 rows.

1st dec row K9, skpo, k2tog, K5. [16 sts]

Next row Knit.

2nd dec row K8, skpo, k2tog, K4. [14 sts]

Next row Knit.

3rd dec row K7, skpo, k2tog, K3. [12 sts]

Next row Knit.

4th dec row K6, skpo, k2tog, K2. [10 sts]

Next row Knit.

1st inc row K6, (inc 1) twice, K2. [12 sts]

Next row Knit.

2nd inc row K7, (inc 1) twice, K3. [14 sts]

Next row Knit.

3rd inc row K8, (inc 1) twice, K4. [16 sts]

Next row Knit.

4th inc row K9, (inc 1) twice, K5. [18 sts]

Next row Knit.

Cast off.

HEAD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 9 sts with Daisy and g st 14 rows.

Cast off.

LEGS (MAKE 4 PIECES)

Cast on 7 sts with Daisy and g st 8 rows.

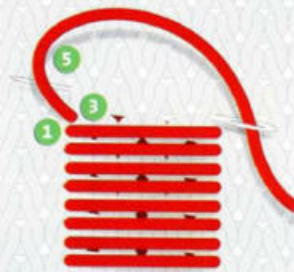
Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

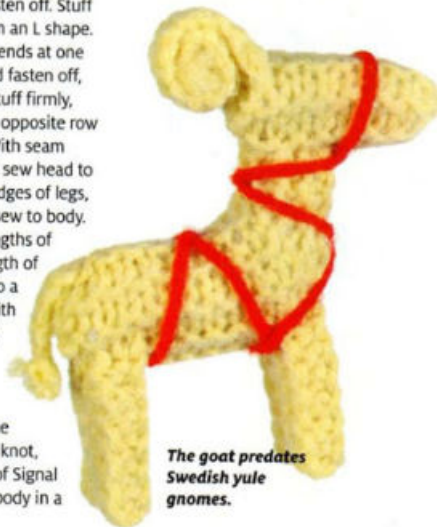
Join cast on and cast off edges of body piece to form centre front and underside seam, then work a gathering thread through every row end on back edge, which is the end of the longer section, draw up tightly and fasten off. Stuff firmly through open neck edge to form an L shape. Work a gathering thread through row ends at one side of head piece, draw up tightly and fasten off, then join cast on and cast off edges. Stuff firmly, then work a gathering thread through opposite row ends, draw up tightly and fasten off. With seam running along underside, position and sew head to top of neck. Join cast on and cast off edges of legs, leaving ends open, then position and sew to body. For each horn cut three 8in (20cm) lengths of Daisy yarn and tie in centre with a length of matching yarn, then secure this knot to a work surface and plait strands. Bind with matching yarn $2\frac{1}{4}$ in (6cm) away from knot and trim away excess. Spread braids with a little glue and coil, then use knotting yarn to glue-sew into place at back of head. Make tail in same manner, binding $\frac{1}{4}$ in (2cm) away from knot, and glue-sew in place. Using a length of Signal Red yarn, wind round head, neck and body in a

Add details to your knitted decorations with this stitch.

Satin stitch



Satin stitch is a filling stitch worked from left to right. You can work it vertically or horizontally. Bring the needle through the fabric to the front at 1, at the edge of the shape to be stitched. Take it back down at the opposite edge at 2. Come back up to the front at 3, as close as you can to 1, but not in the same hole. Go down at 4, back up at 5 and continue in this under-and-over motion so that the back of the work looks the same as the front. Keep the edges neat and work the stitches close together so no background fabric shows through.



The goat predates Swedish yule gnomes.

KNIT TIP

When storing your decorations, wrap them in acid-free tissue paper to keep them free of dust.

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criss-cross fashion, tying off yarn in front of back legs and darning ends into body.

CANDY CANE HEART

CANES
(MAKE 2 PIECES)
Cast on 10 sts with White for base edge.
with White for base edge.

WORK DIAGONAL STRIPE PATTERN

Use a ball of yarn for each colour and strand yarn not in use across P side of work.

Row 1 K2 Signal Red, (K2 White, K2 Signal Red) twice.

Row 2 P1 White, (P2 Signal Red, P2 White) twice, K1 Signal Red.

Row 3 K2 White, (K2 Signal Red, K2 White) twice.

Row 4 P1 Signal Red, (P2 White, P2 Signal Red) twice, P1 White.

These four rows form the pattern.

Work 6 blocks of pattern altogether. [24 rows]

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

TO MAKE UP

Join seam on each cane, leaving base edge open, stuff firmly, then draw up sewing thread to gather seam at top of cane to form handle. Work a gathering thread through every stitch on first row of stripe pattern, draw up tightly and fasten off. Sew canes together to form a heart shape and tie a bow of Emerald yarn round handles, trimming ends and sealing these with spots of glue.

JINGLE BELLS

BELLS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 9 sts with Walnut for base edge and cont in st st.

1st inc row Inc into every st to end. [18 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row K1, (inc 1, K1) eight times, K1. [26 sts]

Next row Purl.

Change to Sunflower and K 3 rows for fold line. P 3 rows.

1st dec row K2, (k2tog, K1) to end. [18 sts]

St st 8 rows.

2nd dec row (P2tog) to end. [9 sts]

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



These bells won't jingle all the way!

CLAPPERS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 5 sts with Sunflower for top edge and st st 2 rows. Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

HANGING LOOPS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 6 sts with Sunflower.

Cast off.

BOW (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 50 sts with Emerald and K 1 row.

Cast off Knitwise.

TO MAKE UP

Work a gathering thread through every stitch along base edge of each bell, draw up tightly and fasten off, then join side edges, stopping just above fold line. Glue a 1 1/4in (3.5cm) diameter card circle inside base, then join seam down from gathered top edge, leaving a 1/2in (12mm) space open. Stuff bell firmly,

then join remainder of seam. Join clapper seam, stuff with a little matching yarn, then sew top edge to base of bell. Join ends of hanging loop and sew to top of bell. Tie bow piece into a bow, then sew a bell to each side of knot.

HOLLY BAUBLE

BAUBLE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 8 sts with Summer Lime for top edge and st st 2 rows.

1st inc row inc into every st to end. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (inc 1, K1) to end. [24 sts]

St st 3 rows.

3rd inc row (K1, inc 1, K1) to end. [32 sts]

St st 5 rows.

1st dec row (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [24 sts]

St st 3 rows.

2nd dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd dec row (K2tog) to end. [8 sts]

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

HOLLY LEAVES (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 3 sts with Spruce for base edge and st st 2 rows.

Inc 1 st at beg and end of next 2 rows. [7 sts]

Next row Knit.



You've got to have a bit of mistletoe.





Father Christmas has a super fluffy beard.



Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row. [5 sts]

Next row Knit.

Inc 1 st at beg and end of next row. [7 sts]

Repeat the last 4 rows once more.

Next row Knit.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next 2 rows. [3 sts]

Next row P3tog, break yarn, leaving a 12in (30cm) long end, thread through st and draw up.

HOLLY BERRIES (MAKE 3 PIECES)

Cast on 3 sts with Signal Red and st 2 rows.

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

TO MAKE UP

Join seam on bauble, starting at gathered base edge and stopping 1in (2.5cm) away from top edge. Stuff firmly, join remainder of seam, then work a gathering thread though every stitch along top edge, draw up tightly and fasten off. Using yarn end remaining at tip of each holly leaf, embroider a line of chain stitches down centre of purl side. Coat each leaf with hair spray, fold in half along embroidered line and leave to set. Work a gathering thread round edges of each berry, draw up tightly and fasten off. Glue-sew leaves and berries in place at top of bauble.

MISTLETOE BAUBLE

BAUBLE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

With Primrose, work as given for holly bauble.

MISTLETOE LEAVES (MAKE 4 PIECES)

Cast on 2 sts with Khaki for base edge and st 2 rows.

1st inc row Inc 1, K1. [3 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row K1, inc 1, K1. [4 sts]

Next row Purl.

Next row 5kpo, k2tog. [2 sts] Pass first st over second, break yarn, thread through st and draw up.

MISTLETOE BERRIES

(MAKE 3 PIECES)

With White, work as given for holly berries.

TO MAKE UP

Make up bauble and berries as given for holly bauble. Using Khaki yarn make a cord as given for sugar mouse tail, tying two knots 2in (5cm) apart and trimming away excess close to knots. Glue-sew pairs of leaves in place, glue cord knots to leaves. then glue-sew berries in position in centre on cord.

FATHER CHRISTMAS

BODY AND HEAD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 9 sts with Signal Red for base edge and st 2 rows.

1st inc row K1, (inc 1) eight times. [17 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row K1, (inc 1, K1) to end. [25 sts]

Change to Snowflake and P 2 rows.

Change to Signal Red and st st 5 rows, beg with a P row.

1st dec row (K2, k2tog, K1) to end. [20 sts]

Next row Purl.

Hairspray is ideal for stiffening any items that won't get washed.



1

Once you've made the item to be stiffened with the hairspray, use your fingers or mould it over another object so that it's in the position you wish to fix it in.



2

Now spray the item, holding it in place until the hairspray has dried. The spray will dry and 'glue' the yarn fibres together, keeping your ornament in shape.

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Embroider the face on the snowman.



Change to Black for belt and st st 2 rows.
Change to Signal Red and st st 4 rows.

2nd dec row (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [15 sts]

Next row Purl.

Change to Flesh Tone for head and st st 6 rows.

3rd dec row K1, (k2tog) to end. [8 sts]

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

HAT (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 16 sts with Snowflake for base edge and K 1 row.

Change to Signal Red and st st 2 rows, beg with a K row.

1st dec row (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [12 sts]

St st 3 rows.

2nd dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [8 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd dec row K1, (k2tog) three times, K1. [5 sts]

Next row Purl.

Change to Snowflake for bobble and st st 2 rows.

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

BEARD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 7 sts with Snowflake for top edge and g st 6 rows.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next 2 rows. [3 sts]

Cast off for base edge.

ARMS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 5 sts with Signal Red for top edge and st st 4 rows.

Change to Snowflake for cuff and K 2 rows.

Change to Emerald for mitten and st st 2 rows, beg with a K row.

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

SACK (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 12 sts with Walnut for base edge and st st 8 rows.

Dec row (Sl 1, k2tog, pss0) to end. [4 sts]

St st 2 rows.

Cast off for top edge.

TO MAKE UP

Work a gathering thread through every stitch along base edge of body, draw up tightly and fasten off, then join side edges, stopping above Snowflake stripe. Glue a 1¼in (3cm) diameter card circle inside

base, then join seam down from gathered top of head, leaving a 1in (2.5cm) space open. Stuff body and head firmly, then join remainder of seam. Work a gathering thread through every stitch along first row of head, draw up to shape, then fasten off and darn ends into body. Embroider a square belt buckle with four straight stitches of Sunflower yarn over knitted Black stripe, then use Snowflake to embroider a vertical line of chain stitches up centre front of body. Join hat seam and stuff lightly, then glue in place on head. Using Flesh Tone yarn, embroider a French knot for nose, placing directly below hat cuff, then glue beard in place. Join each arm seam, leaving unstuffed, and sew to sides of body. Join side edges of sack, stuff lightly, then fold base edge in half and join. Position and catch to left hand and body with a few stitches.

SNOWMAN

BODY AND HEAD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 9 sts with White for base edge and st st 2 rows.

1st inc row Inc into every st to end. [18 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [27 sts]

St st 8 rows.

1st dec row (P2tog, P1) to end. [18 sts]

St st 7 rows.

2nd dec row (P2, p2tog, P2) to end. [15 sts]

St st 6 rows.

3rd dec row K1, (k2tog) to end. [8 sts]

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

HAT BRIM (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 20 sts with Black for outside edge and st st 2 rows.

Dec row (K2tog) to end. [10 sts]

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

HAT CROWN (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 12 sts with Black for base edge and st st 4 rows.

P 2 rows for fold line.

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

ARMS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 6 sts with White for top edge and st st 4 rows.

Change to Summer Lime for mitten and st st 3 rows. Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.



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TO MAKE UP

Join head and body seam, starting at gathered top edge of head and stopping 1in (2.5cm) away from base edge. Stuff firmly, join remainder of seam, then work a gathering thread through every stitch along base edge, draw up tightly and fasten off. Work a gathering thread through every stitch along first and second decrease rows to shape waist and neck, then fasten off and darn ends into body. Join side edges of hat brim, then position and sew to head. Join hat crown seam, stuff firmly, then position and sew base edge to top of brim. Embroider carrot nose by working a French knot in Bright Orange and not drawing up completely. Draw out a single strand from a length of Black yarn and use to embroider coal eyes and mouth with small stitches. Use the remaining 2 strands to embroider coal buttons with tiny, vertical straight stitches down centre front. Join each arm seam, leaving unstuffed, and sew to sides of body. Cut a 1½in (4cm) length of cotton bud stem and bind with Walnut yarn for broom handle. Cut 20 4in (10cm) lengths of Chocolate yarn for broom twigs and hold together at one end. Push broom handle into centre of bundle and bind with a length of Walnut yarn, tying off securely. Trim ends of yarn to measure 1½in (4cm), then position and glue broom to right mitten and side of body.

PENGUIN

BODY BACK (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 9 sts with Black for neck edge and st st 4 rows.

1st inc row K1, (inc 1, K1) to end. [13 sts]
St st 3 rows.

2nd inc row K1, (inc 1, K2) to end. [17 sts]
St st 7 rows.

1st dec row K1, (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [13 sts]

Next row Purl.
2nd dec row K1, (k2tog, K1) to end. [9 sts]

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

BODY FRONT (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 5 sts with White for neck edge and st st 4 rows.

1st inc row K1, (inc 1, K1) twice. [7 sts]
St st 3 rows.

2nd inc row K1, (inc 1, K2) twice. [9 sts]
St st 7 rows.



The big-eyed penguin is a real cutie!

1st dec row K1, (K1, k2tog, K1) twice. [7 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row K1, (k2tog, K1) twice. [5 sts]

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

HEAD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 7 sts with Black for back edge and st st 2 rows.

Inc row Inc into every st to end. [14 sts]
St st 4 rows.

1st dec row P1, (P2tog) six times, P1. [8 sts]

Change to Bright Orange for beak and st st 2 rows.

2nd dec row K1, skpo, K2, k2tog, K1. [6 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd dec row K1, skpo, k2tog, K1. [4 sts]

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

WINGS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 4 sts with Black for top edge and st st 2 rows.

Inc row Inc into every st to end. [8 sts]
St st 7 rows.

Dec row (K2tog, skpo) twice. [4 sts]

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

FEET (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 8 sts with Bright Orange for front edge and st st 2 rows.

Dec row (K2tog, skpo) twice. [4 sts]

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

TO MAKE UP

Join front and back body pieces, then stuff firmly through open neck edge. Join head seam, starting at gathered tip of beak and stopping ½in (12mm) away from back edge. Stuff firmly, join remainder of seam, then work a gathering thread through every stitch along back edge. Draw up tightly and fasten off. With seam running along underside, position and sew head to

Some patterns call for you to decrease using this method.



1

Insert the point of the right-hand needle into the next stitch as if you were to knit it but, instead of winding the yarn around the needle, just slip the stitch off and on to right-hand needle.



2

Knit the next stitch as normal.



3

Now insert the left-hand needle into the slipped stitch on the right-hand needle and lift it over the knitted stitch.



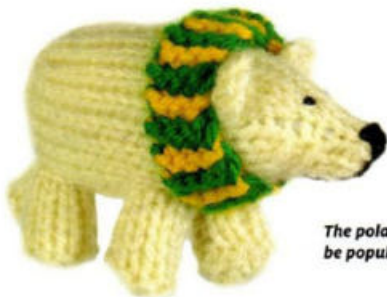
4

Continue knitting until the end of the row, and your slipped stitch should look like this.

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The elf is Alan's favourite – "because he's so perky."



The polar bear is sure to be popular with children.

top of body. Draw out a single strand from a length of Primrose yarn and use to embroider two tiny, horizontal lazy daisy stitches for eyes, then draw out a single strand from a length of Black yarn and use the remaining 2 strands to embroider a small straight stitch in centre of each eye. Fold each wing in half and oversew side edges together, then position and sew to body sides. Fold each foot in half and oversew side edges together and across front edge. Position and sew to base of body. Use yellow pencil to blush top of body front.

POLAR BEAR

BODY AND HEAD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 8 sts with Aran for back edge and st st 2 rows.

1st inc row Inc into every st to end. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (Inc 1) twice, K4, (inc 1) four times, K4, (inc 1) twice. [24 sts]

St st 11 rows.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row.

Next row Purl.

Repeat the last 2 rows two more times. [18 sts]

SHAPE HEAD

1st dec row K5, k2tog, K4, skpo, K5. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row K3, (skpo, k2tog, K2) twice, K1. [12 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd dec row K2, (skpo, k2tog) twice, K2. [8 sts]

Next row Purl.

Cast off for front edge of head.

LEGS (MAKE 4 PIECES)

Cast on 10 sts with Aran for top edge and st st 4 rows.

K 3 rows for fold line.

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

EARS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 6 sts with Aran and K 1 row.

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

SCARF (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 4 sts with Emerald and work in alternate 2 row g st stripes of Emerald and Sunflower until 70 rows have been worked.

Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Fold front edge of head in half and join, then join body seam, stopping 1in (2.5cm) away from back edge. Stuff head and body firmly, join remainder of seam, then fold back edge in half and join. Join each leg seam and stuff firmly, then, with body seam running along underside, position and sew to body. Glue-sew ears in position, placing 2 knitted rows behind first decrease row, and spacing 3 knitted stitches apart. Draw out a single strand from a length of Black yarn and use the remaining 2 strands to embroider eyes with tiny, horizontal, straight stitches, mouth with two straight stitches to form an inverted T shape, and a triangular nose with satin stitch. Tie scarf round neck and hold in place with a few stitches.

ELF

BODY (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 8 sts with Summer Lime for base edge and st st 2 rows.

Inc row Inc into every st to end [16 sts].

P 3 rows for fold line.

St st 2 rows, beg with a K row.

1st dec row K1, (k2tog, K1) to end. [11 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row K1, (k2tog) to end. [6 sts]

St st 2 rows.

Cast off for neck edge.

HEAD AND HAT (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 12 sts with Flesh Tone for base edge of head and st st 4 rows.

Change to Summer Lime and K 3 rows for base of hat.

Next row Purl.

1st dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [8 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row (K2tog) to end. [4 sts]

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The angel has a tree all of her own.

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

LEGS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 11 sts with Emerald for base edge of shoe and st st 1 row.

Cast off 4 sts at beg of next 2 rows. [3 sts]
Change to Summer Lime and st st 5 rows.

Cast off for top edge of leg.

ARMS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 3 sts with Summer Lime for top edge and st st 5 rows.
Change to Flesh Tone for hands and st st 2 rows. Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

EARS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 4 sts with Flesh Tone. Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Work a gathering thread through every stitch along base edge, draw up tightly and fasten off, then join side edges, stopping $\frac{1}{2}$ in (12mm) away from neck edge. Stuff firmly and join remainder of seam. Join hat and head seam, stuff firmly, then work a gathering thread through every stitch along base edge of head, draw up tightly and fasten off. Position and sew head to top of body. Fold each leg in half and oversew across base edge of shoe, then up front of shoe and leg. Also fold each arm in half and oversew side edges together, then glue-sew arms to sides of body, legs to base of body, and ears to sides of head. Use Flesh Tone yarn to embroider nose with a French knot. Draw out a single strand from a length of Walnut yarn and use to embroider eyes with tiny, horizontal straight stitches, and mouth with 2 straight stitches, forming an open V shape.

ANGEL

BODY AND HEAD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 8 sts with Aran for base edge and st st 2 rows.

1st inc row Inc into every st to end. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.



2nd inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [24 sts]
K 2 rows for fold line.

Next row Purl.

Change to Sunflower and K 1 row.

Change to Aran and P 1 row.
1st dec row (K1 k2tog, K1) to end. [18 sts]
St st 3 rows.

2nd dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [12 sts]
St st 4 rows.

Change to Flesh Tone for head and st st 6 rows.

3rd dec row (P2tog, P1) to end. [8 sts]

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

HALO (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 14 sts with Sunflower for outside edge and st st 2 rows.

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

WINGS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 2 sts with Snowflake for centre back edge and st st 2 rows.

Inc 1 st at beg and end of next 4 rows. [10 sts]
St st 2 rows.

Next row Dec 1 st at beg and end of next 4 rows. [2 sts]

Cast off.

ARMS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 4 sts with Aran for top edge and cont in st st.

Inc row Inc into every st to end. [8 sts]
St st 4 rows.

Dec row (k2tog) to end. [4 sts]

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

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

CHRISTMAS TREE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 9 sts with Spruce for base edge and g st 2 rows.

Dec 1 st at beg of next 6 rows. [3 sts]

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

TO MAKE UP

Work a gathering thread through every stitch along base edge of body, draw up tightly and fasten off, then join side edges, stopping above Sunflower

Use this stitch for the bear's eyes and the snowman's mouth.

French knot



Use French knots for little details such as eyes or flower centres. First secure your thread, then bring the needle up through the fabric where you want the knot to be. Using your thumb and forefinger, hold the thread as it comes out of the fabric and, keeping it taut, place the needle behind it and twist it around the thread twice. Still holding the thread, push the needle back into the fabric close to where it came out, and pull the needle through gently. If you pull too hard the knot disappears! Vary the number of twists or the thickness of yarn to make larger or smaller knots.



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Mittens make a cute addition to the tree.

The drumsticks are made in a very cunning way!



stripe. Glue a 1½in (3cm) diameter card circle inside base, then join seam down from gathered top of head, leaving a 1in (2.5cm) space open. Stuff body and head firmly, then join remainder of seam. Work a gathering thread through every stitch along first row of head, draw up to shape, then fasten off and darn ends into body. Using Daisy yarn, embroider 3 chain stitches over top of head for hair parting, then sew two 6in (15cm) lengths of Daisy yarn through each chain for hair. Sew end of each hair strand into back of head, then join halo seam and glue in place. Using Flesh Tone yarn, embroider nose with a tiny, horizontal, straight stitch. Draw out a single strand from a length of Walnut yarn and use to embroider eyes and mouth with small, horizontal straight stitches. Join each arm seam, stuff lightly, work a gathering thread through every stitch along top edge, draw up tightly and fasten off, then sew arms to body sides. Fold each wing piece in half and oversew edges together, then position and glue-sew to back of body. Cut a ¾in (2cm) length of cotton bud and bind with Chocolate yarn for tree trunk. Oversew side edges of tree piece to form a cone, then glue trunk inside cone and attach to right hand with glue.

BUGLE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 8 sts with Walnut for front edge and cont in st st.

Next row Purl.

1st inc row Inc into every st to end. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [24 sts]

Change to Sunflower and P 3 rows for fold line.

1st dec row (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [18 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [12 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [8 sts]

St st 31 rows.

4th dec row (K1, k2tog, K1) twice. [6 sts]

St st 15 rows.

Change to Aran for mouthpiece and st st 3 rows.

Cast off Knitwise.

TO MAKE UP

Work a gathering thread through every stitch along front edge, draw up tightly and fasten off, then join side edges, stopping above fold line. Glue a 1½in



The bugle looks fancy, but is quite simple to make.

(3.5cm) diameter card circle inside front, then join up to third decrease row. Stuff front of bugle firmly, then join remainder of seam, stuffing lightly as you sew. Coil into bugle shape and hold in place with a few stitches. Use Signal Red yarn to bind hand section closely, holding in place with a little glue, then make 2 small tassels from Signal Red yarn and sew these to the ends of the binding yarn, trimming to neaten.

DRUM (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 8 sts with Aran for base edge and cont in st st.

1st inc row Inc into every st to end. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [24 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd inc row (K1, inc 1, K1) to end. [32 sts]

Change to Sunflower and P 3 rows for fold line.

KNIT TIP

Turn to pages 12 and 13 for the storage box illustrations. Undo the staples carefully to avoid tearing the paper!

WORK ZIG ZAG PATTERN

Use a ball of yarn for each colour and strand yarn not in use across P side of work.

Rows 1 & 3 (K1 Signal Red, K5 Emerald) five times, K1 Signal Red, K1 Emerald.

Row 2 P1 Emerald, P1 Signal Red, (P5 Emerald, P1 Signal Red) five times.

Rows 4 & 6 (P3 Signal Red, P3 Emerald) five times, P2 Signal Red.

Row 5 K2 Signal Red, (K3 Emerald, K3 Signal Red) five times.

Rows 7 & 9 K2 Signal Red, (K1 Signal Red, K1 Emerald, K4 Signal Red) five times.

Row 8 P2 Signal Red, (P2 Signal Red, P1 Emerald, P3 Signal Red) five times.

Change to Sunflower and P 1 row. K 2 rows for fold line.

1st dec row Change to Aran for top and (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [24 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd dec row (K2tog) to end. [8 sts]

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

TO MAKE UP

Join side edges on top section, stopping past fold line. Work a gathering thread through every stitch along base edge, draw up tightly and fasten off, then join side edges, stopping past fold line. Glue a

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“Make a bowl of miniature fruit and scent them with a few drops of spicy fragrance oil.”

Alan Dart, toy and knitwear designer

1½in (4cm) diameter card circle to wrong side of top and base sections, then stuff drum firmly and join side seam. Use Primrose yarn to embroider long, straight stitches round side of drum, following zig zag pattern and working a small backstitch at tip of each triangle. To make drumsticks, cut two 2in (5cm) lengths of cotton bud, including one padded end on each piece, then bind with Walnut yarn, holding in place with glue when binding padded ends. Place in crossed position on top of drum and hold with spots of glue.

MITTENS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 16 sts with Signal Red for cuff edge.

Next rib row (K1, P1) to end.

Repeat this rib row seven more times.

SHAPE BASE OF THUMB

1st inc row Change to Emerald and K6, inc 1, K1, inc 1, K7. [18 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row K6, inc 1, K3, inc 1, K7. [20 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd inc row K6, inc 1, K5, inc 1, K7. [22 sts]

WORK THUMB

Next row P14, turn and work on these sts only.

Next row inc 1, K4, inc 1, turn and work on these 8 sts only.

St st 3 rows.

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

Rejoin yarn to remaining sts and P to end. [16 sts]
St st 6 rows.

1st dec row K1, (skpo, K3, k2tog) twice, K1. [12 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row K1, (skpo, K1, k2tog) twice, K1. [8 sts]

Next row Purl.

Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Fold each mitten in half and join across cast off edge, then down side edges and fold back cuff. Using Primrose yarn, embroider star with five straight stitches, then, starting in centre each time, work five more straight stitches to fill in each point. Take mittens with palms facing and catch cuffs together with a few stitches.

BOBBLE HAT

(MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 30 sts with Emerald for brim edge.

Next rib row (K1, P1) to end.

Repeat this rib row 11 more times.

1st dec row Change to Signal Red and (K2, k2tog, K1) to end. [24 sts]

Next row Purl.

Continue in alternate 2 row st stripes of Primrose and Signal Red, and work 9 rows.

2nd dec row (P1, p2tog, P1) to end. [18 sts]

Next row Knit.

3rd dec row (P2tog, P1) to end. [12 sts]

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

TO MAKE UP

Join side edges and turn up brim, then make a 1in (2.5cm) pom-pom from Emerald yarn and sew to top of hat.

TO MAKE HANGING THREADS

Thread a sewing needle with a 12in (30cm) length of silver thread and take a single stitch through top of decoration. Check to see that decoration hangs correctly, removing thread and repositioning if necessary, then tie thread securely to form a small loop that will fit over tree berry. Trim away excess thread, then dab a spot of glue on knot and draw into knitting so that knot becomes hidden.

THE STORAGE BOX

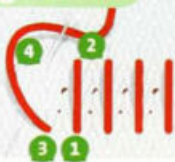
Use spray adhesive to cover box with wrapping paper, then cut out illustrations (see central pages) and glue title to top of lid and numbered key to inside. Now enjoy your Advent calendar!



Make the hat to match the mittens!

Simple straight lines.

Straight stitch



Secure your thread, then decide whether to work from left to right or right to left. Bring the needle out of the fabric at 1 and back down at 2, out again at 3, back down at 4 and so on.

Work consistently, always putting the needle in at the top or always at the bottom of the stitch.

How to...

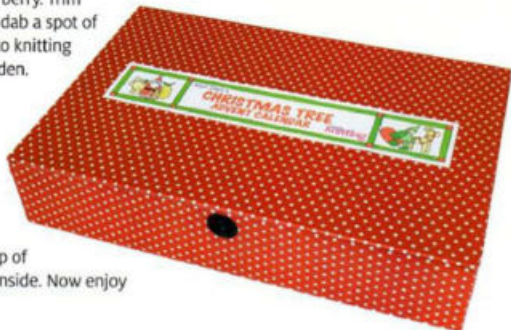
Embroider

Flower patterns and small circles.

Lazy daisy



Bring the needle through the fabric at 1. If you are making a flower the stitch will start in the centre. Take the needle back through the same hole you came out, at 2, leaving a loop on top of the fabric. Bring the needle up again at 3, take it over and under the loop and pull gently to form the 'petal'. Secure the loop flat against the fabric by pushing the needle in again at 4 to make a small stitch over the end of the loop. Repeat for more petals.



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“Here’s a collection which will add a new tradition to your family’s Christmas, and help you count down the days to the most magical time of the year.”

Alan Dart



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