



# Happy Easter

By Alan Dart

This Easter Bunny is just waiting to bounce into your life – he's even got a basket of eggs for you!



# Pattern info

## You will need...

Sirdar, Snuggly Snowflake Chunky Teddy (634), 2 x 25g/62m balls  
Rusk (635), 1 x 25g/62m ball  
Milky (630), 1 x 25g/62m ball

Sirdar, Supersoft Toddler Aran Sand (861), 1 x 100g/236m ball

Sirdar, Bonus DK Primrose (957), 1 x 100g/280m ball  
Iced Pink (958), 1 x 100g/280m ball  
Antique Rose (892), 1 x 100g/280m ball  
Lilac (959), 1 x 100g/280m ball  
Powder Blue (960), 1 x 100g/280m ball  
Mint (956), 1 x 100g/280m ball

A pair of 3mm needles

A pair of 4mm needles

175g of washable toy stuffing

Coffee buttonhole thread

Hair spray

1 yard (1m) of black DK yarn

For where to buy, turn to page 104



The bunny is lovely and soft, with a fat white tail.

# Hoppy Easter

Start knitting here...

**NOTE:** Cast on by using the cable (two-needle) method, and begin all pieces with a knit row.

## BODY FRONT (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 10 sts using 4mm needles and Rusk Snowflake for neck edge.

St st 18 rows.

**1st inc row** (Inc 1, K1) to end. [15 sts]

St st 3 rows.

**2nd inc row** (K1, inc 1, K1) to end. [20 sts]

St st 13 rows.

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

St st 3 rows.

**2nd dec row** (K1, k2tog, K1) to end.

[12 sts]

St st 3 rows.

**3rd dec row** (K1, k2tog) to end.

[8 sts]

Purl 1 row.

**4th dec row** (K2tog) to end.

[4 sts]

Break yarn, leaving a long end.

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

## BODY BACK (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 20 sts using 4mm needles and Teddy Snowflake for neck edge.

St st 18 rows.

**1st inc row** (Inc 1, K1) to end. [30 sts]

St st 3 rows.

**2nd inc row** (K1, inc 1, K1) to end. [40 sts]

St st 13 rows.

**1st dec row:** (K2, k2tog, K1) to end. [32 sts]

St st 3 rows.

**2nd dec row** (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [24 sts]

St st 3 rows.

**3rd dec row** (K1, k2tog) to end. [16 sts]

Purl 1 row.

**4th dec row** (K2tog) to end. [8 sts]

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

## HEAD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 12 sts using 4mm needles and Teddy Snowflake for back edge.

St st 2 rows.

**1st inc row** Inc into every st to end. [24 sts]

Purl 1 row.

**2nd inc row** (Inc 1, K1) to end. [36 sts]

St st 3 rows.

**3rd inc row** (K1, inc 1, K1) to end. [48 sts]

St st 7 rows.

**1st dec row** (K3, k2tog, K3) to end. [42 sts]

St st 3 rows.

**2nd dec row** (K3, k2tog, K2) to end. [36 sts]

St st 3 rows.

**3rd dec row** (K2, k2tog, K2) to end. [30 sts]

St st 3 rows.

**4th dec row** (K2, k2tog, K1) to end. [24 sts]

St st 3 rows.

**5th dec row** (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [18 sts]

Purl 1 row.

**6th dec row** (k2tog) twice, K1, (k2tog) four times, K1, (k2tog) twice. [10 sts]

Cast off for front edge.

## CHEEKS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 8 sts using 4mm needles and Rusk Snowflake for neck edge.

St st 2 rows.

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

St st 5 rows. Dec 1 st at beg and end of next 4 rows. [8 sts]

**Next dec row** K1, (k2tog) three times, K1. [5 sts]

Cast off for top edge.

## EAR BACKS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 8 sts using 4mm needles and Teddy Snowflake for base edge.

St st 6 rows.

Inc 1 st at beg and end of next row. [10 sts]

St st 17 rows.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row.

[8 sts]

St st 3 rows.

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

[4 sts]

Cast off for top edge.

## EAR LININGS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Using 4mm needles and Rusk Snowflake work as given for ear backs.

## NOSE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 5 sts using 3mm needles and Antique Rose DK for top edge.

St st 3 rows.

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

**Next row** Sl 1, k2tog, pss0, break yarn and draw through st.

## KNIT TIP

When knitting small pieces like the nose, attach them with a large safety pin to the body so they don't get lost.



The bunny makes a great decoration or a cuddly toy for someone special.

### TAIL (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 16 sts using 4mm needles and Milky Snowflake for body edge.

St st 2 rows.

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

Purl 1 row.

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

Purl 1 row.

3rd inc row (K2, inc 1, K3) to end. [28 sts]

St st 5 rows.

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

Purl 1 row.

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

3rd dec row (P2tog) to end. [7 sts]

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

### ARMS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 8 sts using 4mm needles and Teddy Snowflake for top edge.

St st 2 rows.

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

Purl 1 row.

2nd inc row (Inc 1, K4, inc 1) twice. [16 sts]

Purl 1 row.

3rd inc row (Inc 1, K6, inc 1) twice. [20 sts]

St st 9 rows.

### SHAPE ELBOW

1st row K16, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

2nd row Sl 1, P12, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

3rd row Sl 1, K10, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

4th row Sl 1, P8, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

5th row Sl 1, K6, yf, sl 1, yb, turn.

6th row Sl 1, P4, yb, sl 1, yf, turn.

7th row Sl 1, K to end.

8th row P across all sts. [20 sts]

1st dec row (Skpo, K6, k2tog) twice. [16 sts]

St st 5 rows.

2nd dec row (Skpo, K4, k2tog) twice. [12 sts]

St st 3 rows.

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

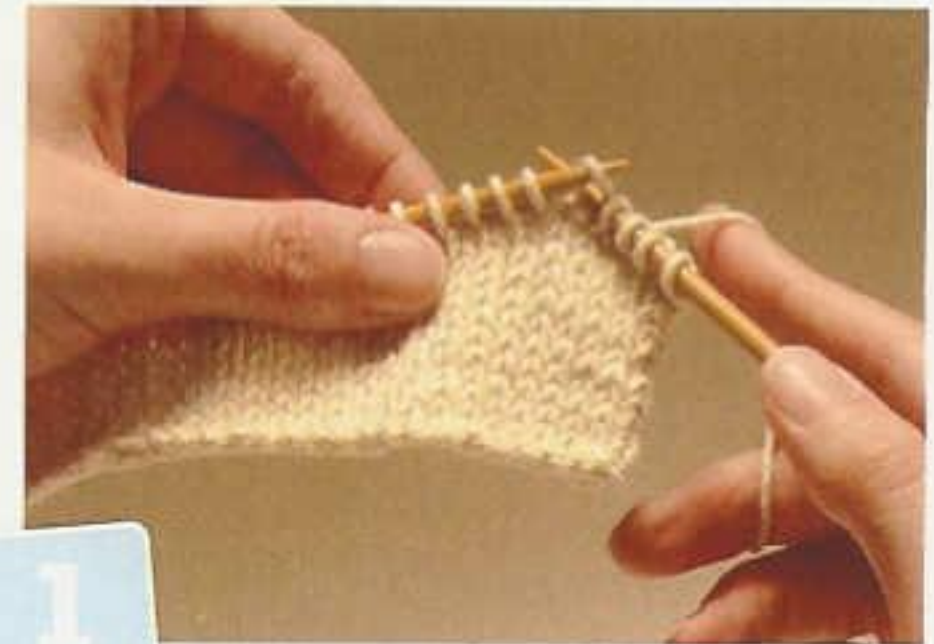
Purl 1 row.

Cast off for end of paw.

### How to...

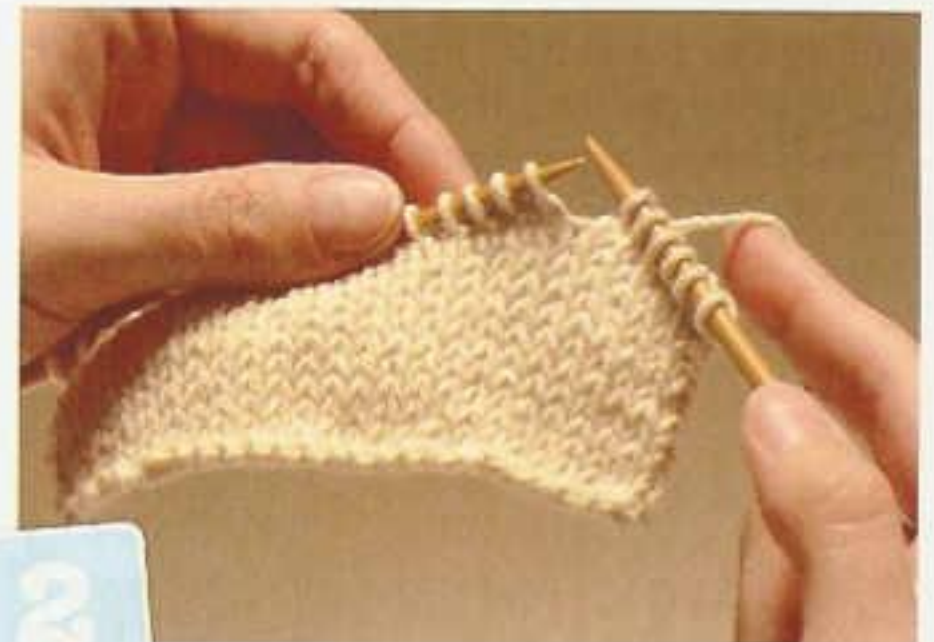
### SKPO

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 onto 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 to the end of the row, and your slipped stitch should look like this.





## Pattern info

### Abbreviations

<b>beg</b> beginning	<b>psso</b> pass slipped stitch over
<b>dec</b> decrease (by working 2 stitches together)	<b>sl</b> slip
<b>g st</b> garter stitch (knit every row)	<b>st st</b> stocking stitch
<b>inc</b> increase (by working into front and back of stitch)	<b>st(s)</b> stitch(es)
<b>K</b> knit	<b>skpo</b> slip one, knit one, pass slipped stitch over
<b>P</b> purl	<b>tog</b> together
	<b>yb</b> yarn back
	<b>yf</b> yarn forward



### Tensions

#### Yarn used knits as chunky to this tension:

18 sts and 24 rows to measure 4x4in (10x10cm) over stocking stitch using 4mm needles and Snowflake Chunky.

#### Yarn used knits as aran to this tension:

22 sts and 30 rows to measure 4x4in (10x10cm) over stocking stitch using 4mm needles and Toddler Aran.

#### Yarn used knits as DK to this tension:

26 sts and 36 rows to measure 4x4in (10x10cm) over stocking stitch using 3mm needles and Bonus DK.

### Measurements

16½in (42cm) tall when standing  
13½in (34cm) tall when sitting

### LEGS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

**Cast on** 20 sts using 4mm needles and Rusk Snowflake for centre of sole.

Cont in st st.

**1st inc row** (Inc 1) twice, K6, (inc 1) four times, K6, (inc 1) twice. [28 sts]

Purl 1 row.

**2nd inc row** (Inc 1, K1) twice, K6, (inc 1, K1) four times, K6, (inc 1, K1) twice. [36 sts]

Purl 1 row.

**3rd inc row** (K2, inc 1) twice, K7, (inc 1, K2) four times, K5, (inc 1, K2) twice. [44 sts]

Change to Teddy Snowflake and knit 2 rows. St st 3 rows, beg with a purl row.

### SHAPE FRONT OF FOOT,

**1st dec row** K1, skpo, K2, k2tog, K3o, skpo, K2, k2tog, K1. [40 sts]

Purl 1 row.

**2nd dec row** K1, skpo, k2tog, K3o, skpo, k2tog, K1. [36 sts]

Purl 1 row.

**Cast off** 7 sts at beg of next 2 rows. [22 sts]

### SHAPE HEEL

**Dec row** K9, k2tog, skpo, K9. [20 sts]

St st 3 rows.

### SHAPE LEG

**1st inc row** (K1, inc 1, K6, inc 1) twice, K2. [24 sts]

St st 3 rows.

**2nd inc row** (K1, inc 1, K8, inc 1) twice, K2 [28 sts].

St st 3 rows.

**3rd inc row** (K1, inc 1, K10, inc 1) twice, K2 [32 sts].

St st 7 rows.

### SHAPE TOP

**1st dec row** (Skpo, K2, k2tog, K4, skpo, K2, k2tog) twice. [24 sts]

St st 3 rows.

**2nd dec row** (Skpo, k2tog, K4, skpo, k2tog) twice. [16 sts]

Purl 1 row.

**Cast off** for top edge.

### BASKET (MAKE 1 PIECE)

**Cast on** 54 sts using 4mm needles and Sand Aran for top edge.

**Next rib row** (K1, P1) to end.

Repeat the last row three more times.

Work basketweave pattern thus:

**1st row** Knit.

**2nd row** (K5, P1) to end.

**3rd row** (K1, P5) to end.

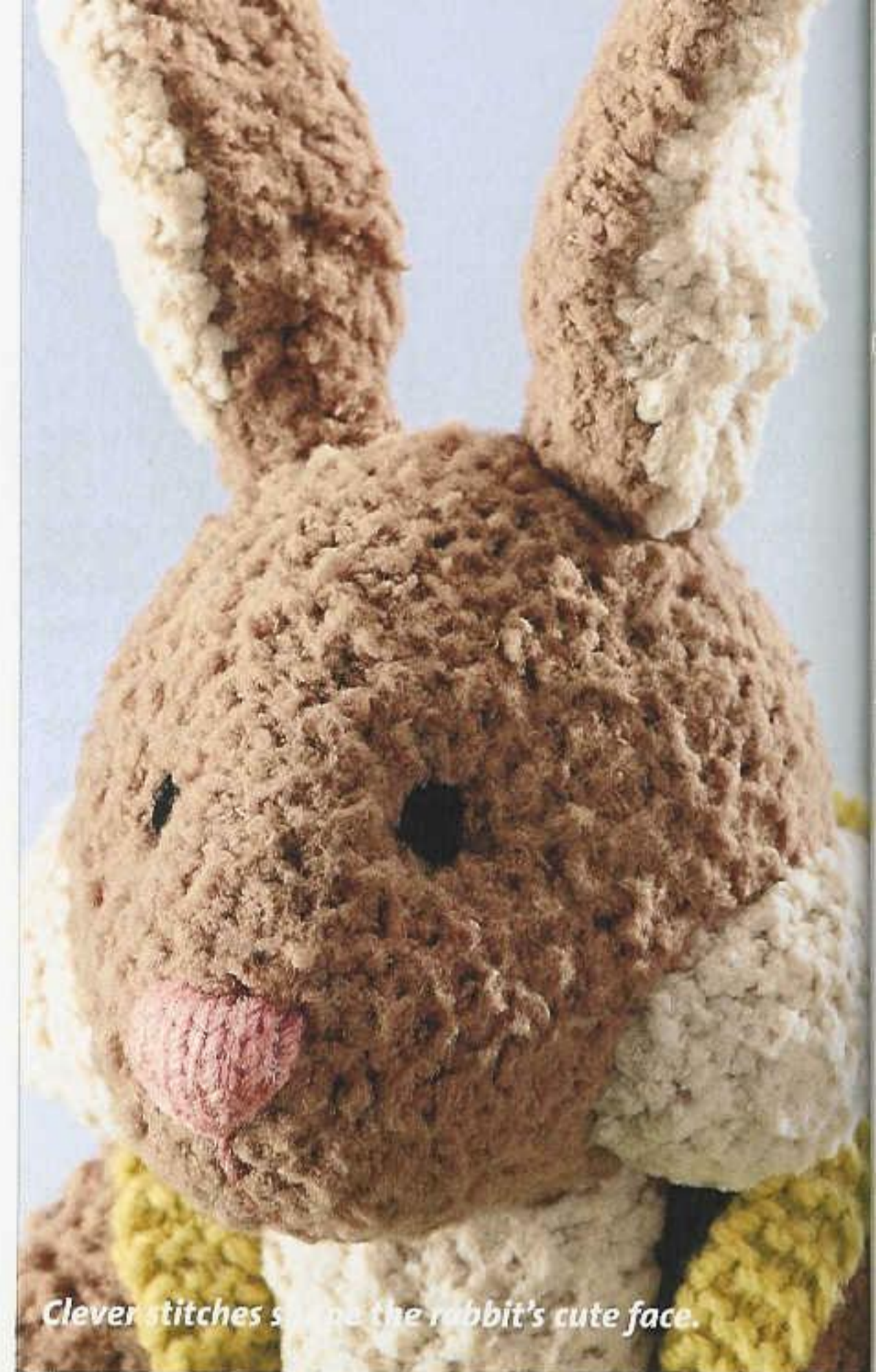
**4th row** Purl.

**5th row** (P3, K1, P2) to end.

**6th row** (K2, P1, K3) to end.

These 6 rows form the pattern.

Work 4 repeats of pattern altogether. [24 rows]



Clever stitches shape the rabbit's cute face.

### WORK BASE

G st 4 rows.

**1st dec row** (K2, k2tog, K2) to end. [45 sts]

Knit 1 row.

**2nd dec row** (K2, k2tog, K1) to end. [36 sts]

Knit 1 row.

**3rd dec row** (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [27 sts]

Knit 1 row.

**4th dec row** (K1, K2tog) to end. [18 sts]

Knit 1 row.

**5th dec row** (K2tog) to end. [9 sts].

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

### BASKET STRAPS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

**Cast on** 4 sts using 4mm needles and Sand Aran.

G st 54 rows.

**Cast off.**

### EGGS (MAKE 1 PIECE IN EACH COLOUR)

**Cast on** 8 sts using 3mm needles and Primrose, Iced Pink, Antique Rose, Lilac, Powder Blue or Mint DK for base edge.

St st 2 rows.

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

Purl 1 row.

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

St st 7 rows.

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

St st 3 rows.

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

Purl 1 row.

**3rd dec row** (K2tog) to end [6 sts].

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



“Hop to it and knit this eggcellent chap for someone egg-stra special this Easter.”

Alan Dart, toy and knitwear designer

## TO MAKE UP

For best results, 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 all pieces to accommodate this method. Treat purl side of all pieces knitted in Snowflake as right side. Join front and back body pieces together along side edges, matching gathered base points and leaving neck edges open, then stuff firmly. Fold front edge of head piece in half and sew across, then join head seam, stopping 1½in (4cm) away from back edge. Stuff head firmly, then join remainder of seam. Now sew a gathering thread through every stitch on back edge, draw up tightly and fasten off. With head seam running along underside, position and sew head to neck edge of body. Fold cast on sole edge of each leg in half and sew across, then join remainder of sole, round front of foot and up front of leg, stopping 1½in (4cm) down from top edge. Stuff foot and leg firmly, join remainder of seam, then fold top edge in half and sew across. Fold paw end of each arm in half and sew across, then join arm seam, stopping 1in (2.5cm) down from top edge. Stuff arm, join remainder of seam, fold top edge in half and sew across. Use pins to mark positions of arms and legs on body, placing each one 1in (2.5cm) behind body front seams. Mark arm positions 1in (2.5cm) down from neck edge, and leg positions 2½in (6cm) up from gathered base point. Take a length of buttonhole thread and fasten off on inside of right arm, 1in (2.5cm) from top edge. Insert needle into marked arm position on right side of body and draw out at arm position

on left side. Take a stitch in matching position on inside of left arm, then return needle to right side of body and take a stitch in starting place on right arm. Remove marker pins, repeat once more, then pull up thread firmly to draw arms into sockets and fasten off securely.

Attach legs in same manner, sewing 2in (5cm) down from top edge on inside of each leg.

Join tail seam, leaving body edge open, stuff firmly, then position and sew to back of body, placing 2in (5cm) up from gathered base.

Pin cheek pieces to each side of head, matching neck edges of cheek and body, then sew in place, leaving each neck edge open. Stuff firmly, then sew down neck edges and remove pins.

Join ear back and ear lining pieces together, then fold base edge of each ear in half and oversew. Position and sew to top of head, spacing ¾in (2cm) apart.

Mark eye positions with pins, spacing 2in (5cm) apart and 1½in (4cm) in from front seam. Using a length of Black yarn, fasten off at one eye point, sew needle through head to opposite eye point, take a small stitch and return to first point. Remove pins, then draw up yarn to indent eye sockets and take a small stitch to secure.

Now use remainder of yarn to embroider a circle of 7 tiny chain stitches for each eye. Position and sew nose in place, stuffing lightly with matching yarn, then use Antique Rose yarn to embroider mouth with three straight stitches, forming an inverted T-shape.

Join basket seam from gathered base up to top edge. Now fold top edge down inside basket

and sew to first row knitted in basket pattern to form a hem. Coat inside of basket liberally with hair spray, arrange on a flat surface and leave to set hard. Sew one end of each strap to top of basket, spacing 1in (2.5cm) apart, then sew opposite ends to first knitted row of basket base, again spacing 1in (2.5cm) apart.

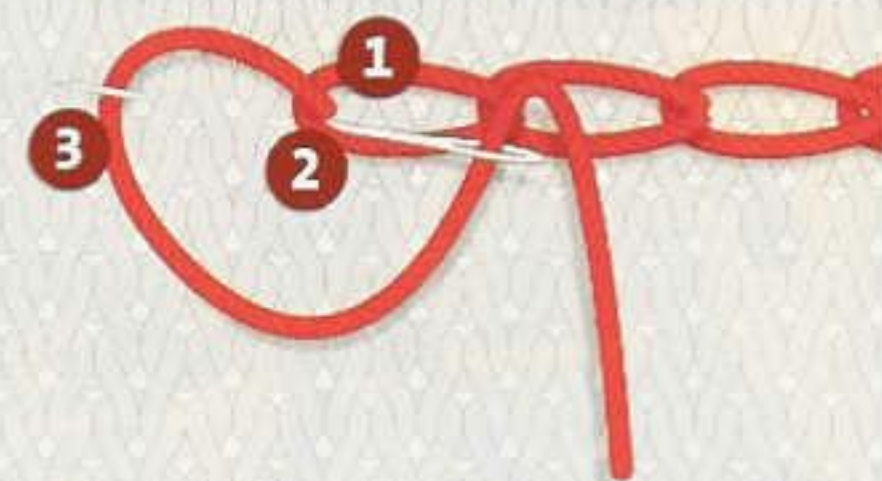
Join seam on each egg, starting at gathered top edge and stopping ¾in (2cm) up from base edge. Stuff firmly, join remainder of seam, then work a gathering thread through every stitch along base edge, draw up tightly and fasten off. Fit eggs in basket, then slip straps over arms.

**Next issue we've another special toy to knit – a huggably fat and furry circus clown bear! The April issue is out Thursday 27 March 2008.**

## How to... Embroider

Use circles of this stitch to create a pair of beady bunny eyes.

### Chain stitch

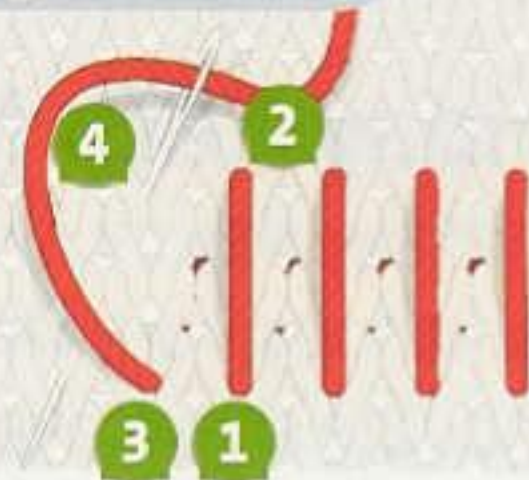


A series of loops, chain stitch can be used for straight or curving lines or even in rows to fill shapes. Come out of the fabric at 1, where you want to begin, and leaving a loop, go back down again in the same hole at 2. Bring the needle out again at 3, keeping the thread under the needle. Repeat. Make a small stitch over the last loop.

## How to... Embroider

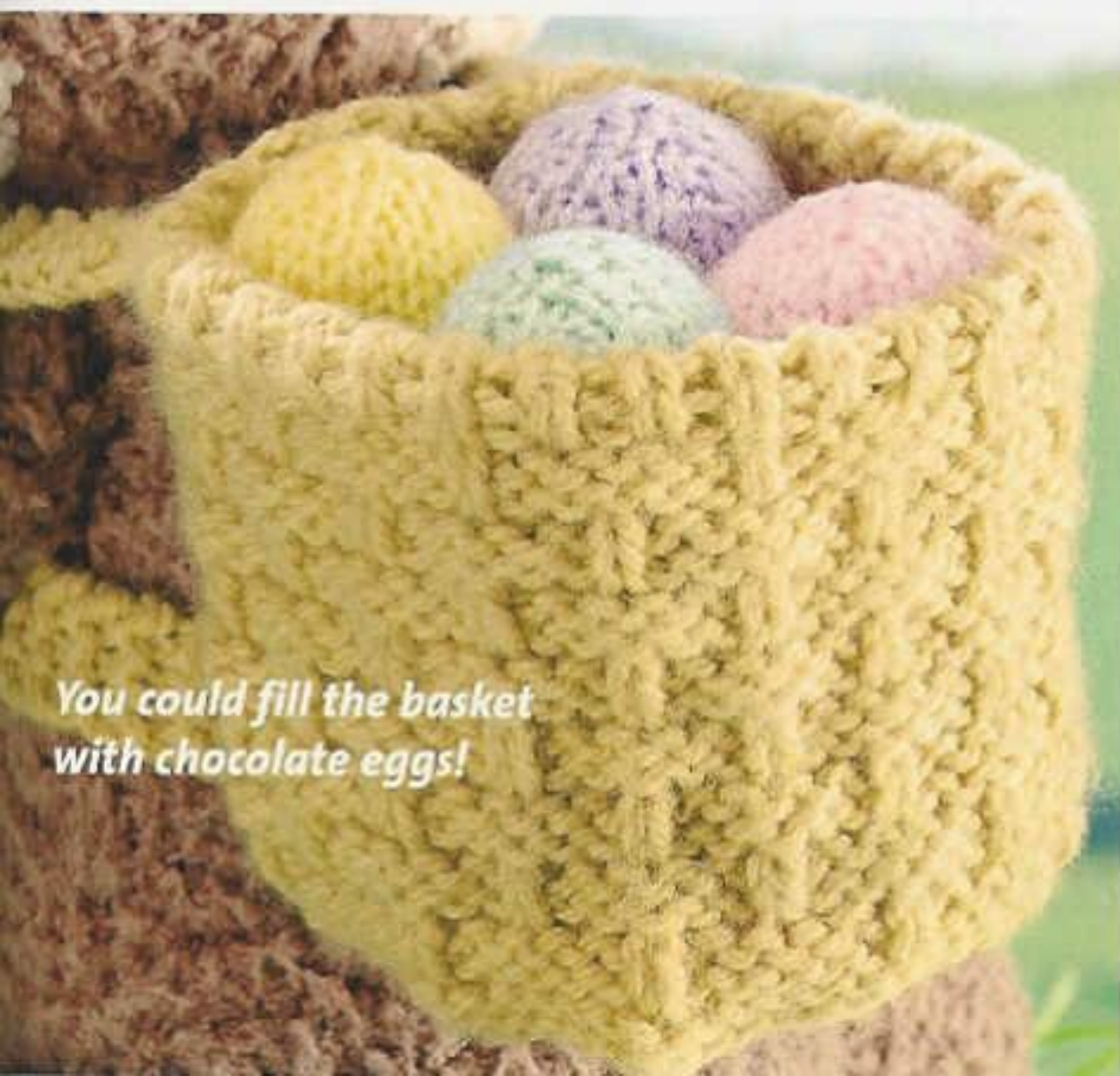
These form the bunny's mouth.

### 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.



You could fill the basket with chocolate eggs!

