

Alan Dart toy

MATERIALS

YOU WILL NEED

Hayfield, Bonus
DK (100% acrylic,
100g/280m)
1 ball of each:
Oatmeal (964),
Alpine (842) and
Camel (816)
Hayfield, Bonus

Toytime DK (100% acrylic, 25g/70m)

1 ball of

Chocolate (947)

Sirdar, Funky Fur (100% polyester, 50g/90m) 1 ball of Walnut (549)

2m length of coffee DK yam

☐ 1m lengths of black, dusky pink and white DK yarns

A pair of 3mm knitting needles

A stitch holder

Washable toy stuffing

Brown sewing thread

Brown and red pencils

For yarn stockists contact Sirdar & Hayfield 01924 231682 sirdar.co.uk

visit alandart.co.uk

Don't
overstuff the toy.
Use lots of small
pieces rather than
a few big ones
for the best
results.

TENSION

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

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list see page 92

MEASUREMENTS

28cm (11in) tall

Trolls have a bad reputation – all that stuff about living under bridges and picking fights with billy goats. As you can see, this little fellow's nothing like the stories. He's quite a cute, cuddly sort of person, and won't turn to rock if you leave him in the sun. "I love anything Swedish," says Alan. "Trolls are popular in Sweden, and there are a few shops on the old town island of Gamla Stan in Stockholm that specialise in them, which made me want to create a troll of my own."

Because he contains no stiffeners, just toy stuffing, the troll is ideal for younger children to play with. If you are giving him to a child, use washable stuffing so he's easy to clean.

Start knitting here...

NOTE Use 3mm needles throughout and cast on by using the cable (two-needle) method. This is most important when knitting the smaller pieces. Also begin all pieces with a Krow, unless otherwise stated, and always work 'inc 1' by knitting into the front and back of the stitch. Shaping commences on the first row for some pieces.

BODY (MAKE 1 PIECE) RIGHT LEG

*Cast on 10 sts with Chocolate for base edge.

1st inc row (Inc 1) nine times, K1.
[19 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row K1, (inc 1, K1) to end. [28 sts]

Next row Purl.

K3 rows for fold line.

St st 15 rows, beg with a Prow.**
Break yarn and sl sts on to a stitch holder.

LEFTLEG

As right leg from * to **.

JOIN LEGS FOR BODY

Next row Inserting marker threads at beg and end of row, K26, SKPO from left leg sts, then k2tog, K26 from held right leg sts. [54 sts]

Next row Purl.

SHAPE CROTCH

1st dec and inc row K1, k2tog, K3, (inc 1, K2) six times, K1, SKPO, k2tog, K3, (inc 1, K2) six times, K1, SKPO, K1. [62 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec and inc row K1, k2tog, K2, (inc 1, K3) six times, SKPO, k2tog, K2, (inc 1, K3) six times, SKPO, K1. [70 sts] Next row Purl.

Dec row K1, (k2tog, K30, SKPO) twice, K1. [66 sts]

Stst 9 rows.

SHAPE WAIST

1st dec row K6, (k2tog, K4) to end. [56 sts]

Stst 3 rows.

2nd dec row K5, (k2tog, K3) to last st,

K1. [46 sts] Next row Purl.

3rd dec row K5, (k2tog, K2) to last st,

K1. [36 sts]

P3 rows for base edge of waistband.

K2 rows for top edge of waistband.

Change to Oatmeal and st st 10 rows, beg with a K row.

SHAPESIDES

1st dec row (K5, SKPO, K5, k2tog, K3)

twice, K2. [32 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row (K5, SKPO, K3, k2tog, K3)

twice, K2. [28 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd dec row (K5, SKPO, K1, k2tog, K3)

twice, K2. [24 sts]

Next row Purl.

Cast off for shoulder edge.

FEET (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 14 sts with Oatmeal for back edge and st st 2 rows.

1st inc row (K1, inc 1, K3, inc 1) twice, K2. [18 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (K1, inc 1, K5, inc 1) twice,

K2. [22 sts]

Stst 9 rows.

3rd inc row (K1, inc 1, K7, inc 1) twice,

K2. [26 sts]

Stst 5 rows.





*Pin facial features like the nose and eyebrows in place and check how they look before sewing them on."



WORKLITTLETOE

Next row K10, inc 1, K3, inc 1, turn and work on these 17 sts only.

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

Stst3 rows.

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly, then join toe seam.**

With 11 sts on right-hand needle, rejoin yarn to work and K the remaining 11 sts from left-hand needle. [22 sts] Next row Purl.

WORK FOURTH TOE

Next row K8, inc 1, K3, inc 1, turn and work on these 15 sts only.

Work as given for little toe from * to **.
With 9 sts on right-hand needle, rejoin
yarn to work and K the remaining 9 sts
from left-hand needle. [18 sts]
Next row Purl.

WORK THIRD TOE

Next row K6, inc 1, K3, inc 1, turn and work on these 13 sts only. Work as given for little toe from * to **. With 7 sts on right-hand needle, rejoin yarn to work and K the remaining 7 sts from left-hand needle. [14 sts] Next row Purl.

WORKSECOND TOE

Next row K4, inc 1, K3, inc 1, turn and work on these 11 sts only.

Work as given for little toe from * to ***.
With 5 sts on right-hand needle, rejoin
yarn to work and K the remaining 5 sts
from left-hand needle. [10 sts]

WORKBIGTOE

Stst 6 rows.

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

HEAD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 16 sts with Oatmeal for neck edge and st st 2 rows.

Inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [24 sts] Next row Purl.

WORKCHIN

1st row K17, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.



The sole and upper of the foot are worked in one piece to the toes.



Once the troll is sewn together, use a comb to tease out the strands of fur.

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



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.



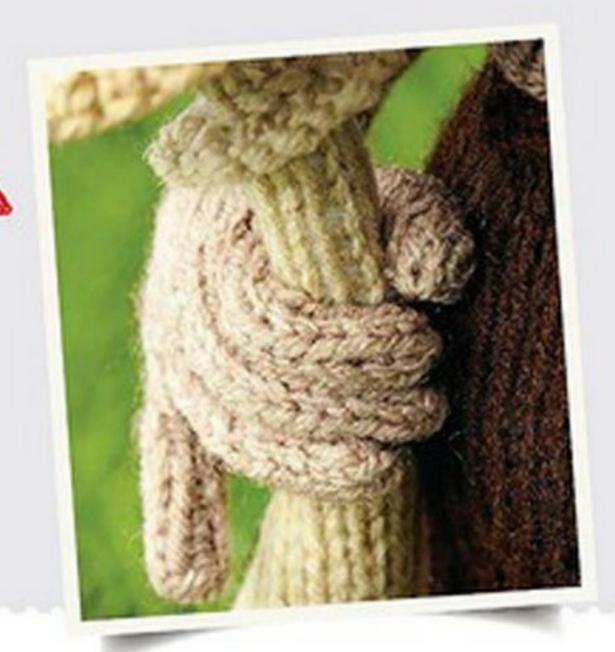
3 Wrap the yarn round the tip of the right-hand needle to knit the stitch. Bring the needle through to make the stitch, keeping it on the right-hand needle.



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

Alan Dart toy

*Stitch the toadstool into the troll's hand - a few tiny stitches should be enough to fix it."



2nd row Sl 1, P10, YB, sl 1, YF, turn. 3rd row Sl 1, K9, YF, sl 1, YB, turn. 4th row Sl 1, P8, YB, sl 1, YF, turn. 5th row Sl 1, K7, YF, sl 1, YB, turn. 6th row Sl 1, P6, YB, sl 1, YF, turn. 7th row Sl 1, K5, YF, sl 1, YB, turn. 8th row Sl 1, P4, YB, sl 1, YF, turn. 9th row Sl 1, K4, YF, sl 1, YB, turn. 10th row Sl 1, P5, YB, sl 1, YF, turn. 11th row Sl 1, K6, YF, sl 1, YB, turn. 12th row Sl 1, P7, YB, sl 1, YF, turn. 13th row Sl 1, K8, YF, sl 1, YB, turn. 14th row Sl 1, P9, YB, sl 1, YF, turn. 15th row Sl 1, K to end. 16th row Pacross all sts. [24 sts]

SHAPE BASE OF HEAD

1st inc row (Inc 1, K1) four times, K8, (inc 1, K1) four times. [32 sts] Next row Purl. 2nd inc row K1, (inc 1, K2) three times,

ine 1, K10, (inc 1, K2) three times, inc 1, K1. [40 sts]

Next row Purl.

SHAPE CHEEKS

Inc row K7, (inc 1) seven times, K12, (inc 1) seven times, K7. [54 sts] Stst9 rows.

1st dec row K11, (SKPO, k2tog) three times, K8, (SKPO, k2tog) three times, K11. [42 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row K11, SKPO, K16, k2tog. K11. [40 sts]

Stst9 rows.

SHAPE TOP OF HEAD

1st dec row (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [30 sts]

Stst3 rows.

2nd dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [20 sts] Next row Purl.

3rd dec row (K2tog) to end. [10 sts] Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

ARMS AND HANDS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 6 sts with Oatmeal for top edge and st st 2 rows.

Inc 1 st at beg of next 4 rows. [10 sts] Cast on 2 sts at beg of next 2 rows for underarm. [14 sts] Stst 8 rows.

SHAPE FOREARM

Inc row K2, (inc 1, K2) to end. [18 sts] Stst 3 rows.

> 1st dec row (K2, k2tog, K2) to end. [15 sts] Stst 3 rows.

> > 2nd dec row (K2, k2tog, K1) to end. [12 sts] Stst 3 rows.

SHAPEHAND

Inc row (K1, inc 1, K1) to end.

[16 sts]

Stst3 rows.

Cast on 7 sts at beg of next 2 rows for thumb, [30 sts]

Stst 2 rows.

Cast off 6 sts at beg of next 2 rows.

[18 sts]

Stst 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.

Stst 7 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, rejoin yarn to work and K1, inc 1 from the 7 sts on left-hand needle. Turn and work on these 12 sts only.

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

Stst 9 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, rejoin yarn to work and K1, inc 1 from the 5 sts on left-hand needle. Turn and work on these 9 sts only.

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

St st 10 rows.

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread





"Attach the buttons firmly with coffee yarn, then put the 'X' on for decoration."



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, rejoin yarn to work and K the remaining 3 sts from left-hand needle. [6 sts]

St st 10 rows.

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

TAIL (MAKE 1 PIECE)

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

1st dec row K3, SKPO, k2tog, K3. [8 sts]

Stst3 rows.

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

St st 30 rows.

Change to Funky Fur and P 1 row.

SHAPE TAIL TIP

Inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [9 sts] St st 5 rows.

Dec row K1, (k2tog) to end. [5 sts] Next row Purl.

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

(MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 36 sts with Chocolate and st st 1 row.

Dec 1 st at beg of next row. [35 sts] Dec 1 st at end of next row. [34 sts] Cast off knitwise.

RIGHT BRACES STRAP (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 36 sts with Chocolate and st st 1

row.

Dec 1 st at end of next row. [35 sts] Dec 1 st at beg of next row. [34 sts] Cast off knitwise.

BRACES BUTTONS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 12 sts with coffee DK.

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

NOSE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 20 sts with Oatmeal for face edge and st st 2 rows.

1st dec row K8, SKPO, k2tog, K8. [18 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row K7, SKPO, k2tog, K7. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd dec row K6, SKPO, k2tog, K6. [14 sts]

Next row Purl.

4th dec row K5, SKPO, k2tog, K5.

[12 sts]

Stst 3 rows.

5th dec row K4, SKPO, k2tog, K4.

[10 sts]

Stst 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 8 sts with Oatmeal for base edge and st st 2 rows.

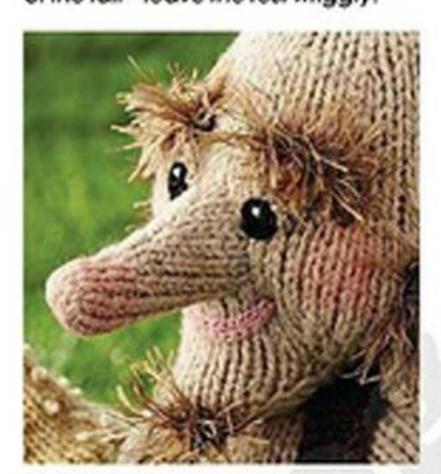
SHAPELOBE

Inc row K2, inc 1, K1, inc 1, K3. [10 sts]
Next row Inserting marker threads at
beg and end, P 1 row.

Dec row K3, SKPO, k2tog, K3. [8 sts] Next row Purl.



You only need to stuff the first 2.5cm of the tail - leave the rest wriggly!



Most pencils are non-toxic, but do check before shading your toy.



Label small pieces so you know what they are when making up.



SHAPE TOP OF EAR

1st inc row K2, inc 1, K1, inc 1, K3. [10 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row K3, inc 1, K1, inc 1, K4. [12 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd ine row K4, inc 1, K1, inc 1, K5.
[14 sts]

Next row Inserting marker threads at beg and end, P 1 row.

Stst 2 rows.

Dec row K1, (k2tog, K2, SKPO) twice, K1. [10 sts]

Next row Purl.

Cast off for top edge.

HAIR (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 30 sts with Funky Fur for base edge and st st 8 rows.

Cast off for top edge.

EYEBROWS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 8 sts with Funky Fur. Cast off.

BEARD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 15 sts with Funky Fur.

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.

TOADSTOOL CAP (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 10 sts with Alpine for top edge of gills and st st 2 rows.

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

Stst3 rows.

2nd inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [30 sts] St st 7 rows.

Change to Camel and K2 rows for base fold.

3rd inc row (K4, inc 1, K5) to end. [33 sts] Stst9 rows.

1st dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [22 sts] St st 5 rows.

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.

TOADSTOOLSTALK (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 8 sts with Alpine for top edge and st st 24 rows.

Inc 1 stat beg and end of next row. Stst 3 rows.

Repeat the last 4 rows two more times.
[14 sts]

St st 4 rows.

Dec row (K2tog) to end. [7 sts] Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

TOADSTOOL FRILL (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 10 sts with Alpine for inner edge.

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

Cast off knitwise for outer edge.

TOMAKEUP

Unless otherwise specified, 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 base edge up to marker threads, then work a gathering thread through every stitch along each base edge, draw up tightly and fasten off. Now join body seam, starting at marker threads and stopping 2.5cm away from shoulder edge. Remove markers, stuff legs and body firmly, then join remainder of seam. With body seam running down centre back, fold shoulder

edge flat and sew across.

Starting at gathered tip of big toe, join each foot seam, stopping 12mm away from back edge. Use tweezers to stuff each toe, then stuff foot firmly and join remainder of seam. Fold back edge in half and sew across, then pinch foot between index fingers and thumbs to flatten stuffing. Pin feet to base of legs, then sew in place, following the second increase row at base of each leg, and remove pins.

Starting at gathered top edge, join head seam, stopping 2.5cm away from neck edge. Stuff head firmly, making sure that chin and cheeks are well stuffed, then join remainder of seam. With seam running down centre back of head, sew neck edge to top of body.

Use tweezers to stuff fingers, thumb and palm of each hand lightly, then join remainder of seam from wrist up to underarm. Stuffarms firmly, then position and sew to sides of body. With shaped ends at back, pin braces in place, crossing at centre back and spacing 4 knitted stitches apart, then sew ends to top edge of waistband. Pin square ends to front, spacing 6 knitted stitches apart and overlapping knitted base edge of waistband by 6mm, then catch to waistband with a few stitches and remove pins. Join side edges of each button to form a circle, then sew to braces straps. Take a length of black yarn and draw out a single strand, then use the remaining 2 strands to embroider a cross stitch in the centre of each button.

Starting at gathered tip, join tail seam, then use tweezers to stuff top 2.5cm lightly. With seam running along underside of tail, position and sew top edge to back of body, placing 6 knitted rows up from top of legs.



"When you stuff your troll, use tweezers to help you pack the stuffing into narrow pieces of knitting."

Starting at gathered end, join nose seam, leaving face edge open. Use tweezers to stuff firmly, then pin in place centrally on head, with seam running

along underside and in line with cheek increase row, and top decreased point in line with the first cheek decrease row. Sew in place and remove pins.

When embroidering features fasten off ends of yarn at back of head where they will eventually be hidden by hair. Take a length of dusky pink yarn and draw out a single strand, then use the remaining 2 strands to embroider a curved mouth, working over 10 knitted stitches and embroidering two lines of chain stitch close together. Mark eye positions with pins, placing 2 knitted rows down from top of nose and spacing 6 knitted stitches apart. Using 2 strands from a length of black yarn, first embroider a circle of 5 tiny chain stitches for each eye, then surround these with another circle of 9 chain stitches to enlarge. Using 2 strands from a length of coffee yarn, embroider a curved eyelid of 7 chain stitches over the top of each eye, then use 2 strands from a length of white yarn to embroider a tiny stitch on each eye for gloss. Use brown pencil to shade knitting above eyelids, and use red pencil to blush cheeks and tip of nose, working in a circular motion to gradually build up

Join side edges of beard piece to make a circle then use brown sewing thread to sew to tip of chin. Also sew eyebrows in place with sewing thread. Treating purl side as right side, wrap hair piece round back of head, placing base edge 2 knitted rows above second increase row at base of head, and spacing ends 24 sts apart at front of head. Pin in position, then sew in place with sewing thread and remove pins.

Fold base edge of each ear in half and sew across, then join side edges up to first marker threads. Now fold top edge in half and sew across, then join side edges down to second marker threads. Remove markers, then oversew remaining open edges together. Sew oversewn edges of ears to sides of head, starting at base of hair strip, placing 2 knitted stitches in from each end. Starting at gathered top edge, join toadstool cap seam, then work a gathering thread through every stitch along cast-on edge of gills, draw up tightly and fasten off. Starting at gathered base edge, join toadstool stalk seam and use tweezers to stuff firmly, then sew top edge in place around gathered point on gills. Push gills section inside cap to form lining, folding along knitted fold line. Wrap frill piece round stalk, placing 12 knitted rows down from top edge, and oversew side edges together, then sew in place by working backstitch over every stitch along cast-on edge. Using 2 strands from a length of Alpine yarn, embroider French knots randomly over toadstool cap. Place toadstool in troll's right hand and wrap with fingers and thumb, holding in place with a few stitches, then catch thumb to side of trousers with a few stitches.

Next month another nursery rhyme favourite: Alan Dart's brilliant Owl and Pussycat. Issue 95, July, on sale Wednesday 13 June.

