

GREEN MAN

Alan Dart's mythical character is the perfect knit to celebrate the seasons!

EXCLUSIVE
ALAN DART
DESIGN



DID YOU KNOW?

The Green Man is found in many cultures around the world, and is usually a pagan symbol of rebirth, representing the cycle of growth each spring, fertility and nature. You'll often see his face carved into the stone in Christian churches around Europe.



YOU WILL NEED

- Hayfield, Bonus DK (100% acrylic, 100g/280m)
1 ball of each: Bottle Green (839), Grass (825), Lime (882), Orchard (904) and Olive (791)
 - 2g oddments of chocolate brown and beige DK yarn
 - 50cm (18in) length of black DK yarn
 - A pair of 3mm knitting needles
 - 90g washable toy stuffing
 - Long tweezers
 - Hair spray
- For yarn stockists contact
Sirdar 01924 231682
www.sirdar.co.uk

TENSION

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

MEASUREMENTS

35.5cm (14in) tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list see page 90

Alan Dart's Green Man is the perfect gift for anyone who loves the outdoors or gardening (a unique gift for Father's Day perhaps?). With tiny oak leaves adorning his hat and a beard made from foliage, this magical, mythical character looks like he's strolled out of a nearby forest!



NOTE

Use 3mm needles throughout and cast on by using the cable (2 needle) method. This is most important when knitting the smaller pieces. Also begin all pieces with a knit row, and always work 'inc 1' by knitting into the front and back of the stitch, otherwise your stitch count will not be correct. Be aware that shaping will commence on the first row for some pieces.

ROBE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 72 sts with Bottle Green for base edge and knit 3 rows.

Work in st st for 9 rows, beginning with a purl row.

Dec row 1 (K5, k2tog, K5) to end. [66 sts]

Work in st st for 9 rows.

Dec row 2 (K5, k2tog, K4) to end. [60 sts]

Work in st st for 9 rows.

Dec row 3 (K4, k2tog, K4) to end. [54 sts]

Work in st st for 7 rows.

Dec row 4 (K4, k2tog, K3) to end. [48 sts]

Work in st st for 7 rows.

Dec row 5 (K3, k2tog, K3) to end. [42 sts]

Work in st st for 7 rows.

Dec row 6 (K3, k2tog, K2) to end. [36 sts]

Work in st st for 13 rows.

SHAPE SIDES

Dec row 1 (K5, skpo, K5, k2tog, K3) twice, K2. [32 sts]

P 1 row.

Dec row 2 (K5, skpo, K3, k2tog, K3) twice, K2. [28 sts]

P 1 row.

Dec row 3 (K5, skpo, K1, k2tog, K3) twice, K2. [24 sts]

P 1 row.

Cast off for shoulder edge.

ROBE BASE

With RS of work facing and Orchard, pick up and knit 72 sts from base edge of robe.

P 1 row.

Dec row 1 (K2, k2tog, K2) to end. [60 sts]

Work in st st for 2 rows.

Dec row 2 (P1, p2tog, P2) to end. [48 sts]

Work in st st for 2 rows.

Dec row 3 (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [36 sts]

Work in st st for 2 rows.

Dec row 4 (P2tog, P1) to end. [24 sts]

Work in st st for 2 rows.

Dec row 5 (K2tog) to end. [12 sts]

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

HEAD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 18 sts with Lime for neck edge and work in st st for 6 rows.

WORK CHIN

Row 1 K13, yfwd, sl1, ybk, turn.

Row 2 Sl1, P8, ybk, sl1, yfwd, turn.

Row 3 Sl1, K7, yfwd, sl1, ybk, turn.

Row 4 Sl1, P6, ybk, sl1, yfwd, turn.

Row 5 Sl1, K5, yfwd, sl1, ybk, turn.

Row 6 Sl1, P4, ybk, sl1, yfwd, turn.

Row 7 Sl1, K4, yfwd, sl1, ybk, turn.

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

Row 9 Sl1, K5, yfwd, sl1, ybk, turn.

Row 10 Sl1, P6, ybk, sl1, yfwd, turn.

Row 11 Sl1, K7, yfwd, sl1, ybk, turn.

Row 12 Sl1, P8, ybk, sl1, yfwd, turn.

Row 13 Sl1, K to end.

Row 14 P across all sts. [18 sts]

SHAPE BASE OF HEAD

Inc row 1 K1, (inc 1) 4 times, K8, (inc 1) 4 times, K1. [26 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows.

Inc row 2 (K1, inc 1) 4 times, K9, (inc 1, K1) 4 times, K1. [34 sts]

Work in st st for 15 rows.

SHAPE TOP OF HEAD

Dec row 1 K2, (k2tog, K2) to end. [26 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows.

Dec row 2 K2, (k2tog, K1) to end. [18 sts]

P 1 row.

Dec row 3 K1, (k2tog) to last st, K1. [10 sts]

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 Bottle Green for top edge of sleeve.

Work in st st for 2 rows.

Inc 1 st at beg of next 2 rows.

Rep the last 4 rows once more. [10 sts]

ALAN DART TOY

Cast on 2 sts at beg of next 2 rows for underarm. [14 sts]

Work in st st for 14 rows.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row.

Work in st st for 5 rows.

Rep the last 6 rows once more. [10 sts]

K 2 rows for cuff edge.

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

SHAPE HAND

Inc row (Inc 1, K3, inc 1) twice. [14 sts]

P 1 row.

Cast on 6 sts at beg of next 2 rows for thumb. [26 sts]

Work in st st for 2 rows.

Cast off 4 sts at beg of next 2 rows. [18 sts]

Work in st st for 2 rows.

INC FOR FINGERS

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

WORK LITTLE FINGER

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

Work in st st for 5 rows.

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

WORK RING FINGER

Next row With 9 sts on right-hand needle, 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.

Work in st st for 7 rows.

Break yarn, leaving a long end.

Thread through sts on needle, draw up

tightly and fasten off, then join the 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.

Work in st st for 8 rows.

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

WORK INDEX FINGER

Next row With 3 sts on right-hand needle, rejoin yarn to work and K remaining 3 sts from left-hand needle. [6 sts]

Work in st st for 8 rows.

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

LEGS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 14 sts with Orchard for ankle edge and work in st st for 8 rows.

Cast off for top edge.

SHOES (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 14 sts with Grass for back edge.

Inc row 1 K5, inc 1, K1, inc 1, K6. [16 sts]

P 1 row.

Inc row 2 K5, inc 1, K3, inc 1, K6.

[18 sts]

P 1 row.

Inc row 3 Inc 1, K4, inc 1, K5, inc 1, K4,

inc 1, K1. [22 sts]

P 1 row.

Inc row 4 Inc 1, K19, inc 1, K1. [24 sts]



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



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



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



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



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

Tip To help toys hold their shape (and their footing) coat them heavily with starch or hair spray. If you need to wash the toy at any point, carefully follow the care instructions on the yarn's ball band and then respray the toy after washing.

P 1 row.

Inserting marker threads at beg and end of next row, work in st st for 2 rows.

SHAPE FRONT

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row.

P 1 row.

Rep the last 2 rows 6 more times.

[10 sts]

Dec row K2, skpo, K2, k2tog, K2.

[8 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows.

Dec row K2, skpo, k2tog, K2. [6 sts]

Work in st st for 2 rows.

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

SHOE LEAVES (MAKE 4 PIECES)

***Cast on** 3 sts with Grass and work in st st for 2 rows.

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

P 1 row.

Inc row 2 K1, (inc 1) twice, K2. [7 sts]**

Work in st st for 3 rows.

*****Dec row 1** Skpo, K3, k2tog. [5 sts]

P 1 row.

Dec row 2 Skpo, K1, k2tog. [3 sts]

P 1 row.

Dec row 3 Sl1, k2tog, pssso, break yarn and draw through st.****

COLLAR LEAVES (MAKE 8 PIECES)

Work as given for Shoe Leaves from * to ** using Orchard instead of Grass.

P 1 row.

Inc row K2, (inc 1) twice, K3. [9 sts]

Work in st st for 5 rows.

Dec row Skpo, K5, k2tog. [7 sts]

P 1 row.

Work as given for Shoe Leaves from *** to ****.

CAP (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 48 sts with Olive for base edge and work in st st for 12 rows.

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

[36 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows.

Dec row 2 (K1, k2tog) to end. [24 sts]

P 1 row.

Dec row 3 (K2tog) to end. [12 sts]

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

NOSE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 14 sts with Lime for face edge.

Dec row 1 K5, skpo, k2tog, K5.

[12 sts]

P 1 row.

Dec row 2 K4, skpo, k2tog, K4.

[10 sts]

P 1 row.

Dec row 3 K3, skpo, k2tog, K3. [8 sts]

Work in st st for 4 rows.

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

EARS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

With Lime, work as given for Shoe Leaves.

EYEBROWS & MOUSTACHE (MAKE 4 PIECES)

Cast on 6 sts with Grass.

Cast off.

BEARD & HAIR LEAVES (MAKE 12 PIECES)

Cast on 6 sts with Grass.

***Cast off** 2 sts, sl st on right-hand needle on to left-hand needle, then cast on 4 sts.**

Work from * to ** 5 more times.

Cast off 2 sts, sl st on right-hand needle on to left-hand needle, then cast on 2 sts. [18 sts]

Next row K across all sts.

Cast off knitwise.

ACORNS (MAKE 3 PIECES)

Cast on 9 sts with chocolate brown for base edge.

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

IT'S ALL IN THE DETAIL



The Green Man's leafy beard is made up of seven knitted oak leaves, with five more adorning his hat, and smaller leaves for his bushy green eyebrows and moustache. You can add fewer or more leaves to his face and hat depending on how leafy you want your Green Man to be, using contrasting shades of green, if you like.



To help the Green Man stand, coat his shoes heavily with hair spray.



The little cap is knitted in simple stocking stitch and sits perfectly on his head.

ALAN DART TOY

Rep the last row 3 more times.
Change to beige and work in st st for 5 rows, beg with a K row.
Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

OAK LEAVES (MAKE 3 PIECES)

With Olive, work as given for beard and hair leaves.

BRANCH (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 20 sts with chocolate brown.

Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Sew the seams and join the 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.
Starting at gathered edge, join seam on robe base, then join robe seam, stopping 2.5cm away from shoulder edge. Stuff robe firmly, then join remainder of seam. With seam running down centre back, fold shoulder edge flat and sew across.
Starting at gathered top edge, join head seam, stopping 2.5cm away from neck edge. Stuff head and chin firmly,

then join remainder of seam. Use tweezers to stuff neck firmly, then position and sew head to top of robe. Fold cast-on edge of each shoe in half and sew across to form back seam, then, starting at gathered edge of shoe, join front seam, stopping at marker threads to leave ankle edge open. Remove markers, then use tweezers to stuff shoes firmly. Join seam on each leg, then use tweezers to stuff firmly. Position and sew ankle edges of shoes and legs together, matching back seam of shoe to leg seam, and adding more stuffing if necessary. Position and sew top edges of legs to base of robe, spacing 15mm apart. Darn yarn tail remaining at cast-off edge of each shoe leaf down centre on purl side, then position and sew cast-on edges of leaves to ankle seam at front and back of each shoe. Join each arm seam from wrist to underarm, then use tweezers to stuff hands and arms lightly, leaving fingers and thumbs unstuffed. Position and sew sleeve heads to sides of robe, placing within shaping at top of robe. Darn yarn tail remaining at cast-off edge of each collar leaf down centre on purl side, then position and pin leaves around neck. Sew cast-on edges

securely in place by working backstitch round neck, and remove pins, then trim ends of yarn remaining on each leaf to 5cm and sew into robe to neaten. Coat leaves with hair spray and pat into knitting, then arrange and leave to set. Starting at gathered tip, join nose seam and use tweezers to stuff firmly. With this seam running along underside, and in line with second increase row at base of head, position and sew nose to face. Mark eye positions with pins, placing one knitted row above top of nose and spacing four knitted stitches apart. Carefully draw out a single strand from a length of black yarn and use the remaining two strands to embroider a circle of five tiny chain stitches for each eye, fastening off ends of yarn at top of head.

Starting at gathered top edge, join cap seam, then, with seam at centre back,



Attach three more oak leaves in olive green and two tiny acorns to his hand.



Position the leaves so that they fan out attractively around the brim of the cap.



Use variegated greeny-blue yarn to make eight leaves for the Green Man's collar.



Use oddments of chocolate brown and beige yarn to make three small acorns.



Tip Most patterns for toys recommend using a needle that is slightly smaller than the size listed on the yarn label – by using a smaller needle, stitches are worked into a smaller space which makes the fabric more dense, so stuffing does not poke through the holes.

fit on head so that back edge of cap is in line with top of neck. Sew in place by working backstitch over every stitch along cast-on edge. Darn yarn tail remaining at cast-off edge of each ear down centre on purl side, then position and sew ears to sides of head, placing directly below cap and spacing twelve knitted stitches apart.

Fold cast-off edge of each beard and hair leaf in half and oversew to create centre seam. Position and pin seven leaves in place for beard, and the remaining five leaves round front edge of cap. Sew securely in place and remove pins, then trim end of yarn remaining on each leaf to 5cm and sew into head to neaten.

Sew an eyebrow piece above each eye, and the two moustache pieces directly below nose, working backstitch down the centre of each piece. Coat the leaves and ears with hair spray and pat into knitting, then arrange and leave to set.

Fold branch piece in half along length and oversew cast-on and cast-off edges together. Starting at gathered top edge, join seam on each acorn, use tweezers to stuff, then work a gathering thread through every stitch along cast-on base edge, draw up tightly and fasten off. Also assemble oak leaves in same manner as given for beard and hair leaves. Position and securely sew leaves and two acorns to branch, then coat with hair spray, arrange and leave to set. Once set, position and sew branch between thumb and index finger of left hand, then catch index and middle fingers together with a few stitches.

Bend right arm at elbow so that palm of right hand is facing upward. Catch

fingers together with a few stitches, then sew side of little finger to robe. Position and sew remaining acorn to palm of hand.

To help the Green Man stand, coat the shoes and legs heavily with hair spray and pat into knitting. Pressing shoes firmly on to a flat surface with one hand to flatten soles, use other hand to gently curve robe and push shoulders back until the centre of balance is correct. Once you have checked that the Green Man can stand without support, leave the hair spray to set completely before handling. ●

NEXT MONTH

Make your very own 'Tim Peake'! Knit Alan's amazing astronaut in issue 147, July, in the shops from Friday 20 May.



STEP-BY-STEP SKPO SLIP 1, KNIT 1, PASS SLIPPED STITCH OVER



1 Insert the point of the right-hand needle into the next stitch as if you were to knit, but slip the stitch off and on to the 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. This decrease forms a slant which lies to the left.