

ROCK-A-BYE BABY

Cast on this winning rocking horse to make a magical keepsake for a child, or charming ornament for a sports-loving home. By **Monica Fuentes**





EASY TO KNIT

YOU WILL NEED

- Hayfield Bonus DK (100% acrylic, 100g/280m)
1 ball of each:
Yarn A White (961)
Yarn B Emerald (916)
Yarn C Ladybird (698)
Yarn D Sunflower (978)
Yarn E Black (965)
Yarn F Chocolate (947)
Yarn G Iced Pink (958)
Yarn H Azure (824)
 - A pair of 3mm knitting needles
 - Tapestry needle
 - 2 safety eyes, 7mm diameter
 - 30g toy stuffing
 - Light blue ric rac, 50cm
 - White ric rac, 50cm
 - Striped ribbon, 25cm
 - Small circle of white felt fabric
 - Thick cardboard
 - 4 pipe cleaners
- For yarn stockists contact
Sirdar 01924 231682
www.sirdar.co.uk

TENSION

25 sts and 33 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4 in) over st st using 3mm needles

MEASUREMENTS

Height 21cm (8¼in)
Length 22.5cm (8¾in)
(muzzle to tail)

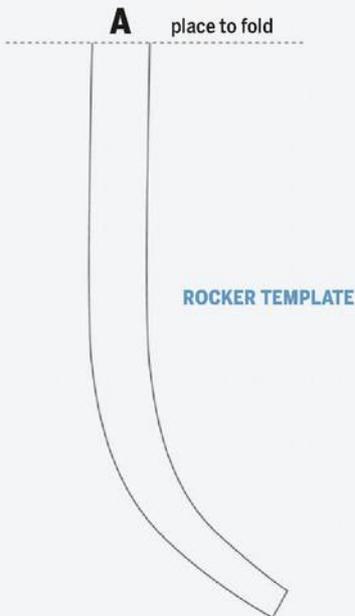
ABBREVIATIONS

Sk2po s1l, k2tog, pss0

For a full list see page 95

MAKING THE ROCKERS

Trace and cut out the rocker template (right) and place it on a folded piece of paper lining up the straight dotted line (A) with the fold. Cut out the shape from the paper, unfold and place onto two pieces of sturdy card. Draw around the template and cut out to create two rockers.



HORSE HEAD AND BODY

Cast on 10 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn A.

- Row 1** (WS) Purl.
- Row 2** (Kfb, K1) to end. [15 sts]
Work 3 rows in st st, beg with a P row.
- Row 6** Kfb, K13, kfb. [17 sts]
- Row 7** Purl.
- Row 8** Kfb, K15, kfb. [19 sts]
- Row 9** Purl.
- Row 10** Kfb, K17, kfb. [21 sts]
- Row 11** Purl.
- Row 12** (K6, kfb) to end. [24 sts]
- Row 13** (P5, kfb) to end. [28 sts]
- Row 14** Knit.
- Row 15** P9, (kfb, P1) 5 times, P9. [33 sts]
Work 7 rows in st st, beg with a K row.
- Row 23** P15, sk2po, P15. [31 sts]
- Row 24** Knit.
- Row 25** P14, sk2po, P14. [29 sts]
- Row 26** K2tog, K25, k2tog. [27 sts]
- Row 27** P12, sk2po, P12. [25 sts]
- Row 28** Kfb, K23, kfb. [27 sts]
- Row 29** P12, sk2po, P12. [25 sts]
- Row 30** Kfb, K23, kfb. [27 sts]
- Row 31** P12, sk2po, P12. [25 sts]
- Row 32** Knit.
- Row 33** P11, sk2po, P11. [23 sts]
- Row 34** Kfb, K21, kfb. [25 sts]
- Row 35** P11, sk2po, P11. [23 sts]
- Row 36** Kfb, K21, kfb. [25 sts]



Make the bridle in two pieces and join them together around the muzzle and over the head

- Row 37** P11, sk2po, P11. [23 sts]
Row 38 Kfb, K21, kfb. [25 sts]
Row 39 P11, sk2po, P11. [23 sts]
Row 40 Kfb, K21, kfb. [25 sts]
Row 41 Kfb, P10, sk2po, P10, kfb. [25 sts]
Row 42 Kfb, K23, kfb. [27 sts]
Row 43 Cast on 2 sts, P12, sk2po, P12, cast on 2 sts. [29 sts]
Row 44 Kfb, K27, kfb. [31 sts]
Row 45 Cast on 3 sts, P14, sk2po, P14, cast on 3 sts. [35 sts]
Row 46 Kfb, K33, kfb. [37 sts]
Row 47 Cast on 2 sts, P17, sk2po, P17, cast on 2 sts. [39 sts]
Row 48 Kfb, K37, kfb. [41 sts]
Row 49 P19, sk2po, P19. [39 sts]
Row 50 Kfb, K37, kfb. [41 sts]
Row 51 P19, sk2po, P19. [39 sts]
Work 31 rows in st st, beg with a purl row.
Row 83 P1. (p2tog, P4) to last 2 sts, p2tog. [32 sts]
Row 84 Knit.
Row 85 (P2tog, P3) to last 2 sts, p2tog. [25 sts]
Row 86 Knit.
Row 87 P1. (p2tog, P1) to end. [17 sts]
Row 88 K1. (k2tog) to end. [9 sts]

Cast off.

Sew and stuff the Head and the Body, introduce a pipe cleaner at the interior of the Body through the neck until the Ears to put the Head a little bit up.

Sew the eyes to face, using image as a guide.

Embroider the cheeks under the eyes with Yarn G.

EARS (MAKE 2)

EXTERIOR EARS

Cast on 3 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn A.

Row 1 (RS) Knit.

Row 2 (Kfb) to end. [6 sts]

Work 3 rows in st st, beg with a K row.

Row 6 (Kfb, P1) to end. [9 sts]

Row 7 Knit.

Cast off.

INTERIOR EARS

Cast on 3 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn G.

Row 1 (RS) Knit.

Row 2 Kfb, P1, kfb. [5 sts]

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

Row 6 (Kfb, K1) to end. [8 sts]

Row 7 Purl.

Cast off.

Using the image as a guide, sew the Ears two by two with the pink Ears at interior part.

FRONT LEGS (MAKE 2)

Cast on 8 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn E.

(RS) Work 5 rows in st st, beg with a K row.

Change to Yarn A.

Work 19 rows in st st, beg with a purl row.

Row 25 Kfb, K6, kfb. [10 sts]

Row 26 Purl.

Row 27 Kfb, K8, kfb. [12 sts]

Row 28 Purl.

Row 29 Kfb, K10, kfb. [14 sts]

Work 12 rows in st st, beg with a purl row.

Row 42 (P2tog) to end. [7 sts]

Cast off.

Sew the Legs along the length, insert a pipe cleaner into each Leg and fold them a little bit at the knee to make the right shape. Stuff Legs and sew to Horse Body, using image as a guide.

BACK LEGS (MAKE 2)

Cast on 8 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn E.

(RS) Work 5 rows in st st, beg with a knit row.

Change to Yarn A.

Work 21 rows in st st, beg with a purl row.

Row 27 Kfb, K6, kfb. [10 sts]

Row 28 Purl.

Row 29 Kfb, K8, kfb. [12 sts]

Row 30 Purl.

Row 31 Kfb, K10, kfb. [14 sts]

Row 32 P2. (Kfb, P1) 5 times, P2. [19 sts]

Work 12 rows in st st, beg with a K row.

Row 45 K1. (k2tog) to end. [10 sts]

Cast off.

Sew the Legs along the length, insert a pipe cleaner into each Leg and fold them a little bit at the knee to make the right shape. Stuff Legs and sew to Horse Body, using image as a guide.

MANE

Using Yarn F, cut some strands 10cm long, fold them in the middle and attach them at the top of the Head between the Ears, along the edge created by the sk2po decs, stopping at the end of the decs at the back of the neck.

TAIL

Using Yarn F, cut 24 strands, 18cm long, fold them in the middle and sew them on the horse's bottom.





Add a contrasting border and ric rac trim to decorate the saddle



Ribbon, a circle of felt and a bit of embroidery make a very fine rosette

SADDLE

Cast on 10 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn C.

(RS) Work 5 rows in garter st.

Row 6 Kfb. K8, kfb. [12 sts]

Row 7 Kfb. K10, kfb. [14 sts]

Work 42 rows in garter st.

Row 50 K2tog, K10, k2tog. [12 sts]

Row 51 K2tog, K8, k2tog. [10 sts]

Work 5 rows in garter st.

Cast off.

BORDER

Cast on 76 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn D.

Work 3 rows in garter st.

Cast off.

Sew the Saddle Border all around the Saddle.

Using the image as a guide, sew white ric rac around the seam of the Saddle and Saddle Border.

STRAP

Cast on 27 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn C.

Work 3 rows in st st, beg with a knit row.

Cast off.

Using the image as a guide, sew the two ends of the Strap to both sides of the Saddle.

BRIDLE

MUZZLE STRAP

Cast on 27 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn C.

Cast off.

Using the image as a guide, sew the Strap around the Muzzle.

"There's something adorably vintage about this gorgeous rocking horse. Monica always manages to capture the nostalgia of time gone by" in her keepsake designs."

DEBORA BRADLEY, EDITOR IN CHIEF



HEAD STRAP

Cast on 41 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn C.

Cast off.

Using the image as a guide, sew the ends of the Strap to the Muzzle, passing it over the Head behind the Ears.

GARLAND

Cast on 40 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn B.

Row 1 (RS) Knit.

Row 2 (Kfb) to end. [80 sts]

Work 8 rows in st st, beg with a K row.

Row 11 (K2tog) to end. [40 sts]

Row 12 Purl.

Cast off.

Using the image as a guide, sew blue ric rac around the Garland.

ROSETTE

Gather a length of striped ribbon and sew a circle of white felt fabric on top. Using black stranded cotton embroider '1st' on the felt. Attach two lengths of ribbon at the back, hanging down. Use the image as a guide.

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Sew the horse securely to the base; pipe cleaners help keep the legs firm

ROCKING BASE CURVED PIECES (MAKE 2)

Cast on 8 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn H.
Work 82 rows in st st, beg with a knit row.
Cast off.

Sew the length of the piece and one of the ends closed.
Cut two cardboard pieces using the template, insert cardboard and sew end closed.

HOOF RESTS (MAKE 2)

Cast on 16 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn H.
Work 28 rows in st st, beg with a knit row.
Cast off.

Sew the length of the piece and one of the ends closed.
Cut two cardboard rectangles 9.2x3.3cm. Insert cardboard and sew end closed. Sew the hooves to Hoof Rests and sew Hoof Rests to Rocking Bases, using image as a guide.



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NEXT MONTH

If you enjoy knitting things for little ones you'll love our extra special offering next issue. Amanda Berry has designed a wonderful killer whale cushion that's filled with character and would look great on the end of the bed. It's a team favourite! Issue 184 is on sale in all good supermarkets and newsagents from Thursday 21 March.

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