

Little Cotton Rabbits Badger in sweater and shorts



This badger is made from Cascade 220 worsted yarn in 8010 Natural (Yarn A), 4002 Jet (Yarn B) and 9491 Greystone Heather (Yarn C). His sweater is made from Drops Safran in 20 Rust and 18 white and his shorts are in BC Garn Allino yarn 02 light brown.

*More knitting patterns are available at
<https://littlecottonrabbits.typepad.co.uk>*

Materials:

- Worsted or light Aran yarn (approx 15m/17yds) in Cream: **Yarn A**
- Worsted or light Aran yarn (approx 38m/42yds) in Black/very dark grey: **Yarn B**
- Worsted or light Aran yarn (approx 27m/30yds) in mid/light grey: **Yarn C**
- 5ply/sport weight yarn for shorts
- 4ply/fingering weight yarn for the sweater in up to 2 colours
- Scraps of black and brown 4ply/DK yarn for the eyes and facial features
- Toy stuffing

Notions:

- Knitting needles: A pair each of 3mm and 2.75mm
- Tapestry needle

Finished size:

approx 23cm (9 inches) from the tip of the toes to the top of the head

Gauge:



Gauge for badger: 6 stitches x 9 rows to 1 inch

Gauge for clothes: 7 stitches x 10 rows to 1 inch

Thanks for buying a copy of this pattern. It is suitable for intermediate knitting skills and assumes an understanding of basic stitches and standard knitting terms. Apart from a couple of complicated shaping rows the knitting part of the pattern is quite simple and straightforward. All of the pieces are knitted flat and seamed (though if you decide to convert it to knit it in the round please bear in mind that you will lose the ability to use the seams to add structure and shape to your finished badger and it will not look the same).

I feel that it is mostly the finishing techniques (sewing up, seams etc.) that give any knitted project a polished look. I've described in detail how I try to get the neatest look to the animals that I make, how I sew up, tighten seams etc. to get a particular shape. You will need to use mattress stitch if you want to follow the instructions properly as it has the benefit of giving a flexible seam that can be gathered in. There are a few fiddly finishing bits that are worth taking extra time over and it's also worth re-doing bits if you're not happy (it sometimes takes me 2 or 3 tries to get a face exactly how I want it).

Anyway, I hope that you find the pattern enjoyable (if a bit fiddly in parts) and are pleased with the badger that you make.

Abbreviations:

These increase methods are described in detail in the excellent knitting help website:

<https://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/increases>

M1L : MAKE 1 LEFT. A nice tight method of making an extra stitch. With the left hand needle pick up the connecting strand between the two needles and knit into the back of the loop to create an extra stitch. If you find this too tight for your liking you can substitute M1A (make one away) which will give a looser increase.

KLL : KNIT LEFT LOOP. Increase 1 stitch by knitting into the stitch that is 2 below the one you have just knitted... insert tip of left needle into the stitch from behind and bring the loop onto the left needle. Insert the tip of the right needle into the back loop and knit, so making an extra stitch. This is the most invisible increasing method I've found so far but if you prefer you can substitute M1L above.

M1A : MAKE 1 AWAY. Make a loop with the working yarn so the tail is pointing backwards/away from you

These decrease methods are described in detail in the excellent knitting help website:

<https://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/decreases>

SSK (SLIP, SLIP, KNIT) : Slip a stitch (as if to knit it) to the right-hand needle, slip a second stitch in the same way, slip both stitches together back to the left-hand needle and knit together through the back loops.

K2TOG : Knit 2 stitches together

P2TOG : Purl 2 stitches together

P2TOG TBL: Purl 2 stitches together through the back loops

K1B: Knit 1 through the back loop

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Yarn suggestions:

I've always enjoyed experimenting when I knit my animals so I use many different yarns. Here are some suggestions:



CaMaRose Sneflug in 7811 snehvid (A),
7313 Koksgra (B) and 7311 Gra (C)



De Rerum Natura Gilliatt in Sel (A),
Fusain (B) and Brouillard (C)



Lana Grossa Slow Wool Canapa in
1 white (A), 7 Anthrazit (B) and 6 grey (C)

Yarn suggestions for clothes:

For the sweater you can use either 4 ply/fingering weight wool or cotton: DMC Natura Just Cotton, Drops Safran, BCGarn Alba, Krea Deluxe organic cotton and Scheepjes Catona or Cotton 8 are all 4ply cottons that in my experience knit up nicely and have a good range of colours. I prefer to use a cotton or linen based yarn for the shorts as it forms a more rigid knitted fabric and is less likely to roll up at the hem. I have some detailed yarn suggestions over on my blog:

https://littlecottonrabbits.typepad.co.uk/my_weblog/2020/06/choosing-yarns-for-the-little-cotton-rabbit-animal-patterns-part-2.html

Tip: Before you start, get to know your yarn. Does it break easily? If so you will need to consider using a different yarn to sew up with as seaming can cause weaker yarns to snap.

Some notes on stuffing:

Stuffing soft toys and decorations can be tricky. Knitted fabric has a lot of stretch and unlike a firm woven fabric it will expand to the shape of the stuffing inside.

No matter how good your shaping is on a knitted piece, the way in which you stuff will be more crucial in determining the finished shape.

On limbs it is best not to over stuff and therefore avoid a fat sausage shape. On bodies it is fine to stuff firmly but be aware that over stuffing may mean that your badger does not sit down well.

I find that putting in small amounts of stuffing and building up a shape works best for me rather than pushing in a large wad all at once.

Extra tips:

I hope you enjoy using this pattern. I have written up some extra tips about knitting and finishing, so please pop by for a visit and check out the knitting tips section on [Little Cotton Rabbits blog](#).

If you get stuck with any aspect of the pattern, please come and visit the Little cotton Rabbit group on Ravelry: <https://www.ravelry.com/groups/little-cotton-rabbits>

Or the Little Cotton Rabbits Facebook group:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/littlecottonrabbits>

Lots of knitters who've already used the patterns hang out there and one of us will do our best to help you. You'll also find lots of other projects made from these patterns, please come and share yours.

The pattern instructions:

Head:

Before starting please cut: two separate lengths of Yarn A; one of 3m (3.3 yds) and one of 5m (5.5 yds) and two separate 2m (2.2 yds) lengths of **Yarn B**. These are all joined in on **row 7** when you begin working in intarsia. A note about intarsia technique: It is important that you intertwine the strands of contrasting colours as you switch between them, here is a helpful video: <https://www.knittinghelp.com/video/play/intarsia-color-knitting>

Starting at the back of the head and finishing at the nose, use Yarn A and 3mm needles to cable cast on 11 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

row 1: (wrong side) Purl
row 2: K2, (KLL, K1) 8 times, K1 (19 stitches)
row 3: Purl
row 4: K2, (KLL, K2) 8 times, K1 (27 stitches)
row 5: Purl
row 6: K2, (KLL, K3) 8 times, K1 (35 stitches)
row 7: P11, then join in first length of **Yarn B** and **P2**, join in the 3m length of Yarn A and **P9**, join in second length of **Yarn B** and **P2**, join in the 5m length of Yarn A and **P11**
row 8: K10, **K4**, K7, **K4**, K10
row 9: P10, **P4**, P7, **P4**, P10
rows 10–13: Repeat rows 8 & 9 twice more
row 14: K10, **K2**, **P1**, K1, K7, **K1**, **P1**, **K2**, K10 (the Purl stitches mark where to join the outer edges of both ears)
row 15: P10, **P4**, P7, **P4**, P10

rows 16–23: Repeat rows 8 & 9 four more times
row 24: K2, (K2tog) 4 times, **K2**, **K2tog**, SSK, K3, K2tog, **SSK**, **K2**, (K2tog) 4 times, K2 (23 stitches)
row 25: P6, **P3**, P5, **P3**, P6
row 26: K6, **K1**, **K2tog**, K5, **SSK**, **K1**, K6 (21 stitches)
row 27: P6, **P2**, P5, **P2**, P6
row 28: K6, **K2tog**, K5, **SSK**, K6 (19 stitches)
row 29: P6, **P1**, P5, **P1**, P6

From this point onwards continue in Yarn A only

row 30: K1, SSK, K13, K2tog, K1 (17 stitches)
row 31: Purl
row 32: K1, (K2tog) twice, SSK, K3, (K2tog) twice, SSK, K1 (11 stitches)
row 33: Purl
row 34: Cast off Knit-wise

Cut the work from the ball leaving a cast off tail of around 8 inches to seam with (*fig. 1*). Before seaming turn the head to the wrong side and weave in all of the black tail ends on the inside of the work and once they are secure trim them so that they do not intrude into the white areas. This needs doing in order to prevent the black tails showing through the work once the head is stuffed – trust me, it looks ugly. If your stuffing is white (as most stuffing is) then you'll not need to hide the cream coloured tail ends, but do ensure that they're secure (either woven in a little or tied off) and that your work cannot come unravelled (*fig. 2*).

Next use the cast off tail thread to close around an inch of the seam under the chin using mattress stitch. Then thread the tapestry needle with your cast-on tail and use it to begin closing the seam from the back of the head using mattress stitch and leaving an open gap in the seam through which to stuff the head (*fig. 3*).

Then with the right side of work facing you, use a short length of Yarn A and sew through the loops from the cast on edge at the back of the head (I've used red thread to illustrate, *fig. 4*). Begin to gather in the seam and tie the ends together tightly inside the head to prevent it loosening again.



fig. 1



fig. 2



fig. 3



fig. 4



Finally close the small open seam at the nose as detailed below and using an extra 10 inch length of Yarn A (though if you find your yarn snaps easily please substitute a stronger yarn). Here I've used red yarn to illustrate:

Fold the nose so that the seam under the head is centred underneath. Leaving a few inches as a tail end sew alternately through the ∇ of a whole stitch on the upper side of the seam (fig. 5) and then a ∇ of a whole stitch on the lower side on the seam (fig. 6). Continue closing the seam in this way, working alternate sides in turn until the whole of the seam is closed and the working thread zig-zags across the open seam (fig. 7). Pull firmly on both the tail ends to tighten so the seam is neat and fully closed (fig. 8). Thread the tail ends to the inside of the work and tie off/weave in before trimming the excess.

Once the tail ends are secured, it's time to stuff (see tips on stuffing on page 3). I start with a tight ball of stuffing which I poke into the back of the head, packing it in firmly (fig. 9) then stuff the nose end lightly, pinching and manipulating the stuffing until it takes on the pointy shape that I want (fig. 10).



Continue stuffing the head until you're happy with the shape. I pack in quite a lot of stuffing adding little bits at a time, moulding as I go to get an oval shape and the finished head is quite firm and solid (fig. 11). When you are happy with the shape leave the seam at the bottom of the head open for now (making it easier to hide the tails ends from the ears and facial features inside the head) and set aside while you make the ears. NOTE: please see tips on page 8 for filling in any gaps between the intarsia sections.

E a r s (make two the same):

Use **Yarn B** and 3mm needles to cable cast on 3 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for sewing the ear together and attaching to the head later. The ears are worked in garter stitch (Knit every row). Note, knitting into the back of the first stitch on rows 7 & 9 will give a neater finish to the colour change.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>row 1: (wrong side) Knit
 row 2: (K1, M1A) twice, K1 (5 stitches)
 row 3: Knit
 row 4: K2, M1A, K1, M1A, K2 (7 stitches)
 row 5: Knit
 row 6: Join in Yarn A and Knit
 row 7: K1B, K6, Cut Yarn A from the work
 row 8: Change to Yarn B and Knit</p> | <p>row 9: K1B, K6
 rows 10-12: Knit each row
 row 13: K1, SSK, K1, K2tog, K1 (5 stitches)
 row 14: Knit
 row 15: SSK, K1, K2tog (3 stitches)
 row 16: Knit
 row 17: Knit</p> |
|---|--|

Ears (continued):

Cut the work from the ball leaving an 8 inch tail and thread this end through the last 3 stitches on the needle and pull up to tighten the stitches (*fig. 12*). Fold the ear in half and tie the cast on and cast off ends together at the centre bottom point of the ear. At this point you need to check that you have the neat side of the white rim on the outside of the work. If you are not sure then flip it inside-out and check that side too. Once you are happy with the folded ear thread the needle with one of the ends and sew one side of the bottom edge closed from the centre point to the edge (*fig. 13*). Repeat with the other side. You will finish up with an end at each corner of the semi-circular finished ear. Make a second ear the same (*fig. 14*). Next it's time to attach the ears to the head.



fig. 12



fig. 13



fig. 14



fig. 15

Making sure that the white highlight on the ear is facing forward, thread the tapestry needle with the left hand tail from one ear, and position the ear by sewing through the purled marker stitch within the left black stripe of the head (*fig. 15*). Work backwards along the head, joining the ear by sewing alternately through the left side edge of the ear and the bars between the stitches on the head, stopping when you reach the central point at the back of the ear. Next re-thread the needle with the right-hand tail from the ear and use it to join the right side of the ear in the same way, making sure both front edges of the ear are aligned and using the channel between the first row of cream colour stitches on the head (*fig. 16*), you want the two joining points of the ear close together to get the badger ear shape.



fig. 16



fig. 17



fig. 18



fig. 19

When you reach the back of the ear where the first end is hanging, tie the two ends together securely (*figs. 17 & 18*). Thread both ends inside the head and out of the open seam at the bottom and that's the first ear done. Repeat with the second ear (*fig. 19*). When you are happy with positioning tie all the ends from the ears together securely underneath the head, trim and poke inside the head cavity. Now for the facial features.

To embroider the face:

To make the mouth, thread a tapestry needle with an 8 inch length of black 4ply or DK Yarn and push it up through the open bottom seam of the head and out of the centre of your gathered cast off. Then take it down the outside of the centre seam, thread into the head at the base of the mouth and out at one mouth corner (*fig. 20*). Take it across the front to the other mouth corner and back through the head, coming out again at the base of the mouth (*fig. 21*).

Take the working yarn through the loop you've just made so that the mouth is also pulled down into a 'V' shape then thread the end back through the head at the base of the mouth (*fig. 22*) and out of the open seam at the bottom of the head (*fig. 23*). Adjust the tightness of the stitches forming the mouth and knot the 2 ends of thread together securely before trimming and poke the ends inside the head.



fig. 20

fig. 21

fig. 22

fig. 23

To make the nose, thread a tapestry needle with an 18 inch length of black yarn (or embroidery floss) and push it up through the open bottom seam of the head and out on one side of the top corner of the nose. Take the thread across to the other top corner of the nose to make a straight line marking the top edge of the nose. Then sew a slightly shorter horizontal parallel line where you want the bottom of the nose to be (fig. 24) Ideally these lines should straddle the nose seam in order to fully hide it once the nose is embroidered.

Work in vertical lines from the top line marker to the lower one, filling in the entire nose area with black threads (fig. 25). The threads at either side of the nose will slope inwards slightly and you are aiming for a tapered rectangular shape. Once you've filled in the entire nose (fig. 26), sew back through to underneath head, tie off both nose thread ends and trim them, poking the tail ends inside the head cavity.



fig. 24

fig. 25

fig. 26

I prefer to add the eyes after closing the seam on the underside of the head, as this helps to anchor them and aids with shaping, so finish joining those seams together now. I aim to get the seams to meet just behind the shaping under the chin and gently tighten the seams to give the head extra shaping before tying both ends together. Don't trim the tail ends as you'll use them to attach the head to the body later.

Anchored French Knot:



fig. 27

fig. 28

fig. 29

fig. 30

Anchored French Knot (continued):

French Knots are a nice way of making a small decorative bobble and can be used as an eye or nose on a stuffed toy. The only problem can be that a knitted fabric tends to have large holes and so it is easy for the knot to slip to the wrong side of the work. To compensate I anchor my French Knots as detailed below.

To make the eyes cut an 8 inch length of 4ply yarn. I've used black yarn on the grey badger and a dark brown yarn on the black badger (see front cover and page 3). Starting underneath the head thread this yarn through the head to the position for the first eye leaving a tail of around 2 inches behind. Create an anchored French Knot for each eye:

Thread a tapestry needle with the 8 inches of yarn. Sew up through the work to the point that you want the knot. Then push it back through the same point and out again one stitch away from the original point, leaving a little loop (*fig. 27*). Slide the tip of the needle through this loop and wrap the thread around the needle tip (*fig. 28*) between three and six times depending on thickness of yarn – here I wrapped 6 times with 4 ply yarn. Hold the wrapped thread in place around the needle between your finger and thumb and pull the needle all the way through to make a loose knot. Pull on the end under the head to tighten the knot, then push the needle back down through the work (*fig. 29*) and out again underneath the head next to the start point.

Gently pull both ends to tighten and create a little eye socket shaping to the head (*fig. 30*). Adjust the tightness until you are happy and then tie off both ends securely before threading the ends through the head and trimming.

Repeat for the second eye and then the head is finished.

As I mentioned earlier, it might be that you've found you are not entirely happy with the intarsia sections of the head and if you feel there are gaps, now is the time to fix that.

Fixing the gaps:

There are lots of tips on the internet about minimising the gaps between intarsia sections (search for 'neat intarsia' to find some) but sometimes despite your best efforts of tugging the yarn after a colour change, you are left with gaps at the intersection between blocks of intarsia colour-work. If this bothers you here is a simple solution:

Note: When experimenting I found that using the lighter coloured yarn (Yarn A) rather than the darker one gave me a neater result, but you can use either colour as you like.

Cut a long length of Yarn A (though here I've used red yarn for contrast so you can clearly see what's going on) and sewing under and over the pairs of lateral joining stitches, work a simple running stitch up along one side of the black/grey patch, (*fig. 31*). Don't pull the stitches too tightly, instead keep your working thread tension quite loose, as you don't want to distort the shaped head. When you reach the end of the join, turn and do the same in the opposite direction, filling in the gaps between the first set of running stitches. I find that sewing diagonally through the gaps on the way back towards the nose gives the neatest finish (*fig. 32 & 33*). Sew both tail ends through the head and secure underneath where they will be hidden when the head is attached to the body.



fig. 31



fig. 32



fig. 33

Now that's the head finished, so set it to one side while you make the body.

Body:

Starting at the neck and finishing at the bottom, use **Yarn C** and 3mm needles to cable cast on 16 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later

- row 1: (wrong side) Purl
- row 2: K3, (KLL, K2) 6 times, K1 (22 stitches)
- row 3: Purl
- row 4: K3, (KLL, K3) 6 times, K1 (28 stitches)
- row 5: Purl
- row 6: K3, (KLL, K4) 6 times, K1 (34 stitches)
- row 7: Purl
- rows 8 - 28: Beginning and ending with a Knit row
work 21 rows in stocking stitch
- row 29: Cast off in Purl

Cut the work from the ball leaving a tail of around 8 inches and use this thread to close the seam up the back of the body using mattress stitch.

Leave a gap at the top to make stuffing the body easier.



Legs (make 2 the same):

Beginning at the underside of the foot, use **Yarn B** and 3mm needles to cable cast on 14 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later. * If preferred you can continue to work rows 27-30 for the top of the leg in **Yarn B** only, in which case don't join in **Yarn C** and simply ignore the details for colour changes.

- row 1: (wrong side) Purl
- row 2: K2, (KLL, K1) 4 times, K3, (KLL, K1) 4 times, K1 (22 stitches)
- row 3: Purl
- row 4: K3, (KLL, K1) 6 times, K5, (KLL, K1) 6 times, K2 (34 stitches)
- rows 5 -11: Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work 7 rows in stocking stitch
- row 12: K14, SSK, K2, K2tog, K14 (32 stitches)
- row 13: Purl
- row 14: *Tip: This row is a little complicated because it includes both decreasing and casting off in the centre of the row. It is easy to lose count and I find it helps if you count the stitches yet to be worked rather than those already knitted.*

K7, Knit the next 7 stitches casting them off as you go (18 stitches still to work), **SSK and cast off, K2tog and cast off** (14 stitches still to work), **Knit the next 8 stitches casting them off as you go, K6** (7 stitches on either side of the cast off section giving a total of 14)

row 15: Purl across all stitches being careful to keep your tension tight across the gap (14 stitches)

rows 16-26: Beginning and ending with a Knit row, work 11 rows of stocking stitch

*row 27: Join in **Yarn C**, (P1, P1) 6 times, P2

row 28: (K1, K1) 7 times, Cut **Yarn B** from the work leaving a short tail for weaving in later

row 29: Continue in **Yarn C** only, Purl

row 30: Cast off in Knit and cut the work from the ball leaving a tail of around 8 inches for seaming with

Join the top of the foot seam by tying an 8 inch length of **Yarn B** to the back of the stitch in the middle of the open seam - I've used red thread here just to illustrate (fig. 34). Begin to close this seam by over-sewing/whip stitching across the gap through the outer loops of the cast off edge (fig. 35).

When you reach the top of the seam close up any small gaps by taking the needle behind one stitch on the right (fig. 36), then behind the stitch directly at the top of the seam (fig. 37), then behind one stitch on the right (fig. 38) and finally through to the inside of the work (fig. 39) where you can weave it along the seam and trim the end.



fig. 34

fig. 35

fig. 36

fig. 37

Start to close the back seam of the foot by threading a tapestry needle with the cast-on tail and using mattress stitch. Seam around 1 inch and leave the rest of the leg open for now to make stuffing the foot easier. Next close the seam at the underside of the foot by re-threading the tapestry needle with a spare length of Yarn B and using it to gather up the loops in the bottom of the foot – I've used red thread here to illustrate (fig. 40) Tie both ends tightly inside the foot to fully close the bottom seam.



fig. 38

fig. 39

fig. 40

fig. 41

Next stuff the foot firmly. Take your time to get the shape that you want, adding small amounts of stuffing at a time. Don't be afraid to pull it out and start again if you're not happy with the shape, I often do. Once you're happy with the shape of the foot close the leg back seam but leave a small gap at the top to make stuffing the leg easier. Stuff the leg shaft lightly. If you want your badger to sit nicely then don't stuff the top 1cm of the leg.

Finish closing the leg seam and tie the two ends together at the top, poking all other ends inside the leg. Repeat for the second leg. Now both legs are ready to attach to the body. Although they are both the same I often find that one looks like a right and one a left so take time to look at them and decide which one goes on which side (fig. 41).



fig. 42

fig. 43

fig. 44

fig. 45

Thread the tapestry needle with the longer end from the top of the first finished leg and use this to sew it to the body. Position the leg by lining it up with the edge of the body and over-sew the leg in place through the loops on the cast off body edge and cast off leg edge (fig. 42).

Work all the way around the top of the leg back to the start then tie both ends together inside the body to secure. Attach the second leg in the same way (*fig. 43*) leaving a gap between both legs.

Once both legs are attached and secure turn the body inside out. Tie a 5 inch length of Yarn A to the inside of the body at the start of the gap between the legs. Turn the work right side out and use this thread to tightly over-sew the short seam between the legs (*fig. 44*) before threading it back inside and tying off to secure.

Now the body is ready to stuff (*fig. 45*). I like to put most of the stuffing at the bottom of the body to make a fat tummy, (though don't overstuff and strain the seams) and I put less towards the neck end.

When you are happy with the body shape finish closing the seam at the back of the body but leave the neck edge open. Tie off the ends but don't trim as you'll use them to help attach the head later.

A r m s (make 2 the same):

Starting at the top of arm and finishing at the paw, use Yarn C and 3mm needles to cable cast on 10 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later. If you prefer you can work the arms in Yarn B only. In which case cast on using Yarn B and ignore all colour change directions in rows 3 & 4.

row 1: (wrong side) Purl

row 2: K2, (M1L, K2) 4 times (14 stitches)

row 3: Join in Yarn B, (P1, P1) 6 times, P2

row 4: (K1, K1) 7 times

Cut Yarn C from the work leaving a short tail for weaving in later and continue in Yarn B only

row 5: Purl

rows 6-25: Beginning with a Knit row and ending with a Purl, work 20 rows in stocking stitch

row 26: K1, SSK, K2, K2tog, SSK, K2, K2tog, K1 (10 stitches)

row 27: Purl

Cut the work from the ball leaving a tail of 8 inches. Thread this through the remaining 10 stitches and pull up tightly (*fig. 46*). Over-sew/whip stitch once to keep the seam from opening out again. Continue using this thread to close the arm seam using mattress stitch. Leave a gap of around an inch and stuff the arm lightly, I prefer not to stuff the very top of the arm so that it's bit floppy.

Finish closing the arm seam and tighten it by pulling the end to get a slight curve to the arm and pulling the gathered paw end under. When you're happy with the arm shape tie both ends together. Make a second arm (*fig. 47*).

Next attach the arms. Thread the tapestry needle with the longer tail end of one arm and use to join the arm to the body by sewing alternately through a loop on the open top edge of the arm then through a whole stitch of the body, (*fig. 48*). Work around all of the top arm seam joining it to the body and when you reach the start point knot the ends together and thread through the body before trimming. Repeat with the second arm.

Next it's time to attach the head. Thread the tapestry needle with one of the two threads from underneath the head and use it to sew the body and head together. Sew through the loops at the open neck edge of the body then through a whole stitch of the head (*fig. 49*), working around the underside of the head in a semi circle until you reach the ends from the top of the body seam running up the back.

Tie the end you've been sewing with to the shortest body seam end and poke both inside the body. Then continue sewing up with the longer end from the body seam, knotting it to the remaining end under the chin once the head is fully joined. Thread ends through the body before trimming.



fig. 46



fig. 47



fig. 48



fig. 49



fig. 50



fig. 51



fig. 52

Tail:

The tail is worked as a little tapering rectangle and seamed afterwards. Using 3mm needles and Yarn C cable cast on 10 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for attaching the tail with later.

(Please try not to notice that in the first 2 tail pictures I'd made the tail in the wrong colour!)

row 1: (wrong side) Purl

rows 2-5 Beginning with a Knit row and ending with a Purl row work 4 rows in stocking stitch

row 6: K2, K2tog, K2, SSK, K2 (8 stitches)

row 7: Purl

Cut Yarn C from the work leaving a short tail for tying off

row 8: Join in Yarn A and K1, K2tog, K2, SSK, K1 (6 stitches)

row 9: Purl

row 10: Knit

row 11: Purl

Cut the work from the ball leaving an 8 inch tail, thread this end through the 6 stitches on the needle (fig. 50) and pull up tightly. Over-sew/whip stitch once to keep the seam from opening out. Continue using this thread to close the seam using mattress stitch and when you reach the top of the seam tie both ends together to secure (fig. 51). Use the longer end to sew the tail on to the badger's bottom (fig. 52). Tie off ends and thread through the body before trimming.

Now your badger is ready for some clothes, patterns for shorts and two sweaters are on the next six pages.



Short Trousers:

These shorts are knitted in one piece and seamed afterwards. You cast on at the waist and cast off at the bottom edge of each leg.

The pattern requires approx. 25m (27yds)

Use a 4ply/5ply weight yarn (here I've used BC Garn Allino) and 2.75mm needles to cable cast on 36 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

row 1: (right side) K2, (P1, K1) 17 times
row 2: (P1, K1) 17 times, P2
row 3: K2, (P1, K1) 17 times
rows 4-5: Repeat rows 2 & 3
row 6: Purl
row 7: K8, M1L, K20, M1R, K8 (38 stitches)
row 8: Purl
row 9: K8, M1L, K22, M1R, K8 (40 stitches)
row 10: Purl
row 11: K8, M1L, K24, M1R, K8 (42 stitches)
row 12: Purl
row 13: K8, M1L, K26, M1R, K8 (44 stitches)
row 14: Purl
row 15: K8, M1L, K28, M1R, K8 (46 stitches)
row 16: Purl
row 17: K8, M1L, K30, M1R, K8 (48 stitches)
row 18: Purl
row 19: K8, M1L, K32, M1R, K8 (50 stitches)
row 20: Purl
row 21: K8, M1L, K34, M1R, K8 (52 stitches)
row 22: Purl
row 23: K8, M1L, K18, turn and work only on these stitches to form one leg of the shorts. (27 stitches)

Special abbreviations:

M1R : MAKE 1 RIGHT. A nice tight method of making an extra stitch. With the left hand needle pick up the connecting strand between the two needles from behind and knit into the front loop to create an extra stitch. If you find this too tight for your liking you can substitute M1T (make one towards) which will give a looser increase.

For an excellent video of the increases see here: <https://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/increases>

row 24: Purl
row 25: K8, M1L, K19, turn (28 stitches)
row 26: Purl
row 27: K8, M1L, K20, turn (29 stitches)
row 28: Purl
row 29: K8, M1L, K21, turn (30 stitches)
row 30: Purl
row 31: Cast off loosely and cut the work from the ball, leaving a 6 inch tail for seaming later

That is one trouser leg, now rejoin the yarn at the stitches still waiting to be worked and begin on the other leg:

row 23 b: K18, M1R, K8 (27 stitches)
row 24 b: Purl
row 25 b: K19, M1R, K8 (28 stitches)
row 26 b: Purl
row 27 b: K20, M1R, K8 (29 stitches)
row 28 b: Purl
row 29 b: K21, M1R, K8 (30 stitches)
row 30 b: Purl
row 31 b: Cast off loosely and cut the work from the ball, leaving a 6 inch tail for seaming later

Before I sew up the back seam I like to block the shorts to make them neat. I usually do this by carefully steam blocking but if you prefer wet blocking that is fine too. After blocking thread the tapestry needle with the cast on end and use mattress stitch to close the top 1cm of the seam.

Re-thread the tapestry needle with the cast off end of one leg and use it to join the inside leg seam up to the crotch of the shorts. Do the same for the second leg. Tie both ends together inside the shorts and use the longer end to continue seaming up the back of the shorts, leaving a gap for the tail to stick through. Weave in all the ends inside the shorts before trimming excess and your shorts are ready.



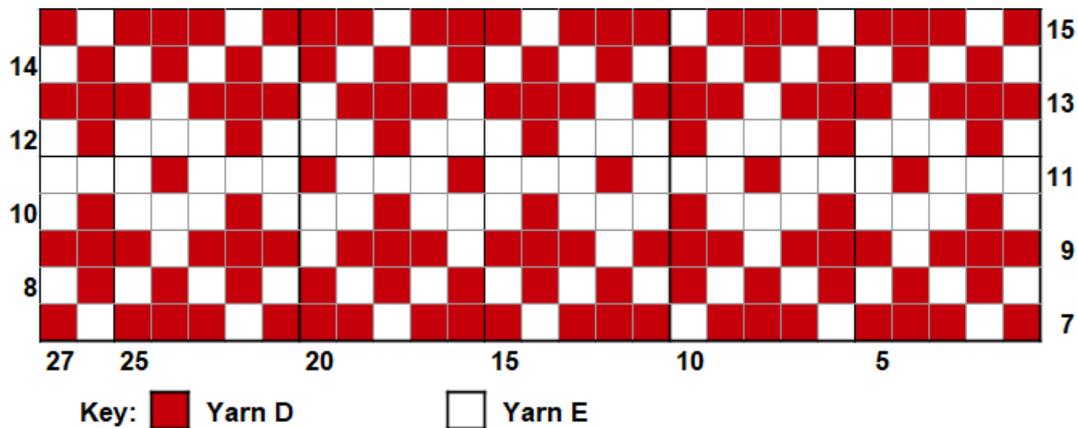
A Fair Isle sweater:

This pattern is for a moderately easy bottom up sweater which has Fair Isle patterning around the body and is pictured on the front cover. The front and back are worked as 2 separate pieces and then joined by the chunky collar which is best worked in the round on double pointed needles (DPNS) or a circular needle (though can be worked flat if preferred). The sleeves are then picked up from the main body of the sweater and worked flat from the shoulder to the cuff. There is an alternative textured sweater on page 16.

You will need 2.75mm (US 2) needles, a pair of straight and a set of 4 DPNS or a circular needle and 4ply/fingering weight yarn: approx.34m (38yds) of **D** and 6m (7yds) of E. Here I've used Drops Safran in 20 Rust (**D**) and 18 white (E).

For abbreviations please see page 2.

Chart for the colour-work band:



Read the chart back and forth from the bottom up, beginning with **row 7** (which is on the right side of the work).

Back & Front:

The back and front pieces are exactly the same and are worked one after the other.

Starting at the bottom edge and finishing at the neck, use **Yarn D** and 2.75mm needles to cable cast on 27 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches to seam with later.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>row 1: (right side) (K1, P1) 13 times, K1
 row 2: (P1, K1) 13 times, P1
 rows 3-4: Repeat rows 1 & 2
 row 5: Knit
 row 6: Purl
 row 7: Join in Yarn E, K1, (K1, K3) 6 times, K1, K1
 row 8: (P1, P1) 13 times, P1
 row 9: (K3, K1) 6 times, K3
 row 10: P1, (P1, P3) 6 times, P1, P1
 row 11: (K3, K1) 6 times, K3
 row 12: as row 10
 row 13: as row 9
 row 14: as row 8
 row 15: as row 7</p> | <p>row 16: Purl in Yarn D only, cut Yarn E from the work as it is no longer needed leaving a short tail for weaving in
 row 17: Continue in Yarn D only, K1, SSK, K21, K2tog, K1 (<i>25 stitches</i>)
 row 18: Purl
 row 19: K1, SSK, K19, K2tog, K1 (<i>23 stitches</i>)
 row 20: Purl
 row 21: K1, SSK, K17, K2tog, K1 (<i>21 stitches</i>)
 row 22-30: Beginning and ending with Purl rows, work 9 rows in stocking stitch
 Cut the work from the ball, leaving an 8 inch tail for seaming with later (first side only).</p> |
|---|--|

Keeping the piece just worked on the left hand needle and with an empty needle in your right hand, cable cast on the second piece by following exactly the same instructions as above, but don't cut the yarn at the end of **row 30** as you'll continue using it.

So now the separate pieces for the front and back are now complete and pictured on the next page (*fig. 53*) and next it's time to work across all 42 stitches on the needle for the collar.



fig. 53

fig. 54

fig. 55

Collar:

The collar is best worked in the round, but if you prefer you can knit it flat and seam it later (see instructions below).

To work the collar in the round:

This method of working the collar is pictured on Page 17 (fig. 60) for the textured sweater.

Using 2.75mm (US 2) DPNS (double pointed needles) or a short circular needle and the yarn still joined to the work,

row 31: SL1P, (K1, P1) 7 times with the 1st needle;
with the 2nd needle (K1, P1) 2 times, K1,
P2tog, (K1, P1) 2 times;
with the 3rd needle (K1, P1) 7 times, K1,
Purl the last stitch together with the first
slipped stitch from the first needle in order
to close the round. Make sure to leave this
last stitch on the 3rd needle so that the
round starts again with a Knit stitch.
(40 stitches)

round 1: (K1, P1) 20 times

rounds 2-4: Work 3 more rounds exactly the same as
round 1

round 5: Knit

round 6: (P1, K1) 20 times

rounds 7-9: Work 3 rounds exactly the same as round 6

round 10: Cast off loosely, in P1, K1 ribbing.

Cut the work from the ball, leaving a short tail for weaving
in and continue by following the instructions on Page 16
for the sleeves.

To work the collar flat:

This method of working the collar is pictured above, (fig. 54)

Using 2.75mm (US 2) straight needles and the yarn still joined to the work,

row 31: (right side) (K1, P1) 10 times, K2tog,
(P1, K1) 10 times (41 stitches)

row 32: (P1, K1) 20 times, P1

row 33: (K1, P1) 20 times, K1

row 34: (P1, K1) 20 times, P1

row 35: (K1, P1) 20 times, K1

row 36: Purl

row 37: (P1, K1) 20 times, P1

row 38: (K1, P1) 20 times, K1

row 39: (P1, K1) 20 times, P1

row 40: (K1, P1) 20 times, K1

row 41: Cast off loosely, in P1, K1 ribbing.

Cut the work from the ball, leaving an 8 inch tail for seaming with. Next seam the collar so that it's joined into a round, remembering that as the collar folds over on itself you'll need to seam on the outside of the work so that the seam is hidden when the collar is folded.

Now that the front and back parts are joined by the collar (fig. 55) it's time to pick up the stitches for the sleeves.

Sleeves: (Make 2 the same)

The sleeves are started by picking up and knitting into the stitches (fig. 56) from the front and back armholes and then are knitted flat from the shoulder down to the cuff. So, leaving a short tail for weaving in, use **Yarn D** and 2.75mm needles to Knit into each of the edge stitches from the front armhole. Begin in the gap above the first armhole shaping stitch on row 17 and work up to the shoulder where the back and front pieces meet (14 stitches). Then continue down the back of the arm, working from the shoulder to the underarm so that you have a total of 28 stitches on the needle. Continue to work the arm from shoulder to cuff like so:

Sleeves: (continued)

row 1: (wrong side) P24, turn leaving 4 stitches un-worked
row 2: SL1P, K19, turn leaving 4 stitches un-worked
row 3: SL1P, P21, turn leaving 2 stitches un-worked
row 4: SL1P, K23, turn leaving 2 stitches un-worked
row 5: SL1P, P25 (to end of row)
row 6: Knit
row 7: Purl
row 8: K1, SSK, K22, K2tog, K1 (26 stitches)
row 9: Purl

row 10: K1, SSK, K20, K2tog, K1 (24 stitches)
rows 11-17: Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work 7 rows in stocking stitch
row 18: K2, (P1, K1) 11 times
row 19: P1, (K1, P1) 11 times, P1
row 20: K2, (P1, K1) 11 times
row 21: Cast off keeping ribbing pattern correct: P1, (K1, P1) 11 times, P1

Cut the work from the ball, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

That is the first sleeve done (*fig. 57*). Make a second sleeve in the same way by picking up the stitches from the other armhole. After finishing the second sleeve finish the sweater by sewing the side seams on the body and sleeves and weaving in all tail ends on the wrong side of the work and trimming. Then your sweater is complete (*fig. 58*).



fig. 56



fig. 57



fig. 58

A Chunky Textured Sweater:

This pattern is for a moderately easy bottom up textured sweater. The front and back are worked as 2 separate pieces and then joined by the chunky collar which is best worked in the round on double pointed needles (DPNS) or a circular needle (though can be worked flat if preferred). The sleeves are then picked up from the main body of the sweater and worked flat from the shoulder to the cuff. There is an alternative patterned sweater on page 14.

You will need 2.75mm (US 2) needles – a pair of straight and a set of 4 DPNS, approx. 38m (42yds) of 4ply/fingering weight yarn, here I've used Quince and Co. Finch in Nasturtium.

For abbreviations see page 2.

Back & Front:

The back and front pieces are exactly the same and are worked one after the other.

Starting at the bottom edge and finishing at the neck, use your chosen yarn and 2.75mm needles to cable cast on 27 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches to seam with later.

row 1: (right side) (K1, P1) 13 times, K1
row 2: (P1, K1) 13 times, P1
rows 3-4: Repeat rows 1 & 2
row 5: Knit
row 6: Purl
row 7: (K1, P1) 13 times, K1
row 8: (P1, K1) 13 times, P1
rows 9-16: Repeat rows 5-8 two more times
row 17: K1, SSK, K21, K2tog, K1 (25 stitches)
row 18: Purl

row 19: K1, SSK, (K1, P1) 9 times, K1, K2tog, K1 (23 stitches)
row 20: P3, (K1, P1) 9 times, P2
row 21: K1, SSK, K17, K2tog, K1 (21 stitches)
row 22: Purl
row 23: K2, (P1, K1) 9 times, K1
row 24: P2, (K1, P1) 9 times, P1
row 25: Knit
row 26: Purl
rows 27-30: Repeat rows 23-26

A Chunky Textured Sweater (continued):

Cut the work from the ball, leaving an 8 inch tail for seaming with later. Keeping the piece just worked on the left hand needle and with an empty needle in your right hand, cable cast on the second piece by following exactly the same instructions as above but don't cut the yarn at the end of row 30 as you'll continue using it.

So now the separate pieces for the front and back are now complete and pictured below (*fig. 59*) and next it's time to work across all 42 stitches on the needle for the collar.

Collar:

The collar is best worked in the round but if you prefer you can knit it flat and seam it later (see below)

To work the collar in the round:

This method of working the collar is pictured below (*fig. 60*).

Using 2.75mm (US 2) DPNS (double pointed needles) or a short circular needle:

row 31: SL1P, (K1, P1) 7 times with the 1st needle; with the 2nd needle (K1, P1) 2 times, K1, P2tog, (K1, P1) 2 times; with the 3rd needle (K1, P1) 7 times, K1, Purl the last stitch together with the first slipped stitch from the first needle in order to close the round. Make sure to leave this last stitch on the 3rd needle so that the round starts again with a Knit stitch.
(40 stitches)

round 1: (K1, P1) 20 times

rounds 2-4: Work 3 more rounds exactly the same as round 1

round 5: Knit

round 6: (P1, K1) 20 times

rounds 7-9: Work 3 rounds exactly the same as round 6

round 10: Cast off loosely, in P1, K1 ribbing. Cut the work from the ball, leaving an short tail for weaving in.

To work the collar flat:

This method of working the collar is pictured on page 15 for the Fair Isle sweater (*fig. 54*).

Using 2.75mm (US 2) straight needles and the yarn still joined to the work,

row 31: (right side) (K1, P1) 10 times, K2tog, (P1, K1) 10 times (41 stitches)

row 32: (P1, K1) 20 times, P1

row 33: (K1, P1) 20 times, K1

row 34: (P1, K1) 20 times, P1

row 35: (K1, P1) 20 times, K1

row 36: Purl

row 37: (P1, K1) 20 times, P1

row 38: (K1, P1) 20 times, K1

row 39: (P1, K1) 20 times, P1

row 40: (K1, P1) 20 times, K1

row 41: Cast off loosely, in P1, K1 ribbing. Cut the work from the ball, leaving an 8 inch tail for seaming with.

Next you'll need to seam the collar so that it's joined into a round, remembering that as the collar folds over on itself you'll need to seam on the inside of the work so that the seam is hidden when the collar is finished.

Now that the front and back parts are joined by the collar (*fig. 60*) it's time to pick up the stitches for the sleeves.



fig. 59



fig. 60



fig. 61

Sleeves: (Make 2 the same)

The sleeves are started by knitting into the stitches from the front and back armholes and then are knitted flat from the shoulder down to the cuff.

So, leaving a tail of around 8 inches for seaming with later use your chosen yarn and 2.75mm needles to Knit into each of the edge stitches from the front armhole. Begin in the gap above the first armhole shaping stitch (*fig. 61*) and work up to the shoulder (14 stitches). Then do the same for the back but work from the shoulder to the underarm so that you have a total of 28 stitches on the needle.

row 1: (wrong side) P13, P2tog, P9, turn leaving 4 stitches un-worked (*27 stitches*)
row 2: SL1P, (P1, K1) 9 times, turn leaving 4 stitches un-worked
row 3: SL1P, (K1, P1) 10 times, turn leaving 2 stitches un-worked
row 4: SL1P, K22, turn leaving 2 stitches un-worked
row 5: SL1P, P24 (to end of row)
row 6: K3, (P1, K1) 11 times, K2
row 7: P3, (K1, P1) 11 times, P2
row 8: K1, SSK, K21, K2tog, K1 (*25 stitches*)
row 9: Purl

row 10: K2, (P1, K1) 11 times, K1
row 11: P2, (K1, P1) 11 times, P1
row 12: Knit
row 13: Purl
rows 14-17: Repeat rows 10-13
row 18: K2, (P1, K1) 11 times, K1
row 19: P2, (K1, P1) 11 times, P1
row 20: K2, (P1, K1) 11 times, K1
row 21: Cast off keeping ribbing pattern correct: P2, (K1, P1) 11 times, P1

Cut the work from the ball, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

That is the first sleeve done (*fig. 62*). Make a second sleeve in the same way by picking up the stitches from the other armhole. After finishing the second sleeve finish the sweater by sewing the side seams on the body and sleeves and weaving in all tail ends on the wrong side of the work and trimming. Then your sweater is complete (*figs. 63 & 64*).



fig. 62



fig. 63



fig. 64

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