

Little Cotton Rabbits boy monkey in a houndstooth sweater



*This monkey is made from Malabrigo Rios yarn in 624 Coco (Yarn A) and
King Cole Cottonsoft DK yarn in 742 oyster (Yarn B)
His sweater is made from Rowan wool cotton 4ply yarn in
493 rich (Yarn C) and 481 string (Yarn D) and
his shorts are in BC Garn Allino yarn in CL18*

*More knitting patterns are available at
www.littlecottonrabbits.typepad.co.uk*

Materials:

- Worsted/light Aran/DK yarn (approx 76m/84yds):
Yarn A
- Worsted/light Aran/DK yarn (approx 6.5m/7yds):
Yarn B
- 4ply weight yarns for the sweater: Yarn C, Yarn D
- 4ply/5ply weight yarn in brown for shorts: Yarn E
- Scraps of grey, pink and black 4ply/DK yarn for the eyes and facial features
- Toy stuffing
- A tiny button

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 monkey: 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, standard knitting terms, Fair Isle colour-work and reading colour-work charts. 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 animal and it may 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 and use stuffing 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 with the look (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 monkey that you make.

Abbreviations:

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

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

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, Make 1 Left.

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

M1T, MAKE 1 TOWARDS: Make a loop with the working yarn so the tail is pointing forwards/towards you. For neatness this made stitch needs to be purled into the back loop on the following row.

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.

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

<http://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

And please note that when the pattern mentions cast on, I use a cable cast on.

Yarn suggestions:

I've always enjoyed experimenting when I knit my animals so I've used many different yarns over the years. I made my first monkey in 2006 and you can see some of the different ones I've made since on [flickr](#). Here are some of my current favourite yarns that I use with this pattern:



Louisa Harding Akiko in
003 'twig'

Spud and Chloe Sweater in
7503 'rootbeer'

Debbie Bliss Bluefaced
Leicester DK in 04 'chestnut'
and Angel in 024 'chocolate'

Cascade 220 Heathers in
2431 'chocolate'

Tip: Before you start get to know your yarn. If it breaks easily you will need to consider using a different yarn to sew up with as some seams (especially the tail) need to be gathered in tightly and so need a strong yarn.

Alternative Yarn suggestions for muzzle and ears (Yarn B):

Rowan wool cotton DK in 999 String, Cascade Ultra Pima in Buff 3719, Rowan Cotton Glace in Oyster, Sirdar cotton DK in 503 Seersucker, Phildar Phil Thalassa in 157 Beige.

Alternative Yarn suggestions for clothes:

Most of the clothes I make for my animals are in Rowan 4ply cotton which unfortunately is now discontinued. If you can track some down I'd recommend it (it often crops up on Ebay or Ravelry) but failing that Rowan Wool Cotton 4ply or Patons 4ply cotton both knit up nicely and have a good range of colours. Other suggestions for clothing yarn include Phildar Phil Coton 3, Drops Safran and DMC Natura Just Cotton.

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 monkey 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.

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: www.littlecottonrabbits.typepad.co.uk](http://www.littlecottonrabbits.typepad.co.uk)

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

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.

© Copyright, All rights reserved. No part of these patterns may be reproduced in any form.
These patterns are supplied for your personal and non-commercial use only.

The pattern instructions:

Head:

Before you start cut a separate 1.5m (1.6 yds) length of **Yarn A** to join in on **row 5** for the intarsia section.

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: <http://www.knittinghelp.com/video/play/intarsia-color-knitting>

Starting at the front of the head and finishing at the back, use **Yarn A** and 3mm needles to cast on 11 stitches, leaving a tail of 6 inches for seaming with later

- row 1: (wrong side) Purl
- row 2: K2, (M1A, K1) 8 times, K1 (19 stitches)
- row 3: Purl
- row 4: K2, (M1A, K1) 16 times, K1 (35 stitches)
- row 5: P11, join in **Yarn B** and P13, join in the extra length of **Yarn A** and P11
- row 6: K7, P4, K13 in **Yarn B**, P4, K7 (these two sets of 4 purled stitches will act as markers for sewing the muzzle on to the head later)
- row 7: P12, P11 in **Yarn B**, P12
- row 8: K13, K9 in **Yarn B**, K13
- row 9: P14, P7 in **Yarn B**, P14
- row 10: K15, K5 in **Yarn B**, K15

Cut **Yarn B** from the work and continue using **Yarn A** from the main ball for the rest of the head

- rows 11–15: Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work 5 rows of stocking stitch (alternate Knit and Purl rows)
- row 16: K10, P1, K13, P1, K10 (the two Purl stitches mark the joining points for the ears)
- rows 17–23: Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work 7 rows of stocking stitch
- row 24: K2, (K2tog) 16 times, K1 (19 stitches)
- row 25: Purl
- row 26: K1, (K2tog) 8 times, K2 (11 stitches)
- row 27: Purl

Cut the work from the ball leaving a tail of around 5 inches and use the tapestry needle to thread this tail through the remaining 11 stitches (*fig. 1*).

Pull up tightly and over-sew once to keep the seam from opening out again. Continue using this thread to close around an inch of the back head seam using mattress stitch. Now thread the tapestry needle with your cast-on tail and use it to begin closing the seam at the front of the head using mattress stitch and leaving a gap through which to stuff the head (*fig. 2*).

Finally with the right side of work facing you pick up the loops from the cast on edge. (I've used red thread to illustrate, *fig. 3*). Pull this tightly to gather in the seam and tie the ends together tightly inside the head to prevent it loosening again. Now it's time to stuff the main part of the head.



fig. 1



fig. 2



fig. 3



fig. 4

I start with a tight ball of stuffing which I poke into the back of the head, packing it in firmly then stuff the front end of the head in the same way, pinching and manipulating the stuffing until it takes on the rounded shape that I want. I pack in a lot of stuffing but I tend to add little bits at a time, moulding as I go and the finished head is quite firm and solid and looks like a little brown ball (*fig. 4*). Now it's time to make the muzzle.

Muzzle:

I like to use a cotton based yarn for the muzzle and ears because it seems more skin-like and I prefer a beige colour rather than pink. Starting at one side of the muzzle and finishing at the other, use **Yarn B** and 2.75mm needles to cast on 7 stitches, leaving a tail of 7 inches for sewing the muzzle on with later.

- row 1: (wrong side) Purl
- row 2: K2, M1A, K3, M1T, K2 (9 stitches)
- row 3: P2, Purl into back of next stitch, P6
- row 4: K2, M1A, K5, M1T, K2 (11 stitches)
- row 5: P2, Purl into back of next stitch, P8
- row 6: K2, M1A, K7, M1T, K2 (13 stitches)
- row 7: P2, Purl into back of next stitch, P10
- row 8: Knit

- rows 9-13: Starting and ending with Purl rows, work 5 rows in stocking stitch
- row 14: K1, SSK, K7, K2tog, K1 (11 stitches)
- row 15: Purl
- row 16: K1, SSK, K5, K2tog, K1 (9 stitches)
- row 17: Purl
- row 18: K1, SSK, K3, K2tog, K1 (7 stitches)
- row 19: Purl

Cut the work from the ball leaving an 8 inch tail for attaching the muzzle to the head and thread this end through the 7 remaining stitches on the needle (fig. 5). Pull up tightly and over-sew once to keep the seam from opening out again. Thread the needle with the cast on tail and use this to sew through the loops from the cast on edge, pull tightly to gather in the seam then over-sew once to secure. You now have the finished lozenge-shaped muzzle (fig. 6) ready to be attached to the head.



fig. 5



fig. 6



fig. 7

To attach the muzzle begin with the front of the head facing you. Thread a needle with one of the ends from the muzzle and use this to sew through the top purl bump of the far right-hand side marker stitch (fig. 7). Join the muzzle by sewing alternately through a 'bar' between the first 2 stitches on the side of the muzzle and a marker stitch on the head. Continue joining the muzzle across the **Yarn B** section, sewing behind a full stitch on the head (fig. 8) and through a 'bar' from the muzzle (fig. 9). Finish attaching the upper muzzle edge using the top purl bumps from the left-hand marker stitches and then give the yarn a tug to slightly tighten the top edge of the muzzle. Keep using this thread to attach the bottom edge of the muzzle, following the curve of the head and sewing alternately through half a stitch from the head (fig. 10) and a 'bar' between the first 2 stitches on the side of the muzzle. Stop around 1cm/½ inch from the seam running underneath the head.



fig. 8



fig. 9



fig. 10



fig. 11

fig. 12

fig. 13

fig. 14

Re-thread the needle with the second tail-end from the left side of the muzzle and sew this directly through the stuffed head and out at the far right-hand side of the muzzle. Use this thread to join the bottom right-hand side of the muzzle, leaving a gap through which to stuff (fig. 11). Now the muzzle is ready to be stuffed (fig. 12).

Stuff the muzzle so that it stands out from the head (figs. 13 & 14) and is fairly firm without stretching the stitches. Then finish closing the seam underneath the muzzle. Tie the two ends together securely and thread both ends through the head and out of the open seam at the bottom. Trim the excess and poke the rest inside the head cavity. Now make the ears.

E a r s: (make two the same)

Starting at the edge that will be joined to the head and finishing with the outside edge. Use **Yarn B** and 3mm needles to cast on 6 stitches leaving a tail of 8 inches for sewing on with later. Note: Leaving the outermost 2 stitches un-worked on some of the rows gives the finished ear its curved shape.

- row 1:** K5, leave the remaining stitch un-worked on the needle and turn the work ready to begin the next row
- row 2:** Ignore the un-worked stitch, slip 1 stitch, P3, turn leaving remaining stitch un-worked again
- row 3:** Ignore the un-worked stitch, slip 1 stitch, K4
- row 4:** Cast off in Purl

Cut the work from the ball leaving a 6 inch tail for attaching the ear to the head. Make a second ear the same (fig. 15).

Now attach the ears. With the smooth side of the ear facing you, thread the tapestry needle with the end from the top corner of the ear. Position the ear by putting the first attaching stitch through your purled marker stitch from row 16 on the head (fig. 16). Join the ear (in a straight line down the side of the head) by sewing alternately through a full stitch from the ear cast-on edge (fig. 17) and then through half a stitch on the head (fig. 18). You will have fully joined the ear when you arrive at the tail-end from the bottom corner of the ear.



fig. 15

fig. 16

fig. 17

fig. 18

In order to bed the ear into place tighten the thread you have used to attach the ear, then tie the two ends together and thread them both through the head and out of the open seam at the bottom (fig. 19). Press your finger into the ear so that the inner part is pushed backwards giving a curved shape to the finished ear (fig. 20).

Repeat with the second ear, making sure they are in alignment (fig. 21). Tie the 4 ends from the ears together securely, trim and poke inside the head cavity.



fig. 19



fig. 20



fig. 21

To embroider the face:

For the mouth, thread the needle with a length of brown yarn and sew up through the bottom seam of the head to the top left corner of the mouth. Now you need to decide whether you want a small smile (fig. 22) or a large one (fig. 23). Here I've made the top points of the smile 10 stitches apart, the depth of the smile is 2 rows and the bottom of the smile spans 4 stitches. Once you've decided, make a note of where the bottom curve lies on the muzzle (or if you prefer mark it with pins) then sew the thread back through the head at the top right-hand corner of the mouth and out at the bottom left corner (fig. 24) making a loose loop of yarn across the muzzle.



fig. 22



fig. 23



fig. 24

Catch up this loose loop by making a small loop around it with the working yarn and then sew back through the muzzle and out at the bottom right-hand corner of the mouth (fig. 25). Create a little loop around the loose loop there too (fig. 26) then thread the needle back through the open underside seam. These two small loops at the bottom corners of the mouth anchor the larger loose loop into a curved smile shape, simply adjust the tightness of the loops to create a smile (fig. 27). Tie the 2 mouth thread ends together underneath the head.



fig. 25



fig. 26



fig. 27

Anchored French Knot:

I use this for both the eyes, the nose and the shoe 'buttons'. 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 like this:



fig. 28 (nose)



fig. 29 (nose)



fig. 30 (nose)



fig. 31 (nose)

For the nose thread a tapestry needle with an 8 inch length of **Yarn B** and push it up through the open bottom seam of the head and out at the centre of the top of the muzzle where you want the nose to be.

*Push the needle back through the same point and out again one stitch away from the original point, leaving a little loop (*fig. 28*). Push the tip of the needle through this loop and wrap the thread around the needle tip five or six times depending on thickness of yarn (*fig. 29*). Hold the wrapped thread in place between your finger and thumb and pull the needle all the way through to make a knot. Push the needle back down through the work and back to the start point underneath the head (*fig. 30*).

If you gently pull both ends you can now create a little dimple for the knot to sit in (*fig. 31*). Adjust the tightness until you are happy and then tie off both ends securely before threading the ends through the head and trimming and poking inside the head cavity.

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



fig. 28 (eyes)



fig. 29 (eyes)



fig. 30 (eyes)



fig. 31 (eyes)

For the eyes cut an 8 inch length of black embroidery floss or 4ply yarn. Starting underneath the head thread this black yarn through the head to the position that you want for the first eye leaving a tail of around 2 inches behind. I make this start point for the eye 1 stitch above the muzzle and 4 stitches in from the edge of the **Yarn B** face section.

Create an anchored French Knot (in the same way that the nose was made above)*. Depending on the yarn thickness wrap the yarn 3 or 4 times.

Repeat for the second eye and set the finished head to one side while you make the body.

Body:

Starting at the neck and finishing at the bottom, use **Yarn A** and 3mm needles to cast on 16 stitches, leaving a tail of 6 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)
- rows 7-28: Beginning with a Purl row and ending with a Knit row work 22 rows in stocking stitch
- row 29: Cast off in Purl

Cut the work from the ball leaving a tail of around 5 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 A** and 3mm needles to cast on 14 stitches, leaving a tail of 7 inches for seaming with later.

- 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)
- row 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)
- row 16: Knit
- rows 17-28: Beginning with a Purl row and ending with a Knit row work 12 rows of stocking stitch
- row 29: Purl
- row 30: Cast off in Knit and cut the work from the ball leaving a tail of around 5 inches.

Join the top of the foot seam by tying a 5 inch length of **Yarn A** to the back of the stitch in the middle of the open seam - I've used red thread here just to illustrate (*fig. 32*).

Begin to close this seam by over-sewing across the gap through the outer loops of the cast off edge (*fig. 33*). When you reach the top of the seam secure it and close up any small gaps by taking the needle behind one stitch on the right (*fig. 34*), then behind the stitch directly at the top of the seam (*fig. 35*), then behind one stitch on the right (*fig. 36*) and finally through to the inside of the work (*fig. 37*) where you can weave it along the seam and trim the end. 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.



fig. 32

fig. 33

fig. 34

fig. 35

Now close the seam at the underside of the foot by re-threading the tapestry needle with a spare length of Yarn A and using it to gather up the loops in the bottom of the foot – I've used red thread here to illustrate (fig. 38) Tie both ends tightly inside the foot to fully close the bottom seam. Now 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 monkey to sit nicely then don't stuff the top 1cm of the leg. Finish closing the 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 (fig. 39).



fig. 36

fig. 37

fig. 38

fig. 39

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. 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. 40). 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. 41) leaving a gap between both legs. Once both legs are attached and secure turn the body inside out.



fig. 40

fig. 41

fig. 42

fig. 43

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. 42*) before threading it back inside and tying off to secure. Now the body is ready to stuff (*fig. 43*). 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. Set the body aside while you make the arms.

Arms: (make 2 the same)

Starting at the top of arm and finishing at the paw, use **Yarn A** and 3mm needles to cast on 10 stitches, leaving a tail of 6 inches for seaming with later

- row 1:** (wrong side) Purl
- row 2:** K2, (KLL, K2) 4 times (*14 stitches*)
- rows 3-25:** Beginning and ending with a Purl row work
23 rows of 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 7 inches. Thread this through the remaining 10 stitches and pull up tightly. Over-sew 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 side 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 the same and then set both aside while you make the tail.

Tail:

The tail is worked as a long, thin rectangle and seamed afterwards. It's important to work the tail seam in mattress stitch as this is what allows you to curl the tail. Before starting please check the tensile strength of your yarn – if you can snap it by hand then please use a length of stronger yarn for seaming with.



fig. 44



fig. 45



fig. 46



fig. 47

Using 3mm needles and **Yarn A** cast on 6 stitches, leaving a tail of 6 inches for attaching the tail with later.

- row 1:** Knit
- row 2:** Purl

Continue to repeat these two rows, working in stocking stitch until the tail is around 10 cms/4 inches long. Cut the work from the ball leaving an 8 inch tail, thread this end through the 6 stitches on the needle (*fig. 44*) and pull up tightly (note, if you chosen yarn is not strong then use a length of strong yarn instead). Over-sew once to keep the seam from opening out. Continue using this thread to close the seam using mattress stitch (*fig 45*). Once you've seamed around 2 inches pull the yarn very tightly in order to curl the tip of the tail (*fig. 46*).

Continue seaming and when you reach the top, adjust the tail length and curl by either pulling on the yarn that you've sewn up with to create more curl or pulling on the tail itself to loosen the curl. When you are happy with the shape (*fig. 47*) tie both ends together and use the longer end to sew the tail on to the monkey's bottom (*fig. 48*). Work around all of the top tail seam joining it to the body and when you reach the start point knot the ends together and thread through the body before trimming. Now attach the head.



fig. 48



fig. 49



fig. 50

To attach the head thread the tapestry needle with one of the two threads from underneath the head and use to sew the body and head together. I sew through the loops at the open neck edge of the body then through a whole stitch of the head, (*fig. 49*) working around in a semi circle until I reach the ends from the top of the body seam running up the back. I tie the end I've been sewing with to the shortest body seam end and poke both inside the body. Then I 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.

To attach an arm, thread the tapestry needle with the longer end 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. 50*). 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 for the second arm.

Now your monkey is ready for some clothes...



Patterns for shorts and two sweaters are on the next five pages. The stranded sweater uses stranded/Fair Isle technique and works with 2 colours on each row. The slip-stitch sweater is worked with one colour at a time in 2 row stripes of alternating colours with some stitches slipped on the knit side in order to create the pattern.

Optional 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.

Use a 4ply weight yarn (here I've used BC Garn Allino but Rowan Siena 4ply works well too) and 2.75mm needles to cast on 36 stitches, leaving a tail of 5 inches for seaming with later

row 1: (wrong side) Purl
row 2: K8, M1L, K20, M1R, K8 (38 stitches)
row 3: Purl
row 4: K8, M1L, K22, M1R, K8 (40 stitches)
row 5: Purl
row 6: K8, M1L, K24, M1R, K8 (42 stitches)
row 7: Purl
row 8: K8, M1L, K26, M1R, K8 (44 stitches)
row 9: Purl
row 10: K8, M1L, K28, M1R, K8 (46 stitches)
row 11: Purl
row 12: K8, M1L, K30, M1R, K8 (48 stitches)
row 13: Purl
row 14: K8, M1L, K32, M1R, K8 (50 stitches)
row 15: Purl
row 16: K8, M1L, K34, M1R, K8 (52 stitches)
row 17: Purl
row 18: K8, M1L, K18, turn and work only on these stitches to form one leg of the shorts.
(27 stitches)
row 19: Purl
row 20: K8, M1L, K19, turn (28 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:
<http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/increases>

row 21: Purl
row 22: K8, M1L, K20, turn (29 stitches)
row 23: Purl
row 24: K8, M1L, K21, turn (30 stitches)
row 25: Purl
row 26: 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 18 b: K18, M1R, K8 (27 stitches)
row 19 b: Purl
row 20 b: K19, M1R, K8 (28 stitches)
row 21 b: Purl
row 22 b: K20, M1R, K8 (29 stitches)
row 23 b: Purl
row 24 b: K21, M1R, K8 (30 stitches)
row 25 b: Purl
row 26 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.



Stranded Houndstooth sweater:

Materials:

- 2.75mm (US 2) needles
- **Yarn C:** red 4ply weight
- Yarn D: beige 4ply weight
- a small button

Special abbreviations:

CDD: CENTRED DOUBLE DECREASE: Slip 2 stitches together as if to knit them, K1, pass the 2 slipped stitches over (**note:** it is important that they are slipped together and NOT one at a time).

This sweater is worked in separate pieces up to the armhole but from the armhole upwards to the neck it is worked across all the pieces at once. It's worked using a Fair Isle/stranded colour work technique. For the neatest finish I have stranded **Yarn C** below Yarn D. See this blog post for tips. **Please note:** it is very important that you work all of the pieces in the following order:

sleeve, front, sleeve, back

This will ensure that they are all in the correct place when you get to row 13 and purl back across all of the stitches. When casting on the following pieces, keep the needle holding the piece/s already worked in your left hand and the empty needle in your right.



1. First sleeve:

Starting at the cuff and working up to the armhole, use **Yarn C** and 2.75mm needles to cast on 24 stitches leaving a tail of 5 inches for seaming with later

- row 1: (wrong side) **Knit**
- row 2: **Knit**
- row 3: **Knit**
- row 4: Join in Yarn D, K2, (K1, K3) 5 times, K1, K1
- row 5: (P1, P3) 6 times
- row 6: (K1, K3) 6 times
- row 7: P2, (P1, P3) 5 times, P1, P1
- rows 8-11: Repeat rows 4-7
- row 12: K2, (K1, K3) 5 times, K1, K1

Cut the work from the balls, leaving 3 inch tails for sewing in later and leave work on needle.

2. Front:

Starting at the bottom edge and working up to the armhole, use **Yarn C** and 2.75mm needles to cast on 28 stitches, leaving a tail of 5 inches for seaming with later

- row 1: (wrong side) **Knit**
- row 2: **Knit**
- row 3: **Knit**
- row 4: Join in Yarn D, K2, (K1, K3) 6 times, K1, K1
- row 5: (P1, P3) 7 times
- row 6: (K1, K3) 7 times
- row 7: P2, (P1, P3) 6 times, P1, P1
- rows 8-11: Repeat rows 4-7
- row 12: K2, (K1, K3) 6 times, K1, K1

Cut the work from the balls, leaving 3 inch tails for sewing in later and leave work on needle.

3. Second sleeve:

Repeat instructions given for the first sleeve

4. Back:

Repeat the instructions for the front **BUT DO NOT** cut the work from the balls. Instead turn the work and follow the instructions below which are worked across all 104 stitches from the four separate sections now on the needle:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>row 13: P4, (P1, P3) 5 times, P1, P2, P2tog, (P3, P1) 5 times, P2, P2tog, (P3, P1) 6 times, P2, P2tog, (P3, P1) 5 times, P3 (101 stitches)</p> <p>row 14: K1, SSK, K2, (K3, K1) 4 times, K1, CDD, K2, (K1, K3) 5 times, K1, K1, CDD, K2, (K1, K3) 4 times, K1, K1, CDD, K2, (K1, K3) 5 times, K1, K2tog, K1 (93 stitches)</p> <p>row 15: P2, (P3, P1) 6 times, P1, (P3, P1) 5 times, P1, (P3, P1) 6 times, P1, (P3, P1) 4 times, P2, P2</p> <p>row 16: K1, SSK, K2, (K1, K3) 3 times, K1, K2, CDD, (K3, K1) 5 times, K2, CDD, (K3, K1) 4 times, K2, CDD, (K3, K1) 5 times, K1, K2tog, K1 (85 stitches)</p> <p>row 17: P2, (P1, P3) 5 times, P2, P1, (P1, P3) 4 times, P2, P1, (P1, P3) 5 times, P2, P1, (P1, P3) 4 times, P2</p> <p>row 18: K1, SSK, (K3, K1) 3 times, K3, CDD, (K1, K3) 5 times, CDD, (K1, K3) 4 times, CDD, (K1, K3) 4 times, K1, K2, K2tog, K1 (77 stitches)</p> <p>row 19: P2, P1, (P1, P3) 4 times, P1, P1, P1, P2, (P1, P3) 3 times, P1, P1, P1, P2, (P1, P3) 4 times, P1, P1, P1, P2, (P1, P3) 3 times, P3</p> <p>row 20: K1, SSK, (K1, K3) 3 times, K1, CDD, K1, (K1, K3) 4 times, K1, CDD, K1, (K1, K3) 3 times, K1, CDD, K1, (K1, K3) 4 times, K2tog, K1 (69 stitches)</p> <p>row 21: P4, (P1, P3) 3 times, P1, P6, (P1, P3) twice, P1, P6, (P1, P3) 3 times, P1, P6, (P1, P3) 3 times</p> | <p>row 22: K1, SSK, K1, (K1, K3) twice, K1, K1, CDD, K2, (K1, K3) 3 times, K1, K1, CDD, K2, (K1, K3) twice, K1, K1, CDD, K2, (K1, K3) 3 times, K1, K2tog, K1 (61 stitches)</p> <p>row 23: P2, (P3, P1) 3 times, P4, P1, (P3, P1) twice, P4, P1, (P3, P1) 3 times, P4, P1, (P3, P1) twice, P2, P2</p> <p>row 24: K1, SSK, K2, K1, K3, K1, K2, CDD, (K3, K1) 3 times, K2, CDD, (K3, K1) twice, K2, CDD, (K3, K1) 3 times, K1, K2tog, K1 (53 stitches)</p> <p>row 25: P2, (P1, P3) 3 times, P1, P2, (P1, P3) twice, P1, P2, (P1, P3) 3 times, P1, P2, (P1, P3) twice, P2</p> <p>row 26: K1, SSK, K3, K1, K3, CDD, (K1, K3) 3 times, CDD, (K1, K3) twice, CDD, (K1, K3) twice, K1, K2, K2tog, K1 (45 stitches)</p> <p>Cut Yarn D from the work as it is no longer needed.</p> <p>row 27: P1, P2tog, P8, P2tog, P1, P2tog tbl, P4, P2tog, P1, P2tog tbl, P8, P2tog, P1, P2tog tbl, P4, P2togtbl, P1 (37 stitches)</p> <p>row 28: Knit</p> <p>row 29: Purl</p> <p>row 30: Knit</p> <p>row 31: Purl</p> <p>row 32: Knit</p> <p>row 33: Cast off in Purl</p> |
|--|--|

Leaving a tail of around 8 inches cut the work from the ball and use a fine crochet hook (around 2mm) to make a chain of 6 stitches (or long enough to accommodate the size of button that you have). Join it back to the start point with a slip stitch to make a small loop and weave in the end.

Before I sew up the seams I like to block the sweater to make it 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 tail for one of the sleeves and join the seam up to the armpit using mattress stitch.

Repeat with the other sleeve and then use the cast on end from the front to join the side seam and repeat with the cast on end from the back. Close a 1cm section of the open armhole seam, leaving the top part of the seam open so that when the button is undone the sweater can be easily taken on and off. Weave in all the yarn ends along the inside seams and trim excess. Sew a tiny button on the opposite side to the loop (see fig. 51 at the end of page 17) and your sweater is done.

Slip-stitched Houndstooth sweater:

Materials:

- 2.75mm (US 2) needles
- **Yarn C:** red 4ply weight
- Yarn D: beige 4ply weight
- a small button

Special abbreviations:

CDD: CENTRED DOUBLE DECREASE: Slip 2 stitches together as if to knit them, K1, pass the 2 slipped stitches over (*note:* it is important that they are slipped together and NOT one at a time)

SL1P: Slip 1 stitch purl-wise

This sweater is worked in separate pieces up to the armhole but from the armhole upwards to the neck it is worked across all the pieces at once.

Please note: it is very important that you work all of the pieces in the following order:

sleeve, front, sleeve, back

This will ensure that they are all in the correct place when you get to row 17 and purl back across all of the stitches.

When casting on the following pieces, keep the needle holding the piece/s already worked in your left hand and the empty needle in your right.



1. First sleeve:

Starting at the cuff and working up to the armhole Use **Yarn C** and 2.75mm needles to cast on 24 stitches leaving a tail of 5 inches for seaming with later

- row 1: (wrong side) **Knit**
- row 2: **Knit**
- row 3: **Knit**
- row 4: Join in Yarn D, K3, (SL1P, K2) 7 times
- row 5: Purl
- row 6: Change to **Yarn C**, K2 (SL1P, K2) 7 times, K1
- row 7: **Purl**
- rows 8-15: Repeat rows 4-7 twice more
- row 16: Change to Yarn D, K3, (SL1P, K2) 7 times

Cut the work from the balls, leaving 3 inch tails for sewing in later and leave work on needle.

3. Second sleeve:

Repeat instructions given for the first sleeve

4. Back:

Repeat the instructions for the front **BUT DO NOT** cut the work from the balls. Instead turn the work and follow the instructions below which are worked across all stitches from the four separate sections now on the needle:

2. Front:

Starting at the bottom edge and working up to the armhole, use **Yarn C** and 2.75mm needles to cast on 27 stitches, leaving a tail of 5 inches for seaming with later

- row 1: (wrong side) **Knit**
- row 2: **Knit**
- row 3: **Knit**
- row 4: Join in Yarn D, K3, (SL1P, K2) 8 times
- row 5: Purl
- row 6: Change to **Yarn C**, K2 (SL1P, K2) 8 times, K1
- row 7: **Purl**
- rows 8-15: Repeat rows 4-7 twice more
- row 16: Change to Yarn D, K3, (SL1P, K2) 8 times

Cut the work from the balls, leaving 3 inch tails for sewing in later and leave work on needle.

- row 17:** P26, P2tog, P22, P2tog, P25, P2tog, P23 (99 stitches)
- row 18:** Change to Yarn C, K1, SSK, (K2, SL1P) 6 times, K1, CDD, (SL1P, K2) 7 times, SL1P, K1, CDD (SL1P, K2) 6 times, SL1P, K1, CDD, (SL1P, K2) 7 times, SL1P, K2tog, K1 (91 stitches)
- row 19:** Purl
- row 20:** Change to Yarn D, K1, SSK, K2, (SL1P, K2) 5 times, CDD, (SL1P, K2) 7 times, CDD, (SL1P, K2) 6 times, CDD, (SL1P, K2) 6 times, SL1P, K1, K2tog, K1 (83 stitches)
- row 21:** Purl
- row 22:** Change to Yarn C, K1, SSK, (SL1P, K2) 5 times, CDD, K1, (SL1P, K2) 6 times, CDD, K1, (SL1P, K2) 5 times, CDD, K1, (SL1P, K2) 5 times, SL1P, K1, K2tog, K1 (75 stitches)
- row 23:** Purl
- row 24:** Change to Yarn D, K1, SSK, (SL1P, K2) 4 times, SL1P, CDD, K1, (SL1P, K2) 5 times, SL1P, CDD, K1, (SL1P, K2) 4 times, SL1P, CDD, K1, (SL1P, K2) 5 times, K2tog, K1 (67 stitches)
- row 25:** Purl
- row 26:** Change to Yarn C, K1, SSK, K1, (SL1P, K2) 3 times, SL1P, CDD, (K2, SL1P) 5 times, CDD, (K2, SL1P) 4 times, CDD, (K2, SL1P) 4 times, K2, K2tog, K1 (59 stitches)
- row 27:** Purl
- row 28:** Change to Yarn D, K1, SSK, K1, (SL1P, K2) twice, SL1P, K1, CDD, (K2, SL1P) 4 times, K1, CDD, (K2, SL1P) 3 times, K1, CDD, (K2, SL1P) 4 times, K2tog, K1 (51 stitches)
- row 29:** Purl, then cut Yarn D from the work as it is no longer needed
- row 30:** Change to Yarn C, K1, SSK, (K2, SL1P) twice, K1, CDD, (SL1P, K2) 3 times, SL1P, K1, CDD, (SL1P, K2) twice, SL1P, K1, CDD, (SL1P, K2) 3 times, SL1P, K2tog, K1 (43 stitches)
- row 31:** Purl
- row 32:** K1, SSK, K5, CDD, K9, CDD, K6, CDD, K8, K2tog, K1 (35 stitches)
- row 33:** Purl
- row 34:** Knit
- row 35:** Purl
- row 36:** Knit
- row 37:** Cast off in Purl

Leaving a tail of around 8 inches cut the work from the ball and use a fine crochet hook (around 2mm) to make a chain of 6 stitches (or long enough to accommodate the size of button that you have). Join it back to the start point with a slip stitch to make a small loop and weave in the end. Before I sew up the seams I like to block the sweater to make it 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 tail for one of the sleeves and join the seam up to the armpit using mattress stitch.

Repeat with the other sleeve and then use the cast on end from the front to join the side seam and repeat with the cast on end from the back. Close a 1cm section of the open armhole seam, leaving the top part of the seam open so that when the button is undone the sweater can be easily taken on and off. Weave in all the yarn ends along the inside seams and trim excess. Sew a tiny button on the opposite side to the loop (*fig. 51*) and your sweater is done (*fig. 52*).



fig. 51



fig. 52

© Copyright, All rights reserved. No part of these patterns may be reproduced in any form.
These patterns are supplied for your personal and non-commercial use only.