

Little Cotton Rabbits girl pig in a sailor dress



*This pig is made from Millamia Naturally Soft Aran yarn in Blush 229 (Yarn A)
Her dress, knickers, socks and shoes are made from DMC Natura 100% cotton 4ply yarn
in Blue Night (53) Yarn B and Ivory (02) Yarn C*

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

Materials:

- Worsted or light Aran yarn (approx 66m/73yds)
Yarn A
- 4ply/fingering weight yarn for the dress, knickers and shoes in two colours, Yarn B & Yarn C
- Scraps of black and grey 4ply/DK yarn for the eyes and nostrils
- 1m (1.1yds) of red yarn for the woggle to anchor the points of the collar
- Toy stuffing

Notions:

- Knitting needles: A pair each of 3mm, 2.75mm, 2.5mm
- Tapestry needle

Finished size:

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

Gauge:



Gauge for pig: 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 (although 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 pig 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 pig that you make.

Included are instructions to make a plain pink pig (the main pattern from page 4); a hairy Tamworth pig, a pig with a patch and a floppy eared pig (see pages 17-18)

Abbreviations:

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

<http://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:

<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

SL1P: Slip 1 stitch Purl-wise, thus moving a stitch to the right-hand needle without working it

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. You can see some of the different pigs I've made on [flickr](#) and here are some yarn suggestions:



Adriafile Duo shade 88

Quince and Co Lark in 'petal'

Lana Grossa Bingo shade 177

Katia Cotton DK shade 41

On pages 17-18 there are also instructions and yarn suggestions for making a couple of different kinds of pig.

Yarn suggestions for the 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 DMC Natura Just Cotton, Drops Safran or BCGarn Alba are all 4ply cottons that knit up nicely and have a good range of colours. Other suggestions for clothing yarn include Scheepjeswol Cotton 8 and Patons cotton 4ply.

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.

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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 pig 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.

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Extra tips:

I've written up some extra tips on knitting and finishing these animals, so please pop by for a visit and check out the tutorials section on the Little Cotton Rabbits blog: 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.

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The pattern instructions:

Head:

Here I've detailed the pattern for a plain pink pig. At the end of this pattern are notes for making a couple of different kinds of pig (*pages 17-18*).

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

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: Purl
row 8: Knit

row 9: Purl
row 10: K13, P1, K7, P1, K13 (the Purl stitches mark the start point for joining the ears to later)
rows 11–23: Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work 13 rows in stocking stitch (alternate Purl and Knit rows)
row 24: K1, (K2tog) 8 times, K1 (K2tog) 8 times, K1 (*19 stitches*)
row 25: Purl
row 26: Knit
row 27: Purl
row 28: K1, K2tog, K13, SSK, K1 (*17 stitches*)
row 29: Purl
row 30: K1, K2tog, K11, SSK, K1 (*15 stitches*)
row 31: Purl
row 32: Cast off knit-wise until you have a single stitch left

Cut the work from the ball leaving a tail of around 8 inches and pull this tail all the way through the final stitch (*fig. 1*) to complete the cast off. You'll use this tail later to close the seam under the chin but first it's time to work the end of the snout.

Snout: * (these instructions also apply to the pig head on page 16)

To work the snout you'll pick up and knit stitches from behind the cast off edge. You'll actually be knitting into the top of the purl loops from row 31 (*fig. 2*) which will leave a nice neat cast off edge to define the snout. If you find it easier you can use a thinner knitting needle to pick the stitches up with and swap back to a 3mm needle for the rest of the snout. So, with your preferred needle and **Yarn A** pick up and knit the central 5 stitches from the back of the cast

off edge (*fig. 3*), leaving an 8 inch tail for sewing up the snout with later.

row 1: SL1P (Slip 1 Purl-wise), P4
row 2: SL1P, K4
row 3: Slipping the first stitch cast off Purl-wise

Cut the work from the ball leaving a 5 inch tail for weaving in later. Now you have completed the end of the snout section (*fig. 4*)



fig. 1



fig. 2



fig. 3



fig. 4

Next you'll need to close the seam under the chin. Thread the tapestry needle with the 8 inch cast off tail from the head. You want to create an invisible join at the end of the snout so first sew through the first stitch on the opposite side of the seam (*fig. 5*) and then sew back through the centre of the stitch that the tail end is coming out from (*fig. 6*). Adjust the tension on the stitch that you have just made so that it is the same size as the rest from the cast off edge (*fig. 7*) and then continue using this thread to close around an inch of the front head seam using mattress stitch (*fig. 8*).



fig. 5

fig. 6

fig. 7

fig. 8

Next it's time to close the seam around the snout end and it is easiest to do this by turning the work inside-out. Thread the tapestry needle with the cast on tail from the snout section and begin to join the snout end to the head by sewing alternately through one stitch from the edge of the snout section and a purl loop from the back of the head section (*fig. 9*). Note, check that you are not sewing through the stitches that form the actual rim of the head cast off edge. Continue using this thread to work all around the snout section until it is fully joined and then tie off the ends securely before turning the work the right way out again (*fig. 10*).

Next thread the tapestry needle with your cast-on tail from the back of the head and use it to begin closing the back of the seam using mattress stitch and leaving an open gap through which to stuff the head (*fig. 11*). Finally cut an 8 inch length of **Yarn A** and with the right side of work facing you use it to sew through the loops from the cast on edge at the back of the head (I've used red thread to illustrate, *fig. 12*). Thread the ends inside the head and tie together tightly to gather in the seam and to prevent it loosening again.



fig. 9

fig. 10

fig. 11

fig. 12

Next 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. 13*) then stuff the nose end, pinching and manipulating the stuffing until it takes on the shape that I want (*fig. 14*). Next I stuff the cheeks quite firmly to make them bulge out at the bottom of the head (*in fig. 15 the cheeks are not yet fully stuffed*). I pack in a lot of stuffing but I tend to add little bits at a time moulding as I go to get the shape that I want (*fig. 16*) and the finished head is quite firm and solid. When you are happy with the head shape leave the seam at the bottom open for now (which makes it easier to hide the tails ends from the ears and facial features inside the head) and set it aside while you make the ears.



fig. 13

fig. 14

fig. 15

fig. 16



fig. 17

fig. 18

fig. 19

Ears (make two the same):

The pattern detailed here is for short ears that point upwards from the head and there are alternative instructions for larger floppy ears detailed on page 18.

Use **Yarn A** and 3mm needles to cast on 11 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for sewing the ear together and attaching to the head later.

row 1: (right side) (K1, P1) 5 times, K1

rows 2-8: As row 1

row 9: K1, P3tog, K1, P1, K1, P3tog, K1 (7 stitches)

row 10: (K1, P1) 3 times, K1

row 11: K1, P1, Slip 1, K2tog pass slipped stitch over, P1, K1 (5 stitches)

row 12: (K1, P1) twice, K1

row 13: K1, P3tog, K1 (3 stitches)

row 14: K1, P1, K1

row 15: Slip 1, K2tog pass the slipped stitch over (1 stitch)

Cut the work from the ball leaving an 8 inch tail and thread this end through the last stitch on the needle, pull the tail end tightly to secure the pointed ear tip, and weave in this tail along the centre of the ear all the way to the cast-on edge (fig. 17). Fold the ear in half lengthways with wrong sides together and join the cast-on edge by over-sewing (whip stitching) using the cast-on tail (fig. 18). Tie the two ends together securely at the back edge of the finished ear.

Make a second ear the same (fig. 19).

Next it's time to attach the ears to the head. Thread the tapestry needle with the longest tail from an ear and sew through the purl loop just behind the marker stitch on row 10 of the head (fig. 20). Now sew alternately through a loop from the cast on edge of the ear and a knit stitch on the head, making sure that the ear is joined in a straight line along the top of the head. When you reach the front edge of the ear (fig. 21) begin to join the lower edge of the ear by working backwards to where you began (fig. 22).

Once the underside of the ear is fully joined tie the two ends from the ear together securely at the back and then sew them through the head and out of the open seam at the bottom.

Repeat with the second ear making sure they are in alignment (fig. 23). When you are happy with positioning tie the 4 tail ends from the ears together securely underneath the head, trim to around 3cm and poke them inside the head cavity.



fig. 20

fig. 21

fig. 22

fig. 23



fig. 24



fig. 25



fig. 26

To embroider the face:

For the nostrils, thread the tapestry needle with an 8 inch length of grey 4ply or DK Yarn and starting at the underside of the head sew up through the open seam and out of the snout at the point where you want the top of the first nostril to be. Sew back into the head at the base of the nostril and out at the top again (fig. 24). Repeat this step until there are 3 parallel threads forming the nostril and then sew through the snout to the top of the second nostril. Sew the second nostril in the same way (fig. 25). Sew the end back through the head and out of the open seam underneath. Adjust the tightness of the stitches forming the nostrils and knot the 2 ends of thread together securely before trimming and poking the ends inside the head.

I prefer to add the eyes after closing the seam underneath the head, so finish joining those seams together now (fig. 26). I aim to get the seams to meet just behind the chin shaping and then gently tighten the seams to give the head a little 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 on. Now for the eyes.

Anchored French Knot:

French Knots are a nice way of making a small decorative bobble and can be used as eyes or a 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:

Thread a tapestry needle with 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 for the first eye leaving a tail of around 2 inches behind. 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 between three and six times depending on thickness of yarn – here I've wrapped 6 times with 4 ply yarn (fig. 28). Hold the wrapped thread in place 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 anchor loop slightly 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 the knot 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 set the finished head to one side while you make the body.



fig. 27



fig. 28



fig. 29



fig. 30

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, (M1L, K2) 6 times, K1 (22 stitches)
- row 3: Purl
- row 4: K3, (M1L, K3) 6 times, K1 (28 stitches)
- row 5: Purl
- row 6: K3, (M1L, K4) 6 times, K1 (34 stitches)
- rows 7-13: Beginning and ending with Purl rows, work 7 rows in stocking stitch
- row 14: Change to 2.5mm needles and K3, (KLL, K5) 6 times, K1 (40 stitches)
- row 15: Change to **Yarn B**, Purl
- row 16: Purl
- row 17: Purl
- row 18-32: Beginning and ending with a Knit row work 15 rows in stocking stitch
- row 33: 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. Now for the legs.

Legs: (make 2 the same)

Begin with the shoes which are made as a separate piece. Starting at the underside of the shoe, use **Yarn B** and 2.5mm needles to cast on 14 stitches, leaving a tail of 5 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)
 - rows 5-14: Beginning with a Purl row and ending with a Knit, work 10 rows in stocking stitch
 - row 15: This row is a little complicated because it includes both decreasing and casting off as you work across 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.
- P13 casting off as you go (*at this point you should have 1 stitch on your right needle and 21 stitches still to work on the left needle*) P2tog and cast off, P4 casting off as you go (*1 stitch on your right needle and 15 stitches still to work*) P2tog tbl and cast off. Cast off the remaining stitches in Purl.

Next you will need to pick up stitches from the cast off edge of the shoe to form the top of the foot. (*Tip: You could use a sharp tipped or smaller sized needle for the first row but remember to swap back to the 2.5mm afterwards*):

- row 1: With Yarn C and 2.5mm needles pick up and knit the 6 central stitches from the cast-off edge of the shoe (*that is the central 4 stitches and the 2 decrease stitches either side of them*) (fig. 31)

From the front of the work push the tip of the needle through the loop on the back of the cast off edge, wrap the yarn around once knit-wise and draw through, placing each picked up stitch on the right hand needle in turn.

- row 2: (wrong side) Purl
- row 3: Knit
- rows 4-10: Beginning and ending with a Purl row work 7 rows in stocking stitch

Cut the work from the ball leaving a short tail for tying off later.



fig. 31

fig. 32

fig. 33

fig. 34

Next you will need to pick up more stitches to form the top of the sock

row 1: (right side) Leaving a tail of 7 inches for seaming with later, use Yarn C to pick up and knit the first 5 stitches from the far right side of the shoe cast-off edge. Ignore the remaining 8 cast off stitches on the right side and continue by knitting across the 6 stitches from the top of the foot (fig. 32). Ignore the first 8 cast off stitches on the left side and pick up and knit the last 5 stitches (fig. 33). Note, the last stitch will be at the very edge of the work. Be sure to keep your tension as tight as possible across the gaps. (16 stitches)

rows 2-4: Beginning and ending with a Purl row work 3 rows of stocking stitch

row 5: Purl this row, this will give you some loops on the right side of the work to pick up stitches from later

row 6: Change to Yarn A and 3mm needles (but do not cut Yarn C from the work as you will need it later), P1, P2tog, P10, P2togtbl, P1 (14 stitches)

rows 7-17: Beginning and ending with a Knit row work 11 rows in stocking stitch

row 18: Cast off purl-wise and cut the work from the ball leaving a tail of 8 inches for sewing the leg to the body with later.

If preferred you can leave the sock as it is, with the small purl ridge to define the top (fig. 34) or you can add a cuff to it now. The cuff is worked by picking up the stitches from the purl ridges of the sock top. So, with the right side of work facing and the shoe pointing away from you use the attached Yarn C and 2.5mm needles to pick up and knit the lower purl bumps (fig. 35) note: *knitting into the lower loops furthest away from you rather than the closest ones gives a neater finish.* At the same time you are going to increase the number of stitches for the cuff by alternating the picked up stitches with M1A increases (fig. 36):

row 1: (right side) K2, (M1A, K1) 12 times, K1 (27 stitches)

row 2: P2, (K1, P1) 12 times, P1

row 3: Cast off keeping the ribbing correct, ie. Knit all K stitches and Purl all P stitches

Cut the work from the ball leaving a tail of around 6 inches for sewing up with later. The cuff you have just made can either be worn flipped up (fig. 37) or flipped down (fig. 38).

Make a second leg in exactly the same way.



fig. 35

fig. 36

fig. 37

fig. 38

To finish the legs and body:

Shoe strap (make 2 the same)

Use [Yarn B](#) and 2.5mm needles to cast on 12 stitches (leaving a tail of 7 inches for sewing up later) and then knit back across them casting off as you go. Cut work from the ball leaving another short tail for sewing up.

Thread a tapestry needle with the shorter end from the strap and attach it to the one side of the shoe at the top of the foot section (*fig. 39*). Sew through a couple of times to ensure it's secure and leave the end on the inside of the work. Thread the longer end inside and tie both ends together, and then use this longer thread to begin closing the two vents between the top of the foot and the sides of the shoe, like so:

Sew alternately through 1 loop from the back of the cast off edge of the shoe and 1 'bar' between the two outermost stitches of the top of the foot section, working down towards the toe of the shoe (*fig. 40*). You are aiming to have 4 rows of knitting showing on the top of the foot once the seams are closed.



fig. 39

fig. 40

fig. 41

fig. 42

You should run out of loops on the shoe side and still have 2 'bars' on the foot side which is exactly right as this is what helps to give the shoe it's curved shaped toe. Thread the yarn to the inside of the work and catch up the [Yarn B](#) loops from the back of the toe of the shoe (*fig. 41*).

At this point you need to gently tighten the yarn slightly, gathering in the section that you have just sewn up. Continue to sew up the second vent in the same way, skipping the first 2 'bars' in order to get a curve to mirror the one on the right side of the shoe and working up towards the leg (*fig. 42*). When you have fully closed the vent thread the yarn to the inside and gently tighten until both sides of the foot are even. Use the yarn end still threaded to attach the other end of the strap to the side of the shoe, sew through a couple of times to secure (*fig. 43*). Tie off all of the ends inside the shoe and sew along a seam before trimming off the excess.

Start to close the back seam of the shoe by threading a tapestry needle with the cast on tail from the shoe and using mattress stitch. Leave a small gap at the top to make stuffing the foot easier. Re-thread the tapestry needle with a spare length of [Yarn B](#) and use it to gather up the loops in the bottom of the foot (*fig. 44*) I've used red thread here just to illustrate. Tie both ends tightly inside the shoe to fully close the bottom shoe seam.



fig. 43

fig. 44

fig. 45

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 shoe back seam entirely and tie ends together before poking inside shoe. Thread the tapestry needle with the long end from the bottom of the sock section and use this to close the seam up the back of the sock using mattress stitch. You'll also need to join the sock cuff seam. At the top of the sock tie both tails ends from both sock seams together.

Re-thread the needle with the **Yarn A** tail from the bottom of the leg section and use this to close the leg seam using mattress stitch (*fig. 45*). Leave a gap at the top to make stuffing the leg easier and thread both ends from the top of the sock inside the leg cavity. Stuff the leg lightly. If you want your pig 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. For the second leg you need to follow all of the finishing steps above but attach the strap to the opposite side of the foot.

To make a 'button' on the strap at the outside of each shoe use contrasting coloured yarn (around 7 inches) to make a French Knot (*figs. 46 & 47*). Follow the instructions for the 'Eyes' on page 7. Now both legs are ready to attach to the body (*fig. 48*).



fig. 46



fig. 47



fig. 48

Thread the tapestry needle with the longer end from the top of the first finished leg and use this to sew the leg to the body making sure that you have the correct leg in position – the French Knot should be on the outside.

Note: In order to have the finished bottom half of the body looking like knickers/panties it is important that you sew through the **purl loops** on the back of the body cast-off row rather than the stitches from the cast off edge itself, as this leaves the cast off edge as a nice neat knicker line around the top of the leg. Sew alternately through these purl loops and the cast off edge of the leg top (*fig. 49*).

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. 50*) leaving a gap between both legs. Once both legs are attached and secure use a spare length of **Yarn B** to tightly over-sew the short seam between the legs (*fig. 51*) before threading the end back inside and tying off both ends to secure. Now the body is ready to stuff (*fig. 52*).



fig. 49



fig. 50



fig. 51



fig. 52

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. Next 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, (M1L, K2) 4 times (14 stitches)

rows 3-23: Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work 21 rows in stocking stitch

row 24: K1, SSK, K2, K2tog, SSK, K2, K2tog, K1 (10 stitches)

row 25: Purl

Cut the work from the ball leaving a tail of 7 inches. Thread this through the remaining 10 stitches (*fig. 53*) 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.



fig. 53



fig. 54



fig. 55

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. 54*), 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.

Now for 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. 55*). 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.

Finally, it's time to make the tail.



fig. 56

fig. 57

fig. 58

fig. 59

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.

Using 3mm needles and **Yarn A** cast on 6 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for attaching the tail with later.

row 1: (wrong side) Purl

rows 2-22: Beginning and ending with a Knit row, work 21 rows of stocking stitch

Cut the work from the ball leaving an 8 inch tail, thread this end through the 6 stitches on the needle (*fig. 56*) 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. 57*). Once you've finished the seam pull the yarn very tightly in order to curl the tail (*fig. 58*). You can 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 tie both ends together and use the longer end to sew the tail on to the pig's bottom (*fig. 59*). 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 your pig is ready for some clothes and the pattern for a dress follows on the next three pages.



Stripy dress with a sailor collar:

Materials:

- 2.75mm (US 2) straight needles
- 2.75mm (US 2) DPNs (double pointed needles)
- **Yarn B:** Blue 4ply weight yarn
- **Yarn C:** White/cream 4ply weight yarn

Here I have used DMC Natura 100% cotton 4ply yarn in Blue Night (53) **Yarn B** and Ivory (02) **Yarn C**



This dress is a simple design with a striped skirt and an optional intarsia section at the front of the neck. To start it is worked in a single piece with a hole for the tail to poke through at the back and a side seam. After decreasing for the waist the bodice is worked in two halves forming the front and back. The collar is worked separately and attached later with i-cord points that are held in place by a little attached woggle.

Dress:

The skirt of this dress is striped in bands of two row alternate colours. If you prefer you can knit a single band of Yarn C at the bottom, or 2 bands or you can knit the dress entirely in **Yarn B**.

Starting at the bottom edge and finishing at the neck, use **Yarn B** and 2.75mm needles to cast on 68 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches to seam with later.

- row 1:** (right side) **Knit**
- row 2:** **Knit**
- row 3:** Change to Yarn C, **Knit**
- row 4:** **Purl**
- row 5:** Change to **Yarn B**, **Knit**
- row 6:** **Purl**
- rows 7-10:** repeat **rows 3-6**
- row 11:** Change to Yarn C, **Knit**

- row 12:** P47, cast off 6 stitches, **Purl** to end (*fig. 60*)
- row 13:** Change to **Yarn B**, **K15** (*fig. 61*), **pick up and Knit the first stitch from the cast off edge** (*fig. 62*), **cast on 4** using thumb (M1A) method, **pick up and Knit the last stitch from the cast off edge** (*fig. 63*), **K47** (*68 stitches*)
- row 14:** **Purl**
- rows 15-26:** Repeat rows 3-6 three times
- row 27:** Change to Yarn C, **K2tog**, **K2**, (**K2tog**) 14 times, **K4**, (**K2tog**) 14 times, **K2**, **SSK** (*38 stitches*)
- row 28:** **Purl** and cut Yarn C from the work



fig. 60



fig. 61



fig. 62



fig. 63

In order to create the armholes, the next section is worked in two separate parts:

1. Back:

row 29: Change to **Yarn B**, K18, Slip the next stitch onto a cable needle and hold at the front of the work, Knit 1 stitch, slip the stitch from the cable needle back onto the left hand needle (it will be knitted later when you work the front). Turn ready to work on these 19 stitches in **Yarn B** only for the next 8 rows.

row 30: P1, P2tog, P13, P2togtbl, P1 (17 stitches)

rows 31-37: Beginning and ending with Knit rows, work 7 rows in stocking stitch

Cut the work from the ball (leaving a tail of around 8 inches for sewing up later) and leave these 17 stitches on right hand needle.

2. Front:

row 29b: Rejoin **Yarn B** and Knit to end (19 stitches)

row 30b: P1, P2tog, P13, P2togtbl, P1 (17 stitches)

row 31b: Knit

row 32b: Purl

row 33b: K7, join in Yarn C and K3, join in second length of **Yarn B** and K7

row 34b: P6, P5, P6

row 35b: K5, K7, K5

row 36b: P4, P9, P4

row 37b: K4, K9, K4

Do NOT cut the yarn from the ball as you are now going to turn and work right across both sections on the needle.

row 38: P4, P9, P3, P2tog, P16 (33 stitches)

row 39: This is the cast off row: In order to keep the cast off row neat between colour changes Knit the last stitch of each colour section in the yarn from the next colour section:

K19 casting off as you go, **K9** casting off as you go, **K5** casting off as you go.

Cut the work from the balls leaving 8 inch tails for sewing in and seaming with later.

Using the cast-off tail and a fine crochet hook (around 2mm) 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, working downwards to the waist. Sew a tiny button on the opposite side as a fastening for the dress. It's worth blocking the dress to make it neat. I usually do this by carefully steam blocking but if you prefer wet blocking that is fine. Next make the sailor collar.

Collar:

The collar is worked flat and joined to the dress later. The two front points are worked using two DPNS (double Pointed Needles) and the i-cord technique. If you are new to this method there is a useful tutorial for this here: <http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/knitting-tips> (scroll to the bottom of the page)

Starting at the back edge and working up to the front points, use Yarn C and 2.75mm needles to cast on 27 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches to weave in later.

row 1: (right side) Knit

row 2: Knit

row 3: Knit

row 4: K2, P23, K2

rows 5-10: Repeat rows 3 and 4 three more times

row 11: K8, turn and work on these 8 stitches only for the next 28 rows

row 12: P6, K2

row 13: Knit

rows 14 & 15: repeat rows 12 & 13

row 16: P6, K2

row 17: K2, SSK, K4 (7 stitches)

row 18: P5, K2

row 19: Knit

row 20: P5, K2

row 21: K2, SSK, K3 (6 stitches)

row 22: P4, K2

row 23: Knit

row 24: P4, K2

row 25: K2, SSK, K2 (5 stitches)

row 26: P3, K2

row 27: Knit

row 28: P3, K2

row 29: Change to a DPN, K2, SSK, K1 (4 stitches)

rows 30-41: Continue by working 12 rows of i-cord

**Cut the work from the ball leaving a 4 inch tail and using the tapestry needle thread this through the 4 stitches on the needle slide them off the needle and pull up tight to bind off. Next sew this tail through the centre of the i-cord to hide it and trim any excess.

Re-join the yarn (leaving a tail of 10 inches for attaching the collar with later) and cast off the central 11 stitches, then Knit to end. Continue to work on the 8 remaining stitches for the next 30 rows:

Second side of collar:

row 12b: K2, P6

row 13b: Knit

row 14b & 15b: repeat rows 12b & 13b

row 16b: K2, P6

row 17b: K4, K2tog, K2 (7 stitches)

row 18b: K2, P5

row 19b: Knit

row 20b: K2, P5

row 21b: K3, K2tog, K2 (6 stitches)

row 22b: K2, P4

row 23b: Knit

row 24b: K2, P4

row 25b: K2, K2tog, K2 (5 stitches)

row 26b: K2, P3

row 27b: Knit

row 28b: K2, P3

row 29b: Change to a DPN, K1, K2tog, K2 (4 stitches)

rows 30-41b: Continue by working 12 rows of i-cord and finish off as for the first point above**

Now the collar is ready to attach to the back of the dress (fig. 64), but first make the little woggle that will hold it in place. Use approx 1m (1.1 yds) of red 4ply yarn and 2.75mm needles to cable cast on 7 stitches, leaving a tail of 6 inches to seam with later.

row 1: Knit

row 2: Cast off Purlwise

Cut the work from the ball leaving a 6 inch tail and use this to sew the right-hand side of the woggle in place. Start directly underneath the far right stitch at the base of the V section (fig. 65). Join the second side below the far left stitch of the V section so that the woggle makes a small loop to thread the ends of the collar through. Thread both tail ends to the wrong side of work and weave in/tie off securely before trimming.



fig. 64



fig. 65



fig. 66

Next attach the collar. Thread the tapestry needle with the Yarn C tail end from between the two points and use this to join the collar to the back of the neck section. You'll get the neatest seam by using whip-stitch/oversewing through the **back** loops from the cast off edge of both pieces (fig. 66). Once the collar is fully joined tie off/weave in all ends and trim excess.

Next close the dress side seam by threading the tapestry needle with the cast on tail from the skirt. Join the seam using mattress stitch and finish at the waist shaping. Turn the dress inside out and weaving in all ends then turn it right side out again and pop it on your pig before threading the points of the collar through the little woggle loop to finish.



Alternative heads and ears:

Patchy pig:



Quince and Co Lark in Petal
and Kumlien's gull

Lana Grossa Cool Wool Big in
697 and 951

Millamia Naturally Soft Aran
Blush (229) and stone (202)

Knitted in Miamilla but with
the floppy ears
(see instructions on page 18)

Before you begin cut a 6m (6.5yds) length of **Yarn A** and a 3m (3.2yds) length of **Yarn D** in order to work the intarsia section with. Starting at the back of the head and finishing at the snout, use **Yarn A** and 3mm needles to 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: Purl
row 8: Knit
row 9: P12, join in Yarn D and P3, Join in 6m length of **Yarn A** and P20
row 10: K13, P1, K6, K1, P1, K2, K11 (the Purl sts mark where to sew the ears to later)
row 11: P11, P5, P19
row 12: K19, K6, K10
row 13: P10, P7, P18
row 14: K18, K8, K9
row 15: P9, P8, P18
row 16: K18, K9, K8
row 17: P8, P9, P18
row 18: K18, K9, K8
row 19: P8, P9, P18

row 20: K18, K10, K7
row 21: P7, P10, P18
row 22: K18, K10, K7
row 23: P7, P10, P18
row 24: K1, (K2tog) 8 times, K1, (K2tog) 4 times, (K2tog) 4 times, K1 (19 stitches)
row 25: P6, P3, P10
row 26: K11, K2, K6
row 27: Purl in **Yarn A** from the main ball only and continue using this alone for the rest of the head
row 28: K1, K2tog, K13, SSK, K1 (17 stitches)
row 29: Purl
row 30: K1, K2tog, K11, SSK, K1 (15 stitches)
row 31: Purl
row 32: Cast off knit-wise until you have a single stitch left. Cut the work from the ball leaving a tail of around 8 inches and pull this all the way through the final stitch (*fig. 1*) to complete the cast off. You'll use this tail later to close the seam under the chin. Trim any excess ends from the intarsia section and weave in on the back of the work
The pattern continues from [page 4, Snout*](#)

Fuzzy pig:

These pigs are made from the head pattern detailed on page 4 but knitted with 2 strands of yarn held double; 1 of pink DK yarn and one of very lightweight mohair yarn to give fuzz and a hint of gingery colour making them look like Tamworth pigs.

Work rows 31, 32 and all of the snout in just the pink coloured yarn for a 'bare snout' look.



One strand of Rico soft Merino Aran 4
knitted with one strand of Rico
essentials super kid mohair silk 11

One strand of Sublime Baby
Cashmere Merino Silk DK piglet
knitted with one strand of
Ito Sensai 310 carrot

Floppy ears:

Use **Yarn A** and 3mm needles to cast on 3 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for sewing the ear together and attaching to the head later.

row 1: (right side) K1, P1, K1

row 2: K1, KFBF, K1 (5 stitches)

row 3: K1, KFB, P1, KFB, K1 (7 stitches)

row 4: K1, KFB, K1, P1, K1, KFB, K1 (9 stitches)

row 5: K1, KFB, (P1, K1) twice, P1, KFB, K1 (11 stitches)

row 6: (right side) (K1, P1) 5 times, K1

rows 7-17: repeat row 6 eleven times more

row 18: K1, P3tog, K1, P1, K1, P3tog, K1 (7 stitches)

row 19: (K1, P1) 3 times, K1

row 20: K1, P1, Slip 1, K2tog pass slipped stitch over, P1, K1 (5 stitches)

row 21: (K1, P1) twice, K1

row 22: K1, P3tog, K1 (3 stitches)

row 23: K1, P1, K1

row 24: Slip 1, K2tog, pass the slipped stitch over (1 stitch)

Cut the work from the ball leaving an 8 inch tail and thread this end through the last stitch on the needle, pull the tail end tightly to secure the pointed ear tip, and weave in this tail along the centre of the ear all the way to the cast-on edge. Tie the two ends together securely at the back edge of the finished ear. Make a second ear the same (fig. 67).

Next it's time to attach the ears to the head. You want to join just the back of the ear to the head (up to the end of the ear increases, ie. the widest part) so that each side is partially attached in a 'V' shape. Thread the tapestry needle with one tail from an ear and sew through the purl loop just behind the marker stitch on row 10 of the head (fig. 68). Continue sewing alternately through a loop from the edge of the ear and a knit stitch on the head. When you reach the end of the ear increases (fig. 69) sew back through the head to the back of the ear and re-thread the needle with the other tail. Join the other back side of the ear in the same way. Tie the two ends from the ear together securely at the back (above the purled marker stitch) and then sew them through the head and out of the open seam at the bottom. That is the first ear done (fig. 70).



fig. 67



fig. 68



fig. 69



fig. 70

Repeat with the second ear making sure they are in alignment (fig. 71). When you are happy with positioning tie the 4 tail ends from the ears together securely underneath the head, trim to around an inch/3cm and poke them inside the head cavity. You can see how the ears are joined from the back (fig. 72) and on your finished pig you can either have the ears pointing forwards (fig. 73) or you can bend them upwards (fig. 74).



fig. 71



fig. 72



fig. 73



fig. 74

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