

*Little Cotton Rabbits
Horse - donkey - unicorn in a dress*



*This horse is made from Cascade 220 worsted yarn 1010 'Carob Brown' (Yarn A), 8010 'natural' (Yarn B)
and Ito Sensai 334 'dark brown' (Yarn C) for the mane and tail
Her dress, tights and shoes are made from Krea Deluxe Organic cotton in 26, 22 and 02*

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

Materials:

- Worsted or light Aran yarn (approx 45m/50yds) in brown, cream, black or grey: **Yarn A**
- Worsted or light Aran yarn (approx 10m/11yds) in cream, light grey: Yarn B
- Yarn of your choice for the mane and tail (see Page 3 for suggestions), Yarn C (up to 18m/20yds)
- 4ply/fingering weight yarn for the dress, tights and shoes in up to 3 colours, **Yarn D**, **Yarn E**, Yarn F
- Less than 1m (1yds) of black, brown /grey 4ply/DK yarn for the eyes and facial features
- Toy stuffing

Notions:

- Knitting needles: A pair each of 3mm (US 2.5), 2.75mm (US 2) and 2.5mm (US 1.5)
- Tapestry needle

Finished size:

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

Gauge:



Gauge for horse: 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 slightly 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 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 horse 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 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 horse that you make.

Abbreviations:

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 if you prefer.

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

YO: YARN OVER: Bring the yarn to the front of the work before working the next stitch, then work the next stitch, so making a loop over the needle which is worked into on the next row.

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 (unless otherwise stated).

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Yarn suggestions:



Yarn A Cascade 220 in Antiqued Heather 9600, Yarn B Cascade 220 in Natural 8010, Mane in Rowan Angora Haze in white



Yarn A Cascade 220 in Natural 8010, Yarn B Cascade 220 in Antiqued Heather 9600, Mane in 'ecru' Biches & Buches le gros silk & mohair



Yarn A Cascade 220 in Natural 8010, Yarn B Cascade 220 in 8011 Aspen heather, Mane in Rowan Alpaca Classic in 115



Yarn A Paintbox 100% wool worsted in 1202 'Champagne white', Yarn B Cascade 220 in 8011 Aspen heather, Mane in Rowan Alpaca Classic in 101



Yarn A Cascade 220 in camel 8622, Yarn B Cascade 220 in 8021 beige, Mane in The Fibre Co. Cirro in Angelic 010



Yarn A Berroco Lanas in 95116, Yarn B Paintbox 100% wool worsted in 1208 'light caramel', Mane in Lettlopi 005



Yarn A Cascade 220 in 8011 aspen heather, Yarn B Cascade 220 in 8010 natural, Mane in Rowan Alpaca Classic in 117



Yarn A Tribe yarns merino donegal aran, Yarn B Cascade 220 in 8011 aspen heather, Mane in Rowan kidsilk haze in 674



Paintbox 100% wool worsted in 1202 'Champagne white' Yarn A and 1207 'vanilla cream' Yarn B, for Mane yarns see Page 19 for full details



Yarn A Paintbox 100% wool worsted in 1208 'light caramel', Yarn B Cascade 220 in 8010 natural, Mane in 'ecru' Biches & Buches le gros silk & mohair



Yarn A Cascade 220 in 4002 jet, Yarn B Cascade 220 in 8010 natural, Mane in Rowan Alpaca Classic in 103



Camarose Snefnug in 7311 gra Yarn A, and 7811 snehvid Yarn B, Mane in Lettlopi 005 black heather

Other suggestions for yarns to use to knit the horse and my other animals in can be found on my blog here:

https://littlecottonrabbits.typepad.co.uk/my_weblog/2018/02/choosing-yarns-for-little-cotton-rabbit-patterns-part-1.html

Yarn suggestions for Manes & Tails:

You can choose any yarn that you like for the mane and tail, maybe yarn that you already have or something that you've chosen specifically. My personal preference is for yarns with mohair or brushed alpaca. Here are some suggestions of varying thicknesses (please also see other suggestions on Page 3):



A

B

C

A: uses Rowan kidsilk haze in cream 634 with the mane width of 4 strands; B: uses Rowan Alpaca Classic in 115 with the mane width of 3 strands; C: uses Camarose Snefnug in 7811 snehvid with the mane width of 2 strands.

Yarn suggestions for clothes:

I like cotton yarns for the dresses as it has a pleasing drape and the hem of the dress will not curl in the same way as it will when knitted in woollen yarn. Cotton yarns are also crisp and show off colour-work patterns nicely, they also block well. 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 have some more 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 horse 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. There some extra tips about knitting and finishing on my blog, including seaming with mattress stitch, working in Fair Isle/stranded technique and Swiss darning/duplicate stitch, so please pop by for a visit and check out the tutorial section.

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:

Please note: There are alternative head designs at the back of the pattern (Page 23) and also adaptations for a Unicorn (Pages 19-20) and a Donkey (Pages 21-22).

Plain Head:

Please note: Row 14 has two Purl marker stitches to help you position the ears later.

Starting at the back of the head and finishing at the underside of the nose, use **Yarn A** and 3mm needles to cable cast on 11 stitches, leaving a long tail 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)
rows 7-13: Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work 7 rows in stocking stitch (alternate Purl and Knit rows)
row 14: K14, P1, K5, P1, K14
rows 15-21: Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work 7 rows in stocking stitch
row 22: K1, SSK, (K2tog) 5 times, K9, (K2tog) 6 times, K1 (23 stitches)
row 23: Purl
row 24: K1, SSK, K17, K2tog, K1 (21 stitches)
row 25: Purl, Cut **Yarn A** from the work, leaving a long tail for seaming with later
row 26: Change to **Yarn B*** leaving a long tail for seaming part of the nose, K1, SSK, K15, K2tog, K1 (19 stitches)

* **Please note:** If you are choosing to knit the nose in the same colour as the head you will still need to cut the yarn and re-join it, leaving long tails both times, as these tail ends are needed in order to seam the underside of the nose with later.

- row 27:** Purl
row 28: K1, SSK, K3, K2tog, K3, SSK, K3, K2tog, K1 (15 stitches)
row 29: Purl
row 30: K4, K2tog, K3, SSK, K4 (13 stitches)

- row 31:** Purl
row 32: Cast off 3 stitches, K9 (10 stitches)

row 33: At the beginning of this row we create a short cast off edge to mirror the one worked at the beginning of the previous row. Like so:

With the wrong side of the work facing slip the first two stitches purl-wise from the left needle to the right. Pass the first slipped stitch over the second to cast off a stitch, slip a third stitch and pass over in the same way and then slip one more stitch and pass over again (4 stitches slipped and 3 stitches cast off).

Slip the last of these stitches (*fig. 1*) back to the left-hand needle. You now have short cast off edges on each side of the piece.

Cut the yarn from the work leaving a short tail for weaving in, then re-join the yarn, leaving a short tail for weaving in and P7

From this point onwards you will be working a narrow central section which forms the front and underside of the nose.

- row 34:** Knit
row 35: Purl
row 36: K1, SSK, K1, K2tog, K1 (5 stitches)
row 37: Purl
row 38: Knit
row 39: Purl
row 40: Knit
row 41: Purl
row 42: K1, SL1, K2tog, PSSO, K1 (3 stitches)

Cut the yarn from the work, leaving a long tail for seaming with and sew this through the 3 remaining stitches on the needle. Continued on Page 6...



fig. 1



fig. 2



fig. 3



fig. 4

Next we are going to sew the two seams that join the underside of the nose. Bend the narrow centre section over so that the tip of the cast off point aligns with the start of the Yarn B nose section, (*figs. 3 & 4*).

The two seams we are now going to sew form a 'V' shape which runs from the underside of the nose up to the base of each nostril (see *fig. 10* for how this looks when finished). Each nostril is left open at the end of each seam and the nostril gap is then filled with a barrel knot that we will make later and which forms the 'shadow' within the nostril.



fig. 5

fig. 6

fig. 7

fig. 8

To close the first seam thread the needle with the Yarn B tail end from the start of the Yarn B section on row 26 (*here I'm using pink thread to illustrate*). Use this to begin sewing the seam running from underneath the nose up to the base of the first nostril (*figs. 5 & 6*). You will need to use mattress stitch to close this seam and initially keep your stitches very loose (*fig. 7*). Once you reach the short cast off row, which should correspond with the decreases on row 36 of the nose flap, this seam is completed and you can pull on the sewing thread in order to tighten the stitches. Sew the tail end to the inside of the work ready for weaving in later. The nostril should now be a small open hole at the end of the nose (*fig. 8*).

Next re-thread the tapestry needle with the cast off tail end from the end of the nose flap (*fig. 8*) and use this to close the seam on the other side of the nose, finishing the seam at the other nostril and sewing the remaining thread inside the work again.



fig. 9

fig. 10

fig. 11

Next begin to close the seam that runs underneath the head. Re-thread the tapestry needle with the tail end of **Yarn A** from under the chin and sew through the decrease stitches from the end of the nose flap (*fig. 9*) and then through the remaining Yarn B bar which sits within the **Yarn A** section of the head. Continue joining this seam working backwards along the underside of the head to the decreases at the cheek (*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 seam underneath the head using mattress stitch. Leave an open gap in the seam through which to stuff the head (*fig. 10*).

Finally 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 pink thread to illustrate, *fig. 11*). Begin to gather in this circular seam and tie the ends together tightly inside the head to prevent it loosening again. Once the tail ends are secured, it's time to stuff (see tips on stuffing on Page 4). It's worth taking time to note the shape of the knitted head before stuffing as it already shows you what shape it wants to be. Try to mirror that shape when you stuff and don't put in so much stuffing that the stitches become stretched and the shape overstuffed.



fig. 12

fig. 13

fig. 14

fig. 15

fig. 16

Usually with my animals I start stuffing the head at the back, but with the horse I have found it easier to get the shape I want if I start with the nose first. The nose needs a small firm ball of stuffing poked right in to the end, you want a good firm foundation to hold in place the nostril shadow knot that you'll add later. It's worth taking time to manipulate the stuffing until it takes on the rounded, tapered shape that you want (fig. 12).

Once the end of the nose is stuffed add more stuffing behind it, working backwards to the back of the head. You want a gently sloping forehead and a rounded back of the head (fig. 13) Then stuff the cheeks so that the jaw area is clearly defined (fig. 14). Take time to look at your stuffed head from all angles (figs. 15 & 16) and add more where you feel it is needed. I try to get a long narrow head shape with a well rounded nose and I've often added more stuffing to the tip of the nose at this point. 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 and the finished head is quite firm and solid. Once you are happy with the head shape leave the seam at the bottom of the head open, so making it easier to hide the tails ends from the facial features inside. Next for the ears.

E a r s (make two the same):

You can choose to either work the ears in two colours with a different coloured section inside the ear (see pictures A, B & C on Page 19) or in a single colour, in which case ignore the colour change instructions below. If you are working in 2 colours you will first need to cut an extra 1m/1 yd length of **Yarn A** to join in on row 1 and use the intarsia technique. *A note about intarsia technique:* It is important that you intertwine the strands of contrasting colours as you switch between them, there are lots of good videos demonstrating this technique on the internet.

Starting at the base of the ear and finishing at the top point. Use **Yarn A** from the ball and 3mm needles cable cast on 15, leaving a long tail for seaming with later

row 1: (right side) **K5**, join in Yarn B and **K5**, join in the extra length of **Yarn A** and **K5**

row 2: **P5**, **P5**, **P5**

row 3: **K5**, **K5**, **K5**

row 4: **P5**, **P5**, **P5**

row 5: **K3**, **K2tog**, **SSK**, **K1**, **K2tog**, **SSK**, **K3**
(11 stitches)

row 6: **P4**, **P3**, **P4**, cut Yarn B from the work leaving a short tail for weaving in later

row 7: **K2**, **K2tog**, **SL1**, **K2tog**, **PSSO**, **SSK**, **K2**
(7 stitches)

row 8: **Purl**

row 9: **Knit**

Cut the work from the ball leaving a long tail and sew this through the remaining 7 stitches on the needle (fig. 17) and pull up to tighten the stitches. Cut the Yarn B tails and the extra length of **Yarn A** and knot them together tightly before trimming to 1cm long (the ends will be hidden inside the finished ear). Then fold the ear in half lengthways so that the seam edges meet at the centre of the back of the ear and use mattress stitch to seam the back of the ear with the cast off tail (fig. 18). At the bottom of this seam tie both tail ends together (fig. 19). Then use one tail end to close half of the bottom seam and use the second tail to close the other half of the seam so that you end up with a tail end at each bottom corner of the ear (fig. 20). Make a second ear the same.



fig. 17

fig. 18

fig. 19, view from back

fig. 20, view from front



fig. 21

fig. 22

fig. 23

fig. 24

fig. 25

To attach the ears: With the front of the ear facing you, thread the needle with the tail end from the inner corner and sew through the purled ear marker stitch on the head (*fig. 21*). Join half of the bottom edge of the ear by sewing alternately through a full stitch from the back of the cast-on edge (*fig. 22*) and then through a stitch on the head. Work backwards along the head until half of the ear edge is joined and then leave that tail end hanging for now. Join the other side of the ear in the same way, starting just below the purled marker stitch (*fig. 23*) and working backwards along the head parallel to the side already joined. When you reach the point where the first end is hanging at the back of the ear tie the two ends together securely. Sew both ends through the head and out of the open seam at the bottom and that's the first ear done (*fig. 24*).

Repeat with the second ear, making sure they are in alignment (*fig. 25*). 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. Next for the facial features.

Nostrils:

To add the shadows that define the nostrils you will need to tie a barrel knot in a 12 inch length of contrast coloured yarn (DK or worsted weight). Not too contrasty though - I recommend a mid grey or brown rather than black, which unless your horse head is very dark can look a little odd.

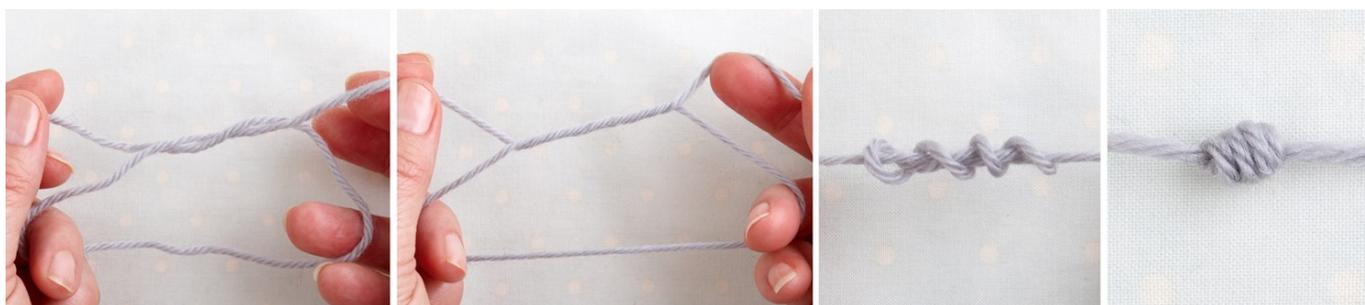


fig. 26

fig. 27

fig. 28

fig. 29

To tie a barrel or 'multiple overhand knot': There are videos on youtube showing how to tie a 'double overhand knot', follow these but instead of just repeating the action twice, repeat it 5 or 6 times depending on the thickness of your yarn, here I've made a total of 5 twists with worsted weight yarn). *Fig. 26* shows a single 'overhand knot'. *Fig. 27* shows the knot once you have passed the tail end through the open loop a further 4 times (to make a multiple overhand knot) and are ready to tighten it. You will need to tighten the knot slowly in order for it not to become a tangled mess. So pull on both ends gently and evenly in order to bring the knot together in the centre of the yarn (*fig. 28*) and snug the strands together gently to form a barrel knot (*fig. 29*). Don't pull the knot too tightly as it will be too small. Once you are happy with your knot make another the same.



fig. 30

fig. 31

fig. 32

fig. 33

Next thread the tapestry needle with a tail end from one knot and, starting at the top of one open nostril (*fig. 30*) sew through the stuffing and out of the open seam at the bottom of the head. Re-thread the tapestry needle with the other tail end and sew through one stitch forming the edge of the nostril (in order to anchor the knot) (*fig. 31*) and out of the open seam at the bottom of the head again.

Snug the nostril shadow knot into the nostril cavity and once you are happy with their placement tie all tail ends together underneath the head and poke the excess inside the head cavity (*fig. 32*). Repeat with the second nostril knot (*fig. 33*).

Eyes:

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 the head seams together now. 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. Make the eyes using the anchored French knot method detailed below, or any preferred method of knotting.



fig. 34

fig. 35

fig. 36

fig. 37

fig. 38

Anchored French Knot:

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.

Cut an 8 inch length of black 4ply yarn and starting underneath the head sew this yarn through the head to the position for the first eye, leaving a tail of around 2 inches behind (I've positioned my eyes just above the line of decreases for the jaw on row 22). Then sew back through the same point and out again one stitch away from the original point, leaving a little loop (*fig. 34*). Slide the tip of the needle through this loop and wrap the thread around the needle tip (*fig. 35*) between four and eight times depending on thickness of yarn – here I've wrapped seven times with 4ply weight 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 both tail ends to tighten the knot, then sew back down through the work (*fig. 36*) and out again underneath the head next to the start point.

Gently pull both tail ends to tighten and create a little eye socket shaping to the head (*fig. 37*). Once you are happy with the shaping tie off both ends securely. Repeat for the second eye (*fig. 38*). Next we'll finish the head by adding the mane.

Mane:

There are lots of suggestions for yarns to use on Pages 3 & 4. Here I've used Camarose Snefnug in 7106 'sun black' as it's a thick yarn and so shows the process more easily. Please note: It is easier to start at the front of the head and work backwards.

To make the mane, cut many lengths of Yarn C, approximately 26cms/10 inches long. I'm afraid I lost count how many you'll need, but it will be somewhere between 40 – 60 depending on whether you work 2 or 3 strands across the width of the mane. It's best to test the method with a single strand and then you can tell what length you prefer to work with. The easiest and quickest way that I found to cut multiple lengths of yarn of the same length, is to wrap the yarn continuously around a book that is the same length that you are aiming for (*fig. 39*). Then hold the wrapped yarn in place and cut along both sides of the book and you will have lots of strands all of the same length.

Double over one of these lengths and thread the tapestry needle with the looped end (*fig. 40*) sew through one of the bars between stitches on the centre of the head (*fig. 41*) so that the looped part of the thread is pulled through the bar, then leaving the yarn in place pull the needle from the end loop (*fig. 42*). Thread the two cut tail ends through the looped end (*fig. 43*) and pull in order to secure the knot – it should sit neatly and snug to the head (*fig. 44*).



fig. 39

fig. 40

fig. 41

fig. 42



fig. 43

fig. 44

fig. 45

Sew the next strand in place in the same way through the neighbouring bar, so that you have 2 strands across the width of the mane, and continue working along the rows towards the back of the head. Note, if you have used a very thin mohair type yarn you might want to create a mane that has 3 or 4 strands across the width. Repeat until you reach the base of the back of the head. The mane is quite long at this point (fig. 45) because you've needed a certain length of yarn in order to thread the strands through the purl stitches, so if you want a more manicured look you can give it a trim. It's best to take off a little at a time and even things up all over as you go. Keep trimming until you're happy with the shape. Then your head is finished and ready to attach to the body, which we will make next.

Body:

Starting at the neck and finishing at the bottom, use **Yarn A** and 3mm needles to cast on 16 stitches, leaving a long tail 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 7-13: Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work 7 rows in stocking stitch
- row 14: Change to 2.5mm needles and K3, (KLL, K5) 6 times, K1 (40 stitches)
- row 15: Join in **Yarn D** and Purl, cut **Yarn A** from the work leaving a long tail for seaming with
- row 16: Purl
- row 17: Purl
- rows 18-32: Beginning and ending with a Knit row, work 15 rows in stocking stitch
- row 33: Cast off in Purl



Body (continued): Cut the work from the ball leaving a long tail and use this to begin closing the seam up the back of the body using mattress stitch. **Please note:** Only join around 1cm ½ inch of the seam as we'll insert the tail before closing the rest of the seam, however, we'll do that after making the legs so that the tail doesn't get in the way.

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 E** and 2.5mm needles to cable cast on 14 stitches, leaving a long tail 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 row, 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 (now 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. Cut the work from the ball leaving a short tail for weaving in later.

Next you need to pick up stitches from behind the cast off edge of the shoe to form the top of the foot. 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: (right side) With **Yarn D** 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) like so:
From the front of the work push the tip of the needle through a purl loop from 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 (fig. 46)

rows 2-10: Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work 9 rows in stocking stitch. Cut the work from the ball and keep the 6 stitches held on the left hand needle. Next you will need to pick up more stitches to form the leg shaft.



fig. 46



fig. 47



fig. 48

row 1: (right side) Leaving a long tail for seaming with later, use **Yarn D** and 2.5mm needles 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. 47). Ignore the first 8 cast-off stitches on the left side and pick up and Knit the last 5 stitches (fig. 48)

Please note: the last stitch will be at the very edge of the work. Be sure to keep a tight tension across the gaps. (16 stitches)

rows 2–18: Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work 17 rows in stocking stitch

row 19: Cast off in Knit and cut the work from the ball leaving a long tail for sewing the leg to the body with later.

Make a second leg in exactly the same way.

Now the shoe is ready to be finished and seamed. Next make the shoe strap:

Shoe strap (make 2 the same):

Use **Yarn E** and 2.5mm needles to cable cast on 12 stitches, leaving a long tail 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 with.



fig. 49



fig. 50



fig. 51



fig. 52

To finish the legs and body:

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. 49). Sew through a couple of times to ensure it's secure and leave the end on the inside of the work. Sew 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:

Working down towards the toe of the shoe, sew alternately through 1 'bar' between the two outermost stitches of the top of the foot section (fig. 50), and 1 loop from behind the cast off edge of the shoe (fig. 51). 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 its curved shaped toe.

Sew the yarn to the inside of the work and catch up the 4 central **Yarn E** loops from the back of the toe of the shoe (fig. 52). 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. 53). When you have fully closed the vent sew the yarn to the inside and gently tighten until both sides of the foot are even.

Attach the strap to the opposite side of the shoe (fig. 54) using the **Yarn E** end from sewing up the foot. Sew through a few times to secure and then tie off all of the ends inside the shoe and sew along a seam before trimming excess. Use mattress stitch to start closing the back seam of the shoe with the cast-on tail from the bottom of the shoe. Leave a small gap at the top of the shoe to make stuffing the foot easier.

Re-thread the tapestry needle with a length of **Yarn E** and use it to gather up the loops in the bottom of the foot (fig. 55) I've used red thread here just to illustrate. Tie both ends tightly inside the shoe to fully close the bottom shoe seam.



fig. 53



fig. 54



fig. 55

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 are happy, close the back seam of the shoe entirely and tie ends together before poking inside.

Thread the tapestry needle with the long end of **Yarn D** from the bottom of the leg section and use this to close the seam up the back of the leg using mattress stitch (*fig. 56*). Leave a gap at the top to make stuffing the leg easier.



fig. 56



fig. 57



fig. 58

Stuff the leg lightly and if you want your horse 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.

Finish the second leg following all of the finishing steps above but attaching the strap to the opposite side of the foot.

To make a 'button' on the strap at the outside of each shoe use around 8 inches of contrasting coloured yarn to make a French Knot (*fig. 57*). Follow the same instructions for the anchored French knot eyes on Page 6.

Now both legs are ready to attach to the body (*fig. 58*).

To attach the left-hand leg, thread the tapestry needle with the longer end from the top of the first leg and use this to sew it to the body. Make sure that you have the correct leg in position – the French Knot should be on the outside of the foot. Position the leg by lining it up with the edge of the body with the foot facing forward.

Sew the leg in place through the Purl loops from the back of the body cast off edge and the front loop of the leg cast off edge (*fig. 59*). Work 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. 60*) leaving a gap between both legs. Once both legs are attached and secure use a spare length of **Yarn D** to tightly over-sew (whip stitch) the short seam between the legs (*fig. 61*), before sewing the ends back inside and tying them off to secure.

Next we'll work the tail as it's easiest to attach before the body is fully seamed, because you want the knot that secures all of the strands to be hidden inside the body.



fig. 59



fig. 60



fig. 61

Tail:

The tail is worked as a simple tassel. Once you've chosen your yarn cut seven or eight 26cms/10 inch lengths of your chosen yarn. Hold them together in a bunch and tie a single knot in the centre (*fig. 62*). Cut a long length of **Yarn D** and sew this through the knot and then tie the tail ends of this thread together so they are secure (*fig. 63*).



fig. 62



fig. 63



fig. 64



fig. 65

Next we attach the tail. Position the knotted end of the tail inside the body and using the tail ends of **Yarn D** from the tail sew it firmly in place to the back of the short section of the seam that is already joined together, (*fig. 64*). Once it's firmly joined and the yarn ends are knotted securely re-thread the tapestry needle with the tail end from the body seam and continue to close the seam up the back of the body, leaving a gap at the top of the seam to make stuffing easier (*fig. 65*).

Now the body is ready to stuff. I like to put most of the stuffing at the bottom of the body to make a rounded tummy, (though don't overstuff and strain the seams) and I put less towards the neck end. The pictures on Page 15 show the plump tummy. 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. Now for 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 cable cast on 10 stitches, leaving a long tail 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 long tail, sew this through the remaining 10 stitches and pull up tightly (*fig. 66*). 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. 67*).



fig. 66



fig. 67



fig. 68



fig. 69

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. 68*). 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 sew 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 tail ends from underneath the head and use it to sew the body and head together. Sew through a whole stitch of the body (*fig. 69*), then through a whole stitch of the head 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. Sew the ends through the body before trimming.

Now your horse is ready for some clothes and instructions for two different dresses are on Pages 15-17



Below are three versions of the Loops and Flowers dress detailed on Pages 16 - 17:



A

B

C

- A: uses the pattern as written, but working rows 1 & 2 in Yarn F for a contrast trim at the hem.
- B: uses rows 1-13 from the pattern, with the rest of the skirt and bodice worked in Yarn E only
- C: uses rows 1-14 from the pattern and then repeats these rows again so that the design is mirrored and also reverses the colours so that the design is picked out in a dark colour on a light background.

Loops & flowers dress:



fig. 70



fig. 71

This dress design is work in two colours using a Fair Isle/stranded knitting technique. For this design you will need 4ply/5ply weight yarn in 2 contrasting colours. Here I have used Krea Deluxe organic cotton in shades 22 for **Yarn E** and 02 for Yarn F. If you prefer not to use this technique there is a dress worked in a single colour lace pattern on Page 18.

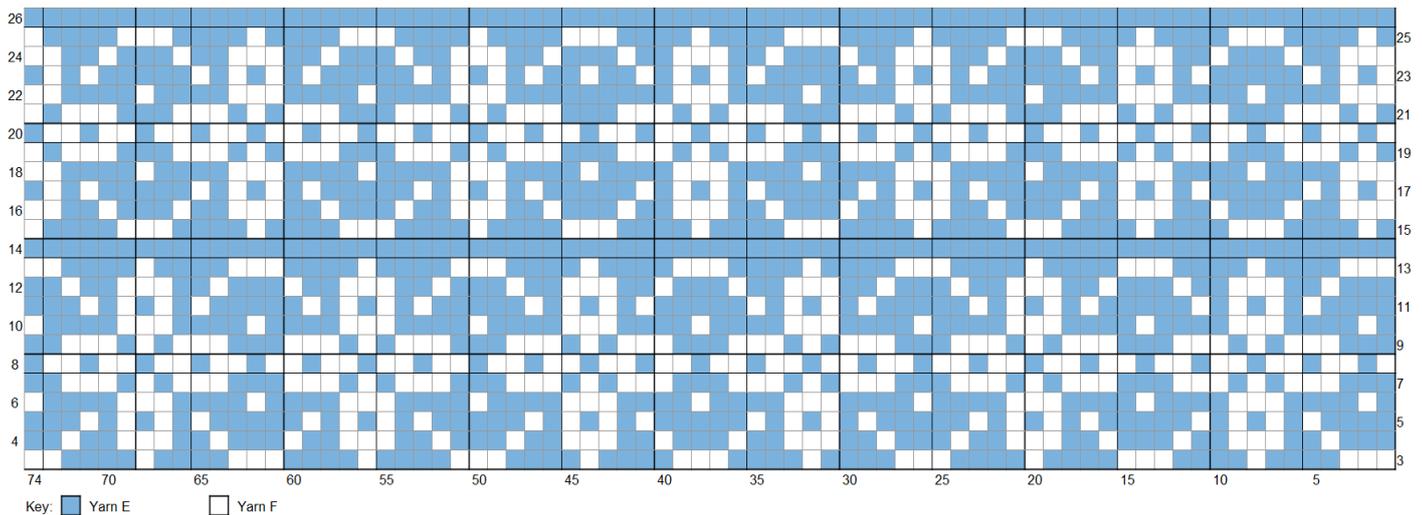
Starting at the bottom of the skirt use 2.75mm needles and the **Yarn E** to cable cast on 74 stitches, leaving a long tail for seaming with later.

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>row 1: (right side) Knit</p> <p>row 2: Knit</p> <p>row 3: Join in Yarn F, (K3, K4, K1, K4) 6 times, K2</p> <p>row 4: P2, (P1, P2, P3, P2, P1, P3) 6 times</p> <p>row 5: K4, *(K1, K1) 3 times, K1, K5*, repeat from *to* 5 times, (K1, K1) 3 times, K1, K3</p> <p>row 6: (P1, P4, P3, P4) 6 times, P1, P1</p> <p>row 7: K3, K3, (K1, K1, K1, K3, K3, K3) 5 times, K1, K1, K1, K3, K2</p> <p>row 8: (P1, P2) 24 times, P1, P1</p> <p>row 9: K3, K3, (K1, K1, K1, K3, K3, K3) 5 times, K1, K1, K1, K3, K2</p> <p>row 10: (P1, P4, P3, P4) 6 times, P1, P1</p> <p>row 11: K4, *(K1, K1) 3 times, K1, K5*, repeat from *to* 5 times, (K1, K1) 3 times, K1, K3</p> <p>row 12: P2, (P1, P2, P3, P2, P1, P3) 6 times</p> <p>row 13: (K3, K4, K1, K4) 6 times, K2
cut Yarn F from the work</p> <p>row 14: Purl</p> | <p>row 15: K1, re-join Yarn F, (K1, K4, K3, K4) 6 times, K1</p> <p>row 16: P2, (P2, P1, P3, P1, P2, P3) 6 times</p> <p>row 17: K1, K1, K1, K1, K1, * K5, (K1, K1) 3 times, K1*
repeat from *to* 5 times, K5, (K1, K1) twice</p> <p>row 18: P2, (P4, P1, P4, P3) 6 times</p> <p>row 19: (K1, K1, K1, K3, K3, K3) 6 times, K1, K1</p> <p>row 20: (P1, P2) 24 times, P1, P1</p> <p>row 21: (K1, K1, K1, K3, K3, K3) 6 times, K1, K1</p> <p>row 22: P2, (P4, P1, P4, P3) 6 times</p> <p>row 23: K1, K1, K1, K1, K1, * K5, (K1, K1) 3 times, K1*
repeat from *to* 5 times, K5, (K1, K1) twice</p> <p>row 24: P2, (P2, P1, P3, P1, P2, P3) 6 times</p> <p>row 25: K1, (K1, K4, K3, K4) 6 times, K1, cut Yarn F from the work leaving a short tail for weaving in later</p> <p>row 26: Purl in Yarn E only</p> <p>row 27: Re-join Yarn F and K1, (K2tog) 36 times, K1
(38 stitches)</p> <p>row 28: Purl</p> <p>Cut Yarn F from the work leaving a short tail for weaving in later, continue in Yarn E only.</p> |
|---|--|

If you prefer **rows 3-26** can be worked from the pattern chart on the next page.

Continue by working the bodice as detailed on Page 17.

Charted instructions for the dress pattern:



Please note that odd numbered rows are worked in Knit and read from right to left, whereas even numbered rows are worked in Purl and read from left to right.

Bodice. In order to create the armholes, the next section is worked in three separate parts (see figs. 70 & 72):

1. First side of the back:

row 29: K9, 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). Turn ready to work on these 10 stitches only for the next 8 rows.

row 30: Purl

row 31: K7, K2tog, K1 (9 stitches)

rows 32-37: Beginning with a Purl row and ending with a Knit row, work 6 rows in stocking stitch. Cut the work from the ball leaving a short tail for weaving in later and leave these 9 stitches on right hand needle.

2. Front:

row 29 (b): Rejoin **Yarn C** at the first stitch on the left-hand needle and Knit 17, Slip the next stitch onto a cable needle and hold at the back of the work, Knit 1 stitch, slip the stitch from the cable needle back onto the left hand needle (it will be knitted later). Turn ready to work on these 18 stitches only for the next 8 rows.

row 30 (b): Purl

row 31 (b): K1, SSK, K12, K2tog, K1 (16 stitches)

rows 32-37 (b): Beginning with a Purl row and ending with a Knit row, work 6 rows in stocking stitch. Cut the work from the ball leaving a short tail for weaving in later and leave these 16 stitches on right hand needle.

3. Second side of the back:

row 29 (c): Rejoin **Yarn C** at the first stitch on the left-hand needle and Knit 10, turn ready to work on these 10 stitches only for the next 8 rows.

row 30 (c): Purl

row 31 (c): K1, SSK, K7 (9 stitches)

rows 32-37 (c): Beginning with a Purl row and ending with a Knit row, work 6 rows in stocking stitch.

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

row 38: P8, P2tog, P14, P2tog, P8 (32 stitches)

row 39: Cast off in Knit

Leaving a long tail 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, working downwards to the waist.

Sew a tiny button on the opposite side as a fastening for the dress. Before I sew up the back seam I like to block the dress 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 a tapestry needle with the cast-on tail and join the seam up the middle of the back using mattress stitch, leaving a small gap for the tail to poke through. Finish the seam at the waist (row 27) and tie the ends together before weaving them in along the inside seam and trimming excess.

Weave in the yarn ends from the tops of the armholes down along the armhole edges and tie to the ends at the base of the armholes (don't pull too tightly or you'll make the armhole too small). Weave them in along the back of the waist shaping row and trim excess. Weave in any additional yarn ends from inside the dress along the inside seam and trim excess. Now the dress is done.

Horseshoe lace dress:



fig. 72



fig. 73

This dress pattern uses a traditional lace pattern from the Shetland Isles.

It is two rows longer than the colour-worked dress to compensate for the fact that the lace design draws the finished fabric in slightly.

Special abbreviations:

YO: YARN OVER: bring the yarn to the front of the work so that it makes a loop over the needle when the next stitch is worked. on the following row make sure you work into the YO stitch so as to leave an open eyelet rather than twisting the loop closed.

SL1, K2TOG, PSSO: Slip 1 stitch knit-wise, Knit 2 stitches together, then pass the slipped stitch over, so decreasing by 2 stitches.

See Page 2 for all other abbreviations

Starting at the bottom of the skirt use 2.75mm needles and [Yarn E](#) to cable cast on 72 stitches, leaving a long tail for seaming with later

- row 1:** (right side) K1, (YO, K3, SL1, K2tog, PSSO, K3, YO, K1) 7 times, K1
row 2: Purl
row 3: K2, (YO, K2, SL1, K2tog, PSSO, K2, YO, K1, P1, K1) 7 times
row 4: P1, (K1, P9) 7 times, P1
row 5: K3, (YO, K1, SL1, K2tog, PSSO, K1, YO, K2, P1, K2) 6 times, YO, K1, SL1, K2tog, PSSO, K1, YO, K2, P1, K1
row 6: P1, (K1, P9) 7 times, P1
row 7: K4, (YO, SL1, K2tog, PSSO, YO, K3, P1, K3) 6 times, YO, SL1, K2tog, PSSO, YO, K3, P1, K1
row 8: Purl
row 9: K1, (YO, K3, SL1, K2tog, PSSO, K3, YO, K1) 7 times, K1
row 10: Purl
row 11: K2, (YO, K2, SL1, K2tog, PSSO, K2, YO, K3) 7 times
row 12: Purl
row 13: K3, (YO, K1, SL1, K2tog, PSSO, K1, YO, K5) 6 times, YO, K1, SL1, K2tog, PSSO, K1, YO, K4
row 14: Purl
row 15: K4, (YO, SL1, K2tog, PSSO, YO, K7) 6 times, YO, SL1, K2tog, PSSO, YO, K5
rows 16-28: Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work 13 rows in stocking stitch (alternate Purl and Knit rows)
row 29: K2, (K2tog) 34 times, K2 (38 stitches)
row 30: Purl

Continue by following the instructions for the bodice of the dress on Page 17 from **row 29**, (bearing in mind that you have worked an extra 2 rows with this lace design, so the row count will be 2 rows out).

Unicorn:

Yarn suggestions:

For all of the unicorns below I've used Paintbox 100% wool worsted in 1202 'Champagne white' as Yarn A (for the main part of the head and body) and for *figs. A, C & D* I've used 1204 'stormy grey' as Yarn B (for the nose and inner ears). *Fig. B* below uses 1207 'vanilla cream' as Yarn B.

To make the mane you can really go to town, the more fantastical the better. Multi-coloured strands, rainbow manes and sparkly yarns would all look great. Below are some suggestions for yarns to use:



A: uses Rowan Angora Haze in white,

B: uses 3 different strands of yarn randomly placed: Krea deluxe silk mohair in 01 & 10 and Camarose Månestråle (which has a silver sparkle running through it) in 9020,

C: uses Fyberspates Faerywings in 12 sherbert which is beautifully multi-coloured,

D: uses 3 different strands of yarn randomly placed: Krea deluxe silk mohair in 01, 23 & 27

To make a Unicorn, work the head, ears and mane exactly as detailed on Pages 5-10.

Then add the horn as detailed below, before finishing off all other body parts and clothing as detailed in the main pattern for the horse.

Unicorn horn:

The horn is best worked in a 4ply/fingering weight or 5ply/sport weight yarn on 2.75mm DPNs. You need a strong yarn that will not snap under pressure when pulled tightly in order for the horn to curl into a spiral and the smoothness of cotton works much better than the fuzziness of a woollen yarn.

It is worked as a length of i-cord starting at the top point of the horn and finishing at the base that attaches to the head. An i-cord is a tube knitted in the round with two double-pointed needles. It has to be worked on double pointed needles because you need to slide the work from one end of the needle to the other, taking the yarn tightly around the back before starting each new row.

* **Please note:** it is essential that you cross the cast on tail end over the top of the working yarn before starting each row (*fig. 74*) this will trap the cast on tail inside the tube of knitting and is essential in creating the unicorn magic needed for the spiral shape of the horn later.

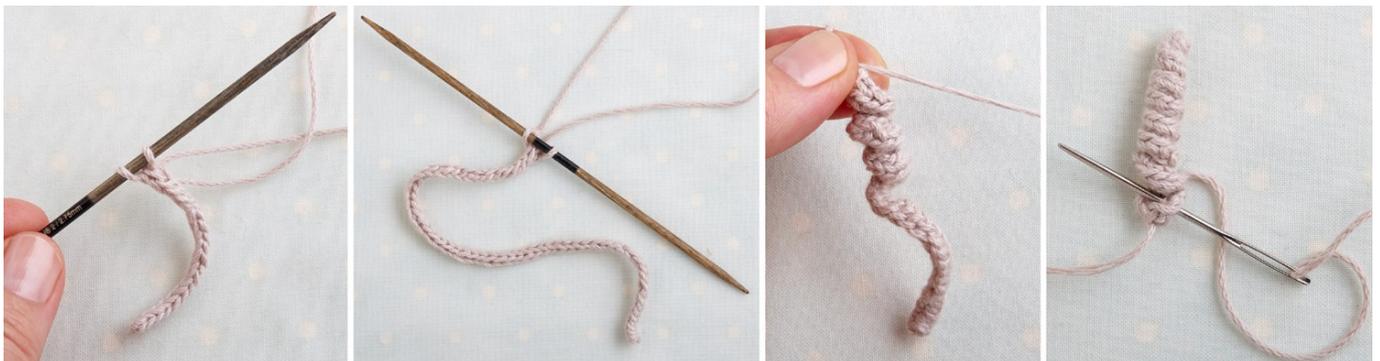


fig. 74

fig. 75

fig. 76

fig. 77

Use two DPNs (double pointed) 2.75mm needles and 4 ply/5ply cotton yarn in cream or light grey to cable cast on 2 stitches, leaving a long tail for attaching the horn with later.

row 1: Knit the 2 stitches normally, from the left needle to the right. Now both stitches are on the right hand needle and the working yarn is coming from the left most stitch. Slide the stitches from one end of the needle to the other.

row 2: Without turning the needle, transfer it to your left hand. Bring the working yarn across the back of the work and Knit the 2 stitches again, you will need to keep a tight tension. The only difference from a normal knitted row is that the yarn is coming from the last stitch and across the back of the work instead of from the first stitch. Slide the stitches from one end of the needle to the other and before working the next row ***cross the cast on yarn end over the top of the working yarn** (*fig. 74*) which will trap it inside the work as you go.

Continue to Knit across the same 2 stitches in the same way, repeating row 2 until the i-cord is around 14 cms/5 ½ inches long (*fig. 75*). Cut the work from the ball leaving a long tail, sew this through the 2 stitches on the needle and pull tight to close the gap at the end of the horn.

Next roll the long tube between your palms to encourage it into a cylindrical shape. Then grip the cast off edge in one hand and gently pull on the cast on tail end which runs up the centre of the i-cord. As you pull the cord should start to spiral round but you may need to encourage it to do so in the direction that you want it to go. Keep pulling gently and coaxing the long i-cord into a tight and neat spiral (*fig. 76*). Once you have a tight spiral horn tie both cast on and cast off ends together to secure.

Thread the tapestry needle with the longer of the ends and use this to sew around the base of the horn to secure the bottom of the spiral and create a flatter edge ready to sew to the head (*fig. 77*).



Horns made in different yarns

fig. 78

fig. 79

fig. 80

Sew the horn to the forehead alternately through a stitch at the base of the horn then through a whole stitch of the head (*fig. 78*). Work around all of the base of the horn joining it fully and when you reach the start point knot the ends together and sew through the head before trimming. That is the Unicorn head completed (*figs. 79 & 80*).



Donkey:



To make a Donkey use a grey yarn for **Yarn A** and a cream for Yarn B and work the head exactly as detailed on Pages 5-9 (but not the ears – the ears for the donkey are below).

Make the mane in exactly the same way as the horse on Pages 9-10, just cut shorter lengths of around 10-13cm (4-5 inches). Once you've finished stranding the mane it will be longer than necessary because you've needed a certain length of yarn in order to attach the strands, so next it's time to give it a trim. It's best to take off a little at a time and even things up as you go. You are aiming for a short bristly mane that stands up between the ears and down the back of the head, although you can leave a longer fringe if you prefer the look of the 2 on the right of the picture above.

All other parts of the donkey are the same as the horse except for the ears (which are larger) and the tail. Both are detailed below:

Donkey Ears (make two the same):



fig. 81

fig. 82

fig. 83

Donkey ears attached

Before starting you will first need to cut an extra 2m (2yds) length of **Yarn A** to join in on row 1 and use the intarsia technique. *A note about intarsia technique:* It is important that you intertwine the strands of contrasting colours as you switch between them, there are lots of good videos demonstrating this technique on the internet.

Starting at the base of the ear and finishing at the top point. Use **Yarn A** from the ball and 3mm needles cable cast on 23, leaving a long tail for seaming with later

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>row 1: (right side) K7, join in Yarn B and K9, K7 in the extra length of Yarn A</p> <p>row 2: P7, P9, P7</p> <p>row 3: K7, K9, K7</p> <p>row 4: P7, P9, P7</p> <p>row 5: K7, K9, K7</p> <p>row 6: P7, P9, P7</p> <p>row 7: K7, K9, K7</p> <p>row 8: P7, P9, P7</p> <p>row 9: K5, K2tog, SSK, K5, Ktog, SSK, K5 (19 stitches)</p> | <p>row 10: P6, P7, P6</p> <p>row 11: K4, K2tog, SSK, K3, Ktog, SSK, K4 (15 stitches)</p> <p>row 12: P5, P5, P5</p> <p>row 13: K3, K2tog, SSK, K1, Ktog, SSK, K3 (11 stitches)</p> <p>row 14: P4, P3, P4, cut Yarn B from the work leaving a short tail for weaving in later</p> <p>row 15: K2, K2tog, SL1, K2tog, PSSO, SSK, K2 (7 stitches)</p> <p>row 16: Purl</p> <p>row 17: Knit</p> |
|--|--|

Cut the work from the ball leaving a long tail (fig. 81) and sew this through the remaining 7 stitches on the needle and pull up to tighten the stitches.

The ear is finished in the same way as the horse ear on Page 7, where you will find some extra pictures of this process. Cut the Yarn B tails and the extra length of **Yarn A** (fig. 82) and knot them together tightly before trimming to 1cm long (the ends will be hidden inside the finished ear). Then fold the ear in half lengthways so that the seam edges meet at the centre of the back of the ear and use mattress stitch to seam the back of the ear with the cast off tail. At the bottom of this seam tie both tail ends together. Then use one tail end to close half of the bottom seam and use the second tail to close the other half of the seam so that you end up with a tail end at each bottom corner of the ear (fig. 83). Make a second ear the same. The finished ears are then attached in the same way as the horse ears on Page 8 (figs. 21-25).

Donkey tail:



fig. 84



fig. 85



fig. 86



fig. 87

The donkey tail is worked as a length of 4 stitch i-cord. A tuft is then added to the tip. Use two double pointed 3mm needles and **Yarn A** to cable cast on 4 stitches, leaving a long tail end for attaching the tail with later.

- row 1:** Knit the 4 stitches normally, from the left needle to the right. Now all stitches are on the right hand needle and the working yarn is coming from the left most stitch. Slide the stitches from one end of the needle to the other.
- row 2:** Without turning the needle, transfer it to your left hand. Bring the working yarn across the back of the work and Knit the 4 stitches again, you will need to keep a tight tension. The only difference from a normal knitted row is that the yarn is coming from the last stitch and across the back of the work instead of from the first stitch. Slide the stitches from one end of the needle to the other and before working the next row.

Continue to Knit across the same 4 stitches in the same way (fig. 84), repeating row 2 until the tail is around 5 cms/ 2 inches long. Cut the work from the ball leaving a long tail, sew this through the 4 stitches on the needle and pull tight to close the gap at the end of the tail. Sew this tail end through the tube of i-cord and tie both tail ends together to secure

Then cut six 10cm lengths of Yarn C and sew these through the work at the end of the tail (fig. 85). Tie these lengths together, just beneath the tip of the tail and trim to shape the tuft (fig. 86). Use the longer end from the tail to sew the tail on to the donkey's bottom (fig. 87). Tie off ends and sew through the body before trimming. Continue using the main pattern to finish your donkey and her clothing.



Alternative Horse head designs:

Both of these designs will need to be worked using the Intarsia knitting technique. *A note about intarsia technique:* It is important that you intertwine the strands of contrasting colours as you switch between them, there are lots of good videos demonstrating this technique on the internet.

For a horse with a blaze:



Before starting cut an extra 4m (5 yds) length of **Yarn A** to work the intarsia section.

Work exactly as detailed for the plain horse on Page 5, except for **rows 16-25** which are worked as follows:

row 16: **K17**, join in Yarn B and **K1**, join in extra length of **Yarn A** and **K17**

row 17: **P16**, **P3**, **P16**

row 18: **K16**, **K3**, **K16**

row 19: **P16**, **P3**, **P16**

rows 20-21: repeat rows 18 & 19

row 22: **K1**, **SSK**, (**K2tog**) 5 times, **K3**, **K3**, **K3**, (**K2tog**) 6 times, **K1** (23 stitches)

row 23: **P10**, **P3**, **P10**

row 24: **K1**, **SSK**, **K7**, **K3**, **K7**, **K2tog**, **K1** (21 stitches)

row 25: **P8**, **P5**, **P8**, Cut the main ball of **Yarn A** from the work, leaving a long tail for seaming with later, also cut Yarn B and the extra length of **Yarn A** from the work, leaving short tails for weaving in later

Continue by following **rows 26-42** from the plain horse head pattern which are worked in Yarn B only.

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For a horse with a forehead star:



Before starting cut an extra 2m (3 yds) length of **Yarn A** to work the intarsia section.

Work exactly as detailed for the plain horse on Page 5, except for **rows 16-20** which are worked as follows:

row 16: **K17**, join in Yarn B and **K1**, join in extra length of **Yarn A** and **K17**

row 17: **P16**, **P3**, **P16**

row 18: **K16**, **K3**, **K16**

row 19: **P16**, **P3**, **P16**

row 20: **K17**, **K1**, **K17**, cut Yarn B from the work, leaving a short tail for weaving in later

row 21: **P18**, change over to **Yarn A** from the main ball and continue using this for the rest of the pattern

Continue by following **rows 22-42** from the plain horse head pattern