This horse is made from Paintbox wool worsted yarn in 1208 'light caramel' (Yarn A),
Cascade 220 in 8010 'natural' (Yarn B) and for his mane and tail Biches et Buches le petit silk and mohair
in 'off white' (Yarn C). His sweater is in Jamiesons Shetland spindrift in 660 'lagoon'
and 168 'Clyde blue' and his shorts are in BC Garn Allino yarn in 'jeans' 31

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

Materials:

- Worsted or light Aran yarn (approx 75m/82yds) in brown, cream, black or grey: Yarn A
- Worsted or light Aran yarn (approx 10m/11yd) 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 sweater and shorts 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) and 2.75mm (US 2)
- 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

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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 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 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.

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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

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And please note that when the pattern mentions cast on, I use a cable cast on (unless otherwise stated).

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 chose 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: 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.

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Yarn suggestions for clothes:

For the sweater you can use either 4 ply/fingering weight or 5ply sport weight wool or cotton: DMC Natura Just Cotton, Drops Safran, BCGarn Alba, Krea Deluxe organic cotton and Scheepjes Catona or Cotton 8 are all 4ply cottons that in my experience knit up nicely and have a good range of colours. I prefer to use a cotton or linen based yarn for the shorts as it forms are a more rigid knitted fabric and is less likely to roll up at the hem. I have some detailed yarn suggestions over on my blog:

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

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

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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 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.

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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 Purled 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.

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.

N o s t r i l s:

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.
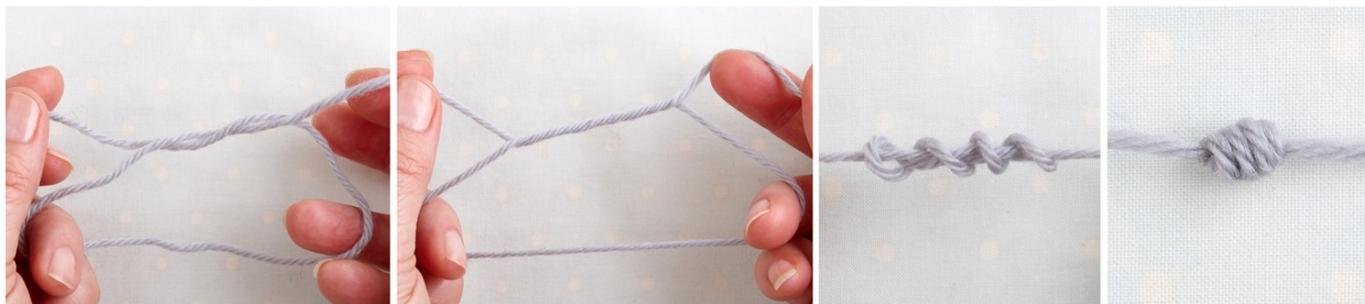

| fig. 26 | fig. 27 | fig. 28 | fig. 29 |

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 cable 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)*
row 7: Purl
rows 8 - 28: Beginning and ending with a Knit row work 21 rows in stocking stitch

row 29: Cast off in Purl

Cut the work from the ball leaving a long tail and use this 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.

L e g s (make 2 the same):

Beginning at the underside of the foot, use Yarn A and 3mm 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 –11: Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work 7 rows in stocking stitch
row 12: K14, SSK, K2, K2tog, K14 *(32 stitches)*
row 13: Purl
row 14: *Tip: This row is a little complicated because it includes both decreasing and casting off in the centre of the row. It is easy to lose count and I find it helps if you count the stitches yet to be worked rather than those already knitted.*

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

row 15: Purl across all stitches being careful to keep your tension tight across the gap *(14 stitches)*
rows 16-29: Beginning with a Knit row and ending with a Purl row, work 14 rows of stocking stitch
row 30: Cast off in Knit and cut the work from the ball leaving a long tail for seaming with later.

Join the top of the foot seam by tying an 8 inch length of Yarn A to the back of the stitch in the middle of the open seam - I've used pink thread here just to illustrate *(fig. 46).* Begin to close this seam by over-sewing/whip stitching across the gap through the outer loops of the cast off edge *(fig. 47).*

| fig. 46 | fig. 47 | fig. 48 | fig. 49 |

When you reach the top of the seam close up any small gaps by taking the needle behind one stitch on the right *(fig. 48),* then behind the stitch directly at the top of the seam *(fig. 49),* then behind one stitch on the right *(fig. 50)* and finally through to the inside of the work *(fig. 51)* where you can weave it along the seam and trim the end. Start to close the back seam of the foot by threading a tapestry needle with the cast-on tail and using mattress stitch. Seam around 1 inch and leave the rest of the leg open for now to make stuffing the foot easier. Next close the seam at the underside of the foot by re-threading the tapestry needle with a spare length of Yarn A and using it to gather up the loops in the bottom of the foot – I've used pink thread here to illustrate *(fig. 52).* Tie both ends tightly inside the foot to fully close the bottom seam.

| fig. 50 | fig. 51 | fig. 52 | fig. 53 |

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

Finish closing the leg seam and tie the two ends together at the top, poking all other ends inside the leg. Repeat for the second leg. Now both legs are ready to attach to the body. Although they are both the same I often find that one looks like a right and one a left so take time to look at them and decide which one goes on which side *(fig. 53)*.

Thread the tapestry needle with the longer end from the top of the first finished leg and use this to sew it to the body. Position the leg by lining it up with the edge of the body and over-sew/whipstitch the leg in place through the loops on the cast off body edge and cast off leg edge *(fig. 54)*. 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. 55)* leaving a gap between both legs.

fig. 54   fig. 55   fig. 56

Once both legs are attached and secure turn the body inside out. Tie a 6 inch length of Yarn A to the inside of the body at the start of the gap between the legs. Turn the work right side out and use this thread to tightly over-sew/whipstitch the short seam between the legs *(fig. 56)* before sewing it back inside and tying 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.

T a i l:

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. 57)*. Cut a long length of Yarn A and sew this through the knot and then tie the tail ends of this thread together so they are secure *(fig. 58)*.

fig. 57   fig. 58   fig. 59   fig. 60

Next attach the tail: Position the knotted end inside the body and use the tail ends of Yarn A from the knot to sew it in place to the back of the short section of the seam that is already joined together, *(fig. 59)*. 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. 60)*.

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 at the bottom of the page 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. But first for the arms.

A r m s (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 3-25: Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work 23 rows in stocking stitch

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

row 27: Purl

Cut the work from the ball leaving a long tail, sew this through the remaining 10 stitches and pull up tightly (fig. 61). 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. 62).

| fig. 61 | fig. 62 | fig. 63 | fig. 64 |

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. 63). 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 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. 64), 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 tail ends through the body before trimming. Now your horse is ready for some clothes, patterns for shorts and two sweaters are on the next five pages.

Patterned sweater:

Special abbreviations:

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

This sweater is worked in separate pieces up to the armhole but from the armhole upwards to the neck it is worked across all the pieces at once. Do not cut the threads for each colour change (unless indicated) but carry the un-worked colour up the side of each piece until it is next needed.

Please note: it is very important that you work all of the pieces in the following order:
1ˢᵗ sleeve, front, 2ⁿᵈ sleeve, back

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

1. First sleeve:

Starting at the cuff and working up to the armhole, use **Yarn D** and 2.75mm needles to cable cast on 23 stitches leaving a long tail for seaming with later

row 1: (wrong side) **Knit**
row 2: **Knit**
row 3: **Knit**
row 4: Join in **Yarn E**, (**K5**, **K1**) 3 times, **K5**
row 5: **P1**, (**P3**, **P3**) 3 times, **P3**, **P1**
row 6: **K2**, (**K1**, **K5**) 3 times, **K1**, **K2**
row 7: **P2**, (**P1**, **P5**) 3 times, **P1**, **P2**
row 8: **K1**, (**K3**, **K3**) 3 times, **K3**, **K1**
row 9: (**P5**, **P1**) 3 times, **P5**
row 10: (**K5**, **K1**) 3 times, **K5**
row 11: **P1**, (**P3**, **P3**) 3 times, **P3**, **P1**
row 12: **K1**, **SSK**, (**K5**, **K1**) twice, **K5**, **K2tog**, **K1**
    (21 stitches)

Cut the work from both colours, leaving short tails for weaving in later and leave the work on the needle.

2. Front:

Starting at the bottom hem and working up to the armhole, use **Yarn D** and 2.75mm needles to cable cast on 27 stitches, leaving a long tail for seaming with,

row 1: (wrong side) **Knit**
row 2: **Knit**
row 3: **Knit**
row 4: Join in **Yarn E**, **K4**, (**K1**, **K5**) 3 times, **K1**, **K4**
row 5: (**P3**, **P3**) 4 times, **P3**
row 6: **K1**, (**K1**, **K5**) 4 times, **K1**, **K1**
row 7: **P1**, (**P1**, **P5**) 4 times, **P1**, **P1**
row 8: (**K3**, **K3**) 4 times, **K3**
row 9: **P4**, (**P1**, **P5**) 3 times, **P1**, **P4**
row 10: **K4**, (**K1**, **K5**) 3 times, **K1**, **K4**
row 11: (**P3**, **P3**) 4 times, **P3**
row 12: **K1**, (**K1**, **K5**) 4 times, **K1**, **K1**

Cut the work from both colours, leaving short tails for weaving in later and leave the work on the needle

3. Second sleeve: Repeat instructions for the first sleeve

4. Back:

Repeat the instructions for the front **BUT DO NOT** cut the work from the yarn. Instead turn the work and follow the instructions below which are worked across all 96 stitches from the four separate sections now on the needle:

row 13: P2, (P5, P1) 4 times, P2tog,
(P1, P5) 3 times, P1, P2tog,
(P1, P5) 4 times, P1, P2tog,
(P1, P5) 3 times, P2 *(93 stitches)*

row 14: K1, SSK, (K3, K3) twice, K3, K1, CDD,
K1, (K3, K3) 3 times, K3, K1, CDD,
K1, (K3, K3) twice, K3, K1, CDD,
K1, (K3, K3) 3 times, K3, K2tog, K1
(85 stitches)

row 15: P3, (P1, P5) 13 times, P1, P3

row 16: K1, SSK, (K1, K5) twice, K1, K1, CDD,
K1, (K1, K5) 3 times, K1, K1, CDD
K1, (K1, K5) twice, K1, K1, CDD
K1, (K1, K5) 3 times, K1, K2tog, K1
(77 stitches)

row 17: P4, (P3, P3) 3 times, P1, (P3, P3) twice, P3, P1,
(P3, P3) 3 times, P3, P1, (P3, P3) twice, P4

row 18: K1, SSK, K2, K1, K5, K1, K3, CDD,
K3, (K1, K5) twice, K1, K3, CDD,
K3, K1, K5, K1, K3, CDD,
K3, (K1, K5) twice, K1, K2, K2tog, K1
(69 stitches)

row 19: P2, P2, (P1, P5) twice, P1, P7, P1, P5, P1, P7,
(P1, P5) twice, P1, P7, P1, P5, P1, P2, P2

row 20: K1, SSK, K3, K3, K3, K1, CDD,
K1, (K3, K3) twice, K3, K1, CDD,
K1, K3, K3, K3, K1, CDD,
K1, (K3, K3) twice, K3, K2tog, K1 *61 stitches)*

row 21: P6, (P1, P5) 8 times, P1, P6

row 22: K1, SSK, K3, K1, K4, CDD,
K4, K1, K5, K1, K4, CDD,
K4, K1, K4, CDD,
K4, K1, K5, K1, K3, K2tog, K1 *(53 stitches)*

row 23: P2, P2, (P3, P3) twice, P1, P3, P3, P3, P1,
(P3, P3) twice, P3, P1, P3, P3, P2, P2

row 24: K1, SSK, K5, K1, CDD, (K1, K5) twice, K1, CDD,
K1, K5, K1, CDD, (K1, K5) twice, K2tog, K1
(45 stitches)

row 25: Cut Yarn E from the work, leaving a tail to sew in later and continue in Yarn D only, Purl

row 26: K1, SSK, K4, CDD, K11, CDD, K5, CDD, K10, K2tog, K1 *(37 stitches)*

row 27: Purl
row 28: Knit
row 29: Purl
row 30: Knit
row 31: Cast off in Purl

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.

Before I sew up the seams I like to block the sweater to make it neat. I usually do this by carefully steam blocking but if you prefer wet blocking that is fine too. After blocking thread the tapestry needle with the cast-on tail for one of the sleeves and join the seam up to the armpit using mattress stitch.

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

Sew a tiny button on the opposite side to the loop and your sweater is done and ready to pop on your horse.

A   B   C

Sweater A is worked in subtle contrasting yarns, Sweater B in more dramatically contrasting yarns. For sweater C I've reversed the colours for the colour-work design and worked all CDD stitches and their corresponding Purl stitches on the following row in the darker colour to give a more distinct line to the raglan shaping.

Cobnut textured sweater:

Materials:

- 2.75mm (US 2) needles
- Yarn D: blue 4ply weight, 50m/55yds
- a small button

Special abbreviations:

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

CN: COB NUT STITCH: work K1, YO, K1 all into the same stitch, so creating 3 stitches from one

This sweater is worked in separate pieces up to the armhole, but from the armhole upwards to the neck it is worked across all the pieces at once. The pattern is a textured cobnut/hazelnut pattern, don't be alarmed by the increase in stitches when forming each cobnut, this is part of the pattern. The sweater has a ribbed collar and cuffs.

Please note: it is very important that you work all of the pieces in the following order: *sleeve, front, sleeve, back*
This will ensure that they are all in the correct place when you get to row 14 and purl back across all of the stitches. When cable casting on the following pieces, keep the needle holding the piece/s already worked in your right hand and the empty needle in your left.

1. First sleeve:

Starting at the cuff and working up to the armhole, use Yarn D and 2.75mm needles to cable cast on 23 stitches leaving a long tail for seaming with later

row 1: (right side) (K1, P1) 11 times, K1
row 2: (P1, K1) 11 times, P1
rows 3-4: Repeat rows 1-2
row 5: P1, (CN, P3), 5 times, CN, P1 *(35 stitches)*
row 6: K1, (P3, K3) 5 times, P3, K1
row 7: P1, (K3, P3) 5 times, K3, P1
row 8: K1, (P3tog, K3) 5 times, P3tog, K1 *(23 stitches)*
row 9: Purl
row 10: Knit
row 11: (P3, CN) 5 times, P3 *(33 stitches)*
row 12: (K3, P3) 5 times, K3
row 13: (P3, K3) 5 times, P3

Cut the yarn from the work, leaving a short tail for weaving in later and leave the work on the needle.

2. Front:

Starting at the bottom hem and working up to the armhole, use Yarn D and 2.75mm needles to cable cast on 25 stitches, leaving a long tail for seaming with, later

row 1: (right side) (P1, K1) 12 times, P1
row 2: (K1, P1) 12 times, K1
rows 3-4: Repeat rows 1-2
row 5: P2, (CN, P3), 5 times, CN, P2 *(37 stitches)*
row 6: K2, (P3, K3) 5 times, P3, K2
row 7: P2, (K3, P3) 5 times, K3, P2
row 8: K2, (P3tog, K3) 5 times, P3tog, K2 *(25 stitches)*
row 9: Purl
row 10: Knit
row 11: P4, (CN, P3) 4 times, CN, P4 *(35 stitches)*
row 12: K4, (P3, K3) 4 times, P3, K4
row 13: P4, (K3, P3) 4 times, K3, P4

Cut the yarn from the work, leaving a short tail for weaving in later and leave the work on the needle.

3. *Second sleeve:* Repeat instructions for the first sleeve

4. *Back:*

Repeat the instructions for the front **BUT DO NOT** cut the work from Yarn D. Instead turn the work and follow the instructions below which are worked across all 136 stitches from the four separate sections now on the needle:

row 14: P2, K2, (P3tog, K3) 5 times, P2tog,
K2, (P3tog, K3) 4 times, P3tog, K2, P2tog,
(K3, P3tog) 5 times, K3, P2tog,
K2, (P3tog, K3) 4 times, P3tog, K1, P2
(93 stitches)

row 15: K1, SSK, P18, CDD, P21, CDD, P19, CDD. P20,
K2tog, K1 *(85 stitches)*

row 16: P2, K20, P1, K19, P1, K21, P1, K18, P2

row 17: K1, SSK, P1, (CN, P3) 3 times, CN, P2, CDD,
(P3, CN) 4 times, P3, CDD,
P2, (CN, P3) 3 times, CN, P2, CDD,
(P3, CN) 4 times, P2, K2tog, K1
(109 stitches)

row 18: P2, K2, (P3, K3) 4 times, P1,
K2, (P3, K3) 3 times, P3, K2, P1,
(K3, P3) 4 times, K3, P1,
K2, (P3, K3) 3 times, P3, K1, P2

row 19: K1, SSK, (K3, P3) 3 times, K3, P1, CDD,
P2, (K3, P3) 3 times, K3, P2, CDD,
P1, (K3, P3) 3 times, K3, P1, CDD,
P2, (K3, P3) 3 times, K3, P1, K2tog, K1
(101 stitches)

row 20: P2, K1, (P3tog, K3) 3 times, P3tog, K2, P1,
K1, (P3tog, K3) 3 times, P3tog, K1, P1,
K2, (P3tog, K3) 3 times, P3tog, K2, P1,
K1, (P3tog, K3) 3 times, P3tog, P2
(69 stitches)

row 21: K1, SSK, P12, CDD, P15, CDD, P13, CDD, P14,
K2tog, K1 *(61 stitches)*

row 22: P2, K14, P1, K13, P1, K15, P1, K12, P2

row 23: K1, SSK, P4, CN, P3, CN, P1, CDD,
P2, (CN, P3) twice, CN, P2, CDD,
P1, (CN, P3) twice, CN, P1, CDD,
P2, (CN, P3) twice, CN, P1, K2tog, K1
(75 stitches)

row 24: P2, K1, (P3, K3) twice, P3, K2, P1,
K1, (P3, K3) twice, P3, K1, P1,
K2, (P3, K3) twice, P3, K2, P1,
K1, P3, K3, P3, K4, P2

row 25: K1, SSK, (P3, K3) twice, CDD,
P1, (K3, P3) twice, K3, P1, CDD,
(K3, P3) twice, K3, CDD,
P1, (K3, P3) twice, K3, K2tog, K1 *(67 stitches)*

row 26: P2, (P3tog, K3) twice, P3tog, K1, P1,
(P3tog, K3) twice, P3tog, P1,
K1, (P3tog, K3) twice, P3tog, K1, P1,
(P3tog, K3) twice, P2   *(45 stitches)*

row 27: K1, SSK, P6, CDD, P9, CDD, P7, CDD, P8,
K2tog, K1 *(37 stitches)*

row 28: (P1, K1) 18 times, P1
row 29: (K1, P1) 18 times, K1
row 30-31: Repeat rows 28-29
row 32: Purl
row 33: (P1, K1) 18 times, P1
row 34: (K1, P1) 18 times, K1
row 35: (P1, K1) 18 times, P1

row 36: Cast off loosely, keeping ribbing correct and finish by following the instructions below

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.

Before I sew up the seams I like to block the sweater to make it neat. I usually do this by carefully steam blocking but if you prefer wet blocking that is fine too. After blocking thread the tapestry needle with the cast-on tail for one of the sleeves and join the seam up to the armpit using mattress stitch.

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

Sew a tiny button on the opposite side to the loop and your sweater is done and ready to pop on your horse.

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Short Trousers:

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

The pattern requires approx. 25m (27yds)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 | B | C | D |

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

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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. 65)* 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.
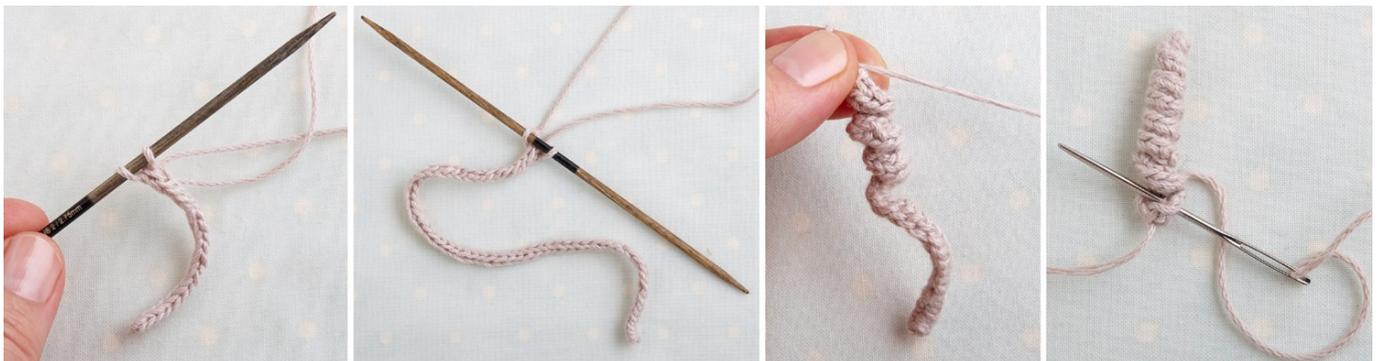
| fig. 65 | fig. 66 | fig. 67 | fig. 68 |

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. 65)* 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. 66).* 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. 67).* 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. 68).*

Horns made in different yarns   fig. 69   fig. 70   fig. 71

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. 69).* 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. 70 & 71).*

D o n k e y :

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:

D o n k e y   E a r s (make two the same):

| fig. 72 | fig. 73 | fig. 74 | 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

row 1: (right side) K7, join in Yarn B and K9, K7 in the extra length of Yarn A

row 2: P7, P9, P7
row 3: K7, K9, K7
row 4: P7, P9, P7
row 5: K7, K9, K7
row 6: P7, P9, P7
row 7: K7, K9, K7
row 8: P7, P9, P7
row 9: K5, K2tog, SSK, K5, Ktog, SSK, K5 *(19 stitches)*

row 10: P6, P7, P6
row 11: K4, K2tog, SSK, K3, Ktog, SSK, K4 *(15 stitches)*
row 12: P5, P5, P5
row 13: K3, K2tog, SSK, K1, Ktog, SSK, K3 *(11 stitches)*
row 14: P4, P3, P4, cut Yarn B from the work leaving a short tail for weaving in later

row 15: K2, K2tog, SL1, K2tog, PSSO, SSK, K2 *(7 stitches)*

row 16: Purl
row 17: Knit

Cut the work from the ball leaving a long tail *(fig. 72)* 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. 73)* 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. 74).* 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. 75 | fig. 76 | fig. 77 | fig. 78 |

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. 75),* 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. 76).* Tie these lengths together, just beneath the tip of the tail and trim to shape the tuft *(fig. 77).* Use the longer end from the tail to sew the tail on to the donkey's bottom *(fig. 78).* Tie off ends and sew through the body before trimming. Continue using the main pattern to finish your donkey and his clothing.

A l t e r n a t i v e   H o r s e   h e a d   d e s i g n s :

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