

Little Cotton Rabbits Koala in a sweater and shorts



*This koala is made from CaMaRose Snefnug yarn
in 7311 Gra (Yarn A) and 7811 Snehvid (Yarn B)
His sweater is knitted in Krea Deluxe Organic Cotton yarn in 06 (Yarn C)
and his shorts are in BC Garn Allino yarn 22 mustard.*

*Please note that I have used a less fuzzy yarn for the step-by-step photos in order to make the images clearer,
Cascade 220 worsted in 8401 Silver Grey (Yarn A) and 010 Natural (Yarn B)*

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

Materials:

- Worsted or light Aran yarn (approx 75m/82yds) in grey: **Yarn A**
- Worsted or light Aran yarn (approx 20m/22yds) in Cream: **Yarn B**
- 4ply/fingering weight/5 ply/sport weight yarn for the sweater, and shorts in up to 3 colours, **Yarn C**, **Yarn D**, **Yarn E**
- Less than 2m (2yds) of black 4ply/DK yarn for the eyes and facial features
- 1m (1yd) of pink 4ply/DK yarn for the mouth
- 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 koala: 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 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 koala 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 koala that you make.

Abbreviations:

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

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

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

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

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

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

KFB: Knit into the front and back of the next stitch, so increasing by 1 stitch

PFB: Purl into the front and back of the next stitch, so increasing by 1 stitch

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

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

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

K2TOG : Knit 2 stitches together

P2TOG : Purl 2 stitches together

P2TOG TBL: Purl 2 stitches together through the back loops

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Yarn suggestions:

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

Please note: The yarn used for the step-by-step pictures on Pages 4-12 is Cascade 200 Worsted in 8401 Silver grey (Yarn A) and 010 Natural (Yarn B).



Berroco Ultra Alpaca in 6206 light grey (A) and 6201 winter white (B)



Drops Soft Tweed in 06 (A) and 01 (B) held together with Austermann kid silk in 18 (A) and 01 (B)



Rowan Pure Wool Worsted in 112 (A) and 101 (B), with inner ear in Rowan Soft Boucle in 600 (B)

Other suggestions for yarn to use to knit the Koala 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 clothes:

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

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

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

Some notes on stuffing:

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

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

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

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

Extra tips:

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

If you get stuck with any aspect of the pattern, please come and visit the Little cotton Rabbit group on Ravelry:

<https://www.ravelry.com/groups/little-cotton-rabbits>

Or the Little Cotton Rabbits Facebook group:

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

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

The pattern instructions:

Head:

Before starting please cut two extra lengths of **Yarn A**; one 1m (1yd) and one 1.5m (2yds), and one extra 1m (1yd) length of **Yarn B**. **Please note** that there are 3 Purlled marker stitches for positioning each ear (a total of 6 Purl stitches), worked on **rows 14 & 16** and a single Purlled marker stitch for positioning the top of the nose on **row 29**.

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

- row 1:** (wrong side) Purl
- row 2:** K2, (KLL, K1) 8 times, K1 (19 stitches)
- row 3:** Purl
- row 4:** K2, (KLL, K2) 8 times, K1 (27 stitches)
- row 5:** Purl
- row 6:** K2, (KLL, K3) 8 times, K1 (35 stitches)

rows 7-13: Beginning and ending with Purl rows, work 7 rows in stocking stitch

row 14: K7, P1, K4, P1, K9, P1, K4, P1, K7

row 15: Purl

row 16: K10, P1, K13, P1, K10

rows 17-23: Beginning and ending with Purl rows, work 7 rows in stocking stitch

row 24: K12, join in **Yarn B** and K3, join the 1m of **Yarn A** and K5, join in the extra 1m length of **Yarn B** and K3, join the 1.5m of **Yarn A** and K12

row 25: P11, P4, P5, P4, P11

row 26: K1, (K2tog) 5 times, (K2tog) twice, K5, (K2tog) twice, (K2tog) 5 times, K1 (21 stitches)

row 27: P6, P2, P5, P2, P6

Cut the extra yarns from the work, leaving tails for weaving in later and continue in **Yarn A** from the main ball only

row 28: Knit

row 29: P10, K1, P10

row 30: K2, (K2tog) 4 times, K1, (K2tog) 4 times, K2 (13 stitches)

row 31: Purl

Cut the work from the ball leaving a cast off tail of around 8 inches and sew this through the 13 stitches remaining on the needle (*fig. 1*). Before seaming turn the head to the wrong side and weave in all of the tail ends on the inside of the work do ensure that they're secure and that your work cannot come unravelled and then trim the excess (*fig. 2*).



fig. 1



fig. 2



fig. 3



fig. 4

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

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

Once the tail ends are secured, it's time to stuff (see tips on stuffing on Page 3). I start with a tight ball of stuffing which I poke into the back of the head, packing it in firmly (*fig. 5*) then stuff the nose end, pinching and manipulating the stuffing until it takes on the rounded oval shape that I want (*fig. 6*). 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 (*fig. 7*).

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 ears and facial features inside, and set the head aside while you make the ears.



fig. 5



fig. 6



fig. 7

Ears (make two the same):

Before starting please cut an extra 2m (2yds) length of Yarn A. Starting at the base of the ear where it joins the head and finishing at the top curve, use Yarn A and 3mm needles to cable cast on 24 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for sewing the ear together and attaching to the head later.

row 1: (wrong side) P8, join in Yarn B and P8, join in the extra length of Yarn A and P8

row 2: K8, K8, K8

row 3: P8, P8, P8

row 4: K8, K8, K8

row 5: P8, P8, P8

row 6: K8, K8, K8

row 7: P8, P8, P8

row 8: K3, K2tog, K3, SSK, K4, K2tog, K3, SSK, K3 (20 stitches)

row 9: P2, P2togtbl, P3, (P2tog) twice, P2togtbl, P3, P2tog, P2 (15 stitches)

Cut Yarn B and the Yarn A attached to the main ball and continue with the extra length of Yarn A only.

row 10: Knit

Cut the work from the ball leaving an 8 inch tail and sew this end through the last 15 stitches on the needle (fig. 8). Pull to tighten the stitches. Next fold the ear in half lengthways and use the cast off tail to join the back seam with mattress stitch (fig. 9). At the bottom of the seam knot both of the tail ends together. Next turn the ear inside-out and weave in or tie off all tail ends from the colour changes on the inside of the work, trimming the ends short. Flip the ear back to the right-side and use each tail end to seam the bottom of the ear closed from the centre point to the edges (fig. 10). Repeat with the other side. You will finish up with an end at each corner of the semi-circular finished ear. Make a second ear the same (fig. 11).

In the pictures below the ear in fig. 11 is made with 2 shades of cascade 200 worsted yarn, the ear in fig. 12 is made with cascade 220 for the grey part but for the white part I've used a very fluffy yarn (Rowan Soft Boucle) and then brushed it to tease out the fibres to make a very fluffy Koala ear. Next it's time to attach the ears to the head.



fig. 8



fig. 9



fig. 10



fig. 11



fig. 12

Making sure that the white part of the ear is facing forward, thread the tapestry needle with the topmost tail from one ear, and position the ear by sewing through both legs of the stitch just in-front of the first purled marker stitch (no. 1 in fig. 13). Work backwards along the head, joining the ear by sewing alternately through one full stitch from the back of the ear (fig. 14), and one full stitch on the head (fig. 15). Join the ear diagonally from point 1 to point 2 (see fig. 13) and then a further 3 stitches in a straight line backwards along the head (fig. 16).

Next re-thread the needle with the lower tail from the ear and beginning at point 3 in fig. 13 use it to join the other side of the ear in the same way (fig. 17). Work upwards along the side of the head until meeting the other tail end.



fig. 13

fig. 14

fig. 15

fig. 16

When you reach the back of the ear where the first end is hanging, 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. 18). Repeat with the second ear (figs. 19 & 20). 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 it's time to make the nose and chin.



fig. 17

fig. 18

fig. 19

fig. 20

Nose and Chin:

The nose and chin are worked together as one lozenge shaped piece with a colour change in the middle.

Starting at the bottom of the chin and finishing at the top of the nose, use Yarn B and 2.75mm needles to cable cast on 3 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

row 1: (wrong side): (PF&B) twice, P1 (5 stitches)

row 2: Knit

row 3: SL1P, P4

row 4: SL1P, K4

Cut Yarn B from the work, leaving a long tail for seaming with later

row 5: Change to 4ply/DK black cotton yarn, leaving a long tail for seaming with, and Purl

row 6: K1, (KF&B) 3 times, K1 (8 stitches)

rows 7-11: Beginning and ending with Purl rows, work 5 rows

row 12: K1, SSK, K2, K2tog, K1 (6 stitches)

Cut the work from the ball leaving a tail of around 8 inches and use the tapestry needle to sew this tail through the remaining 6 stitches (fig. 21). Pull up tightly and over-sew once to keep the seam from opening out again.



fig. 21

fig. 22

fig. 23

fig. 24

To position the top of the nose sew through the 'legs' of the Purl marker stitch between the eye patches (fig. 22) and then back through the loops of the last row of stitches at the top of the nose (fig. 23). At this point you might find it easier to keep the sewing thread loose, it can be tightened later once you're happy with the positioning (it's easier to un-do the seam if the stitches are loose). Continue to attach the right-hand side of the nose by sewing alternately through one whole stitch on the head (fig. 24) and two 'bars' between the first and second stitch on the side of the nose (fig. 25). You want to sew these stitches so that the nose is joined to the head in a slightly curved triangle shape (see black guide lines in fig. 19).



fig. 25

fig. 26

fig. 27

fig. 28

When the right-hand side of the nose is fully joined to the head sew the tail end through the head and out of the cast-off centre (fig. 26). Next thread the needle with the tail end of black yarn at the bottom left-hand side of the nose and use this to sew the left-hand side to the head in the same way, finishing at the top point of the nose. Once the left-hand side is fully joined to the head (fig. 27) sew the tail end through the head and out of the cast-off centre and knot both tail ends together to secure. Trim these tail ends and poke excess into the nose cavity where it can act as stuffing for the bottom wider part of the nose.

Next thread the needle with the white yarn tail from the top left-hand side of the chin and use this to sew the chin to the head. Sew alternately through one full stitch on the head (fig. 28) and a single 'leg' from each stitch on the very edge of the chin (fig. 29). Join the chin in a 'U' shape, as illustrated by the red lines in fig. 19. Work all the way around the chin until it is fully joined (fig. 30) and then sew both tail ends from the chin through the head and out of the open seam underneath. Tie both tails of white yarn together to secure and poke inside the head cavity.

M o u t h:

To make the mouth, thread a tapestry needle with an 8 inch length of pink 4ply or DK Yarn and sew it up through the open bottom seam of the head and out at the top left-hand side of the white chin. Then take it across the front of the join between the chin and nose, and sew into the head at the right-hand side of the chin, coming out again at the left side (fig. 31) so making a single loop across the muzzle for the mouth. Sew back down through the head, from the right-hand side of the mouth and out of the open seam underneath the head, so making a second loop across the muzzle to resemble two lips (fig. 32). Adjust the tightness of the two stitches forming the mouth and knot the 2 ends of thread together securely before trimming and poke the tail ends inside the head.



fig. 29

fig. 30

fig. 31

fig. 32

E y e s:

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 on Page 8, or any preferred method of knotting.



fig. 33

fig. 34

fig. 35

fig. 36

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.

To make the eyes cut an 8 inch length of 4ply yarn. 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. Create an anchored French Knot for each eye:

Thread a tapestry needle with the 8 inches of yarn. Sew up through the work to the point that you want the knot. Then push it back through the same point and out again one stitch away from the original point, leaving a little loop (*fig. 33*). Slide the tip of the needle through this loop and wrap the thread around the needle tip (*fig. 34*) between four and eight times depending on thickness of yarn – here I've wrapped 7 times with DK 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. 35*) 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. 36*). Adjust the tightness until you are happy and then tie off both ends securely before sewing the ends through the head and trimming excess. Repeat for the second eye. Now that's the head finished, so set it to one side while you make the body.

Body:

Before starting extra 4m (4.5 yds) of **Yarn A** ready to work the intarsia section from **rows 1-12**.

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

- row 1:** (wrong side) P6, join in Yarn B and P4, Join in extra length of Yarn A and P6
- row 2:** (K2, M1R) twice, K2, K1, M1R, K2, M1L, K1, K2, (M1L, K2) twice (22 stitches)
- row 3:** P8, P6, P8
- row 4:** (K3, M1R) twice, K2, K2, M1R, K2, M1L, K2, K2, (M1L, K3) twice (28 stitches)
- row 5:** P10, P8, P10
- row 6:** (K4, M1R) twice, K2, K2, M1R, K4, M1L, K2, K2, (M1L, K4) twice (34 stitches)
- row 7:** P12, P10, P12
- row 8:** K12, K10, K12
- row 9:** P13, P8, P13

row 10: K14, K6, K14

row 11: P15, P4, P15

Cut Yarn B from the work and continue in Yarn A only

rows 12-28: Beginning and ending with Knit rows, work 17 rows in stocking stitch

row 29: Cast off in Purl

Cut the work from the ball leaving a tail of around 8 inches and use this thread to close the seam up the back of the body using mattress stitch. Leave a gap at the top to make stuffing the body easier. Flip the body inside-out and weave in all the tail ends from the colour-work patches, then flip it back to the right side and keep to one side while you make the legs.



Legs: (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 tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

row 1: (wrong side) Purl

row 2: K2, (KLL, K1) 4 times, K3, (KLL, K1) 4 times, K1 (22 stitches)

row 3: Purl

row 4: K3, (KLL, K1) 6 times, K5, (KLL, K1) 6 times, K2 (34 stitches)

rows 5–11: 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 tail of around 8 inches

Join the top of the foot seam by tying a 6 inch length of **Yarn A** to the back of the stitch in the middle of the open seam - I've used blue thread here just to illustrate (fig. 37). Begin to close this seam by over-sewing (whip stitching) across the gap through the outer loops of the cast off edge (fig. 38).



fig. 37



fig. 38



fig. 39



fig. 40

When you reach the top of the seam secure it and close up any small gaps by taking the needle behind one stitch on the right (fig. 39), then behind the stitch directly at the top of the seam (fig. 40), then behind one stitch on the right (fig. 41) and finally through to the inside of the work (fig. 42) where you can weave it along the seam and trim any excess. 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 red thread here to illustrate (fig. 43). Tie both ends tightly inside the foot to fully close the bottom seam.



fig. 41



fig. 42



fig. 43



fig. 44



fig. 45

Next stuff the foot firmly. Take your time to get the shape that you want, adding small amounts of stuffing at a time. Don't be afraid to pull it out and start again if you're not happy with the shape, I often do.

Once you're happy with the shape of the foot close the leg back seam (*fig. 44*) but leave a small gap at the top to make stuffing the leg easier. Stuff the leg shaft lightly. If you want your dog to sit nicely then don't stuff the top 1cm of the leg. Finish closing the seam and tie the two ends together at the top, poking all other ends inside the leg. Repeat for the second leg. Now both legs are ready to attach to the body (*fig. 45*). Although they are both the same I find that one looks like a right and one a left, so take time to look at them and decide which goes on which side.

Thread the tapestry needle with the longer end from the top of the first finished leg and use this to sew it to the body. Position the leg by lining it up with the edge of the body and over-sew (whip stitch) the leg in place through the loops on the cast off body edge and cast off leg edge (*fig. 46*). Work all the way around the top of the leg and back to the start, then tie both ends together inside the body to secure.



fig. 46

fig. 47

fig. 48

fig. 49

fig. 50

Join the second leg in the same way (*fig. 47*) leaving a gap between both legs and once both legs are attached and secure turn the body inside out. Tie an 8 inch length of Yarn A to the inside of the body at the start of the gap between the legs. Turn the work right side out and use this thread to tightly over-sew the short seam between the legs (*fig. 48*) before threading it back inside and tying off to secure. Now the body is ready to stuff (*fig. 49*).

I like to put most of the stuffing at the bottom of the body to make a fat tummy, (though don't overstuff and strain the seams) and I put less towards the neck end (*fig. 50*). 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. you'll use them to attach the head later.

A r m s (make 2 the same):

Starting at the top of arm and finishing at the paw, use Yarn A and 3mm needles to cable cast on 10 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches 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 tail of 8 inches. Thread this through the remaining 10 stitches and pull up tightly (*fig. 51*). 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. 52*).



fig. 51

fig. 52

fig. 53

fig. 54

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. 53). Work around all of the top arm seam joining it to the body and when you reach the start point knot the ends together and thread through the body before trimming. Repeat with the second arm.

Next it's time to attach the head. Thread the tapestry needle with one of the two threads from underneath the head and use it to sew the body and head together. Sew through the loops at the open neck edge of the body then through a whole stitch of the head (fig. 54), working around the underside of the head in a semi circle until you reach the ends from the top of the body seam running up the back.

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

Now your koala is ready for some clothes, patterns for shorts and two sweaters are on the next 4 pages.



Striped sweater:

Materials:

- 2.75mm (US 2) needles
- **Yarn C** & **Yarn D**: Cotton 4ply weight yarn (here I've used Krea Deluxe Organic Cotton in 06 and 02)
- a small button

Special abbreviations:

CDD: CENTRED DOUBLE DECREASE: Slip 2 stitches together as if to knit them, K1, pass the 2 slipped stitches over (**note**: it is important that they are slipped together, 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. **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 14 and work back across all of the stitches. When casting on each piece, keep the needle holding the piece/s already worked in your right hand and the empty needle in your left.

Striped sweater (continued):

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 tail of 8 inches for seaming with later

- row 1: (right side) (K1, P1) 11 times, K1
 - row 2: (P1, K1) 11 times, P1
 - row 3: (K1, P1) 11 times, K1
 - row 4: (P1, K1) 11 times, P1
 - row 5: Change to **Yarn C** and **Knit**
 - row 6: **Purl**
 - rows 7-10: Change to Yarn D, Beginning with a Knit row and ending with a Purl row, work 4 rows in stocking stitch
 - row 11: Change to **Yarn C** and **Knit**
 - row 12: **Purl**
 - row 13: Change to Yarn D and **Knit**
- Cut work from ball, leaving a short tail for weaving in later and leave the work on the needle.

2. Front:

Starting at the bottom edge and working up to the armhole. Use Yarn D and 2.75mm needles to cable cast on 25 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming

- row 1: (right side) (K1, P1) 12 times, K1
 - row 2: (P1, K1) 12 times, P1
 - row 3: (K1, P1) 12 times, K1
 - row 4: (P1, K1) 12 times, P1
 - row 5: Join in **Yarn C** and **Knit**
 - row 6: **Purl**
 - rows 7-10: Change to Yarn D, Beginning with a Knit row and ending with a Purl row, work 4 rows in stocking stitch
 - row 11: Change to **Yarn C** and **Knit**
 - row 12: **Purl**
 - row 13: Change to Yarn D and **Knit**
- Cut work from ball leaving a short tail for weaving in later and leave the work on the needle

3. Second sleeve:

Repeat instructions for first sleeve

Finishing:

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

Before I sew up the seams I like to block the sweater to make it neat. I usually do this by carefully steam blocking but if you prefer wet blocking that is fine too. After blocking thread the tapestry needle with the cast-on tail for one of the sleeves and join the seam up to the armpit using mattress stitch. Repeat with the other sleeve and then use the cast on end from the front to join the side seam and repeat with the cast on end from the back. Close a 1cm section of the open armhole seam, leaving the top part of the seam open so that when the button is undone the sweater can be easily taken on and off. Weave in all the yarn ends along the inside seams and trim excess. Sew a tiny button on the opposite side to the loop to finish.

4. Back:

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

- row 14: P24, P2tog, P21, P2tog, P23, P2tog, P22
(93 stitches)
- row 15: K1, SSK, K18, CDD, K21, CDD, K19, CDD, K20, K2tog, K1 (85 stitches)
- row 16: Purl
- row 17: Change to **Yarn C**, **K1, SSK, K16, CDD, K19, CDD, K17, CDD, K18, K2tog, K1** (77 stitches)
- row 18: **Purl**
- row 19: Change to Yarn D, K1, SSK, K14, CDD, K17, CDD, K15, CDD, K16, K2tog, K1 (69 stitches)
- row 20: Purl
- row 21: K1, SSK, K12, CDD, K15, CDD, K13, CDD, K14, K2tog, K1 (61 stitches)
- row 22: Purl
- row 23: Change to **Yarn C**, **K1, SSK, K10, CDD, K13, CDD, K11, CDD, K12, K2tog, K1** (53 stitches)
- row 24: **Purl**
- row 25: Change to Yarn D and cut **Yarn C** from the work as it is no longer needed. K1, SSK, K8, CDD, K11, CDD, K9, CDD, K10, K2tog, K1 (45 stitches)
- row 26: Purl
- row 27: K1, SSK, K6, CDD, K9, CDD, K7, CDD, K8, K2tog, K1 (37 stitches)
- row 28: P2, (K1, P1) 17 times, P1
- row 29: K2, (P1, K1) 17 times, K1
- rows 30 & 31: Repeat rows 28 & 29
- row 32: Purl
- row 33: P2, (K1, P1) 17 times, P1
- row 34: K2, (P1, K1) 17 times, K1
- row 35: P2, (K1, P1) 17 times, P1
- row 36: Cast off loosely, keeping ribbing correct

Textured sweater:

Materials:

- 2.75mm (US 2) needles
- **Yarn C:** Mustard 4ply weight yarn (here I've used Krea Deluxe Organic Cotton in 06)
- a small button

Special abbreviations:

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

K1TBL: Knit 1 stitch through the back loop

P2TOGTBL: Purl 2 stitches together through the back loops



This sweater is knitted in a textured rib pattern. It's worked separate pieces up to the armhole but from the armhole upwards to the neck it is worked across all the pieces at once.

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

1st sleeve, front, 2nd sleeve, back

This will ensure that they are all in the correct place when you get to row 14 and work back across all of the stitches. When casting on each piece, 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 C** and 2.75mm needles to cable cast on 26 stitches leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with

- row 1:** (right side) K1, (P1, K2, P1, K1) 5 times
row 2: P1, (K1, P2, K1, P1) 5 times
row 3: K1, (P4, K1tbl) 4 times, P4, K1
row 4: P1, (K4, P1) 5 times
row 5: K1, (P1, K2, P1, K1tbl) 4 times, P1, K2, P1, K1
row 6: (P1, K1, P2, K1) 5 times, P1

rows 7-10: Repeat rows 3-6

row 11: Repeat row 3

Cut the work from the ball, leaving a 3 inch tail for sewing in later and leave work on needle.

2. Front:

Starting at the bottom edge and working up to the armhole. Use **Yarn C** and 2.75mm needles to cable cast on 26 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with

- row 1:** (right side) K1, (P1, K2, P1, K1) 5 times
row 2: P1, (K1, P2, K1, P1) 5 times
row 3: K1, (P1, K2, P1, K1) 5 times
row 4: P1, (K1, P2, K1, P1) 5 times
row 5: K1, (P4, K1tbl) 4 times, P4, K1
row 6: P1, (K4, P1) 5 times
row 7: K1, (P1, K2, P1, K1tbl) 4 times, P1, K2, P1, K1
row 8: (P1, K1, P2, K1) 5 times, P1

rows 9-12: Repeat rows 5-8

row 13: Repeat row 5

Cut the work from the ball, leaving a 3 inch tail for sewing in later and leave work on needle.

3. Second sleeve:

Repeat the instructions for the first sleeve

Textured sweater (continued):

4. Back:

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

- row 14:** P2, K3, (P1, K4) 4 times, P2tog,
(K4, P1) 4 times, K4, P2tog,
(K4, P1) 4 times, K4, P2tog,
(K4, P1) 4 times, K3, P2 (101 stitches)
- row 15:** K1, SSK, K1, (P1, K1tbl, P1, K2) 4 times, CDD,
(K2, P1, K1tbl, P1) 4 times, K2, CDD,
(K2, P1, K1tbl, P1) 4 times, K2, CDD,
(K2, P1, K1tbl, P1) 4 times, K1, K2tog, K1
(93 stitches)
- row 16:** *P3, (K1, P1, K1, P2) 4 times*
repeat from * to * 3 more times, P1
- row 17:** K1, SSK, P1, (K1tbl, P4) 3 times, K1tbl, P2, CDD,
P2 (K1tbl, P4) 3 times, K1tbl, P2, CDD,
P2, (K1tbl, P4) 3 times, K1tbl, P2, CDD,
P2, (K1tbl, P4) 3 times, K1tbl, P1 K2tog, K1
(85 stitches)
- row 18:** P2, K1, * (P1, K4) 3 times, (P1, K2) twice *
repeat from * to * twice more,
(P1, K4) 3 times, P1, K1, P2
- row 19:** K1, SSK, (K1tbl, P1, K2, P1) 3 times, K1tbl, P1,
CDD, P1, (K1tbl, P1, K2, P1) 3 times, K1tbl, P1,
CDD, P1, (K1tbl, P1, K2, P1) 3 times, K1tbl, P1,
CDD, P1, (K1tbl, P1, K2, P1) 3 times, K1tbl,
K2tog, K1 (77 stitches)
- row 20:** P3, * (K1, P2, K1, P1) 3 times, (K1, P1) twice *
repeat from * to * twice more,
(K1, P2, K1, P1) 3 times, P2
- row 21:** K1, SSK, (P4, K1tbl) 3 times, CDD,
(K1tbl, P4) 3 times, K1tbl, CDD,
(K1tbl, P4) 3 times, K1tbl, CDD,
- (K1tbl, P4) 3 times, K2tog, K1 (69 stitches)
- row 22:** * P2, (K4, P1) 3 times *
repeat from * to * 3 more times, P1
- row 23:** K1, SSK, (K2, P1, K1tbl, P1) twice, K2, P1, CDD,
(P1, K2, P1, K1tbl) twice, P1, K2, P1, CDD,
(P1, K2, P1, K1tbl) twice, P1, K2, P1, CDD,
(P1, K2, P1, K1tbl) twice, P1, K2, K2tog, K1
(61 stitches)
- row 24:** P4, (K1, P1, K1, P2) 11 times, P2
- row 25:** K1, SSK, P2, K1tbl, P4, K1tbl, P3, CDD,
P3, K1tbl, P4, K1tbl, P3, CDD,
P3, K1tbl, P4, K1tbl, P3, CDD,
P3, K1tbl, P4, K1tbl, P2, K2tog, K1 (53 stitches)
- row 26:** P1, P2tog, (K1, P1, K4, P1, K1, SSK, P1,
K2tog) 3 times, K1, P1, K4, P1, K1, P2togtbl, P1,
(45 stitches)
- row 27:** K1, SSK, K1tbl, P1, K2, P1, K1tbl, P1, CDD,
P1, K1tbl, P1, K2, P1, K1tbl, P1, CDD,
P1, K1tbl, P1, K2, P1, K1tbl, P1, CDD,
P1, K1tbl, P1, K2, P1, K1tbl, K2tog, K1
(37 stitches)
- row 28:** P2, (K1, P1) 17 times, P1
- row 29:** K2, (P1, K1) 17 times, K1
- rows 30 & 31:** Repeat rows 28 & 29
- row 32:** Purl
- row 33:** P2, (K1, P1) 17 times, P1
- row 34:** K2, (P1, K1) 17 times, K1
- row 35:** P2, (K1, P1) 17 times, P1
- row 36:** Cast off loosely, keeping ribbing correct

Finishing:

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

Before I sew up the seams I like to block the sweater to make it neat. I usually do this by carefully steam blocking but if you prefer wet blocking that is fine too. After blocking thread the tapestry needle with the cast-on tail for one of the sleeves and join the seam up to the armpit using mattress stitch. Repeat with the other sleeve and then use the cast on end from the front to join the side seam and repeat with the cast on end from the back. Close a 1cm section of the open armhole seam, leaving the top part of the seam open so that when the button is undone the sweater can be easily taken on and off. Weave in all the yarn ends along the inside seams and trim excess. Sew a tiny button on the opposite side to the loop to finish.

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 in shade 22 Mustard) and 2.75mm needles to cable cast on 36 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

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

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 an 8 inch tail for seaming with

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

row 23 b: K18, M1R, K8 (27 stitches)
row 24 b: Purl
row 25 b: K19, M1R, K8 (28 stitches)
row 26 b: Purl
row 27 b: K20, M1R, K8 (29 stitches)
row 28 b: Purl
row 29 b: K21, M1R, K8 (30 stitches)
row 30 b: Purl
row 31 b: Cast off loosely and cut the work from the ball, leaving an 8 inch tail for seaming with

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 tail 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. Weave in all the tail ends inside the shorts before trimming excess and then your shorts are ready.

