

Little Cotton Rabbits

Mole in a sweater and shorts



*This mole is made from Blue Sky Woolstock yarn in 1300 'Cast Iron' (Yarn A),
1301 'storm Cloud' (Yarn B) and 1319 'Quartz Crystal' (Yarn C)
His sweater is in Krea Deluxe Organic Cotton in 53
and his shorts are in BC Garn Allino yarn in 01 Dark Brown*

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

Materials:

- Worsted or light Aran yarn (approx 73m/80yds) in black or very dark grey: Yarn A
- Worsted or light Aran yarn (approx 1m/1yd) in grey: Yarn B (optional)
- Worsted or light Aran yarn (approx 20m/22yds) in pink: Yarn C
- 4ply/fingering weight yarn for the sweater and shorts in up to 4 colours, Yarn D, Yarn E, Yarn F, Yarn G
- Less than 1m (1yds) of black 4ply/DK yarn for the eyes, less than 1m of red yarn for the nose and scraps of brown /grey for 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 mole: 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 mole 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 mole 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

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.

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

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

Yarn suggestions:

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



CaMaRose Snefnug organic natural in 7151 dark grey (A) and Rowan Pure Wool Worsted in 196 carnation (C)



Cascade 220 in 4002 Jet (A) and Rowan Pure Wool Worsted in 196 carnation (C). This head has eyes in brown and nose in pink.



Cascade 220 in 4002 jet (A) and Blue Sky woolstock in 1319 (C). This head has eyes in black and nose in red.



Rowan felted tweed DK in 153 phantom with 1 strand of rowan kidsilk haze in 599 wicked held together (A) and Rowan Pure Wool Worsted in 196 carnation (C)

Other suggestions for yarn to use to knit the mole 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 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 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 mole 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](https://www.littlecottonrabbits.com).

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:

Please note: Using **Yarn B** for **row 28** is optional, it does give a nice transition between the black of the head and the pink of the snout but if you don't have any suitable grey yarn or you don't want extra ends to deal with then simply work **row 28** in Yarn A instead:

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 7–25: Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work 19 rows in stocking stitch (alternate Purl and Knit rows)
- row 26: K1, (K2tog) 7 times, K5, (K2tog) 7 times, K1 (21 stitches)
- row 27: Purl

- row 28: Change to **Yarn B** and cut Yarn A from the work leaving a long tail for seaming with, K1, (K2tog) 3 times, SSK, K3, (K2tog) 3 times, SSK, K1 (13 stitches),
- row 29: Change to **Yarn C** and 2.75mm (US 2) needles and Purl, cut **Yarn B** from the work leaving a short tail for weaving in later
- row 30: Knit
- row 31: Purl
- row 32: Knit
- row 33: Purl
- row 34: (K1, K2tog) twice, (K1, SSK) twice, K1 (9 stitches)
- row 35: Purl

Cut the work from the ball leaving a cast off tail of around 8 inches and sew this through the 9 stitches remaining on the needle (*fig. 1*). Pull up tightly to gather in and over-sew (whip stitch) once to keep the seam from opening out again. Continue to use this thread to close the seam underneath the snout using mattress stitch, then swap to the tail end of Yarn A and use this to sew a short section of the seam underneath the head.



fig. 1



fig. 2



fig. 3

Next thread the tapestry needle with your cast-off 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. 2*).

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. 3*). 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 3).

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 (*fig. 4*). 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. 4

fig. 5

fig. 6

I start with a tight ball of stuffing which I poke into the back of the head, packing it in to create a firm and rounded shape to the back of the head (fig. 5) 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. Then I stuff the nose end, pinching and manipulating the stuffing until it takes on the tapered and pointed shape that I want (fig. 6).

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.

To embroider the face:



fig. 7

fig. 8

fig. 9

fig. 10

To make the mouth thread a tapestry needle with a long length of brown or grey 4ply or DK Yarn and sew it up through the open bottom seam of the head and out a row above the centre of your gathered cast off, then sew back through the snout at the base of the mouth and out at one mouth corner (fig. 7).

Then take the thread across the front of the snout to the other mouth corner and sew back through the head, coming out at the base of the mouth (fig. 8). Take the working yarn through the loop you've just made so that the mouth is pulled down into a 'V' shape. Sew back through the head at the base of the mouth (fig. 9), and out of the open seam at the bottom of the head (fig. 10). Adjust the tightness of the stitches forming the mouth and knot the 2 ends of thread together securely and then poke the ends inside the head. Next add the nose.



fig. 11

fig. 12

fig. 13

Nose:

To make the nose, thread a tapestry needle with a long length of red or pink yarn and sew up through the open bottom seam of the head and out on one side of the nose, just above and to one side of the line between mouth and nose. Then take the thread across the front of the snout and sew back through the end of the snout from the other side of the nose to the first side again (*fig. 11*). Work the nose by sewing across the front of the muzzle a further three or four times, sewing into exactly the same place each time. You are aiming to create a small oval shape by letting each strand lie next to the previous one rather than over the top of it. Once you are happy with the size and shape of the nose, sew back down through the head to the open seam underneath and tie off both nose thread ends to secure them, poke the excess inside the head. That's both the nose and mouth finished (*figs. 12 & 13*).

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. 14

fig. 15

fig. 16

fig. 17

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. Then push it back through the same point and out again one stitch away from the original point, leaving a little loop (*fig. 14*). Slide the tip of the needle through this loop and wrap the thread around the needle tip (*fig. 15*) between four and eight times depending on thickness of yarn – here I've wrapped eight 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. 16*) 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. 17*). Once you are happy with the shaping tie off both ends securely. Repeat for the second eye. Because moles have such dark fur the eyes are not very visible (*fig. 18*) so you can make them stand out a little more by adding a little shiny highlight to each one with white sewing thread. To do this simply sew 3 or 4 very small parallel stitches in the top corner of the eye (*fig. 19*), sewing the tail ends through the head and tying off underneath to secure them before trimming. Repeat for the second eye (*figs. 20 & 21*). Now that's the head finished, so set it to one side while you make the body.



fig. 18

fig. 19

fig. 20

fig. 21

B o d y:

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) 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 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.



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 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 an 8 inch length of Yarn A to the back of the stitch in the middle of the open seam - I've used red thread here just to illustrate (*fig. 22*). Begin to close this seam by over-sewing/whip stitching across the gap through the outer loops of the cast off edge (*fig. 23*).

When you reach the top of the seam close up any small gaps by taking the needle behind one stitch on the right (*fig. 24*), then behind the stitch directly at the top of the seam (*fig. 25*), then behind one stitch on the right (*fig. 26*) and finally through to the inside of the work (*fig. 27*) where you can weave it along the seam and trim the end.



fig. 22

fig. 23

fig. 24

fig. 25

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. 28). Tie both ends tightly inside the foot to fully close the bottom seam.



fig. 26

fig. 27

fig. 28

fig. 29

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 mole 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. 29).

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. 30). 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. 31) leaving a gap between both legs.



fig. 30

fig. 31

fig. 32

fig. 33

Once both legs are attached and secure turn the body inside out. Tie a 5 inch length of Yarn A to the inside of the body at the start of the gap between the legs. Turn the work right side out and use this thread to tightly over-sew/whipstitch the short seam between the legs (*fig. 32*) before threading it back inside and tying off to secure.

Now the body is ready to stuff. 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. 33*). 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 later.

.....

A r m s (make 2 the same):

Starting at the top of arm and finishing at the hand, use Yarn A and 3mm needles to 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 3-17:** Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work 15 rows in stocking stitch (alternate Purl and Knit rows)
- row 18:** Knit 5 casting off as you go (4 stitches cast off), K1, (KLL, K2) twice, Knit the final 4 stitches casting them off as you go (4 stitches cast off), (8 stitches)

Cut Yarn A from the work, leaving a long tail for seaming the arm with later. Change to 2.75mm needles and **Yarn C**, leaving a long tail for seaming the side of the hand with later.

- row 19:** Purl
- row 20:** Knit
- row 21:** Purl
- row 22:** K2, M1L, K4, M1R, K2 (10 stitches)

- row 23:** Purl
- row 24:** K2, M1L, K6, M1R, K2 (12 stitches)
- row 25:** Purl
- row 26:** Knit
- row 27:** Purl
- row 28:** K1, SSK, (YO, K2tog) 4 times, K1 (11 stitches)
- row 29:** Purl
- row 30:** Knit
- row 31:** Purl
- row 32:** K1, SSK, K5, K2tog, K1 (9 stitches)
- row 33:** Purl
- row 34:** K1, SSK, K3, K2tog, K1 (7 stitches)
- row 35:** Purl
- row 36:** Knit
- row 37:** Cast off in Purl

Cut the work from the ball leaving a long tail for seaming the second side of the hand with later.



fig. 34



fig. 35



fig. 36



fig. 37

Now the arm is ready for finishing (*fig. 34*). To finish the hand we first need to close up the eyelet gaps between the fingers. To do this cut a long length of **Yarn C** and sew through the front and back of the hand three rows either side of the first eyelet (*fig. 35*). Then over-sew/whipstitch across the top of this eyelet (*fig. 36*) and as you do so the hand will naturally fold in half so that the eyelet row creates fingers on the top edge. Sew across this gap twice more, and then sew through the hand to the next eyelet gap between the fingers (*fig. 37*) and repeat the over-sewing process. Continue until all 4 gaps between the 5 fingers are closed (*fig. 38*) and then sew both tail ends inside the work and tie together to secure before trimming excess.

Next close the seams running down each side of the hand, working from the wrist to the tip of the finger. Thread the needle with the tail end from the start of the hand section and use this to sew the seam at the side of the hand closed using mattress stitch (*fig. 39*). When the seam is fully closed sew the tail end back through the hand to the wrist ready to sew the back of the hand in place a little later. Repeat with the second side of the hand using the cast off tail from the last row of the hand (*fig. 40*).



fig. 38

fig. 39

fig. 40

fig. 41

Next thread the needle with the cast off tail of Yarn A from the arm and use this to begin closing the seam running up the underside of the arm using mattress stitch (fig. 41). Close around an inch of the seam for now and then leave the tail end hanging while you re-thread the needle with one of the **Yarn C** tail ends at the wrist. Use this to sew the hand to the arm, sewing through one $\setminus /$ stitch on the arm side (fig. 42) and one \wedge stitch on the hand side (fig. 43). Fully close the seam and then tie both **Yarn C** tail ends together to secure and sew the ends to the inside of the work so they are hidden (fig. 44).



fig. 42

fig. 43

fig. 44

fig. 45

Next stuff the hand and lower part of the arm. Once you're happy with the shape finish closing the seam that runs the length of the arm and lightly stuff the top part of the arm (fig. 45). Tie both Yarn A tail ends together at the top of the seam to secure them. Next fold the seam at the top of the arm so that the edges are together (with the seam of the arm at the back) and use the longest tail end to whip stitch/over-sew the open seam at the top of the arm closed (fig. 46). Make a second arm in exactly the same way.

Now to attach the arms:

Making sure that the hand is facing the right way (with the palm facing backwards, fig. 47) thread the needle with the tail end from the front edge of one arm and use to join the arm to the body by sewing alternately through a stitch of the body and then through a loop of the top seam of the arm, (fig. 48). Work across the top arm seam fully joining it to the body and when you reach the end knot both tail ends together and sew them through the body before trimming. Repeat with the second arm.



fig. 46

fig. 47

fig. 48

fig. 49

Next it's time to attach the head. Thread the tapestry needle with one of the two tail ends from underneath the head and use it to sew the body and head together. Sew through a whole stitch of the body (*fig. 49*), then through a whole stitch of the head working around the underside of the head in a semi circle until you reach the ends from the top of the body seam running up the back.

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

.....

Tail:

The tail is worked as an elongated triangle and seamed afterwards.

Using 3mm needles and Yarn A cast on 9 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for attaching the tail with later.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>row 1: (wrong side) Purl row 2: Knit row 3: Purl row 4: K5, K2tog, K2 (8 stitches) row 5: Purl</p> | <p>row 6: Knit row 7: Purl row 8: K2, SSK, K4 (7 stitches) rows 9-11: Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work 3 rows of stocking stitch</p> |
|--|---|

Cut the work from the ball leaving a long tail, sew this end through the 7 stitches on the needle and pull up tightly (*fig. 50*). Over-sew once to keep the seam from opening out. Continue using this thread to close the seam using mattress stitch and once you reach the end of the seam tie both ends together to secure (*fig. 51*). Please note that because this tail is thin it doesn't really need to be stuffed before being attached. Use the longer end to sew the tail on to the mole's bottom (*fig. 52*). Tie off the ends to secure and sew them through the body before trimming .



fig. 50



fig. 51



fig. 52

Now your mole is ready for some clothes and instructions for shorts and two different sweaters are on Pages 12-16



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 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 a 6 inch tail for seaming later

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

row 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.

Lastly weave in all the ends inside the shorts before trimming excess and your shorts are finished.



A textured knots sweater:

This pattern is for an easy bottom up sweater which has a design of regularly spaced small knots and is pictured on the front cover. The front and back are worked as 2 separate pieces and then joined by the chunky collar which is best worked in the round on double pointed needles (DPNS) or a circular needle (though can be worked flat if preferred). The sleeves are then picked up from the main body of the sweater and worked flat from the shoulder to the cuff. There is an alternative colour block sweater on Pages 16-17.

You will need 2.75mm (US 2) needles, a pair of straight and a set of 4 DPNS or a circular needle and 4ply/fingering weight yarn: approx. 46m (50yds), here I've used Krea Deluxe organic cotton in shade 53.

Special Abbreviations:

KNOT A: This is the formation of the Knot, worked on Knit rows. Work into **front** loop of the next stitch to create 3 extra stitches, like so:

K1 but do not slip the stitch from the needle, then P1, K1, P1 into the same front loop of the stitch.

KNOT B: This is the completion of the Knot, worked on Purl rows. The 3 extra stitches that were created on the previous row are cast off, like so:

Leave the working yarn hanging at the front of the work, slip the next 3 stitches Purl-wise from the left to the right needle, take the working yarn across these 3 stitches and to the back of the work and Knit the next stitch, leave the working yarn at the back of the work and pass each of the slipped stitches one by one over the stitch just knitted, so casting off the 3 extra stitches and completing the Knot. Finally bring the working yarn to the front again ready to Purl the next stitch.

For all other abbreviations please see page 2.

Back:

Starting at the bottom edge and finishing at the neck, use 2.75mm (US 2) needles to cable cast on 27 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches to seam with later.

row 1: (right side) (P1, K1) 13 times, P1

row 2: (K1, P1) 13 times, K1

row 3: (P1, K1) 13 times, P1

row 4: (K1, P1) 13 times, K1

row 5: Knit

row 6: Purl

row 7: K1, (Knot A, K5) 4 times, Knot A, K1
(42 stitches)

row 8: P1, (Knot B, P5) 4 times, Knot B, P1
(27 stitches)

rows 9-12: Beginning with a Knit row and ending with a Purl, work 4 rows of stocking stitch

row 13: K4, (Knot A, K5) 3 times, Knot A, K4
(39 stitches)

row 14: P4, (Knot B, P5) 3 times, Knot B, P4
(27 stitches)

rows 15-18: Beginning with a Knit row and ending with a Purl, work 4 rows of stocking stitch

row 19: K1, SSK, K4 (Knot A, K5) twice, Knot A, K4, K2tog, K1 (34 stitches)

row 20: P6, (Knot B, P5) twice, Knot B, P6
(25 stitches)

row 21: K1, SSK, K19, K2tog, K1 (23 stitches)

row 22: Purl

row 23: K1, SSK, K17, K2tog, K1 (21 stitches)

row 24: Purl

row 25: K7, Knot A, K5, Knot A, K7
(27 stitches)

row 26: P7, Knot B, P5, Knot B, P7
(21 stitches)

rows 27-30: Beginning with a Knit row and ending with a Purl, work 4 rows of stocking stitch

Cut the work from the ball, leaving an 8 inch tail for seaming with later.

Keeping the back piece just worked on the left hand needle and with an empty needle in your right hand, cable cast on the front piece.

Front:

Starting at the bottom edge and finishing at the neck, use 2.75mm (US 2) needles to cable cast on 27 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches to seam with later.

- row 1:** (right side) (P1, K1) 13 times, P1
row 2: (K1, P1) 13 times, K1
row 3: (P1, K1) 13 times, P1
row 4: (K1, P1) 13 times, K1
row 5: Knit
row 6: Purl
- row 7:** K4, (Knot A, K5) 3 times, Knot A, K4
(39 stitches)
- row 8:** P4, (Knot B, P5) 3 times, Knot B, P4
(27 stitches)
- rows 9-12:** Beginning with a Knit row and ending with a Purl, work 4 rows of stocking stitch
- row 13:** K1, (Knot A, K5) 4 times, Knot A, K1
(42 stitches)
- row 14:** P1, (Knot B, P5) 4 times, Knot B, P1
(27 stitches)
- rows 15-18:** Beginning with a Knit row and ending with a Purl, work 4 rows of stocking stitch
- row 19:** K1, SSK, K1 (Knot A, K5) 3 times, Knot A, K1, K2tog, K1 (37 stitches)
- row 20:** P3, (Knot B, P5) 3 times, Knot B, P3
(25 stitches)
- row 21:** K1, SSK, K19, K2tog, K1 (23 stitches)
- row 22:** Purl
- row 23:** K1, SSK, K17, K2tog, K1 (21 stitches)
- row 24:** Purl
- row 25:** K4, (Knot A, K5) twice, Knot A, K4
(30 stitches)
- row 26:** P4, (Knot B, P5) twice, Knot B, P4
(21 stitches)
- rows 27-30:** Beginning with a Knit row and ending with a Purl, work 4 rows of stocking stitch

Don't cut the work from the ball as next it's time to work across all 42 stitches on the needle for the collar, (fig. 53).



fig. 53



fig. 54



fig. 55

Collar:

The collar is best worked in the round, but if preferred it can be knitted flat and seamed (see instructions on Page 16).

To work the collar in the round:

Using 2.75mm (US 2) DPNS (double pointed needles) or a short circular needle and the yarn still joined to the work,

- row 31:** SL1P, (K1, P1) 7 times with the 1st needle; with the 2nd needle (K1, P1) 2 times, K1, P2tog, (K1, P1) 2 times; with the 3rd needle (K1, P1) 7 times, K1, Purl the last stitch together with the first slipped stitch from the first needle in order to close the round. Make sure to leave this last stitch on the 3rd needle so that the round starts again with a Knit stitch.
(40 stitches)
- round 1:** (K1, P1) 20 times
rounds 2-4: Work 3 more rounds exactly the same as round 1
round 5: Knit
round 6: (P1, K1) 20 times
rounds 7-9: Work 3 rounds exactly the same as round 6
round 10: Cast off loosely, in P1, K1 ribbing.

Cut the work from the ball, leaving a short tail for weaving in and continue by following the instructions on Page 15 for the sleeves.

Now that the front and back parts are joined by the collar (fig. 54) it's time to pick up the stitches for the sleeves.

Sleeves: (Make 2 the same)

The sleeves are started by knitting into the stitches across the front and back armholes and then are knitted flat from the shoulder down to the cuff. So, leaving a short tail for weaving in use Yarn A and 2.75mm needles to Knit into each of the edge stitches from the front armhole. Begin in the gap above the first armhole shaping stitch (*fig. 55*) and work up to the shoulder (12 stitches). Then do the same for the back but work from the shoulder to the underarm so that you have a total of 24 stitches on the needle.

- row 1:** (wrong side) P20, turn leaving 4 stitches un-worked
- row 2:** SL1P, K3, (Knot A, K5) twice, turn leaving 4 stitches un-worked (*30 stitches total*)
- row 3:** SL1P, P4, (Knot B, P5) twice, P1, turn leaving 2 stitches un-worked (*24 stitches total*)
- row 4:** SL1P, K19, turn leaving 2 stitches un-worked
- row 5:** SL1P, P21 (to end of row)
- row 6:** Knit
- row 7:** Purl
- row 8:** (K5, Knot A) 3 times, K6 (*33 stitches*)
- row 9:** P6, (Knot B, P5) 3 times (*24 stitches*)
- rows 10-13:** Beginning with a Knit row and ending with a Purl, work 4 rows of stocking stitch

- row 14:** K2, (Knot A, K5) 3 times, Knot A, K3 (*36 stitches*)
- row 15:** P3, (Knot B, P5) 3 times, Knot B, P2 (*24 stitches*)
- row 16:** Knit
- row 17:** Purl
- row 18:** K2, (P1, K1) 11 times
- row 19:** P1, (K1, P1) 11 times, P1
- row 20:** K2, (P1, K1) 11 times
- row 21:** Cast off keeping ribbing pattern correct: P1, (K1, P1) 11 times, P1

Cut the work from the ball, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

That is the first sleeve done (*fig. 56*). Make a second sleeve in the same way by picking up the stitches from the other armhole.



fig. 56



fig. 57



fig. 58

Finishing:

After the second sleeve is completed finish the sweater by sewing the side seams on the body and both of the sleeves and weave in all tail ends on the wrong side of the work before trimming excess. Then your sweater is complete, (*figs. 57 & 58*)



A Colour block Sweater:

This pattern is for a moderately easy bottom up sweater which is worked in blocks of 3 colours. The front and back are worked exactly the same and as 2 separate pieces. These are then joined by the chunky collar which is best worked in the round on double pointed needles (DPNS) or a circular needle (though can be worked flat if preferred). The sleeves are then picked up from the main body of the sweater and worked flat from the shoulder to the cuff. There is an alternative textured sweater on Pages 13-15.

You will need 2.75mm (US 2) needles – a pair of straight and a set of 4 DPNS, approx. 40m (45yds) in total of 4ply/fingering weight yarn, here I've used Drops Safran in **68, 22** and 64. For abbreviations please see Page 2.

.....

Back & Front:

Starting at the bottom edge and finishing at the neck, use 2.75mm (US 2) needles and **Yarn E** to cable cast on 27 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches to seam with later.

row 1: (right side) (P1, K1) 13 times, P1

row 2: (K1, P1) 13 times, K1

row 3: (P1, K1) 13 times, P1

row 4: (K1, P1) 13 times, K1

row 5-10: Beginning with a Knit row and ending with a Purl, work 6 rows of stocking stitch

rows 11-17: Change to **Yarn F**, beginning and ending with Knit rows, work 7 rows of stocking stitch, cut **Yarn E** from the work as it is no longer needed

row 18: Change to Yarn G and Purl, cut **Yarn F** from the work as it is no longer needed

row 19: K1, SSK, K21, K2tog, K1 (25 stitches)

row 20: Purl

row 21: K1, SSK, K19, K2tog, K1 (23 stitches)

row 22: Purl

row 23: K1, SSK, K17, K2tog, K1 (21 stitches)

row 24: Purl

rows 25-30: Beginning with a Knit row and ending with a Purl, work 6 rows of stocking stitch

*Cut the work from the ball, leaving an 8 inch tail for seaming with later.

Keeping the piece just worked on the left hand needle and with an empty needle in your right hand, cable cast on the second piece by following exactly the same instructions as above, *but don't cut the yarn at the end of **row 30** on the second piece as you'll continue using it.

So now the separate pieces for the front and back are complete and next it's time to work across all 42 stitches on the needle for the collar.

Collar:

The collar is best worked in the round (see instructions on Page 14), but if you prefer you can knit it flat (*fig. 59*) and seam it as detailed below.

To work the collar flat:

Using 2.75mm (US 2) straight needles and the Yarn G still joined to the work,

row 31: (right side) (K1, P1) 10 times, K2tog, (P1, K1) 10 times (41 stitches)

row 32: (P1, K1) 20 times, P1

row 33: (K1, P1) 20 times, K1

row 34: (P1, K1) 20 times, P1

row 35: (K1, P1) 20 times, K1

row 36: Purl

row 37: (P1, K1) 20 times, P1

row 38: (K1, P1) 20 times, K1

row 39: (P1, K1) 20 times, P1

row 40: (K1, P1) 20 times, K1

row 41: Cast off loosely, in P1, K1 ribbing.

Cut the work from the ball, leaving an 8 inch tail for seaming with. Next seam the collar so that it's joined into a round, remembering that as the collar folds over on itself you'll need to seam on the outside of the work so that the seam is hidden when the collar is folded (*fig. 60*).

Now that the front and back parts are joined by the collar (*fig. 61*) it's time to pick up the stitches for the sleeves.



fig. 59



fig. 60



fig. 61

Sleeves: (Make 2 the same)

The sleeves are started by knitting into the stitches across the front and back armholes and then are knitted flat from the shoulder down to the cuff. So, leaving a short tail for weaving in use Yarn G and 2.75mm needles to Knit into each of the edge stitches from the front armhole. Begin in the gap above the first armhole shaping stitch (fig. 62) and work up to the shoulder (12 stitches). Then do the same for the back but work from the shoulder to the underarm so that you have a total of 24 stitches on the needle.

- row 1: (wrong side) P20, turn leaving 4 stitches un-worked
- row 2: SL1P, K15, turn leaving 4 stitches un-worked
- row 3: SL1P, P17, turn leaving 2 stitches un-worked
- row 4: SL1P, K19, turn leaving 2 stitches un-worked
- row 5: SL1P, P21 (to end of row)
- row 6: Change to Yarn F and Knit, cut Yarn G from the work as it is no longer needed
- rows 7-12: Beginning with a Purl row and ending with a Knit, work 6 rows of stocking stitch

- rows 13-17: Change to Yarn E. Beginning ending with Purl rows, work 5 rows of stocking stitch, cut Yarn F from the work as it is no longer needed
- row 18: K2, (P1, K1) 11 times
- row 19: P1, (K1, P1) 11 times, P1
- row 20: K2, (P1, K1) 11 times
- row 21: Cast off keeping ribbing pattern correct: P1, (K1, P1) 11 times, P1

Cut the work from the ball, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

That is the first sleeve done (fig. 63). Make a second sleeve in the same way by picking up the stitches from the other armhole.



fig. 62



fig. 63



fig. 64

Finishing:

After the second sleeve is completed finish the sweater by sewing the side seams on the body and both of the sleeves and weave in all tail ends on the wrong side of the work before trimming excess. Then your sweater is complete (fig. 64).

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