

## *Little Cotton Rabbits Teeny Tiny Knitted Toys*



- A: 6cm/2½ inches tall, Jamiesons Spindrift in 114 Mooskit on 2.25mm needles*  
*B: 7.5cm/3 inches tall, Lettlopi in 054 light Ash Heather on 2.75mm needles*  
*C: 8cm/3 ½ inches tall, Cascade 200 in 8011 Aspen Heather on 3mm needles*  
*D: 9.5cm/4 inches tall, Camarose Snefnug in 7360 Stengra in 3.5mm needles*

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

### *Materials:*

- Yarns: you will need approx. 5.5m (6 yds) of 4py/fingering weight yarn
- Small amount of toy stuffing
- A small circle of felt, around 1.5cms, ½ inch diameter
- scraps of pink and black yarn for the face

### *Notions:*

- A pair of straight 2.25mm (US 1) Knitting needles and two 2.25mm (US 1) DPNS (double pointed needles to work the i-cord limbs)
- A tapestry needle for seaming with

### *Finished size:*

approx 6 cm (2½ inches) from top of ears to toes (with 4ply yarn and 2.25mm needles)

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This is a teeny tiny toy, perfect for small hands and pockets. Although the instructions here are for 4ply yarn on a small needle size you can make it with any weight of yarn and needle size. The thicker the yarn and larger the needle size used, the bigger your finished toy will be, please see front cover for a picture of comparative sizes and for the corresponding yarns and needle sizes.

### *Yarn suggestions:*

There's really no limit to the yarns that you can choose for this pattern. It only takes a small quantity so use what you have or buy something special if you prefer. You can use smooth cotton or go to the other end of the spectrum with something really fuzzy. They'd look good in variegated yarns too. In other words, the choice is entirely yours. I hope you have fun choosing the yarn and making your teeny tiny toy x



### *Abbreviations:*

#### *Decreases:*

K2TOG : Knit 2 stitches together

P3TOG : Purl 3 stitches together

And please note that the recommended cast on throughout is a **CABLE CAST ON**.

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# The pattern instructions:

## To work the body and head:

Before you start, cut a 20cm/ 8 inch length of yarn for threading through at the neck (see below). Note, it needs to be a strong yarn that will not easily break, so use a different yarn if necessary.

With 4ply yarn and 2.25mm (US 1) needles cable cast on 13 stitches, leaving a long tail for seaming with later

**row 1:** (wrong side) Purl

**rows 2-10:** Beginning and ending with Knit rows, work 9 rows of stocking stitch  
(alternate Knit and Purl rows)

Turn the work so that the wrong side is facing and using the length of thread cut at the beginning sew through the top-most loops making sure you go through each in the same direction (*fig. 1*),

**Please note:** I've used red thread here for illustration purposes but it is better to use a thread which matches the toy colour. Leave both ends of this thread hanging for now – they will be used to draw in the neck later.

**rows 11-18:** Beginning with a Purl row and ending with a Knit row, work 8 rows of stocking stitch

Cut the work from the ball leaving a long tail and sew this tail end through the 13 stitches (*fig. 2*).

Leave this thread loose for now, as it is easier to add the face before seaming the back of the head..

## To add the face:

Cut a small circle of felt and place at the back of the work behind where you plan to embroider the face. Using a scrap of pink yarn embroider a small nose in centre of face - I use 1 stitch across and 1 small stitch downwards. Knot the yarn at the back of the work and trim ends off. Now add the eyes with the black yarn - you can tie a small knot in the thread to make the eye stand out. Again knot the thread at the back of the work and tie ends securely trimming off excess (*figs. 3 & 4*)

## To seam and stuff:

Pull the cast off tail end to gather in the seam at the top of the head and continue using this thread to close the seam using mattress stitch. Sew to just past the tail ends from the neck. Stuff the head section and when you are happy with the shape tightly pull the two tail ends from the neck to gather in the neck, then tie off securely and leave the ends inside the body. Continue seaming down the rest of the body to the cast on edge (*fig. 5*).

Stuff the body cavity to a shape you are happy with. Thread the needle with the cast on tail and use this to catch up the loops around the bottom of the body (here I've used red thread to illustrate) *fig. 6*. Pull the tail end to close the seam at the bottom of the body and tie both the cast on and cast off tails together to secure both seams. Sew the tail ends through the body before trimming.



fig. 1



fig. 2



fig. 3



fig. 4



fig. 5



fig. 6



fig. 7



fig. 8



fig. 9

### *Rabbit Ears (make 2 the same):*

With 4ply yarn and 2.25mm (US 1) needles cable cast on 5 stitches, leaving a long tail for seaming with later

**row 1:** K1, P1, K1, P1, K1

**rows 2-5:** Repeat **row 1** four more times

**row 6:** K1, P3tog, K1 (3 stitches)

**row 7:** K1, P1, K1

**row 8:** K1, K2tog, pass 1st stitch over (1 stitch)

Cut the work from the ball leaving a long tail and sew this through the last stitch to cast off.

To make ears for a bear cast on 3 stitches, knit 1 row, cast off 3. Tie cast on and cast off ends together tightly and sew in place.

Weave this cast off tail down through the centre of the ear to the cast on edge (fig. 7). Fold the ear in half lengthways and use the cast on tail end to sew the bottom edge closed. Tie both tail ends together at the back of the ear to secure.

Join the ear to the top of the head with a few stitches (figs. 8 & 9). Once it is fully attached knot the tail ends securely together and sew through the head before trimming excess. Repeat for the second ear.



*fig. 10*



*fig. 11*



*fig. 12*

### *Arms & legs (make four the same):*

Cast on 4 stitches with the pair of double pointed needles and work a short i-cord of 6 rows in length. There are lots of good i-cord tutorials on you tube if you are not familiar with this technique.

Cut the work from the ball leaving a long tail and sew this through each of the 4 stitches on the needle (fig. 11), slipping them off the needle as you go. Then sew through the middle of the i-cord tube, so that both tail ends are together and knot them together securely. Make four limbs exactly in the same way (fig. 12).

Thread the tapestry needle with the longer tail end from one of the limbs and use it to sew the limb to the body with a few stitches. The arms are positioned just underneath the cinched neck (fig. 13) and the legs are at the bottom corners of the body (fig. 14). Knot the two tail ends from the limb securely together again and sew them through the body before trimming the excess. Repeat with the remaining limbs. Finally, if you wish, you can sew a white French knot as a tail (fig. 15).



*fig. 13*



*fig. 14*



*fig. 15*

## itty bitty dress:

It can be made from scraps of yarn - sock yarn or 4ply is best. In order to make it fit, please use the same needle size that you used to make your mini bunny. For instance, the mini bunnies above were knitted from Debbie Bliss cashmerino aran yarn on 3.25mm needles and so I've used 3.25mm needles for the dresses.

*Abbreviations:*

**K2tog:** knit 2 stitches together

**YFON:** Yarn forward over needle - makes a stitch. Start with the working yarn at the back of the work, bring it over the top of the right hand needle to the front and back under the right hand needle again to the back so making a loop then work the next stitch as indicated in the pattern.

**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 back to the left-hand needle and knit together through the back loops.

Cast on 28 stitches, leaving a tail of around 6 inches for seaming up the back of the dress at the end.

**row 1:** knit

**row 2:** knit

**row 3:** knit

**row 4:** purl

**row 5:** knit

**row 6:** purl

**row 7:** knit

**row 8:** purl

**row 9:** knit 2, (k2tog) 12 times, k2 (16 stitches)

**row 10:** purl

**row 11:** knit 4, yfon, ssk, knit 4, k2tog, yfon, knit 4

**row 12:** purl 4, purl into back of next stitch (leaving an eyelet for the arm hole), purl 6, purl into back of next stitch (leaving another eyelet for the arm hole), purl 4 (16 stitches)

**row 13:** cast off knit wise

*Cut the work from the ball leaving a tail of around 8 inches. Using a fine crochet hook (around 2mm) make a chain of 5 stitches using this tail and join it back to the start point with a slip stitch to make a small loop. Sew a tiny button on the opposite side as a fastening for the dress.*

Weave the remainder of the cast off end along the edge to the point of the row 9 decreases and leave the end hanging for now. Re-thread the needle with the cast on edge and use it to close the seam at the back of the dress with mattress stitch. When you reach the shaping on row 9 tie both ends together and weave along the inside of the seam before trimming off excess.

