

Little Bear ©



Designed by Sharon Birss 01/08/2020

For Charity use only.

Measurement: 4 inches approximately, worked top down, head, body and limbs in one flat piece, ears worked separate and stitched in place.

Tension: not critical but ensure the knitting weave is tight enough so that the stuffing does not show, if you are a loose knitter go down a needle size (2.75mm).

Requirements:

3.00mm single point needles and 3.00mm circular needle (the circular needle is used as a stitch holder while working the arms, there is no knitting in the round).

50g ball of Acrylic 8ply yarn. Baby yarn works best. (will make up at least 3 bears).

Polyester toy filling.

Small amount of embroidery thread for face.

Abbreviations:

Stocking stitch= alternating knit and purl rows.

K2tog= single decrease, knit 2 stitches together.

P2tog= single decrease, purl 2 stitches together.

M1= single increase, pick up horizontal yarn bar between 2 stitches place the yarn bar on the left needle and knit into the yarn bar ensuring that the yarn bar is twisted.

CDD= centre double decrease, slip 2 stitches **together** as if to knit, knit the next stitch, slip the 2 stitches **together** over the knitted stitch and off the needle.

PSP= single decrease, purl 1 stitch, slip this stitch back to left needle, pass second stitch on left needle over the first stitch and off the needle, return stitch to right needle. This is an alternative to P2tog through back of loop.

Before starting wind off enough yarn from the ball of yarn to work the 2 arms (2 arms at 12 rows x 12 stitches), or you could centre pull from your ball of yarn to work the arms. Plus a 10 inch length of yarn to weave through the neck.

Starting at the top of the head cast on 7 stitches using thumb method.

Row 1: Purl.

Row 2: K1, (M1, K1) to end of row. (13sts)

Row 3: Purl.

Row 2: K1, (M1, K2) to end of row. (19sts)

Row 4: Purl.

Row 5: K2, M1, (K3, M1) to last 2 stitches, K2. (25sts)

Row 6 to 8: Stocking stitch 3 rows.

Shape Snout:

Row 9: K11, M1, K3, M1, K11. (27sts)

Row 10: P12, M1, P3, M1, P12. (29sts)

Row 11: K13, M1, K3, M1, K13. (31sts)

Row 12: P14, M1, P3, M1, P14. (33sts)

Row 13 to 15: Stocking stitch 3 rows.

Row 16: P14, P2tog, P1, PSP, P14. (31sts)

Row 17: K14, CDD, K14. (29sts)

Row 18: P12, P2tog, P1, PSP, P12. (27sts)

For row 19 weave the 10 inch length of the same yarn through the row for the neck. Begin 1 stitch in from the start on the wrong side, place the weaving yarn over the working yarn prior to knitting the next stitch (as in pic), finish 1 stitch in from the end. Leave approx. 3 inches each end to draw the neck up when completing.



Row 19: K12, CDD, K12, weaving in the yarn. (25sts)

Row 20: Purl.

Row 21: K2, M1, (K3, M1) to last 2 stitches, K2. (33sts)

Row 22: Purl.

Row 23: K6, (M1, K2) 5 times, K3, (M1, K2) 5 times, K4. (43sts)

Row 24: Purl.

Row 25: K6, M1, K10, M1, K11, M1, K10, M1, K6. (47sts)

Row 26: Purl.

Row 27: K3, M1, K18, M1, K5, M1, K18, M1, K3. (51sts)

Row 28: Purl onto a circular needle, the circular needle will work as a stitch holder on the following row when working the arms.

Row 29: working with the circular needle K19, turn work.

Work first arm:

Row 1: join yarn that you have wound off the ball and P12 with a straight needle, turn work. Continue with these 12 stitches on straight needles.

Rows 2 to 11: Stocking stitch 10 rows.

Row 12: K1, K2tog to last stitch, K1, cut yarn and thread through remaining 7 stitches, draw up and secure.

Continue with the next 32 stitches on row 29 with the circular needle and the main working yarn.



Work second arm:

Row 29: working with the circular needle K25, turn work. Repeat as for First Arm from Row 1.

Knit the remaining 7 stitches of row 29. Return to working with straight needles.

Row 30: Purl across 27 stitches to join body at underarms.

Row 31: K3, M1, K8, M1, K5, M1, K8, M1, K3. (31sts)

Rows 32 to 37: Stocking stitch 6 rows.

Row 38: Cast off 1 stitch, P13 (not counting the stitch on the right needle), cast off the next stitch, purl to end of row.

Row 39: Cast off 1 stitch, K13 (not counting the stitch on the right needle), turn work. Continue with these 14 stitches on straight needles for first leg.

Work first leg:

Rows 1 to 7: Stocking stitch 7 rows.

Row 8: K8, (M1, K1) 4 times, K2. (18sts)

Rows 9 to 13: Stocking stitch 5 rows.

Row 14: K1, K2tog to last stitch, K1, cut yarn and thread through remaining 10 stitches, draw up and secure.

Work second leg:

With right side facing you join yarn and knit the remaining 14 stitches.

Rows 1 to 7: Stocking stitch 7 rows.

Row 8: K3, (M1, K1) 4 times, K7. (18sts)

Rows 9 to 13: Stocking stitch 5 rows.

Row 14: K1, K2tog to last stitch, K1, cut yarn and thread through remaining 10 stitches, draw up and secure.

Ears make 2.

Cast on 6 stitches using thumb method.

Row 1: Purl.

Row 2: K1, (M1, K1) to end of row. (11sts)

Rows 3 to 7: Stocking stitch 5 rows.

Row 8: K1, K2tog to end of row. (6sts)

To complete the ear slip the 6 stitches to the other needle cut the working yarn leaving a tail of approximately 10ins. Thread the tail onto a yarn needle and pick up the cast on loops at the start of the ear (this folds the ear in half with the right side facing outwards), thread the 6 stitches remaining on your needle and draw up firmly and secure. The cast on stitches and the remaining 6 stitches when drawn up form the centre back and front of the base of the ear. Note: if you find using yarn too bulky to draw up the stitches use a double strand of sewing thread, the yarn tails can be tied off and thread into the head when attaching the ear. The ear in the pics is on a larger scale for pics only.



To Make Up:

Mattress stitch is used for seaming unless otherwise stated.

I recommend due to the size of the bear that you use a double strand of sewing thread for the seams, less bulky. Stitch the underarms and legs, at the top of the legs slip stitch the 2 back cast off stitches to the centre front one. Stuff the arms and legs now as it is much easier to do so with the back open, don't overstuff, you should have the consistency of a soft sponge. Pick up the cast on stitches at the top of the head and draw up, stitch down the back of

the head lining up the yarn that has been woven through the neck, take care not to capture in the seam the yarn that is woven through the neck. Take the seam 2 to 3 rows past the neck. Have the ends of the yarn you have woven through the neck on the outside, stuff the head making sure to shape the snout area. Take the 2 ends of the yarn woven through the neck and evenly draw up, don't overdo this you don't want the neck puckered.

Starting at the top of the legs stitch the back seam, you will need to stuff the body as you work this seam. Adjust the stuffing prior to closing off this seam.

Pin the ears to the head so that the base of the ear forms a slight semicircle, slip stitch in place with sewing thread.

I prefer to stitch the top of the arms closed, this is optional. The blue bear in the picture does not have the arms seamed down. To seam the top of the arms using sewing thread start at row 23 increases, you will see the increase stitches at the top of the arm. Run a small tack stitch from front to back of arm lining up the increase stitches, pulling the front and back together. Back stitch at the underarm and thread the tail into the body.

To embroider the face position the eyes over the increase in row 9 of the snout shaping, this is clearly visible as a small hole. I have stitched 4 horizontal bars with 3 strands of embroidery thread. Position the top of the nose in the centre of the last row of increases for the snout shaping. Work 5 horizontal bars tapering off for the bottom of the nose. Take the thread down approximately ¼ inch, enter the needle in and exit 2 rows down and 3 stitches across from where the needle entered, take the yarn back and thread under where you entered, repeat 2 rows down and 3 stitches across for the opposite side, exiting the thread at the bottom of the nose. Backstitch the thread and take the thread through to the back of the head and cut off.