

Mary Jane's
TEAROOM
presents

'Bo' Rabbit

Lapland Visitors : Part 1

*There is always great excitement around the tearoom at Xmas and especially when there is a visit from **Bo** along with his twin sister **Anika**.....*



Equipment

1 Pair of 2.75 mm Knitting Needles (U.K No.12/ U.S 2)

1 Pair of 3.25 mm Knitting Needles (U.K No.10/ U.S 3)

Pompom Maker: Tail - Outer diameter approx 3.5cm (1")/ Inner 2cm (3/4 ")

Hat decoration - Outer diameter approx 2cm (3/4") Inner 1cm (1/2")

2 Long Pointed Darning Needles approx 8cm (3") / 1 Wool Needle

1 Needle with a very large eye (for threading boot laces)

Good Quality Washable Polyester Filling conforming to Current Safety Standards (approx 100g)

Glass/Plastic-Headed Pins

Soft Tape Measure

A few notes before beginning

Yarns

Below are the yarns that I have used for 'Bo'...

I always use good quality natural yarns which I feel give the best, long-lasting results but you can use up leftover yarns with a very satisfactory outcome.

*I have used a combination of DK (double knitting) yarn and 4 ply yarn (fingering). **Please check that the ball band details correspond with those listed below for substitute yarns.***



Yarns used (rounded up to nearest 10g)

Head/Body & Limbs: Yarn A RYC Baby Alpaca DK Yarn Herdwick 100g

Boots: Yarn B Sirdar Eco Wool DK Yarn Earth 20g

Boot Edging & Tail Yarn C Sirdar Eco Wool DK Yarn Ecru 20g

Snow Pants: Yarn D Rowan Classic Siena 4 Ply Cotton Yarn Oak 50g

Jumper/Hat & Leg Warmers: Yarn E Rowan Classic Siena 4 Ply Cotton Yarn Cream 50g

Jumper & Leg Warmers Yarn F Rowan Classic Siena 4 Ply Cotton Yarn Chilli 50g

Leg Warmers & Pompom Yarn G Rowan Classic Siena 4 ply Cotton Yarn Alpine 10 g

Black DK Yarn for embroidery to face

Ball Band Details

*Here I have listed the **ball band information** required for any substituted yarns for you to compare. This information is always given on the ball label and if purchasing on the internet it will be stated in the yarn details. It is usually given for a 10 x 10cm (4 x 4") tension square knitted using stocking stitch. (Please note that smaller needles are used for the DK yarn in the pattern than those given on the original ball band details. This is common in knitted toys to avoid holes when stretched but if the ball band details of the original yarn match those of the substitute yarn you can then just move down to the needle size required for the pattern)*

Knitted over a 4 x 4" (10 x 10 cm) tension square (gauge swatch) in St-st

Baby Alpaca DK	22sts. 30 rows, (4mm/ UK 8/ U.S 6) Ball size 50g/100m
Siena Cotton 4 Ply	28sts, 38rows (2.75 – 3mm/U.K 12 - 11/U.S 2) Ball size 50g/140m
Eco Wool DK	22sts, 28 rows (4mm (UK8, US6) Ball size 50g/100m

One final note on tension!

If you know that your knitting tension is always on the looser side then move down a needle size from those used in the pattern to prevent the stuffing showing through when stretched (Do this for both needle sizes) Otherwise personal knitting tension is not so much of a worry in toys i.e. if your tension is on the tighter side it will only result in an overall slightly smaller 'Bo'

Casting on I always use the thumb method unless otherwise stated

Casting off Always cast off K wise unless otherwise stated

Increase into every stitch: K into front and back of stitch

Only press pieces where indicated and check the ball band details for substituted yarns

Making up I always use *Mattress Stitch* working with RS of work uppermost to close seams although this is a personal choice. I have allowed an extra 1 stitch seam allowance on either side to provide a really neat finish (*Tip:* Always leave a long enough yarn end when casting on so that it can be used to sew up the seam later if required. This is a much neater way to finish off)

Measurements: Head to Toe 38cm (15")

Arm Span 28cm (11") Arm Circ 10cm (4") /L 14cm (5 ½")

Toe to Heel 8cm (3 ¼")/ Foot circ 16cm (6 ¼")

Leg L16cm (6 ¼")/ Leg Circ 11.5cm (4 ½")

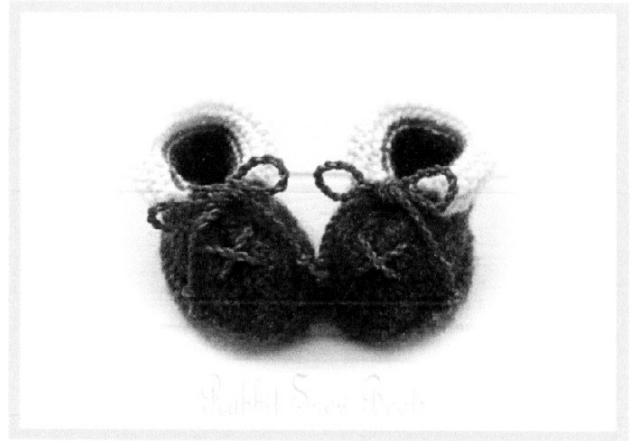
Safety

For safety reasons I recommend that **Bo** should only be made as a decorative item and not a toy for the very young i.e. children under 3 years of age. All seams and limbs must be made secure and no extra items should be added such as buttons, ribbon, felt or eyes which could come loose.

Abbreviations**beg:** beginning**circ:** circumference**cont:** continue**dec:** decrease**g-st:** garter stitch (every row a K row)**inc:** increase**K:** Knit**Kfb:** Knit into front & back of stitch**M1:** Pick up the loop between the stitch just worked and the next stitch with left hand needle. Knit into the back of it to make a new stitch.**P:** Purl**psso:** Pass slipped stitch over**RS:** Right side**sl:** slip**skpo:** slip 1, K 1, pass slipped st over**rep:** repeat**SK2P:** Slip 1, K2tog, Pass slip st over knit 2 together**st:** stitch**st-st:** stocking stitch (alternate rows: K1 row, P 1 row)**tbl:** through back of loop**tog:** together**WS:** Wrong side**yf:** yarn forward**yon:** yarn over needle (Take yarn over needle to make extra stitch)**yrn:** yarn round needle (Take yarn under and over tip of R hand needle then continue)

Time to begin

Legs 3.25mm Needles (Make 2)*Cast on 24 sts in A beg at sole***Next row** K1, increase in next 22 sts, K1 - 46 sts**Next: St-st 15 rows beg with a P row*****Decrease to shape foot*****Next row** K.9, (K2tog) 14 times, K9 - 32sts**P 1 row****Next row:** K9, (K2tog) 7 times, K9 – 25 sts**Next: St-st 35 rows beg with a P row*****Shape top*****Next row** K4, (K2tog) 3 times, K5, (K2tog) 3 times, K4 - 19 sts.*Cast off**Fasten off leaving a long strand to attach leg to body later**Put the legs to one side for the moment and make **Snow Boots** as follows:*



Snow Boots 3.25mm Needles (Make 2)

Upper Boot

Cast on 46 sts in **B** beg at centre front edge

Next: G-st 4 rows

Next: St-st 6 rows beg with a **K** row

Next: K1, skpo, K to last 3 sts, K2tog, K1 - 44 sts

P 1 row

Next: K1, skpo, K to last 3 sts, K2tog, K1 - 42 sts

P 1 row

Next: Cast off 8 sts at beg of next 2 rows – 26 sts

G-st 10 rows in C

Cast off

Boot Sole 3.25mm needles (Make 2)

Cast on 6 sts in **B** beg at heel edge

K 1 row

Begin increase

Next: K1, M1, K to last st, M1, K1 - 8 sts

K 1 row

Repeat last 2 rows twice more - 12sts

Next: **G-st 19 rows**

Begin decrease

Next: Skpo, K to last 2 sts, K2tog - 10 sts

K 1 row

Repeat last 2 rows twice more - 6 sts

Cast off

Make Up

Do not press pieces. Fold boot in half with **R** sides together and close seam using backstitch up to point where **C** joins and fasten off.

With **R** sides of pieces outside pin sole in place lightly stretching upper boot.

Sew in place by oversewing small stitches around edges (*as photograph above*) and secure.

Roll over cream decorative edging of upper boot at the front and secure at each corner with a slipstitch (*as photograph above*) Leave back edge of boot slightly unrolled.

Double Twisted Cord Laces

Cut 2 lengths of yarn in **F** and **G** approx 150cm long.

With both strands together tie a loop at each end

Ask a friend to hold one loop over a finger or tie to a handle

Put the other loop around your index finger and move your finger round in a clockwise motion.

Keep the yarn taught and your other hand cupped lightly over it. Continue to wind until the whole length is twisting back on itself when you loosen your hold.

Next take the centre of the yarn length with your other hand and fold in half releasing the loop from your finger and allowing the cord to double up.

Smooth the twisted cord and then tie a knot in the end to secure.

Using a needle with a really large eye thread the **unknotted** end of the cord and insert into shoe (*as photo*) beginning at the top on one side and ending by bringing lace back out at the top on the opposite side. Tie boot lace into a bow and then knot and trim ends as required.

Now Make Up The Legs

Sew seams together to just beyond the ankle. At this point stuff the foot and ankle firmly (*check the boot is a snug fit over the foot*) and then sew and fill the rest of the leg. Thin the stuffing at the top of the leg slightly to enable sitting and the leg openings at the top should remain open.

When the legs are completed lightly press the leg seam under a cotton/linen cloth then place the cloth over the sole seam, press firmly and apply a puff of steam. This will flatten the sole area giving a really neat appearance.

Body 3.25mm Needles

Cast on 15 sts in A beg at neck edge

P 1 row

Next row: K1, (M1, K1) to end - 29 sts

P 1 row

Next row: (K2, M1) 7 times, K1, (M1, K2) 7 times – 43 sts

St-st 9 rows beg with a P row

Next row: (K7, M1) 3 times, K1, (M1 K7) 3 times - 49 sts

St-st 5 rows beg with a P row

Next row: K 23, (M1, K1) 3 times, M1, K 23 - 53 sts

St-st 9 rows beg with a P row

Next row: K 21, skpo, K1, skpo, K1, K2tog, K1, K2tog, K 21 - 49 sts

St-st 5 rows beg with a P row

Next row: K19, skpo, K1, skpo, K1, K2tog, K1, K2tog, K19 - 45sts

St-st 5 rows beg with a P row

Next row: K1, (K2tog) to end - 23sts.

P 1 row

Cast off

To Make Up Body

Close centre back. Stuff firmly from each end, turning and moulding as you work. Slightly 'square off' the bottom end as you stuff (*as photograph on next page*) and keep in mind that you need to 'fill out' the abdominal area (the girth should measure 24cm when finished) Close the bottom end seam using mattress stitch or slipstitch but leave the top end open at this point.

Attach open ended legs by slipstitching around the edges.

Fair Isle Leg Warmers 2.75mm Needles (Make 2)

Cast on 40 sts in F beg at lower edge.

Next: Work 5 rows in K1, P1 rib

Next: St-st 5 rows beg with a K row

Next: St-st 3 rows in E and G beg with a P row as diagram 1 below.



Alternate E & G working across your 40 sts and beg on a P row

Next: St-st 5 rows in F beg with a K row

Next: Work 5 rows in K1, P1 rib

Cast off in rib



Make Up

Do not press. Join vertical seam and fasten off (*I use mattress stitch*) Position leg warmers on legs with seam placed at inside leg position.



Raggedy Rabbit Ears 3.25mm Needles (Make 2)

Cast on 20 sts in A beg at top of ear

Work next 4 rows in Double Moss Stitch as follows:

1st row K1, P1 to end

2nd row K1, P1 to end

3rd row P1, K1 to end

4th row P1, K1 to end

Rep. these 4 rows working a further 34 rows ending on the 2nd row of pattern

Continuing in pattern start decrease

Next row: Skpo, work in pattern to last 2 sts, P2tog.

Work 1 row in pattern beginning with K1

Repeat these 2 rows until last 6 stitches remain finishing on 2nd row of decrease

Break off yarn, thread through remaining stitches, gather slightly and fasten off.

To Make Up

Fold ear in half at cast on edge matching corner to corner and sew seam.

Head 3.25mm Needles

Cast on 11 in A beg at back of head

1st row P to end

2nd row K1, (M1, K1) to end – 21 sts

Rep last 2 rows once more – 41 sts

St-st 5 rows beg with a P row

Next row: K1, (M1, K3) to last remaining stitch M1, K1 – 55 sts

St-st 21 rows beg with a P row

Next row: K1, (K2tog) to end - 28 sts

St-st 9 rows beg with a P row

Next row: K1, (K2tog.) to last remaining stitch, K1 - 15 sts

P 1 row

Break off yarn, thread through remaining stitches, gather and secure, leaving yarn end to close seam

To Make up

1. Sew up

Gather up and secure stitches at the nose leaving a long strand of yarn to close seam.

Close nose to chin seam (*ending 1cm past K2tog decrease*) then fasten off.

Gather up the stitches at the back of the head and sew the seam leaving an opening of approx 2.5cm at the base of the head (*You will use this opening to embroider the face before closing*)

2.Fill

Fill with small amounts of stuffing at a time starting at the nose and back of the head areas first then working evenly around the head (*tearing off small amounts at a time will ensure that the fibres knit together*) Mould and firm the stuffing as you work (*the head should be really firm to the touch*) but avoid overstretching the stitches resulting in holes. This may seem to take quite an amount of time but you will suddenly see everything fit into place!

3.Press

Gently smooth any uneven areas around the nose, back of head and seams by placing a cotton/linen cloth over the area and gently pressing. Build up the heat gradually so that you don't overdo this!



Use round headed pins to place Bo's features



Draw back yarn & secure to produce an eye socket

4. Embroider

It will help to pin the ears in place at this point to help you position the features (*approximately 4cm apart*)

Mark out the features with round headed pins (*Count your pins to make sure they are all removed afterwards*)

Place eyes 4 knit stitches apart and just below the decrease row (see photograph below) using **French Knots** as follows:

Thread a long darning needle with black yarn .Tie a knot 4" from the end of the thread. Insert the needle into the opening at the base of the head and bring out through the centre of the area where you have placed your eye pins. Remove these pins now and return the needle back through the stuffing and neck opening pulling slightly so that this produces an **eye socket** and gives **contour to the face**.

Thread another long darning needle and repeat this process for the other eye so that you are now working with 2 needles and threads. Once the eye sockets are evenly placed knot your yarn ends to secure and now you can carry on and apply the French Knots. I make a series of these in each eye working from one eye to the other slowly building up until I am satisfied that someone is looking directly back at me!

When you are happy that the eyes are equally sized, tie the ends of the yarns together again securely and cut off any excess,

(Tip: If you struggle with French Knots make a large knot in the middle of a long thread of yarn then pass both ends through the eye socket and out through the head opening, then tie together securely.

Alternatively you could back-stitch)

Next, knotting the yarn first as before, embroider a 'V' for the nose and then an inverted 'Y' for the mouth following the photograph below. Slightly turn up the corners of the mouth. Remove your pins as you work and finally tie ends together securely at the base of the head.

Once the features are completed cover the open area with a small amount of stuffing and close the seam.

Check that the ears are positioned correctly, sew in place and secure head to body gathering neck opening slightly.(The head will 'nod' from side to side)



Arms 3.25mm Needles (Make 2)

Cast on 9 sts in A beg at shoulder

P 1 row

Next row: K1, (M1, K1) to end - 17sts

P 1 row

Next row: K4, (M1, K2) twice, M1, K1, M1, (K2, M1) twice, K4 – 23 sts

St-st 37 rows beg with a P row

Next row: K1, (K2tog) to end - 12 sts

Break off yarn, thread through remaining stitches and secure leaving a long strand

To Make Up

Gather up cast off edge at top of arm, close seam using long strand and leave a small opening for stuffing. Stuff firmly, close and press lightly under a cloth. Pass a long strand of yarn from one arm through the body to the other side and pull slightly. This will produce a shoulder socket. Using the same yarn, attach the second arm and pass yarn through the body in the opposite direction. Repeat this process again ensuring both arms are securely in place. *Fasten off.*

Snow Pants 2.75mm Needles (Make 2)

Cast on 30 sts in D beg at lower edge

G-st 3 rows

Next row: K2, (M1, K2) to end - 44 sts

P1 row

Repeat last 2 rows once more – 65 sts

St-st 20 rows beg with a K row

Shape body

Dec 1 st at each end of next 6 rows - 53sts

Next: St-st 24 rows beg with a K row

Decrease row

K1, (K2tog) to end - 27sts.

G-st 4 rows

Cast off

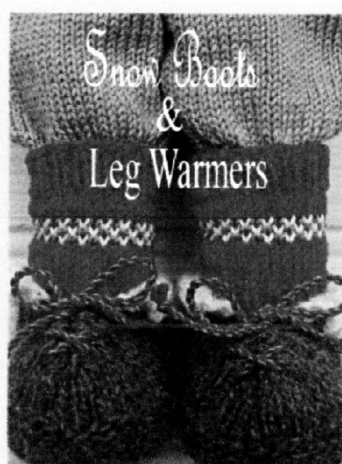
To Make Up

(You may wish to make your pompom tail first in C as photograph on page 11)

Press pieces lightly under a cloth on **WS**. Join the two pieces together down the centres from waistband to start of leg decrease at both front and back (**remembering to leave an opening at the back for tail**) Now sew the legs of the snow pants front to the back. Place snow pants on **Bo** where they should be positioned quite high up so that they stay in place. Secure pompom tail in place.



Position twisted cord tie on waistband



Just a jumper and a hat now!

Tuck pants into leg warmers and tuck warmers slightly into boots (*You can slipstitch top edge of warmers to the ends of snow pants if required*)

Double Twisted Cord

Make a twisted cord as for boot laces using 2 strands of **D** measuring approx 130cm

Secure on centre of waistband with a slipstitch and tie into a bow. Knot each end at desired length and trim off excess.

Snowflake Fair Isle Jumper 2.75mm Needles

Front

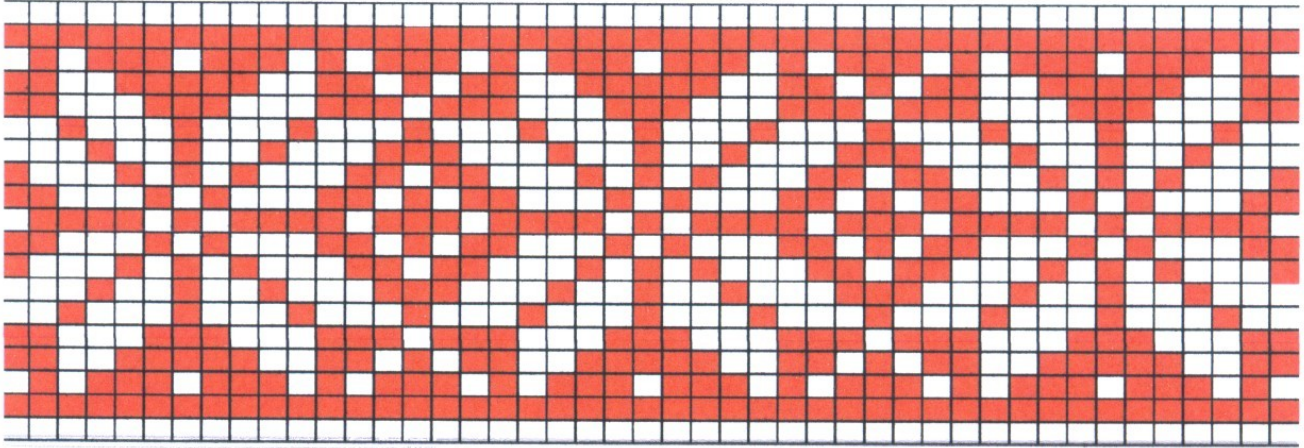
Cast on 45 sts in **F** beg at lower edge

G-st 4 rows

Next: Snowflake Panel

The Snowflake panel is worked over the 1st – 19th rows of st-st in E & F as diagram below across the 45 sts

(At the same time mark each end of 17th row for sleeve placement)



*Snowflake Panel begins on 1st row of st-st which is a **K** row in E*

Next: St-st rows 20 – 36 in **F** beg with a **P** row

Shape Shoulders

*Continuing in **F** cast off 11sts at beginning of next 2 rows - 23sts.*

Next: Work 2 rows in K1, P1 rib increasing 1 stitch at each end of both rows - 27sts.

Next: Work a further 9 rows in rib

*Cast off **LOOSELY** in rib (Use a larger needle if you find this difficult)*



Back 2.75mm Needles

Cast on 45 sts in **F** beg at lower edge

G-st 4 rows

Next: St-st 36 rows beg with a **K row** *(At the same time mark each end of 17th row for sleeve placement)*

Shape Shoulders

*Continuing in **F** cast off 11sts at beginning of next 2 rows - 23sts.*

Next: Work 2 rows in K1, P1 rib increasing 1 stitch at each end of every row - 27sts.

Next: Work a further 9 rows in rib

*Cast off **LOOSELY** in rib*

To Make Up

Press pieces lightly under a cloth on **WS** and join front to back down neck seams (*remember to reverse stitching where neck will be rolled over*) and across shoulder seams. Fasten off and press seams lightly.

Sleeves 2.75mm Needles (Make 2)

*With right side facing and using **F** pick up 36 sts evenly across back and front between markers.*

Next; St-st 18 rows beg with a P row

*Next: **P 1 row in E***

Next: G-st 4 rows in F

Cast off

To Make Up

Press lightly under a cloth on **WS**. Sew up sleeve and side seams and fasten off. Fold over neck opening.

Rabbit Ski Hat 2.75mm Needles

*Cast on 81 sts in **E** beg at brim.*

Next: Work 12 rows in K1, P1 rib

St-st 10 rows beg with a K row

Start decreasing as follows:

Next: K1, (K2tog, **K18**) to end – 77 sts

St-st 3 rows beg with a P row

Next: K1, (K2tog, **K17**) to end – 73 sts

St-st 3 rows beg with a P row

Next: K1, (K2tog, **K16**) to end – 69 sts

St-st 3 rows beg with a P row

Next: K1, (K2tog, **K15**) to end – 65 sts

St-st 3 rows beg with a P row

Continue decreasing in this way until you have completed the following row:

K1, (K2tog, **K1**) - 9sts

Next: St-st 3 rows beg with a P row

Next: K1, (K2tog) to end – 5 sts

P 1 row

Break off yarn, thread through remaining stitches and fasten off.

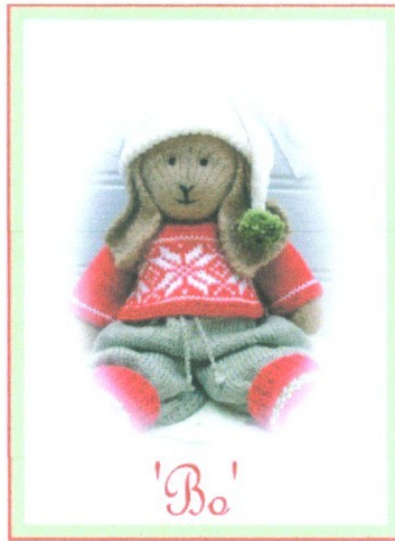
To Make Up

Lightly press piece under a cloth on **WS**. Do not press rib detail. Close side seam taking care to reverse stitching on rib detail then press hat again lightly under a cloth.



Hat Pompom

Make small pompom in *G* and secure in place at the end of ski hat. Position hat with seam on the same side as the pompom will hang. Hold iron over the hat and press the steam button several times (*without touching hat*) Smooth the hat into place (*as you may do when hanging curtains!*)



Christmas Greetings
from
Mary Jane's TEAROOM

Other characters in the *Mary Jane's TEAROOM* series

Oscar Rabbit
Primrose Rabbit
Bluebell Rabbit
Daisy Rabbit

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