

Mary Jane's  
TEAROOM  
presents  
'Oscar Rabbit'

*'Oscar' is known for having a big heart. He is always there to lend a helping hand around the tearoom....*



**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 (Outer diameter 3.5cm (1")/ Inner 2cm (¾ ")

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

Good Quality Washable Polyester Filling conforming to current safety standards

Glass/Plastic-Headed Pins

Soft Tape Measure

Clear Sewing Thread

**A few notes before beginning**

**Yarns**

*Below are the yarns that I have used for 'Oscar'.*

*I have used good quality natural yarns which I feel give the best, long-lasting results and natural yarns also add more weight to the finished item, but you can use up any left over yarns with a very satisfactory outcome.*

*I have used a combination of DK (double knitting) yarn and 4 ply yarn. **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/ Tail: **Yarn A** RYC Baby Alpaca D.K Yarn *Jacob* 80g

Socks: **Yarn B** RYC Baby Alpaca DK Yarn *Southdown* 20g

Sock decoration: **Yarn C** Rowan Pure Wool DK *Poppy* oddments

Breeches & Jumper Stripe: **Yarn D** Rowan Classic 4 Ply Siena Cotton Yarn *Oak* 40g

Jumper: **Yarn E** Rowan Classic 4 Ply Siena Cotton Yarn *Mariner* 30g

Heart: **Yarn F** Rowan Classic 4 Ply Siena Cotton Yarn *Chilli* oddments

Boots: **Yarn G** Rowan Classic Prima Cotton DK Yarn *Bran* 20g

Strands of dark brown DK yarn for embroidering the 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.*

*(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**

|                                  |                                                                          |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><u>Baby Alpaca DK</u></b>     | 22sts. 30 rows, (4mm/ UK 8/ U.S 6)<br>Ball size 50g/100m                 |
| <b><u>4 Ply Siena Cotton</u></b> | 28sts, 38 rows, (2.75 – 3mm/U.K 12 - 11/<br>U.S 2)<br>Ball size 50g/140m |
| <b><u>Prima Cotton DK</u></b>    | 22sts. 30 rows, (4mm/ U.K 8/ U.S 6)<br>Ball size 50g/approx 130m         |

### **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. 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 Oscar!*

**Casting On** I always use the thumb method

**Casting off** Always cast off K wise unless otherwise stated

**Increase into every stitch:** K into front & back of stitch

**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.

**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 L 16cm (6 ¼")/ Leg Circ 11.5cm (4 ½")

### **Safety**

For safety reasons I recommend that *Oscar* 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 ever 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  
**M1:** Pick up the loop between the stitch just worked and the next stitch. 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  
**st:** stitch  
**st-st:** stocking stitch (alternate rows : K 1 row, P 1 row)  
**tbl:** through back of loop  
**tog:** together  
**WS:** Wrong side  
**yf:** yarn forward  
**yon:** yarn over needle

## *Time to begin*

### **Legs with Socks 3.25mm Needles (Make 2)**

*Cast on 24 sts in B beg with sole*

**Next row:** K1, increase in next 22 sts, K1 - 46 sts

**St-st 15 rows beg with a P row**

### ***Shape foot***

**Next row:** K.9, (K2 tog) 14 times, K9 – 32 sts

P 1 row

**Next row:** K9, (K2 tog) 7 times, K9 – 25 sts

**St-st 7 rows beg with a P row**

**Next row:** K 1 row in C

**Next row: P 1 row in B**

***Change to A***

**St-st 26 rows beg with a K row**

***Shape top***

**Next row:** K4, (K2tog) 3 times, K5, (K2tog) 3 times, K4 - 19 sts

***Cast off***

*Put the legs to one side for the moment and make the **Boots** as follows:*

**Boots** 3.25mm Needles (Make 2)

*Cast on 25 sts in G beg with sole*

**Next row** K1, inc. into next 23 sts, K1 – 48 sts

**St-st 15 rows beg with a P row**

***Shape foot***

**Next row:** K10, (K2tog) 14 times, K10 – 34 sts

**P 1 row**

**Next row:** K10, (K2tog) 7 times, K10 – 27 sts

**St-st 9 rows beg with a P row**

***Cast off LOOSELY***

**Now Make Up The Legs**

Sew sock seams together to just beyond the ankle. At this point stuff the foot firmly (*your boot should stretch 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 then place a cloth over the sole seam, press firmly and apply a light puff of steam. This will flatten the foot seam and sole area giving a really neat appearance.

**Make Up Boots and Position**

Sew seams together remembering to reverse the stitching to P side at the boot top for approximately 1cm as this will be rolled over later and therefore on view

Place the foot in the boot and roll over the tops (*It may be a squeeze through the top of the boot but once in it should fit perfectly*) Press the sole area and seam under a cloth applying a light puff of steam again to flatten the area.

**Sock Edging** 3.25mm Needles (Make 2)

*Using B cast on 32 sts*

**Next row:** K 1 row (*this will be the RS*)

***Cast off K wise***

**To Make Up**

Sew in place at the top of the sock (*I use a clear thread for this*)

**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

Close centre back. Stuff firmly from each end, turning and moulding as you work. Slightly 'square off' the legs end as you stuff (see photograph) and keep in mind that you need to 'fill out' the abdominal area (the girth should measure 24cm when finished) Close the legs end seam with mattress stitch but leave the head end open at this point



### 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

**3<sup>rd</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 sts in A beg at back of head*

**1<sup>st</sup> row** P to end

**2<sup>nd</sup> 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, K.1 - 15 sts

P 1 row

*Break off, 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 (*Mould and firm the stuffing as you work but avoid overstretching the stitches*)

**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!



Coming together!

#### **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 the dark brown 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 eye, 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 you can 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 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 .Remove your pins as you work and finally tie ends together securely.

Once the features are completed close the open seam.

*Check that the ears are positioned correctly, sew in place and secure head to body.*



#### **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

## 8.

*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 and close seam using the long strand. Stuff 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.*



### **Jumper** 2.75mm Needles

#### **Front**

*Cast on 43 sts in E*

**G-st 4 rows**

**Next: St-st 12 rows beg with a K row working in 2 pattern stripe as follows:**

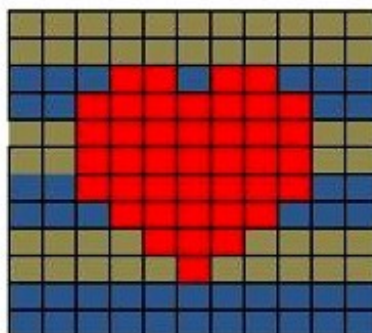
*2 rows in D*

*2 rows in E*

**Next \*Rows 13 to 20 work in st-st as follows:**

*Using F begin **HEART** following diagram and continuing in 2 stripe pattern as before.*

*\*At the same time mark each end of 17<sup>th</sup> row for sleeve placement*



*\*The heart will begin on Row 13 which is a K row on the 22<sup>nd</sup> stitch of this row.*

**Next: St-st a further 16 rows continuing in pattern stripe beg with a K row**

#### ***Shape Shoulders:***

*Continuing in E cast off 10sts 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*

**Back**

*Cast on 43 sts in E*

**G-st 4 rows**

**St-st 36 rows beg with a K row** (*Mark each end of 17<sup>th</sup> row for sleeve placement*)

**Shape Shoulders:**

*Cast off 10sts 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 and across shoulder seams. Fasten off and press seams lightly

**Sleeves** 2.75mm Needles (*Make 2*)

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

**Next: St-st 19 rows beg with a P row** as follows:

17 rows in E

2 rows in F

G-st 4 rows in E

*Cast off*

**To Make Up**

Press sleeves lightly under a cloth on WS, sew up sleeve and side seams and fasten off Fold over neck opening.

**Breeches** 2.75mm Needles (*Make 2*)

*Cast on 33 sts in D*

**St-st 5 rows beg with a K row**

**Next row:** K to mark the hemline (WS)

**St-st 5 rows beg with a K row**

**Next row:** K through **back** of loops (WS)

**Increase row**

K1, (Inc in every st) to end - 65 sts

**St-st 7 rows beg with a P row.**

**Shape body**

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

**Next: St-st 23 rows beg with a K row**

**Decrease row**

P1, (P2tog) to end - 27sts.

K1 row

**Next row:** K through **back** of loops (WS)

**St-st 5 rows beg with a K row**

*Cast off LOOSELY*

**To Make Up**

Press pieces lightly under a cloth on WS. Turn up the hems (the hemlines were marked by a P row) press these lightly and sew in place.

Join the two pieces together down the centres from waistband to start of leg decrease at both front and back (remembering to leave a 2.5 cm opening at the back approximately 6.5 cm down from waistband edge for tail). Now sew the legs of the breeches front to the back.



Smile Oscar!

*Oscar's* breeches fit snugly over his round tummy

Put *Oscar's* clothing in place and make a pompom tail. Sew this in place securely.

A new life has been created!



Other characters to follow soon in the Mary Jane's TEAROOM series:

*Primrose Rabbit*

*Bluebell Rabbit*

Contact details: *maryjanestearoom@btinternet.com*

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