

ALAN DART *designer of knitted & fabric toys*

Baby Pearl

Baby Pearl is the youngest member of the Knitall family, who feature in the comic strip 'In Stitches', by Malcolm Bird, every month in Simply Knitting magazine.



MEASUREMENTS

23cm/9in tall, when sitting.

MATERIALS

You will need: Of standard D.K. yarn: 50g in Denim Blue, 25g in Flesh Tone, 20g in Pale Pink, and 10g in Mid Pink; a 50cm length of Black D.K. yarn; of DMC stranded

embroidery cotton: 1 skein each in shades 921 and 922; 50g of washable toy stuffing; pair of 3mm (U.K. no.11) knitting needles; stitch holder; 4 plastic drinking straws; clear adhesive; rust and red coloured pencils; long tweezers; hair spray (optional).

TENSION

26 sts and 36 rows to 10cm, measured over stocking stitch worked with D.K. yarn on 3mm needles.

ABBREVIATIONS

beg = beginning; dec = decrease (by working 2 stitches together); inc = increase (by working into front and back of stitch); K = knit; P = purl; sl = slip; ss = stocking stitch (one row knit, one row purl); st(s) = stitch(es); SKPO = slip one, knit one, pass slipped stitch over; tog = together.

NOTE

Begin all pieces with a K row, and use 3mm needles throughout.

BODY make 1 piece

With Pale Pink cast on 9 sts for base edge and ss 2 rows.

Shape base of body, 1st inc row:

Inc into every st to end [18 sts].

P 1 row.

2nd inc row: (Inc 1, K1) to end [27 sts].

Ss 3 rows.

3rd inc row: (K1, inc 1, K1) to end [36

sts].

Ss 3 rows.

4th inc row: (K1, inc 1, K2) to end [45 sts].

Ss 3 rows.

5th inc row: (K2, inc 1, K2) to end [54 sts].

Ss 9 rows.

Shape top of body, 1st dec row:

K6, (K 2 tog, K4) to end [46 sts].

Ss 3 rows.

2nd dec row: K6, (K 2 tog, K3) to end [38 sts].

Ss 3 rows.

3rd dec row: (K6, SKPO, K4, K 2 tog, K4) twice, K2 [34 sts].

P 1 row.

4th dec row: (K6, SKPO, K2, K 2 tog, K4) twice, K2 [30 sts].

P 1 row.

5th dec row: (K6, SKPO, K 2 tog, K4) twice, K2 [26 sts].

P 1 row.

Cast off for shoulder edge.

HEAD make 1 piece

With Flesh Tone cast on 10 sts for neck edge and ss 2 rows.

Shape base of head, 1st inc row:

Inc into every st to end [20 sts].

P 1 row.

2nd inc row: (Inc 1, K1) to end [30 sts].

Ss 3 rows.

3rd inc row: (K1, inc 1, K1) to end [40 sts].

P 1 row.

Inc for base of cheeks, next row:

K12, (inc 1) four times, K8, (inc 1) four times, K12 [48 sts].

P 1 row.

Inc for mouth, next row: K22, (inc 1) four times, K22 [52 sts].

Shape lip, 1st row: P30, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

2nd row: Sl 1, K8, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

3rd row: Sl 1, P7, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

4th row: Sl 1, K6, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

5th row: Sl 1, P to end [52 sts].

Dec for top of lip, next row: K22, (SKPO, K 2 tog) twice, K22 [48 sts].

P 1 row.

Next inc row: (K2, inc 1) seven times, K6, (inc 1, K2) seven times [62 sts].

Ss 3 rows.

Dec for top of cheeks, next row:

K19. (SKPO, K 2 tog) twice, K8, (SKPO, K 2 tog) twice, K19 [54 sts].

Ss 5 rows.

Final inc row: (K2, inc 1) seven times, K12, (inc 1, K2) seven times [68 sts].

Ss 9 rows.

Shape top of head, 1st dec row:

K2, (K2, K 2 tog, K2) to end [57 sts].

Ss 5 rows.

2nd dec row: K2, (K1, K 2 tog, K2) to end [46 sts].

Ss 3 rows.

3rd dec row: K2, (K1, K 2 tog, K1) to end [35 sts].

Ss 3 rows.

4th dec row: K2, (K 2 tog, K1) to end [24 sts].

P 1 row.

5th dec row: (K 2 tog) to end [12 sts].

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

NECK make 1 piece

With Flesh Tone cast on 10 sts for base edge and ss 5 rows.

Cast off for top edge.

EARS make 2 pieces

With Flesh Tone cast on 10 sts for outside edge and ss 2 rows.

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

NOSE make 1 piece

With Flesh Tone cast on 8 sts for base edge and ss 2 rows.

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

SLEEVES make 2 pieces

With Pale Pink cast on 14 sts for wrist edge and ss 16 rows.

Shape sleeve head: Cast off 2 sts at beg of next 2 rows for underarm [10 sts]. Dec 1 st at beg of next 4 rows [6 sts]. Cast off for top edge.



HANDS make 2 pieces

With Flesh Tone cast on 14 sts for wrist edge and ss 2 rows.

Cast on 2 sts at beg of next 2 rows for thumb [18 sts].

Cast off 4 sts at beg of next 2 rows [10 sts].

Inc for fingers, next row: K1, (inc 1) three times, K1, inc 1, turn and work on these 10 sts only.

Work little finger, *next row: P4, turn and work on these sts only. Ss 2 rows.

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off, then join finger seam.**

Work ring finger, next row: With 6 sts on right hand needle, rejoin yarn to work and inc 1 from sts on left hand needle. Turn and work on these 8 sts only. Work as given for little finger from * to **.

Work middle finger, next row: With 4 sts on right hand needle, rejoin yarn to work and inc 1 from sts on left hand needle. Turn and work on these 6 sts only. Work as given for little finger from * to **.

Work index finger, next row: With 2 sts on right hand needle, rejoin yarn to work and K rem 2 sts from left hand needle [4 sts].

Ss 3 rows.

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off, then join index finger seam and round thumb, stopping at wrist edge.

WRIST FRILL make 2 pieces

With Pale Pink cast on 16 sts for base edge.

1st row: K1, inc into next 2 sts, turn.

2nd row: *P4, turn.

3rd row: K5, inc into next 2 sts, turn.**

Work from * to ** until 1 st remains on left hand needle.

Next row: P4, turn.

Final row: K5.

Cast off all sts K wise.

NECK FRILL make 1 piece

With Pale Pink cast on 22 sts for base edge

and work as given for wrist frill.

LEGS make 2 pieces

With Mid Pink cast on 10 sts for lower edge of opening and ss 2 rows.

Cast on 5 sts at beg of next 2 rows for top edge of opening [20 sts].

Inserting marker threads at beg and end of first row, ss 8 rows.

Dec row: (K2, K 2 tog, K1) to end [16 sts].

Ss 7 rows.

Shape heel, inc row: K6, (inc 1) four times, K6 [20 sts].

P 1 row.

Work heel dart, 1st row: K16, YF, sl 1, YB, turn,

2nd row: Sl 1, P12, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

3rd row: Sl 1, K11, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

4th row: Sl 1, P10, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

5th row: Sl 1, K9, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

6th row: Sl 1, P8, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

7th row: Sl 1, K7, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

8th row: Sl 1, P6, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

9th row: Sl 1, K6, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

10th row: Sl 1, P7, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

11th row: Sl 1, K8, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

12th row: Sl 1, P9, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

13th row: Sl 1, K10, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

14th row: Sl 1, P11, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

15th row: Sl 1, K to end.

16th row: P across all sts [20 sts].

Ss 4 rows.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row [18 sts].

Ss 5 rows.

Shape toe, dec row: (K3, SKPO, K 2 tog, K1) twice, K2 [14 sts].

P 1 row.

Cast off for toe edge.

DUNGAREES make 1 piece

Right leg: *With Denim Blue cast on 32 sts for base edge and ss 18 rows.

Cast on 2 sts at beg of next 4 rows [40

sts].**

Break yarn and slip sts on to a stitch holder.

Left leg: Work as given for right leg from * to **.

Join legs, next row: K38, SKPO from left leg sts, then K 2 tog, K38 from held right leg sts [78 sts].

P 1 row.

Work left back dart, 1st row: K22, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

2nd and all following even numbered rows, up to and including row 18: Sl 1, P to end.

3rd row: K20, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

5th row: K18, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

7th row: K16, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

9th row: K14, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

11th row: K12, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

13th row: K10, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

15th row: K8, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

17th row: K6, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

19th row: K across all sts [78 sts].

Work right back dart, 1st row:

P22, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

2nd and all following even numbered rows, up to and including row 18: Sl 1, K to end.

3rd row: P20, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

5th row: P18, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

7th row: P16, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

9th row: P14, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

11th row: P12, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

13th row: P10, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

15th row: P8, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

17th row: P6, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

19th row: P across all sts [78 sts].

Ss 4 rows.

1st dec row: (K4, K 2 tog) five times, K18, (K 2 tog, K4) five times [68 sts].

Ss 5 rows.

2nd dec row: (K3, K 2 tog) five times, K18, (K 2 tog, K3) five times [58 sts].

Ss 5 rows.

Work left back, next row: K9, turn

and work on these sts only.
 Dec 1 st at beg of next row.
 Dec 1 st at end of next row.
 Repeat the last 2 rows once more [5 sts].
 Ss 2 rows.
 Dec 1 st at beg of next row [4 sts].
 Ss 2 rows.
 Cast off for top edge.

Work front bib, next row: Rejoin yarn to remaining 49 sts, cast off first 10 sts, K20, turn and work on these sts only.
 Dec 1 st at beg and end of next 4 rows [12 sts].
 Ss 2 rows.
 Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row [10 sts].
 Ss 2 rows.
 Cast off for top edge.

Work right back, next row: Rejoin yarn to remaining 19 sts, cast off first 10 sts, K to end [9 sts].
 Dec 1 st at end of next row.
 Dec 1 st at beg of next row.
 Repeat the last 2 rows once more [5 sts].
 Ss 2 rows.
 Dec 1 st at end of next row [4 sts].
 Ss 2 rows.
 Cast off for top edge.

BIB POCKET make 1 piece

With Denim Blue cast on 8 sts for top edge and ss 8 rows.
 Dec 1 st at beg and end of next 2 rows [4 sts].
 Cast off for base edge.

DUNGAREES STRAPS make 2 pieces

With Denim Blue cast on 14 sts and K 1 row.
 Cast off.

HAIR RIBBON make 1 piece

With Mid Pink cast on 6 sts.
 Cast off.

HAIR BOW make 1 piece

With Mid Pink cast on 12 sts and ss 2 rows.
 Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

For best results, sew seams and join pieces using mattress stitch, working with right side of knitting uppermost. A one stitch knitted seam turning has been allowed on all pieces to accommodate this method. Join body seam, leaving shoulder edge open, then work a gathering thread through every stitch on base edge, draw up tightly and fasten off. Hold all four straws together and bind a 10cm section with Flesh Tone yarn, winding closely to cover straws completely and securing ends of yarn with a little glue. Trim straws 1cm away from each end of bound section to make a 12cm long neck support. Stuff body firmly, then make a hole in centre with index finger and insert neck support so that 7cm extends above shoulder edge. With body seam running down centre back, fold shoulder edge flat and join at each side of support to form right and left shoulders. Wrap knitted neck piece round neck support and join side edges, placing this seam at centre back, then sew base edge of neck to top of body.

Take head piece and spread a thin line of glue on wrong side of work behind mouth section. Pinch mouth on right side to form top lip and leave to set.

Join head seam, starting at gathered top edge and stopping 3cm before neck edge. Stuff firmly, padding cheeks with separate balls of stuffing, then join remainder of seam, leaving neck edge open. Make a hole in stuffing with index finger and insert remaining portion of neck support which extends above top of neck. Sew top edge of neck to base of head.

Join each leg seam, starting at toe edge and stopping at marker threads. With this seam

running along top of foot and up front of leg, fold toe edge flat and join across. Remove markers and stuff legs firmly, then position and sew to body, spacing 4cm apart, with lower edge of opening in line with 3rd increase row at base of body and top edge in line with 5th increase row. Join each sleeve seam from wrist edge to underarm. Leaving fingers and thumb unstuffed, use tweezers to stuff each hand firmly, then join wrist edges of hands and sleeves, placing thumb seam 3 knitted stitches away from sleeve seam. Stuff sleeves firmly, then position and sew sleeve heads to body sides, placing so that right arm hangs downwards and left arm, when bent at elbow, will allow thumb to touch mouth.

Following instructions on ball band, press wrist and neck frills lightly on wrong side. Wrap frills round wrists and neck and join side edges, then sew in place by working backstitch along cast on edge.

Press dungarees lightly on wrong side. Join back seam, then join each inside leg seam and fit dungarees on body. First stretch each strap fully, then sew ends in place to front bib and back section of dungarees. Pin bib and back section in place and hold each in position with a few stitches, then remove pins.

Position and sew bib pocket in place.

Carefully draw out a single strand from a length of Mid Pink yarn and use the remaining 2 strands to embroider a circle of 7 chain stitches for each button at top of bib. Also embroider two smaller buttons at each side of dungarees, this time working 5 chain stitches.

Join nose seam, leaving base edge open. Use tweezers to stuff firmly, then position and sew to face, placing directly above top lip decrease row.

Mark eye positions with pins, spacing 8 knitted stitches apart and placing on

decrease row at top of cheeks. Carefully draw out a single strand from a length of Black yarn and use this to work a circle of 4 tiny chain stitches for each eye. Use a sharp needle and take care when drawing yarn through work as the fibres separate easily.



Also embroider top lip with one strand of Mid Pink yarn, working along edge of glued fold line with split stitch.

Separate 2 strands from a length of the darker rust embroidery thread and use this to embroider eyebrows in chain stitch, following photograph for placement. Position and sew ears to sides of head, placing vertically between the two last increase rows.

Use red pencil to blush cheeks lightly, then shade top and back of head with rust pencil.

At this stage you may like to fix pencil and stiffen ears with hair spray and leave to set. To embroider hair, thread a sharp needle with a 1 metre length of lighter rust embroidery cotton and take a tiny stitch at top of head, drawing up thread to leave a 5cm end. Now work one straight stitch for first strand of hair, inserting needle at base point. Take a small stitch to the side, and draw out needle at what will be base point of adjacent strand of hair. Return needle to top of head and take a tiny stitch. By doing this you will have embroidered two strands of hair. Continue working in this manner until length of cotton has been used, finishing at top of head and trimming remaining end of cotton to 5cm. Repeat with further lengths of cotton until entire skein has been used, then fill in any gaps with strands of darker rust cotton. Wrap hair ribbon round base of cotton tufts at top of head, join ends and catch to top of head with a few stitches. Use tweezers to help tie a tight knot in centre of hair bow piece, then sew this knot to front of hair ribbon. Trim hair tufts unevenly to approximately 3cm. Finally, bend left arm at elbow and sew tip of thumb underneath top lip, then fold down fingers and catch to palm with a few stitches.



All the members of the Knitall family.

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