

ALAN DART *designer of knitted & fabric toys*

Wedding Cake



MEASUREMENTS

The cake, including board, is 8in (20cm) wide and 4in (10cm) deep, and the bride and groom are 5in (12.5cm) tall.

MATERIALS

Of Sirdar Bonus DK, 100g balls: 90g in White 961, 20g in Aran 993, and 5g each in Flesh Tone 963 and Black 965.

Of Sirdar Country Style DK, 100g balls: 25g in Mountain Ash 589, and 5g in

Greystone 408.

Of Sirdar Snuggly 2 ply, 50g balls: 5g in White 251.

Oddments of chocolate brown, golden brown, dusky pink, and leaf green DK yarns.

Pair of 3mm (no.11) knitting needles; stitch holder; 50g of washable toy stuffing; a 39in x 3in (99cm x 7.5cm) strip of thick washable wadding; an 8in (20cm) diameter, 1/2in (12mm) thick, card cake board; stiff white card; 5 tiny pearl beads; ivory sewing thread; pink pencil; clear adhesive; pair of compasses; long tweezers; hair spray.

TENSION

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

ABBREVIATIONS

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

slip one, knit one, pass slipped stitch over;
tog = together.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Use 3mm needles throughout and cast on by using the cable (two-needle) method. This is most important when making the smaller pieces. Also begin all pieces with a K row, unless otherwise specified. Please also take time to make sure that you are familiar with the correct method of increasing before commencing, otherwise you will find that the number of stitches on your needle will not match those stated in the pattern. 'Inc 1' means to increase by working into the front and back of the next stitch, thus making two stitches from one without leaving a hole in the knitting. This technique is sometimes referred to as KFB and is the only form of increasing that I use, so once you have mastered this you will be able to knit any of my patterns with complete confidence.

WEDDING CAKE

CAKE make 1 piece

With White cast on 126 sts for base edge and ss 25 rows for side.

P 3 rows for fold line.

Ss 2 rows, beg with a K row.

***1st dec row:** (K3, K 2 tog, K2) to end

[108 sts].

Ss 3 rows.

2nd dec row: (K2, K 2 tog, K2) to end [90 sts].

Ss 3 rows.

3rd dec row: (K2, K 2 tog, K1) to end [72 sts].

Ss 3 rows.

4th dec row: (K1, K 2 tog, K1) to end [54 sts].

Ss 3 rows.

5th dec row: (K1, K 2 tog) to end [36 sts].

Ss 3 rows.

6th dec row: (K 2 tog) to end [18 sts].

7th dec row: (P 2 tog) to end [9 sts].

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

CAKE BOARD make 1 piece

Top section: With Mountain Ash cast on 126 sts and ss 2 rows.

1st inc row: (K3, inc 1, K3) to end [144 sts].

Ss 3 rows.

2nd inc row: (K3, inc 1, K4) to end [162 sts].

Ss 2 rows.

P 3 rows for fold.

K 1 row.

P 3 rows for fold.

Ss 2 rows, beg with a K row.

1st dec row: (K4, K 2 tog, K3) to end [144 sts].

Ss 2 rows.

2nd dec row: (P3, P 2 tog, P3) to end [126 sts].

Change to White and ss 4 rows.

Work as given for cake from * to **.

Base section: With right side of work facing and White, K up 126 sts from cast on edge of top section.

P 1 row.

Work as given for cake from * to **.

sts].

Next row: SKPO, break yarn and draw through st.



SHELL PIPING make 1 piece

With White cast on 5 sts and cont in gs.

*Gs 2 rows.

Inc row: Inc into every st to end [10 sts].

Gs 7 rows.

Dec row: (K 2 tog) to end [5 sts].

K 1 row.**

Work from * to ** 23 more times.

Cast off.

ICED TRIANGLES make 6 pieces

With White cast on 17 sts for top edge and cont in gs.

Gs 2 rows.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row.

K 1 row.

Repeat the last 2 rows six more times [3

ROSE CENTRES make 6 pieces

With Aran cast on 16 sts for base edge and ss 2 rows.

Dec 1 st at beg of next row.

Dec 1 st at end of next row.

Repeat the last 2 rows once more [12 sts].

Cast off for top edge.

ROSE PETALS make 24 pieces

With Aran cast on 16 sts for outside edge and cont in ss.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of first 4 rows [8 sts].

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

ROSE LEAVES make 12 pieces

With Mountain Ash cast on 3 sts for base edge and cont in ss.

Inc row: (Inc 1) twice, K1 [5 sts].

Ss 3 rows.

1st dec row: SKPO, K1, K 2 tog [3 sts].

P 1 row.

2nd dec row: Sl 1, K 2 tog, PSSO, break yarn and draw through st.

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.

Fit card cake board inside knitted piece and join seam, sewing from one gathered centre point to the other, to cover.

Join cake seam from gathered centre top point down to base edge. Using compasses, draw a 6in (15cm) diameter circle on white card. Cut out and glue this to purl side of cake top, matching edge of card to knitted fold line. Place wadding strip inside cake, winding round twice to fit, then fill centre space with stuffing.

Matching board and cake seams, sew base edge of cake to top of board. following first row knitted in White on board.

Join ends of shell piping strip, then join side edges, using tweezers to stuff each

shell lightly after it has been sewn, and stuffing final shell before it has been sewn.

Do not fasten off sewing yarn, but place piece over cake and draw up yarn and gather slightly to fit before fastening off.

Using a thin line of glue, fix shell piping to board.

Pin iced triangles, evenly spaced, round side of cake, matching top edge of triangle to knitted fold line on cake, then sew in place with a few stitches and remove pins.

To make each rose, first roll up a centre piece, starting at longer side, and hold with a few stitches at base. Take four petals, pull cast on edge on each to stretch fully, then join seam, sewing from gathered point down to cast on edge. Now wrap petals round centre and hold in place with a few stitches, overlapping side edges of petals and catching these together with a couple of stitches. Coat with hair spray and shape petals between fingers, curling back top edge of each, then leave to set.

Darn cast off yarn down centre of each leaf, working on purl side, to meet cast on yarn at base. Position and sew, or glue, roses round cake, placing between triangles and above shell piping, then sew a leaf to either side of each rose.

BRIDE AND GROOM



BRIDE

BODY AND HEAD make 1 piece

With White cast on 8 sts for base edge and cont in ss.

1st inc row: Inc into every st to end [16 sts].

P 1 row.

2nd inc row: (Inc 1, K1) to end [24 sts].

P 1 row.

3rd inc row: (K1, inc 1, K1) to end [32 sts].

P 3 rows for dress hem.

Ss 20 rows, beg with a K row.

Shape waist, 1st dec row: (K 2 tog) to end [16 sts].

Ss 2 rows.

P 2 rows for top edge of bodice.

Change to Flesh Tone and ss 3 rows, beg with a P row.

Shape neck, 2nd dec row: (K 2 tog) to end [8 sts].

Ss 3 rows.

***Shape base of head, inc row:** Inc into every st to end [16 sts].

Ss 7 rows.

Shape top of head, dec row: (K 2 tog) to end [8 sts].

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

ARMS make 2 pieces

With Flesh Tone cast on 5 sts for top edge and ss 15 rows.

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

VEIL make 1 piece

With White 2 ply cast on 24 sts for base edge and ss 50 rows.

Break yarn, leaving a long end, Thread through sts on needle but do not draw up.

CHIGNON make 1 piece

With golden brown cast on 6 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.



BOUQUET make 1 piece

With leaf green cast on 10 sts for top edge and ss 2 rows.

Inc row: K2, (inc 1) twice, K2, (inc 1) twice, K2 [14 sts].

Ss 3 rows.

1st dec row: (K2, K 2 tog, SKPO) twice, K2 [10 sts].

P 1 row.

2nd dec row: K1, (K 2 tog, SKPO) twice, K1 [6 sts].

P 1 row.

3rd dec row: (Sl 1, K 2 tog, PSSO) twice [2 sts].

Break yarn, leaving a long end, and thread through sts on needle.

TO MAKE UP

Again, use mattress stitch when sewing these pieces together.

Work a gathering thread through every stitch on base edge of dress, draw up tightly and fasten off, then join first 2in (5cm) of dress seam. Use compasses to draw a 1 1/2in (4cm) diameter circle on card, then cut out and glue inside base. Starting at gathered top edge, join head seam and use tweezers to stuff, then join neck and bodice seam down to waist. Use tweezers to stuff bodice and skirt firmly, leaving neck unstuffed, then join remainder of seam. Work a gathering thread through every stitch on waist shaping row, draw up to shape waist and fasten off.

Join arm seams and, leaving unstuffed, position and sew top edges to sides of body.

Fastening off ends of yarn at back of head, use Flesh Tone to embroider nose with a vertical straight stitch, working over 2

knitted rows. Now carefully draw out a single strand from a length of Black yarn and use this to embroider two tiny stitches for eyes, spacing 2 knitted stitches apart. Also draw out a single strand from a length of dusky pink yarn and use this to embroider mouth with two horizontal straight stitches. Blush cheeks lightly with pink pencil.

Using golden brown yarn, embroider a line of backstitch round head to form hairline, then form hair by embroidering straight stitches between this hairline and a point at back of head, where chignon will be placed, until entire head has been covered.

Treating purl side as right side, work a gathering thread all round edge of chignon, draw up tightly to form a small ball, and then sew in place on head. Use thread to sew a pearl bead to each side of head for earrings.

Following instructions on ball band, press veil on wrong side, then draw up yarn to gather top edge tightly and sew this edge at back of head, directly below chignon.

Join seam on bouquet, then use tweezers to stuff lightly. With seam running down centre back, fold top edge flat and sew across. Using Aran yarn, embroider roses by first working a French knot for centre, and then surrounding this with three bullion knots. Also work a few rosebuds

with single French knots. To make leaves, use leaf green yarn to work a few stitches in between roses and rosebuds, without drawing up each stitch completely so a small loop is left.

Bend right arm and sew hand to dress, just below waist at centre front, then sew bouquet to hand and dress.



GROOM

BODY AND HEAD make 1 piece

Right leg: *With Black cast on 8 sts for base edge of shoe and cont in ss.

Shape shoe, next row: Inc into every st to end [16 sts].

P 3 rows.**

Next row: K2, (sl 1, K 2 tog, PSSO) twice, K8 [12 sts].

***Change to Greystone for trousers and P 3 rows for cuff.

Ss 12 rows, beg with a K row.****

Break yarn and slip sts on to stitch holder.

Left leg: As right leg from * to **.

Shape shoe, next row: K8, (sl 1, K 2 tog, PSSO) twice, K2 [12 sts].

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

Join legs for body, next row:

Inserting marker threads at beg and end, K10, SKPO from left leg sts, then K 2 tog, K10 from held right leg sts [22 sts].

Ss 5 rows.

Change to White for shirt and (K1, K 2 tog) three times, K4, ((K 2 tog, K1) three times [16 sts].

Ss 7 rows.

Shape neck, next row: (K 2 tog) to end [8 sts].

Ss 2 rows.

Change to Flesh Tone and P 1 row.

Work head as given for bride from * to **.

WAISTCOAT make 1 piece

Left side: With Aran cast on 2 sts for shoulder edge and ss 2 rows.

Inc 1 st at beg of next row [3 sts].

Inc 1 st end of next row [4 sts].

Break yarn and slip sts on to stitch holder.

Right side: With Aran cast on 2 sts for shoulder edge and ss 2 rows.

Inc 1 st at end of next row [3 sts].

Inc 1 st at beg of next row [4 sts].

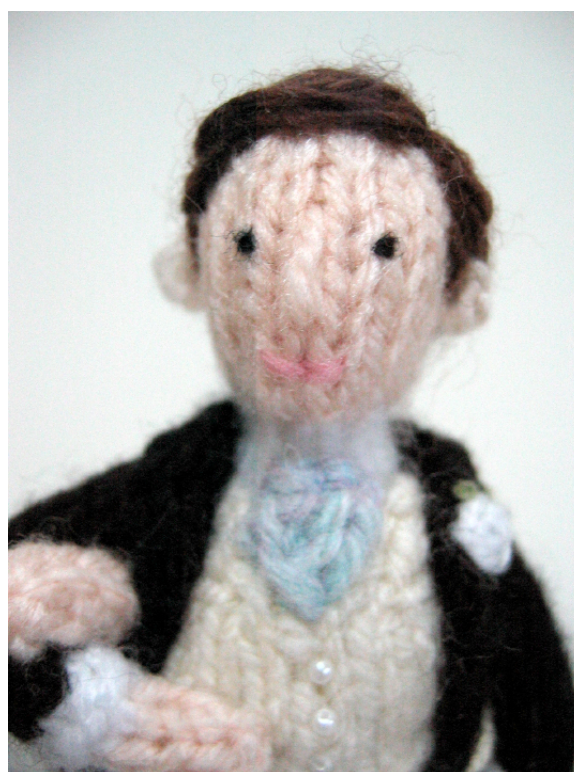
Join sides, next row: K the 4 right side sts, then K the 4 held left side sts [8 sts].

Ss 4 rows.

Shape base points, next row: Cast off 2 sts, P to last 2 sts, Cast off [4 sts].

Rejoin yarn to remaining 4 sts, K 2 tog, break yarn and draw through st.

Rejoin yarn to remaining 2 sts, SKPO, break yarn and draw through st.



CRAVAT make 1 piece

With Mountain Ash cast on 3 sts for top edge and ss 2 rows,

Next row: Sl 1, K 2 tog, PSSO, break yarn and draw through st.

MORNING COAT make 1 piece

Left tail: With Black cast on 6 sts for base edge and ss 8 rows.

Break yarn and slip sts on to stitch holder.

Right tail: With Black cast on 6 sts for base edge and ss 8 rows.

Join tails, next row: K the 6 right tail sts, then K the 6 held left tail sts [12 sts].
P 1 row.

Cast on 2 sts at beg of next 2 rows [16 sts].

Ss 4 rows.

Work lapels, 1st row: P1, K14, P1.

2nd row: K1, P14, K1.

3rd row: P2, K12, P2.

4th row: K2, P12, K2.

5th row: P2, K1, SKPO, K6, K 2 tog, K1, P2 [14 sts].

Cast off.

SLEEVES AND HANDS make 2 pieces

With Black cast on 7 sts for top edge and ss 9 rows.

Change to White for shirt cuff and P 2 rows.

Change to Flesh Tone for hand.

Dec row: P1, (P 2 tog, P1) twice [5 sts].

Ss 3 rows, beg with a K row.

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

TO MAKE UP

Join each leg seam, from base edge of shoe up to marker thread, then, with seam running down inside leg, fold base edge of shoe flat and sew across. Now join body seam from marker threads up to first row of shirt and remove markers.

Starting at gathered top edge, join head seam and use tweezers to stuff, then join neck and shirt seam, leaving a 1 in (2.5cm) space open. Use tweezers to stuff legs and body firmly, leaving neck unstuffed, then join remainder of seam.

Pin waistcoat to front of body and sew in place down sides and across shoulder seams. Remove pins and use thread to sew three pearl bead buttons down centre front. Sew cravat in place within V neck of waistcoat.

Following instructions on ball band, press morning coat on wrong side, then wrap round body and hold in place with pins. Join sleeve and hand seams and, leaving

unstuffed, position and sew top edges to sides of body, sewing through morning coat to hold this in place. Remove pins, then fold back lapels and catch each point down with a stitch. Draw out a single strand from a length of White yarn and use the remaining 2 strands to embroider a circle of 6 tiny chain stitches on left lapel for carnation, then embroider two tiny stitches with 2 strands of leaf green yarn above this to form fern.

Embroider features as given for bride, and also embroider a small vertical straight stitch in Flesh Tone at each side of head for ears, forming a loop by not drawing up yarn completely. Omit cheek blushing.

Using chocolate brown yarn, embroider a line of backstitch across left side of head for parting, then form hair by embroidering straight stitches through this parting, working across head, until top of head has been covered. Fill in space remaining at back of head with more straight stitches until completely covered.

Placing bride and groom together, link arms and sew hands in position with a few stitches. Also catch groom's lower right leg to bride's dress with a few stitches.

Coat lightly with hair spray, arrange figures in position, and leave to set.

Place bridal couple on cake and mark position with pins, then remove and spread

glue under feet and base of dress and fix couple back in place. Remove pins, then arrange veil and hold base edge in place on cake with a few spots of glue.



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