

Toy
knit

By Alan Dart

Farmyard



Frolics

Bring the countryside into your home with these cute farmyard favourites.





Pattern info

You will need...

For the Horses:

Sirdar, Country Style DK

Hazel (500), 1 x 100g/318m ball
White (412), 1 x 100g/318m ball
Chocolate (530), 1 x 100g/318m ball

For the Cows:

Sirdar, Country Style DK

White (412), 1 x 100g/318m ball
Black (417), 1 x 100g/318m ball
Barley (524), 1 x 100g/318m ball

Sirdar, Bonus Toytime DK

Flesh Tone (963), 1 x 25g/75m ball

For the Sheep:

Sirdar, Snuggly Snowflake DK

Pure White (300), 1 x 50g/170m ball
Cream (303), 1 x 50g/170m ball

Sirdar, Country Style DK

White (412), 1 x 100g/318m ball
Black (417), 1 x 100g/318m ball

A pair of 3mm needles

A 9mm needle

Washable toy stuffing

Plastic drinking straws (one per animal)

Clear adhesive

Long tweezers

Black and grey felt

Hole punch

For where to buy, turn to page 104

Farmyard Frolics

NOTE: Use 3mm needles throughout and cast on by using the cable (two needle) method, beginning all pieces with a K row. Use mattress stitch when sewing pieces together. A one stitch seam allowance has been included on all pieces to accommodate this. **NUMBER OF PIECES STATED REFERS TO MAKING ONE ANIMAL**

TO MAKE UP LEGS

Spread a little glue over end of straw and wrap with a knitted leg piece. Oversew side edges of leg together round straw, then cut straw 2cm above top edge of leg. Push large knitting needle into body at leg position, turning to make a hole through knitting and stuffing, then remove needle, spread uncovered top portion of straw with glue and push into hole. Sew ends of yarn remaining at top of leg into body and out, then trim away excess.

TO GLUE EARS AND FEET IN POSITION

If necessary, darn cast off end of yarn back through knitted piece to finish at opposite end of base edge from cast on yarn. Use needle to sew each end of yarn into toy at appropriate position, taking out needle at side of piece. Draw up, leaving about 1cm of yarn visible at base of ear or foot. Dab a spot of glue on each of these sections of yarn then pull end to draw ear or foot into place. Trim away excess yarn.

TO FIT EYES AND NOSTRILS

Use hole punch to cut tiny dots from felt, then pick each one up with tweezers, dab back with glue, and fix in place.



Horse

Start knitting here...

BODY AND NECK (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 18 sts using 3mm in Hazel for back edge. St st 2 rows.

1st inc row (Inc 1) twice, K5, (Inc 1) four times, K5, (Inc 1) twice. [26 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (Inc 1, K1) twice, K5, (Inc 1, K1) four times, K5, (Inc 1, K1) twice. [34 sts]

St st 20 rows.

SHAPE BACK OF NECK

Inc 1 st at beg and end of next row. [36 sts]

Next row Knit.

Inc 1 st at beg and end of next row. [38 sts]

SHAPE FRONT OF BODY

1st dec row K14, (k2tog, K1) four times, K12. [34 sts]

Inc 1 st at beg and end of next row. [36 sts]

2nd dec row K14, (K2tog) four times, K14. [32 sts]

Inc 1 st at beg and end of next row. [34 sts]

WORK LEFT SIDE OF NECK

Next row K15, k2tog, turn and work on these 16 sts only.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next 7 rows. [2 sts]

Cast off.

WORK RIGHT SIDE OF NECK

Next row Rejoin yarn to remaining 17 sts, SKPO, K to end. [16 sts]

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next 7 rows. [2 sts]

Cast off.

HEAD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 10 sts using 3mm needles in Hazel yarn for top edge.

St st 2 rows.

The shades available in Sirdar Country Style DK are perfect for the countryside palette.



Inc row Inc into every st to end. [20 sts]

St st 9 rows.

Dec row (K2tog) to end. [10 sts]

St st 3 rows.

Change to White yarn and st st 5 rows.

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

LEGS (MAKE 4 PIECES)

Cast on 5 sts using 3mm needles and Hazel yarn for top edge.

St st 4 rows.

Change to White yarn and st st 2 rows.

Next row Purl.

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

EARS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 3 sts using 3mm needles in Hazel yarn for base edge.

St st 4 rows.

Dec row Sl 1, k2tog, PSSO, break yarn and draw through st.

TO MAKE UP

Hold body in half and join front neck seam then, leaving top neck edge open, join back neck and body seam, stopping $\frac{1}{4}$ in (2cm) away from back edge. Stuff neck and body firmly and join remainder of body seam, then fold back edge in half and join.

Join head seam from gathered base edge, stopping $\frac{1}{4}$ in (1cm) away from top edge. Stuff head firmly, using tweezers, and join remainder of seam, then work a gathering thread through every stitch on top edge, draw up tightly and fasten off. With head seam running down centre back, position and sew head to open neck edge of body.

Make up and fit legs in position.

Following photograph, use White yarn to Swiss darn a blaze down centre front of head.

then glue black eyes and grey nostrils in place. Sew and glue ears in position.

Starting at top of head and using Chocolate yarn, embroider a line of 12 tiny chain stitches down back neck. Now cut twenty four $\frac{3}{4}$ in (12cm) lengths of Chocolate yarn for mane strands and, starting at back, use a needle to thread two of these strands through each chain. Arrange strands so they are even on both sides of chain, then remove any kinks by holding in front of a steaming kettle. Lift up strands on one side of chain and draw a thin line of glue close to chain, then smooth down strands in place. Repeat on other side of mane, then trim ends of yarn to neaten.

To make tail, cut ten $8\frac{3}{4}$ in (20cm) lengths of Chocolate yarn and tie these together tightly in centre with another length of yarn. Hold up by tying yarn to form a tassel and straighten strands with a kettle as before. Sew ends of tying yarn through body at tail position and glue tail in place, using same method as given for ears. Trim ends of tail to neaten.

COW

 **Start knitting here...**

BODY (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 20 sts using 3mm needles in White or Barley yarn for front edge.

St st 2 rows.

1st inc row (Inc 1) twice, K6, (Inc 1) four times, K6, (Inc 1) twice. [28 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (Inc 1, K1) twice, K6, (Inc 1, K1) four times, K6, (Inc 1, K1) twice. [36 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd inc row (Inc 1, K2) twice, K6, (Inc 1, K2) four times, K6, (Inc 1, K2) twice. [44 sts]

St st 21 rows.

How to...

Stuff your toy

The shape of your toy depends on the way that it is stuffed.



1 Sew all the seams and weave in all the loose ends, and work small oversew stitches along most of the seam.



2 Push small amounts of stuffing into the shape you are stuffing, push it down as far as you can, while at the same time moulding the shape of the piece in your hand.



3 Using long tweezers push the stuffing into all the corners and the smaller pieces of knitting like noses and paws.

KNIT TIP

Use up your yarn stash to make these toys – you don't even have to knit to the colours we've suggested.





Pattern info



Tension

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension:
26 sts and 36 rows to measure 4x4in
(10x10cm) in st st using 3mm needles.

Measurements

Horse: 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ in, 11cm tall, 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ in, 12cm long
Cow: 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ in, 10cm tall, 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in, 9cm long
Sheep: 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ in, 9cm tall, 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ in, 8cm long

Abbreviations

beg beginning	sl slip
cont continue	st st stocking stitch
dec decrease (by working 2 stitches together)	st(s) stitch(es)
inc increase (by working into front and back of stitch)	SKPO slip one, knit one, pass slipped stitch over
K knit	tog together
P purl	YB yarn back
PSSO pass slipped stitch over	YF yarn forward

SHAPE BACK

1st dec row (K2, k2tog) twice, K7, (k2tog, K2) four times, K5, (k2tog, K2) twice. [36 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row (K1, k2tog) twice, K6, (k2tog, K1) four times, K6, (k2tog, K1) twice. [28 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd dec row (k2tog) twice, K6, (k2tog) four times, K6, (k2tog) twice. [20 sts]

Next row Purl.

Cast off for back edge.

HEAD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 16 sts using 3mm needles in Flesh Tone yarn for base edge.

St st 2 rows.

1st inc row K3, (inc 1) twice, K5, (inc 1) twice, K4. [20 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row K4, (inc 1, K1) twice, K4, (inc 1, K1) twice, K4. [24 sts]

Next row Purl.

Change to Black or Barley yarn.

St st 2 rows.

SHAPE TOP

1st dec row (K4, k2tog, SKPO, K4) twice. [20 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row (K3, k2tog, SKPO, K3) twice. [16 sts]

St st 7 rows.

3rd dec row (K2tog) to end. [8 sts]

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

LEGS (MAKE 4 PIECES)

Cast on 5 sts using 3mm needles in White or Barley yarn for top edge.

St st 4 rows.

Next row Purl.

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

EARS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 5 sts using 3mm needles in Black or Barley and K 1 row.

Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Fold front edge of body in half and join, then join body seam, stopping $\frac{3}{4}$ in (2cm) away from back edge. Stuff body firmly and join remainder of seam, then fold back edge in half and join. Join head seam from gathered top edge down to base edge. Use tweezers to stuff head firmly then, with seam running down centre back, fold base edge flat and join.

With body seam running along underside, position and sew head in place, then make up and fit legs in position.

Following photograph, use White yarn to Swiss darn a star on black headed cows, then glue black or grey eyes and grey nostrils in place. Sew and glue ears in position.

To make tail, cut a 39 $\frac{1}{4}$ in (1m) length of White or Barley yarn and fold in half, then half again. Holding open ends of yarn between left thumb and index finger, insert right index finger into folded end and turn it round and round, keeping yarn taut, until very tightly twisted. Holding centre point of yarn, bring ends together, then release centre and allow cord to form. Make a tight knot $\frac{1}{2}$ in (4cm) from folded end and trim cord $\frac{1}{2}$ in (1.5cm) away from this knot to form a tassel. Use large needle to make a hole in body at tail position, then glue folded end of cord into this hole.

Use Black yarn to Swiss darn irregular markings at random over bodies of white cows, using photograph for reference.

Bring our cows to life by Swiss darning markings with black yarn.



Sheep

Start knitting here...

BODY (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 14 sts using 3mm needles in Pure White or Cream Snowflake yarn for front edge and cont in st st.

1st inc row (Inc 1, K5, inc 1) twice. [18 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (Inc 1) twice, K5, (inc 1) four times, K5, (inc 1) twice. [26 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd inc row (Inc 1, K1) twice, K5, (inc 1, K1) four times, K5, (inc 1, K1) twice. [34 sts]

St st 17 rows.

SHAPE BACK

1st dec row (K1, k2tog) twice, K5, (k2tog, K1) four times, K5, (k2tog, K1) twice. [26 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row (K2tog) twice, K5, (k2tog) four times, K5, (k2tog) twice. [18 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd dec row (K2tog, K5, k2tog) twice. [14 sts]

Next row Purl.

Cast off for back edge.

HEAD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 12 sts using 3mm needles in Pure White or Cream Snowflake yarn for top edge.

St st 3 rows.

Change to Black or White and st st 4 rows, beg with a K row.

Inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [18 sts]

St st 7 rows.

1st dec row (K3, k2tog, SKPO, K1) twice, K2. [14 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row (K2, k2tog, SKPO) twice, K2. [10 sts]

Next row Purl.

Cast off for base edge.

LEGS (MAKE 4 PIECES)

Cast on 5 sts using 3mm needles in Black or White for top edge.

St st 4 rows.

Next row Purl.

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

EARS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 5 sts using 3mm needles in Black or White.

Next row Knit.

Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Treat purl side of pieces knitted in Snowflake as right side.

Fold front edge of body in half and join, then join body seam, stopping $\frac{3}{4}$ in (2cm) away from back edge. Stuff body firmly and join remainder of seam, then fold back edge in half and join.

Join head seam from top edge down to base edge then, with seam running down centre back, fold base edge flat and join. Use tweezers to stuff head firmly, then work a gathering thread through every stitch on top edge, draw up tightly and fasten off. Take a length of Greystone or Black yarn and draw out a single strand. Use the remaining 2 strands to embroider a 'Y' shape, with an elongated upright, down centre front of head for nose and mouth, fastening off ends of yarn at back of head.

With body seam running along underside, position and sew head in place, then make up and fit legs in position.

Glue black or grey eyes in place, then sew and glue ears in position.

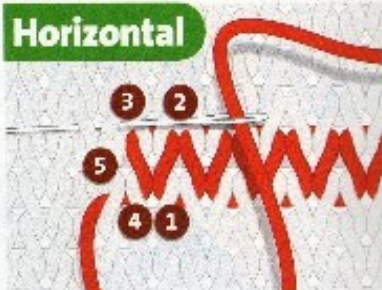
Next month complete your farm with pig, duck and chicken patterns. Issue 26 is on sale from Thursday 1 March. Reserve your copy now!

How to...

Swiss dam

Add features and detail to your animals using this method.

Horizontal



Leaving a short 4in (10cm) tail on the wrong side, work from right to left, bringing the needle out at the base of a knit 'V' stitch, at 1. Take the needle behind the top of the 'V', in at 2 and out at 3. Next, take the needle down at the bottom of the stitch at 4 (where it came out at 1) to complete the first stitch, and up at the base of the next 'V' at 5 as shown to start the second. Finish off the embroidery on the wrong side of the fabric, securing the end by oversewing the back of the Swiss darning. Cut the thread and then thread the needle with the tail left at the start. Then oversew this in the same way to avoid any damage to the knitted fabric.

Vertical



Work from bottom to top, bringing the needle out at the base of the stitch at 1. Take the needle behind the top of the 'V', in at 2 and out at 3. Take the needle down at 4 (where it came out at 1) and bring it up at 5, at the base of the stitch above. Continue in this way up the line of knitted stitches.





Pattern info

You will need...

For the Pigs:

Sirdar, Country Style DK

Apricot (534), 1 x 100g/318m ball
Greystone (408), 1 x 100g/318m ball
Sirdar, Bonus Toytime DK
Flesh Tone (963), 1 x 25g/75m ball

For the Ducks:

Sirdar, Country Style DK

White (412) ball 1 x 100g/318m ball
Sirdar, Bonus Toytime DK
Orange (981) 1 x 25g/75m ball

For the Hens and Chicks:

Sirdar, Country Style DK

Silver Cloud (434) 1 x 100g/318m ball
Copper Beech (518) 1 x 100g/318m ball
Mustard (537) 1 x 100g/318m ball
Geranium (582) 1 x 100g/318m ball
Sirdar, Snuggly Snowflake DK
Lemon (252) 1 x 50g/170m
Sirdar, Bonus Toytime DK
Primrose (957) 1 x 25g/75m ball

A pair of 3mm needles

A 9mm needle

Washable toy stuffing

Plastic drinking straws (one per pig)

Clear adhesive

Long tweezers

Black felt

Hole punch

Fine-point, black permanent marker pen

Red and pink pencil

For where to buy, turn to page 104

Farmyard Frolics

NOTE: Use 3mm needles throughout and cast on by using the cable (two needle) method, beginning all pieces with a K row. Use mattress stitch when sewing pieces together. A one stitch seam allowance has been included on all pieces to accommodate this. **NUMBER OF PIECES STATED REFERS TO MAKING ONE ANIMAL**

TO MAKE UP LEGS

Spread a little glue over end of straw and wrap with a knitted leg piece. Oversew side edges of leg together around straw, then cut straw 2cm above top edge of leg. Push large knitting needle into body at leg position, turning to make a hole through knitting and stuffing, then remove needle, spread uncovered top portion of straw with glue and push into hole. Sew ends of yarn remaining at top of leg into body and out, then trim away excess.

TO GLUE EARS AND FEET IN POSITION

If necessary, darn cast off end of yarn back through knitted piece to finish at opposite end of base edge from cast on yarn. Use needle to sew each end of yarn into toy at appropriate position, taking out needle at side of piece. Draw up, leaving about 1cm of yarn visible at base of ear or foot. Dab a spot of glue on each of these sections of yarn then pull end to draw ear or foot into place. Trim away excess yarn.

TO FIT EYES AND NOSTRILS

Use hole punch to cut tiny dots from felt, then pick each one up with tweezers, dab back with glue and fix in place.



Pig

✂ Start knitting here...

BODY (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 9 sts using 3mm needles and Apricot or Flesh Tone for front edge and sl st 2 rows.

1st inc row Inc into every st to end. [18 sts]

Next row Purl.

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

Sl st 3 rows.

3rd inc row (K1, inc 1, K1) to end. [36 sts]

Sl st 7 rows.

1st dec row (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [27 sts]

Sl st 3 rows.

2nd dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [18 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd dec row (k2tog) to end. [9 sts]

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

HEAD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 16 sts using 3mm needles and Apricot or Flesh Tone for base edge and cont in sl st.

1st inc row K3, (inc 1) twice, K5, (inc 1) twice, K4. [20 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row K4, (inc 1) twice, K7, (inc 1) twice, K5. [24 sts]

Sl st 5 rows.

SHAPE TOP

1st dec row (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [18 sts]

Sl st 3 rows.

2nd dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [12 sts]

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

SNOUT (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 12 sts using 3mm needles and Apricot or

Sirdar Country Style DK colours are perfect for making your very own farm animals.



How to... Stuff your toy

The shape of your toy depends on the way that it's stuffed.



1 Sew all the seams and weave in all the loose ends, and work small oversew stitches along most of the seam.



2 Push small amounts of stuffing into the shape you're stuffing, push it down as far as you can, while at the same time moulding the shape of the piece in your hand.



3 Using long tweezers, push the stuffing into all the corners and the smaller pieces of knitting, such as noses and paws.

Flesh Tone for back edge and st st 3 rows.
Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

LEGS (MAKE 4 PIECES)

Cast on 5 sts using 3mm needles and Apricot or Flesh Tone for top edge and st st 3 rows.

Next row Knit.

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

EARS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 5 sts using 3mm needles and Apricot or Flesh Tone for base edge and st st 4 rows.

1st dec row SKPO, K1, k2tog. [3 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row Sl 1, k2tog, PSSO, break yarn and draw through st.

TO MAKE UP

Join body seam from gathered back edge, stopping $\frac{1}{4}$ in (2cm) away from front edge. Stuff body firmly and join remainder of seam, then work a gathering thread through every stitch on front edge, draw up tightly and fasten off.

Join head seam from gathered top edge down to base edge. Use tweezers to stuff head firmly then, with seam running down centre back, fold base edge flat and join.

With body seam running along underside, position and sew head in place, then make up and fit legs in position.

Join side seam on snout piece, then work a gathering thread through every stitch on back edge, draw up tightly and fasten off. Position and sew snout to head then glue black eyes in place. Sew and glue ears in position, then fold down and catch tip of each ear to head with a couple of stitches. Blush cheeks with red or pink pencil.

To make tail, cut a $\frac{1}{4}$ in (60cm) length of Apricot or Flesh Tone yarn and fold in half.

Holding open the ends of yarn between left thumb and index finger, insert right index finger into folded end and turn it around and around, keeping yarn taut, until very tightly twisted. Holding centre point of yarn, bring ends together, then release centre and allow cord to form. Make a loose knot at folded end to form curly tail, and hold in place with a spot of glue. Seal cord $\frac{1}{4}$ in (2cm) away from knot with a spot of glue, then trim at this point. Use large needle to make a hole in body at tail position, then glue trimmed end of cord into this hole.

Use Greystone yarn to swiss darn spots at random over bodies of pigs knitted in Flesh Tone, using photograph we've printed as a reference for where they should go.

These perfect little pigs' sweet cheeks are coloured in with a pink pencil.



Pattern info



Tension

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension:
26 sts and 36 rows to measure 4x4in
(10x10cm) in st st using 3mm needles.

Measurements

Pig: 3 1/4in (8cm) tall, 2 3/4in (7cm) long
Duck: 2 3/4in (7cm) tall, 2in (5cm) long
Hen: 2in (5cm) tall, 2in (5cm) long

Abbreviations

beg beginning	sl slip
cont continue	st st stocking stitch
dec decrease (by working 2 stitches together)	st(s) stitch(es)
inc increase (by working into front and back of stitch)	SKPO slip one, knit one, pass slipped stitch over
K knit	tog together
P purl	YB yarn back
PSSO pass slipped stitch over	YF yarn forward



"We've recently moved to Cumbria, which inspired me to create this collection."

Alan Dart, toy and knitwear designer

Duck

Start knitting here...

BODY AND HEAD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 12 sts using 3mm needles and White for back edge and st st 2 rows.

1st inc row K4, (inc 1) four times, K4. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row K4, (inc 1, K1) four times, K4. [20 sts]

St st 7 rows.

Dec row K5, (k2tog, K1) four times, K3. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

SHAPE CHEST

Row 1 K10, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

Row 2 Sl 1, P4, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

Row 3 Sl 1, K5, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

Row 4 Sl 1, P6, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

Row 5 Sl 1, K1, (k2tog, K1) twice, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

Row 6 Sl 1, P6, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

Row 7 Sl 1, K7, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

Row 8 Sl 1, P8, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

Row 9 Sl 1, K1, (k2tog) four times, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

Row 10 Sl 1, P6, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

Row 11 Sl 1, K to end.

Row 12 P across all sts. [10 sts]

St st 4 rows.

SHAPE BACK OF NECK

Row 1 K2, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

Row 2 Sl 1, P to end.

Row 3 K2, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

Row 4 Sl 1, P to end.

Row 5 K2, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

Row 6 Sl 1, P to end.

Row 7 K across all sts. [10 sts]

Row 8 P2, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

Row 9 Sl 1, K to end.

Row 10 P4, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

Row 11 Sl 1, K to end.

Row 12 P2, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

Row 13 Sl 1, K to end.

Row 14 P across all sts. [10 sts]

St st 3 rows.

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

BILL AND FEET (MAKE 3 PIECES)

Cast on 3 sts using 3mm needles and Orange.

Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Join head, neck and body seam from gathered front edge, stopping 3/4in (2cm) away from back edge. Stuff firmly, using tweezers and join remainder of seam, then fold back edge in half and join.

Sew and glue beak and feet in position, then spread underside of beak with a little glue and roll between thumb and index finger to make a pointed shape. Glue black eyes in place.



Mothering hens and quacking ducks – the knitted variety are quieter than the real thing!



Hen & Chick

✿ Start knitting here...

HEN BODY AND HEAD

(MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 14 sts using 3mm needles and Silver Cloud, Copper Beech or Mustard for back edge and cont in st st.

1st inc row K5, (inc 1) four times, K5. [18 sts]

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row. [16 sts]

2nd inc row K4, (inc 1, K1) four times, K4. [20 sts]

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

3rd inc row K4, (inc 1, K2) four times, K2. [22 sts]

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row. [20 sts]

St st 4 rows.

SHAPE CHEST

Row 1 K18, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

Row 2 Sl 1, P16, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

Row 3 Sl 1, (K2, k2tog, K1) three times, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

Row 4 Sl 1, P11, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

Row 5 Sl 1, K10, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

Row 6 Sl 1, P9, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

Row 7 Sl 1, K8, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

Row 8 Sl 1, P7, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

Row 9 Sl 1, (k2tog) three times, YF, sl 1, YB, turn.

Row 10 Sl 1, P2, YB, sl 1, YF, turn.

Row 11 Sl 1, K to end.

Row 12 P across all sts. [14 sts]

St st 5 rows.

Dec row (P2tog) to end. [7 sts]

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

CHICK (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 6 sts using 3mm needle in Lemon Snowflake for base edge and st st 3 rows. Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Join head and body seam of hen from gathered top edge, stopping $\frac{3}{4}$ in (2cm) away from back edge. Stuff firmly, using tweezers and join remainder of seam, then fold back edge in half and join.

Use Geranium yarn to embroider five backstitches over top of head for comb, drawing up each stitch loosely to create loops. Also make two loops for wattle at front of head and a detached chain stitch at each side of head for eye surround. Glue black eyes in place inside each chain stitch.

To make bill, use a length of Primrose yarn to embroider a loose loop at front of head, taking ends of yarn out

through side of body. Spread tip of loop with a little glue and pinch to form a point, then pull up yarn ends to draw bill into place while glue is still tacky and trim away excess yarn.

To make chick, treating purl side as right side, oversew side edges together, then work a gathering thread through every stitch

on base edge, draw up tightly and fasten off. Use pen to draw two tiny dots for eyes.

Position and sew hens together with a few stitches, then glue chicks in place.

KNIT TIP

Knitting more than one of each creature? Make all the cows at once, then all the hens and so on—it's quicker.

How to... Make 1 increase

This is another way to increase and is usually abbreviated as m1.



1

Knit the number of stitches the pattern requires you to do before the increase. Now insert the point of the right-hand needle under the loop or line of yarn that lies between the two stitches.



2

Now wind the yarn around the point of the needle as you would for a knit stitch.



3

Pull the point of the needle through the stitch, making sure to catch the yarn on the tip of the right-hand needle.



4

Pull the stitch all the way through and you will now have an extra stitch on your right-hand needle. Keep knitting across the row until you need to increase again or reach the end.

