

SIRDAR

285
Code B

The Nativity Collection



Created by Alan Dart in Sirdar Country Style DK
Approximate height of figures 10ins (25cm)

THE NATIVITY COLLECTION

designed by Alan Dart

MEASUREMENTS

Each figure is 27cm (10³/₄in) tall.

The sheep are 18cm (7in) tall and 19cm (7¹/₂in) long.

The donkey is 25cm (9³/₄in) tall and 25cm (9³/₄in) long.

MATERIALS

Sirdar Country Style DK

(50 gm balls):-

2 balls of:

Face Pink 495

1 ball each of:

Black 417

Garnet 418

Tartan Green 419

Marina Green 425

Cerise 426

Banana 427

Light Navy 441

Buddleia 445

Bluebell 478

Majestic Mink 482

Honeydew 484

Granite 555

oddments of:

Parchment 404

Greystone 408

Cream 411

White 412

Sand 422

Sugar Plum 438

Dark Chocolate 439

Saxe 440

Mulberry 446

Saxon 447

Palma Violet 465

Russet Red 477

Ivy Leaf 485

Violet Blue 498

Redwood 581

Hazelnut 583

Sirdar Wash 'n' Wear Double

Crepe DK (50g balls):-

1 ball of:

Golden Yellow 285

Sirdar Snowflake DK

(50 gm balls):-

1 ball each of:

Charcoal 373

Cream 382

oddments of:

Pigeon Grey 374

1 Pair of 3mm (UK11 - USA2/3)

Knitting Needles.

Washable toy filling.

50cm (20in) of 3mm wide gold cord.

12 plastic bendy drinking straws.

4 pipe cleaners.

Stout card.

Transparent nylon sewing thread.

Fabric adhesive.

Red and white pencils.

Long tweezers.

TENSION

26 sts and 36 rows to 10cm, (4in) over st-st on 3mm needles or size required to give correct tension.

IT IS ESSENTIAL TO WORK TO THE STATED TENSION TO ENSURE SUCCESS.

SPECIAL NOTE

All pieces are worked using 3mm needles in st-st, commencing with a knit row, unless stated otherwise.

ABBREVIATIONS

alt alternate

beg beginning

cont continue

dec decrease(ing)

fol following

inc increase(ing)

k knit

p purl

patt pattern

psso pass slipped stitch over

rem remaining

rep repeat

rs right side

st(s) stitch(es)

st-st stocking stitch
(right side rows knit, wrong
side rows purl)

s1 slip one stitch

tog together

ws wrong side

yfwd yarn forward

cm centimetres

mm millimetres

m metres

in inch(es)

yd yards

THE BASIC PATTERNS

GOWN

(Make 1 - starting at hem edge)

Using Country Style DK in gown shade cast on 70 sts.

Work in st-st for 10 rows.

11th Row. (K4, k2tog, k4) 7 times.

Work 9 rows.

21st Row. (K4, k2tog, k3) 7 times.

Work 7 rows.

29th Row. (K3, k2tog, k3) 7 times.

Work 7 rows.

37th Row. (K3, k2tog, k2) 7 times.

Work 7 rows.

Shape Sides

45th Row. K1, (k8, k2tog, s1, k1,

psso, k8) twice, k1. 38 sts.

Work 3 rows.

49th Row. K1, (k7, k2tog, s1, k1, psso, k7) twice, k1. 34 sts.

Work 3 rows.

53rd Row. K1, (k6, k2tog, s1, k1, psso, k6) twice, k1. 30 sts.

Work 3 rows.



57th Row. K1, (k5, k2tog, s1, k1, pssso, k5) twice, k1. 26 sts.
Work 1 row. Cast off.

GOWN BASE

(Make 1 - starting at outer edge)

Using Country Style DK in gown shade cast on 70 sts.

Work in st-st for 2 rows.

3rd Row. (K3, k2tog, k2) 10 times.
Work 1 row.

5th Row. (K2, k2tog, k2) 10 times.
Work 1 row.

7th Row. (K2, k2tog, k1) 10 times.
Work 1 row.

9th Row. (K1, k2tog, k1) 10 times.
Work 1 row.

11th Row. (K1, k2tog) 10 times.
Work 1 row.

13th Row. (K2tog) 10 times.
Break yarn and thread through rem 10 sts. Pull up tight and fasten off securely.

SLEEVES

(Make 2 - starting at wrist edge)

Using Country Style DK in gown shade cast on 18 sts.

Knit 2 rows.

Work in st-st for 22 rows.

Shape Top

Cast off 3 sts at beg of next 2 rows. 12 sts.

Work 6 rows dec 1 st at beg of every row.

Cast off rem 6 sts.

HEAD

(Make 1 - starting at neck edge)

Using Country Style DK in Face Pink or Majestic Mink cast on 20 sts.

Work 2 rows.

3rd Row. Inc once in each of first 2 sts, k6, inc once in each of next 4 sts, k6, inc once in each of last 2 sts. 28 sts.

Work 1 row.

Inc 1 st at each end of next row.

Work 17 rows.

Shape Top of Head

23rd Row. (K2, k2tog, k2) 5 times.
Work 3 rows.

27th Row. (K2, k2tog, k1) 5 times.
Work 1 row.

29th Row. (K1, k2tog, k1) 5 times.
Work 1 row.

31st Row. (K1, k2tog) 5 times.
Break yarn and thread through
rem 10 sts. Pull up tight and fasten
off securely.

NECK

(Make 1 - starting at lower edge)

Using Country Style DK in Face
Pink or Majestic Mink cast on 12
sts. Work 4 rows. Cast off.

MAN'S NOSE

(Make 1 - starting at lower edge)

Using Country Style DK in Face
Pink or Majestic Mink cast on 6
sts. Work 2 rows.
Break yarn and thread through all
6 sts. Pull up tight and fasten off
securely.

HANDS

(Make 2 - starting at wrist)

Using Country Style DK in Face
Pink or Majestic Mink cast on 18
sts. Work 2 rows.

Shape Thumb

3rd Row. K6, inc in next st, k3, inc
in next st, turn.

4th Row. P6 and turn.

Work 2 rows on these 6 sts only.
Break yarn and thread through all
6 sts. Pull up tight and fasten off
securely. Join thumb seam.

Rejoin yarn with rs facing and knit
across rem 7 sts on left needle. 14
sts. Work 5 rows.

Shape Finger Ends

Next Row. K1, (k2tog, k2, s1, k1,
pssso) twice, k1. 10 sts.
Work 1 row.

Next Row. K1, (k2tog, s1, k1,
pssso) twice, k1. 6 sts.
Work 1 row. Cast off.

SANDAL SOLES

(Make 2 - starting at heel)

Using Country Style DK in sandal
shade cast on 7 sts. Work 2 rows.
Work 9 rows, inc 1 st at each end
of next and foll 8th row. 11 sts.
Work 5 rows.
Work 6 rows dec 1 st at each end
of next and every foll alt row. 5 sts.
Cast off.

FEET

(Make 2 - starting at heel)

Using Country Style DK in Face
Pink or Majestic Mink, work as
given for Sandal Soles.

CROSSED SANDAL STRAPS

(Make 4)

Using Country Style DK in sandal
shade cast on 11 sts. Cast off.

THICK SANDAL STRAPS

(Make 2)

Using Country Style DK in sandal
shade cast on 12 sts.
Knit 1 row. Cast off knitways.

HEADSCARF

(Make 1 - starting at back)

Using Country Style DK in
headscarf shade cast on 4 sts.
Work 1 row.
Work 15 rows inc 1 st at each end
of every row. 34 sts.
Work 14 rows.

Shape Front Edge

Work 4 rows inc 1 st at beg of
every row. 38 sts.
Cast on 5 sts at beg of next 2
rows. 48 sts. *

Shape Top

Work 6 rows.

Next Row. (K1, k2tog, k1) 12
times. 36 sts.

Work 3 rows.

Next Row. (K1, k2tog) 12 times.
24 sts. Work 1 row.

Next Row. (K2tog) 12 times. 12
sts.

Break yarn and thread through
rem 12 sts. Pull up tight and fasten
off securely.

TO MAKE A TWISTED CORD

Fold a length of yarn in half and
knot open ends together. Secure
this knot to a fixed work surface
using a drawing pin. Holding yarn
taut, insert index finger into folded
end and turn it round and round
until yarn is very tightly twisted.
Holding centre point of yarn, bring
ends together and remove
drawing pin. Release centre and
allow twisted cord to form. Knot
ends to prevent unravelling.

TO MAKE UP

Gown: Join seam on gown base
to make a circle, then join first 5cm
(2in) of gown seam, starting at
cast-on edge. Join cast-on edges
of gown and gown base, matching
seams. Cut an 8cm (3in) diameter
circle of card, insert this inside
gown and glue to ws of base. Join
remainder of gown seam and
insert toy filling through shoulder
opening so that gown is firmly
filled. With seam running down
centre back of gown, fold shoulder
edges flat and join seam.

Feet: Sew each foot piece to a
sandal sole, leaving cast-on edges
open. Trace off sandal inner sole
pattern (on page 6) and cut out
twice from card. Slip card inside
foot, insert toy filling so that foot is
firmly filled and close opening.

Sandals: Following specific
instructions given for the character
you are making, either cross two
thin sandal straps over front of
each foot, securing ends of straps
to soles, or lay thick sandal straps
over front of feet, sewing ends to
soles. Position feet against
underside of gown base with a
little adhesive, and then sew
securely in place.

Arms: Join sleeve seams, leaving



Joseph went up from Galilee to the city of David which is called Bethlehem



wrist and sleeve top edges open. Fold each hand in half and sew seam across top of fingers and down side of hand, leaving wrist edge open. Join wrist edges of sleeves to wrist edges of hands, placing hand seam 4 stitches away from sleeve seam. Insert toy filling so that hands are firmly filled, using tweezers to push the filling down into thumb, and then insert filling into sleeves so that they remain quite soft and flexible. Position arms against gown and sew in place around upper edge.
Head: Fold head in half and join base seam, then sew the back seam, stopping 3cm (1 1/4 in) from upper gathered edge. Insert toy filling so head is firmly filled, then

join remainder of back seam. Join side edges of neck, then, with head and neck seams at centre back, sew neck to base of head. Insert toy filling so neck is firmly filled then attach to body following instructions for character you are making.

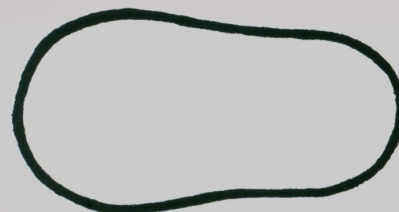
Facial features: Start by marking centre front line of head with a tacking thread. Count 8 rows down from first decrease row at top of head and mark position for eyes with pins, placing them 4 knitted stitches apart. When embroidering features, fasten off yarn at back of head and darn ends into work. Carefully draw out a single strand from a length of Black Country Style DK and use remaining 2

strands to embroider a horizontal lazy daisy stitch for each eye. Join seam on man's nose, then run a gathering thread around base edge and pull up tight to form a small ball. Position nose centrally onto face, 3 rows below eyes and sew in place. Make up beard as given with instructions for relevant character, wrap beard around face and stitch in place. Embroider eyebrows in same yarn as used for beard by working a horizontal straight stitch over 2 stitches, placing eyebrows 2 rows above eyes. For Mary or an Angel, embroider nose using Face Pink Country Style DK by working 5 horizontal satin stitches centrally on face - position nose 3 rows

below eyes and work stitches over one knitted stitch. Carefully draw out a single strand from a length of Sugar Plum Country Style DK and use remaining 2 strands to embroider mouth by working a single horizontal straight stitch over 2 knitted stitches, 4 rows

below nose. Blush cheeks by working red pencil into knitting in a circular motion. Remove tacking.

Headscarf: Press headscarf lightly from ws. Join short front seam, then attach to head following instructions for character you are making.



sandal inner sole

THE CHARACTERS

MARY

From basic patterns: make gown, gown base and sleeves in Bluebell, head, neck, hands and feet in Face Pink, sandal soles and crossed straps in Majestic Mink, headscarf in Saxe.

COLLAR

(Make 1)

Using Country Style DK in Sugar Plum cast on 52 sts (for outer edge). Work 2 rows.

3rd Row. (K1, k2tog, k1) 13 times. Work 3 rows.

7th Row. (K1, k2tog) 13 times. Work 3 rows.

11th Row. (K2tog) 13 times. Break yarn and thread through rem 13 sts. Pull up tight and fasten off securely.

TO MAKE UP

Join seam on collar, then press lightly from ws. Assemble pieces as given in basic instructions. Sew gathered centre of collar to top of gown, then sew base of neck in place, stitching through both collar and gown. Embroider features. Using Majestic Mink, embroider a line of chain stitch up centre front of head, starting level with second decrease row and finishing at top gathered edge. Cut 35cm (13³/₄in) lengths of Majestic Mink for hair and thread a needle with 3 of these strands, then thread these 3 strands under one of the chain stitches. Repeat with all the remaining chain stitches. Arrange lengths of yarn so they are even on both sides of the chain stitches and wrap hair round to back of head. Secure hair in a bunch with

a few small stitches. Twist ends to form a bun and stitch in position, trimming away excess. Place headscarf on head and hold in place with pins. Using 150cm (59in) length of Parchment, make a twisted cord and wrap this twice around top of head, overlapping ends. Using transparent thread and stitching through headscarf and head, sew cord in place, trimming away excess and oversewing cut edge to prevent unravelling. For halo, cut a 20cm (8in) length of gold cord and glue ends together to form a ring. Position halo on back of head and secure using transparent thread.

JESUS

BODY AND HEAD

(Make 1 - starting at base)

Using Country Style DK in Cream cast on 10 sts. Work 2 rows.

3rd Row. Inc once in each st to end. 20 sts.

Work 1 row.

* **5th and 6th Rows:** Knit.

Work in st-st for 4 rows.

Rep from * twice more.

Shape Head

Break off Cream and join in Face Pink. Work 10 rows.

Next Row. (K2tog) 10 times.

Break yarn and thread through rem 10 sts. Pull up tight and fasten off securely.

HOOD

(Make 1 - starting at front)

Using Country Style DK in Cream cast on 18 sts.

Work 8 rows.

9th Row. K5, (k2tog) 4 times, k5. 14 sts. Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Join head and body seam, leaving 3cm (1¹/₄in) opening. Insert toy filling so that Jesus is firmly filled and close opening. Run gathering thread around cast-on edge, pull up tight and fasten off securely. Run second gathering thread around first row in Face Pink, draw up to shape neck and fasten off. Using single strands drawn from Black and Sugar Plum, embroider tiny lazy daisy stitches to form eyes and a single straight stitch to form mouth, placing eyes 6 rows up from neck and 2 stitches apart, and mouth 3 rows up from neck. Embroider nose using Face Pink by working 3 tiny satin stitches centrally onto face, one row above mouth. Fold hood in half and join back seam. Position hood on head and stitch in place. Using a 10cm (4in) length of gold cord, make and attach halo to Jesus' head in same way as given for Mary. Position Jesus in Mary's arms and stitch in place.

JOSEPH

From basic patterns: make gown, gown base and sleeves in Garnet, head, nose, neck, hands and feet in Face Pink, sandal soles and thick straps in Dark Chocolate, and headscarf in Tartan Green.

SHAWLS

(Make 2 - starting at back)

Using Country Style DK in Ivy Leaf

cast on 12 sts.

1st and 2nd Rows. Using Ivy Leaf, knit.

3rd and 4th Rows. Using Saxon, knit.

Rep last 4 rows 33 times more and then 1st and 2nd rows again. Cast off.

CURLY BEARD

(Make 1 - starting at lower edge)

Using Country Style DK in Hazelnut cast on 29 sts.

1st Row. K1, * knit next st leaving it on left needle, bring yarn to front of work and wrap yarn around a pencil to make a loop, take yarn to back of work and knit same st again, slipping st off left needle, pass first of these 2 sts over 2nd and off right needle (this will now be referred to as "make loop"), k1, rep from * to end.

2nd Row. Knit.

3rd Row. K2, (make loop, k1) to last st, k1.

4th Row. Knit.

5th to 7th Rows. As 1st to 3rd rows.

Shape Moustache

8th Row. Cast off 11 sts knitways, k6, cast off rem 11 sts knitways.

Rejoin yarn to rem 7 sts and knit 1 row.

Knit 3 rows dec 1 st at each end of next and foll alt row. 3 sts. Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Assemble pieces as given in basic instructions, sewing base of neck to top of gown. Place shawls over shoulders and secure with a few stitches at neck edge. Using a 2m (2¹/₄yd) length of Redwood, make a twisted cord for belt. Wrap this cord around waist to hold shawls in place and knot securely. Tie knots in ends of cord as required and trim away excess. Bend left arm and stitch hand to waist with a few stitches. Attach beard and nose and embroider features. In same way as for Mary, attach

headscarf by making a twisted cord using Majestic Mink, and make and attach halo.

FIRST SHEPHERD

From basic patterns: make

gown, gown base and sleeves in Tartan Green, head, nose, neck, hands and feet in Face Pink, sandal soles and crossed straps in Dark Chocolate, and headscarf in Redwood.

TABARD

(Make 1 - starting at back)

Using Country Style DK in Highland Blue cast on 26 sts.

* **1st to 6th Rows.** Using Highland Blue, knit.

7th and 8th Rows. Using Russet Red, knit.

9th and 10th Rows. Using

And there were in the same country, shepherds staying in the field



Highland Blue, knit.

11th to 14th Rows. As 7th to 10th rows.

15th and 16th Rows. As 7th and 8th rows.

Rep from * 7 times more, then rep 1st to 6th rows again. Cast off.

POINTED BEARD

(Make 1)

Using Snowflake DK in Pigeon Grey cast on 3 sts. Knit 2 rows. Knit 18 rows inc 1 st at each end of next and every foll alt row.

* Shape Left Side

Next Row. K5 and turn.

Knit 13 rows on these 5 sts. Cast off.

Shape Moustache

Rejoin yarn to rem 16 sts, k11 and turn.

Working on these 11 sts only proceed as follows:-

Dec 1 st at each end of next 4 rows. 3 sts. Cast off.

Shape Right Side

Rejoin yarn to rem 5 sts and knit to end.

Knit a further 13 rows. Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Assemble pieces as given in basic instructions. Position tabard over top of gown and secure at neck point with a few stitches, then sew base of neck in place, stitching through both tabard and gown. Using Hazelnut, make and attach belt as given for Joseph. Attach beard and nose and embroider features. In same way as for Mary, attach headscarf to head by making a twisted cord using Light Navy.

To make a crook, trim away 2cm ($\frac{3}{4}$ in) from bendy end of a bendy drinking straw, and cut a 10cm (4in) straight length from a second straw. Fold a pipe cleaner in half and spread a little glue onto this folded pipe cleaner. Push pipe cleaner into bendy end of first straw, leaving 1cm ($\frac{1}{2}$ in) of pipe cleaner extending beyond end of straw. To join straws together, fold another pipe cleaner in half and

spread with glue. Insert half of this pipe cleaner into other end of first straw and then attach second straw to first by slipping second straw over remaining section of pipe cleaner. Using Majestic Mink and holding yarn in place with a little glue as you work, closely wrap yarn around entire crook, bending top into shape. Position crook in hands and stitch in place.

SECOND SHEPHERD

From basic patterns: make gown, gown base and sleeves in Light Navy, head, nose, neck, hands and feet in Face Pink, sandal soles and thick straps in Hazelnut, and headscarf in Ivy Leaf. Make curly beard as given for Joseph using Dark Chocolate.

SHAWLS

(Make 2 - starting at back)

Using Country Style DK in Light Majestic Mink cast on 12 sts.

1st to 4th Rows. Using Majestic Mink, knit.

5th to 8th Rows. Using Redwood, knit.

Rep last 8 rows 15 times more, then rep 1st to 4th rows again.

Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Assemble pieces as given for Joseph, using Highland Blue for belt and Parchment for headscarf cord. Using Hazelnut make crook as given for First Shepherd and

attach to right hand and to base of gown. Bend left arm and hold in place at elbow with a few stitches.

FIRST KING

From basic patterns: make gown, gown base and sleeves in Buddleia, head, nose, neck, hands and feet in Face Pink, and sandal soles and thick straps in Majestic Mink.

SHAWLS

(Make 2 - starting at back)

Using Country Style DK in Light Navy cast on 12 sts.

1st to 4th Rows. Using Light Navy, knit.

* **5th to 8th Rows.** Using Marina Green, knit.

9th to 12th Rows. Using Light Navy, knit.

13th to 20th Rows. As 5th to 12th rows.

21st to 24th Rows. Using Saxe, knit.

25th to 28th Rows. Using Light Navy, knit.

29th to 36th Rows. As 21st to 28th rows.

37th to 40th Rows. Using Bluebell, knit.

41st to 44th Rows. Using Light Navy, knit.

45th to 52nd Rows. As 37th to 44th rows.

Rep from * twice more. Cast off.

HEADSCARF AND CROWN LINING

(Make 1)

Using Country Style DK in Violet





They brought their gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh

Blue, work as given for basic headscarf to *.

Work 2 rows.

Next Row. (K1, k2tog, k1) 12 times. 36 sts.

Work 1 row. **

Break off Violet Blue and join in Russet Red (for crown lining).

Work 12 rows.

*** **Next Row.** (K2, k2tog, k2) 6 times. 30 sts.

Work 3 rows.

Next Row. (K2, k2tog, k1) 6 times. Work 1 row.

Next Row. (K1, k2tog, k1) 6 times. Work 1 row.

Next Row. (K1, k2tog) 6 times. Break yarn and thread through rem sts. Pull up and fasten off.

CROWN

(Make 1)

Using Wash 'n' Wear Double Crepe in Golden Yellow, cast on 41 sts.

Work 3 rows.

Break off Golden Yellow and join in Country Style DK in Honeydew.

Work 1 row.

Next Row. K1, * yfwd, k2tog, rep from * to end.

Work 1 row. Cast off.

CROWN BAND

(Make 1)

Using Wash 'n' Wear Double Crepe in Golden Yellow, cast on 30 sts.

Knit 1 row. Cast off knitways.

ROUNDED BEARD

(Make 1 - starting at lower edge)

Using Snowflake DK in Cream, cast on 13 sts. Knit 2 rows.

Knit 8 rows inc 1 st at each end of next and every foll alt row.

Completed as given for pointed beard from *.

URN

(Make 1 - starting at base)

Using Wash 'n' Wear Double

Crepe in Golden Yellow, cast on 12 sts.

Work 2 rows.

3rd Row. Inc once in each st to end. 24 sts.

Work 3 rows.

Join in Country Style DK in Honeydew and knit 4 rows.

Using Golden Yellow work 4 rows.

15th Row. (K2tog) 12 times.

Work 1 row.

Break off Golden Yellow and cont using Honeydew only.

Work 6 rows.

Break yarn and thread through rem 12 sts. Pull up tight and fasten off securely.

TO MAKE UP

Assemble pieces as given for Joseph, using Honeydew for belt and omitting headscarf. Press headscarf section of headscarf and crown lining lightly from ws. Join crown lining and headscarf front seam. Insert toy filling into

crown lining so crown remains quite soft. Position onto head and stitch in place with a line of back stitch over first row of crown lining. Wrap crown band around crown lining and secure at back. Fold top edge of crown to wrong side along row of holes and sew in place. Join back seam and then slip over crown lining. Stitch in position around lower edge. Join urn seam, leaving cast-on edge open. Insert toy filling so urn is firmly filled. Run a gathering thread around cast-on edge, pull up tight and fasten off. Run second gathering thread around first row of upper section, pull up tight and fasten off. Position urn in hands and sew in place. Bend arms and hold in position with a few small stitches.

SECOND KING

From basic patterns: make gown, gown base and sleeves in Cerise, head, nose, neck, hands and feet in Majestic Mink, and sandal soles and thick straps in Dark Chocolate. Make curly beard as given for Joseph using Black.

TABARD

(Make 1 - starting at back)

Using Country Style DK in Violet Blue cast on 26 sts.

1st to 6th Rows. Using Violet Blue, knit.

*** 7th and 8th Rows.** Using Buddleia, knit.

9th and 10th Rows. Using Violet Blue, knit.

11th to 16th Rows. Using Buddleia, knit.

17th and 18th Rows. Using Sugar Plum, knit.

19th and 20th Rows. Using Buddleia, knit.

21st to 26th Rows. Using Sugar Plum, knit.

27th and 28th Rows. Using Mulberry, knit.

29th and 30th Rows. Using Sugar Plum, knit.

31st to 36th Rows. Using

Mulberry, knit.

37th and 38th Rows. Using Violet Blue, knit.

39th and 40th Rows. Using Mulberry, knit.

41st to 46th Rows. Using Violet Blue, knit.

Rep from * twice more. Cast off.

HEADSCARF AND CROWN LINING

(Make 1)

Using Country Style DK in Palma Violet, work as given for headscarf and crown lining of First King to **. Break off Palma Violet and join in Marina Green (for crown lining). Work 4 rows.

Next Row. (K1, k2tog, k1) 9 times. Work 3 rows.

Next Row. (K1, k2tog) 9 times. Work 3 rows.

Next Row. (K2tog) 9 times. Work 1 row.

Break yarn and thread through rem 9 sts. Pull up tight and fasten off securely.

CROWN

(Make 1)

Using Country Style DK in Honeydew, cast on 36 sts. Knit 2 rows.

Join in Wash 'n' Wear Double Crepe in Golden Yellow and knit 2 rows.

Using Honeydew, knit 1 row. Cast off.

CASKET

(Make 1 - starting at base)

Using Wash 'n' Wear Double Crepe in Golden Yellow, cast on 30 sts.

1st Row. K8, p14 (to mark base of back section), k8.

Beg with a p row, work in st-st for 9 rows.

Shape Top of Sides

11th Row. Cast off 8 sts knitways, p13, cast off rem 8 sts knitways. Rejoin yarn to centre 14 sts and, beg with a p row, work 9 rows (for top of casket).

21st and 22nd Rows. Purl (to form fold line). Beg with a k row, work in st-st for 8 rows (for front).

31st and 32nd Rows. Purl (to form fold line).

Beg with a k row, work in st-st for 8 rows (for base). Cast off.

CASKET STRAPS

(Make 2)

Using Country Style DK in Honeydew, cast on 34 sts. Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Assemble pieces as given for First Shepherd, using Golden Yellow for belt, and attaching headscarf and crown lining as given for First King. Join back seam of crown and then slip over crown lining. Stitch in place around lower edge. To make up casket, sew cast-off edge to matching line along cast-on edge. Sew one side section in place. Insert toy filling so casket is firmly filled, and then sew second side in place. Wrap casket bands around casket, overlapping ends at front and stitch in place. Work a French knot using Golden Yellow over ends of casket bands. Position casket in hands and sew in place. Bend arms and hold in position with a few stitches.

THIRD KING

From basic patterns: make gown, gown base and sleeves in Marina Green, head, nose, neck, hands and feet in Face Pink, and sandal soles and crossed straps in Hazelnut. Make pointed beard as given for First Shepherd using Charcoal, and casket as given for Second King using Honeydew Country Style DK.

SHAWLS

(Make 2 - starting at back)

Using Country Style DK in Honeydew cast on 12 sts.

1st to 6th Rows. Using Honeydew, knit.

7th and 8th Rows. Using Garnet, knit.

9th and 10th Rows. Using Honeydew, knit.

11th to 124th Rows. Using



*Fear not, for I bring you good tidings
of great joy*

Garnet, knit.

125th and 126th Rows. Using Honeydew, knit.

127th and 128th Rows. Using Garnet, knit.

129th to 134th Rows. Using Honeydew, knit.
Cast off.

HEADSCARF AND CROWN LINING

(Make 1)

Using Country Style DK in Palma Violet, work as given for headscarf and crown lining of First King to **. Break off Palma Violet and join in Bluebell (for crown lining). Work 8 rows.
Complete as given for First King from ***.

CROWN

(Make 1 - starting at lower edge)
Using Wash 'n' Wear Double Crepe in Golden Yellow, cast on

41 sts.

Join in Country Style DK in Honeydew and knit 1 row.

2nd Row. K1, * p1, k1, rep from * to end.

3rd and 4th Rows. As 2nd row.
Using Golden Yellow, knit 1 row.
Cast off knitways.

CROWN BANDS

(Make 2)

Using Wash 'n' Wear Double Crepe in Golden Yellow, cast on 30 sts. Cast off.

CASKET JEWEL

(Make 1 - starting at base)

Using Wash 'n' Wear Double Crepe in Golden Yellow, cast on 12 sts.

Break off Golden Yellow and join in Country Style DK in Saxe. Work 3 rows. Break yarn and thread through all 12 sts. Pull up tight and fasten off securely.

TO MAKE UP

Assemble pieces as given for Joseph, using Golden Yellow for belt, and attaching headscarf and crown lining as given for First King. Cross crown bands over lining and stitch in place. Join back seam of crown, slip crown over crown lining and then stitch in place around lower edge. Make up casket as given for Second King. Using a 70cm (27½in) length of Golden Yellow, make a twisted cord. Decorate top of casket with cord as in photograph, binding ends before trimming away excess to prevent unravelling. Join jewel seam, insert a little toy filling and attach to top of casket. Position casket in hands and sew in place. Bend arms and hold in position at elbows with a few stitches.

ANGEL

From basic patterns: make gown, gown base and sleeves in Banana, head, neck, hands and feet in Face Pink, and sandal soles in Honeydew and crossed straps in Golden Yellow Wash 'n' Wear Double Crepe.
Make collar as given for Mary using Golden Yellow Wash 'n' Wear Double Crepe.

SHAWL

(Make 1)

Using Country Style DK in Honeydew cast on 12 sts.
Knit 240 rows. Cast off.

WINGS

(Make 2 - starting at centre back)

Using Country Style DK in White, cast on 21 sts.

Knit 2 rows.

3rd Row. Inc in first st, k7, inc in next st, k2, inc in next st, k7, inc in next st, k1. 25 sts.

Knit 1 row.

5th Row. Inc in first st, k9, inc in next st, k2, inc in next st, k9, inc in next st, k1. 29 sts.

Knit 1 row.

7th Row. Inc in first st, k11, inc in

next st, k2, inc in next st, k11, inc in next st, k1. 33 sts.
Knit 11 rows.

Shape Wing Tip Feathers

19th Row. Knit.

20th Row. K1, (p3, k1) 8 times.

19th and 20th rows form patt.

Keeping patt correct as set

(throughout) work 6 rows.

* Cast off 4 sts in patt at beg of next 2 rows.

Patt 4 rows.

Rep from * twice more. 9 sts.

Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Assemble pieces as given for Mary, omitting the headscarf and hair. Using Country Style DK in Sand, embroider a line of chain stitches over head as given for Mary, but continuing over top of head and for 4cm (1½in) down centre back. Thread 30cm (11¾in) lengths of yarn through chain in same way as for Mary. Straighten hair by carefully holding yarn over steam of a boiling kettle and shaking it to remove any kinks. Using a 2m (2¼yd) length of Golden Yellow Wash 'n' Wear Double Crepe, make a twisted cord and wrap this cord twice around head. Knot cord securely at back, leaving ends hanging. Stitch in place using transparent thread, then knot hanging ends and trim away excess. Take first 7 strands of hair at each side of face and wrap round to back of head, holding it together in a bunch with a few stitches in matching yarn. Trim hair level with shoulders. Fold each wing in half and join shaped edges, leaving cast-on edge open. Separate wing tip feathers by stitching through both layers along purl stitch between feather tips. Insert toy filling into wing tip feathers so they are firmly filled, using tweezers to push filling into place. Insert toy filling into remainder of wings and stitch cast-on edge closed. Stitch wings together to form a pair by joining cast-on edges. Position wings on back of Angel directly below lower edge of collar and stitch in place.



Bring hands together in a praying pose and sew together, then sew hands to gown just below collar. Wrap shawl around back of gown and thread ends through bent arms, stitching shawl in place behind arms.

SHEEP

Make two sheep using Cream Snowflake DK with Black Country Style DK, and one sheep using Charcoal Snowflake DK with Greystone Country Style DK.

BODY

(Make 1 - starting at back)

Using Snowflake DK in Cream or Charcoal cast on 20 sts.
Work 2 rows.

3rd Row. Inc once in each of first 4 sts, k2, inc once in each of next 8 sts, k2, inc once in each of last 4 sts. 36 sts.

Work 1 row.

5th Row. (Inc in next st, k1) 4 times, k2, (inc in next st, k1) 8 times, k2, (inc in next st, k1) 4 times. 52 sts.

Work 33 rows.

Shape Neck

39th Row. K24, inc in next st, k1, inc in next st, k25. 54 sts.

Work 1 row.

41st Row. K25, inc in next st, k1, inc in next st, k26. 56 sts.

Work 1 row.

Divide for Right Side

43rd Row. K2tog, k24, inc in next st, k1 and turn.

Work on these 28 sts only for right side as follows:-

44th Row. Cast on 2 sts, purl to end.

45th Row. Cast off 5 sts knitways, knit to end.

46th to 51st Rows. As 44th and 45th rows, 3 times. 16 sts.
Work 3 rows. Cast off.

Rejoin yarn to rem 28 sts and proceed as follows:-

43rd Row. Inc in first st, k25, k2tog. 28 sts.

44th Row. Cast off 5 sts purlways, purl to end.

45th Row. Cast on 2 sts, knit to end.

46th to 51st Rows. As 44th and 45th rows, 3 times. 16 sts.
Work 3 rows. Cast off.

HEAD

(Make 1 - starting at body edge)

Using Country Style DK in Black or Greystone, cast on 32 sts.

Work 6 rows.

Work 8 rows dec 1 st at each end of every row. 16 sts.

Shape Snout

15th Row. (K2tog) 8 times. 8 sts.
Break yarn and thread through rem 8 sts. Pull up tight and fasten off securely.

LEGS

(Make 4 - starting at upper edge)

Using Snowflake DK in Cream or Charcoal, cast on 8 sts.

Work 2 rows.

Work 6 rows inc 1 st at beg of every row. 14 sts.

Cast on 5 sts at beg of next 2 rows (for top of inside of leg). 24 sts.

Work 5 rows.

16th Row. (P2tog) 12 times.

Break off Snowflake DK and join in Country Style DK in Black or

Greystone.

Work 11 rows.

28th Row. Knit (to form base of hoof).

Break yarn and thread through rem 12 sts. Pull up tight and fasten off securely.

EARS

(Make 2)

Using Country Style DK in Black or Greystone, cast on 6 sts.

Knit 1 row. Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Fold body in half and join cast-on edge and then up to head edge - this seam runs along underside of body and up front of neck. Sew body edge of head to head edge of body, then fold head in half and join seam from gathered nose end to head edge, leaving opening at back of neck. Insert toy filling through this opening so sheep is firmly filled, then close opening.

Fold each leg in half and sew seam from gathered edge to top of inside leg. To stiffen legs, cut

four 5cm (2in) lengths of drinking straw and bind each one with matching Country Style DK, securing ends with glue. Slip a bound straw inside each leg and then insert toy filling into upper section. Pin legs in place to body, check all legs are even and that sheep will stand and then sew legs in position. Sew ears to head and body, placing them 4cm (1½in) apart. Mark eye positions with pins. Carefully draw out a single strand of Country Style DK in Majestic Mink for Cream sheep, or Black for Charcoal sheep. Using remaining 2 strands, embroider 2 small lazy daisy stitches for eyes. Embroider 3 straight stitches on nose to form "Y" shape.

DONKEY

BODY

(Make 1 - starting at back)

Using Country Style DK in Granite cast on 20 sts.

Work 2 rows.

3rd Row. Inc once in each of first 4 sts, k2, inc once in each of next 8 sts, k2, inc once in each of last 4 sts. 36 sts.

Work 1 row.

5th Row. (Inc in next st, k1) 4 times, k2, (inc in next st, k1) 8 times, k2, (inc in next st, k1) 4 times. 52 sts.

Work 37 rows.

Shape for Neck

* **Next Row.** K21, bring yarn to front of work (this will now be referred to as "ytf"), s1, take yarn to back of work (this will now be referred to as "ytb"), turn.

Next Row. S1, purl to end.

Next Row. K20, ytf, s1, ytb, turn.

Next Row. S1, purl to end.

Next Row. K19, ytf, s1, ytb, turn.

Next Row. S1, purl to end.

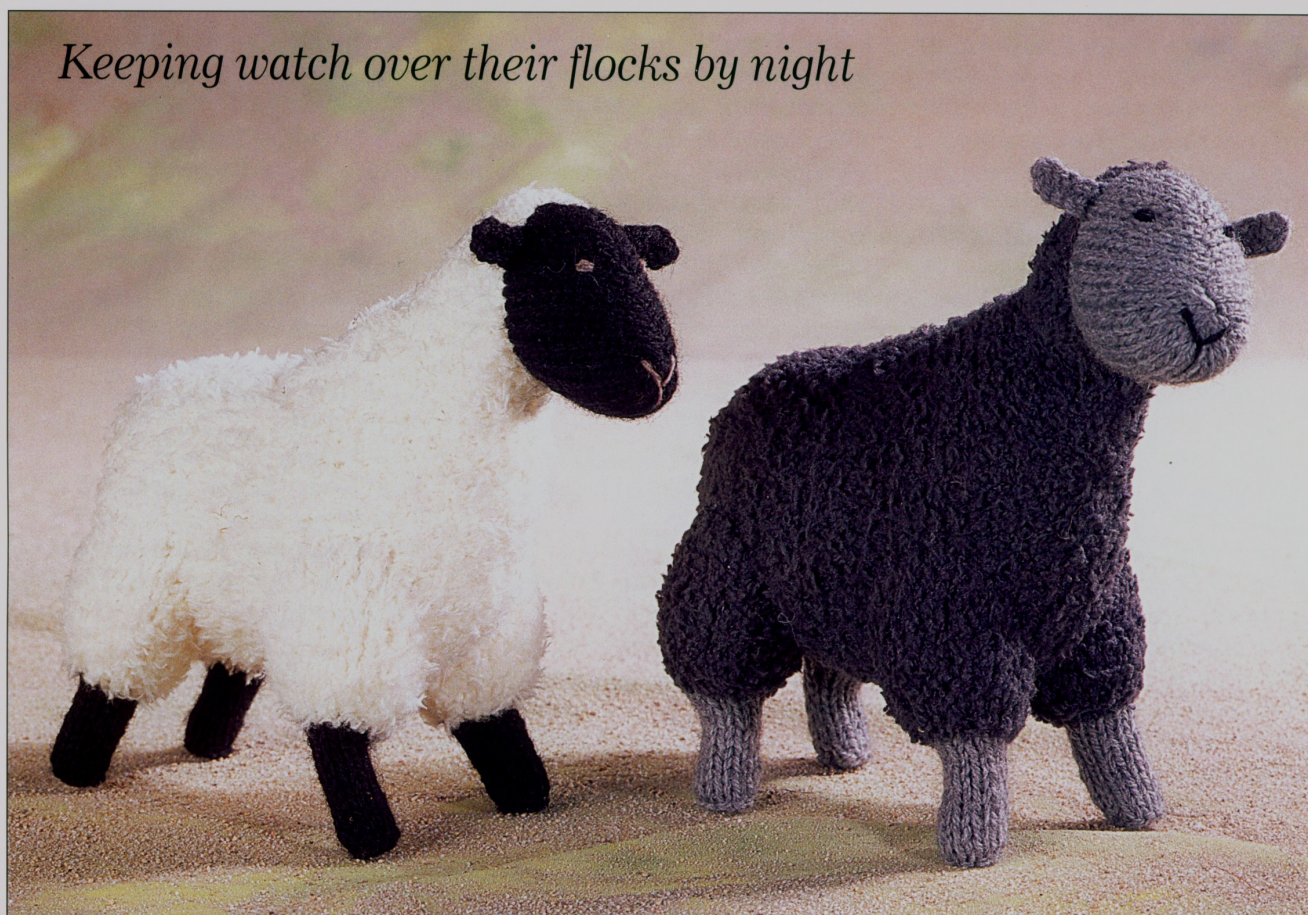
Next Row. K18, ytf, s1, ytb, turn.

Next Row. S1, (p3, p2tog) 3 times, p3.

Next Row. K14, ytf, s1, ytb, turn.

Next Row. S1, purl to end.

Next Row. K13, ytf, s1, ytb, turn.



Keeping watch over their flocks by night

Next Row. S1, purl to end.
Next Row. K12, ytf, s1, ytb, turn.
Next Row. S1, purl to end.
Next Row. K11, ytf, s1, ytb, turn.
Next Row. S1, (p2, p2tog) twice, p3.
Next Row. K8, ytf, s1, ytb, turn.
Next Row. S1, purl to end.
Next Row. K7, ytf, s1, ytb, turn.
Next Row. S1, purl to end.
Next Row. K6, ytf, s1, ytb, turn.
Next Row. S1, purl to end. **
Next Row. Knit all 47 sts.
 Reading knit for purl, purl for knit, ytf for ytb and ytb for ytf, rep from * to ** for second side of neck.
Next Row. Purl all 42 sts.
 Work 4 rows (for neck).
Next Row. (K2, k2tog, k2) 7 times.
 Work 3 rows.
Next row. (K2, k2tog, k1) 7 times.
 Work 3 rows.

Shape Top Edge of Neck

Cast off 4 sts at beg of next 2 rows. 20 sts.
 Cast off 3 sts at beg of next 4 rows. Cast off rem 8 sts.

HEAD

(Make 1 - starting at back)
 Using Country Style DK in Granite, cast on 14 sts.
 Work 2 rows.
3rd Row. Inc once in each st to end. 28 sts.
 Work 3 rows.
7th Row. (Inc in next st, k1) 14 times. 42 sts.
 Work 11 rows.

Shape Front of Head

19th Row. K2, (k2tog, k2) 10 times. 32 sts.
 Work 5 rows.
25th Row. K2, (k2tog, k1) 10 times. 22 sts.
 Work 3 rows.
 Break off Granite and join in White (for nose).
 Work 10 rows.
39th Row. (K2tog) 11 times.
 Break yarn and thread through rem 11 sts. Pull up tight and fasten off securely.

FRONT LEGS

(Make 2 - starting at upper edge)
 Using Country Style DK in Granite,

cast on 6 sts.
 Work 2 rows.
 Work 10 rows inc 1 st at beg of every row. 16 sts.
 Cast on 4 sts at beg of next 2 rows (for top of inside of leg). 24 sts.
 Work 4 rows.
19th Row. (K2, k2tog, k2) 4 times.
 Work 3 rows.
23rd Row. (K2, k2tog, k1) 4 times.
 Work 15 rows.
 Break off Granite and join in Black (for hoof).
 Work 4 rows.
43rd and 44th Rows. Purl (to form base of hoof).
 Break yarn and thread through rem 16 sts. Pull up tight and fasten off securely.

LEFT BACK LEG

(Make 1 - starting at upper edge)
 Using Country Style DK in Granite, cast on 8 sts.
 Work 2 rows.
 Work 14 rows inc 1 st at beg of every row. 22 sts.
 Cast on 5 sts at beg of next 2 rows (for top of inside of leg). 32 sts.
 Work 2 rows.
21st Row. (K1, k2tog, k1) 8 times.
 Work 3 rows.
25th Row. (K1, k2tog) 8 times.
 Work 1 row. *
27th Row. K2, k2tog, s1, k1, pssso, k4, inc in next st, k1, inc in next st, k3. 16 sts.
 Work 1 row.
29th Row. K1, k2tog, s1, k1, pssso, k4, inc in next st, k1, inc in next st, k4. 16 sts.
 Work 1 row.
31st Row. K2tog, s1, k1, pssso, k4, inc in next st, k1, inc in next st, k5.
 ** Work 13 rows.
 Break off Granite and join in Black (for hoof).
 Work 4 rows.
49th and 50th Rows. Purl (to form base of hoof).
 Break yarn and thread through rem 16 sts. Pull up tight and fasten off securely.

RIGHT BACK LEG

(Make 1 - starting at upper edge)
 Work as for left back leg to *.
27th Row. K2, inc in next st, k1, inc in next st, k5, k2tog, s1, k1,

pssso, k2. 16 sts.
 Work 1 row.
29th Row. K3, inc in next st, k1, inc in next st, k5, k2tog, s1, k1, pssso, k1. 16 sts.
 Work 1 row.
31st Row. K4, inc in next st, k1, inc in next st, k5, k2tog, s1, k1, pssso.
 Complete as given for left back leg from **.

EARS

(Make 2 - starting at lower edge)

Using Country Style DK in Granite, cast on 10 sts.
 Work 10 rows.
11th Row. K3, k2tog, s1, k1, pssso, k3. 8 sts.
 Work 1 row.
13th Row. K2, k2tog, s1, k1, pssso, k2. 6 sts.
 Work 5 rows.
 Dec 1 st at each end of next row. 4 sts.
 Cast off rem 4 sts.

MANE

(Make 1)

Using Snowflake DK in Charcoal, cast on 4 sts.
 Knit 40 rows.
 Cast off.

TAIL

(Make 1 - starting at upper edge)

Using Country Style DK in Granite, cast on 4 sts.
 Work 18 rows.
 Break off Granite and join in Charcoal Snowflake DK.
 Knit 2 rows.
21st Row. (Inc in next st, k1) twice. 6 sts.
 Knit 9 rows.
31st Row. (K2tog) 3 times. 3 sts.
 Knit 1 row.
 Break yarn and thread through rem 3 sts. Pull up tight and fasten off securely.

TO MAKE UP

Fold body in half and join cast-on edge and then up to neck top edge - this seam runs along underside of body and up front of neck.
 Insert toy filling so body is firmly filled and put to one side.



Join head seam from gathered nose end, leaving 3cm (1¹/₄in) opening at back. Insert toy filling so head is firmly filled and close opening. Run a gathering thread along back edge, draw up tight and fasten off securely. Sew head to top of neck, placing centre back of neck level with gathered back edge of head. Fold each leg in half and sew seam from gathered hoof edge to top of inside leg. To stiffen legs, cut two 8cm (3in) straight lengths of drinking straw and two 8cm (3in) lengths of drinking straw with bendy bit at centre. Spread a little glue onto each straw and wrap lightly with a thin layer of toy filling. Slip a straw inside each leg,

bending straws in back legs so that they match knitted shape, and then insert toy filling so legs are firmly filled. Pin legs in place to body, check all legs are even and that donkey will stand and then sew legs in position. Lighten purl sides of ears with white pencil, then fold cast-on edge of each ear in half and oversew. Mark centre line of head with a tacking thread. Sew ears to head, positioning them 8 stitches apart. Mark eye positions with pins - position eyes 10 stitches apart and 8 rows above nose. Take a length of Granite Country Style DK and secure at one eye position. Take this thread through head and out

at other eye point. Make a small stitch and then take yarn back through head to first eye position. Draw up slightly to indent eye sockets and fasten off securely. Carefully draw out a single strand of Black Country Style DK. Using remaining 2 strands, embroider each eye by working 3 small chain stitches in a triangular shape. For nostrils, embroider 2 lazy daisy stitches on nose, placing them 6 stitches apart. Carefully draw out a single strand of Granite Country Style DK and use this to embroider a single straight stitch across end of nose to form mouth. Remove tacking thread. Lighten area around eyes with white pencil. Using a 2.50m (2³/₄yd) length of Majestic Mink Country Style DK, make a twisted cord for halter. Starting with folded end of cord in line with mouth on right side and holding in place with pins, wrap this cord around top of nose and then take it round the back of the head and down to meet nose, in line with mouth on left side. Stitch cord in place where it touches knitting. Knot ends and trim away excess. Sew side edge of mane down centre back of neck, starting level with front edges of ears and ending level with base of neck shaping row. Fold tail in half and sew along length, inserting a little toy filling into end. Sew in place to back seam of body.

NOTES

SIRDAR

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