

Dollytime

Toffee Ted



Let me introduce you to a cute little fellow named Toffee Ted. As you can see he is very fond of toffees and will seek them out whenever he gets the chance.

Toffee Ted measures 34cm (14in) from his feet to the tips of his ears and is knitted in DK yarn (USA - light-worsted/Australia - 8 ply).

When I designed this little bear I wanted him to have a vintage look and resemble those I'd seen in old photographs from the 1940s and 1950s. To achieve this I chose colours that were popularly used in those days. All knitting was done in garter stitch which was usually the chosen stitch for toy making as it produced a thicker, firmer fabric than stocking stitch (it must be remembered that 3ply yarn was used then). Toys were often made without patterns. A mother or grandmother would create a bear from a few simple shapes and so I have kept my pieces equally simple with the result that Toffee Ted is quick and easy to knit. I hope you enjoy making him and when he is finished make sure you hide your toffees in a safe place!

Happy dolly knitting

Wendy

<http://dollytime.etsy.com>

<http://flutterbypatch.typepad.co.uk>

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Materials

Pair of 3.25mm needles (US 3)

DK yarn in the following colours (USA - light-worsted/Australia - 8 ply).

Toffee (dark honey)

Claret

Pale blue

Pale green

Pale yellow

2 safety eyes (alternatively embroider eyes or use small piece of black felt. Buttons could be used if the bear is not going to be given to a very small child).

Black embroidery floss or yarn for nose and mouth

Toy filler

Abbreviations

K - knit

P - purl

St(s) - stitch(es)

St-st - stocking stitch

K2tog - knit two stitches together to make one

* * - repeat the pattern within asterisks

Kfb - knit in front and back to create a new stitch. For a kfb increase you make a knit stitch but don't slide the old stitch off the left-hand needle. To finish the increase, knit into the back of the old stitch on the left-hand needle and slide it onto the right needle. You will have made 2 stitches out of one.

For an excellent online video showing Kfb methods of increasing go to <http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/increases>

Let's get started

Head – knit 2 alike

Cast on 12 stitches in teddy coloured yarn

1. knit

2. kfb, k10, kfb (14st)

3. kfb, k12, kfb (16st)

4. kfb, k14, kfb (18st)

5. kfb, k16, kfb (20st)

6 - 36. knit

37. k2tog, k16, k2tog (18st)

38. k2tog, k14, k2tog (16st)

39. k2tog, k12, k2tog (14st)

40. k2tog, k10, k2tog (12st)

Cast off

Stitching close to the edges join the two head pieces leaving only the cast on edges open for filling. Turn right side out and stuff firmly.



Muzzle – knit 2 alike

Cast on 11 stitches

1 - 7. knit

8. k2tog, k7, k2tog (9st)

9. knit

10. k2tog, k5, k2tog (7st)

Cast off

Stitching close to the edges, join the two muzzle pieces leaving the cast on edges open for filling. Turn right side out. I found it easier to stitch the nose and mouth before the muzzle was attached to the face. When finished pad the muzzle with a small amount of stuffing and pin it to the head ready for stitching.



Ears - knit 4 alike

Cast on 6 stitches

1. knit

2. kfb, k4, kfb (8st)

3. kfb, k6, kfb (10st)

4 - 8 knit

9. k2tog, k6, k2tog (8st)

10. knit

Cast off

Stitching close to the edges join two ear pieces leaving the cast on edge open for turning. Turn right side out and close the cast on edge (don't stuff).



It is great fun positioning Toffee Ted's eyes, ears and muzzle as you can change his appearance quite considerably by placing his ears high or low on the head and his eyes close together or widely spaced. When you have decided how you want him to look, stitch all the parts onto the head and fix the safety eyes in place.



Legs - knit 2 alike.

Cast on 22 stitches in Toffee Ted colour

1 - 40. knit

41. k6, *kfb* (10 times), k6 (32st)

42 - 49. knit

50. k2, *k2tog, k1* (10 times) (22st)

51. knit

52. k2tog across row (11st)

53. k2tog to last stitch, k1 (6st)

Cut the yarn leaving a long tail and using a tapestry needle take the 6 stitches from the knitting needle onto the tail. Gather tightly to close end of foot and then (with wrong side of work facing) back-stitch the seam as far as the cast on edge. Fill the leg with stuffing starting at the foot pushing it well down into the toe. Then work up the leg shaping it as you go. Leave the top 1cm un-stuffed to allow the leg to swing freely when attached to the body. Close the cast-on edge with small whip-stitches.

Body knit 2 pieces alike

Toffee Ted's body gives the appearance of being a sweater with a roll neck. The colours you use and the number of stripes you knit are up to you. It is useful to change colour every 2, 4, or 6 rows so that yarn tails will all appear down one side of the work. These can be used when seaming the different coloured stripes.

Cast on 22 stitches and knit 46 rows in coloured stripe combination of your choice.

Row 47. cast off 4, knit 18

Row 48, cast off 4, knit 14

The stitches left on the needle will form the roll neck. Knit 11 rows. Cast off loosely.



The two sides of the work are quite different so you must decide which side you prefer and then with right sides facing use tail ends from the coloured stripes to stitch both side seams. Now stitch the bottom seam and turn the body right side out. Using small whip-stitches, sew the shoulder and roll neck seams. Fill the body with stuffing through the open neck. Make it fairly plump and firm but do not overstretch.

Attaching the legs

At the bottom of the body mark the centre point with a pin. Stitch the top edge of one leg to the bottom of the body on one side of the pin. Make sure it swings freely. Stitch back and forth several times to ensure the leg is secure. Repeat for the second leg on the other side of the pin.



Attaching the head

Fold down the roll neck and stitch the head firmly to the body so that the stitches will be hidden by the roll neck when it is back in position. NB. Leave a 2cm opening so that you can push extra stuffing into the face and body if needed in order to obtain a pleasing shape. When satisfied with the result close the opening. The head should be securely stitched and not wobble.



Arms – knit 2 alike. Stripe with colours of your choice

Cast 18 stitches in the colour you want for a turn back cuff (I used claret).

1 - 6. knit (these 6 rows will form the turn back cuff)

7 - 31 knit stripes in the colours of your choice.

Cast off.

Ted's paw – attach to the sleeve as follows



1. On the wrong side of the work pick up and knit 18 stitches across row 7 using teddy coloured yarn

2 - 8. knit

9. k2tog across row (9st)

10. k1, k2tog across row (5st)

Cut the yarn leaving a long tail and using a tapestry needle take the 5 stitches from the knitting needle onto the tail. Gather tightly to close end of the paw and then (with wrong side of work facing) back-stitch the paw seam as far as the (claret) cuff. Don't stitch the cuff just yet. Excluding the cuff, stitch the sleeve seam to the cast off edge. Turn right side out. Turn the cuff back over the sleeve and stitch the edges together. Stuff the arm to within 1 cm of the top and close the cast-on edge. Stitch to Toffee Ted's shoulder ensuring the arm moves freely. Repeat for the other arm.



Toffee Ted is complete but he would love a scarf and slippers to keep him warm!

Slippers - make 2 alike

Cast on 24 stitches in claret

1 - 3. knit

4. k7, *kfb* (10 times), k7 (34st)

5 - 13. knit

14. k1, *k2tog, k1* across row (23st)

15. knit

16. k1, *k2tog* across row (12st)

17. k2tog across row (6st)

Cut the yarn leaving a long tail and using a tapestry needle take the 6 stitches from the knitting needle onto the tail. Gather tightly to close bottom of slipper and then (with wrong side of work facing) close the back seam as far as the cast on edge.

Trim the slipper with a fluffy bobble.

Scarf

Cast on 10 stitches and knit 146 rows. Cast off. Trim with contrasting tassels.



Cosy slippers and a snug scarf, what more could a bear ask for?

Toffee Ted wastes no time in trying them on. And just look...they fit perfectly.



Time to go in search of some chewy toffee!