

BY ALAN DART

Plum Pudding Pixie

Oh so sweet, but completely free of calories – what a festive treat!

Perfect
Christmas
gift



Pattern Info

You will need...

Hayfield Bonus Toytime DK

1 x 25g/70m ball of each:
Signal Red (977), Chocolate (947),
Emerald (916), and Bottle Green (839)

Hayfield Bonus DK

1 x 100g/280m ball of each:
Flesh Tone (963), Aran (993) and
Lime (882)

Sirdar Funky Fur

Walnut (549), 1 x 50g/90m ball

Anchor Artiste Metallic

Silver (301), 1 x 25g/100m ball
Oddments of black and dusky pink
DK yarns

A pair of 3mm knitting needles

75g of washable toy stuffing

Light brown sewing thread

A 1in (2.5cm) diameter circle of
stiff card

A plastic drinking straw

A red pencil

Clear adhesive

Long tweezers

Hair spray

For where to buy, see page 91

*Visit www.alandart.co.uk for more
information on Alan's designs and to
purchase patterns.*

Tension

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension:

26 sts and 36 rows to measure 4x4in
(10x10cm) over reverse stocking
stitch using 3mm needles



This mischievous fellow can be found in the kitchen on Christmas Eve, stirring the cake mixture and occasionally sneaking himself a mince pie. And he might make his way under the tree for someone to find him on Christmas morning too! "This sweet fairy is the calorie-free pud you can enjoy all Christmas," says designer Alan Dart. "And you can save him for next year too!"



Start knitting here

NOTE Use 3mm needles throughout and cast on by using the cable (two needle) method. This is most important when knitting the smaller pieces. Begin all pieces with a K row, unless otherwise stated.

PUDDING BODY (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 12 sts with Chocolate for top edge and st st 2 rows.

1st inc row Inc into every st to end. [24 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row (Inc 1, K1) to end. [36 sts]

St st 3 rows.

3rd inc row (K1, inc 1, K1) to end. [48 sts]

St st 3 rows.

4th inc row (K1, inc 1, K2) to end. [60 sts]

St st 3 rows.

5th inc row (K2, inc 1, K2) to end. [72 sts]

St st 5 rows.

6th inc row (K2, inc 1, K3) to end. [84 sts]

St st 5 rows.

7th inc row (K3, inc 1, K3) to end. [96 sts]

St st 11 rows.

1st dec row (K3, k2tog, K3) to end. [84 sts]

St st 5 rows.

2nd dec row (K3, k2tog, K2) to end. [72 sts]

St st 5 rows.

3rd dec row (K2, k2tog, K2) to end. [60 sts]

St st 3 rows.

4th dec row (K2, k2tog, K1) to end. [48 sts]

St st 3 rows.

5th dec row (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [36 sts]

St st 3 rows.

6th dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [24 sts]

Next row Purl.

7th dec row (K2tog) to end. [12 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 with Flesh Tone for base edge and st st 2 rows.

SHAPE CHIN AND BACK OF HEAD

1st inc row (Inc 1) twice, K4, (inc 1) four times, K4, (inc 1) twice. [24 sts]

Next row Purl.

SHAPE BACK OF HEAD

2nd inc row (Inc 1, K1) three times, K12, (inc 1, K1) three times. [30 sts]

St st 3 rows.

SHAPE CHEEKS

3rd inc row K6, (inc 1) four times, K10, (inc 1) four times, K6. [38 sts]

Next row Purl.

4th inc row K6, (inc 1, K1) four times, K10, (inc 1, K1) four times, K6. [46 sts]

St st 9 rows.

1st dec row K8, (SKPO, K2, k2tog) twice, K6, (SKPO, K2, k2tog) twice, K8. [38 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row K8, (SKPO, k2tog) twice, K6, (SKPO, k2tog) twice, K8. [30 sts]

St st 13 rows.

SHAPE TOP OF HEAD

3rd dec row (K1, k2tog) to end. [20 sts]

Next row Purl.

4th dec row (K2tog) to end. [10 sts]

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

NECK (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 10 sts with Flesh Tone for base edge and st st 9 rows.

Cast off for top edge.

ARMS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 12 sts with Emerald for top edge and continue in st st stripe pattern of 2 rows Emerald, 2 rows Lime.

St st 36 rows.

Change to Signal Red for mitten and st st 2 rows.

1st inc row K1, (inc 1, K3, inc 1) twice, K1. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row K1, (inc 1, K5, inc 1) twice, K1. [20 sts]

Next row Purl.

Cast on 5 st at beg of next 2 rows for thumb. [30 sts]

St st 2 rows.

Cast off 5 sts at beg of next 2 rows. [20 sts]

St st 8 rows.

1st dec row K1, (k2tog, K5, SKPO) twice, K1. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row K1, (k2tog, K3, SKPO) twice, K1. [12 sts]

[12 sts]

Next row Purl.

Cast off.

MITTEN CUFFS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 19 sts with Signal Red.

1st rib row P1, (K1, P1) to end.

2nd rib row K1, (P1, K1) to end.

Repeat the last 2 rows three more times.



For the best results, wrap yarn around the straw for the neck as described in the instructions.

knit tip

Use matching thread and small stitches when sewing up your pixie toy.

Dec row K1, (k2tog, K1) to end. [13 sts]
Cast off for wrist edge.

LEGS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 16 sts with Emerald for top edge and continue in st st stripe pattern of 2 rows Emerald, 2 rows Lime.

St st 20 rows.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row.

St st 5 rows.

Repeat the last 6 rows once more. [12 sts]

St st 2 rows.

Inc 1 st at beg and end of next row.

St st 3 rows.

Repeat the last 4 rows once more. [16 sts]

St st 4 rows.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row.

St st 5 rows.

Repeat the last 6 rows two more times. [10 sts]

Cast off for ankle edge.

SHOES (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 8 sts with Signal Red for back edge and st 2 rows.

1st inc row K1, (inc 1) twice, K2, (inc 1) twice, K1. [12 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd inc row K2, (inc 1) twice, K4, (inc 1) twice, K2. [16 sts]

St st 7 rows.

3rd inc row K3, (inc 1) twice, K5, (inc 1) twice, K4. [20 sts]

Next row Purl.

4th inc row K4, (inc 1) twice, K7, (inc 1) twice, K5. [24 sts]

St st 5 rows.

1st dec row (K4, SKPO, K1, k2tog, K2) twice, K2. [20 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row (K3, SKPO, K1, k2tog, K1) twice, K2. [16 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd dec row (K2, SKPO, K1, k2tog) twice, K2. [12 sts]

Next row Purl.

4th dec row (K2, sl 1, k2tog, PSSO) twice, K2. [8 sts]

Next row Purl.

5th dec row K1, SKPO, K2, k2tog, K1. [6 sts]

St st 3 rows.

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

SHOE CUFFS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 16 sts with Signal Red for base edge and st st 1 row.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row. [14 sts]

WORK FIRST POINT

Next row K7, turn and work on these sts only.

St st 3 rows.

*Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row.

Next row Purl.

Repeat the last 2 rows once more. [3 sts]

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

WORK SECOND POINT

Next row Rejoin yarn to remaining 7 sts and st st 4 rows.

HOW TO...

KFB

Do the increases this way to get the correct stitch count.



1

Insert the tip of the right-hand needle into the front of the stitch to knit, as you would normally when knitting a stitch.



2

Knit the stitch but don't drop it from the left-hand needle.



3

Take the right-hand needle to the back of the knitting and insert the tip of the needle through the loop of the stitch on the left-hand needle.



4

Knit this second stitch and keep it on the right-hand needle, dropping the stitch from the left-hand needle.



Pattern Info

Abbreviations

beg	beginning
dec	decrease (by working 2 stitches together)
inc	increase (by working into front and back of stitch)
K	knit
M1	make one stitch by passing yarn over needle
P	purl
PSSO	pass slipped stitch over
SKPO	slip one, knit one, pass slipped stitch over
sl	slip
st st	stocking stitch
st(s)	stitch(es)

Measurements

17in (43cm) tall

NOTE: The pixie will not stand up on his own. He is designed to sit on his round bottom!



Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row. [3 sts]
St st 3 rows.

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

NOSE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 12 sts with Flesh Tone for face edge.

1st dec row K4, SKPO, k2tog, K4. [10 sts]

Next row Purl.

2nd dec row K3, SKPO, k2tog, K3. [8 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd dec row K2, SKPO, k2tog, K2. [6 sts]

St st 4 rows.

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

BRANDY SAUCE BEANIE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 42 sts with Aran for base edge and st st 6 rows.

1st dec row K2, (k2tog, K2) to end. [32 sts]

St st 3 rows.

2nd dec row K2, (k2tog, K1) to end. [22 sts]

Next row Purl.

3rd dec row (K2tog) to end. [11 sts]

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

HOLLY LEAVES (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 3 sts with Bottle Green for base edge and st st 2 rows.

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

Next row Knit.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row. [5 sts]

Next row Knit.

Inc 1 st at beg and end of next row. [7 sts]

Repeat the last 4 rows once more.

Next row Knit.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next 2 rows. [3 sts]

Next row P3tog, break yarn and draw through st.

HOLLY BERRIES (MAKE 3 PIECES)

Cast on 3 sts with Signal Red and st st 2 rows.

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

LUCKY COIN (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 20 sts with Anchor Artiste for outside edge and st st 2 rows.

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

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

TO MAKE UP

Unless otherwise specified, 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 most pieces to accommodate this method.



Make sure you stitch the coin on securely.

Don't stiffen the holly leaves if you're giving the toy to children.

Work as given for first point from * to **.

BRANDY SAUCE COLLAR (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 84 sts with Aran for hem edge and st st 2 rows.

Eyelet row K1, (M1, k2tog) to last st, K1. [84 sts]

St st 3 rows.

1st dec row (K2, k2tog, K2) to end. [70 sts]

St st 2 rows.

2nd dec row (P1, p2tog, P2) to end. [56 sts]

St st 2 rows.

3rd dec row (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [42 sts]

St st 2 rows.

4th dec row (P2tog, P1) to end. [28 sts]

St st 2 rows.

5th dec row (K2tog) to end. [14 sts]

Cast off for neck edge.

HAIR (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 31 sts with Funky Fur for base edge and st st 4 rows.

Dec row (K5, K 2 tog) four times, K3. [27 sts]

St st 7 rows.

Cast off for top edge.

EARS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 5 sts with Flesh Tone for base edge and st st 8 rows.





Treating purl side of work as right side on this piece only, and starting at gathered base edge, join body seam, stopping 2in (5cm) away from top edge. Stuff firmly, then join remainder of seam.

Cut a 4in (10cm) length of drinking straw for neck support and use pencil to mark a 1in (2.5cm) section in centre. Spread glue over this section and bind closely with Flesh Tone yarn, then cover two more times to make three layers of binding altogether. Using a large knitting needle, make a hole through stuffing at open top edge of body, spread a little glue over one end of neck support and push into hole until bound section meets top of body.

Join head seam from gathered top edge down to base edge, forming back seam, and stuff firmly. Now fold base edge in half and join, starting at folded end and stopping ½in (6mm) away from back seam to leave an opening. Push large knitting needle into stuffing through this open space as before, then spread glue over top of neck support and insert into hole.

Wrap knitted neck piece round support and join side edges. Placing this seam at centre back, sew base edge of neck to top of body and top edge of neck to base of head.

Fold end of each mitten in half and sew across, then join down side and round thumb, stopping at wrist. Use tweezers to stuff lightly, then join remainder of sleeve seam and again use tweezers to stuff lightly, leaving top 1in (2.5cm) of sleeve unstuffed. Fold top edge in half and oversew to close, then position and sew arms to sides of body, placing 4 knitted rows down from neck edge. Wrap cuff piece round top of mitten and join side edges, then turn up cuff and sew wrist edge to top of mitten by working backstitch over every stitch along cast-off edge. Turn down cuff.

Join side edges of each leg piece to form centre back seam, then use tweezers to stuff firmly, leaving knee section unstuffed so leg will bend. Starting at gathered tip, join seam on each shoe, stopping ½in (12mm) away from back edge. Use tweezers to stuff firmly, join remainder of seam, then, with seam running along underside of shoe, fold back edge flat and sew across. Now sew ankle edge of leg to top of shoe, placing leg seam 4 knitted rows in from back seam on shoe. Position and sew legs to body, placing between 2nd and 3rd decrease rows at base of body and spacing 2½in (6cm) apart. Wrap a cuff piece round ankle on each leg and join side edges for 2 knitted rows up from cast-on edge, then, positioning points at centre front and back, sew cuff in place by working backstitch over every knitted stitch along base edge.

Using black yarn, embroider French knot currants

at random over body. Following instructions on ball band, press collar piece lightly on wrong side, then turn up hem, folding along eyelet row, and sew down to form picot edge. Wrap collar round neck and join side edges, then, placing this seam at centre back, sew to neck by working backstitch over every stitch along cast-off edge.

Starting at gathered top edge, join seam on beanie. With this seam at centre back, fit beanie on head and sew in place by working backstitch over every stitch along base edge.

Starting at gathered tip, join nose seam and use tweezers to stuff firmly, then, with this seam running along underside, position and sew nose to head, placing base 12 knitted rows up from chin shaping row.

When embroidering features, draw out a single strand from a length of yarn and work with the remaining 2 strands. Also tie off ends of yarn at back of head where they will eventually be covered by hair. Mark eye positions with pins, placing directly above top of nose and spacing 2 knitted stitches apart. Use black yarn to embroider a circle of 4 tiny chain stitches for each eye. Use Chocolate yarn to embroider a single, diagonal, straight stitch above each eye for eyebrows. Use dusky pink yarn to embroider a curved line of chain stitches to form a broadly smiling mouth. Blush cheeks with pencil, working in a circular motion to gradually build up colour, and use hair spray to set.

Wrap hair piece round back of head and hold in place with pins, then use sewing thread to sew in position and remove pins. Darn yarn remaining at tip of each ear down side edge, then stiffen ears by coating with hair spray and leave on a flat surface to set. Position and sew ears to sides of head, placing ¼in (6mm) in from front edges of hair piece to form sideburns.

Using yarn remaining at tip of each holly leaf, darn down centre on purl side to form spine, then coat leaves with hair spray and leave on a flat surface to set. Use yarn remaining on gathered edge of each holly berry to work a gathering thread round the remaining three edges, then draw up tightly to form a tiny ball and fasten off. Position and sew holly leaves and berries to top of beanie.

Join side edges of each coin piece to form two circles, then, sandwiching card circle between knitted ones, oversew cast-on edges together. Position and sew coin securely between thumb and index finger of right mitten. ●

Next month, wish your loved ones the best of luck for the New Year, for exams, job interviews and more with Alan Dart's charming Lucky Pig. Issue 75, January, will be in the shops from Tuesday 30 November 2010.

HOW TO... SKPO

Some patterns call for you to decrease using this method.



1 Insert the point of the right-hand needle into the next stitch as if you were to knit it, but instead of winding the yarn around the needle, just slip the stitch off the left needle and on to the right-hand needle.



2 Knit the next stitch as normal.



3 Now insert the left-hand needle into the slipped stitch on the right-hand needle and lift it over the knitted stitch.



4 Continue knitting until the end of the row, and your slipped stitch should look like this.



Quick & Easy Knits

12
FABULOUS
DESIGNS

Here are 12 fabulous designs to create for family and friends – choose your favourite and get knitting!



BOBBLE BLANKET

Combine a pastel variegated yarn with a pure white mini pom-pom one to create a super-soft, modern baby blanket.

You will need...

Sirdar, Snuggly Kisses DK
Doodle (757) 4 x 50g/165m
balls
Sirdar, Baby Snowball DK
Snowman (100),
1 x 50g/25m ball
A pair of 4mm needles

Measurements

Blanket
25x27in (63.5x68.5cm)

Abbreviations

K	knit	st(s)	stitch(es)
P	purl	rep	repeat

Start knitting here

Pattern Note Familiarise yourself with the pom-pom yarn before you start. The yarn sections between each pom-pom will be knitted together with the DK yarn, with each pom-pom sitting at the front of the work to form the pattern. Leave a long enough tail on the pom-pom yarn for darning in and trim off the fuzzy sections so that you are able to thread the ends neatly through the back of the work.

Cast on 141 sts using 4mm needles and DK yarn. Knit 11 rows of garter stitch for the border.

Row 1 Knit.

Row 2 K10, P to last 10 sts, K10.

Row 3 Knit.

Row 4 K10, P to last 10 sts, K10.

Row 5 K10, * using DK and pom-pom yarn together K1, place the pom-pom at the front of work, K3 using DK only, bring pom-pom yarn to back of work; rep from * to last 11 sts, using DK and pom-pom yarn K1, using DK only K10.

Row 6 K10, P to last 10 sts, K10.

Row 7 Knit.

Row 8 K10, P to last 10 sts, K10.

Row 9 Knit.

Row 10 Knit.

Row 11 K10, P to last 10 sts, K10.

Row 12 Knit.

Row 13 K10, P to last 10 sts, K10.

Row 14 Knit.

Repeat rows 1 to 14 another 13 times, then rows 1-9 once more.

Knit 11 rows of garter stitch for the border.

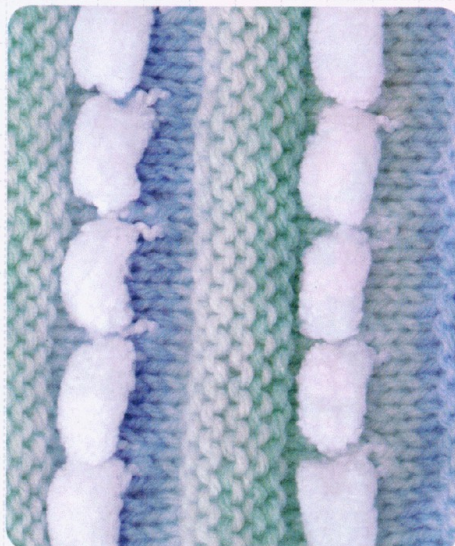
Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

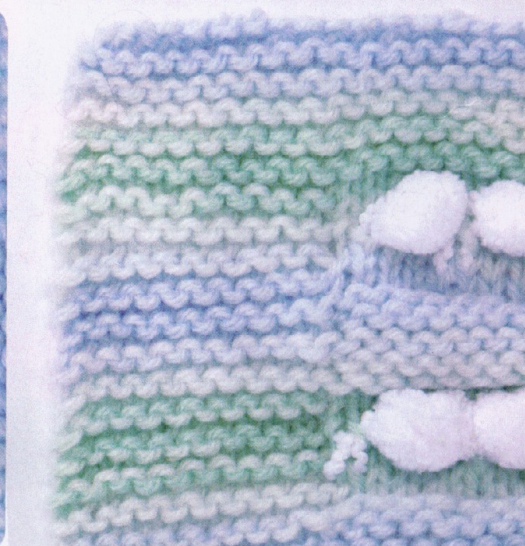
Weave in all the loose ends.



CENTRE PANEL



BORDER



CABLE SCARF

You will need...

Sirdar, Big Softie
Meringue (330),
6 x 50g/45m balls
A pair of 10mm needles
A cable needle

Abbreviations

C12B Place next 6
sts on a cable needle and
hold at back of work, K
next 6 sts, then K the
stitches off the cable
needle
C12F Place next 6
sts on a cable needle and
hold at front of work, K
next 6 sts, then K the
stitches off the cable
needle
K knit

✿ Start knitting here

Cast on 24 sts using 10mm needles.

Rows 1, 3 and 5 Knit.

Rows 2, 4 and 6 Purl.

Row 7 C12F twice.

Rows 8, 10, 12 and 14 Purl.

Rows 9, 11 and 13 Knit.

Row 15 K6, C12B, K6.

Row 16 Purl.

Repeat until work measures approx 72in (183cm)
ending on row 16.

Cast off and darn in ends.



BABY TED TOY

You will need...

Anchor, Wash +Filz-it!
Fine Kometcolor
Holmes (1090),
1 x 50g/100m ball
A set of 5½mm DPNs
A pair of 5½mm needles
Toy stuffing
A small amount of
brown yarn

Measurements

5x7in (12.5x19cm)

Abbreviations

cont continue
dec decrease
inc increase
K knit
kfb knit into the
front and back
of next stitch
st(s) stitch(es)
tog together

✿ Start knitting here

BODY

Cast on 70 sts using 5½mm DPNs and join into a
round. **Round 1** Knit. **Round 2** (K5, k2tog) to the
end. [60 sts] **Round 3** Knit.

Round 4 (K4, k2tog) to end of round. [50 sts]
Cont to dec in this fashion until you have 20 sts.
Knit 3 rounds.

Next round (K1, kfb) to end of round. [30 sts]

Next round Knit. **Next round** (K2, kfb) to end of
round. [40 sts] **Next round** Knit. Cont to inc in this
fashion until you have 70 sts. **Cast off.**

With RS facing out, sew together the side seam,
leaving a small gap. Fill with toy stuffing.

HEAD (make 2)

Cast on 6 sts using 5½mm needles, neck edge.

Row 1 Purl. **Row 2** K1, (kfb) four times, K1. [10 sts]

Row 3 Purl. **Row 4** K2, (kfb, K1) four times. [14 sts]
St st 5 rows. **Row 10** K2, (k2tog, K1) four times.

[10 sts] **Row 11** Knit. **Row 12** K1, (k2tog) four
times, K1. [6 sts] **Cast off.**

With WS facing out, sew together the side seam,
leaving the neck edge open. Fill with toy stuffing.

EARS (make 2)

Cast on 12 sts using 5½mm needles.

Row 1 Knit. Break yarn, thread through sts on
needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

Attach ears to top of head. Sew head to body
closing all gaps. Wash in the machine and leave to
dry. Sew on face using picture as guide. Tie a bow
around neck and sew in place.

MAN'S GLOVES

You will need...

Natural Dye Studio,
Dazzle BFL DK
1 x 100g/240m hank
A set of 3½mm DPNs
Stitch markers

Tension

24 sts and 33 rounds to
measure 4x4in
(10x10cm) over st st
using 3½mm needles

Abbreviations

cont continue
K knit
kfb knit into the
front and back
of next stitch
P purl
patt pattern
rep repeat
skpo slip 1, k1 pass
slipped stitch
over
st(s) stitch(es)

✿ Start knitting here

PURL RIDGE PATTERN

Round 1 Knit. **Round 2** Knit.

Round 3 K1, *P1, K3*; repeat four times
total, P1, K2, knit to end of round.

Round 4 *P1, K1* repeat ten times total,
knit to end of round.

These 4 rounds form the pattern.

LEFT GLOVE

Cast on 44 sts using 3½mm DPNs.

Round 1 *K2, P2*, rep to end of round.

Rep this round until you have 15 rounds.
Knit 2 rounds.

Rounds 18-22 Work in purl ridge pattern.

Round 23 Work in patt (row two of
pattern), then 1 st before end of round,
place marker, kfb.

Round 24 Kfb, place marker, cont to work
in patt.

Rounds 25-38 Cont to work in patt, inc 1
st within the markers on every alt round
until you have 18 sts between the
markers.

Before completing round 38, put these 18
sts onto some waste yarn.

Cast on 2 sts, then cont to work in patt as
before for a further 12 rounds.

LITTLE FINGER

K18, then put these 18 sts, plus the last 18
sts of the round, onto waste yarn. K8 for
the little finger, then cast on 4, then join
these 12 sts into a round. Knit until the
finger meas approx 2in (5cm), then k2tog
9 times in total.

Cut the yarn, draw it through the rem 3
sts, then weave in the end.

RING FINGER

Replace the other 36 sts onto DPNs and
start knitting again at the base of the little
finger. K36, then pick up and K6 sts across
the gap at the base of the finger.

K36, skpo, K2, K2tog.

K4, then put the next 28 sts onto waste
yarn. Cast on 4 sts, then join into a round
with the remaining 4 sts opposite. Knit
until the finger meas approx 3in (7.5cm),
then K2tog twelve times in total.

Cut the yarn, draw it through the rem 4
sts, then weave in the end.

MIDDLE FINGER

Begin again at the base of the ring finger.
K6, place the next 16 sts onto waste yarn.
Cast on 4 sts, then join with the rem 6 sts
opposite. Pick up and K6 sts across base of
the ring finger. On the next few rounds,
work dec in the picked up and cast on

stitches until you have 16 stitches in total,
knit until the finger meas approx 3¼
inches (8cm), then k2tog 12 times in total.
Cut the yarn, draw it through the rem 4
sts, then weave in the end.

INDEX FINGER

Begin again at the base of the middle
finger. K16, then pick up and K4 sts across
the base of the previous finger. On the
next rounds, work decreases in the picked
up sts until you have 16 sts in total, then
knit until the finger meas approx 3in (or to
fit recipient), then k2tog 12 times in total.
Cut the yarn, draw it through the rem 4
sts, then weave in the end.

THUMB

Pick up the stitches from waste yarn, then
pick up and knit 6 stitches from the inside
of the gap (24 stitches). Do 2 decreases
(one each side of the picked up stitches)
for the next two rounds, so you have 20
stitches total. Knit until the thumb
measures approx 2in (5cm), then k2tog 15
times in total. Cut the yarn, draw it
through the rem 5 sts, weave in the end.

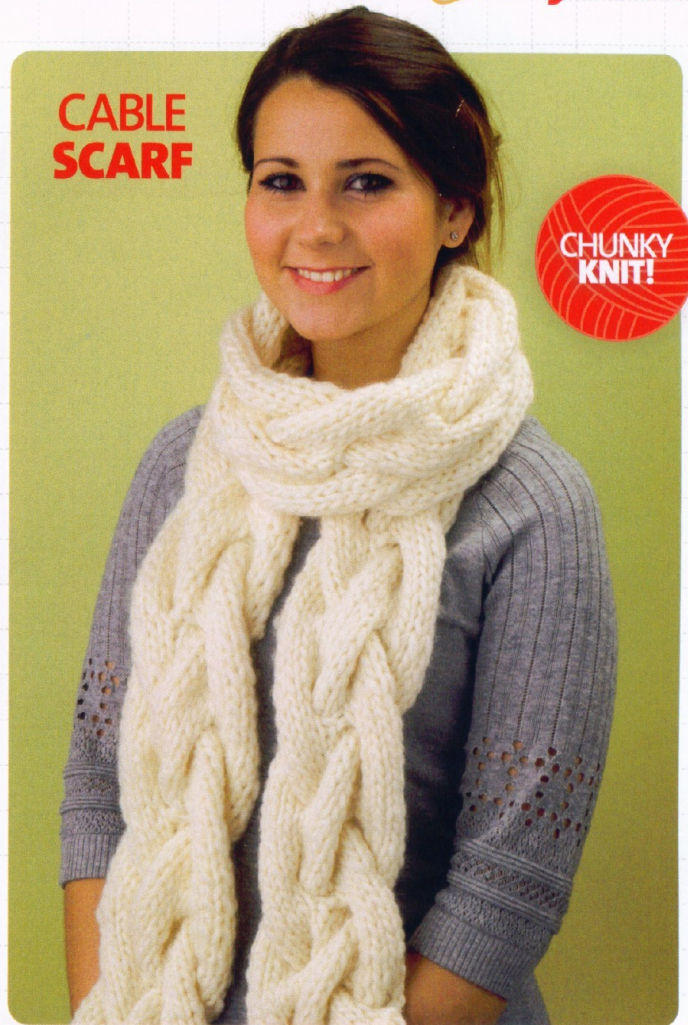
RIGHT GLOVE

Work as left glove, but knit the purl ridge
pattern on the other side of the thumb.

**BABY
TED TOY**



**CABLE
SCARF**

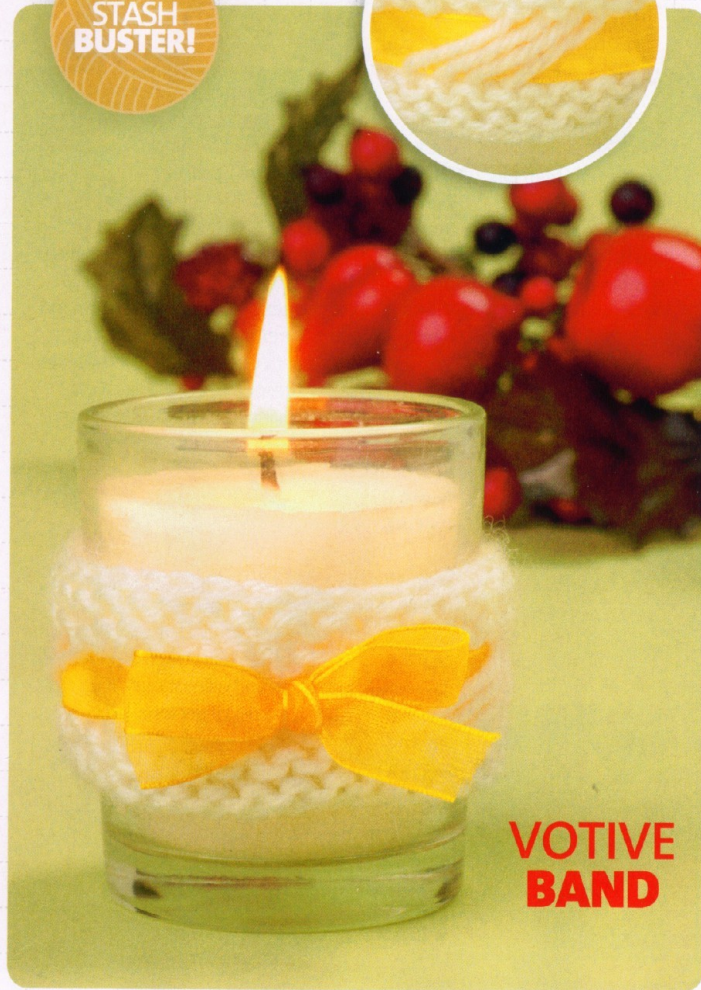


**CHUNKY
KNIT!**

**MAN'S
GLOVES**



STASH
BUSTER!



VOTIVE
BAND

STASH
BUSTER!



PAPER CHAINS

BOW FOR BUCKET
STAR FOR TREE



PAPER CHAINS

You will need...

DK yarn from your stash
(Three different shades)
A set of 3¼mm DPNs

Abbreviations

K knit
P purl
st(s) stitches

✿ Start knitting here

FIRST LOOP

Cast on 60 sts using 3¼mm DPNs with first shade.
Distribute stitches evenly over three needles, and join into a round.

Round 1 *Work a K2, P2 rib to end of round. Work a total of 12 rounds in this rib pattern.

Cast off in rib pattern.*

NEXT LOOP

Cast on 60 sts using 3¼mm DPNs with second shade of yarn.
Distribute stitches evenly over three needles, and this time before joining into a round thread one needle through the first loop.
Now continue with chain from * to * from the first loop.
Continue to make loops alternating colours as preferred.



VOTIVE BAND

You will need...

DK pure wool from your stash
A pair of 4mm needles
Length of ribbon
Approx 6in (15cm)
circumference tea light holder

Abbreviations

K knit
sts stitch(es)

✿ Start knitting here

Cast on 34 sts using 4mm needles.

Row 1 Knit.

Row 2 Knit.

Row 3 K1, K1 wrapping the yarn round the needle 3 times; rep from * to last st, K1.

Row 4 K1, * slip the next 8 sts on to the right-hand needle, dropping the extra loops from each st, take the first 4 sts back on to the left-hand needle over the last 4 sts, then replace these last 4 sts back onto the right-hand needle, K8; repeat from * to last st, K1.

Row 5 Knit.

Row 6 Knit.

Cast off.

Sew the the side seam together. Thread the ribbon through the loopy stitches.

NOTE: You MUST use pure wool for this project as it does not burn easily and will not melt. If you use another fibre there is a risk of personal injury or causing a fire.



BOW & STAR

You will need...

Bergère de France, Eclair
Yarn A Oasis, 239.011
Yarn B Neige 238.081
1x50g/105m ball of each
A pair of 5mm needles
Toy stuffing

Abbreviations

cont continue
K knit
kfb knit into front and back of next st
k2tog knit 2 stitches together
P purl
psso pass slipped stitch over
m1 make 1
rep repeat
sl slip stitch
st(s) stitch(es)
st st stocking stitch

✿ Start knitting here

BOW

Bow loops

Cast on 45 sts using 5mm needles and yarn A.
Work 4 rows st st, starting with a K row.
Change to yarn B and work 4 rows st st.
Cont this stripe pattern until a total of 32 stripes have been worked.

Cast off.

With right sides facing, join long edges together. Turn right side out and join the open ends. These ends will not show so it doesn't matter if the stitches can be seen. Now join the two short ends together.

Bow middle

Cast on 24 sts using 5mm needles and yarn A.
Work 4 rows st st, starting with a K row.
Change to yarn B and work 4 rows st st.
Cont this stripe pattern until a total of 7 stripes have been worked.

Cast off.

With right sides facing, join long edges together. Turn right side out and join the open ends. These ends will not show so it doesn't matter if the stitches can be

seen.

Now wrap the Bow middle around the Bow loops at the centre point, and join the ends to create the Bow.

STAR (make 2)

Points (make 6)

Cast on 2 sts using 5mm needles and yarn A.

Row 1

Row 2 and all even numbered rows Purl.

Row 3 Kfb, kfb.

Row 5 Change to yarn B, K1, m1, K2, m1, K1.

Row 7 K1, m1, K4, m1, K1

Row 9 Change to yarn A, K1, m1, K6, m1, K1

Row 11 K1, m1, K8, m1, K1.

Row 12 Purl.

Leave sts on needle.

Change to Yarn B

Next row K across all sts. [72 sts]

Next row Pfb, K10, pfb, *K11, pfb, rep from * to end of row. [79 sts]

Start decreases keeping 4-row stripe pattern consistent:

Row 1 K2tog, K10, *sl 1, k2tog, psso, K10, rep from * 4 times, sl 1, K1, psso.

Row 2 and all even numbered rows Purl.

Row 3 K2tog, K8, *sl 1, k2tog, psso, K8; rep from * 4 times, sl 1, K1, psso.

Row 5 K2tog, K6, *sl 1, k2tog, psso, K6; rep from * 4 times, sl 1, K1, psso.

Row 7 K2tog, K4, *sl 1, k2tog, psso, K4; rep from * 4 times, sl 1, K1, psso.

Row 9 K2tog, K2, *sl 1, k2tog, psso, K2; rep from * 4 times, sl 1, K1, psso.

Row 11 K2tog, *sl 1, k2tog, psso; rep from * 4 times, sl 1, K1, psso.

Row 13 Sl 1, k2tog, psso, sl 1, k2tog, psso, K1.

Cut yarn leaving a good length and thread onto a sewing up needle. Feed this through the rem sts and pull tightly. With right sides facing, join seam to create star.

When both pieces are finished, join edges with right sides facing, remembering to leave an opening to turn star right side out, fill with a little toy stuffing (stiffen with card if desired) then join final seam.

CROCHET
DESIGNS

CHRISTMAS BAUBLES

DECORATE
YOUR
HOME!

KNIT &
CROCHET!

CHRISTMAS WREATH

CHRISTMAS BAUBLES

You will need...

Anchor, Metallic
1 x 25g ball of each:
White (00304), Brown
(00338), Gold (00303)
Rowan, Siena 4ply
Black (674), 1 x 50g ball
A 2mm crochet hook
Three 2½in (7cm) dia.
polystyrene balls
3mm wide black ribbon
3 red beads
9 black beads
2 black sequins
Dark green felt
Carrot-shaped button
3mm wide white ribbon
30 red beads
1 large white bead or bell

Abbreviations

ch chain
dc double crochet
dtr double treble
htr half treble
rep repeat
ss slip stitch
tr treble

Start crocheting here

BASIC BAUBLE (make 2)

With 2mm hook make 6 ch and join with a ss to form a ring. **Round 1** (RS) 1 ch, 12 dc into ring, join with a ss to form a ring. **Round 2** 1 ch, 2 dc into each dc to end, join with a ss to form a ring. [24 dc] **Round 3** 1 ch, 1 dc into each dc to end, join with a ss to form a ring. **Round 4** 1 ch, *1 dc into next dc, 2 dc into next dc; rep from * to end, join with a ss to form a ring. [36 dc] **Rounds 5–7** 1 ch, 1 dc into each dc to end, join with a ss to form a ring. **Round 8** 1 ch, *1 dc into next 2 dc, 2 dc into next dc; rep from * to end, join with a ss to form a ring. [48 dc] **Rounds 9–15** 1 ch, 1 dc into each dc to end, join with a ss to form a ring. **Fasten off.**

SNOWMAN BAUBLE

Using white metallic yarn, make the basic bauble. Fold ribbon in half lengthways and sew to inside top of one bauble piece. Place both crochet halves over polystyrene ball and sew together using small over sts and metallic yarn.

Hat

With 2mm hook and black yarn make 6 ch and join with a ss to form a ring. **Round 1** (RS), 3 ch, 11 tr into ring, join with a ss to form a ring (12 tr). **Round 2** 3 ch and 1 tr into first st, 2 tr into each tr to end, join with a ss to form a ring (24 tr). **Round 3** 3 ch, 1 tr into next tr, 2 tr into next tr *1 tr into next 2 tr, 2 tr into next tr; rep from * to end, join with a ss to form a ring (32 tr). **Round 4** 3 ch, 2 tr into next tr, *1 tr into next tr, 2 tr into next tr; rep from * to end, join with a ss to form a ring. [48 tr] **Rounds 5–7** 3 ch, 1 tr into each tr to end, join with a ss to form a ring.

Round 8 (brim), 3 ch, 2 tr into each of next 2 tr, *1 tr into next tr, 2 tr into each of next 2 tr; rep from * to last tr, 1 tr into last tr, join with a ss to form a ring. **Fasten off.**

Sew in ends, cut out two small holly shaped leaves and sew on to brim of hat together with the 3 red beads. Thread ribbon on bauble through top of hat and catch hat in place around head. Mark position of the snowman's face and sew on nose. Make the eyes with a sequin and a black bead sewn into place. Make mouth with 9 beads, as for eyes.

CHRISTMAS PUDDING

Using the basic bauble instructions, make one half in white metallic yarn and the other in brown metallic yarn. Fold ribbon in half lengthways and sew to inside top of the white bauble piece. Put 3 red beads to one side for later, placing randomly, sew the rest of the red beads to the brown half of the bauble. Place both crochet halves over polystyrene ball and sew together using small over sts and metallic yarn.

Pudding sauce

Using white metallic yarn, work as one half of basic bauble pattern from rounds 1–10. **Round 11** 1 ch, *1 dc into next 3 dc, 2 dc into next dc; rep from * to end, join with a ss to form a ring. [60 dc] **Rounds 12–17** 1 ch, 1 dc into each dc to end, join with a ss to form a ring. **Round 18**–1 ch, then working 1 st into each dc from previous round, work 2 dc, 2 htr, 1 tr, 2 dtr, 2 tr, 2 htr, 3 dc, 1 htr, 1 tr, 1 dtr, 1 tr, 1 htr, 1 dc, 1 htr, 2 tr, 2 dtr, 1 tr, 1 htr, 4 dc, 2 htr, 1 tr, 1 dtr, 1 tr, 2 htr, 1 tr, 1 dtr, 1 tr, 1 htr, 2 dc, 1 htr, 1 tr, 2 dtr, 1 tr, 1

htr, 3 dc, 1 htr, 1 tr, 1 dtr, 1 tr, 1 htr, 2 dc; join with a ss to form a ring. **Fasten off.** Place sauce over top of pudding and sew in place under edge of sauce. Cut out 2 holly shaped leaves and sew into position on top of pudding, sew the 3 rem red beads at base of holly leaves.

BELL BAUBLE

Using gold metallic yarn, make the basic bauble.

Fold ribbon in half lengthways and sew to inside top of one bauble piece. Attach the large white bead or bell to the centre of the bottom bauble piece. Place both crochet halves over polystyrene ball and sew together using small over stitches and metallic yarn.

Bell Case

Using gold metallic yarn, work as one half of basic bauble pattern from rounds 1–10.

Round 11 1 ch, *1 dc into next 3 dc, 2 dc into next dc; rep from * to end, join with a ss to form a ring. [60 dc]

Rounds 12–15 1 ch, 1 dc into each dc to end, join with a ss to form a ring. **Rounds 16–18** 3 ch, 1 tr into each st to end, join with a ss to form a ring. **Rounds 19–21** 1 ch, 1 dc into each st to end, join with a ss to form a ring. **Round 22** 1 ch, *1 dc into next dc, 2 dc into next dc; rep from * to end, join with a ss to form a ring. [90 dc] **Rounds 23 & 24** 1 ch, 1 dc into each dc to end, join with a ss to form a ring. **Fasten off.**

Place bell case over top of bell, thread ribbon through top of bell case and ease into position, gently folding out curve at bottom. Sew in position between rounds 21 & 22 to secure.

CHRISTMAS WREATH

You will need...

Patons, Smoothie DK
MS White (01020)
1 x 100g/200m ball
1st C Red (1035)
1 x 100g/200m ball
2nd C Green (1010)
1 x 100g/200m ball
A pair of 4mm needles
A 3.5mm crochet hook
3 white buttons
Approx 1m red ribbon
(25mm wide)
25cm dia. polystyrene
wreath shape
1 curtain ring

Start knitting here

WREATH

Main piece

Cast on 30 sts using 4mm needles and MS.

Knit every row (garter stitch). Continue until work measures 24½in (62cm) long.

Cast off.

Wrap knitted length around polystyrene shape lengthways and sew up side seam. Join cast on edge to cast off edge. Position seam at back of wreath.

Flowers (make 3)

With 3.50mm hook and 1st C, make 8 ch and join with a ss to form a ring.

Round 1 3 ch (counts as first tr), into ring work 1 tr, (6 ch, 3 tr) 5 times, 6 ch, 1 tr, ss to

Abbreviations

beg beginning ch chain dc double crochet dtr double treble htr half treble
picot 3 ch, ss into 3rd ch from hook ss slip stitch sts stitches tr treble

top of 3 ch at beg of round.

Round 2 In each 6 ch loop work [1 dc, 1 htr, 7 tr, 1 htr, 1 dc], ss to top of 3 ch at beg of previous round.

Fasten off.

Leaves (make 5)

With 3.50mm hook and 2nd C, make 15 ch and work in a spiral as follows:

1 dc into 2nd ch from hook, working 1 st into each ch work 1 htr, 3 tr, 4 dtr, 3 tr, 1 htr and 1 dc, 3 ch, then working 1 st into each ch on other side of starting chain work 1 dc, 1 htr, 3 tr, 4 dtr, 3 tr, 1 dc, 3 ch, 1 dc into first dc at beg of spiral, 1 dc into next htr, 1 picot, (1 dc into each of next 2 sts, 1 picot) 6 times, into 3 ch sp at point of leaf work (1 dc, 4 ch, ss into 3 ch from

hook, 1 ch 1 dc), (1 picot, 1 dc into each of next 2 sts) 7 times, ss into 3 ch sp.

Fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Decorate Wreath using photograph as a guide. Position the ribbon at centre bottom of wreath and sew in place, trim ends. Place the 3 large flowers and 5 leaves in position over top of ribbon and bottom of wreath. Sew flowers into position with a button. Sew leaves into place behind the flowers.

Using 3.5mm hook and MS, take curtain ring and work a round of dc to fill circle. Ss to form a ring and fasten off. Sew ring onto wreath on the back at top centre. Use this to hang wreath.

Roomy,
sturdy
shopper

BY HELEN ARDLEY

Born to Shop!

Go Christmas shopping in style with this colourful cabled tote.



Pattern Info

You will need...

Lang Yarns, Largo

Yarn A Dark Grey (0070),

3 x 50g/50m balls

Yarn B Medium Grey (0005),

2 x 50g/50m balls

Yarn C Pale Grey (0026),

2 x 50g/50m balls

Yarn D Orange (0059),

2 x 50g/50m balls

A pair of 8mm needles

Two metal buttons

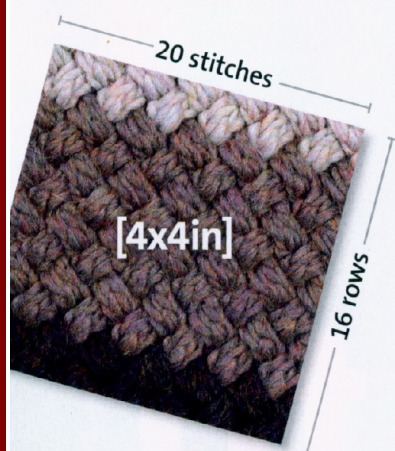
Bag handles (Prym Marie 615 160)

For where to buy, see page 91

Tension

Yarn used knits as chunky to this tension:

20 sts and 16 rows to measure 4x4in (10x10cm) over pattern using 8mm needles



Measurements

13¼x13¼in (34x35cm)

Abbreviations

- C4F** slip next 2 sts onto a cable needle and hold at front of work, K next 2 sts, then knit 2 sts from cable needle
- C4B** slip next 2 sts onto a cable needle and hold at back of work, knit next 2 sts then knit 2 sts from cable needle
- k2tog** knit two stitches together
- patt(s)** pattern(s)
- rep** repeat
- st(s)** stitch(es)

Knitted tote bags are popular, but this design from Helen Ardley takes things a step further. Looking at the bag, you may think this is an entrelac pattern, but it's actually done using simple cables. If you've got some basic experience of cables and are able to alternate between two yarn colours on some rows, you should have no trouble with this. "I wanted to get a woven effect, and I also wanted the colours to change without producing a straight line, so this cable pattern is perfect," says Helen.

The bag is worked on 8mm needles in chunky Largo yarn, so knits up quickly. "I love the way this yarn hasn't got a lot of twist," Helen says. If you look closely, there are lots of colours within the yarn, so your bag will be interesting from far away and close up.



Start knitting here

FRONT AND BACK PANELS (MAKE 2)

Cast on 58 sts with 8mm needles and colour A.

**** Row 1** K1, *C4F; rep from * to last st, K1.

Row 2 Purl.

Row 3 K3, *C4B; rep from * to last 3 sts, K3.

Row 4 Purl.

These 4 rows form the pattern.

Cont in patt until work measures 4in (10cm), ending with row 4 of patt.

Next row K1 in colour A, *C4F (slip next 2 sts onto cable needle and hold at front of work, K2 in colour B, then knit 2 from cable needle in colour A); rep from * to last st, K1 in colour A.

Next row P3 in colour A, *P2 in colour B, P2 in colour A; rep from * to last 3 sts, P2 in colour B, P1 in colour A.



Now work in colour B and, starting on row 3 of patt, cont in patt until work measures 7¼in (20cm), ending after row 4 of patt.

Next row K1 in colour B, *C4F (slip next 2 sts onto cable needle and hold at front of work, K2 in colour C, then knit 2 from cable needle in colour B); rep from * to last st, K1 in colour B.

Next row P3 in colour B, *P2 in colour C, P2 in colour B; rep from * to last 3 sts, P2 in colour C, P1 in colour B.

Now work in colour C and, starting on row 3 of patt, cont in patt until work measures 11¼in (30cm), ending after row 4 of patt.

Next row K1 in colour C, *C4F (slip next 2 sts onto cable needle and hold at front of work, K2 in colour D, then knit 2 from cable needle in colour C); rep from * to last st, K1 in colour C.

Next row P3 in colour C, *P2 in colour D, P2 in colour C; rep from * to last 3 sts, P2 in colour D, P1 in colour C.

Now, working in colour D, work rows 3 and 4 of pattern. **

Next row K1, *k2tog, K1 rep from * to end. [39 sts]

Next row Knit.

Cast off.

SIDE PANELS (MAKE 2)

Cast on 22 sts using 8mm needles and colour A. Now work as front and back panels from ** to **.

Next row K1, *k2tog, K1; rep from * to end. [15 sts]

Next row Knit.

Cast off.

BASE OF BAG

Using colour A, work as for side panel until work measures 13¼in (35cm).

TO MAKE UP

Sew in all loose ends.

Place 2 side seams to front and back panels and base of bag to underneath and pin into place making sure colours match up at sides, then using mattress stitch sew up bag. Fold in each corner of bag and sew into place with a button.



The buttons aren't functional, so you can choose ones you like the look of without worrying about size.



knit tip
Sew some ribbon to the inside of the top edge to give the bag extra durability.

Putting in a waterproof lining is a good idea if you plan to use your bag a lot during the winter.

Reader offer!

Save 10% off
Lang Yarns Largo

Find out more about this
great offer on page 67.

Attach the bag handles to the top of the bag. Make 4 pompons of different sizes in different colours. Leave an end attached to each pompon and tie around one handle.

We've more fab winter accessories for you in this issue's Quick & Easy Knits. Turn to page 47 to find your favourite.



If you can't find leather-look handles, knit handles to match the bag.



Accessory knit

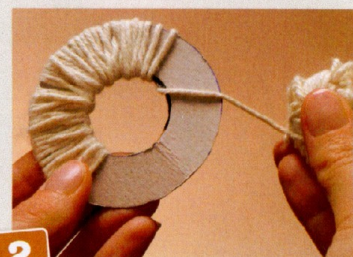
HOW TO...

MAKE A POMPON

All you need is the side of a cereal packet, a pair of scissors and some yarn.



1 Cut two circles of card from a piece of card and wind your yarn into small balls.



2 Place the two pieces of card together and wind your yarn through the hole.



3 Keep winding until you can't get any more yarn through the hole.



4 Cut the yarn around the edge of the circle and tie a piece of yarn tightly around the middle to hold the pompon together.



5 Trim the pompon into a neat ball.