



Clare Wools

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OF ABERYSTWYTH**

Cynthia's sheep



Size

Sheep stands 16cm high.

Materials

A pair of 3¼mm knitting needles.

Double knitting yarn: 50g beige, 25g cream, small amount of black for features.

Amounts are generous but approximate.

Acrylic toy stuffing.

Knitters marking pins for sewing up.

Abbreviations

alt – alternate.

beg – beginning.

cm – centimetres.

fol – following.

garter-st – garter-stitch. Knit every row.

inc – increase. Knit into front then back of stitch.

k – knit.

k2 or 3 tog – knit 2 or 3 stitches together. If these stitches are the very last in the row then work together through back of loops.

k-wise – knit-ways.

m1 – make 1 stitch. Pick up the horizontal loop between the needles and work into the back of it.

mm – millimetres.

p – purl.

p2tog – p 2 stitches together. If these are the very first in the row then work together through back of loops.

sts – stitches.

stocking-st – stocking-stitch. Knit on the right side, purl on the wrong side.

tbl – through back of loop.

() – repeat instructions between brackets as many times as instructed.

Sheep

BODY

Begin at lower edge using the thumb method and beige, cast on 36 sts and work in garter-st.

Garter-st 2 rows.

Inc row: (k1, m1, k1, m1, k14, m1, k1, m1, k1) twice – 44 sts.

Next and next 2 foll alt rows: k.

Inc row: (k1, m1, k2, m1, k16, m1, k2, m1, k1) twice – 52 sts.

Inc row: (k1, m1, k3, m1, k18, m1, k3, m1, k1) twice – 60 sts.

Inc row: (k1, m1, k4, m1, k20, m1, k4, m1, k1) twice – 68 sts.

Garter-st 25 rows.

Dec row: k2tog, k30, (k2tog) twice, k30, k2tog – 64 sts.

Garter-st 3 rows.

Dec row: k2tog, k28, (k2tog) twice, k28, k2tog – 60 sts.

Garter-st 3 rows.

Dec row: (k2tog) twice, k22, (k2tog) 4 times, k22, (k2tog) twice – 52 sts.

Garter-st 3 rows.

Dec row: (k2tog) twice, k18, (k2tog) 4 times, k18, (k2tog) twice – 44 sts.

Cast off in garter-st.

LEGS – make 4

Begin at lower edge using the thumb method and cream, cast on 16 sts.

P 1 row.

Inc row: k1, (m1, k2) to last st, m1, k1 – 24 sts.

Beg with a p row, stocking-st 13 rows.

Cast off 6 sts at beg of next 2 rows – 12 sts.

Dec row: k2tog, k to last 2 sts, k2tog – 10 sts.

Dec row: p2tog, p to last 2 sts, p2tog – 8 sts.

Cast off.

HEAD

Begin at top edge using the thumb method and beige, cast on 16 sts and work in garter-st.

Inc row: (inc k-wise) to end – 32 sts.

Garter-st 7 rows.

Dec row: k6, (k2tog) twice, k12, (k2tog) twice, k6 – 28 sts.

K 1 row.

Change to cream and continue in stocking-st.

Next row: (k1 tbl) to end.

Next and next 2 foll alt rows: p.

Inc row: k6, m1, k1, m1, k14, m1, k1, m1, k6 – 32 sts.

Inc row: k7, m1, k1, m1, k16, m1, k1, m1, k7 – 36 sts.

Inc row: k8, m1, k1, m1, k18, m1, k1, m1, k8 – 40 sts.

Beg with a p row, stocking-st 7 rows.

Dec row: (k3, k2tog) to end – 32 sts.

Next and next 2 foll alt row: p.

Dec row: (k2, k2tog) to end – 24 sts.

Dec row: (k1, k2tog) to end – 16 sts.

Dec row: (k2tog) to end – 8 sts.

Thread yarn through remaining sts, pull tight and secure.

EARS – make 2

Using the thumb method and cream, cast on 18 sts.

K 1 row.

Dec row: k6, (k3tog) twice, k6 – 14 sts.

Cast off k-wise.

TAIL

Using the thumb method and beige, cast on 8 sts and work in garter-st.

Garter-st 6 rows.

Shape next row: (k2tog) twice, k2, inc into last 2 sts.

Garter-st 5 rows.

Shape next row: inc into first 2 sts, k2, (k2tog) twice.

Garter-st 5 rows.

Shape next row: (k2tog) twice, k2, inc into last 2 sts.

Garter-st 5 rows.

Dec row: (k2tog) to end – 4 sts.

Thread yarn through remaining sts, pull tight and secure.

MAKE UP AND FEATURES

Body Fold cast on stitches of body in half and over-sew, fold cast off stitches in half and over-sew. Join row ends leaving a gap, stuff body and close gap.

Legs Fold cast on stitches of legs in half and over-sew. Join straight row ends and stuff legs and sew to body.

Head Join row ends of head and stuff and with this seam at centre back, over-sew top edge. Pin and sew head to body.

Ears Fold cast off stitches of ears in half and over-sew. Fold row ends in half and catch in place. Sew ears to head at each side.

Tail Join row ends of tail and sew one end to body.

Features To make eyes, tie 2 knots in 2 lengths of black yarn, winding the yarn round 6 times to make the knots. Check that the knots are the same size. Tie eyes to head with 3 clear knitted stitches in between and run ends into head. Work nose and mouth in colour to match eyes, working a 'v' shape for nose and a long stitch from nose to centre of underneath for mouth. To begin and fasten off invisibly for the embroidery, tie a knot in the end of yarn and take a large stitch through work coming up to start the embroidery, allowing knot to disappear through knitting and be caught in the stuffing. To fasten off, take a few stitches back and forth through work inserting needle where yarn comes out.



Knit as a newborn baby gift

Cynthia's sheep design by Sarah Keen © 2009

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