

ALL-IN-ONE BEAR

*I wanted a simple toy that could be knitted up quickly using leftover yarn from my stash.
This cute bear is knitted in one piece and can be completed in an evening or two.*



- Yarn:** Aran weight (approx. 50m)
Needles: 4.5 mm
Gauge: Not important (as long as there are no gaps between stitches)
Notions: Stitch holder; washable toy stuffing; ribbon/oddment of DK yarn
Finished size: 24 cm tall (approx.)

Notes: *I chose Wendy Serenity Aran, a coarse-textured yarn with wool, to give the bear an 'old-fashioned' feel. The scarf was knitted in Sirdar Snuggly DK and facial features were embroidered using Wendy Mode DK.*

Woolmeister Knits

START KNITTING HERE

Left leg:

- Cast on 4 sts using thumb method (4 sts)
- Row 1: purl
- Row 2: k1, m1, k2, m1, k1 (6 sts)
- Row 3: purl
- Row 4: k1, m1, k4, m1, k1 (8 sts)
- Row 5: purl
- Row 6: k1, m1, k6, m1, k1 (10 sts)
- Starting with a purl row, work 13 rows in stocking stitch
- Break yarn and transfer this piece to a stitch holder

Right leg:

- Cast on 4 sts using thumb method (4 sts)
- Follow instructions as given above until 19 rows worked (10 sts)
- (Do not break off yarn)

Body (front):

- Transfer both legs onto one needle, with RS facing to knit next row (20 sts)
- Knit across right leg, cast on 4 sts, then knit across left leg (24 sts)
- Starting with a purl row, work 17 rows in stocking stitch

Arms:

- Next row: k24, cast on 13 sts (37 sts)
- Next row: p37, cast on 13 sts (50 sts)
- Next row: knit to last st, m1, k1 (51 sts)
- Next row: purl to last st, m1, p1 (52 sts)
- Repeat last two rows once more (54 sts)
- Work two more rows in stocking stitch with no increases
- Next row: knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1 (53 sts)
- Next row: purl to last 3 sts, p2tog, p1 (52 sts)
- Next row: knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1 (51 sts)
- Cast off 15 sts purlwise at beg of next row, purl to last 3 sts, p2tog, p1 (35 sts)
- Cast off 15 sts knitwise at beg of next row, knit to end of row (20 sts)

Head:

- Work 43 rows in stocking stitch with no shaping

Arms:

- Next row: k20, cast on 15 sts (35 sts)
- Next row: p35, cast on 15 sts (50 sts)
- Next row: knit to last st, m1, k1 (51 sts)
- Next row: purl to last st, m1, p1 (52 sts)
- Repeat last two rows once more (54 sts)
- Work two more rows in stocking stitch with no shaping
- Next row: knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1 (53 sts)
- Next row: purl to last 3 sts, p2tog, p1 (52 sts)
- Next row: knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1 (51 sts)
- Cast off 13 sts purlwise at beg of next row, purl to last 3 sts, p2tog, p1 (37 sts)

Woolmeister Knits

- Cast off 13 sts knitwise at beg of next row, knit to end of row (24 sts)

Body (back):

- Work 17 rows in stocking stitch with no shaping
- Next row: k10, cast off 4 sts knitwise, k10 (20 sts)
- Next row: p10 for right leg, transfer rem 10 sts to a stitch holder

Right leg:

- Work 12 rows in stocking stitch (10 sts)
- Next row: k1, k2tog, k4, k2tog, k1 (8 sts)
- Next row: purl
- Next row: k1, k2tog, k2, k2tog, k1 (6 sts)
- Next row: purl
- Next row: k1, k2tog twice, k1 (4 sts)
- Next row: purl
- Cast off rem 4 sts and break yarn

Left leg:

- Transfer rem 10 sts to a needle, with WS facing to purl next row (10 sts)
- Starting with a purl row, work 13 rows in stocking stitch
- Next row: k1, k2tog, k4, k2tog, k1 (8 sts)
- Next row: purl
- Next row: k1, k2tog, k2, k2tog, k1 (6 sts)
- Next row: purl
- Next row: k1, k2tog twice, k1 (4 sts)
- Next row: purl
- Cast off rem 4 sts and break yarn

Making up:

- Weave in loose ends
- Fold knitted piece in half, WS out, matching up the arms and legs so that you have the silhouette of a bear
- Starting at the top-left of the head, back-stitch around the left edge of the bear until you reach the top of the inside left leg
- Starting at the top-right of the head, back-stitch around the right edge of the bear until you reach the top of the inside right leg
- Turn the bear RS out through the gap between the legs (this is a bit fiddly!)
- Sew across the top corners of the bear's head, using running stitch, to create two ears
- Stuff the bear's head, then sew around the neck, using running stitch, and gently pull the thread to gather the piece slightly and create a neck
- Stuff the bear's neck, arms, legs and body
- Neatly oversew the gap between the bear's legs
- Use oddments of yarn to embroider eyes, nose and a mouth onto the bear's face.
- Using leftover yarn in a bright colour, knit a garter stitch scarf to tie around the bear's neck or use a ribbon to tie a bow