

# Mary Jane's TEAROOM ♥♥

## ♥ Handmade Shoes ♥

*Mary Jane and ballerina style custom made shoes specially designed to fit our 15" TEAROOM Rabbits and Bears*



### **Notions**

1 Pair of 2.75mm Knitting Needles (U.S 2)

1 Pair of 2.5mm Knitting Needles (U.S 1.5 )

1 Tapestry Needle (*for attaching sole*)

Glass/Plastic Headed Pins

Tape Measure

*Optional*

1 Sewing Needle (*if attaching straps and buttons*)

Cotton Sewing Thread in matching colour (*for straps & buttons*)

Doll Buttons to decorate **size 4-8mm** (*see also safety instructions*)

Small amount of stuffing for shaping (*if steam blocking*)

### **Yarn**

Below are the details of the original yarn used in the pattern (*the original shades used for each shoe are also detailed later* ) Pure Wool is beautifully easy to shape using the steam blocking method as described in the pattern if you would like to put your handmade shoes in a box to give as a gift with your rabbit/ bear but you can also have fun and try out yarns from your stash in a corresponding weight (*see advice on steam blocking P.7*)

Yarn details are also given for each of the 6 leg designs which have been made here using the **MJT 15" Rabbit & Bear** knitting patterns (*Please refer to each original MJT knitting pattern for leg instructions*)

**Yarn Details (rounded up to nearest 5g) 4 Ply Yarn (Fingering)**

**Rowan Pure Wool 4 Ply:** 15g / each pair of shoes (*See also P.10 'Another idea' using Rowan Pure Wool DK weight*)

### Original Ball Band Information

The information below will be useful for you to compare when substituting yarns. This is always given on the ball label and if purchasing over the internet it will be stated in the yarn details. It is usually given for a 10 x 10cm (4 x 4") tension square knitted using **stocking stitch**. Also detailed is the tension when using the smaller knitting needles as used in pattern.

### Original ball band details: 10 x 10cm (4 x 4") tension square (gauge swatch) in St-st

Rowan Pure Wool 4 Ply      28sts, 36 rows (3.25mm/ US 3) Ball size 50g/160m



**Tension using 2.75mm needles worked in G-st as pattern: 10 x 10cm (4 x 4") tension square**  
30sts, 57 rows

### A practical note on tension for handmade shoes.....

A tiny shoe is as quick to knit as a tension square. Therefore, you may just want to test knit the actual shoe with your chosen yarn (*or yarn leftovers*) keeping the following points in mind....

Make sure that your yarn is the same weight as detailed in the pattern and as close a match as possible to the original ball band details for best results. If you find the final shoes are slightly larger or smaller than required try changing the needle size (i.e. move up a needle size to make a slightly larger shoe and down a size for a smaller version....it can make quite a difference)

**Casting on:** Cast on using the *thumb method* or *cable cast on* as detailed in the instructions.

**Casting off:** Take care to cast off each piece as instructed in the pattern i.e. **P** wise or **K** wise.

**Steam blocking finished shoes is optional** (see also P.7 when substituting yarns as to suitability for this method) \*Pieces **must not be pressed** with an iron as they will lose their elasticity.

### **Making up**

*The sole is very quick to attach following the photo tutorial (and attaching shoe straps is optional)*

### **Yarn Ends**

Always leave a long enough yarn end where stated when casting **on/off** so that it can be used to sew up the seam later. This is a much easier and neater way of finishing seams.

**Blocking Measurements:** (blocked as instructions **P.7** and before stretching over foot)

**4 Ply yarn** Length: 7cm Width: 5cm

**DK yarn** Length: 7.5cm Width: 5.5cm

To fit 15" MJT rabbit/ bear foot size: Toe to Heel: 8cm (3.1") Foot circ: 16cm (6.3") as original patterns

### **Safety**

Tearoom handmade shoes are a decorative item for your **15" MJT Rabbits & Bears**. Please do not add buttons if your project will be in the vicinity of a young child and always ensure that straps are secure and all pins/needles are removed on finishing your project.

### **Leg Designs**

The 6 leg designs used in the photographs are all from **Mary Jane's TEAROOM** original knitting patterns. Each individual design and the pattern from which it originates is detailed with each shoe (Please note all the leg designs can be swapped around for the **15" Rabbits & Bears** e.g. Candy could wear stripy socks or tights ect.)

## Abbreviations

**beg:** beginning

**cont:** continue

**dec:** decrease

**g-st:** garter stitch (every row a **K** row)

**inc:** increase

**K:** Knit

**Ktbl:** Knit stitch through back of loop

**L:** Left

**M1:** Pick up the loop between the stitch just worked and the next stitch with left hand needle. Knit into the back of it to make a new stitch (**Tip:** You may find it easier to pick up with **R** needle on **R** side edge then pass to **L** needle before knitting into back) In this pattern it makes a very neat increase on the opposite side of work (**RS**)

**P:** Purl

**R:** Right

**RS:** Right side

**SSK:** Slip one stitch **K** wise, slip another stitch **K** wise then insert **L** needle into front loops of slipped stitches and **K** together from this position through back of loops

**rep:** repeat

**st:** stitch

**tbl:** through back of loop

**K2tog:** Knit 2 stitches together

**WS:** Wrong side

*\*If you are new to knitting, [knittinghelp.com](http://knittinghelp.com) has simple and clear instructional videos of the above stitches.*

## Time to begin



*Happy feet....Mary Jane's in many colours....*



*Ballerina pumps: Rowan Pure Wool 4 Ply **Eau de Nil** (Flowers are from '**Primrose Rabbit**' knitting pattern but using cable cast on/2.5mm needles and Rowan Pure Wool 4 Ply **Delhi/ Avocado**)*

## Basic Handmade Shoe

**Sole** (2.75mm Needles - Make 2)

Cast on 10sts beg at shoe front (using thumb method)

K 1 row (**RS**)

**Begin increase**

**Next:** K1, M1, K to last st, M1, K1 - 12sts (**WS**) (See 'Abbreviations' above for **M1** description)

K1 row

**Repeat last 2 rows once more - 14sts**

**Next:** K1, M1, K to last st, M1, K1 - 16sts



**G-st 20 rows beg RS**

**Decrease for heel**

**Next:** K1, SSK, K to last 3sts, K2tog, K1 - 14sts (**RS**)

K 1 row

**Repeat last 2 rows twice more ending WS - 10sts** (**Tip:** Add thread tag on one of the decrease rows to mark **RS** heel end)

**Cast off K wise (RS)** (**Tip:** K2tog at end of row before completing cast off to avoid loose last stitch)

Weave in yarn ends lightly on inside sole

**Upper Shoe** (2.75mm Needles - Make 2)

Cast on 63sts using **cable cast on** method beg at base edge of upper shoe at centre back leaving just a short yarn end.

**Single rib top**

**Next:** K1, (P1, K1) to end (**RS**)

**Next:** P1, (K1, P1) to end (**WS**)

**Repeat both rows a further 4 times ending (WS)** (10 rows of single rib in all) while also adding a **thread tag** around 32nd stitch on 3rd row to mark the centre line at front of shoe. This will help when aligning and attaching sole (I use strands of embroidery thread/floss to make a tie - as photo below left)



**Change to 2.5mm Needles for firm shoe rim**

**Begin decrease** (keeping a firm tension on **P2tog** decreases)

**Next:** P2tog, P15, (P2tog) 7 times, P1, (P2tog) 7 times, P15, P2tog - 47sts (**RS**)

**Next:** (Ktbl) to end (\*Remember to change empty needle to smaller 2.5mm size) (**WS**)

**Cast off K wise (RS)** (only a regular tension is needed as the rim will be nice and firm anyway) Leave a **long yarn end** to close centre back seam and to attach sole (see photo tutorial P.5-7 for instructions on attaching sole to upper shoe)

Leave your **short cast on yarn end** on upper shoe in place until work is complete. This can then be darned in or simply knotted together with working yarn end on the inside for a neat finish.

**Straps** (2.5mm Needles - Make 2) Shoes can be worn without the straps if preferred for a ballerina style pump which is easy to remove (see P.3)

Cast on 24sts using **cable cast on** method (cast on row is **lower edge** of strap)

**K** 1 row

**Cast off P wise** using larger 2.75mm Needle (**WS**)

Weave in yarn ends lightly on reverse (cast off row is upper edge of strap)

**\* Do not press pieces**



### **Notes on Making Up**

*(Please read Fig.1-7 before starting to attach sole)*

#### **Attaching sole to upper shoe**

The shoes have been designed so that the soles look very neat if your bunny or bear is sitting pretty on a shelf, bed or chair and the soles are facing you...*no seams down the centre.*

They have a *stretchy* sole and upper shoe but a *firm upper rim* which will keep them secure on the feet.

The photograph *left* shows how the shoe will look when stretched. Don't worry if it seems a bit of an odd shape before blocking or simply stretching over foot.

### **1 Close centre back seam on upper shoe (Fig.1)**

Using long *cast off* yarn end and *mattress stitch* take a full st into the seam at each side to give a neat finish (**Tip:** working down rib edges take needle under upper 'bump' of **P** st one side and lower 'bump' of **P** st alternate side while taking in a full edge **K** st (Fig.1) creating a seam which is very neat when tightly stretched) *Leave yarn ends in place.*



### **2 Pin sole into position (Fig.2)**

Insert sole just inside lower edge of upper shoe with **yarn tags RS**. Align upper shoe tag at front with centre front of sole piece then pin lightly together. Just a couple of pins should suffice to keep it in place while you work your way around the shoe.



Fig.3



**4** *Work down the side* always passing the needle through the 'knots' (*bumps*) along the edge of the sole piece (Fig.4 ) and...

Fig.5



**6** ... *on upper shoe* you will need to take the needle behind the **P** st '*bump*' (Fig.6) (*WS*) as you *ease* the sole into position.

**NB.** Always take the stitches just inside edge of upper shoe piece avoiding the cable cast on for a neat rope-like overlap (Fig.5 & 6)

**3** *Attach sole beginning centre back of heel* continuing to use *cast off* yarn end from upper shoe and *mattress stitch*. Take needle behind the 'V' shaped strands (Fig.3) *immediately below* heel edge of sole (**RS**) and then behind a **K** st just inside edge of upper shoe piece (**WS**) alternately (see Fig.5) working in this way to the side of shoe. (The upper shoe will slightly overlap the sole edge)

**NB:** Avoid stitching too tightly as you will lose the 'stretchiness'

Fig.4



**5** ... *on the upper shoe* continue to pass your needle behind the **K** st (**WS**) (Fig.5)

*...also just occasionally....*

Fig.6





**7** *Work across shoe front* taking needle behind the 'V' between first 2 rows of **g-st** 'ridges' on the sole (**RS**) (Fig.7) then continue to work down the final side as before. On reaching centre back of shoe once again take yarn end through to **WS** and tie with short *cast on* yarn end of upper shoe or darn both ends in lightly.

### **Finishing**

You can slip the shoe in place now and attach straps as detailed below (*remember to flatten sole of stuffed foot as explained in original patterns*) If you are using pure wool (*as pattern*) and would like to block them into a perfect shape maybe to give in a little box as a gift then you will find the instructions below very useful...*a little bit of magic to finish*. Pure wool is very suited to this technique. If you are knitting with a

substitute yarn use the ball band details as a guide for *suitability* (*most animal fibres*) and if at all unsure just place directly on foot without blocking (*acrylic/synthetic fibres should not be steam blocked*)

### **Steam Blocking**



**1.** First fill out the toe and heel areas with stuffing to shape

**2.** Pin shoe lightly to ironing/ blocking board (*insert pins carefully between sts .... I place them inside at heel end*) while gently stretching lengthwise (*see blocking measurements P.2*)

**3.** Set iron on recommended heat for yarn Hover over shoes without touching while pressing steam button several times Pat into shape following steaming, adjust pins if necessary and leave to dry completely

### **Attaching Straps** (*if steam blocking add afterwards*)

I prefer to use cotton sewing thread to attach straps and small buttons. First sew the button in place on the strap (*remembering the cast off row of strap is the upper edge*) Position shoe on foot and attach the button end of the strap to the shoe at required position. If you count from the centre back it will be around 6th knit column of the single rib (*I also anchor strap to foot with a few small stitches on each side*) Now take the strap over to the other side and secure on the inside of the shoe pulling strap slightly taut (*You can take the needle and thread straight through the foot to the opposite side if you are not intending the shoes to be removable*) If the strap is slightly longer than needed the extra can be hidden inside. I like to keep the shoe perfectly in place by securing to foot with just a few small stitches at the centre back of heel inside the shoe rim.



## *Ideas to use with Tearoom Patterns*

### Mary Jane Shoe in Classic Red with Lacy Sock Trim and Round Buttons



Lacy sock leg design is from the MJT '**DAISY** Rabbit' knitting pattern

#### Yarns

Shoes: Rowan Pure Wool 4 Ply *Kiss*

Socks: Rowan Pure Wool DK *Snow*

Lacy Sock Trim: DMC Natura Just Cotton *Nacar*

Legs: King Cole Baby Alpaca DK *Camel*

Buttons: 6mm Linen Round

### Mary Jane Shoe in Duck Egg with Pink Ankle Socks and Pink Heart Buttons



Simple ankle sock leg design is from the MJT '**ROMEO** Bear' knitting pattern

#### Yarns

Shoes: Rowan Pure Wool 4 Ply *Eau de Nil*

Socks: Rowan Pure Wool DK *Tea Rose*

Legs: Rowan Baby Alpaca DK *Southdown*

Buttons: 4mm Pink Hearts

### Mary Jane Shoe in Navy with Stripy Sock Trim and Red Sweetheart Buttons





### Nautical sock with trim leg design from the MJT 'OSCAR Rabbit' knitting pattern

#### Yarns

Shoes: Rowan Pure Wool 4 Ply *Blue Iris*  
 Socks & Edgings: Rowan Pure Wool DK *Snow*  
 Red Stripe: Rowan Pure Wool DK *Kiss*  
 Legs: Rowan Baby Alpaca DK *Southdown*

Buttons: 6mm Red Hearts

*Make the following changes to sock top and edging when referring to 'OSCAR Rabbit' pattern....  
 Work last 2 rows of sock in red (red stripe)*

#### **Sock Edging** (3mm Needles - Make 2)

*Cast on 32sts in DK using cable cast on*

**K** 1 row

*Cast off P wise using larger 3.25mm Needle (WS)*

### Mary Jane Shoe in Chocolate with Stripy Tights and Wooden Love Heart Buttons



**Stripy tights leg design** from the MJT '**PRIMROSE Rabbit**' and '**ANIKI Rabbit**' knitting patterns  
*(I can definitely see ROMEO wearing these with his breeches)*

#### Yarns

Shoes: Rowan Pure Wool 4 Ply *Mocha*  
 Stripy Tights: Rowan Baby Alpaca DK *Jacob*  
 King Cole Baby Alpaca DK *Camel*

Buttons: 8mm Wooden Hearts

### Mary Jane Shoe in Strawberry & Cream with Stripy Socks and Daisy Buttons



**Stripy socks leg design** from the MJT '**BLUEBELL Rabbit**' knitting pattern

#### Yarns

Shoes: Rowan Pure Wool 4 Ply *Raspberry*  
 Stripy Socks & Edgings: Rooster Almerino DK *Strawberry Cream*  
 Artesano DK 100% Alpaca *Cream*  
 Legs: King Cole Baby Alpaca DK *Camel*

Buttons: 8mm Wooden Daisies

## Pretty Doll Buttons



Decorate your shoes with tiny doll buttons....

These are readily available online and I have used **4-8mm** sizes here. There are many styles available ....wooden hearts, daisies, and stars or traditional round buttons in many colour ways and materials to name just a few (*or add the little primrose flower (P.3) to the strap in place of a button*) Have fun and decorate your shoes with different designs.

## *Another Idea.....*



8mm wooden buttons

Simple leg design from the '**Candy Bear**' and '**Bo Rabbit**' patterns using **King Cole Baby Alpaca DK Camel** (I think these legs would look lovely in a bright colour for plain knitted tights)

Use **DK weight** yarn for a fuller shoe with less stretch working as pattern and *making the following changes...*

Yarn used (*see left*)...**Rowan Pure Wool DK 20gms Kiss**

**Original ball band details in St-st (4 x 4") tension square:**

22sts, 30 rows

(4mm/ US 6) Ball size 50g/125m

**Tension worked in G-st as pattern on 3mm needles**

27sts, 54 rows

**Needle sizes:**

Replace 2.75mm used in pattern with **3mm** (US 2.5)

Replace 2.5mm used in pattern with **2.75mm** (US 2)

*Cast off with a slightly firmer tension on upper shoe*

*Cast on only 22 sts for strap*

## *♥ Handmade Shoes ♥*

*can be used alongside the following MJT patterns*

*Oscar Rabbit  
Primrose Rabbit  
Bluebell Rabbit  
Daisy Rabbit  
Bo Rabbit  
Anika Rabbit  
Candy Bear  
Romeo Bear*



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