

The Blue Tit

by Val Pierce



SIZE

To fit an innocent smoothie

YARN

Stylecraft Special DK

(100% Acrylic; 295m / 323yds per 100g ball)

A: Aster (1003) B: Saffron (1081) C: Cream (1005)

Scraps of black yarn for features

YOU WILL ALSO NEED

- A pair of 3.25mm (UK10 / US3) Pony knitting needles
- Small amount of toy stuffing
- Yarn needle for finishing
- Scissors for finishing

TENSION

Tension is not critical for this project

ABBREVIATIONS

G-st Garter stitch: Knit on RS and WS

inc Increase(d)

K Knit

Kfb Knit into the front and back of 1 stitch

k2tog Knit 2 stitches together

k3tog Knit 3 stitches together

M1 Make 1 stitch by lifting strand between needles and knitting it through the back loop

P Purl

rep Repeat

RS Right side of work

st(s) Stitch(es)

WS Wrong side of work

PATTERN

Hat

Using A, cast on 28 sts.

Work 2 rows in G-st.

Join in B and one extra small ball of A and using the intarsia method work as follows, remembering to twist yarns together at joins to avoid holes in work:

Row 1 (RS): K12A, K4B, K12A.

Row 2 (WS): P11A, P6B, P11A.

Row 3: K10A, K8B, K10A.

Row 4: P10A, P8B, P10A.

Row 5-14: Rep rows 3 and 4 a further 5 times.

Row 15: (K2togA) 5 times, (K2togB) 4 times, (K2togA) 5 times. 14 sts

Row 16: P5A, P4B, P5A.

Row 17: K1A, (K2togA) twice, (K2togB) twice, (K2togA) twice, K1A. 8 sts

Row 18: P3A, P2B, P3A.

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Thanks for knitting a little hat for The Big Knit this year. Your creation will go onto one of our smoothie bottles, into the shops, and help keep older people warm and happy this winter. Please send your hats to The Big Knit, Fruit Towers, 342 Ladbroke Grove, W10 5BU.

Break both yarns leaving 25cm (10in) tails. Thread yarn A onto a yarn needle and gather up the 8 sts, pulling tightly to close and join the back seam.

Head

Using C, cast on 4 sts and P one row.

Row 1 (RS): (Kfb) to end. 8 sts

Row 2 (WS): Purl.

Row 3: (Kfb) to end. 16 sts

Row 4: Purl.

Row 5: (K2, kfb) to last st, K1. 21 sts

Row 6: Purl.

Break C, join in A and continue as follows:

Row 7: Knit.

Row 8: Purl.

Row 9: (K2, k2tog) to last st, K1. 16 sts

Row 10: Purl.

Row 11: (K2tog) to end. 8 sts

Row 12: Purl.

Row 13: (K2tog) to end. 4 sts

Break the yarn leaving a 20cm (8in) tail. Thread tail onto a yarn needle and gather up the 4 sts, pulling tightly to close. This is the top of the head. Sew the back seam, stuffing as you go to pad the head out.

Wings (make 2)

Using A, cast on 2 sts and K one row.

Row 1 (RS): Kfb, K1. 3 sts

Row 2 (WS): K1, P1, K1.

Row 3: (K1, M1) twice, K1. 5 sts

Row 4: K2, P1, K2.

Row 5: K2, M1, K1, M1, K2. 7 sts

Row 6: K3, P1, K3.

Row 7: Knit.

Row 8: K3, P1, K3.

Row 9: (K1, k2tog) twice, K1. 5 sts

Row 10: K2, P1, K2.

Row 11: K2tog, K1, k2tog. 3 sts

Row 12: K1, P1, K1.

Row 13: K3tog. 1 st

Break yarn and pull through last st.

Beak

Using B, cast on 1 stitch.

Row 1: Knit.

Row 2: Knit into the front then back then front again of the stitch. 3 sts

Row 3-6: Knit.

Row 7: K2tog, K1. 2 sts

Row 8: K2tog.

Break yarn and pull through last st.

Legs (make 2)

Using B, loosely cast on 20 sts.

Cast off.

MAKING UP

Take the beak, fold it in half and stitch to centre of the head. Using black, embroider eyes and black line on head using the image as a guide. Attach head to top of main hat.

Attach a wing to each side of the main hat. Take the legs and fold a small part at one end into a foot shape, securing with a few stitches. Repeat for the other leg. Attach one either side inside the main hat.

FINISHING

Weave in all loose ends.

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the innocent
big knit

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