

Knitted koala, piglet, bunny & panda

Four simple animals based on one pattern. Each one measures 17cm [6¾in] from top to toe, excluding the ears.

MATERIALS

3mm [No 11, USA 2] knitting needles; stuffing

BASIC TOY

Legs

Begin at lower edge of one leg and using colour required cast on 10 sts.

1st row: Inc K wise into every st -20 sts. Beginning with a P row, st-st 13 rows. Break off yarn and leave sts on a spare double-pointed needle.

Work second leg in same way, but do not break off yarn for Koala, Piglet and Bunny. Break off yarn for Panda and join on white.



Body and head

Mark each end of next row with a coloured thread. With right side of work facing and using colour required, K across the 20 sts on knitting needle, then across the 20 sts on the spare needle -40 sts. St-st 11 rows.

Continuing with same colour throughout.

Next row: K7, (K2tog) 4 times, K10, (K2tog) 4 times, K7 - 32 sts.

St-st 7 rows.

Break off yellow and join on fawn for head.

Inc St-st for 2 rows.head

Next row: (K1, inc in next st) to end -48 sis. St-st 11 rows, marking centre of the 11th row. Shape head

1st row: K11, (K2tog) twice, K18, (K2tog) twice, K11 -44 sis.

2nd, 3rd and 4th rows: St-st without shaping.

5th row: K10, (K2tog) twice, K16, (K2tog) twice, K10-40 sts.

6th and every following alternate row: P.

7th row: K9, (K2tog) twice, K14, (K2tog) twice, K9-36 sis.

9th row: K8, (K2tog) twice, K12, (K2tog) twice, K8-32 sts.

11th row: (K2, K2tog) to end -24 sis. , 13th row: (K1, K2tog) to end -16 sis.

15th row: (K2tog) to end -8 sts.

B & T tightly, for top of head.

To make up

Join row ends from top of head as far as the coloured threads, leaving a gap in seam at head section.

Join row ends of each leg from coloured threads to cast on edges. Gather round the cast on leg sts, pull up tightly and fasten off. Turn right side out. Stuff legs, body and head. Do not close gap in head seam.

To shape neck, use a double strand of yarn to match the toy and gather round body, two knitted rows below the head inc row. Pull up gathers very tightly and knot ends of yarn. Sew yarn ends into neck.

Arms [make two alike]

Using colour required, begin at top of arm and cast on 16 sts loosely. St-st 14 rows.

Next row: (K2tog) to end -8 sts.

B & T tightly

Join row ends, turn right side out and stuff. Sew open cast on edges of arms to sides of body, just below neck. When the toy is completed make a 32cm [12½in] double twisted cord in a bright colour. Tie in a bow round the neck. Sew bow to the neck.

KOALA

Make basic toy using beige throughout.

Eyes

Make eyes as for Puss in Boots [see Face, page 14].

When sewing eyes into head, pass the second pair of yarn ends through head just below the marked position. Add a little more stuffing, then close gap in head seam.

Nose

Begin at lower edge and using black cast on 3 sts.

1st row: Inc K wise into every st - 6 sts.

Beginning with a P row, st-st 5 rows. Next row: (K2tog) to end -3 sts. Cast off.

Sew nose to centre of face, with cast off edge level with lower edges of the eyes.

Ears [make two alike]

Begin at lower edge and using beige cast on 5 sts.

1st row: Inc K wise into every st - 10 sts. P 1 row.

Next row: (K1, inc in next st) to end -15 sts.

Beginning with a P row, continue in st-st and work 3 rows.

Next row: (K1, inc in next st) 7 times, inc in last st -23 sts.

St-st 2 rows.

Break off beige and join on white.

St-st 2 rows.

Next row: K1, (yarn, K2tog) to end. Beginning with a K row, st-st 4 rows.

Next row: (K1, K2tog) 7 times. K2tog-15 sts. St-st 3 rows.

Next row: (K1, K2tog) to end -10 sts.

P 1 row.

Next row: (K2tog) to end -5 sts. B & T tightly.

Gather up cast on sts tightly and fasten off. With right side of st-st outside, oversew the white row ends to the beige row ends at each side of the ear piece. Sew this edge to sides of head as illustrated.

Tummy piece

Begin at lower edge and using white cast on 10 sts.

Work in st-st and inc 1 st at beginning of every row until there are 14 sts.

St-st 10 rows.

Continue in st-st and dec 1 st at each end of next 2 rows -10 sts. Cast off P wise.

Sew to front of Koala, with cast off edge level with neck.

PIGLET

Make basic toy using pink throughout.

Eyes

As for the Koala.

Nose

Using pink cast on 5 sts.

1st row: Inc K wise into every st -10 sts. Beginning with a P row, st-st 5 rows.

Next row: (K2tog) to end -5 sts.

Break off yarn and thread it through the 5 sts, then gather all round the other edges of the knitted piece. Pull up gathers enclosing a little stuffing. Fasten off. Use black yarn to-work two small vertical stitches for nostrils. Sew nose to face just below the eyes.

Ears [make two alike]

Begin at lower edge and using pink cast on 12 sts.

1st row: Inc K wise into every st -24 sts.

Beginning with a P row, continue in st-st and work 3 rows.

Dec 1 st at beginning of next 4 rows -20 sts. Dec 1 st at each end of next 6 rows -8 sts.

Next row: (K2tog) to end -4 sts.

B & T tightly.

With right side of st-st outside fold ears in half and oversew row ends of each ear together. Oversew across cast on sts. Sew cast on edges of ears to sides of head, with folded edges of ears facing towards top of head.

Tail

Make a 7cm [2¾in] twisted cord using four strands of pink yarn. Do not knot the ends together after folding the cord, tie round a strand of yarn to prevent the tail unravelling.

Now sew all the yarn ends into back of body at lower end, sewing the tail to body at the same time.

Curl the tail round and catch it to the body.

BUNNY

Make basic toy using fawn throughout.

Eyes

As for the Koala.

Nose and mouth

Work a few small horizontal black stitches for nose just below eyes. Work an inverted Y-shape below nose for mouth.

Ears [make two alike]

Begin at lower edge and using fawn cast on 10 sts.

1st row: Inc K wise into every st -14 sis.

Beginning with a P row, st-st 4 rows. Continue in st-st and dec 1 st at beginning of next 6 rows -8 sts.

Next row: (P2tog) to end -4 sts.

Break off yarn and thread it through the 4 sts, then gather all round the other edges of the knitted piece. Pull up gathers and stuff tail, noting that P side of st-st is the right side. Fasten off. Sew to back of body at lower end.

PANDA

Make basic toy using black for legs, white for body and head. Use black for the arms.

Eye pieces [make two alike]

Using black cast on 4 sts.

1st row: Inc K wise into every st -8 sts.

Beginning with a P row, st-st 7 rows.

Next row: (K2tog) to end - 4 sts. B & T tightly.

Sew these pieces to face with the B & T edges about 5mm [$\frac{1}{4}$ in] apart and level with the marked centre of face. The pieces should also slope downwards as shown in the illustration.

On each eye piece work a small chain stitch using white yarn, as shown in the illustration. Work a small white horizontal stitch above each eye.

Nose and mouth

Use black yarn to work a few short horizontal stitches between the eyes for nose. Work a black stitch straight down from nose, with a shallow W-shape at the base of this stitch.

Ears [make two alike]

Begin at lower edge and using black cast on 8 sts.

Work in st-st throughout.

Inc 1 st at beginning of first 2 rows - 10 sis. St-st 2 rows.

Dec 1 st at beginning of next 6 rows - 4 sis. Inc 1 st at beginning of next 6 rows - 10 sis. St-st 2 rows.

Dec 1 st at beginning of next 2 rows - 8 sis. Cast off.

With right side of st-st outside, oversew cast on and cast off edges together. Oversew row ends together at each side. Sew the cast on, cast off edges to sides of head.