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Ribbit

An original pattern by Susan B. Anderson for Spud & Chloë



Finished Measurements:

3 inches wide by 5 inches tall

Yarn:

Spud & Chloë Sweater (55% superwash wool, 45 % organic cotton; 160 yards/100 grams), 1 skein in Grass #7502

Tools:

US size 5 double pointed needles, set of 4 or size to obtain gauge Yarn needle
Scissors
Tape measure or ruler
Polyester fiber-fill (small amount)
Tennis ball (optional)

Black embroidery floss Stitch marker Stitch holder or waste yarn



Gauge:

6 stitches per inch in stockinette stitch

Abbreviations:

k knit

p purl

k2tog knit 2 stitches together

m1 make a stitch by placing the bar between the stitches on the left needle and knitting it through the back loop

kfb knit in the front and back of the same stitch

st(s) stitch(es)

rnd(s) round(s)

Body:

Starting at the bottom of the body with Grass and the double-pointed needles cast on 9 stitches placing 3 stitches on each of 3 double-pointed needles. Join to work in the round being careful not to twist the stitches. Place a stitch marker on the first stitch.

Rnd 1: knit

Rnd 2: (k1, m1, k1, m1, k1) repeat to the end of the round (5 sts per needle, 15 sts total)

Rnd 3: knit

Rnd 4: (k1, m1, knit to the last stitch on the needle, m1, k1) repeat on each needle

Rnd 5: knit

Repeat rounds 4 and 5 until there are 15 stitches on each needle, 45 stitches total. End with a round 4. Place a stitch marker on the last completed round and leave it there.

Knit every round until the body measures 1 ½ inches above the stitch marker.



Decrease rounds:

Rnd 1: (k3, k2tog) repeat to the end of the round (12 sts per needle, 36 sts total remain)

Rnd 2: (k2, k2tog) repeat to the end of the round (9 sts per needle, 27 sts total remain)

At this point, place the end from the cast on stitches on a yarn needle. Gather up and close the hole at the cast on end of the body. Pull the end to the inside and trim.

Now is the time to insert the tennis ball into the body and continue knitting around the tennis ball to the end. This is a little awkward but there are only a few rounds left. The other option is to stuff the body with fiber-fill at this time and continue stuffing until the last round. Stuff the body until it is firm.

Rnds 3 and 4: knit

Rnd 5: (k1, k2tog) repeat to the end of the round (6 sts per needle, 18 sts total remain)

Rnd 6: knit

Rnd 7: (k2tog) repeat to the end of the round (3 sts per needle, 9 sts total remain) Cut the yarn and place the end on a yarn needle. Pull through the remaining stitches and pull up tight to close the hole. Pull the end to the inside and trim.

Arms and Legs (make 4):

With 2 double-pointed needles used to work back and forth and Grass, cast on 3 stitches. Work in I-cord until the cord measures 3 inches from the cast on edge. Next row: kfb in each stitch (6 sts)

Place 2 stitches on each of 3 double-pointed needles and begin working in the round.

Feet:

Rnd 1: kfb in each stitch (4 sts per needle, 12 sts total)

Rnds 2-5: knit

Divide the stitches placing 6 stitches on each of 2 double-pointed needles. Cut the end leaving a 6-inch tail. Place the tail on a yarn needle and use the kitchener stitch to close the end of the foot. Pull the end to the inside and trim.



Toes (make 12):

With 2 double-pointed needles used to knit back and forth and Grass, cast on 1 stitch.

Row 1: kfb and the front again (3 sts)

Row 2: knit Row 3: purl Row 4: knit, do not turn, pass the 2^{nd} and 3^{rd} sts over and off the needle. (1 st remains)

Cut the yarn and place the end on a yarn needle. Gather up the bobble with a few stitches to form a ball. Using the whipstitch, attach 3 bobbles to the end of each foot. Pull the end through to the inside of the foot and trim.

With a yarn needle placed on the end from the cast on stitches, whipstitch the arms and legs to the body. Use the photo as a guide for placement. The arms are closer set than the legs so the arms will fall inside of the legs naturally. Pull ends to the inside.



Head:

Starting at the bottom of the head with Grass and double-pointed needles, cast on 9 stitches placing 3 stitches on each of 3 needles. Join to work in the round being careful not to twist the stitches. Place a stitch marker on the first stitch.

Rnd 1: knit

Rnd 2: kfb in each stitch (6 sts per needle, 18 sts total)

Rnd 3: knit

Rnd 4: kfb in each stitch (12 sts per needle, 36 sts total)

Place a stitch marker on round 4 and leave it there. Knit every round until the head measures $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches above the stitch marker.

Decrease:

Rnd 1: (k4, k2tog) repeat to the end of the round (10 sts per needle, 30 sts total remain)

Rnd 2: (k3, k2tog) repeat to the end of the round (8 sts per needle, 24 sts total remain)

At this time place the end from the cast on stitches on a yarn needle. Take several stitches to gather and close the hole at the base of the head. Pull the end to the inside and trim. Stuff the head with fiber-fill.

Eyes:

Knit 4 rounds.

Continuing on, place the first 12 stitches on 3 double-pointed needles placing 4 stitches on each needle. Leave the other 12 stitches on a stitch holder or waste yarn. Join to work in the round on the 12 stitches on the needles.

Continue stuffing the head and up into the eye with fiber-fill.

Next rnd: (k2, k2tog) repeat to the end of the round (3 sts per needle, 9 sts total remain)

Cut the yarn and place the end on a yarn needle. Pull through the remaining stitches and pull up tight to close the hole. Stitch to secure and pull the end to the inside and trim.

Reattach the yarn in between the eyes leaving a 6 inch end on the outside of the head. Place the 12 stitches from the stitch holder or waste yarn onto 3 double-pointed needles (4 sts per needle). Repeat as for the first eye. Finish stuffing before pulling the end through the remaining stitches.

Place the end from the reattached yarn on a yarn needle and take a few stitches to close the gap in between the eyes. Pull the end to the inside and trim to stay inside.

Face:

Use the black embroidery floss and the yarn needle to stitch the face. For the upper lid of the eye take a straight stitch. In the middle of the stitch take another tiny straight stitch to pull the first stitch slightly upward. This makes a curved line. Make a French knot under the upper lid. Pull the ends to the inside and trim to stay inside. For the mouth take 4 straight stitches to create a smile. Pull the ends to the inside and trim. Use the photos as a guide.

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