

KNITTED NATIVITY SHEEP

Please note I have not personally knitted this pattern and is probably based on an English sheep

A knitted toy needs to be made so it is suitable for young children to play with safely.

Materials Washable double knitting (8ply) plain yarn: approximately 8g cream colour and 4g grey colour

Please avoid 'tinsel' yarns, those with attached sequins or mohair style yarns with fibres that pull off.

3mm knitting needles (UK size 11)

Polyester filling conforming to cleanliness and flammability.

Black Wool or embroidery thread

Tension: 26st and 36 rows to 10cm over stocking stitch on 3mm needles

While the finished size is not important, the stitches should be close together so that when the finished toy is stuffed, the filling does not come out through gaps in the stitches.

Abbreviations

T&D: break yarn leaving a long end, thread through stitches on the needles, draw up tightly and secure.

K2tog: Knit 2 stitches together

P2tog: Purl 2 stitches together

Instructions

Body (make one)

With cream yarn, cast on 15 stitches and knit 2 rows.

Next row: increase in every stitch (30 sts).

Knit 37 rows

Next row: (K2 tog) to end (15 sts)

Knit 1 row.

Cast off.

Head (make one)

With cream yarn, cast on 14 stitches and knit 2 rows.

Next row: increase in every stitch (28 sts)

Knit 4 rows.

Change to grey yarn and purl 1 row.

Next row: (K2 K2tog) to end (21 sts)

Purl 1 row.

Next row: (K1 K2tog) to end (14 sts)

Purl 1 row.

Next row: (K2tog) to end (7 sts).

T&D.

Legs (make four)

With grey yarn, cast on 10 stitches and work 9 rows in stocking stitch (one row knit and one row purl).

Next row: (P2tog) to end (5 sts)

T&D

Ears (make two) with grey yarn, cast on 4 stitches. Cast off.

Tail (make one) With cream yarn, cast on 6 stitches.

Cast off.

To make up:

Fold body in half and stitch, joining the cast on and cast off edges and one end of the body.

Stuff firmly, then join the opening.

Join the head seam, leaving the cast on edge open. Stuff firmly, position and sew onto body.

Join the leg seams, leaving cast on edges open. Stuff firmly, then sew in place.

Sew ears to the side of the head and embroider eyes with black yarn.

Attach tail to the back of the sheep.