Rocking Robin by Sue Stratford

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YOU WILL NEED

- Small amounts of brown, cream, red, dark grey and orange 4 ply yarn
- Toy stuffing

You will also need:

• 2.75mm (UK12 - USA2) knitting needles (Double point needles recommended for i-cord legs and feet. Alternatively, standard stocking stitch can be worked on single point needles).

MEASUREMENTS

Approximately 6cm diameter body

ABBREVIATIONS

K - knit

P - purl

SS - stocking stitch

Kfb – knit into the front and back of the stitch (increasing 1 stitch)

st(s) - stitch(es)

K2tog - knit 2 stitches together

ssk - slip 2 sts knitwise one at a time, pass the two slipped sts back to left needle, knit both together through the back of the loop

M1 - make a backwards loop on your needle by twisting the yarn towards you and slipping the resulting loop on to the right-hand needle. On the following row knit or purl through the back of the stitch

RS - right side

WS - wrong side



Instructions BODY

Using cream yarn, cast on 14 sts, P 1 row. Work inc rows as follows:

K1, (K1fb, K1, K1fb) to last st, K1.

P 1 row [22 sts].

K1, (K1fb, K3, K1fb) to last st, K1.

P 1 row [30 sts].

K1, (K1fb, K5, K1fb) to last st, K1.

P 1 row [38 sts].

K1, (K1fb, K7, K1fb) to last st, K1.

P 1 row [46 sts].

K1, (K1fb, K9, K1fb) to last st, K1.

P 1 row [54 sts].

K1, (K1fb, K11, K1fb) to last st, K1. P 1 row [62 sts].

Work 2 rows in SS. Change to brown and work 4 rows in SS.

Work dec rows as follows:

K1, (K2tog, K11, ssk) to last st, K1. P 1 row [54 sts].

K1, (K2tog, K9, ssk) to last st, K1.

P 1 row [46 sts].

K1, (K2tog, K7, ssk) to last st, K1.

P 1 row [38 sts].

K1, (K2tog, K5, ssk) to last st, K1. P 1 row [30 sts].

K1, (K2tog, K3, ssk) to last st, K1.

P 1 row [22 sts].

K1, (K2tog, K1, ssk) to last st, K1.

P 1 row [14 sts].

Thread yarn through rem sts and fasten off.

RED BREAST

Using red yarn, cast on 14 sts and work 2 rows in SS.

Next row: K1, M1, K to last st, M1, K1. P 1

Rep these 2 rows once more [18 sts].

Work 4 rows in SS.

Next row: K7, ssk, K2tog, K7

[16 sts]. P 1 row.

Rep the last 2 rows, working 2 less st before and after dec shapings until 6 sts rem

Work 4 rows in SS.

Next row: ssk, K2, K2tog.

Cast off rem 4 sts (WS).

BEAK

Using orange yarn, cast on 5 sts and P

Next row: ssk, K1, K2tog. Thread yarn through resulting 3 sts and sew seam.

WINGS

(make two)

Using brown yarn, cast on 10 sts and work 2 rows in SS.

Next row: K1, M1, K to last st, M1, K1 [12 sts].

P 1 row. Rep these 2 rows once more [14 sts].

Work 2 rows in SS.

Next row: K1, ssk, K to last 3 sts, K2tog, K1 [12 sts].

P 1 row.

Rep the last 2 rows until 4 sts rem.

Next row: ssk, K2tog [3 sts]. K2tog and fasten off rem st.

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TAIL

Using brown yarn, cast on 7 sts and work in rib as follows:

Row 1: K1, P1 three times, K1. Row 2: P1, K1 three times, P1. Work a further 6 rows in K1, P1 rib. Next row: K1, K2tog, P1, K2tog, K1 [5 sts].

Work 1 row as set in rib. Next row: ssk, P1, K2tog [3 sts]. Work 1 row in rib and cast off rem sts.

LEGS

(make two)

Using dark grey yarn, cast on 4 sts and work an 'i-cord' (see below) 4cm long. Thread yarn through sts and fasten.

FEET

(make two)

Each foot consists of three 'toes'. To make each toe, cast on 4 sts using dark grey yarn and work 4 rows of 'i-cord'. Thread yarn through sts and fasten. Sew the three toes together.

'I-Cord'

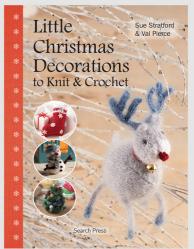
To make an i-cord, cast on your stitches using a double pointed needle, knit them and slide them to the other end of the same needle, then pull the yarn across the back of the needle and knit the stitches again. Repeat these instructions until the cord is long enough. By pulling the yarn behind the stitches on the needle, you close the 'gap' and give the appearance of French knitting. Alternatively, you can work the stitches in stocking stitch and sew up the seam.

MAKING UP

Sew the side seam of the body and stuff it with toy filling without distorting the shape. Sew the breast on to the front of the body with the RS showing, using the picture as a guide. Embroider the eyes using black yarn and attach the beak. Lightly press the wings and sew them on to the body at an angle. Sew the foot to the bottom of the leg. Repeat for the second leg and sew the legs on to the body.



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