

Little Cotton Rabbits boy elephant in a textured sweater



*This elephant is made from Freedom Sincere organic cotton in 607 (Yarn A).
His sweater is made from Rowan Wool Cotton 4ply yarn in 480 antique and
his shorts are in BC Garn Allino yarn in 03 beige.*

*More knitting patterns are available at
www.littlecottonrabbits.typepad.co.uk*

Thanks for buying a copy of this pattern. It is suitable for intermediate knitting skills and assumes an understanding of basic stitches, standard knitting terms, Fair Isle colour-work and reading colour-work charts. Apart from a couple of complicated shaping rows the knitting part of the pattern is quite simple and straightforward. All of the pieces are knitted flat and seamed (though if you decide to convert it to knit it in the round please bear in mind that you will lose the ability to use the seams to add structure and shape to your finished animal and it may not look the same).

I feel that it is mostly the finishing techniques (sewing up, seams etc.) that give any knitted project a polished look.

I've described in detail how I try to get the neatest look to the animals that I make, how I sew up, tighten seams and use stuffing to get a particular shape. You will need to use mattress stitch if you want to follow the instructions properly as it has the benefit of giving a flexible seam that can be gathered in. There are a few fiddly finishing bits that are worth taking extra time over and it's also worth re-doing bits if you're not happy with the look (it sometimes takes me 2 or 3 tries to get a face exactly how I want it).

Anyway, I hope that you find the pattern enjoyable (if a bit fiddly in parts) and are pleased with the elephant that you make from it.

Materials:

- DK cotton yarn (approx 85m): Yarn A
- 4ply weight yarn for the sweater: Yarn B
- 5ply weight yarn for the shorts: Yarn C
- Scraps of black yarn, DK or 4ply for the eyes
- Toy stuffing
- A tiny button

Finished size:

approx 23cm (9 inches) from the tip of the toes to the top of the ears

Notions:

- Knitting needles:
A pair each of 3mm and 2.75mm
- Tapestry needle

Gauge:



Gauge for elephant: 6 stitches x 9 rows to 1 inch

Gauge for clothes: 7 stitches x 10 rows to 1 inch

Yarn suggestions:

I like to knit my elephants in a cotton yarn because I think it matches their skin better than a woolly yarn. Any DK weight cotton or cotton mix yarn will do but here are some of my favourites:



Stylecraft Classique cotton DK
in 3675 'silver'



Rowan Wool Cotton in 903 'misty'



Anchor Style Creativa in
0398 'light grey'

I prefer to knit the clothing in 4ply cotton/cotton mix yarns. I particularly like Rowan Wool Cotton 4ply, DMC Natura or Drops Safran as all knit up nicely and have a good range of colours. Patons 4ply cotton also comes in a wide range of colours but is thinner, so you will need to check your gauge if the clothes are to fit.

It may be worth looking on [ravelry](https://www.ravelry.com) to see what yarns others are using and recommending.

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Abbreviations:

These increase methods are described in detail in the excellent knitting help website:

<http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/increases>

M1L : MAKE 1 LEFT. A nice tight method of making an extra stitch. With the left hand needle pick up the connecting strand between the two needles and knit into the back of the loop to create an extra stitch. If you find this too tight for your liking you can substitute M1A (make one away) which will give a looser increase.

KLL : KNIT LEFT LOOP. Increase 1 stitch by knitting into the stitch that is 2 below the one you have just knitted... insert tip of left needle into the stitch from behind and bring the loop onto the left needle. Insert the tip of the right needle into the back loop and knit, so making an extra stitch. This is the most invisible increasing method I've found so far but if you prefer you can substitute M1L above.

M1 : MAKE 1 STITCH. I usually use M1A (make 1 away) using the thumb method (see link on the left)

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These decrease methods are described in detail in the excellent knitting help website:

<http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/decreases>

SSK (SLIP, SLIP, KNIT) : Slip a stitch (as if to knit it) to the right-hand needle, slip a second stitch in the same way, slip both stitches together back to the left-hand needle and knit together through the back loops.

K2TOG : Knit 2 stitches together

P2TOG : Purl 2 stitches together

P2TOG TBL: Purl 2 stitches together through the back loops

And please note that when the pattern mentions cast on, I use a cable cast on.

Tip: Before you start get to know your yarn. If it breaks easily you will need to consider using a different yarn to sew up with as some seams (especially the trunk) need to be gathered in tightly and so need a strong yarn.

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The pattern instructions:

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Head:

Starting at the back of the head and finishing at the tip of the trunk.

Use Yarn A and 3mm needles to cast on 11 stitches, leaving a tail of 6 inches for seaming with later

row 1: Purl
row 2: K2, (M1L, K1) 8 times, K1 (19 stitches)
row 3: Purl
row 4: K2, (M1L, K2) 8 times, K1 (27 stitches)
row 5: Purl
row 6: K2, (M1L, K3) 8 times, K1 (35 stitches)
rows 7-13: Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work in stocking stitch (alternate Purl and Knit rows)
row 14: K12, P1, K9, P1, K12
rows 15-23: beginning and ending with a Purl row, work in stocking stitch (alternate Purl and Knit rows)
row 24: K2, (K2tog) 6 times, K7, (K2tog) 6 times, K2 (23 stitches)
row 25: Purl
row 26: Knit

row 27: Purl
row 28: K1, SSK, (K2tog) twice, K9, (K2tog) 3 times, K1 (17 stitches)
row 29: Purl
row 30: K1, SSK, K11, K2tog, K1 (15 stitches)
row 31: Purl
row 32: K1, SSK, K9, K2tog, K1 (13 stitches)
row 33 - 59: Beginning and ending with a Purl row work in stocking stitch (alternate Purl and Knit rows)
row 60: K2, K2tog, K5, SSK, K2 (11 stitches)
row 61: Purl
row 62: K2, K2tog, K3, SSK, K2 (9 stitches)
row 63: Purl

Cut the work from the ball.

Now you need to cut an 8 inch length of very strong yarn (it doesn't matter if the colour doesn't match exactly, as sewing with mattress stitch will hide this thread - I've used red thread to illustrate). Tie a slip knot in one end and thread the other end through the remaining stitches, then through the slip knot and pull up tightly (*fig. 1*). Tie the ends together inside the trunk to stop the tip opening out and continue using this thread to close the trunk seam using mattress stitch (*fig. 2*). As you close the seam begin to stuff the trunk **very lightly** as if you stuff too firmly it will not curl well (*fig. 3*). Continue seaming until you reach the shaping under the chin.



fig. 1



fig. 2



fig. 3

Finally with the right side of work facing you pick up the loops from the cast on edge. (I've used red thread to illustrate, see fig. 4). Pull this tightly to gather in the seam and tie the ends together tightly inside the head to prevent it loosening again. Now it's time to stuff the main part of the head.

Some notes on stuffing:

Stuffing soft toys and decorations can be tricky. Knitted fabric has a lot of stretch and unlike a firm woven fabric it will expand to the shape of the stuffing inside.

No matter how good your shaping is on a knitted piece, the way in which you stuff will be more crucial in determining the finished shape.

On limbs it is best not to over stuff and therefore avoid a fat sausage shape. On bodies it is fine to stuff firmly but be aware that over stuffing may mean that your toy does not sit down well.

I find that putting in small amounts of stuffing and building up a shape works best for me rather than pushing in a large wad all at once.



fig. 4



fig. 5



fig. 6

I start with a tight ball of stuffing which I poke into the back of the head, packing it in firmly (fig. 5) then stuff the trunk end of the head lightly, pinching and manipulating the stuffing until it takes on the shape that I want. I then stuff the cheeks quite firmly to make them bulge out at the bottom of the head (fig. 6 – here only the left side cheek is stuffed).

I pack in a lot of stuffing but I tend to add little bits at a time moulding as I go to get the shape that I want and the finished head is quite firm and solid (please note that the trunk is **lightly** stuffed). When you are happy with the overall head shape it's time to curl the trunk.



fig. 7



fig. 8



fig. 9

To make the trunk curl pull slowly and firmly on the thread from the trunk seam (*fig. 7*). If you find the trunk is not curling well try removing a little stuffing from it – a light filling is the key. Pull until the trunk has a pleasing shape (*fig. 8*). You will find that the trunk looks better on one side than the other, whether it curls left or right is your choice (*fig. 9*).

Leave the seam at the bottom of the head open for now and set the head aside while you make the ears.

E a r s: (make two the same)

Starting at the top of the ears and finishing at the base. Use Yarn A and 3mm needles to cast on 13 stitches leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with.

row 1: (K1, P1) 6 times, K1

row 2: (K1, P1) 6 times, K1

rows 3-18: Repeat rows 1 & 2 eight more times

row 19: K1, P1, K1, P1, K1, P3 tog, K1, P1, K1, P1, K1 (11 stitches)

row 20: (K1, P1) 5 times, K1

row 21: K1, P1, K1, P1, Slip 1, K2tog pass slipped stitch over, P1, K1, P1, K1 (9 stitches)

row 22: (K1, P1) 4 times, K1

row 23: K1, P1, K1, P3 tog, K1, P1, K1 (7 stitches)

row 24: (K1, P1) 3 times, K1

row 25: K1, P1, Slip 1, K2tog pass slipped stitch over, P1, K1 (5 stitches)

row 26: (K1, P1) 2 times, K1

row 27: K1, P3 tog, K1 (3 stitches)

row 28: K1, P1, K1

row 29: Purl

row 30: Slip 1, K2tog, pass slipped stitch over (1 stitch)

Cut the work from the ball leaving a 6 inch tail for attaching the ear to the head and thread this end through the last stitch on the needle. Make a second ear the same (*fig. 10*). Now attach the ears.



fig. 10



fig. 11



fig. 12

Thread the tapestry needle with the ear cast-on end (the end at the widest part of the ear) and position the ear by putting the first attaching stitch through your purled marker stitch on the head on row 14 (*fig. 11*). The point of the ear should be facing away from you and the flat cast on edge facing you. Attach the ear by alternately sewing through the loops from **the side edge** of the ear and the bars between stitches on the head. Make sure you keep in the same channel between stitches.

Continue joining the ear to the head in this way for around 2cms (*fig. 12*) then bend the ear at a right-angle and continue joining it around the back of the head in a slightly curved shape (*fig. 13*). Stop around 1cm (½ inch) from the bottom point of the ear.



fig. 13



fig. 14



fig. 15

Now thread the tapestry needle with the cast off end (at the bottom point of the ear) and weave it up the ear edge to where the ear joins the head (*fig. 14*). Tie the two ends together securely and thread both ends through the head and out of the open seam at the bottom. Repeat with the second ear making sure they are in alignment (*fig. 15 & 16*). Tie the 4 ends from the ears together securely, trim and poke inside the head cavity. Close the seam at the bottom of the head, give the seam for the trunk a final tug and tie both ends together securely to prevent the seams loosening. Do not trim these ends as you'll use them to attach the head later. Press the centre of the ears forward to open them out and make them stand away from the head (*fig. 15 & 16*)

To embroider the eyes:

To make the eyes cut an 8 inch length of black embroidery floss or 4ply yarn. Starting underneath the head thread this black yarn through the head to the position for the first eye leaving a tail of around 2 inches behind (I use the decreases either side of the central 7 stitches on row 24 as my markers for eye placement and I find it easier to see these clearly if I turn the head upside down). Create an anchored French Knot for each eye:

Anchored French Knot:

I use this for both the eyes and the shoe 'buttons' French Knots are a nice way of making a small decorative bobble and can be used as an eye or nose on a stuffed toy. The only problem can be that a knitted fabric tends to have large holes and so it is easy for the knot to slip to the wrong side of the work. To compensate I anchor my French Knots like this:

Thread a tapestry needle with 8 inches of yarn. Bring the needle up through the work from the back to the front and then push it back through the same point and out again one stitch away from the original point, leaving a little loop (*fig. 17*). Push the tip of the needle through this loop. Wrap the thread around the needle tip three or four times depending on thickness of yarn (*fig. 18*).



fig. 16



fig. 17



fig. 18

Hold the wrapped thread in place between your finger and thumb and pull the needle through. Push the needle back down through the work and back to the start point underneath the head (*fig. 19*). If you gently pull both ends you can now create a little eye socket shaping to the head (*fig. 20*). Adjust the tightness until you are happy and then tie off both ends securely before threading the ends through the head and trimming.

Repeat for the second eye (*fig. 21*) and set the finished head to one side while you make the body.



fig. 19



fig. 20



fig. 21

Body:

Starting at the neck and finishing at the bottom, use Yarn A and 3mm needles to cast on 16 stitches, leaving a tail of 6 inches for seaming with later

- row 1: (wrong side) Purl
- row 2: K3, (KLL, K2) 6 times, K1 (22 stitches)
- row 3: Purl
- row 4: K3, (KLL, K3) 6 times, K1 (28 stitches)
- row 5: Purl
- row 6: K3, (KLL, K4) 6 times, K1 (34 stitches)
- row 7-28: Beginning with a Purl row and ending with a Knit row, work in stocking stitch (alternate Purl and Knit rows)
- row 29: Cast off in Purl

Cut the work from the ball leaving a tail of around 5 inches and use this thread to close the seam up the back of the body using mattress stitch. Leave a gap at the top to make stuffing the body easier. Now for the legs.



Legs:

Beginning at the underside of the foot, use Yarn A and 3mm needles to cast on 14 stitches, leaving a tail of 7 inches for seaming with later.

- row 1: (wrong side) Purl
- row 2: K2, (KLL, K1) 4 times, K3, (KLL, K1) 4 times, K1 (22 stitches)
- row 3: Purl
- row 4: K3, (KLL, K1) 6 times, K5, (KLL, K1) 6 times, K2 (34 stitches)
- row 5-11: Beginning and ending with a Purl row, work in stocking stitch (alternate Purl and Knit rows)
- row 12: K14, SSK, K2, K2tog, K14 (32 stitches)
- row 13: Purl
- row 14: *Tip: This row is a little complicated because it includes both decreasing and casting off in the centre of the row. It is easy to lose count and I find it helps if you count the stitches yet to be worked rather than those already knitted.*
K7, Knit and cast off the next 7 (18 stitches still to work), SSK and cast off, K2tog and cast off (14 stitches still to work), Knit and cast off the next 8 stitches, K6 (7 stitches on either side of the cast off section giving a total of 14)
- row 15: Purl across all stitches being careful to keep your tension tight across the gap (14 stitches)
- row 16-29: Beginning with a Knit row and ending with a Purl row, work in stocking stitch (alternate Purl and Knit rows).
- row 30: Cast off in Knit

Cut the work from the ball leaving a tail of around 5 inches.



fig. 22

fig. 23

fig. 24

fig. 25

Join the top of the foot seam by tying a 5 inch length of Yarn A to the back of the stitch in the middle of the open seam - I've used red thread here just to illustrate (fig. 22).

Begin to close this seam by over-sewing across the gap through the outer loops of the cast off edge (fig. 23). When you reach the top of the seam secure it and close up any small gaps by taking the needle behind one stitch on the right (fig. 24), then behind the stitch directly at the top of the seam (fig. 25), then behind one stitch on the right (fig. 26) and finally through to the inside of the work (fig. 27) where you can weave it along the seam and trim the end.

Start to close the back seam of the foot by threading a tapestry needle with the cast on tail and using mattress stitch. Seam around 1 inch and leave the rest of the leg open for now to make stuffing the foot easier.

Begin to close the seam at the underside of the foot by re-threading the tapestry needle with a spare length of Yarn A and using it to gather up the loops in the bottom of the foot – I've used red thread here to illustrate (fig. 28). Tie both ends tightly inside the foot to fully close the bottom seam.



fig. 26

fig. 27

fig. 28

fig. 29

Now stuff the foot firmly. Take your time to get the shape that you want, adding small amounts of stuffing at a time. Don't be afraid to pull it out and start again if you're not happy with the shape, I often do. Once you're happy with the shape of the foot close the leg back seam but leave a small gap at the top to make stuffing the leg easier.

Stuff the leg lightly. If you want your elephant to sit nicely then don't stuff the top 1cm of the leg. Finish closing the seam and tie the two ends together at the top, poking all other ends inside the leg. Repeat for the second leg. Now both legs are ready to attach to the body. Although they are both the same I often find that one looks like a right and one a left so take time to look at them and decide which one goes on which side.

Thread the tapestry needle with the longer end from the top of the first finished leg and use this to sew it to the body. Position the leg by lining it up with the edge of the body and over-sew the leg in place through the loops on the cast off body edge and cast off leg edge (fig. 30). Work all the way around the top of the leg back to the start then tie both ends together inside the body to secure. Attach the second leg in the same way leaving a gap between both legs (fig. 31).

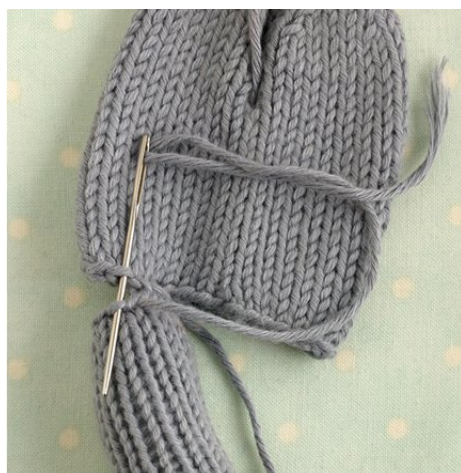


fig. 30



fig. 31



fig. 32

Once both legs are attached and secure turn the body inside out. Tie a 5 inch length of Yarn A to the inside of the body at the start of the gap between the legs. Turn the work right side out and use this thread to tightly over-sew the short seam between the legs (fig. 32) before threading it back inside and tying off to secure.

Now stuff the body. I like to put most of the stuffing at the bottom of the body to make a fat tummy, (though don't overstuff and strain the seams) and I put less towards the neck end. When you are happy with the body shape finish closing the seam at the back of the body but leave the neck edge open. Tie off the ends but don't trim as you'll use them to help attach the head.

Thread the tapestry needle with one of the two threads from underneath the head and use to sew the body and head together. I sew through the loops at the open neck edge of the body then through a whole stitch of the head (fig. 34), working around in a semi circle until I reach the ends from the top of the body seam running up the back. I tie the end I've been sewing with to the shortest body seam end and poke both inside the body.

Then I continue sewing up with the longer end from the body seam, knotting it to the remaining end under the chin once the head is fully joined. Thread ends through the body before trimming.



fig. 33



fig. 34



fig. 35

Arms: (make 2 the same)

Starting at the top of arm and finishing at the paw.

Use Yarn A and 3mm needles to cast on 10 stitches, leaving a tail of 6 inches for seaming with later

row 1: (wrong side) Purl

row 2: K2, (M1L, K2) 4 times (14 stitches)

rows 3-25: Beginning and ending with Purl rows, work in stocking stitch (alternate Purl and Knit rows)

row 26: K1, SSK, K2, K2tog, SSK, K2, K2tog, K1 (10 stitches)

row 27: Purl

Cut the work from the ball leaving a tail of around 7 inches. Thread this through the remaining 10 stitches and pull up tightly. Over-sew once to keep the seam from opening out. Continue using this thread to close the seam using mattress stitch.

Leave a gap of around an inch and stuff the arm lightly, I prefer not to stuff the very top of the arm so that it's bit floppy. Finish closing the arm side seam and tighten it by pulling the end to get a slight curve to the arm and pulling the gathered paw end under. When you're happy with the arm shape tie both ends together.

Thread the tapestry needle with the longer end and use to join the arm to the body by sewing alternately through a loop on the open top edge of the arm then through a whole stitch of the body, (*fig. 35*). Work around all of the top arm seam joining it to the body and when you reach the start point knot the ends together and thread through the body before trimming.



Tail:

The tail is worked as a short length of i-cord starting at the top of the tail that attaches to the body and ending at the tassel end. An i-cord is a tube knitted in the round with two double-pointed needles. It has to be worked on double pointed needles because you need to slide the work from one end of the needle to the other, taking the yarn tightly around the back. There is a good i-cord video tutorial here:

<http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/knitting-tips> (scroll to the bottom of the page)

Use two double pointed 3mm needles and Yarn A to cast on 5 stitches, leaving a tail of 6 inches for attaching the tail with later.

- row 1:** Knit the 5 stitches normally, from the left needle to the right. Now all 5 stitches are on the right hand needle and the working yarn is coming from the left most stitch. Slide the stitches from one end of the needle to the other
- row 2:** Without turning the needle, transfer it to your left hand. Bring the working yarn across the back of the work and Knit the 5 stitches again, you will need to keep a tight tension. The only difference from a normal knitted row is that the yarn is coming from the last stitch and across the back of the work instead of from the first stitch (*fig. 36*)

Continue to Knit across the same 5 stitches in the same way until the tail is around 3 cms/1 inch long. Cut the work from the ball leaving a 6 inch tail and thread this end through the 5 stitches on the needle but do not pull tight yet, instead put to one side while you make the tassel at the end of the tail:



fig. 36



fig. 37



fig. 38

Cut a 20 inch (50cm) length of Yarn A and fold it in half and then in half again so that you have four parallel strands. Now tie a single knot in the looped over end, leaving only a tiny portion of the loops sticking out of the top of the knot. Thread the cast off end from the knitted i-cord tail through these loops (*fig. 37*) and then down through the middle of the i-cord. Gently tug this end to both tighten the 5 stitches and pull the tassel snug to the end of the tail.

Tie the cast on and cast off ends from the tail together. Trim the ends of the tassel and unwind the yarn ends so that they fan out. Give the tassel a final trim (*fig. 38*) and use the longer of the ends to sew the tail on to the elephant's bottom. Tie off ends and thread through the body before trimming.

Now your elephant is ready for some clothes, patterns for a sweater and shorts are on the next three pages.



Thanks for buying this pattern. I hope you've enjoyed using it. I plan to write up some extra tips about knitting and finishing, so please pop by for a visit and check out my knitting tips section on [Little Cotton Rabbits blog](#).



Suggestion for an alternative outfit with the sweater knitted in dark blue and the shorts in 2 colour stripes.

Optional Short Trousers:

These shorts are knitted in one piece and seamed afterwards. You cast on at the waist and cast off at the bottom edge of each leg. You can either knit them in a single colour as pictured on the front cover or work two rows each in two colours to give stripes as shown on page 11.

Use a **4ply/5ply weight yarn** (here I've used BC Garn Allino) and 2.75mm needles to cast on 36 stitches, leaving a tail of 5 inches for seaming with later.

- row 1: (wrong side) **Purl**
row 2: **K8, M1L, K20, M1R, K8** (38 stitches)
row 3: If you are using a second colour, join it in now and **Purl**
row 4: **K8, M1L, K22, M1R, K8** (40 stitches)
row 5: **Purl**
row 6: **K8, M1L, K24, M1R, K8** (42 stitches)
row 7: **Purl**
row 8: **K8, M1L, K26, M1R, K8** (44 stitches)
row 9: **Purl**
row 10: **K8, M1L, K28, M1R, K8** (46 stitches)
row 11: **Purl**
row 12: **K8, M1L, K30, M1R, K8** (48 stitches)
row 13: **Purl**
row 14: **K8, M1L, K32, M1R, K8** (50 stitches)
row 15: **Purl**
row 16: **K8, M1L, K34, M1R, K8** (52 stitches)
row 17: **Purl**
row 18: **K8, M1L, K18**, turn and work only on these stitches to form one leg of the shorts. (27 stitches)
row 19: **Purl**

Before I sew up the back seam I like to block the shorts to make them neat. I usually do this by carefully steam blocking but if you prefer wet blocking that is fine too. After blocking thread the tapestry needle with the cast on end and use mattress stitch to close the top 1cm of the seam.

Re-thread the tapestry needle with the cast off end of one leg and use it to join the inside leg seam up to the crotch of the shorts. Do the same for the second leg. Tie both ends together inside the shorts and use the longer end to continue seaming up the back of the shorts, leaving a gap for the tail to stick through. Weave in all the ends inside the shorts before trimming excess and your shorts are ready.

Special abbreviations:

M1R : MAKE 1 RIGHT. A nice tight method of making an extra stitch. With the left hand needle pick up the connecting strand between the two needles from behind and knit into the front loop to create an extra stitch. If you find this too tight for your liking you can substitute M1T (make one towards) which will give a looser increase.

For an excellent video of the increases see here:
<http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/increases>

- row 20: **K8, M1L, K19**, turn (28 stitches)
row 21: **Purl**
row 22: **K8, M1L, K20**, turn (29 stitches)
row 23: **Purl**
row 24: **K8, M1L, K21**, turn (30 stitches)
row 25: **Purl**
row 26: **Cast off loosely and cut the work from the ball, leaving a 6 inch tail for seaming later**

That is one trouser leg, now rejoin the yarn at the stitches still waiting to be worked and begin on the other leg:

- row 18 b: **K18, M1R, K8** (27 stitches)
row 19 b: **Purl**
row 20 b: **K19, M1R, K8** (28 stitches)
row 21 b: **Purl**
row 22 b: **K20, M1R, K8** (29 stitches)
row 23 b: **Purl**
row 24 b: **K21, M1R, K8** (30 stitches)
row 25 b: **Purl**
row 26 b: **Cast off loosely and cut the work from the ball, leaving a 6 inch tail for seaming later**



textured sweater:

Materials:

- 2.75mm (US 2) needles
- Yarn C: cream 4ply weight, approx 46m
- a small button

Special abbreviations:

CDD: CENTRED DOUBLE DECREASE: Slip 2 stitches together as if to knit them, K1, pass the 2 slipped stitches over (**note:** it is important that they are slipped together and NOT one at a time)

This sweater is worked in separate pieces up to the armhole but from the armhole upwards to the neck it is worked across all the pieces at once. It's a simple design based on purl stitch patterns used in a traditional Cornish Gansey.

Please note: it is very important that you work all of the pieces in the following order:

1st sleeve, front, 2nd sleeve, back

This will ensure that they are all in the correct place when you get to row 13 and purl back across all of the stitches. When casting on the following pieces, keep the needle holding the piece/s already worked in your left hand and the empty needle in your right.



First sleeve:

Starting at the cuff and working up to the armhole

Use Yarn C and 2.75mm needles to cast on 23 stitches leaving a tail of 5 inches for seaming with later

- | | |
|--|---|
| row 1: (wrong side) Knit | row 8: K2, P1, K5, P7, K5, P1, K2 |
| row 2: Knit | row 9: as row 7 |
| row 3: Knit | row 10: as row 6 |
| row 4: K6, P1, K1, P1, K5, P1, K1, P1, K6 | row 11: as row 5 |
| row 5: P5, K1, P2, K1, P5, K1, P2, K1, P5 | row 12: K6, P1, K1, P7, K1, P1, K6 |
| row 6: K4, P1, K3, P1, K5, P1, K3, P1, K4 | cut work from yarn, leaving a 3 inch tail for sewing in later and leave work on needle. |
| row 7: P3, K1, P4, K1, P5, K1, P4, K1, P3 | |

Front:

Starting at the bottom edge and working up to the armhole

Use Yarn C and 2.75mm needles to cast on 25 stitches, leaving a tail of 5 inches for seaming with later

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| row 1: (wrong side) Knit | row 8: K3, P1, K5, P7, K5, P1, K3 |
| row 2: Knit | row 9: as row 7 |
| row 3: Knit | row 10: as row 6 |
| row 4: K7, P1, K1, P1, K5, P1, K1, P1, K7 | row 11: as row 5 |
| row 5: P6, K1, P2, K1, P5, K1, P2, K1, P6 | row 12: K7, P1, K1, P7, K1, P1, K7 |
| row 6: K5, P1, K3, P1, K5, P1, K3, P1, K5 | cut work from yarn, leaving a 3 inch tail for sewing in later and leave work on needle. |
| row 7: P4, K1, P4, K1, P5, K1, P4, K1, P4 | |

Second sleeve: Repeat instructions exactly as first sleeve

Back: Repeat the instructions for the front **BUT DO NOT** cut the work from the yarn.

Instead turn the work and follow the instructions below which are worked across all 96 stitches from the four separate sections on the needle:

row 13: P6, (K1, P2, K1, P5) twice, P2tog, P4, K1, P2, K1, P5, K1, P2, K1, P4, P2tog, P5, (K1, P2, K1, P5) twice, P2tog, P4, (K1, P2, K1, P5) twice (93 stitches)

row 14: K1, SSK, K1, P1, K3, P1, K5, P1, K3, P1, K2, CDD, (K3, P1) twice, K5 (P1, K3) twice, CDD, K2, P1, K3, P1, K5, P1, K3, P1, K2, CDD, (K3, P1) twice, K5, P1, K3, P1, K2, K2tog, K1 (85 stitches)

row 15: P3, K1, P4, K1, (P5, K1, P4, K1, P4, K1, P4, K1), 3 times, P5, K1, P4, K1, P2

row 16: K1, SSK, K4, P7, K5, CDD, P1, K5, P7, K5, P1, CDD, K5, P7, K5, CDD, P1, K5, P7, K5, K2tog, K1 (77 stitches)

row 17: (P2, K1, P4, K1, P5, K1, P4, K1) 3 times, P2, K1, P4, K1, P5, K1, P6

row 18: K1, SSK, K3, P1, K5, P1, K3, P1, CDD, K1, P1, K3, P1, K5, P1, K3, P1, K1, CDD, P1, K3, P1, K5, P1, K3, P1, CDD, K1, P1, K3, P1, K5, P1, K3, P1, K2tog, K1 (69 stitches)

row 19: P3, (K1, P2, K1, P5, K1, P2, K1, P4) 3 times, K1, P2, K1, P5, K1, P2, K1, P2

row 20: K1, SSK, P1, K1, P7, K1, P1, K1, CDD, K2, P1, K1, P7, K1, P1, K2, CDD, K1, P1, K1, P7, K1, P1, K1, CDD, K2, P1, K1, P7, K1, P1, K1, K2tog, K1 (61 stitches)

row 21: (P2, K1, P2, K1, P5, K1, P2, K1) 3 times, P2, K1, P2, K1, P5, K1, P4

row 22: K1, SSK, K1, P1, K5, P1, K2, CDD, K3, P1, K5, P1, K3, CDD, K2, P1, K5, P1, K2, CDD, K3, P1, K5, P1, K2, K2tog, K1 (53 stitches)

row 23: P4, (K1, P5, K1, P6) 3 times, K1, P5, K1, P3

row 24: K1, SSK, P7, K1, CDD, K2, P7, K2, CDD, K1, P7, K1, CDD, K2, P7, K1, K2tog, K1 (45 stitches)

row 25: P3, (K1, P5, K1, P4) 3 times, K1, P5, K1, P2

row 26: K1, SSK, K5, P1, CDD, K1, P1, K5, P1, K1, CDD, P1, K5, P1, CDD, K1, P1, K5, P1, K2tog, K1 (37 stitches)

row 27: Purl

row 28: Knit

row 29: Purl

row 30: Knit

row 31: cast off in Purl

Leaving a tail of around 8 inches cut the work from the ball and use a fine crochet hook (around 2mm) to make a chain of 6 stitches (or long enough to accommodate the size of button that you have). Join it back to the start point with a slip stitch to make a small loop and weave in the end.

Before I sew up the seams I like to block the sweater to make it neat. I usually do this by carefully steam blocking but if you prefer wet blocking that is fine too. After blocking thread the tapestry needle with the cast-on tail for one of the sleeves and join the seam up to the armpit using mattress stitch. Repeat with the other sleeve and then use the cast on end from the front to join the side seam and repeat with the cast on end from the back. Close a 1cm section of the open armhole seam, leaving the top part of the seam open so that when the button is undone the sweater can be easily taken on and off.



Weave in all the yarn ends along the inside seams and trim excess. Sew a tiny button on the opposite side to the loop and your sweater is done and ready to pop onto your elephant.

Thanks for buying this pattern. I hope you've enjoyed using it. I plan to write up some extra tips about knitting and finishing, so please pop by for a visit and check out my knitting tips section on [Little Cotton Rabbits blog](http://www.littlecottonrabbits.com). There is also a Little Cotton Rabbits group on Ravelry which is a great source of tips, information and friendly fun: <http://www.ravelry.com/groups/little-cotton-rabbits>

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