



Humphrey the Camel



Materials:

50 grams of dk Nurturing Fibres naturally dyed wool or any DK weight wool will do (you won't use the whole 50 grams)

3.00 mm straight needles

(If you would like to knit the camel in a sock weight, the needle size would be 2,25mm, finished measurements are 13 cm tall, 15cm from muzzle to rump. Worsted yarn would need a 4mm needle) *If you are knitting the Donkey and Camel pattern for a nativity scene make sure they are both knitted in the same yarn ie both worsted or both DK or the sizes will not be to scale.*

Sewing up needle

2 Stitch markers

Merino fleece for stuffing

Black fleece and a felting needle for the eyes

Scissors

Completed Measurements: 5.5 inches / 14.5 cm tall.



Pattern Notes:

This pattern is knitted in stocking stitch throughout, the pattern is knitted flat and in one piece. The only extra pieces that are knitted and attached are the two ears.

Increases in the centre of the pattern are knitted with a kfb (knit into the front and back of the stitch).

Increases for the legs and head areas are made with a regular cast on unless otherwise stated.

When you are increasing up the back of the camel's hump by the stitch markers make sure you pull your work a little tighter here or you may end up with ladders in your work. The same principle applies for decreasing down the back and increasing up the neck.

When stuffing your camel, if you are knitting with a darker yarn, it is a good idea to use a stuffing that isn't white, a colourful roving that is a similar colour to the yarn works well.

For the stitching up of the camel, I don't use any particular stitch but, sew in and out of the work on the wrong side, please refer to my tutorial here for more details:

<http://www.naturalsuburbia.com/2012/11/how-to-stuff-and-shape-a-waldorf-inspired-knitted-toy-animal-a-tutorial.html>

Gauge is not too important when knitting toy patterns but you should ensure that the knitting is tight enough so that the stuffing does not show through. Varying gauges, yarn thicknesses and needles will change the size of the camel.

Casting off for purl rows will be purl-wise and for knit rows, knit-wise.

Abbreviations and Tutorial Video Links:

kfb: Knit into the front and the back of a stitch to increase a stitch.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ILcTB5hc0XM>

pfb: Purl into the front and back of a stitch to increase a stitch.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qyq6cMPb5Xs>

sps: Slip, slip, purl <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KM935YnBN7k>

ssk: Slip, slip, knit <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RGwcYW3GG3M>



Pattern:

Cast on 40 stitches

Row 1: This is the row where the 2 stitch markers will be placed either side of the 2 middle stitches as you knit. Knit 18 stitches, kfb into the 19th stitch, place stitch marker, knit the 2 middle stitches, place second stitch marker, kfb into the next stitch and knit to the end of the row. (42 stitches)

Row 2: Purl.

Row 3: Knit row and kfb into the stitch before and after the 2 middle stitches. (44 stitches)

Row 4: Purl

Row 5: Knit row and kfb into the stitch before and after the 2 middle stitches. (46 stitches)

Row 6: Purl

Row 7: Knit row and kfb into the stitch before and after the 2 middle stitches. (48 stitches)

Row 8: Purl

Row 9: Knit row and kfb into the stitch before and after the 2 middle stitches. (50 stitches)

Row 10: Purl

Row 11: Knit row and kfb into the stitch before and after the 2 middle stitches. (52 stitches)

Row 12: Purl

Row 13: Knit row and kfb into the stitch before and after the 2 middle stitches. (54 stitches)

Row 14: Cast off 14 stitches purl-wise, purl to the end of the row. (40 stitches)

Row 15: Cast off 14 stitches knit-wise, kfb either side of the 2 middle stitches, knit to the end of the row. (28 stitches)

Row 16: Purl row, pfb into the stitch before and after the 2 middle stitches. (30 stitches)

Row 17: Knit row, kfb into the stitch before and after the 2 middle stitches, knit to the end of the row. (32 stitches)



Row 18: Purl row, pfb into the stitch before and after the 2 middle stitches, purl to the end of the row. (34 stitches)

Row 19: Knit row, kfb into the stitch either side of the 2 middle stitches, knit to the end of the row. (36 stitches)

Row 20: Purl row, pfb into the stitch either side of the 2 middle stitches, purl to the end of the row. (38 stitches)

Row 21: Kfb into the first stitch, knit row and kfb into the last stitch. (40 stitches)

Row 22: Purl row

Row 23: Knit row

Row 24: Purl row, purl 2 stitches together before the first stitch marker, purl 2 stitches and ssp the 2 stitches after the second stitch marker, purl to the end of the row. (38 stitches)

Row 25: Knit row, ssk the 2 stitches before the first stitch marker, knit 2, knit 2 together after the second stitch marker, knit to the end of the row. (36 stitches)

Row 26: Purl row, purl 2 stitches together before the first stitch marker, purl 2 stitches and ssp the 2 stitches after the second stitch marker, purl to the end of the row. (34 stitches)

Row 27: Knit row, ssk the 2 stitches before the first stitch marker, knit 2, knit 2 together after the second stitch marker, knit to the end of the row. (32 stitches)

Row 28: Purl row, purl 2 stitches together before the first stitch marker, purl 2 stitches and ssp the 2 stitches after the second stitch marker, purl to the end of the row. (30 stitches)

Row 29: Knit row, ssk the 2 stitches before the first stitch marker, knit 2, knit 2 together after the second stitch marker, knit to the end of the row. (28 stitches)

Row 30: Purl row

Row 31: Cast on 13 stitches (regular cast on), knit to the end of the row. (41 stitches)

Row 32: Cast on 13 stitches (regular cast on), purl to the end of the row. (54 stitches)

Row 33: Knit row, ssk the 2 stitches before the first stitch marker, knit 2, knit 2 together after the second stitch marker, knit to the end of the row. (52 stitches)



Row 34: Purl row

Row 35: Knit row, ssk the 2 stitches before the first stitch marker, knit 2, knit 2 together after the second stitch marker, knit to the end of the row. (50 stitches)

Row 36: Purl row

Row 37: Knit row, ssk the 2 stitches before the first stitch marker, knit 2, knit 2 together after the second stitch marker, knit to the end of the row. (48 stitches)

Row 38-42: Knit in stocking stitch starting with a purl row.

Row 43: Cast off 13 stitches, (knit-wise), knit row, ssk the 2 stitches before the first stitch marker, knit 2, knit 2 together after the second stitch marker, knit to the end of the row. (33 stitches)

Row 44: Cast off 13 stitches, (purl-wise), purl row, purl 2 stitches together before the first stitch marker, purl 2 stitches and ssp the 2 stitches after the second stitch marker, purl to the end of the row. (18 stitches)

Row 45: Knit 2 stitches together at the beginning of the row, knit row, knit 2 stitches together at the end of the row. (16 stitches)

Row 46: Purl

Row 47: Knit row, kfb into the stitch before and after the 2 middle stitches, knit to the end of the row. (18 stitches)

Row 48: Purl 6 stitches, pfb into the 7th stitch, purl 4 stitches and pfb into the 12th stitch, purl to the end of the row. (20 stitches)

Row 49: Knit 2 stitches together at the beginning of the row, knit across row and kfb into the stitch before and after the 2 middle stitches, knit across the rest of the row and knit 2 stitches together at the end of the row. (20 stitches)

Row 50: Purl 2 stitches together, purl 5 stitches, pfb, purl 4 stitches, pfb, purl 5 stitches, purl 2 stitches together.

Repeat rows 49 and 50 another 4 times.



Row 59: Cast on 4 stitches (regular cast on) at the beginning of the row and knit to the end of the row. (24 stitches)

Row 60: Cast on 4 stitches (regular cast on) and purl to the end of the row. (28 stitches)

Row 61-63: Knit in stocking stitch.

Row 64: Cast off 4 stitches (purl-wise) and purl to the end of the row. (24 stitches)

Row 65: Cast off 4 stitches (knit-wise) and knit 2 stitches together either side of the 2 middle stitches, knit to the end of the row. (18 stitches)

Cast off



Finishing the Camel:

Before you begin with the finishing of this pattern, I have a very detailed tutorial on my blog with plenty of photos and instructions that can guide you through the finishing of a knitted toy. If you would like to refer to this tutorial, please have a look here:

<http://www.naturalsuburbia.com/2012/11/how-to-stuff-and-shape-a-waldorf-inspired-knitted-toy-animal-a-tutorial.html>



The knitted Camel



Fold the camel in half, right sides together and sew from the top of the face, round the muzzle and down the neck. Sew up each front leg individually and then sew up the tummy area. Sew up each back leg individually and leave an opening at the back for stuffing.



Turn the camel inside out so that the right side is showing.



Stuff the head first, pushing in small amounts of fleece at a time so that you can mould the face. Use the back of a knitting needle to move the fleece to all areas. Stuff the neck and legs, pushing the fleece to the base of each leg with the back of a knitting needle. Ensure that there is plenty of stuffing at the top of the legs where the legs join the body, otherwise the camel will not stand. Make sure it is firmly stuffed. Stuff the body and back legs, again making sure that the stuffing is firm. Shape with your hands as if you are moulding clay to achieve the required camel shape.



Tail:



Take 3 strands of yarn about 8 inches / 20 cm long and thread them through the back of the camel where the tail is situated. The tail can be attached right at the base of the back, where you finished off sewing up.



Braid the tail and then tie off with a little knot.



Eyes:

Needle felt the eyes on with fleece and a felting needle or you can just sew the eyes on with a needle and yarn.

Ears:



Cast on 4 stitches.

Knit 4 rows

Row 5: Knit 1 stitch, knit 2 together, knit 1 stitch

Row 6: Knit 1 stitch, knit 2 stitches together.

Row 7: Knit 2 stitches together.

Bind off

Sew the ears onto the sides of the head as seen in the photos.



The ears are situated on the sides at the tallest point of the camel's head and point slightly forward.



You are finished! Hope you had fun☺



Please Note:

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