Geoffrey the Giraffe

Designed by Ann Franklin

Geoffrey the Giraffe

Geoffrey is knitted mainly in stocking stitch in a two colour pattern. Using the two colours gives the knitted material an added firmness.

TENSION: 26 stitches and 36 rows to $10cm^2$; however, tension is not vital to this project, so long as the stitches are close enough together to avoid the stuffing showing through the finished toy.

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS: Overall height about 47 - 48 cms

MATERIALS:

Originally knitted in Patons Fab DK 100g

100% acrylic yarn

Length 274m

However, any DK yarn may be substituted as available.

60g DK yarn in Colour A [beige] (Patons Fab DK in beige, shade 2331, used)

60g DK yarn in Colour B [mid brown] (Patons Fab DK in camel, shade 2308, used)

A length of DK yarn in Colour C [dark brown] (Patons Fab DK in chocolate, shade 2357, used)

160g toy stuffing

1 pair 3.25mm needles

ABBREVIATIONS:

Beg: Beginning

St(s): Stitch(es)

St st: Stocking stitch: 1 row knit, 1 row purl. Unless otherwise instructed, always begin stocking stitch with a knit row.

K: Knit

P: Purl

Kfb: Increase by knitting into both the front and back of the next stitch

K2 tog: Knit the next 2 sts together

K2togtbl: Knit the next 2 stitches together working through the back of the loops

P2tog: Purl the next 2 stitches together

P2togtbl: Purl the next 2 stitches together working through the back of the loops

Sl1: Slip next st onto right hand needle without working

Psso: Pass the slipped stitch over the stitch(es) just worked

Alt: Alternative

B&T: (break & thread): Break the yarn and thread the tail onto a tapestry needle. Thread the yarn through the stitches on the knitting needle, slide the stitches off the needle and pull the tail up to tighten the stitches into a circle.

Geoffrey the Giraffe:

Body:

Using Colour A [beige] and 3.25mm needles, cast on 20 sts

Row 1: kfb in every stitch (40 sts)

Beginning purl, st st 3 rows

Row 5: (K1, kfb) to the end of the row (60 sts)

Beginning purl, st st 3 rows

Row 9: (K1, kfb)x5; K10; (K1, kfb)x10; K10; (K1, kfb)x5 (80 sts)

Beginning purl, st st 3 rows

Row 13: (K2, kfb)x5; K10; (K2, kfb)x10; K10; (K2, kfb)x5 (100 sts)

Row 14: purl

Join in Colour B [mid brown] and commence two colour pattern: In the following instructions, work in stocking stitch in the colours indicated:

Row 15: K1A; (K1B, K3A) to the last 3 sts; K1B, K2A

Row 16: (P1A, P3B) to the end of the row

Row 17: (K3B, K1A) to the end of the row

Row 18: P2A, P1B; (P3A, P1B) to last st; P1A

Row 19: (K3A, K1B) to the end of the row

Row 20: P2B, P1A; (P3B, P1A) to the last st; P1B

Row 21:K1B, K1A; (K3B, K1A) to the last 2 sts; K2B

Row 22: (P1B, P3A) to the end of the row

These 8 rows set the colour pattern. Keep the colour pattern as set for the remainder of the body; working any shaping in pattern.

Beginning knit, st st 4 more rows.

Row 27: Cast off 2 sts, knit to the end of the row. (98sts)

Row 28: Cast off 2 sts, purl to the end of the row. (96 sts)

Row 29: Cast off 3 sts, knit to the end of the row. (93sts)

Row 30: Cast off 3 sts, purl to the end of the row. (90 sts)

Row 31: Cast off 5 sts, knit to the end of the row. (85sts)

Row 32: Cast off 5 sts, purl to the end of the row. (80 sts)

Row 33: Cast off 5 sts, knit to the end of the row. (75sts)

Row 34: Cast off 5 sts, purl to the end of the row. (70 sts)

Row 35: Cast off 10 sts, knit to the end of the row. (60sts)

Row 36: Cast off 10 sts, purl to the end of the row. (50 sts)

Row 37: Knit

Row 38: Purl

Row 39: Cast off 5 sts, knit to the end of the row (45 sts)

Row 40: Cast off 5 sts, purl to the end of the row (40 sts)

Row 41: Knit

Row 42: Purl

Decrease 1 st at each end of the next row, and then every 4th row until 24 sts remain.

Work 3 more rows without shaping.

Cast off in Colour A [beige].

<u>Head:</u>

Using 3.25mm needles and Colour A [beige], cast on 5 sts.

Row 1: Kfb in every st (10sts)

Row 2: Purl

Row 3: (K1, kfb) to the end of the row (15sts)

Row 4: Purl

Row 5: (K2, kfb) to the end of the row (20sts)

Beginning purl, st st 3 rows

Join in B and commence colour pattern as given in rows 15 – 22 of the body.

Rows 9 – 12: Beg knit, st st 4 rows in colour pattern without shaping.

Keeping colour pattern correct as set, and bringing any extra sts into the colour pattern, work as follows:

Row 13: Kfb in first st, knit to the last st, kfb (22 sts)

Row 14: Purl

Repeat rows 13 – 14 four times more (30 sts)

Row 23: kfb in first st. knit to the last st, kfb (32 sts)

Row 24: kfb in first st, purl to the last st, kfb (34 sts)

Repeat rows 23 & 24 twice more (42 sts)

Row 29: Knit

Row 30: Purl

Row 31: Knit

Row 32: Purl

Row 33: (K2A, K2Atog, K1B, K1A, K2Atog, K1A, K1B K2Atog, K2A, K2Btog) x2; K2A, K2Atog, K1B, K1A, K2Atog, K1A, K1B (32 sts)

Row 34: P2B, (P1A, P3B) to last 2 sts, P1A, P1B

Row 35: (K1A, K2Btog, K1B, K2Btog) to last 2 sts, K1A, K1B (22 sts)

Row 36: (P3A, P1B0 to last 2 sts, P2A

Row 37: (K2Atog, K2Btog) to last 2 sts, K2Atog (11sts)

Row 38: (P1A, P1B) to last st, P1A

B&T

Legs: (Make 4 the same)

Using 3.25mm needles and Colour B [mid brown], cast on 15sts.

Row 1: Purl

Row 2: kfb in every st (30 sts)

Beginning purl, st st 5 rows

Row 8: (K1, K2tog) to the end of the row (20 sts)

Row 9: Purl

Join in Colour A [beige], and work 32 rows straight in colour pattern as given in rows 15 – 22 of back (4 repeats of rows 15 - 22)

Keeping colour pattern correct as set, and bringing any extra sts into the colour pattern, work as follows:

Row 42: Cast on 2 sts, knit to end (22 sts)

Row 43: Cast on 2 sts, purl to end (24 sts)

Row 44: Kfb, knit to last st, kfb (26 sts)

Row 45: Purl

Repeat Rows 44 & 45 twice more (30 sts)

Row 50: K2tog tbl, knit to the last 2 sts, k2tog (28sts)

Row 51: P2tog, purl to last 2 sts, P2tog tbl

Repeat rows 50 & 51 until 10 sts remain.

B&T

Tail:

Using 3.25mm needles and Colour A [beige], cast on 5 sts

Beginning knit, st st 2 rows

Row 3: (Join in Colour B [mid brown]) K2A, K1B, K2A

Row 4: P1A, P3B, P1A

Row 5: K1A, K3B, K1A

Row 6: P2A, P1B, P2A

Row 7:K1B K3A, K1B

Row 8: P2B, P1A, P2B

Row 9: K2B, K1A, K2B

Row 10: P1B, P3A, P1B

Row 11: KfbA, K1A, K1B, K1A, kfbA (7 sts)

Row 12: P1B, P1A, P3B, P1A, P1B

Row 13: K1B, K1A, K3B, K1A, K1B

Row 14: P3A, P1B, P3A

Row 15: kfbA, K1Bm K3A, K1B, kfbA (9 sts)

Row 16: (P1A, P3B) x2; P1A

Row 17: (K1A, K3B) x2; K1A

Row 18: P2A, P1B, P3A, P1B, P2A

Row 19: K2tog tblA, K2A, K1B, K2A, K2tog A (7 sts)

Row 20: P2A, P3B, P2A

Row 21: K2tog tbl A, K3B, K2tog A (5 sts)

Row 22: P2A, P1B, P2A

Row 23: K2tog tblA, K1A, K2tog A (3 sts)

B&T

Horns (Make 2 the same):

Using 3.25mm needles and Colour A [beige], cast on 6 sts.

Work 8 rows st st

B&T

Fringe:

Using Colour B [mid brown] and 3.25mm needles, cast on 5 sts.

Work 10 rows garter stitch.   Cast off

Mane:

Using Colour B [mid brown] and 3.25mm needles, cast on 3 sts

Work in garter stitch (every row knit) until mane is long enough to fit up the giraffe's neck and along the back of the head. (Approx 20 cm). Cast off.

Outer Ears (Make 2 the same):

Using 3.25mm needles and Colour A [beige], cast on 3 sts

Row 1: Purl

Row 2: kfb x 2, K1 (5 sts)

Row 3: Purl

Row 4: kfb, knit to last 3 sts, kfb, K1 (7 sts)

Beginning purl, st st 3 rows

Row 8: K2tog tbl, K3, K2 tog (5 sts)

Row 9: Purl

Row 10: K2 tog tbl, K1, K2tog (3 sts)

Row 11: Purl

Row 12: sl1, K2 tog, psso

Inner Ears (Make 2 the same):

Using 3.25mm needles and Colour B [mid brown], cast on 3 sts

Row 1: Knit

Row 2: kfb, K1 kfb (5 sts)

Row 3: Knit

Row 4: kfb, K3, kfb (7 sts)

Row 5: Knit

Row 6: K2 tog tbl, K3, K2 tog (5 sts)

Row 7: Knit

Row 8: K2 tog tbl, K1, k2 tog (3 sts)

Row 9: Knit

Cast off

To Make up:

Fold the body in half and join the seam, leaving the cast on and cast off stitches open.

Turn to the right side and stuff firmly.

Sew the cast on stitches together.

Join the head for approximately 4 cm from the B&T stitches. Sew a running stitch through the cast on sts and pull this thread tightly to close the circle Then sew the seam from the nose for approximately 7cm. Turn to the right side and stuff firmly.

Place the head over the cast off stitches at the top of the neck, and join the head to the body.

Sew the mane from the bottom of the neck, up the neck (following the seam), and then across the back of the head.

Sew a running stitch through 1 side seam of the fringe, and pull this up tightly. Sew this edge of the fringe to the head, just in front of the mane.

Sew the horns using ladder stitch and leaving the cast on edges open.

Sew the cast on edges to the head, on either side of the fringe.

Sew the inner ears to the outer ears, placing the inner ears sideways on (so that the rows of the inner ears go from the top to the bottom of the outer ears)

Sew the ears to the head, on either side of the horns.

Using Colour B [mid brown], make 2 French sts on either side of the nose for nostrils, then using a length of Colour C [dark brown], make two eyes using a few back stiches on either side of the face, about 11 sts apart.

Cut 4 x 7 cm strands of Colour B [mid brown] for the end of the tail. Sew through the centre of these strands, then sew them firmly to the cast on end of the tail. Ladder stitch the seam of the tail together up the second set of increases. Stuff firmly. Pin and then sew the open shaped end of the tail onto the back of the giraffe's body.

Join the side seams of the legs up to the shaped portion at the top, leaving the top shaped portion open. Turn, then sew a running stitch through the cast on stitches on the base of the legs, pulling this thread up tightly to close the circle.

Stuff the legs firmly.

Pin and then sew the open portions of the legs to the giraffe.

NB it is very important to check that all of the smaller parts of the toy are very firmly sewn on. It is also important to check the toy from time to time to make sure that all the parts remain securely attached.

Any questions about this pattern? Please don't hesitate to contact me at annfranklin@live.co.uk