

Dementia doll (boy or girl)

Knitting pattern

Approximately 12 inches tall when finished

Materials required

- Double knitting yarn in flesh colour plus 3 complementary or contrasting colours for clothes and shoes. Oddment of black and red for facial features
- Polyester stuffing suitable for toys
- Knitting needles required: a pair of No. 11 – 3mm, a single No. 10 – 3 ¼ mm
- Pins with large coloured heads should be used at all stages of construction as ordinary pins can pass into stuffing between knitted stiches.
- Sewing needle with a large eye, e.g. tapestry needle.
- A red colouring pencil for shading cheeks.



Abbreviations

K – Knit, P – Purl, G ST – Garter Stitch (knit every row), INC – Increase by working twice into next stitch, DEC – Decrease by working 2 stitches together, St – Stitch, Sts – Stitches, St. St. – Stocking Stitch (knit 1 row, purl 1 row) TOG – Together, M1 – Make one by picking up the yarn lying between the stitch just worked and next stitch turn back of it, TBL – Through Back of Loop, B+T Tightly – Break of yarn leaving a long end of yarn, thread this through remaining stitches, pull to gather up tightly and fasten off. Do not cut this yarn as it is needed for sewing up later. Brackets – instructions in brackets are to be repeated the number of times stated after closing bracket. When starting and finishing with yarns, leave longish ends to use to sew items together. Cast off knit-wise unless otherwise stated.

Instructions are given in order of knitting and construction

Legs, body, head and arms are the same for a boy or girl.

Legs – make 2 alike

Using colour required for the shoe sole, cast on 24 Sts. onto the size 10 needle, continue working with size 11 needles only.

1ST row – K1 INC in next 22 Sts. – K1 – 46 Sts.

Put size 10 needle out of the way so it does not get used again.

Beginning with A P row, work 4 rows in St. St. Break of yarn and join on colour required for shoe top. St.St 9 rows.

To shape foot

K.11 (K2 TOG) 12 times, K11 – 34 STS. P1 row

Next Row K11 (K2 TOG) 6 times K11 – 28 Sts

St. St 3 rows, break off yarn and join on flesh colour

St. St 22 rows, cast of marking centre stitch of cast off edge with a coloured thread

To make up

With right sides together sew row ends of leg, shoe top and sole. This seam will be at centre back of leg. Over sew across cast on edge of sole. Turn right side out. Firmly stuff foot and leg, but stuffing more lightly at top of leg. Bring marked centre of cast off edge to the seam of the leg, then over sew across the cast off stitching. Remove coloured marker.

Make the 2nd leg remembering to use the No. 10 needle for casting on. Put legs to one side for use later.

Body and head

Starting at the lower edge of knickers, using white yarn and size 11 needles, cast on 60 Sts (use a coloured thread to mark the centre of the cast on stitches) Beginning with a knit row ST.ST. 20 rows. Break off white yarn and join on colour for shirt/blouse colour. St.St 10 rows.

To shape sides

Next row. K11 (K2 TOG) 5 times, K18 (K2 TOG) 5 times K11 – 50 STS. St.St. 7 rows.

Next row. K11 (K2 TOG) 3 times, K16 (K2 TOG) 3 times, K11 – 44 STS. St.St. 3 rows.

To shape neck

Next row. (K2 TOG) to end – 33 Sts. Break off shirt/blouse colour, join on flesh colour. ST.ST 5 rows.

To shape head

Next row. K (M1. K1) to end – 65 Sts.

St.St 35 rows, on the 19th row, mark either side of the 33rd stitch with a coloured thread (this is a marker for the positioning of eyes and lips).

To shape the top of the head

Next row (K3 – K2 TOG) to end – 52 STS. P.1 row. Next row (K2. K2 TOG) to end – 39 Sts. P. 1 row.

Next row (K1. K2 TOG) to end – 26 STS.

Next row. P2 TOG to end 13 STS B+T Tightly.

To make up

With right sides together, sew row ends together of shirt/blouse and knickers (this seam will be at centre of back). Bring marker on cast on edge to centre back seam. Over sew cast on stitches together. Turn right side out. Over sew top of legs to bottom of knickers, making sure the feet point forward and line up. Edge of each leg lines of up with the edge of the body.

Firmly stuff knickers and body section. Over sew 1 inch of open head seam starting and neck edge, stuff up to this point. Now over sew 2 inches down seam from top of head and stuff. Now lightly stuff central area.

Adding eyes and mouth

The eyes are worked on a line with the coloured thread and 5 knitted apart (The marked stitch will be at the centre of this 5 stitches). Using a 12 inch length of back yarn, make a double knot 2 inches from end of the yarn, thread a needle with the other of the yarn. Through the gap in the head, push needle through the stuffing and out of the face front coming out in line with marked stitch 2 Sts to one side. Pull needle through, the knot should lodge in this stuffing. If not, remove yarn and add another knot on top of original knot and try again. Now work 3 back stitches going straight down 3 Sts, on last stitch, bring yarn through stuffing and tie to knotted start of procedure. Cut down yarn ends. Complete second eye the same as the first leaving 5 stitches apart. For lips using red cut 12 inch length of yarn knot as for eye thread through the needle, bring needle through front of face 9 rows centrally below bottom of eye stitches. Make a V shape by stitching 1½ stitches across and 2 rows up from the starting point, to left and right. Push needle back through and finish off the same as the eyes.

Add more stuffing to head and stitch up the gap when the head is firmly stuffed.

To shape neck

Using flesh coloured yarn, cut a 14inch length of yarn and thread a needle. Starting at the centre back seam run, gather stitching around neck edge on first flesh covered row at neck edge. Leave long length at the start, when this thread in the needle reaches the start point, pull both ends of the yarn tight and tie ends together. Stitch ends into head when knots are secure.

To colour cheeks

Using the side of this coloured pencil, using a circular motion, rub the pencil against the knitted stitches. Gradually working up to the colour required.

For a girl

Socks - make 2 alike

With No 11 needles and sock colour cast on 30 STS, beginning with a knit row St.St 4 rows cast off. With reverse St.St facing and cast on edge at shoe top edge. Over sew row ends together. Pin this seam over leg seam and cast on row over last row of shoe. Sew in place, sewing both cast on and cast off edge of sock.

Skirt

Using size 11 needles colour for skirt cast on 103 STS beginning with K Row St.St 5 rows next row K, next row P (to denote hem turning line).

Beginning P. row St.St 31 rows next row (K1 K2 TOG) to last St.

K1 – 69 STS cast off knit-wise.

Over sew row ends together. Turn up hem and stitch in place. Put skirt onto doll, lining up seam of skirt with rear body seam. Stitch skirt waist to first row of jumper.

For a boy

Trousers – make 2 pieces alike

Using size 11 needles and trouser colour cast on 48 Sts.

Knit 4 rows, beginning with a knit row ST.ST 22 rows (make both ends of this row with a coloured thread)

Crotch shaping

R1. K2 TOG, TBL. Knit to last 2 stitches K2 TOP (46 Sts)

R2. PURL

R3. K2 TOG, TBL. Knit to last 2 stitches K2 TOG (44 Sts)

R4. PURL

R5. K2 TOG, TBL. Knit to last 2 stitches K2 TOG (42 Sts)

Continuing in St.St work 15 more rows

Next row K2 (K2 TOG K2) TO end 32 Sts.

Cast off K. wise.

With right side together stitch row ends together from cast on row to markers. Secure thread but do not cut off.

Make a second piece the same.

Turn one of those pieces right side out then push it inside the other piece. (This piece should have right sides facing each other). Stitch the row ends together from cast off edge to crotch to cast off edge. Turn right side out.

Put onto doll with 1 seam in line with the body seam.

Stitch cast off edge to just below knicker line so you can see the top line of knicker above trouser line.

Belt

In contrast colour to trousers and jumper using size 11 needles, cast on 68 Sts beginning with a knit row ST.ST. 4 rows.

Cast off PURL WISE



Place belt around body with cast edge at lower edge.

Over sew row ends together and over sew, lining this seam with body seam. Stitch cast on edge of belt to last row of trousers, stitch cast off edge to body.

For either doll

Hands – make 2 alike

Starting at wrist end using flesh colour and size 11 needles, cast on 12 Sts loosely.

1st row inc knit-wise in every stitch – 24 Sts

Beginning with a PURL row St.St. 3 rows

Next row PURL (this makes this position for sewing on sleeves)

Beginning with a PURL row St.St 13 rows.

Next row K2 TOG to end – 12 Sts.

B+T Tightly.

Join row ends together (this seam will be at under arm). Turn right side out and stuff firmly.

Gather round cast on stitches, pull up tightly and fasten off.

Sleeves – make 2 alike

Using shirt/blouse colour – beginning at wrist edge

Cast on 24 Sts on size 11 needles

1st row K4 (inc in next ST. K4) to end 28 Sts

Beginning with an P row St.St. 27 rows

Shape top

Next row K6 (K2 TOG) twice K8 (K2 TOG) twice K6 – 24 Sts P.1. row

Next row (K1. KT TOG) to end – 16 Sts

Cast off loosely

Join row ends of sleeve from wrist to 1 inch short of sleeve top. Secure stitching but do not cut thread (to be used later) turn right side out (this seam will be at under arm position).

To assemble hands and sleeves

Push hand wrist end inside cast on edge of sleeve as far as marked row – matching under arm seams.

Using sleeve coloured yarn, sew sleeve in place so that it just covers this marked row on the hand.

Stuff sleeve up to top of stitching on sleeve. Over sew the remaining sleeve edge together – stuff lightly to top of sleeve. With under arm seam at centre of cast off edge, over sew across all stitches.

Complete second hand and sleeve the same.

Sleeve cuff – make 2 alike

Begin at wrist edge using colour required and size 11 needles. Cast on 30 Sts. Beginning with a K row St.St 3 rows. Cast off knit-wise. Place around bottom of sleeve matching cuff and sleeve seam. Over sew cuff seam. Then sew cast on edge just below cast on edge of sleeve and sew cast off edge to sleeve. Repeat for other sleeve.

To sew sleeves in place

Pin cast off edge of sleeve to either side of body above side shaping body 2 rows below neck shaping.

When happy with position of arms, stitch in place sewing across cast off stitches, down one side or arm for about 1 inch, across the underside of the arm and up the other side of the arm. Stitch the other arm in place.

The doll is now complete.