

Instructions for knitting Ozzie teddy bears

What you need:

The bears are knitted in one main piece with two separate arms.

Wools - 'neutral' shade for hands, feet and head; different colours, one for trousers, and for jumper; a small quantity of black or brown for eyes, nose, mouth, a variety of colours for the scarf.

Knitting needles - pair of size 33/4m (9), a spare needle for trouser leg, a row counter is handy.

Stuffing - acrylic/polyester toy/cushion filler.

Method:

Feet: Cast on 10 stitches in neutral colour. Knit 10 rows.

Legs: Change to trouser colour and knit 30 rows. Cut wool off. Leave stitches on the spare needle. Cast on another 10 stitches in neutral colour. Make another leg to match.

In the next row, go straight across all 20 stitches and continue for another 16 rows.

Change to jumper colour and knit 24 rows.

Head:

Change to neutral colour and knit 1 row plain, 1 row purl for 48 rows.

Change back to jumper colour and knit 24 rows, then back to trouser colour for 16 rows.

Next row, knit 10 stitches, leave the rest on a spare needle and knit 30 rows. Change to neutral colour for 10 rows to finish the leg. Cast off (leaving enough wool to use to finish off the leg later after stuffing). Go back to the spare stitches and repeat the instructions.

Arms: In neutral colour cast on 12 stitches and knit 10 rows. (Leave a good length of wool at the first stitch for late use). Change to jumper colour and knit 20 rows. (To make it easier to sew the arms into the body, you can add one stitch in the middle of row 18).

Sewing up and stuffing and stuff each leg: (may take a few tries to find your best way of doing it!)

Head: turn bear inside out and sew up the sides. Turn right way round and sew on the eyes, nose and mouth in appropriate colour. In neutral, Stitch corners of the head diagonally across to form ears. Sew running stitches round the base of the neck ready to draw it up later to form the head and neck.

Body: sew arms into back and front of body, continue down to trouser colour on each side. Sew arms up as far as the hands. With trouser wool, sew down to the top of the legs. Begin to stuff the body and arms. Sew down the outside of each leg, leaving the feet open. Sew down the inner leg and then the foot. Use the length of wool from casting off to make running stitches to pull up and finish off both hands and feet. Complete the stuffing.

Scarf.

Cast on 70 stitches in any suitable colour/s and knit 5 rows. Cast off. Arrange scarf round the neck and put in a couple of stitches to keep it in place.

Your bear is finished!

