

# Humbug the Hound

by Val



Example knitted by Mary

Humbug the Hound is a worry eater with a large mouth, tongue and mouth pocket to receive children's worries. His body is knitted in one piece with a centre back seam.

## **Materials**

- Humbug is knitted in either chunky yarn, or two strands of double knitting yarn used together. Knitting yarns vary in thickness and what size knitting pins you use will also depend on how tightly or loosely you knit, but use between 4mm and 5mm pins for the body.
- Some other pieces are knitted with a single strand of double knitting yarn so please read the instructions at the start of each piece. The

size of your pins for single strand double knitting yarn needs to be between 3mm and 4mm.

- Please remember that the finish needs to be tight enough not to let the filling poke through.
- A pair of safety eyes, or felt to make eyes.
- A tapestry needle.
- Stuffing should be BS or CE marked toy stuffing.

## **Abbreviations**

**K** – knit

**P** – purl

**Ss** – stocking stitch (1 row knit, 1 row purl)

**K2tog** – knit 2 stitches together

**P2tog** – purl 2 stitches together

**K2togtbl** – knit 2 stitches together through back of loops

**P2togtbl** – purl 2 stitches together through back of loops

**sts** – stitches

**Kfb** – increase one stitch by knitting into the front and back of the same stitch

**m1** – make 1 by picking up the strand between one stitch and the next and knitting into the back of it

**RS** – right side of work

**WS** – wrong side of work

**dec** – decrease

**inc** – increase

## **Tension**

*It is important that no stuffing is accessible in your finished item as this would be a safety hazard.*

Tension varies between yarn brands and weights and from knitter to knitter. Needle sizes are suggested in the pattern, but if you know you knit loosely, reduce your needle size to achieve a firm weave. As a rough guide use a needle a size smaller than that recommended for garment knitting on the ball band.

## **Humbug the Hound head and body**

With chunky yarn, or two strands of double knitting yarn used together  
4.5mm needles cast on 51 sts.

Ss 2 rows

(K7, Kfb) 3 times, K3, (Kfb, K7) 3 times (57sts)

Ss 3 rows

(k8, Kfb) 3 times, K3, (Kfb, K8) 3 times (63 sts)

Ss 3 rows

(k9, Kfb) 3 times, K3, (Kfb, K9) 3 times (69 sts)

Ss 3 rows

(k10, Kfb) 3 times, K 3, (Kfb, K10) 3 times (75sts)

Continue in Ss until work measures 10.5 inches from cast on.

Cast off whole row. This makes the mouth less slack and also gives the suggestion of a neck.

With RS facing and pink yarn for mouth pocket, leave first 25 sts, pick up and knit 25sts, leave remaining 25sts.

WS facing, K1 row to form a ridge.

RS facing, starting with a K row, Ss pocket to 8 inches, ending with a P row. Join in body coloured yarn and Ss to 10 inches. Break off yarn

With RS facing, pick up and knit first 25 cast off sts, K 25 sts from mouth pocket, pick up and knit remaining 25 cast off sts. (75sts)

Purl 24, P2tog, P 23, P2tog, P24 (73sts)

Ss to 3.75" from picked up sts

Decrease for top of head:

K1, (K7, K2tog) 4 times, (K2tog, K7) 4 times (65sts)

P

K1, (K6, K2tog) 4 times, (K2tog, K6) 4 times (57sts)

P

K1, (K5, K2tog) 4 times, (K2tog, K5) 4 times (49sts)

P

K1, (K4, K2tog) 4 times, (K2tog, K4) 4 times (41sts)

P

K1, (K3, K2tog) 4 times, (K2tog, K3) 4 times (33sts)

P

K1, (K2, K2tog) 4 times, (K2, K2tog) 4 times (25sts)

P

K1, (K2tog) to end (13sts)

P

K1 (K2tog) to end (7sts)

Cut yarn leaving enough length to sew back seam. Thread on tapestry needle and pass needle through remaining sts. Draw up tightly and fasten off. Leave tail of yarn for making up later.

Sew up sides of mouth pocket. Smooth flat and catch down bottom edge to underside of body front.

## **Humbug's face**

Muzzle and blaze: Use **single strand of DK** in white or suitably contrasting and 3mm or 4mm needles.

Cast on 6 sts leaving a tail for sewing muzzle to face later.

P 1 row

Next row: K, inc into every stitch (12sts)

Next row: P

Next row: K 1, m 1, K to last st, m 1, K 1 (14sts)

Next row: P

Repeat last 2 rows (16sts)

Beg with a K row, Ss 6 rows

Next row: Cast on 8 sts, K to last 2sts, K2tog, (23sts)

Next row: P2tog, P to last st, inc 1 in last st. (23sts)

Next row: K1, m 1, K to last 2 sts, K2tog. (23sts)

Repeat last 2 rows

Next row: (centre of muzzle) P

Next row: K2tog, K to last st, m1, K 1.(23sts)

Next row: inc 1, P to last 2sts, P2 tog (23sts)

Repeat last 2 rows

Cast off 8 sts, K to last st, m1, K1 (16sts)

Ss 7 rows

Next row: K2tog, K to last 2sts, K2 tog (14sts)

Next row: P

Repeat last 2 rows (12sts)

Next row: K2tog all row (6sts)

Cast off in P and leave tail for sewing.

Place centre of muzzle above centre of mouth opening, and point of blaze where decreasing sts meet at centre front of head. The lower edge of the

widest part of the muzzle should be on a level with the picked up sts at the upper lip. Using the cast on tail at the top right of the muzzle, use mattress stitch to attach the muzzle and blaze to the face. Before stitching the bottom edge add a little stuffing to each cheek, but leave blaze and centre muzzle flat. Complete stitching.

## Hound nose

In black **single strand DK**, on 3mm or 4 mm needles and starting at the top of the nose:

Cast on 8 sts, leaving tail for sewing nose to face.

Row 1: P

Row 2: K1, K2tog, K2, K2tog, K1 (6sts)

Row 3: P

Row 4: K1, K2tog, K2tog, K1 (4sts)

Row 5: P

Row 6: K2tog, K 1 (3 sts)

Cast off leaving tail.

Place nose on muzzle with top corners at the angle where the blaze meets the muzzle. Use mattress stitch to sew 2 sides of nose to muzzle. Add a little stuffing and complete 3<sup>rd</sup> side. Use cast off tail to sew a line of back stitch from bottom of nose to bottom centre of muzzle (see picture).



## Hound eyes

The eyes fit in the corner of the right angle between the muzzle and the blaze. If you are using safety eyes, insert now. If you are making eyes with felt they can be attached after the body and head are sewn and stuffed.

## Hound tongue

In **single strand DK** in pink and with 3mm or 4mm needles:

Cast on 24 sts

Beg with a P row Ss 15 rows

Next row: K 1, K2togtbl, K to last 3 sts, K2tog, K1

Next row: P 1, P 2tog, P to last 3 sts, P 2togtbl, P 1

Repeat these 2 rows until 8 sts remain.

Cut and thread (cut yarn leaving sewing tail. Thread it through the remaining 8 sts)

With WS tog, fold tongue in half and sew the two side edges together.

Turn RS out and make the seam the centre of the underside of the tongue.

With darker pink yarn or embroidery cotton, back stitch a line down the centre of the tongue from the root almost to the tip.

Decide whether you want the tongue to loll out of the side of the mouth or hang centre front. Sew top of tongue to inner edge of bottom lip so that it appears to be coming from the inside of the mouth, then sew again catching the underside of the tongue to the outer edge of the lip.

Sew centre back seam of body and stuff.

## Hound ears

Make 2 using **single strand DK** yarn and 3mm or 4mm needles

Starting at the tip, cast on 6 sts

P 1 row

K1, m 1, K to last st, m 1, K 1 (8sts)

Repeat these 2 rows until 14 sts

Ss 5 rows

Repeat increase row (16sts)

Ss 5 rows

Repeat increase row (18sts)

Ss 9 rows

K 1, K2togtbl, K to last 3 sts, K2tog, K1 (16sts)

Ss 5 rows

Repeat decrease row (14sts)

Ss 5 rows

K1 row (fold line)

P2tog, P to last 2, P 2tog (12sts)

Change to ear lining colour and Ss 2 rows

K1, m1, K to last st, m1, K 1 (14sts)

Ss 5 rows

Repeat increase row (16 sts)

Ss9 rows

K 1, K2togtbl , k to last 3 sts, k 2tog, K 1 (14sts)

Ss 5 rows

Repeat decrease row (12sts)

P 1 row

Repeat last 2 rows until 4 sts remain

Cut & Thread

Fold ear along centre and sew ear to lining along sides. With lining side facing, fold the two bottom corners in towards the centre and catch them together. Pin the ears to the head level with the top of the blaze and about 8 stitches away from it on each side. Sew both over and under sides of the ear to the head.

## Hound back legs

make 2 using **single strand DK** yarn and 3mm or 4mm needles

Colour optional

I used three different shades of DK, one for the sole of the foot, one for the top of the foot, and one for the leg. Leaving a long yarn tail at colour change and at cast on and cast off is helpful for sewing up.

In sole colour, cast on 13 sts

Row 1: ( and every alternate row unless stated) P

Row 2: K 1, (m 1, K 1) 11x, K1 (24sts)

Row 4: (K1, m 1, K 1) 12x (36 sts)

Row 6: (K 1, m 1, K 2) to end (48 sts)

Row 8: (K 1, m 1, K 3) to end (60 sts)

Rows 10 – 11: K 1, P 1, rib

Row 12: change colour for top of foot and beg with a K row Ss 8 rows

Row 20: (K 4, K 2tog) to end (50sts)

Row 21: P

Row 22: K 10, (K2togtbl, K 1) 5x, (K 1, K2tog) 5x, K 10 (40 sts)

Row 23: P 10, (P2tog) 5x, (P2togtbl) 5x, P 10 (30sts)

Row 24: K 13, K2togtbl, K2tog, K 13 (28sts)

Change colour for leg (optional)

Ss 36 rows.

Cast off.

Run your casting on yarn through every cast on stitch at the sole of the foot. Pull up tightly and sew up sides to make sole circular. Continue sewing up sides, (this is the back of the leg), stuffing as you go.

You may need to add a few sewn stitches at the ankle if there are gaps in the decreasing row to ensure it is tight enough not to let the filling poke through.

Attach legs to body, sewing all round in mattress stitch.

## **Hound front legs**

As back legs to row 6 (48sts)

Row 7: P

Rows 8 – 9: K1, P 1 to end.

Rows 10-15: change colour. Starting with a K row, Ss 6 rows

Row 16: (K4, K2tog) to end (40sts)

Row 17: P

Row 18: K8, (K2, K2togtbl)3x, (K2, K2tog)3x, K8 (34sts)

Row 19: P8, (P2tog P1)3x, (P1, P2togtbl)3x, P8 (28sts)

Row 20: K8, (K2tog)6x, K8 (22sts)

Row 21: P

Row 22: change colour (optional, but good place to leave long tail for sewing up leg) Ss 36 rows.

Row 58: Cast off 4, K to end

Row 59: Cast off 4 purlwise, P to end.

Row 60: K1, K2togtbl, K to last 3 sts, K2tog, K1

Row 61: P

Repeat these last 2 rows until 8 sts remain, casting off on last P row.

Make up as for back leg, sewing back seam as far as the 4 cast off stitches. Leave shaped top open. Stuff the leg. Pin the shoulder just below the neckline, 2 sts from the corner of the mouth opening and sloping very slightly downwards away from the mouth. Pin all round top of leg and mattress stitch to body until about 4cms of seam is left. Top up the stuffing in the leg and shoulder and close seam. Using black DK yarn back stitch four lines evenly spaced around front of each foot, as pictured, to indicate toes.



## Hound tail

In DK and 4mm (or whatever)

Cast on 16sts

Ss 12 rows

Row 13: K1, K2tog, K4, K2tog, K4, K2tog, K1 (13sts)

Ss 4 rows

Row 18: K1, K2tog, K3, K2tog, K2, K2tog, K1 (10sts)

Ss 7 rows

Row 26: (K1, K2tog) 3x, K1 (7sts)

Ss 3 rows

Row 30: K1, K2tog, K1, K2tog, K1 (5sts)

Cut & thread. Sit your hound on a table. Join the tail just above the point where the centre back seam meets the table, with the tail seam underneath.

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