

KNITTED JUDGE HAND PUPPET PATTERN

Kindly donated by Jennifer



Why does Knit-for-Nowt need the judge hand puppets?

Judges are inevitably involved in many Child Protection cases. Having been advised by lawyer friends that children don't normally see judges in their full regalia, but that usually the judge meeting a child will be wearing a normal suit, we put this question to Social Work therapists. They say that even though that's true, they often have to explain to a child exactly what a judge is, and the judge puppet helps them to do this. We do get very frequent requests from therapists for these (sadly), so they are definitely needed.

Abbreviations: K = knit, P = purl,

Materials needed

Bright red DK yarn – you won't need much, maybe use up a left over ball of it?

White DK – Jennifer used Sirdar Snuggly Snowflake DK, but any white DK would be fine for the wig

Flesh coloured DK for the face, or brown/tan DK, (but not black thanks) if making an ethnic judge – we need both sorts

Black embroidery thread/yarn for the facial features

Small piece of lacy material for the tie

White cotton thread to attach wig/scarf

Instructions for the body – make 2 pieces

With red yarn cast on 20sts

K 2 rows

Stocking stitch 20 rows

Next 2 rows: cast on 10sts

Next row: K

Next row: K 4sts, then P to last 4sts, then P 4sts

Repeat previous two rows 8 times more

Cast off 14sts at beg. of the next 2 rows

Change to yarn colour you need for the head

Increase 1 stitch at beg. and end of each alternate row until you have 20sts

K 6 rows in stocking stitch

Decrease 1 stitch at beg. and end of each alternate row until you have 10sts

Cast off. Knit the other piece.

Instructions for the wig.

Worked in garter stitch.

Cast on 60sts

K 2 rows

Cast off 2sts at beg. of next 6 rows (48sts)

Cast off 6 sts at beg. of next 2 rows (36sts)

K1, K2tog to the end of row

K x 1 row (24sts)

K2tog to end of row (12sts)

K 1 row

K2tog to end of row (6sts)

K 1 row

K2tog to end of row (3sts)

Pull wool through to fasten off

To finish the puppet

Sew together your 2 body/head pieces , using either DK or cotton thread if preferred

Using white embroidery thread and any appropriate stitch, sew the wig to the head

Embroider a smiling mouth and 2 eyes (and nose if you wish!) Black yarn works well for the eyes and red/pink for the mouth – you can use either DK or embroidery cotton

Attach a small piece of lacy material to the neck

Please ensure that for safety any attachments to any puppets sent to Knit-for-Nowt have them very firmly sewn on, and that all pins are removed (that seems obvious but happens remarkably often!)

