

Jean Greenhowe's Big, Little and Tiny Robots



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JEAN GREENHOWE'S BIG, LITTLE AND TINY ROBOTS

This trio of comical characters are created from small garter stitch rectangles, bits of stuffing, cardboard, wiggle eyes and glue. No doubt they will be very popular with youngsters and maybe grown-ups as well!

All the pieces are quick and easy to knit on 4mm [No 8, USA 6].

Big measures 7cm [$2\frac{3}{4}$ in] high from the base to top of the body.

Little measures 5cm [2in] high from the base to top of the body.

Tiny measures 3.5cm [$1\frac{3}{8}$ in] high from the base to top of the body.

MATERIALS

Knitting yarn: Small oddments of double knitting yarn [USA Astra or Bonus DK: Australia 8 ply].

Stuffing: Only small amounts are required.

Knitting needles: A pair of 4mm [No 8, USA 6].

Plastic glue-on wiggle eyes: [Also known as joggle eyes, or moveable eyes in the USA]. One 10mm diameter eye for Big Robot and Tiny Robot; two 7mm diameter eyes for Little Robot.

Glue: A quick drying adhesive such as all purpose UHU.

Cardboard: For the bases, about the thickness of a note pad backing piece.

Compasses: For drawing circles.

NOTES

Abbreviations: st[s] = stitch[es]; mm = millimetres; cm = centimetres; in = inch[es]; g-st = garter stitch [every row knit].

* ** ***

Stars are used to mark a place in the instructions which will be referred to later on. Meanwhile, follow the instructions in the usual way.

USA glossary

UK	USA
Cast off	bind off
K wise	K ways

Casting off: Cast off K wise.

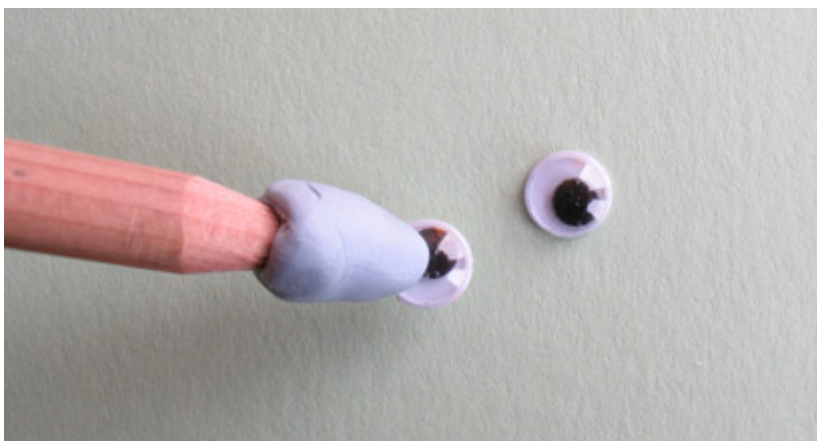
Casting on: The thumb method is recommended.

Right side of g-st: The first knitted row of garter stitch is right side of all the pieces, unless otherwise stated.

B & T tightly means break off yarn leaving a long end, thread it through sts left on knitting needle, pull to gather tightly, then fasten off.

Oversewn seams: Oversew seams with wrong side outside.

Applying the wiggle eyes: Wiggle eyes are fiddly to handle, but they can be applied easily as follows. You will need a bit of reusable putty adhesive such as Blu Tack [USA: Elmers Tack]. Mould the putty adhesive around the pointed end of a pencil. Pick up the front side of the eye with the adhesive-covered pencil point. Now apply a little glue on the flat side of the eye directly from the tube. Alternatively, put a blob of glue on a piece of paper and dip the flat side of the eye in the glue. Press the eye in position on the knitted piece. Release the eye from the pencil point with your finger-tip. Press the eye firmly in place.



TOY SAFETY

The items in this pattern are not suitable for babies and very young children. The materials used for the designs in this pattern are – knitting yarn, plastic glue-on wiggle eyes, toy stuffing and cardboard. It should be noted that the packaging on plastic glue-on eyes is labelled '**Warning**, not suitable for children under 3 years of age'. Do not add any other materials such as wire, pipe cleaners, buttons or beads.

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BIG ROBOT

Body

Begin at top and using light blue cast on 20 sts.

G-st 27 rows.

B & T tightly, for lower end.

* Oversew the row ends together for back seam, then turn right side out.

Cut two 3cm [1¼in] diameter circles of cardboard and glue them together. Push the circle inside the knitted piece and flatten it against the gathered sts, with gathers at centre of the circle * *.

Stuff the piece firmly. Gather round the cast on sts, then pull up gathers leaving a 1cm [¾in] diameter hole at centre, but do not fasten off * * *.

Top loop piece

Using green cast on 18 sts then cast off.
Cast off row is right side.

Sew the tail-ends into the wrong side of the piece, then trim of excess length. With right side outside, oversew short ends together.

Make a hole in the stuffing at top of body with a pencil. Push the joined end of the top piece inside, leaving a loop outside as illustrated. Pull up gathers tightly around the piece and fasten off. Sew through the loop and the gathered sts to secure.

Eye piece

Using blue cast on 12 sts, then B & T tightly. B & T side is right side.
Catch the row ends together, then glue on the wobble eye. Glue the eye piece in place at centre front, in line with and below the top loop as illustrated.

Arms [make two alike]

Using gold cast on 36 sts, then cast off. Cast off row is right side.

With right side outside fold the piece in half bringing the row ends together. Starting at the folded end, oversew the cast on sts together to within 3cm [1¼in] of row ends of the piece. Repeat with cast off sts.

With right side outside fold one of the short end pieces in half downwards, so that the row ends meet the main piece. Oversew the cast on and cast off edges together. Repeat with the other short end, to form the V-shape, then catch the short end row ends together.

Sew arms to sides of the body, about half way up as shown.

Base

Using red cast on 8 sts and g-st 37 rows. Cast off.

Oversew the cast on and cast off edges together. Gather round one set of row ends, pull up tightly and fasten off. Turn right side out.

Cut two 4.5cm [1¾in] diameter circles of cardboard and glue them together. Push the circle inside the piece, so that centre is at centre of the gathers. Gather round the remaining set of row ends, pull up tightly and fasten off.

Glue the base of body centrally on the base, pushing pins horizontally through both pieces and the cardboard and leave until the glue is dry.

LITTLE ROBOT**Body**

Begin at top and using red cast on 18 sts.

G-st 19 rows.

B & T tightly, for lower end.

Now refer to the Big Robot instructions and work from * to * * *.

Top pieces [make two alike]

Using yellow cast on 12 sts and g-st 3 rows.

Cast off. Cast off row is wrong side.

With right side outside of each piece, oversew cast on and cast off edges together. The pieces will now be curved as shown in the illustration. Gather round each set of row ends, pull up tightly and fasten off. Sew the pieces together side-by-side at two of the ends.

Push the joined ends inside the 1cm [$\frac{3}{8}$ in] hole at top of the body. Pull up the gathers tightly around the ends, then fasten off. Sew through the pieces and the gathered sts to secure. Glue on the eyes at centre front, in line with and below the top pieces, as illustrated.

Base

Using blue make as given for Big Robot.

Arms [make two alike]

Using green cast on 10 sts, then cast off. Cast off row is right side.

With wrong side uppermost, fold up 1cm [$\frac{3}{8}$ in] at one end of each arm and catch end in place. Pin other ends of arms to sides of body about half way up, with folded-in ends at underside of the arm pieces. Sew in place as pinned.

TINY ROBOT

Body

Begin at top and using green cast on 16 sts.

G-st 15 rows.

B&T tightly, for lower end.

Now refer to the Big Robot instructions and work from * to **, using two 2.5cm [1in] circles of cardboard, instead of 3cm [$1\frac{1}{4}$ in] circles for the base.

Stuff the piece firmly. Gather round the cast on sts, pull up tightly and fasten off.

Base

Using yellow, make as given for Big Robot.

Top pieces [make two alike]

Using red cast on 12sts, then cast off tightly.

Place the two pieces on top of each other and oversew them together at one end. Sew this centre seam to centre top of the body.

Glue the eye in place at centre front, in line with and below the top pieces.

Arms [make two alike]

Using blue cast on 14 sts.

Cast off, noting that cast off row is right side of the piece.

Sew the row ends of each piece together.

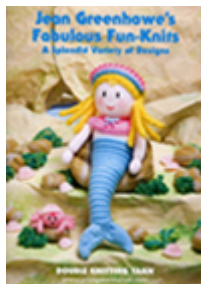
Now sew the arms to sides of the body, about 2cm [$\frac{3}{4}$ in] above the base piece.

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