

Jean Greenhowe's Novelty Eggs



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JEAN GREENHOWE'S NOVELTY EGGS

These amusing eggs-in-egg-cups have a dual purpose. The basic pattern is a pocket, designed to hold a small chocolate Easter egg. Guaranteed to please youngsters and oldies alike, the pocket turns an inexpensive sweet treat into something special.

But there's more!

The pattern includes instructions for a *knitted egg*. This also fits snugly inside the pocket, which transforms these whimsical characters into all-year-round mascots or miniature keepsakes.

In addition, there are patterns for cute hats and headwear, eight different versions, so you will be spoilt for choice. Only requiring scraps of yarn these designs can be knitted up in no time at all, perfect for quick gifts and charity fund-raising.

Measurement: With the chocolate or knitted egg inside, the basic design measures 6cm [2 $\frac{3}{8}$ in] in height, without the hats etc.

MATERIALS

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

Stuffing: A small amount is required for the stuffed egg. For best results, use good quality polyester stuffing.

Knitting needles: A pair of 3mm [No 11, USA 2].

Chocolate cream eggs: Any variety, providing the eggs measure about 5cm [2in] from the base to the top, the size of Cadbury creme eggs.

Plastic glue-on wiggle eyes: [Also known as joggle eyes, or moveable eyes in the USA]. Two 7mm diameter for each egg.

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

A red colouring pencil: For shading cheeks and colouring centres of the flowers.

NOTES

Abbreviations: K = knit; P = purl; st[s] = stitch[es]; st-st = stocking stitch [K on the right side and P on the wrong side]; g-st = garter stitch [every row K]; tog = together; mm = millimetres; cm = centimetres; in = inch[es].

Special abbreviations:

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

m1 = make 1 stitch. This method of increasing is worked in the horizontal strand of yarn which lies between the stitch you have just knitted [on right hand needle] and the next st on left hand needle. First pick up the horizontal strand with point of left hand needle K wise, that is from front of work to back of work. Next, knit into the back of it, thus forming a new stitch.

USA glossary

UK	USA
K wise	K ways
Cast off	bind off
Stocking stitch	stockinette stitch
Tension	gauge

Instructions in round brackets: These are repeated the number of times stated after the closing bracket.

Tension: Using 3mm [No 11, USA 2] knitting needles, the tension for double knitting yarn is 26 sts = 10cm [4in] in width over st-st.

Casting on: The thumb method is recommended.

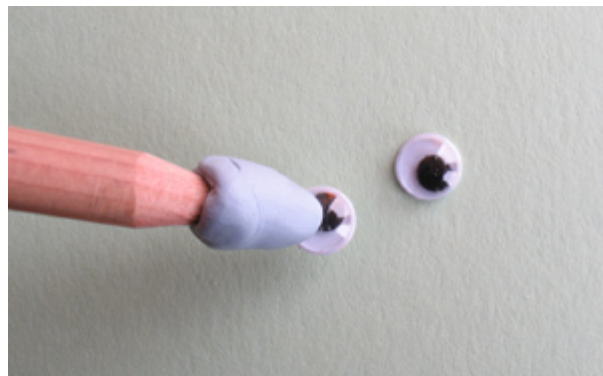
Casting off: Cast off K wise unless otherwise stated.

Working in st-st: Note that K side of st-st is right side. Always begin with a K row, unless otherwise stated.

Oversewing seams: With P side of st-st outside, oversew across half a knitted stitch at each set of row ends, unless otherwise stated.

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: ElmersTack]. 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 as playthings for babies and very young children. It should also be noted that the packaging on glue-on plastic wiggle eyes is labelled '**Warning**, not suitable for children under 3 years of age'.

The materials used for the designs which appear in this pattern are: knitting yarn, toy stuffing and plastic glue-on wiggle eyes. Do not add any other materials such as wire, pipe cleaners, buttons or beads.

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THE BASIC EGG CUP AND EGG [knitted in one piece]

Note: The top rim of the egg cup is worked using two strands of yarn. Cut a 120cm [46in] length of the required egg cup colour for use later on. The egg cup colours are specified in the **HATS ETC** instructions.

Begin at lower hem edge of the egg cup and using the colour required cast on 20 sts loosely.
P 1 row.

For the 'm1' abbreviation on the next row, refer to 'Special abbreviations' on the Notes pages.

Next row: K4, (m1, K4) to end – 24 sts.

Next row: K, for base edge of the hem. This completes the hem section.

Beginning with a K row, st-st 8 rows.

Join on the other strand of yarn. Using the two strands and beginning with a P row, st-st 2 rows.

Break off yarns and join on white or apricot for the egg section.
On the next row, treat the two loops on each st as one st.

Next row: K23 sts through back of the two loops on each st, K last st through front of the two loops.

Beginning with a P row, st-st 9 rows, marking centre of one of these rows with a coloured thread.

Shape top of the egg

Next row: (K1, K2tog) to end – 16 sts.

P 1 row.

Next row: (K2tog) to end – 8 sts.

B & T tightly.

To make up

Oversew the row ends together, then leave P side outside. Fold the hem section up at the K row, securing in place with two pins. Catch the cast on edge in place, taking care not to pull the stitches too tightly. Turn right side out. Push the chocolate egg inside the knitted piece.

The double thickness hem extends beyond the base of the egg so that the pocket stands up. It also holds the chocolate egg securely in place. Leave the egg inside.



The coloured thread marks centre of the face. Glue on the wiggle eyes centrally side-by-side, with lower edges 4 knitted rows above the egg cup rim.

Colour the 'cheeks' by rubbing the side of the red pencil lead on the knitted sts, in a circular motion.

HATS ETC

Notes: Leave the chocolate egg inside the knitted pocket when sewing on the extra pieces. To protect the foil covering on the egg from potential scratches when sewing on the extra pieces, proceed as follows.

Cut a 15cm [6in] square from a flimsy plastic food bag – the type used for sandwiches etc. Place top of the egg at centre, then squeeze all four corners together at the base. Push the egg inside the pocket. Now trim off the plastic corners so the pocket will stand up as you work on the extra pieces. Remove the plastic when the sewing is completed.

BEANIE [see the blue egg cup]

Begin at lower edge and using yellow cast on 24 sts.
St-st 6 rows.

Shape top

Next row: (K1, K2tog) to end – 16 sts.
P 1 row.

Next row: (K2tog) to end – 8 sts. B & T tightly.

To make up

Oversew the row ends together, then turn right side out.

Place beanie on the egg as illustrated, with seam at centre back. Sew cast on edge in place.



BERET [see the green egg cup]

Follow the knitting instructions exactly as given for the Beanie using red and noting that P side of the beret is right side.

To make up

Oversew the row ends together then turn right side out. Sew a small loop of matching yarn into centre top of the beret. Allowing the cast on edge to turn in, place beret centrally on top of the egg, with seam at centre back. Sew cast on edge in place.

BERET WITH FLOWERS [see the shocking pink egg cup]

Follow the instructions as given for the Beret, using yellow and omitting the loop at centre top.

Place beret on the egg with seam at centre back and tilting it to one side as illustrated. Sew cast on edge in place.

Flowers

Using white, make two flowers as given for the Flower Headband. Sew them to centre top of the beret as shown.

BOW WITH TAIL-ENDS [see the turquoise egg cup]

Make the bow as given for the Hat with a Bow, using shocking pink.

Tail-ends piece

Using colour to match the bow cast on 14 sts.

Cast off as follows [cast off row is wrong side]

Cast off 4 sts, (K next 2 sts tog, then pass previous st over the K2tog st) twice, cast off remaining sts. Sew tail-ends of yarn into wrong side of the piece.

Sew centre of the V-shape to underside of the bow. Sew completed bow to centre top of the egg.



CAP WITH POINTY TOP [see the orange egg cup]

Begin at lower edge and using yellow cast on 24 sts.
G-st 2 rows.

Break off yarn and join on green.
Beginning with a K row, st-st 6 rows.

Shape top of cap

Next row: (K1, K2tog) to end – 16 sts.
P 1 row.

Next row: (K2tog) to end – 8 sts.
Beginning with a P row, st-st 2 rows.
B & T tightly.

To make up

Oversew the row ends together, then turn right side out.

Put a little stuffing in the pointed top section. Place cap on the egg as illustrated, with seam at centre back. Sew cast on edge in place.

FLOWER HEADBAND [see the light pink egg cup]

Begin at lower edge and using shocking pink cast on 32 sts.
Cast off, noting that cast off row is wrong side and also top edge of the band.

Catch row ends together, then sew tail-ends into wrong side. Turn right side out. Place band on the egg as illustrated, with seam at one side of the eyes. Sew in place along centre of the piece.

Flower

Using yellow cast on 18 sts.

B & T tightly, noting that right side is facing as the sts are slipped off the knitting needle.

Using the cast on tail-end of yarn, catch the row ends together, then sew the end into back of the flower. Use the B & T tail-end to sew flower to the seam on headband.

Moisten the tip of the red pencil and mark a dot at centre of the flower.



BOBBLE CAP [see the red egg cup]

Begin at lower edge and using gold cast on 24 sts.

G-st 2 rows.

Break off yarn and join on red.

Beginning with a K row, st-st 4 rows.

Shape top of cap

Next row: (K1, K2tog) to end – 16 sts.

P 1 row.

Next row: (K2tog) to end – 8 sts.

Break off yarn, join on gold for the bobble and P 1 row.

Beginning with a P row, st-st 4 rows.

B & T tightly.

To make up

Oversew the row ends together then turn right side out.

Put a little stuffing in the bobble. Knot a length of matching yarn tightly around first knitted row of the bobble. Sew yarn ends into the bobble.

Place cap on the egg as illustrated, with seam at centre back. Sew cast on edge in place.

HAT WITH A BOW [see the gold egg cup]

Begin at lower edge of the hat and using orange cast on 24 sts.

Beginning with a P row, st-st 4 rows.

Shape top of hat

Next row: (P1, P2tog) to end – 16 sts.

K 1 row.

Next row: (P2tog) to end – 8 sts.

B & T tightly.

To make up

Oversew the row ends together, then turn right side out. Sew cast on edge to the egg, tilting the hat to one side as illustrated and with seam at centre back.

Bow

Using turquoise cast on 20 sts.

Cast off, noting that cast off row is wrong side.

Oversew the row ends together. Sew the tail-ends of yarn into the piece, then turn right side out. Bring the row ends seam to centre of the piece. Using matching yarn, knot a length tightly around the centre, to form two equal loops. Sew one tail-end into bow. Use the remaining tail-end to sew bow to centre top of the hat.

**THE KNITTED EGG**

Begin at lower edge and using white cast on 18 sts.

Beginning with a P row, continue in st-st and work 17 rows.

Shape top

Next row: (K1, K2tog) to end – 12 sts.

St-st 3 rows.

Next row: (K2tog) to end – 6 sts.
B & T tightly.

To make up

Oversew the row ends together then turn right side out. Stuff firmly to measure 11cm [4¼in] around at centre.

Gather round the cast on sts and pull up the gathers slightly. Continue stuffing the base to round it off, then pull up gathers tightly and fasten off. Oversew to close completely, if the gathers are not quite tight enough.

Push the knitted egg inside the egg cup/egg piece. The double thickness egg cup hem extends beyond the base of the egg, in the same way as for the chocolate egg.



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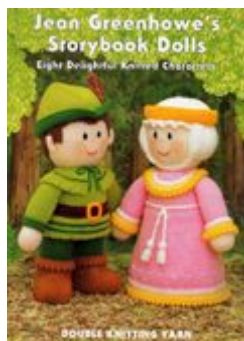
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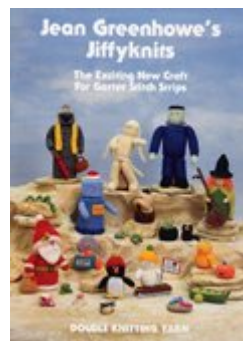
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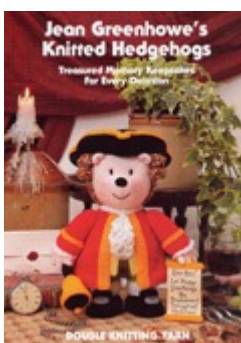
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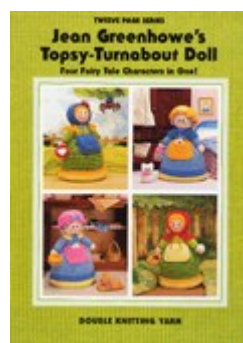
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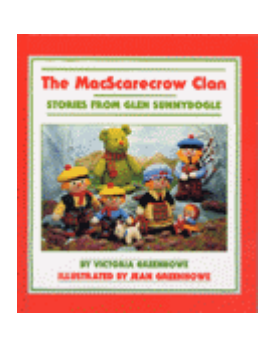
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