

Jean Greenhowe's Tea Party Treats Part One - Appetisers



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JEAN GREENHOWE'S TEA PARTY TREATS

Part One – Appetisers

After **Jiffyknits** was published in 2000 I had many more ideas for garter stitch strips and now have a file packed with new projects. Here are some of these unpublished goodies for you to download as free patterns.

Part One of the **Party Treats** features the **Appetisers**, yummy savoury finger food.

Part Two will be next on the bill of fare, with **Cakes** and **Biscuits** to complete the party menu.

Many hostesses have entertained their guests by first serving up the Jiffyknits sandwiches, cakes and biscuits for afternoon tea. This caused much amusement because obviously knitted food is simply hilarious!

If you haven't already discovered these delights visit the Jiffyknits pages on our website to find a cornucopia of garter stitch creations.

For those of you who are already Jiffyknitting, these new party treats can be added to your recipe book. And don't forget ... delicious **Cakes** and **Biscuits** still to come ...

NOTES

Safety Guidelines: The items in these patterns are not suitable as playthings for babies and very young children.

Knitting yarn: Small oddments of double knitting [USA Astra or Bonus DK: Australia 8 ply], in colours as stated in the instructions.

Stuffing: Only very small amounts are required.

Knitting needles: A pair of 4mm [No 8, USA 5].

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

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

USA glossary

Cast off – bind off

Tension – gauge

Tension: The tension for garter stitch on 4mm [No 8, USA 5] knitting needles is, 22 sts = 10cm [4in] in width.

Other equipment

Compasses are required for drawing circles.

Large glass-headed or plastic-headed pins. These should be used at all stages of construction.

Ordinary pins should not be used as they can pass into the item between the knitted stitches.

A darning needle for gathering and sewing.

Tweezers are useful for turning small knitted pieces right side out and inserting small amounts of stuffing.

Cardboard: Cardboard is used to give shape to the knitted pieces. Use cuttings off washing powder packets, breakfast cereal packets or the stiffened backs of note pads. The 'plain' side of the packaging should always be placed against the knitted stitches.

If the knitted piece is light in colour, glue a piece of white paper to one side of the cardboard or both sides if necessary.

Plastic drinking straw: A 5mm [$\frac{1}{4}$ in] diameter straw is required for stiffening the Cheese straw.

Casting on and casting off: The thumb method is recommended for casting on. Cast on loosely.

Garter stitch is the same on both sides and therefore has no right or wrong side. However, for the neatest end-results, always assume that the first knitted row after casting on is the *right* side.

Cast off loosely.

Counting rows: The required number of rows is given in the instructions for each piece. Row counting is quite easy with garter stitch knitting. After casting on and working two rows, there will be one garter stitch ridge on the 'right' side of the piece, which means you have knitted two rows.

As the work progresses, count each garter stitch ridge on the right side of the piece as two rows – 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 etc.

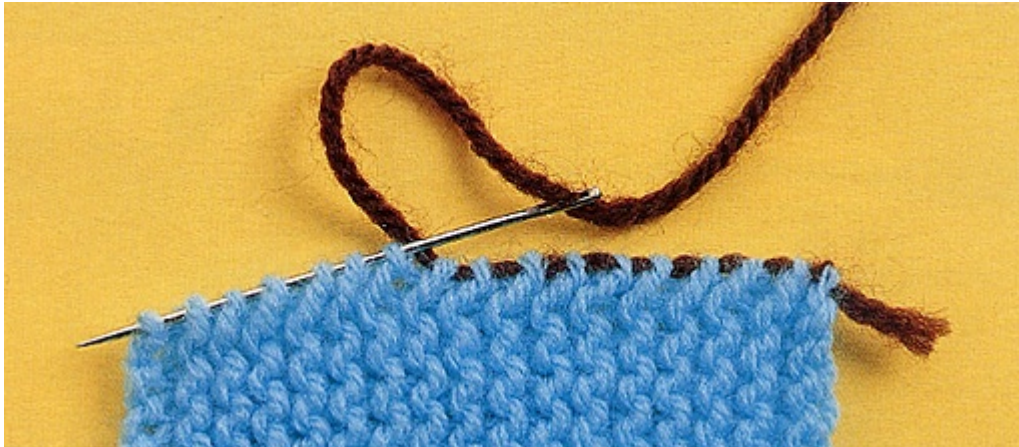
With odd numbers of rows an extra row will be worked after the last right side garter stitch ridge, so that you will be casting off with the *wrong* side of the piece facing toward you.

Sewing up the pieces: Only two methods are used – oversewing the edges together or gathering. Oversew the edges together with wrong side of the pieces outside unless the piece is very small. Small pieces are sometimes sewn up 'with right side outside', as stated in the instructions.

Take care not to oversew too tightly.

Gathering the row ends: When the instructions specify that the row ends should be gathered, work as follows. Slip the darning needle through the very edges of the projecting set of garter stitch loops only.

The illustration shows an example, using a contrast colour for the gathering yarn for clarity. When the gathers are pulled up tightly and fastened off, this method gives a smooth finish without any puckers.



Glue: Some of the pieces are assembled by gluing them together. You can use a quick drying adhesive for instant results. If a slow drying adhesive is used, pin the knitted pieces together until the glue is dry. Take care to keep the glue clear of the edges of the knitted pieces, so that it will not spoil the appearance of the finished item.

Pressing: Some of the knitted pieces require a light pressing. If the instructions specify pressing, proceed as follows. Use a warm iron over a *damp* [not wet] cloth. Press the piece very lightly on one side, then on the other side. Leave to dry. Take care not to flatten the knitted stitches altogether, especially when using acrylic yarn.

To colour some of the Appetisers: This gives a realistic 'baked' appearance. You will need an orange and a brown colouring pencil and a nail file or emery board. First rub the pencil leads on the nail file or emery board and catch the filings on a piece of paper. Mix the colours together. Apply the filings sparingly with a finger tip, dabbing the colour onto the knitted piece. After colouring, pat the knitted item onto a paper tissue to remove any loose particles of colour.

INSTRUCTION GUIDELINES

In order to avoid unnecessary repetition in the instructions, some details are described in the 'Notes'. It is important to read through this section in order to ensure the best end results. In particular, when the instructions specify 'Press' and 'Colour', refer to the 'Notes'.

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DAINTY SANDWICHES

The sandwiches measure 8cm [3in] at the longest edge on the triangular shape.

Bread pieces

Using fawn or creamy-white, cast on 14 sts and g-st 25 rows. Cast off. Press.

The main fillings

These are narrow strips of knitting which fit along two adjacent edges of the bread pieces. Refer to the individual sandwiches for colours and other pieces.

Using the colour required cast on 26 sts tightly for inner edge of the strip. G-st 2 rows then cast off loosely. Note that cast off row is wrong side and also outer edge of the strip. Gather each set of row ends, pull up tightly and fasten off. Press.



Pin the strip along two adjacent edges of the bread, just within the edges. Glue in place as pinned.

Cheese and cocktail onion sandwich

Use brown for the bread piece and yellow for the main cheese filling. For the onion slices [make three] use cream and cast on 12 sts.

B & T tightly, catching ends of cast on edge together. Glue the onions to the cheese as illustrated.

To complete the sandwich, spread a little glue on the other triangular half of the bread piece within the edges. Fold it over the fillings, then place the sandwich under a book or similar heavy object, until glue is dry.

Ham and tomato sandwich

Use creamy-white for the bread piece and pink for the main ham filling.

Use orangey-red for the tomato slices. For one slice cast on 10 sts and for the second cast on 12 sts. For both slices K 1 row, then B & T tightly. Glue the slices to the ham as illustrated.

Complete the sandwich as given for the Cheese sandwich.

Salmon and lettuce sandwich

Use brown for the bread piece and salmon pink for the main salmon filling.

Use light green for the lettuce. For one piece cast on 4 sts and for the second cast on 8 sts. For both pieces, g-st 4 rows, then B & T tightly. Gather along one set of row ends on each piece, then fasten off. Gather across the centre of the larger piece, pull up tightly and fasten off. Glue the lettuce pieces to the salmon as illustrated.

Complete the sandwich as given for the Cheese sandwich.

Beef and pickled onion sandwich

Use creamy-white for the bread piece and brown for the main beef filling.

For the onion slices [make two] use fawn and cast on 12 sts. K 1 row. B & T tightly, catching row ends together. Glue the onions to the beef as illustrated.

Complete the sandwich as given for the Cheese sandwich.

MINI SAUSAGE ROLL

The finished sausage roll measures 4cm [1½in] in length.

Sausage

Using tan cast on 9 sts and g-st 9 rows.

Cast off.

With right side outside, oversew the cast on and cast off edges together. Gather round one set of row ends, pull up tightly and fasten off. Stuff the piece, then gather round the remaining set of row ends, pull up tightly and fasten off.

Pastry

Using light yellow cast on 12 sts and g-st 15 rows.
Cast off. Press.

With right side outside, wrap the pastry around the sausage, with cast on and cast off edges at each end of the sausage. Oversew the row ends together, at the same time catching the sausage in the stitches. The seam will be at underside of the sausage roll.

Using tan, work three small slanting stitches for the 'cuts' at top of the pastry, as shown in the illustration. Colour the pastry.



SAUSAGE AND GHERKIN

Use tan for the sausage, green for the gherkin. Make both as given for the sausage, pulling the oversewing stitches tightly to curve the pieces.

CHEESE STRAW

The finished cheese straw measures 7cm [2¾in] in length.

Note: 5mm [¼in] diameter plastic drinking straws usually have a 'bendy' section. Use the straight section of the straw.

Using light yellow cast on 14 sts and g-st 5 rows.
Cast off.

Gather along one set of row ends, pull up tightly and fasten off. Cut a 6cm [2½in] length off the drinking straw. With right side of the knitted piece outside, oversew the cast on and cast off edges together starting at the gathered end and enclosing the straw as you go. Gather the remaining row ends as before. Twist the knitted piece around the straw for the 'twist' effect. Colour the straw.

HALF SCOTCH EGG

Sausage coating

Using tan cast on 6 sts and g-st 39 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 a 2cm [$\frac{3}{4}$ in] diameter circle of cardboard and glue it inside the piece with centre at centre of the gathered row ends. Push a little stuffing inside the piece.

Make an egg slice as given for the Ham and egg cracker. Cut a 2.5cm [1in] diameter circle of cardboard and glue it to wrong side of the slice. Carefully spread a little glue around edge of the egg piece on the underside. Push the egg piece inside the sausage piece and pin through both pieces until the glue dries.

SQUARE CRACKER

The finished cracker is 4.5cm [$1\frac{3}{4}$ in] square.

Using light yellow cast on 10 sts and g-st 27 rows.
Cast off.

Oversew the cast on and cast off edges together and turn right side out. Cut a 4cm [$1\frac{1}{2}$ in] square of cardboard and round off the sharp corners. Push it inside the knitted piece with seam at approximate centre of the square. The seam will be underneath the cracker. Oversew the row ends together at each side of the knitted piece. Press. Colour the cracker.



ROUND CRACKER

The finished cracker measures 5cm [2in] in diameter.

Using light yellow cast on 9 sts and g-st 41 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 a 4.5cm [1¾in] diameter circle of cardboard. Push it inside the knitted piece, so that centre of the circle is at centre of the gathered row ends. Gather round the second set of row ends, pull up tightly and fasten off. Press. Colour the cracker.

CRACKER TOPPINGS

Cheese and slice of olive

Use yellow for the cheese and cast on 7 sts. G-st 11 rows, then cast off. Press.

At centre of the cheese piece use red to work two small loose stitches for the pimento centre of the olive. Glue the cheese to the cracker.

For the olive slice use green and cast on 16 sts. B & T tightly, then catch ends of cast on edge together, leaving a small hole at centre. Glue the olive to the cheese, pulling the red stitches up through the centre hole.

Cottage cheese and salmon twist

Use white for the cottage cheese and cast on 18 sts.

G-st 7 rows, then B & T tightly.

Gather along both sets of row ends, pull up tightly and fasten off. You will now have a dome-shaped piece of knitting. Using white, oversew around the lower edge, taking large stitches and pulling each one tightly as you go. To get the realistic 'lumpy' cottage cheese effect proceed as follows.

Using white yarn work several small oversewing stitches at one position. Repeat this at random all over the piece until the regularity of the knitted stitches is no longer visible. Spread a little glue inside the piece around the lower edge and press it in position at centre of the cracker.

For the salmon use salmon pink and cast on 16 sts tightly. Cast off tightly. Press.

Fold one end over the other as shown in the illustration. Glue to top of the cottage cheese.

Ham and egg

Use pink for the ham and cast on 8 sts. G-st 13 rows, then cast off. Press. Glue ham to the cracker.

For the egg slice use white and cast on 16 sts. G-st 2 rows. Break off white and join on gold. K 1 row, then B & T tightly. Oversew the row ends together. Glue in place on top of the ham.

Pate and parsley

Use pinky-tan for the pate. Knit and glue in place as given for the cheese.

For the parsley use green and cast on 8 sts. Break off yarn leaving a long tail-end. Thread it into a darning needle. Pass the needle point through the base of each stitch, at the cast on edge below the knitting needle. Pull needle and yarn through. Carefully slide the stitches off the needle, then knot the two tail-ends of yarn together. Trim off yarn ends close to the knot. Glue knotted base to centre of the pate.

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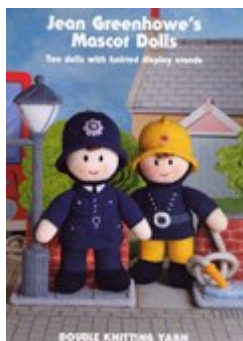
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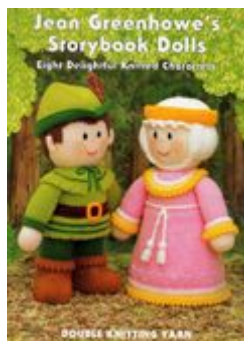
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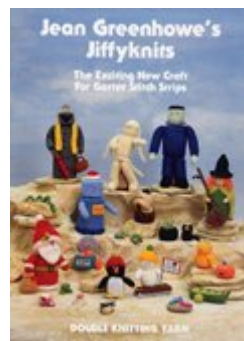
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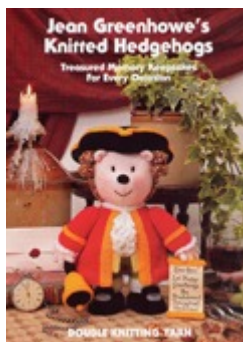
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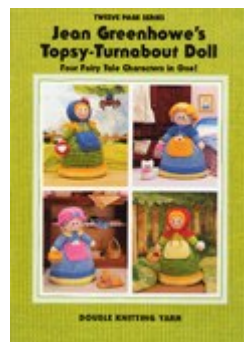
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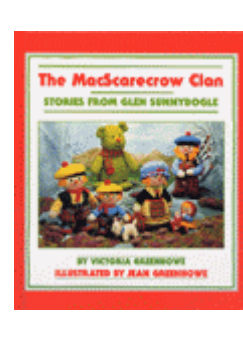
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