

Jean Greenhowe's Toybox Snowman



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Introducing William, the cute and cuddly knitted Snowman. It's guaranteed that the children will love him to bits and no doubt he will find a home in the toybox instead of being stored away in the Christmas box. I'm sure that knitters will also enjoy his company, re-creating lots of Williams all year round.

Real life snowmen are fun for a while, but they always melt away. William is a friend forever and a snowman for all seasons. I can never resist giving my dolls rosy cheeks – including snowmen!

William measures 24cm [9½in] high, not including the bobble on his cap and only small amounts of yarn and stuffing are required.

MATERIALS

Knitting yarn: Oddments of double knitting [USA Astra or Bonus DK: Australia 8 ply]. A total of about 30 grams [just over 1ounce] is required.

Good quality washable stuffing: About 25 grams [less than 1ounce].

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

Other items: A red colouring pencil for shading the cheeks. A darning needle. A tapestry needle with a rounded point for sewing up the pieces.

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]; inc = increase [by knitting into front and back of st]; 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 knitting needle, pull to gather tightly, then fasten off.

B & T loosely – means same as above, but thread yarn through sts loosely and leave until later on.

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: Always cast off K wise unless otherwise stated.

Working in st-st: Always begin with a K row unless otherwise stated.

Making up: Join all seams with right sides of work together and back-stitch one knitted stitch within the edges, unless oversewing is stipulated.

Working embroidered stitches: To hide the starting and fastening off of yarn ends inside the doll, proceed as follows. Thread a blunt-ended needle [tapestry needle] with yarn required and knot end of yarn. Pass the needle through the doll, *between* the knitted sts and bring it out at the position required. Pull the yarn to draw the knotted end right inside the stuffing. Tug the yarn to make sure the knot is caught in the stuffing.

Now work the required embroidered stitches. Pass the needle back through the doll to come out at a position *between* the knitted sts. Pass needle back through the doll again between the same knitted sts to come out at a different position. Repeat until yarn is securely fastened off, then pull end of yarn and snip it off close to the knitted sts. The cut end will disappear into the doll.

Toy safety guidelines: A certain amount of common sense should always be used regarding the safety factor in children's toys. It is important to ensure that the toy you are making is appropriate for the age group of the child for which it is intended. For example, children under 3 years of age should not be given toys which have separate tiny parts, or any small attached pieces which might be pulled off.

The materials used for the design which appears in this pattern are: knitting yarn and polyester stuffing.

Do not add any other materials such as wire, pipe cleaners, buttons or beads. Use only new, hygienic, washable stuffing which conforms to current safety standards – your craft materials supplier will advise.

When sewing up the items always use large, glass-headed or plastic-headed pins. Ordinary pins should not be used as they can pass into a stuffed item between the knitted stitches. Take care to sew all the added pieces *securely* in place – for example arms, hats etc.

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WILLIAM

Legs, body and head

Right leg

Begin at base of right foot and using red for the boot cast on 7 sts.

Mark the 7th st with a coloured thread, then cast on 10 more sts – 17 sts.

P 1 row.

Next row: Inc K wise into every st – 34 sts.

Beginning with a P row, continue in st-st and work 9 rows.

Shape foot

Next row: K4, (K2tog) 9 times, K12 – 25 sts.

P 1 row.

Next row: K4, (K2tog) 5 times, K11 – 20 sts.

Break off red and join on white.

St-st 19 rows.

Break off yarn and leave sts on a spare double-pointed needle.

Left leg

Begin at base of left foot and using red for the boot cast on 11 sts.
Mark the 11th st with a coloured thread, then cast on 6 more sts – 17 sts.

P 1 row.

Next row: Inc K wise into every st – 34 sts.
Beginning with a P row, continue in st-st and work 9 rows.

Shape foot

Next row: K12, (K2tog) 9 times, K4 – 25 sts.
P 1 row.

Next row: K11, (K2tog) 5 times, K4 – 20 sts.

Break off yarn and join on white.
St-st 19 rows.

Body and head

Mark each end of next row with a coloured thread.
With right side of work facing, continue in white and K across the 20 sts of left leg on the knitting needle, then across the 20 sts of right leg on the spare needle – 40 sts.

St-st 23 rows, marking centre of one of these rows with a coloured thread.

Shape shoulders

Next row: K6, (K2tog) 5 times, K8, (K2tog) 5 times, K6 – 30 sts.
St-st 7 rows.

Inc to shape head

Next row: (K1, inc in next 2 sts) to end – 50 sts.
St-st 23 rows, marking centre of one of these rows with a coloured thread.

Shape top of head

Next row: K2, (K2tog, K2) to end – 38 sts.
P 1 row.

Next row: K2, (K2tog, K1) to end – 26 sts.

Next row: (P2tog) to end – 13 sts.
B & T loosely.

To make up

Join row ends of body and head from the coloured threads to B & T sts, leaving a 5cm [2in] gap in seam, spread equally across upper body and lower section of head.

Join row ends of each leg from coloured threads to cast on edges.

The coloured thread at each cast on edge marks the centre front of each boot. Beginning at each of these coloured threads, oversew cast on sts together. The leg seams will now be turned slightly to the inside leg positions. Turn doll right side out.

Stuff feet, then legs and body through gap in seam. Each leg should measure 11cm [4¼in] around. The body should measure 21cm [8¼in] around at the 'waist'. Close gap in seam.

Stuff neck, then head. Head should measure 24cm [9½in] around. The neck will be slightly narrower than the head at this stage. Pull up the B & T length of yarn slightly and continue stuffing to round off top of head. Pull up the length of yarn tightly and fasten off.

To shape the neck, use two strands of white yarn and starting at the back seam, gather round the 4th knitted row below the head inc shaping row. Pull up the gathers very tightly and knot ends of yarn. Sew yarn ends into neck.

FACE

Eyes

The coloured thread marks centre of the face.

Use black yarn for the eyes, starting and fastening off yarn ends as described on page 2, 'Working embroidered stitches'.

Mark eye positions centrally on the face with pins, 12 knitted rows above the head inc shaping row, leaving 4 clear knitted sts between the pins. For one eye work a back stitch, starting at the marked position and ending 2 knitted rows below the marked position.

Work another back stitch in same way at same position, then fasten off through base of the eye. Repeat for the other eye.



Mouth

Use a length of black yarn, pull out one strand and use the remaining strands. Work two small stitches to form a V shape as follows. For lower point of the V place a pin in the 4th knitted row above the head inc shaping row. Make the stitches 1½ sts wide and 1 row deep.

Nose

Use orange yarn and work three horizontal stitches, covering half a stitch on each side of centre, level with base of the eyes.

Cheeks

Using the side of the red pencil lead, rub it against the knitted sts with a circular motion.

BOOT TOP PIECES [make two alike]

Begin at lower edge and using red cast on 26 sts.
St-st 3 rows, then cast off.

Oversew the row ends of each piece together, then turn right side out. Place on doll's legs with seams at back and cast on edges just covering the last knitted row of red on each boot. Sew cast on and cast off edges in place.

ARMS [make two alike]

Begin at end of hand and using yellow for the mitten cast on 7 sts.
P 1 row.

Next row: Inc K wise into every st – 14 sts.
Beginning with a P row st-st 5 rows.

Break off yarn, join on blue and g-st 2 rows.

Break off yarn and join on white.
Beginning with a K row, st-st 17 rows.

Shape top

Next row: (P2tog) to end – 7 sts.
B & T loosely.



To make up

Gather along the cast on sts, pull up tightly and fasten off. Join the row ends, noting that these seams will be at the underarm positions, when sewing in place. Turn right side out. Stuff arms to measure 7cm [2¾in] around at centre, then stuff top more lightly. Pull up the B & T yarn tightly and fasten off.

Pin gathered top ends of arms to centre of the shoulder shaping sts at each side of body. Sew in place as pinned. Catch arms to body 2.5cm [1in] below top end.

BUTTONS

The coloured thread marks centre of the body. Mark positions for buttons with pins as follows. Place the first pin at centre of the 6th row below the neck, then the second and third pins in the third row below the previous pin.

Using red, yellow and blue work three small stitches for each button, covering half a st on each side of the marked position.

SCARF

Main piece

Begin at lower edge and using blue cast on 64 sts.
K 1 row.
Break off yarn, join on yellow and g-st 2 rows.

Break off yarn and join on red.
K 1 row, then cast off. Note that cast off row is wrong side of the scarf.

Sew the tail-ends of yarn into wrong side of the scarf, except for the blue tail-ends. Use these to gather along each set of row ends. Pull up gathers tightly and fasten off.

Scarf bobbles [make two alike]

Using blue cast on 9 sts. Beginning with a P row, st-st 5 rows.
B & T tightly.

With right side of st-st outside, oversew the row ends together. Stuff bobble firmly. Gather round cast on sts, pull up tightly and fasten off, but do not break yarn. Use the blue tail-ends to sew bobbles to ends of scarf.

Wrap scarf around the doll's neck, crossing the ends over on one shoulder. Catch the two layers together at the cross-over position.

CAP

Begin at lower edge and using blue cast on 54 sts.
G-st 4 rows.

Break off yarn and join on yellow.
Beginning with a K row, continue in st-st and work 4 rows.

Break off yarn and join on red.
St-st 10 rows.

Next row: (K4, K2tog) to end – 45 sts.
St-st 3 rows.

Shape top

1st row: (K3, K2tog) to end – 36 sts.

2nd and every following alternate row: P.

3rd row: (K2, K2tog) to end – 27 sts.

5th row: (K1, K2tog) to end – 18sts.

7th row: (K2tog) to end – 9 sts.

B & T tightly.

To make up

Join the row ends, then turn right side out.

Cap bobble

Make as given for the scarf bobbles, but cast on 10 sts and work 6 rows in st-st. Sew bobble to the B & T sts at top of the cap.

To sew cap in place

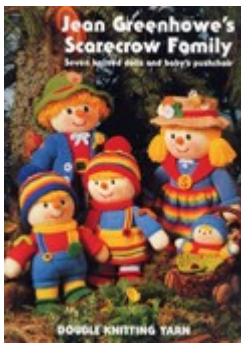
Put cap on the doll's head with seam at centre back and stretching cap to fit snugly. Pin cast on edge of seam to head 1cm [$\frac{3}{8}$ in] above neck. Place centre front of cast on edge to head about 1cm [$\frac{3}{8}$ in] above tops of the eyes.

Use white for the forehead fringe and make three loops around two fingers. Carefully remove them then tuck one set of ends of the loops inside cap at centre front. Sew cast on edge of cap in place taking care to catch the loops in the stitches.



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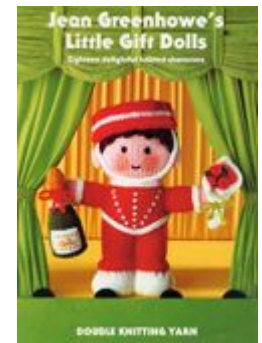
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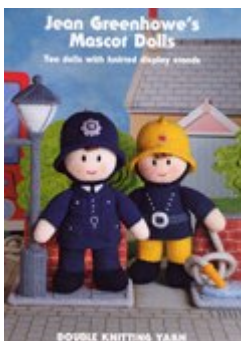
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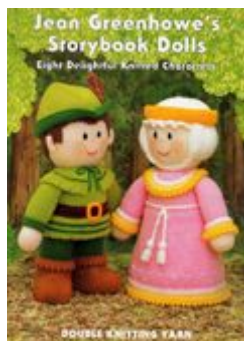
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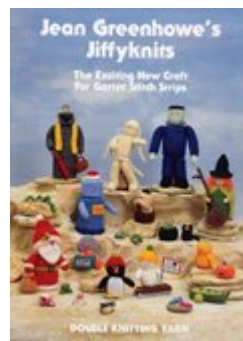
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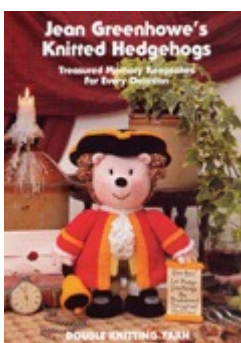
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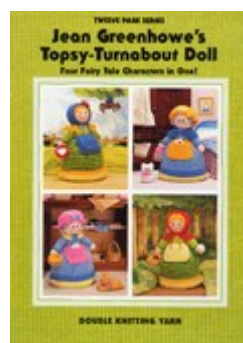
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