

# KNITTING PATTERN FOR THE 'WOOLLEY' KNITTED DONKEY

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**THE DONKEY  
SANCTUARY**



## **MATERIALS**

Two ounces of any 50 gram balls of double knitting in grey, brown or cream\* (usually enough to make 2 donkeys) and small balls in yellow, black and white, and a few inches in red.

Pair of No. 10 knitting needles. short length of black 2 ply fingering for the features.

\*\*CE labels, provided by The Donkey Sanctuary.

## **FILLING (IMPORTANT)**

Please only use polyester filling that complies to BS 1425 and BS 5852 and is suitable as a component for articles requiring BS 5665 and the European EN71 standard. Suitable filling will have these codes printed on the bag it is packed in.

**NOTE: WORK IN GARTER STITCH  
THROUGHOUT UNLESS OTHERWISE  
STATED.**

## **TO WORK THE MAIN PART**

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### **\*THE FRONT LEG**

Cast on 8 sts. With grey wool and k.2 rows. Inc. 1 st. at the beginning of the next row, then k. 3 rows. Repeat these last 4 rows 4 times more. (13 sts.) Break off wool and push the sts to the end of the needle.

### **THE BACK LEG**

On to the same needle, cast on 8 sts. and k. 2 rows. Inc. 1 st. at the beginning of the next row, then k. 2 rows. Inc. 1 st. at the end of the next row, then k. 2 rows. Inc. 1 st at each end of the next row (12 sts.), then k. 3 rows. 13TH Row: K.2 tog., k. until 1 st. remains, inc. K. 3 rows. Repeat the 13th row, then k. 2 rows.

Inc. 1 st. at each end of the next row (14 sts.), then k. 2 rows.

23RD Row: K. 14, turn and cast on 10, turn and k. the 13 sts. from the front leg. (37 sts.)

## **THE BODY**

1st Row: All k.

2ND Row: Inc., k. to end.

K. 2 rows.

5TH Row: Inc., k. to end. (39 sts.)K. 6 rows.

12TH Row: K. 2 tog., k. to end.

13TH Row: Inc. (head end), k. to end.

K. 5 rows.

Repeat the 13th row and then the 12th row.

K. 2 rows.

Repeat the 13th row and then the 12th row. (39 sts.)

K. 1 row.

Cast off 25 sts. at the beginning (tail end) of the next row. (14 sts.)

## **THE NECK**

Inc. 1 st. at the beginning of the next row, then k. 5 rows.

## **THE HEAD**

Cast on 4 sts. at the beginning of the next row and 3 sts. at the beginning of the following alternate row. (22 sts.)

K. 1 row, then inc. 1 st. at the end of the next row.

K. 8 rows.

14TH and 15TH Rows: K. until 10 remain, turn and k. back.

16TH and 17TH Rows: K.. until 9 remain, turn and k. back.

18TH and 19TH Rows: K. until 8 remain, turn and k. back.

20TH and 21ST: Rows: K. until 7 remain, turn and k. back.

22ND and 23RD Rows: K. 2 tog., k. until 6 remain, turn and k. back until 2 remain, k. 2 tog.

24TH and 25TH Rows: K. 2 tog., k. until 5 remain, turn and k. back until 2 remain, k. 2 tog.

26TH and 27TH Rows: K. 2 tog., k. until 4 remain, turn and k. back until 2 remain, k. 2 tog. (17 sts.)

K. 1 row, then cast off.

Make another piece in the same way.

## THE UNDERBODY

Work from the beginning of the main part i.e.\* until the 5th row of the body has been worked. (39 sts.)  
K. 2 rows then cast off.

Make another piece in the same way. Sew the cast-off edges of the underbody together, leaving an opening in the centre for the stuffing.

Sew along top of head and back of main parts to the top of back legs, then from top of front legs to the beginning of head, leaving front of head open. Sew the underbody to the main part, leaving the leg ends open. Turn to right side and stuff, then sew up the opening in underbody.

## THE MUZZLE

Cast on 24 sts. with white wool and k. 3 rows.  
Inc. 1 st. at each end of the next row and following 4th row.

K. 4 rows.

Break off white wool and join in grey.

K. 3 rows, then inc. 1 st at each end of the next row and following 4th row. (32 sts.)

K. 2 rows and cast off.

Fold in two and sew the cast-on edges together and side seam. Turn to right side and stuff, then sew over opening of face. Mark the nostrils and mouth with black wool, then work the eyes with black wool with 2 straight sts. in white to give expression, as shown in the photograph.

## THE HAT

Begin at the top of crown and with yellow wool cast on 5 sts. and k. 1 row.

Inc. 1 st. at each end of the next 10 rows.

The Brim - Inc. into every st. across the row. (50 sts.)

K. 3 rows. Cast off.

The Gusset - Cast on 3 sts. with yellow wool and k. 1 row.

Inc. 1 st. at each end of the next 4 rows. (11 sts.)

K. 2 rows.

Dec. 1 st at each end of the next 4 rows. (3 sts.)

Cast off.

Join the row ends of the brim together, then sew the gusset into the hole in the crown. Thread the length of red wool through the crown and tie in a bow at the back. Sew the hat firmly to top of head.

## THE EARS

Cast on 3 and k. 1 row.

Inc. 1 st. at each end of the next row and every following 3rd row until the 7th inc row has been

worked (17 sts.)

K. 12 rows. Then cast off.

Make another piece in the same way.

Sew 2 pieces together, leaving cast-off edges open, turn to right side and gather open edge.

Make another ear in the same way.

Sew the ears to the head over the hat brim.

## THE HOOVES

With black wool cast on 14 sts. and work 4 rows in s.s.  
1st INC. ROW: Inc., k. 5. (inc.) twice, k. 5, inc. (18 sts.) P. 1 row.

Break black wool, join in white and k. 4 rows in garter st.

2nd INC. ROW: Inc., k. 7, (inc.) twice, k. 7, inc. (22 sts.) K. 3 rows.

Break white wool, join in grey and k. 2 rows. Cast off.

Make 3 hooves more in the same way.

Fold each hoof and join, leaving cast-off edges open. Turn and stuff, then sew to the leg ends.

## THE SADDLE

Using any bright coloured wool, cast on 30 sts and knit in s.s. On purl row knit the first and last three sts on every row to form a border. Make the piece approx 6 inches long and sew to completed donkey.

## NOSEBAND

Cast on 4 stitches in any coloured wool, make a piece 5 inches long. One row plain, one row purl. Cast off and sew ends together. Stretch around muzzle and sew firmly in place.

## TAIL

Cut 10 pieces of grey wool, approx 6 inches in length. Fold these in half and bind about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch from the looped end, then sew to end of back.

**Congratulations! You've just knitted a Woolley.**

## GENERAL INFORMATION

\*Do feel free to knit your donkeys in any wool, colour and texture you have available. They all have individual personalities, just like their larger, real donkey relatives.

Please send completed 'Woolleys' to Community Fundraising Team, The Donkey Sanctuary, Sidmouth, Devon, EX10 0NU. Any queries, please call 01395 578222 or email on [vfr@thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk](mailto:vfr@thedonkeysanctuary.org.uk)

## THE DONKEY SANCTUARY

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The Donkey Sanctuary was founded by Dr Elisabeth Svendsen MBE in 1969.

The Donkey Sanctuary (registered charity number 264818) and its sole corporate trustee, The Donkey Sanctuary Trustee Limited (Company number 07328588) both have their registered office at Slade House Farm, Sidmouth, EX10 0NU.

Incorporating: The Elisabeth Svendsen Trust for Children and Donkeys (EST); The International Donkey Protection Trust (IDPT).

**WORKING WORLDWIDE**