

Knit a War Horse

Use 2.75mm needles and DK yarn in a colour of your choice

Body Neck and Head

1. Begin at back of body – cast on 13 sts

Row 1 Purl

Row 2: kfb in every stitch – 26 sts

Row 3 Purl

Row 4 : K1, (Kfb, K1) repeat to last st, K1 – 38 sts

Row 5 Purl

Rows 6-12 stocking stitch

Row 13- K5, K2tog, K to last 7 sts, K2tog, K5 – 36 sts

Row 14- P

Rows 15-18 Repeat last two rows twice more – 32 sts

Row 19- K5, Kfb, K to last 7 sts, Kfb, K6 – 34 sts

Row 20 P

Row 21 K

Row 22- P 10, (P1, P2tog) twice, P2, (P2tog, P1) twice, P10 – 30 sts

Row 23 K

Row 24 P

Row 25 K5, Kfb, K5, (K1, Kfb) twice, (Kfb, K1) twice, K4, Kfb, K6 – 36 sts

Row 26 P

Row 27 K5, Kfb K to last 7 sts, : Kfb, K6 – 38 sts

ROW 28-34 SS beginning with a P row

2. Front body, neck and head shaping

Row 35 (K 2tog) 5 times, K6, (Kfb) 6 times, K6, (K2tog) 5 times – 34 sts

Row 36-39 SS beginning with a P row

Row 40 (K2tog) 5 times, K4, (Kfb) 6 times, K4, (K2tog) 5 times – 30 sts

Row 41-43 as starting with a P row

Row 44 (K2tog) 5 times, K2, (Kfb) 6 times K2, (K2tog) 5 times – 26 sts

St-st 25 rows beginning with a purl row

3. Under-head section

Row 70- (Kfb) 3 times, (K2tog) 4 times, K4, (K2tog) 4 times, (kfb) 3 times – 24 sts

Row 71-73 SS beginning with a P row

4. Nose shaping

Row 74 K2tog, K2, (K2tog) 8 times, K2, K2tog – 14 sts

Row 75 P

Row 76- K2tog, K to last 2 sts, K2tog – 12 sts

Row 77- P 2tog, P to last 2 sts, P2tog – 10 sts

Rows 78-83 SS

Break of yarn leaving a long end. Thread through and pull tight. Tie off and use the long end to sew up seams.

Don't worry if your horse looks like a strange dolphin at this stage! Stuff head well. Insert a pipe cleaner wrapped in stuffing into the neck and add more stuffing as required. Stuff body and gather the horse's bottom, pull tight and tie off. Push the horse's neck into an upright position. He will now look a little like the Loch Ness Monster but ears and reigns will make all the difference I promise!



Knit a War Horse

Ears – make 2

Cast on 6 sts

St-st 6 rows

Row 7- K2tog, K2, K2tog

Row 8- P

Row 9- (K2 tog) twice

Row 10- P2 tog

Fasten off. Stitch to top of head with curled edge facing forward

Legs – make 4

Cast on 11 sts

Row 1 - K

Row 2 - P

Row 3 - K3, M1, K2tog, K1, K2tog, M1, K3, (11 sts)

Row 4 - 6 - SS starting with a P row

Row 7 - K3, K2tog, K1, K2tog, K3 (9 sts)

Row 8 - 12 - SS starting with a P row

Row 13 - K2, M1, K2tog, K1, K2tog, M1 K2, (9sts)

Row 14 - 20 - SS starting with a P row

Row 21 - K1, M1, K7, M1, K1 (11sts)

Row 22 - 24 - SS starting with a P row

Row 25 - K3, M1, K2tog, K1, M1, K2tog, K3 (11sts)

Row 26 - P

Row 27 - K2tog, K3, M1, K2, M1, K2, K2tog (11sts)

Row 28 - P

Row 29 - K5, M1, K2, M1, K4 (13sts)

Row 30 - 32 - SS starting with a P row

Row 33 - K6, M1, K2, M1, K5 (15 sts)

Row 34 - 40 - SS starting with a P row

Row 41 - K7, M1, K3, M1, K4, M1, K1 (18 sts)

Row 42 - P

Row 43 - K9, M1, K4, M1, K2, M1, K3 (21sts)

Row 44 - Cast off purlwise

Make up legs

Wrap stuffing round pipe cleaner, Wrap the leg piece around this and then stitch the seam. Cut a circle of card approx. 1.5 cm across. Push this into thinnest end of leg. Weave a running stitch through the cast on edge and pull to gather around card forming the hoof. Cut a slightly larger circle of card. Insert into the cast off edge at the thigh. Gather slightly with a running stitch to encase the card and tie off.

Place the legs on the bottom of the body. Use pins to secure in the desired position. Stitch around the top of thigh to secure legs to the horse's body.

To make a mane

Wrap yarn around a piece of card cut to the desired mane width, approx. 20cm. Remove card and lay the mane onto horses neck. Stich down along the middle. Slice through the loops at the end of the mane and untwist the yarn to separate the strands. Arrange a forelock to fall between the horse's ears

To Make a Tail

Stitch several pieces of yarn to the horse's rear. Snip to required length and untwist each strand as above.



Knit a War Horse

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War Horse accessories

Saddle

Cast on 2.

Using garter stitch, increase 1 st at each end of every row until 14 stitches.

K 2 rows

SS 8 rows

K 2 rows

Using garter stitch decrease 1 st at each end of every row until 2 sts remain.

Cast off

Stitch onto blanket on the horse so that the ends stick up for the front and back of the saddle.

Saddle blanket

Cast on 20 stitches in dark red.

K 3 rows

Change to dark brown

Starting with a K row SS 35 rows.

Change to dark red.

K 3 rows.

Cast off.

Fold in half lengthways and stitch together then stitch onto back of horse.

You could do this half the size and just have it thinner - I liked it as a thick blanket.



Blanket roll

Cast on 16.

K 12 rows.

Cast off.

Roll up and use contrast wool to tie round in two places.

Stitch on to back of horse behind saddle blanket.

Pistol holder (make 2)

Using light brown or colour of choice, cast on 10 stitches loosely.

SS 6 rows

Row 7 - decrease 1 st each end

SS 3 rows

Row 11 - decrease 1 st each end

SS 3 rows

Row 15 - decrease 1 st each end

SS 3 rows

Row 19 - K 2tog x 2

Tie off.

Belt for pistol holder. Reigns and Bridle

Cast on 3 stitches

Each row K. Repeat until desired length.

Cast off and stitch into position.

**Your horse may not stand up by itself!
Don't worry! We will construct some kind
of stand so that our cavalry soldiers can
charge into battle over our knitted fields!**