



Harold Fatmus



Yarn Requirements: 5x10g JC Rennie 4ply Miniballs (approx. 50m each). Sample shown in Oyster (main colour), Rosebud (C1), Azure (C2), Gaea (C3), Blueberry (C4)

Notions

3mm DPNs and 3.25mm DPNS or circular for magic loop

Two stitch markers

Tapestry needle

Scrap of felt/black yarn or black beads for eyes

Fibrefill stuffing, optional bean bag

Finished size: 15cm high

Tension: 28 sts per 10cm over stranded colourwork on 3.25mm needles.

The mouse is knitted with a separate base and body and then filled and seamed. It is very easy to change the pattern to knit this seamlessly, however, if you are using the JC Rennie Miniballs then it is best to wash the fabric before you stuff it. If you do want to knit it seamlessly then pick up 96 stitches around the edge of the base rather than casting them on. Remember to stuff the mouse before grafting the head!

Base – worked flat in garter stitch

With larger needles cast on 8 stitches.

1: Knit
 2: Kfb, K to end, Kfb
 3-6: Repeat row 2 (18 sts)
 7: Knit
 8: Repeat row 2 (20 sts)
 9-11: Knit
 12: Repeat row 2 (22 sts)
 13- 19: Knit
 20: Repeat row 2 (24 sts)
 21-27: Knit
 28: SSK, K to last 2 sts, K2tog (22 sts)
 29-35: Knit
 36: Repeat row 28 (20 sts)
 37-39: Knit
 40: Repeat row 28 (18 sts)
 41: Knit
 42- 46: Repeat row 28 (8 sts)
 Cast off

Body – worked in the round in stocking stitch

With smaller needles cast on 96 stitches in main colour.

Knit one round.

Change to larger needles and C2.

Work chart eight times around.

Round 23: in C3 only – (K10, K2tog) around. 88 sts

24-26: Repeat the 'peerie motif' in rounds 8-10 of the chart.

27: Work 1 round in C3 only.

28: Decrease another 8 stitches in C3 only, (K9, K2tog) 80 sts.

29-30: (K2 in C4, K2 in C1) for two rounds.

31: Decrease alternate bands of C4 as follows: K2 C4, K2 C1, K2tog in C4, (K2 C1, K2 C4, K2 C1, Ktog C4) to last two sts, K2 C1. 70 sts

32: (K2 C4, K2 C1, K1 C4, K2 C1) to end

33: Knit one round in C1

34: Switch to main colour and smaller needles. (K5, K2tog) around. 60sts

35: Knit one round

36: (K4, K2tog) around 50 sts

37: K25, place new start of round marker, K25, place marker, K to end.

38: Knit to 3 sts before marker, SSK, K1, sm, K1, K2tog, K to end.

Repeat this round until 18 sts are left between the two markers (36 sts in total).

Shape nose:

Next round: K1, M1, Knit to 3 sts before marker, SSK, K1, sm, K1, K2tog, K to 1 st before end, M1, K1

Next round: Knit to 3 sts before marker, SSK, K1, sm, K1, K2tog, K to end.

Repeat these two rounds once more

16 sts left on each side, 32 sts in total.

Graft these stitches together or cast off and seam flat.

For a blunter nose ignore the M1s on the last four rounds.

Tail

With C1 cast on 5 stitches with smaller DPNs. Work i-cord for about 9cm.

Next row: SSK, K1, K2tog (3 sts)

K3tog and pull the yarn through the last stitch to fasten off.

Ears (make 2. Unless you want a lop-sided mouse.)

With C1 and smaller needles cast on 10sts, K6 rows

7: SSK, K6, K2tog 8sts

8: Knit

9: SSK, K4, K2tog 6sts

10: Knit

11: SSK, K2, K2tog 4sts

Cast off 4 sts

Assembly

Sew on the ears either side of the top of the decrease lines. The nose is a few stitches of Contrast 1 over the pointy tip. Sew beads on securely for eyes, or embroider small stitches in black yarn or felt. Stitch the tail to the top of the base. Wash the two parts of the mouse – fill a basin with warm water and a squirt of detergent. Allow to soak. Rinse out and refill with more warm water and detergent. Allow to soak again and then rinse out completely and allow to dry.

When the two parts are dry fill the head and nose with fibrefill stuffing. If you want to give your mouse a little gravitas then put a bean bag in the base. You can make this easily with a circle of fabric filled with dried beans, lentils or pudding rice. Run a thread around the edge of the fabric and pull into a pouch roughly the same diameter as the base.

Using mattress stitch attach the body to the base, making sure the tail is at the back of the mouse not the front.

