

MARGARET

by Joanne Jongsma



Materials:

Knit Picks Shine Sport (less than 1 skein of each color)
R- red (Cherry)
DG- dark green (Grass)
LG- light green (Green Apple)
W- white (Cream)
T- tan (Willow)
scrap pink mohair for the inner rabbit ears (shown in Madil Kid Seta)
#3 double pointed needles (or a couple circulars)
polyfill (pillow fluff)
tapestry needle

This knit bunny's main body is knit in one piece from the feet up to the head. It's important to stuff it as you go because it gets harder and harder to stuff the limbs later (impossible if you cinch up the neck, haha). You add the arms, ears, skirt, and tail later.

FEET and LEGS:

CO 10 st in R. Join for working in the round and increase every other st so you that you have 20 stitches. (K in front and back of each st)

K 2 rounds

Next round: k6, (k1, m1) three times, k2, (m1, k1) three times, k6

K 4 rounds

Next round: k7, ssk three times, k2tog three times, k7

K 1 round

Do not cut any of the yarn for the “socks”— the stripes are so thin, that you can carry each color to the next stripe on the inside of the leg. Also, a **non jog stitch** really helps for every color change! (Just knit 1 round in the new color, and then pick up the stitch below the first stitch of the next round, put it on the needle and work the two stitches together. For pictures, go to <http://www.socknitters.com/kickback/joglessjog.htm>)

K 2 rounds in LG

K 2 rounds in DG

K 2 rounds in R

Repeat the above 4 times. Cut and weave in (well, just make sure it won't unravel and leave the tail —nobody's going to see it!) all three colors of yarn (but don't bind off or anything!)

Switch to W and k 15 rounds. Cut.

Switch to DG and k 5 rounds. Cut with a somewhat long tail (to kind of stitch up the crotch to prevent gaping)

Now place this on some stitch holders, and do the same thing for the other leg, except at the end of the second leg, knit 5 more stitches in the DG. This is because the join lines of the legs are going on the back of the doll. (If you want them to face in at the crotch, that's fine too-- just don't knit the extra 5 st)

Now take the first leg and starting where you want the crotch to be, knit all the way around the leg, and then knit all 20 stitches on the second leg. Now your legs are joined, and you are at the beginning of the round at the crotch in the back. (Now would be a good time to stuff the legs) Now pull that long tail for cinching up the crotch out so you can get at it later.

BODY:

Next round: Still in the DG, (k2, m1) 6 times (when you make 1, don't twist the stitch if you want little eyelets around the legs), k2, (k2, m1) 6 times more, then k2. 58 st total.

K 10 rounds

P 1 round

K1, p1 rib all the way around for 10 rounds. (If you'd like, you can k through the back loop, and get more textured stripes)

Now we decrease for the shoulders:

Round 1: Rib 10, k2tog, rib 6, ssk, rib 18, k2tog, rib 6, ssk, rib 10

Round 2: Rib 9, k2tog, rib 6, ssk, rib 16, k2tog, rib 6, ssk, rib 9

Round 1: Rib 8, k2tog, rib 6, ssk, rib 14, k2tog, rib 6, ssk, rib 8

Round 1: Rib 7, k2tog, rib 6, ssk, rib 12, k2tog, rib 6, ssk, rib 7

Round 1: Rib 6, k2tog, rib 6, ssk, rib 10, k2tog, rib 6, ssk, rib 6

There should be 38 st total.

Now stuff more of the body, and tighten up the crotch area with the yarn mentioned earlier and pull in the tail. At this point, you can also thread a little of the red yarn around the top of the striped socks and tie a ribbon around them.

HEAD (and ears taken from Marion Edmonds' toy patterns in "Last Minute Knitted Gifts"):

Round 1: Switch to W (cut the DG) and k2, m1, (k4, m1) 8 times, k3, m1, k1. 48 st total. Arrange so there are 24 on each of two needles.

Rounds 2-15: Knit.

Round 16: (k8, ssk, k4, k2tog, k8) twice, 22 st on each needle.

Round 17: Knit.

Round 18: (k1, ssk, k16, k2tog, k1) twice, 20 st on each needle.

Round 19: Knit.

Round 20: (k1, ssk, k14, k2tog, k1) twice, 18 st on each needle.

Round 21: (k1, ssk, k12, k2tog, k1) twice, 16 st on each needle.

Round 22: (k1, ssk, k10, k2tog, k1) twice, 14 st on each needle.

Round 23: (k1, ssk, k8, k2tog, k1) twice, 12 st on each needle.

Round 24: (k1, ssk, k6, k2tog, k1) twice, 10 st on each needle.

Round 25: [(k2tog, k2) twice, k2tog] twice, 7 st on each needle

Now stuff the rest of the body, and most of the head and then take a piece of the DG yarn, baste around the neckline, and pull it nice and tight. It helps if you try to separate the polyfill at the neck area before you cinch it. Pull in the ends. Stuff the rest of the head. Then cut the white yarn, leaving about a foot. With yarn threaded on a tapestry needle, use Kitchener stitch to graft the two rows of stitches together across the top. Pull in ends.

OUTER EARS (make 2):

You can double strand for the ears if you'd like, but I did not.

CO 16 sts, with tail long enough to attach the ear to the head. Work back and forth as follows:

Row 1: (RS) Knit.

Row 2: K1, purl to last st, k1.

Repeat these 2 rows 10 more times (for a total of 22 rows).

Decrease row: (RS) K1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1.

Next row: (WS) k1, purl to last st, k1.

Repeat these two rows 4 more times, then work the decrease row once more-- 4 sts. Cut yarn, leaving a tail long enough to attach the inner ears-- about 18". With tail threaded on a yarn needle, draw through the remaining sts and pull snugly to close top of the ear.

INNER EARS (make 2):

With the pink angora or mohair yarn (I used double strands), CO 12 sts.

Work in garter st (knit every row) for 20 rows.

Decrease row: (RS) K1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1.

Next row: Knit.

Repeat these 2 rows 2 more times, then work the decrease row once more-- 4 sts. Cut the yarn with enough of a tail to draw through the remaining stitches. Pull snugly, and weave in all ends.

Lay the inner ear on the purl side of the outer ear. (It should fit just inside the outer ear, and will not reach all the way down to the base) Take the tail from the tip of the outer ear and sew the inner ear to the outer ear, all the way around. Now fold the ear in half at the bottom and sew to the top of the head with the cast on tail. Pull in/ weave in all ends. Do the same with the other ear.

ARMS (make 2):

With T, CO 9. Join for working in the round, and increase to 18 st by working into the front and back of each st.

K 7 rounds.

Switch to W, and k 15 rounds.

Switch to DG and k 1 round.

P 1 round (us a non jog st here too)

K1, p1 rib for 5 rounds. (If you k through the back loop for the rib in the body of the shirt, do the same here)

BO and stuff with polyfill. Then attach to the body.

SKIRT:

I have not perfected the skirt yet! I'm still in search of the perfect one. Here is the idea:

With the LG, CO 40 st. Using a combination of rapidly increasing stitches in every round and maybe even some ribbing, knit in the round until desired skirt length is reached. BO, weave in ends, and pull onto the bunny's waist, marked by the purl row. You can stitch the skirt on, or leave it to be able to be pulled on and off.

TAIL:

CO 6, join for working in the round, increase to 12 sts, and knit 6 more rounds. BO tightly. Fill with a little polyfill or yarn ends, and attach to the bunny's butt under the skirt.

FACE:

Sew on the eyes using the decreases on the head as guides. I used a little scrap of blue yarn. And then sew on the nose and mouth with the red yarn. Pull in all ends.

PLAY WITH IT.