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Koala

Materials:

5g (½oz) of fleecy DK (8-ply/light worsted) yarn in grey (A) and a small amount in white (B)

Small amount of 4-ply (fingering) yarn in dark brown (C)

Two 4mm (⅜in) black beads

Black cotton thread

Toy stuffing

Needles:

3.5mm (UK 9 or 10, US 4) needles

Size:

8cm (3⅛in) tall

Instructions:

Body

Using yarn A, cast on 20 sts.

Rows 1–8: beg with a k (RS) row, work 8 rows in st st.

Row 9: cast off 4 sts, k to end (16 sts).

Row 10: cast off 4 sts, p to end (12 sts).

Row 11: cast on 2 sts, k to end (14 sts).

Row 12: cast on 2 sts, p to end (16 sts).

Rows 13 and 14: beg with a k row, work 2 rows in st st.

Row 15: cast off 2 sts, k to end (14 sts).

Row 16: cast off 2 sts, p to end (12 sts).

Row 17: cast on 4 sts, k to end (16 sts).

Row 18: cast on 4 sts, p to end (20 sts).

Rows 19–23: beg with a k row, work 5 rows in st st.

Cast off.

Head

Using yarn A, cast on 10 sts.

Row 1 (WS): p to end.

Row 2: (kfb) to end (20 sts).

Rows 3–7: beg with a p row, work 5 rows in st st.

Row 8 (eyeline): k5, (k2tog) five times, k5 (15 sts).

Rows 9–11: beg with a p row, work 3 rows in st st.

Row 12: (k1, k2tog) to end (10 sts).

Row 13: p to end.

Row 14: (k1, k2tog), k1 (7 sts).

Break yarn, draw through sts, pull tightly and fasten off.



Ears: make two

Using yarn A, cast on 12 sts.

Row 1 (WS): p7 (A), join in yarn B, p5 (B).

Row 2: keeping colours correct, k to end.

Row 3: p2 (A), p2tog (A), p1 (A), p2tog (A), p2 (B), p2tog (B), p1 (B) (9 sts).

Break off yarn B and continue using yarn A only.

Row 4: (k2tog, k1) to end (6 sts).

Break yarn, draw through sts, pull tightly and fasten off.

To make up

Fold each leg horizontally and sew each leg from the tip. Work a gathering thread along the tip of each leg and pull tightly to close. Repeat for the arms. Stuff the arms and legs. Sew up the tummy seam leaving a gap for stuffing. Stuff and close the body.

Using the fastened-off yarn end, sew up the head seam to half way. Using the cast-on yarn end, work a gathering thread along the cast-on edge and draw up tightly. Stuff the head and close the seam.

Using yarn A, work a gathering thread over the eyeline and pull gently to shape. Sew each ear seam and attach the cast-on edge of the ears to the head. Attach the beads for the eyes. Using yarn C, embroider a nose with straight stitches. Attach the head to the body.