



# Shepherds

## Kneeling shepherd

This figure wears a brown textured tunic with long sleeves and a short waistcoat (vest) over this. He holds a lamb in his arms, and has feet showing underneath the lower edge of his tunic. On his head he wears a single band like Joseph's. Make the face, hair and head band in the same way as Joseph's (though I have used ordinary yarn rather than eyelash yarn for this shepherd's beard).

For the tunic, a chunky Aran-type yarn was used, so measurements have been given so that you can keep a check on the size as your work develops. The tunic should measure 22cm (8¾in) across the lower edge. With size 4mm (UK 8, US 6) needles, cast on 40 sts. and work 8 rows in s.s., i.e. 4cm (1½in).

Next row (dec. row): (k2tog., k.2) 10 times, (30 sts.).

Work on these 30 sts. for 9 more rows in s.s., i.e. 7cm (2¾in) from the cast on edge.

Next row (dec. row): (k2tog., k.3) 6 times, (24 sts.).

This should be wide enough to go easily round the top of the figure, i.e. 15cm (6 in) wide. Work straight, without shaping, to the neck.

Last row: k2tog. across all sts., then cast off.

Pin the piece in position round the figure and sew up the back seam, then sew the neckline to the lower edge of the hair. Embroider the eyes and fix the head band in position.

To make the sleeves, use the same yarn and needles and cast on 4 sts. Work 2 rows in s.s. Inc 1 st. at each end of every k. row until there are 14 sts. noting that the piece should be 7.5cm (3in) wide at this point.

Continue straight until the piece measures 7cm (2¾in) from the cast on edge, ending with a knit row. Knit the next row then change to size 3mm (UK 11, US 3) needles and the same yarn as for the face. Begin with a k. row and work 4 rows in s.s.

Next row (dec. row): (k2tog., k.4) twice, k2tog., (11 sts.).

Work on these 11 sts. for 3 more rows, then gather them on to a thread and draw up to form the end of the hand. Sew up the side edges as far as the shaping, pin the sleeve/hand to the shoulder of the tunic and stitch in position as with the other figures.



Fig 21

