

Rainbow Caterpillar

KNITTING PATTERN BY AMANDA BERRY

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NOTES

Introduction: With only a few basic stitches you can knit this cute and colourful Rainbow Caterpillar.

Work flat: Knit flat (back and forth) on a pair of single pointed knitting needles, not in the round.

Casting on: Use the long tail cast on for this pattern unless otherwise instructed.

Pull through to cast off: Cut the yarn leaving at least a 30cm tail, thread the tail onto a darning needle and sew through the remaining sts on the knitting needle. Pull the sts off the knitting needle onto the yarn, gather together tightly, and secure.

Seaming: Use mattress stitch for seams.

Stockinette stitch: Also known as stocking stitch, purl the WS rows and knit the RS rows.

One size: 29cm long.

Tension: 24 sts x 30 rows for a 10cm x 10cm square in stockinette stitch on 3mm needles. Don't worry about tension for this pattern, it is not critical.

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YARN

- The caterpillar is knitted in DK weight yarns (double knitting, 8 ply, or light worsted weight), in a few grammes in each of seven yarn shades: **White, Pink, Orange, Yellow, Green, Pale Blue** and **Denim Blue**.
- The caterpillar photographed was knitted in **Deramores Studio Baby Soft DK**, 100% acrylic yarns, in shades *Snow, Lollipop, Sunset, Sunshine, Kiwi, Mint* and *Waves*. Any similar DK weight yarn is recommended.

NEEDLES & NOTIONS

- A pair of 3mm (US 2½) single pointed knitting needles, minimum length 20cm
- A darning or tapestry needle for seaming
- A few handfuls of toy filling
- Two 5mm black beads for eyes
- Black embroidery floss/thread to sew on beads and embroider the mouth
- Scraps of pink and white felt fabric
- Glue or pink cotton thread to sew on the cheeks

ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|--------------|--|
| foll | Following |
| k | Knit |
| k2tog | Knit two stitches together (decrease by 1) |
| kfb | Knit into the front and back (increase by 1) |
| rep | Repeat |
| RS | Right side |
| st(s) | Stitch(es) |
| St st | Stockinette |
| tog | Together |
| WS | Wrong side |

KNITTING PATTERN

CATERPILLAR

Make 1. Cast on 10 sts in Denim Blue on 3mm needles. Start at the bottom end.

Row 1 (WS): Purl.

Row 2 (RS): K1, [kfb] 8 times, k1. (18 sts)

Rows 3 to 7: Starting and ending on a WS purl row, work 5 rows in St st.

Break the Denim Blue working yarn.

Work rows 8 to 91 in St st, working 6 row stripes/colour blocks of colour, starting on a RS knit row and ending on a WS purl row. Break the working yarn and join the new yarn colour at each colour change row in the following order:

Rows 8 to 13: Pale Blue.

Rows 14 to 19: Green.

Rows 20 to 25: Yellow.

Rows 26 to 31: Orange.

Rows 32 to 37: Pink.

Rows 38 to 43: White.

Rows 44 to 49: Pale Blue.

Rows 50 to 55: Denim Blue.

Rows 56 to 61: Green.

Rows 62 to 67: Yellow.

Rows 68 to 73: Orange.

Rows 74 to 79: Pink.

Rows 80 to 85: White.

Rows 86 to 91: Pale Blue.

Break the Pale Blue Yarn and join Green yarn for the head.

Row 92: Knit.

Row 93: Purl.

Row 94: K1, [kfb, k1] 8 times, k1. (26 sts)

Row 95: Purl.

Row 96: K1, [kfb, k5] 4 times, k1. (30 sts)

Rows 97 to 103: Starting and ending on a WS purl row, work 7 rows in St st.

Row 104: K1, [k2tog, k2] 7 times, k1. (23 sts)

Row 105: Purl.

Row 106: K1, [k2tog, k1] 7 times, k1. (16 sts)

Row 107: Purl.

Row 108: K1, [k2tog] 7 times, k1. (9 sts)

Pull through to cast off.



ANTENNAE

Make 2. Cast on 4 sts in Green yarn on 3mm needles.

Rows 1 to 5: Starting and ending on a WS purl row, work 5 rows in St st.

Row 6: K1, kfb, kfb, k1. (6 sts)

Row 7: Purl.

Pull through to cast off.

MAKING UP

Caterpillar: Starting at the cast off end, sew the side edges tog stuffing as you sew. Note the seam runs down the underside of the body. Roll the caterpillar like a rolling pin so that the stuffing is evenly spread throughout, then gather the cast on sts tog at the bottom end. For each body colour section, cut a 20cm length of yarn in the body section colour, thread onto a darning needle and sew a long running stitch around the body over the colour change row. Pull the ends of the yarn firmly to gather in the knitting to make an indentation, knot to secure the yarn and bury the yarn tails inside the body.



Antennae: Using the cast off tail sew the side edges tog, and sew the cast on end onto the top of the head.

Features: Cut two 11mm diameter circles in white felt fabric for the eyes. Using the black thread sew beads on top of these circles on the head in front of the antennae. Use the black thread to embroider a smiley mouth on the front of the head. Cut two 8mm diameter circles in pink felt fabric for the cheeks, and glue or sew these onto the sides of the head over the ends of the mouth.

