

Little Cotton Rabbits Dungarees and Pinafore dress



*This pinafore dress and the dungarees are both made from
Schachenmayr Catania Denim originals in shade 150 (Yarn A).
The little pocket bunny and bear are knitted from
Willow and Lark woodland yarn in rolled oats 406 and toffee 404*

*Other knitting patterns are available at
www.littlecottonrabbits.typepad.co.uk*

Materials:

- Yarns: you will need a 4py/fingering or 5ply/sport weight yarn (amounts are detailed per pattern).
- Two tiny buttons (6-8mm diameter)

Finished size:

approx 11 cm (4 ¼ inches) from top of bib to hem

Notions:

- A pair of 2.75mm (US 2) Knitting needles
- A pair of 2.25mm (US 1) Knitting needles
- A tapestry needle for seaming with
- A stitch holder/waste yarn

Gauge:



Gauge: 7 stitches x 10 rows to 1 inch

Each of my animal patterns comes with their own individual clothing but sometimes it's nice to have a change of clothes. And as one of my favourite things about making knitted toys is coming up with new designs for their clothing; I've put together this pattern for dungarees and a pinafore dress. They are designed to be roomy and will fit over any of the sweaters included with the boy animal patterns, or any of the designs from either the 'seasonal sweaters pattern' or the 'trio of top down sweaters pattern'.

The designs are very simple as they just use regular stocking and garter stitches and a little ribbing at the waist. There's a little shaping around the pockets so that they are functional and can be used to store treasures in or to pop the tiny toy bunny in (see Pages 7&8 for the pattern for the pattern for the pocket toys). I hope you enjoy using these patterns and adding to a wardrobe of different clothes for your knitted animals. If you'd like to see my other patterns you can find the full range here: [All Little Cotton Rabbits Patterns](#)

Yarn suggestions:

I've used a cotton 5ply/sport weight yarn here, though 4ply/fingering weight will work too. If you do use 4ply/fingering weight yarn it's worth trying the dungarees/pinafore on your toy and checking the length of the straps before joining them as the finished garment may be a little smaller and you may need to cast on 20 stitches for the short straps and 24 for the longer ones. An alternative 5ply/sport weight yarn is Scheepjes Catona Denim. Alternative 4ply cotton yarns include: BCGarn Alba, Phildar Phil Coton 3, Drops Safran, DMC Natura Just Cotton, Cascade Ultra Pima Fine. It also may be worth looking on [Ravelry](#) to see what yarns others are using and recommending.

Abbreviations:

These increase methods are described in detail in the excellent knitting help website:

<http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/increases>

M1A: MAKE 1 STITCH AWAY. I use the thumb method (see link above) to make a backwards loop in the working yarn and place this loop onto the right needle, so the working yarn is pointing away from you.

M1T : MAKE 1 TOWARDS. Make a loop with the working yarn so the tail is pointing forwards/towards you. **Note:** In order to get a neat finish you will need to purl into the **back** loop of this stitch on the following row.

YF: YARN FORWARD: Bring the yarn to the front of the work between the needles before working the next stitch – once you knit the next stitch this will create a loop over the top of the needle which when worked into on the next row will create an eyelet that serves as a buttonhole.

These decrease methods are described in detail in the excellent knitting help website:

<http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/decreases>

SSK (SLIP, SLIP, KNIT) : Slip a stitch (as if to knit it) to the right-hand needle, slip a second stitch in the same way, slip both stitches together back to the left-hand needle and knit together through the back loops.

K2TOG : Knit 2 stitches together

P2TOG : Purl 2 stitches together

P2TOG TBL: Purl 2 stitches together through the back loops

And please note that the recommended cast on throughout is a **CABLE CAST ON**.

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Dungarees:

You will need approx 48m (53 yds) of 4ply/fingering weight or 5ply/sport weight yarn.

These dungarees are knitted flat, from the bottom hem of each trouser leg up to the top of the bib and are seamed afterwards. There are functional flared pockets which are positioned so the toy can put their paws in the pockets or use them for storing treasures (see below a pattern for a little pocket toy). If you prefer to work the dungarees without pockets then don't make the pocket liners and simply work **rows 14–26** as 13 rows of stocking stitch (alternate Knit and Purl rows) and then continue following instructions from **row 27** onwards.

Please note: In order to get a neat finish you will need to Purl into the **back** loop of all M1T stitches on the subsequent rows following their use (see *abbreviations on Page 2* for more detail).

Before starting the main dungarees first knit the pocket liners:

Pocket liners (make two the same):

Starting at the bottom of the pocket and finishing at the top, use 2.75mm needles and Yarn A to cable cast on 8 stitches, leaving an 8 inch tail for seaming with later (if you prefer you can work the pocket liners in a contrasting colour).

row 1: (right side) Knit

row 2: Purl

row 3: K1, M1A, K6, M1T, K1 (10 stitches)

rows 4-9: Beginning with a Purl row and ending with a Knit row, work 6 rows of stocking stitch

row 10: P2tog, P6, P2tog tbl (8 stitches)

Cut the work from the ball, leaving an 8 inch tail for seaming with later. Make a second pocket liner the same. Slide both pocket liners onto a stitch holder or spare needle (*fig. 1*), and leave to one side, ready to be joined in on **row 24** of the dungarees or **row 21** of the dress.

Main part of dungarees:

Beginning at the bottom hem of each trouser leg and finishing at the top of the bib.

First trouser leg:

Use 2.75mm needles and Yarn A to cable cast on 32 stitches, leaving an 8 inch tail for seaming with later.

row 1: (wrong side) Knit

rows 2-10: Beginning and ending with Knit rows, work 9 rows of stocking stitch

Cut the work from the ball and leave the stitches on the needle ready to be worked across on row 11.

Second trouser leg:

Follow the instructions as for the first leg above, keeping the needle holding the leg already worked in your left hand and the empty needle in your right as you cast on. Don't cut the work from the ball after completing row 10, but continue by working across all 64 stitches from both legs now on the needle (*fig. 2*):

row 11: P30, P2tog, P2tog tbl, P30 (62 stitches)

row 12: Knit

row 13: Purl

row 14: K18, M1A, K6, M1T, K14, M1A, K6, M1T, K18 (66 stitches)

row 15: Purl

row 16: K18, M1A, K8, M1T, K14, M1A, K8, M1T, K18 (70 stitches)

rows 17-22: Beginning with a Purl row and ending with a Knit, work 6 rows of stocking stitch

row 23: P18, cast off 10 Purl-wise, P13, cast off 10 Purl-wise, P17

You now have gaps in the work which form the pocket openings (*fig. 3*) and 3 groups of live stitches on the needle: 18, 14, 18 (total 50 stitches on needle)

row 24: On this row we join in the pocket liners: K18, Knit across the 8 stitches from the 1st pocket liner (*fig. 4*), K14, Knit across the 8 stitches from the 2nd pocket liner (*fig. 5*), K18 (66 stitches)

The pocket liners are now joined in along the top edges, (*fig. 6*)

row 25: Purl

row 26: K10, K2tog, K10, SSK, K18, K2tog, K10, SSK, K10 (62 stitches)

row 27: Purl

row 28: K9, K2tog, K10, SSK, K16, K2tog, K10, SSK, K9 (58 stitches)

row 29: Purl

row 30: K8, K2tog, K10, SSK, K14, K2tog, K10, SSK, K8 (54 stitches)

row 31: (P1, K1) 8 times, P1, K2, P16, K2, (P1, K1) 8 times, P1

row 32: (K1, P1) 8 times, K1, P2, SSK, K12, K2tog, P2,
(K1, P1) 8 times, K1 (52 stitches)
row 33: Cast off 17 in P1, K1 ribbing; K1, P14, K2,
cast off remaining 17 in P1, K1 ribbing (18 sts)

Cut the work from the ball, leaving a short tail for weaving in later. With right side of work facing rejoin the yarn and resume working across the central 18 stitches which form the front bib.

row 34: K2, SSK, K10, K2tog, K2 (16 stitches)
row 35: K2, P12, K2

row 36: K2, SSK, K8, K2tog, K2 (14 stitches)
row 37: K2, P10, K2
row 38: K2, SSK, K6, K2tog, K2 (12 stitches)
row 39: K2, P8, K2
row 40: K2, YF, SSK, K4, K2tog, YF, K2 (12 stitches)
row 41: Knit
row 42: Cast off Purl-wise

Cut the work from the ball leaving a short tail for weaving in later. That is now the main part of the dungarees completed (fig. 7).

Making up:

Before I sew up the seams I like to block the dungarees to make them neat. I usually do this by carefully steam blocking but if you prefer wet blocking that is fine too. After blocking join in the pockets. The easiest way to position them correctly is to use a contrasting thread (here I've used red thread) and with the right side of the work facing you sew a running stitch around the sides and bottom of the pocket, just outside of the shaping row on the sides and just below the first increase row at the base of the pocket (fig. 8). Sew these stitches large and loose so that they can easily be pulled out later, as they are only a guide for positioning purposes. Next turn the work so the wrong side is facing and using the tail ends from the pocket sew it in place, (figs. 9 & 10). weave in the ends on the back of the work to secure them and trim any excess and then your pockets are done (fig. 11).

Next thread the tapestry needle with the cast on end from the bottom hem of one trouser leg and use mattress stitch to close the inside leg seam from the hem up to the crotch. Do the same for the second leg. Tie both ends together inside and use the longer end to continue seaming up the back of the dungarees, (fig. 12) leaving a gap for the tail to stick through. Next it's time to make the shoulder straps.

Straps (make two the same):

There is a choice of straps. You can either make short straps to come directly over each shoulder or you can make a longer version and attach them so that they cross at the back and therefore come over the opposite shoulder (fig. 13 and figs. 16 - 19).

For the shorter version use Yarn A and 2.75mm needles cable cast on 18 stitches, leaving an 8 inch tail for seaming with later. Note: If you'd like the straps to cross over at the back (figs. 18 & 19) then please cast on 22 stitches for the straps in order to make them longer.

row 1: (wrong side) Purl
row 2: Knit
row 3: Cast off Knit-wise

Cut the work from the ball leaving a short tail for weaving in later.

Before attaching the straps, try the dungarees on your toy and make sure you are happy with the length of them. It's easier to knit a slightly longer strap at this point than having to unpick a sewn on one later.

Using the longer cast on tail end from one strap sew the strap to the back of the waistband (fig. 14). Tie off the cast off and cast on tail ends and weave in to secure before trimming excess. Repeat with the second strap.

Attach a small button (around 6 - 8mm works well) to the end of each strap (fig. 15).

Finally weave in all the ends on the wrong side of the work before trimming excess and the dungarees are ready, (figs. 16 & 17). On pages 7 & 8 there is a pattern for little toy that will fit nicely into the pocket or you could cut a small square fabric as a handkerchief or find some other small treasures to keep in the pockets.

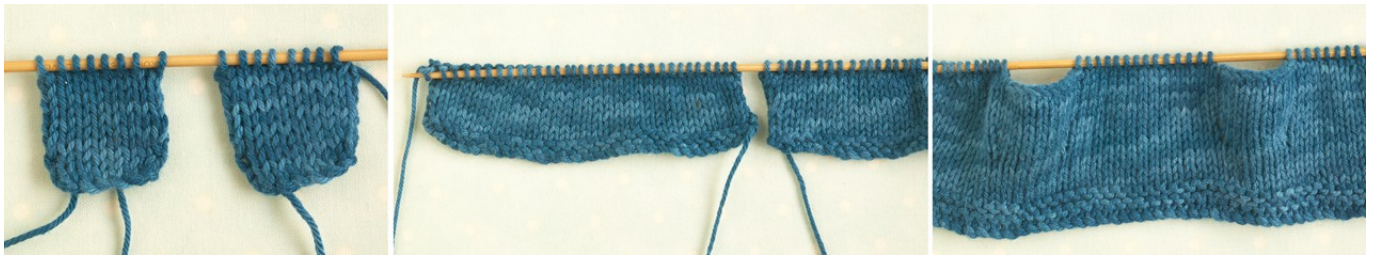


fig. 1

fig. 2

fig. 3



fig. 4

fig. 5

fig. 6

fig. 7



fig. 8

fig. 9

fig. 10

fig. 11



fig. 12

fig. 13

fig. 14

fig. 15



fig. 16

fig. 17

fig. 18

fig. 19

Pinafore dress:

You will need approx 49m (54 yds) of 4ply/fingering weight or 5ply/sport weight yarn.

This dress is knitted flat, from the bottom hem up to the top of the bib and is seamed afterwards. There are functional flared pockets which are positioned so the toy can put their paws in the pockets or use them for storing treasures (see a pattern for a little pocket toy on page 7). If you prefer to work the dress without pockets then don't make the pocket liners and simply work **rows 11 –22** as 12 rows of stocking stitch (alternate Knit and Purl rows) and then continue following instructions from **row 23** onwards.

Please note: In order to get a neat finish you will need to Purl into the **back** loop of all M1T stitches on the subsequent rows following their use (see *abbreviations on Page 2 for more detail*).

Before starting the main part of the dress, first knit the pocket liners (see Page 3).

Main part of dress:

Beginning at the bottom hem and finishing at the top of the bib. Use 2.75mm needles and Yarn A to cable cast on 66 stitches, leaving an 8 inch tail for seaming with later.

row 1: (right side) Knit

rows 2-5: Work 4 rows of garter stitch (Knit each row)

rows 6-10: Beginning and ending with Purl rows, work 5 rows of stocking stitch

row 11: K20, M1A, K6, M1T, K14, M1A, K6, M1T, K20
(70 stitches)

row 12: Purl

row 13: K20, M1A, K8, M1T, K14, M1A, K8, M1T, K20
(74 stitches)

row 14: Purl

rows 15-18: Beginning with a Knit row and ending with a Purl, work 4 rows of stocking stitch

row 19: K12, K2tog, K46, SSK, K12 (72 stitches)

row 20: P19, Cast off 10 Purl-wise, P13, Cast off 10 Purl-wise, P18

You now have gaps in the work which form the pocket openings (*fig. 3*) and 3 groups of live stitches on the needle: 19, 14, 19 (*total 52 stitches on needle*)

row 21: On this row we join in the pocket liners: K11, K2tog, K6, Knit across the 8 stitches from the 1st pocket liner (*fig. 4*), K14, Knit across the 8 stitches from the 2nd pocket liner (*fig. 5*), K6, SSK, K11 (66 stitches)

The pocket liners are now joined in along the top edges, (*fig. 6*)

row 22: Purl

row 23: K10, K2tog, K10, SSK, K18, K2tog, K10, SSK,

K10 (62 stitches)

row 24: Purl

row 25: K9, K2tog, K10, SSK, K16, K2tog, K10, SSK, K9
(58 stitches)

row 26: Purl

row 27: K8, K2tog, K10, SSK, K14, K2tog, K10, SSK, K8
(54 stitches)

row 28: (P1, K1) 8 times, P1, K2, P16, K2,
(P1, K1) 8 times, P1

row 29: (K1, P1) 8 times, K1, P2, SSK, K12, K2tog, P2,
(K1, P1) 8 times, K1 (52 stitches)

row 30: Cast off 17 in P1, K1 ribbing, K1, P14, K2, cast off remaining 17 in P1, K1 ribbing (18 sts)

Cut the work from the main ball and with right side of work facing rejoin the yarn and resume working across the central 18 stitches which form the front bib.

row 31: K2, SSK, K10, K2tog, K2 (16 stitches)

row 32: K2, P12, K2

row 33: K2, SSK, K8, K2tog, K2 (14 stitches)

row 34: K2, P10, K2

row 35: K2, SSK, K6, K2tog, K2 (12 stitches)

row 36: K2, P8, K2

row 37: K2, YF, SSK, K4, K2tog, YF, K2 (12 stitches)

row 38: Knit

row 39: Cast off Purl-wise

Cut the work from the ball leaving a short tail for weaving in later. That is the main part of the dress completed (*fig. 7*).

Making up:

Follow the instructions for finishing the pockets and making the straps on Page 4.

Thread the tapestry needle with the cast on tail end from the bottom hem and use mattress stitch to close the seam up the back of the dress, (*fig. 12*) leaving a gap for the tail to stick through. Finally weave in all the ends inside the dress before trimming excess and then the dress is finished (*figs. 18 & 19*). On pages 7 & 8 there is a pattern for little toy that will fit nicely into the pocket or you could cut a small square fabric as a handkerchief or find some other small treasures to keep in the pockets.

Pocket bunny/bear:

You will need approx 5.5m (6 yds) of 4ply/fingering weight yarn.

This tiny little toy is designed to fit into one of the pockets of the dungarees or pinafore. It is based on my free teeny tiny toys pattern which you can find here if you'd rather make a tiny toy with arms and legs:

<https://www.ravelry.com/designers/julie-williams-2>

You'll also find a pattern for a little dress and a mini sticky bun to go with the tiny toy.

Before you start cut a 6 inch length of yarn for threading through at the neck (see below). Note, it needs to be a strong yarn that will not easily break, so use a different yarn if necessary.

With 4ply yarn and 2.25mm (US 1) needles cable cast on 13 stitches, leaving a 6 inch tail for seaming with later

row 1: (wrong side) Purl

rows 2-10: Beginning and ending with Knit rows, work 9 rows of stocking stitch

Turn the work so that the wrong side is facing and using the 6 inch length of thread cut at the beginning sew through the top-most loops making sure you go through each in the same direction (*fig. 20*), note I've used red thread here for illustration purposes but it is better to use a thread which matches the toy colour. Leave both ends of this thread hanging for now – they will be used to draw in the neck later.

rows 11-18: Beginning with a Purl row and ending with a Knit row, work 8 rows of stocking stitch

Cut the work from the ball leaving a tail of around 8 inches and use the tapestry needle to thread this tail through the 13 stitches (*fig. 21*). Leave this thread loose for now, you can tighten the top seam when you are ready to sew up the back seam..

Next take your small circle of felt and place at the back of the work behind where you plan to embroider the face. Using the pink yarn embroider a small nose in

centre of face - I use 1 stitch across and 1 small stitch downwards. Knot the yarn at the back of the work and trim ends off. Now add the eyes with the black yarn - you can tie a small knot in the thread to make the eye stand out. Again knot the thread at the back of the work and tie ends securely trimming off excess (*figs. 22 & 23*)

Next pull the cast off tail end to gather in the seam at the top of the head and continue using this thread to close the seam using mattress stitch. Sew to just past the tail ends from the neck. Stuff the head section and when you are happy with the shape tightly pull the two tail ends from the neck to gather in the neck, then tie off securely and leave the ends inside the body. Continue seaming down the rest of the body to the cast on edge (*fig. 24*).

Stuff the body cavity to a shape you are happy with. Thread the needle with the cast on tail and use this to catch up the loops around the bottom of the body (here I've used red thread to illustrate) *fig. 25*. Pull the tail end to close the seam at the bottom of the body and tie both the cast on and cast off tails together to secure both seams. Sew the tail ends through the body before trimming.

Rabbit Ears (make 2 the same):

With 4ply yarn and 2.25mm (US 1) needles cable cast on 5 stitches, leaving a 6 inch tail for seaming with later

row 1: K1, P1, K1, P1, K1

rows 2-5: Repeat **row 1** four more times

row 6: K1, P3 together, K1 (*3 stitches*)

row 7: K1, P1, K1

row 8: K1, K2 together, pass 1st stitch over (*1 stitch*)

Cut the work from the ball and thread the end through the last stitch to cast off. Sew the cast off tail through

the centre of the ear (*fig. 26*). Fold the ear in half lengthways and sew the bottom edge closed. Tie both tail ends together to secure.

Join the ears to the top of the head with a few stitches (*figs. 27 & 28*). Knot the ends securely together and sew through the head before trimming excess.

Now the little toy is finished (*fig. 29*). If you can be bothered you can sew a white French knot as a tail (*fig. 30*) and then pop it into a pocket (*figs. 31 & 32*)

To make a tiny bear instead of a rabbit, follow the pattern on Page 7 using brown yarn, embroider the facial features all in black and make ears like so:

With 4ply yarn and 2.25mm (US 1) needles cable cast on 3 stitches, leaving a 6 inch tail for sewing with later.

row 1: Knit,

row 2: Cast off knit-wise

Tie the cast on and cast off ends together tightly which will form a little curved ear. Join each ear to the top of the head with a few stitches. Knot ends securely together and sew through the head before trimming excess.



fig. 20



fig. 21

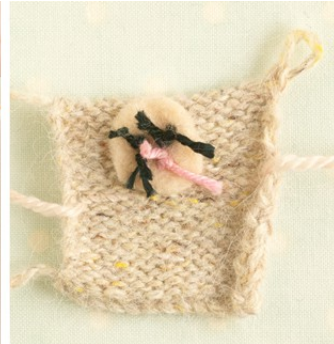


fig. 22



fig. 23



fig. 24



fig. 25



fig. 26



fig. 27



fig. 28



fig. 29



fig. 30



fig. 31



fig. 32

