

R O W A N

Big Wool Bag



YARN

Rowan Big Wool 2 x 100gm

NEEDLES

1 pair 10mm (no 000) (US 15) needles

TENSION

8 stitches and 12 rows to 10cm measured over stocking stitch on 10mm (US 15) needles.

SIDES (Make 2)

Cast on 21 stitches using 10mm (US 15) needles.

Row 1 (RS): Knit.

Row 2: Purl 1, make 1 stitch purlways (by picking up loop between last and next stitch and purl into the back of this loop), purl to last st, make 1 stitch purlways, purl 1.

Repeat last 2 rows once more.

25 stitches.

Beginning with a knit row, work in stocking stitch (1 row K, 1 row P), for 17 rows, ending with wrong side facing for next row.

Knit 2 rows.

Cast off knitwise (on WS).

FLAP

Cast on 23 stitches using 10mm (US 15) needles.

Row 1 (Right side): Knit.

Row 2: Knit 2, purl 19, knit 2.

Repeat last 2 rows 6 times more, ending with right side facing for next row.

Knit 3 rows.

Cast off knitwise (on WS).

GUSSET

Cast on 9 stitches using 10mm (US 15) needles, and knit 2 rows. Beginning with a knit row, work in stocking stitch until gusset measures 55cm, ending with wrong side facing for next row. Knit 2 rows.

Cast off knitwise (on WS).

STRAP

Cast on 5 sts using 10mm (US 15) needles.

Work in garter stitch (knit every row) until strap measures 50 cm. Cast off.

MAKING UP

PRESS as described on the ball band. Sew one end of gusset to side (row end) and lower (cast-on) edge of one side panel, matching ends of gusset to cast off edges of side panel. Join gusset to other side panel in same way. Position cast-on edge of flap 3cm down from upper edge of one (back) panel and stitch in place. If desired, sew a length of petersham ribbon to one side of strap to prevent stretching. Make pleats at top of gussets and sew ends of strap over pleats.

How To...

TENSION

Obtaining the correct tension is perhaps the single factor which can make the difference between a successful garment and a disastrous one. It controls both the shape and size of an article, so any variation, however slight, can distort the finished garment. We recommend that you knit a square in stocking stitch of perhaps 5 - 10 more stitches and 5 - 10 more rows than those given in the tension note. Mark out the central 10cm square with pins. If you have too many stitches to 10cm try again using thicker needles, if you have too few stitches to 10cm try again using finer needles. Once you have achieved the correct tension your garment will be knitted to the measurements indicated in the pattern.

CAST ON

This is the term for the very first stitches you make on your needles. There are several methods. The first thing to do is create a slip knot on your needle.



SIMPLE CAST ON

Place the slip knot onto the needle and hold this needle in your left hand. Hold the yarn and the other needle in your right hand. Insert the right needle through the loop and pass the yarn around the point.



With the point of the right hand needle, pull the yarn through the loop on the left needle to create a new loop which is now on your right needle.



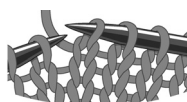
Transfer this loop onto the left needle and withdraw the right needle. You now have two stitches on left needle. Continue (repeating steps 1-3) until you have the required number of stitches.



KNIT STITCH

This is the first stitch you learn and is abbreviated in knitting patterns as K. It creates a simple ridged fabric known as garter stitch when used on its own. When worked in alternate rows with purl stitch, it forms a smooth textured fabric known as stocking stitch.

Insert the point of the right hand needle through the first loop on the left hand needle, from front to back.



Pass the yarn, held at the back of the work, around the right needle point in an anti-clockwise direction, pull the needlepoint and yarn through the loop on the left hand needle.



Slip the loop off the left needle to complete the first stitch. Continue in this way until all the stitches on the left hand needle have been knitted onto the right needle. You have now completed 1 row.



PURL STITCH

This is the second stitch to learn and is abbreviated in knitting patterns as p.

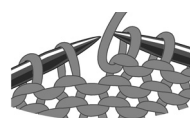
Bring your yarn to the front of the work, insert the right needle through the front of the first stitch on the left needle from right to left.



Pass the yarn, held at the front of the work around the point of the right needle in an anti-clockwise direction.



Push the needle and yarn through the loop to the back and slip the loop off the left hand needle, leaving a new stitch on the right needle. This is the first purl stitch. Complete all the stitches on the needle in this way to make the first purl row.



YARN FORWARD

Bring yarn forward between needles and over right needle to form a stitch.



KNIT ONE THROUGH BACK OF LOOPS

Bring yarn forward between needles and over right needle to form a stitch.



SHAPING - DECREASE

Decreases are made by working two or more stitches together and is used to shape garments.

Simple knit decrease (K2tog)

This forms a decrease that slopes to the right. Knit two stitches together by inserting the point of the right hand needle through two stitches instead of one and knitting these together as for one stitch.

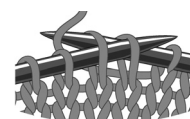


Simple Knit decrease (K3tog)

This is achieved by simply passing the right hand needle through 3 stitches instead of 2 as shown and knitting together as for one stitch.

Simple Knit decrease (k2togtbl)

This forms a decrease that slopes to the left. Knit two stitches together but insert the point of the right needle through the back of the stitches and knit both together as for one stitch.



Simple Purl decrease (P2tog)

Insert the needle purlways through two stitches and purl them together as one stitch.



SIMPLE INCREASE

Knit into the front of the Stitch in the usual way. But before slipping the old stitch off the needle, knit into the back of the stitch, forming two stitches on the right hand needle.



MAKING A STITCH

This method is different from a simple increase in that it does not use an existing stitch to make another stitch. Pick up the horizontal loop between two stitches and work into the back of it to make a stitch as shown to make 2 stitches work into front of the loop after first working into back of it.



MULTIPLE INCREASE

This is worked in a similar way to a simple increase but instead of working just 2 stitches into the first you will work several. In order to increase several times into one stitch you will need to alternate between knit and purl stitches.



SLIP STITCH

Slip one stitch knitwise from your left hand needle on to the right hand needle then knit the next stitch

Insert your left hand needle into the front of the slip stitch and pull it over the knitted one.



Pass slip stitch over

Pass stitch on the right hand needle over the first stitch and off the needle.

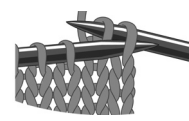
CAST OFF

Once you have made your knitted fabric, you will need to finish off the work. This is known as casting off.

Knit cast off

Be careful when casting off not to do so too tightly. You can use a size larger needle to avoid this, if you wish.

Knit the first two stitches. Then pick up the first stitch knitted with the point of the left needle and slip it over the second stitch and off the right hand needle, to leave one stitch on the right needle.



Now knit the next stitch to give two stitches again on the right needle. Cast off another stitch by repeating step 1.



Continue to cast off stitch by stitch across the row until only one stitch remains. Break the yarn, slip the last stitch off the needle and draw the end through. Pull the yarn tight to fasten off. The tail end will be darned in later during making up.



FINISHING TOUCHES

There are a number of useful tips and techniques that will help ensure a professional finish on your garment.

BLOCKING

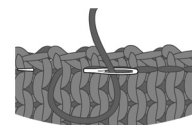
When stitching the pieces together, remember to match areas of colour and texture very carefully where they meet. Use a seam stitch such as back stitch or mattress stitch for all main knitting seams and join all ribs and neckband with mattress stitch, unless otherwise stated. When you have finished the various parts of the garment, they should be pressed. Check the ball band for any pressing instructions. Pin out each piece of knitted fabric, wrong side uppermost, on an ironing sheet and check the measurements against the pattern instructions. Then block out each piece by pinning around the edges, to the size required. Lightly press in place, with a clean, damp cloth between the iron and the knitting. Avoid pressing the ribbing as this lessens its elasticity.

STITCHING

When stitching the pieces together, remember to match areas of colour and texture very carefully where they meet. Use a seam stitch such as back stitch or mattress stitch for all main knitting seams and join all ribs and neckband with mattress stitch, unless otherwise stated. When stitching the pieces together, remember to match areas of colour and texture very carefully where they meet. Use a seam stitch such as back stitch or mattress stitch for all main knitting seams and join all ribs and neckband with mattress stitch, unless otherwise stated.

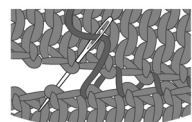
SEAMS

The majority of garments are made up with a backstitch seam, which gives a tailored finish. For baby garments and delicate fabrics, use a flat seam. For ribbing, use invisible seams.



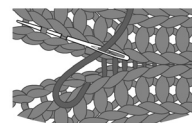
BACKSTITCH SEAM

Place the two pieces of fabric right sides together, and pin in position. Sew together with a row of backstitches, worked one stitch in from the edge as shown.



FLAT SEAM

Place the two pieces of fabric right sides together, and pin in position. Sew together with loose oversewing stitches, matching ridge to ridge.



INVISIBLE SEAM/MATRESS STITCH

With the right sides of the knitting facing you, place the two pieces of fabric side by side. Stitch together as shown, working one stitch from each edge in turn, as shown.