

Boy Hand Puppet with Hat

By Karen Lang - with thanks to Katherine Charles, as the pattern is adapted from her 'Doll Hand Puppet' / 'New Dolly Puppet'.

You can make this puppet into either boy, Dad or Grandad simply by adding your own creative ideas – grey hair etc. – lots of ideas are on the Gallery page of the website. Ideally we'd like a family set (happy/sad sided) – Boy, Dad and Grandad from this pattern and Girl, Mum and Grandma from the Basic Girl Pattern. The family is used in role play to help traumatized children.



You will need:

Double knitting yarn in the colours of your choice – if making ethnic puppets, use brown/tan for the face, but not black thanks.

4 mm (size 8) needles

For the eyes - buttons or the sew-on type of toy eyes, or you can embroider the eyes –(please don't stick on anything with glue)

For the mouth - embroidery cotton or yarn

Abbreviations: SSK: Slip, slip, knit: Slip the first stitch as if to knit, slip the second stitch as if to knit, then slide the left-hand needle into the front part of both stitches and knit them together.

M1: Make 1: Pick up and knit (or purl) the strand of yarn between the 2 stitches. Stitching into the back of this loop helps avoid a hole.

Shoes: Cast on 24 stitches. Row 1 and 2: Knit. Row 3 & 4: K1, SSK, knit to three stitches before the end, K2tog, K1 (20 stitches).

Trousers: Change colour for trousers; a light / medium colour will show the trouser leg divide more clearly than a dark colour. Row 1: Knit Row 2: P9, K2, P9. Row 3: K9, P2, K9. Note: The K2 / P2 in the middle 'divides' the two trouser legs. Continue alternating rows 2 and 3 until the trousers measure about 5 cm from the top of the shoes. Then continue in normal stocking stitch for 4 rows (i.e. row 1 = knit, row 2 = purl, row 3 = knit, row 4 = purl).

Jumper: Change colour for jumper. Knit 2 rows to create the waist band for the jumper. Continue in stocking stitch for about 4 cm. 1st arm row: Cast on 10 stitches, then knit across this row (30 stitches). 2nd arm row: Cast on 10 stitches, K4, purl across the rest of the row until 4 stitches before the end, K4 (40 stitches). Work another 8 rows alternating rows 1 and 2. On purl rows, knitting the first and last 4 stitches suggests hands. Row 11: Cast off 14 stitches, K26 (26 stitches). Row 12: Cast off 14 stitches in purl, P12 (12 stitches).

Face: Change to face colour. Use white British flesh tones or brown or tan for ethnic skin tones. Row 1: knit Row 2: purl Row 3: K1, M1, K10, M1, K1 (14 stitches)

Row 4: P1, M1, P12, M1, P1 (16 stitches) Row 5: K1, M1, K14, M1, K1 (18 stitches) Row 6: P1, M1, P16, M1, P1 (20 stitches) Continue in stocking stitch until face measures about 4 cm.

Hat: Change to hat colour. Row 1 and 2: Knit. This gives a border for the hat. Row 3: K1, SSK, knit until 3 stitches before the end, K2tog, K1 (18 stitches). Row 4: purl Continue alternating rows 3 and 4 until there are 8 stitches left. You can then either cast off or thread the yarn through the stitches and pull to gather the hat at the top.

Knit two pieces the same and sew together, leaving the bottom open.

Embroider eyes and smiling mouth (or use buttons very firmly attached). **Important note: we have been asked repeatedly by workers if we can put eyes and a smile on one side of the puppet and a downturned mouth (upside down smile) on the other side.** As far as we know you can't buy these, so it makes them unique. It's very useful in discussions about how events affect other members of the family.



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