



Jorid Linvik's

BIG BOOK OF CHRISTMAS KNITS

OVER 70 SCANDINAVIAN HOLIDAY PATTERNS



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PREFACE

I'm certainly not the only one who thinks Advent and the Christmas holidays are the best time of the year! The good feelings arrive on December 1 when the Advent stars and Advent candles are placed in my cottage window to mark the time leading up to Christmas.

December days go by quickly with all sorts of Christmas preparations—and Christmas interruptions! Christmas concerts and events eat up time in all the best ways, and at home there's plenty to keep you busy, too: presents to wrap, Christmas cakes and other tasty Christmas food to be prepared, and of course decorating the house so it's ready for Christmas. Sometimes it can be hard to hang on to your Christmas cheer in the face of it all.

We want to get the most out of Christmas, which means all these preparations can lead to stress instead of comfort. So don't forget to rest between activities! And what better way to take a break than sitting down for a few minutes to knit? You can ease your mind and relax, and make more gifts and decorations at the same time—a win-win situation. Perhaps you'll also be able to watch some TV or listen to music while you knit? Triple joy.

Besides, what's stopping you from starting early, if you're that type of person? Christmas gifts and decorations can be knitted all year long, so you'll have plenty of time to enjoy it.

This book was written precisely for those of you who want to give yourselves a reason to indulge in plenty of Christmas spirit. You'll find many knitting projects here that offer both comfort and utility, in big ways and small. All the projects in this book were designed with Christmas in mind, whether as gifts or toys and decorations.

Have a good Christmas!
Jorid Linvik
BODØ, NORWAY





ADVENT CALENDAR BAGS

Make every day of Advent exciting!

There are no rules for what an Advent calendar should look like. It can, for example, look like a dresser with 24 drawers, or a large picture with 24 hooks to hang packages on; it can be digital, or it can be a scratch card.

Here you'll find instructions for 24 different gift bags, all with charming motifs. You can fill the bags with small surprises. Set them up on a table or shelf, hang them up on a hook or branch, or fill a basket with them.

Dates aren't worked into these bags, so you'll need to add a small tag for each so the recipient will know which day to open it. You can make your own date tags or tie on tags as in the pictures. I used a variety of ribbons from Panduro (a Scandinavian craft store) to tie the bags.

SKILL LEVEL
Experienced

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Length: Approx. 4¾ in / 12 cm

Circumference: Approx. 9¾ in / 25 cm

If you want longer bags, you can knit a

few extra rounds between the pattern and the eyelet round.

MATERIALS

Yarn:

CYCA #1 (fingering) Søstrene Grene Anna & Clara (100% cotton, 175 yd/160 m / 50 g).

Yarn Amounts and Colors:

This yarn is sold in 50 g balls without color numbers. Shops usually stock a variety of assorted colors depending on the season. For these bags, I used 1-2 balls of White, and then less than 1 ball of Red, Dark Blue, Dark Green, and Turquoise. Buy any colors you like, but remember to get extra of whatever color you're using as a base color.

Substitute Yarn: Yarn for a gauge of 26-28 stitches in 4 in / 10 cm. If you use heavier yarn and larger needles, the bags will be bigger.

Needles: U. S. size 1.5 / 2.5 mm: Set of 5 dpn.

Notions: Ribbon or cords, number tags.

GAUGE

Approx. 26 sts = 4 in / 10 cm. Adjust needle size to obtain correct gauge if necessary.



DOLLS

A doll isn't just decorative—it can also be fun to play with and, in the best case, become a dear friend. It's easy to be happy with soft, huggable dolls, and they're always ready to play!

Here you'll find patterns for three dolls. Even if the dolls are different in both looks and character, they're all the same size and knitted following the same basic pattern. You'll also find instructions for clothing to give each doll personality.

Let your imagination run wild and knit the dolls a whole wardrobe, if you like!

RAMPUS RAMPENISSE

Instead of the traditional Advent calendar with gifts every day during Advent, in many homes in Norway it's common to let a *rampenisse*—a particularly troublesome sort of elf—fly into the house and live there for all of December. This elf makes trouble all night, and it's fun and exciting to get up early in the morning to see what on earth has gone wrong each day! These days, it's increasingly common to buy a so-called “Elf on the Shelf” doll and let it play the role of the *rampenisse*. But you can also knit your own rambunctious Rampus *rampenisse* with a character all its own.

LITTLE POSTMAN

While Rampus contemplates tricks, his kind friend goes about looking for positive things worth noting. The Little Postman has a small backpack containing letters describing all the lovely things he's seen over the course of the day. When evening arrives, he delivers his letters to their recipients—comforting words, compliments, and praise for good deeds can all be shared by the postman.

DOLL WITH HAIR

The body for this doll is knitted following the same pattern as for the *rampenisse* and the Little Postman, but the whole doll is made in a single color. This doll has a thick head of hair that can be styled with knitted hair or fringe. You can make the hair as long or short as you want, in whatever color you like.

Our doll became an angel doll, but don't be fooled! The wings are only attached at the back of the dress, and when they're removed the doll is completely ordinary. You'll find patterns for several outfits on the following pages, too, to make it easy to knit a personalized doll that's just right for the recipient.



BIRGITTE

You'll meet these little bullfinches in several places in this book. They show up for the first time on this Christmas stocking. These red birds light up the cold winter landscape in Norway and create a beautiful Christmas mood.

MAIN COLOR: White.

PATTERN COLORS: Light and Dark Blue, Dark Red. The heels and toes are worked in Light Blue. The bullfinches are knitted with Red and then the Black and Grey accents are added later with duplicate stitch.





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SILVERWARE HOLDERS

This year we can decorate the Christmas table with these fun and inviting little holders for napkins and silverware. You can place spruce twigs between them for extra Christmas spirit!

You can lay a house or a tree at every place setting, or you can set out the Christmas buffet and line the silverware holders in a row like a street, and let the guests pick up their own utensils.

It's not easy to make the right angles for the corners on the houses—they can quickly turn into rounded corners and then tilt the edges of the door and windows. But that'll be part of their charm. Do you have some fun decorations to hang on their walls? The styling is only limited by your imagination.

These silverware holders can do more than one job, too: they can also decorate the walls.

All the houses are knitted back and forth. The windows and doors are knitted in stockinette, with the purl stitches on the wrong side of the work. The colors in the windows are embroidered with duplicate stitch over the knit stitches with yarn in a contrast color.

The door and window frames are crocheted on with white yarn. Insert the hook into the work and bring a loop up. Insert the hook down into the next stitch, draw up a loop, and pull that loop through the first loop (slip stitch). Continue with slip stitches around.

Alternatively, embroider the frames using a tapestry needle and chain stitch.

For the window frames, sew a cross in the window with white yarn and long straight stitches. In the center of the cross, sew a small stitch on each side so the thread is secured.

For the edging, the pieces of the houses are crocheted together with single crochet, and, if there is a roof, it will have a crocheted edging. Crochet all around each house. Join the parts with a basting thread before you crochet to prevent the structure from becoming too crooked.

SKILL LEVEL

Experienced

MATERIALS

Yarn:

CYCA #3 (DK/light worsted) Gjestal Cotton Sport (100% cotton, 110 yd/101 m / 50 g).

Yarn Amounts and Colors:

One ball of each color (see photos) is enough for several holders.

Substitute Yarn: Cotton yarn recommended for 23 sts in 4 in / 10 cm.

Needles: U. S. size 2.5 / 3 mm.

Notions: Tapestry needle for embroidery.

Crochet Hook: U. S. size D-3 / 3 mm.

Notions: To decorate the holders: small plastic beads, metal bells for the church bells, and a heart-shaped button for the door.

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PIG

In the old days, the centerpiece of the Christmas table was an entire small pig, baked, holding an apple in its mouth. Today, it's more pleasant—and easier—to decorate the table with a few small homemade pigs. This cheerful pig is knitted with cotton yarn and serves as a table decoration as well as on the Christmas tree. If there are children in the house, you can be sure they'll play with the little pink charmer. Make plenty, so everyone can have one!

SKILL LEVEL

Intermediate

MATERIALS

Yarn:

CYCA #1 (fingering) Søstrene Grene Anna & Clara (100% cotton, 175 yd/160 m / 50 g).

Yarn Amounts and Colors:

1 ball of Pink or another skin color will make at least 2 pigs.

Needles: U. S. size 1.5 / 2.5 mm: Set of 5 dpn.

Crochet Hook: U. S. size E-4 / 3.5 mm for the tail.

Notions: Fiberfill; two small glass beads for the eyes.

GAUGE

The pig should be knitted firmly so the filling won't poke out between the stitches. If you knit loosely, use smaller needles.



SNOWMAN

A snowman with a round stomach, hat, and carrot nose always seems exciting. Hasn't the Christmas snow appeared yet? Don't despair; almost anything can be arranged with a little yarn and some quickly-knitted rows. Snowmen create a winter feeling whether they are toys, hang on the Christmas tree, or look out over the room from a shelf.

The snow-white cotton yarn adds an extra sense of winter and makes the snowman look quite authentic.



FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Height: Approx. 4¾ in / 12 cm.

Circumference: Approx. 8¾ in / 22 cm.

MATERIALS

Yarn:

CYCA #1 (fingering) Søstre Grene Anna & Clara (100% cotton, 175 yd / 160 m / 50 g).

Yarn Amounts and Colors:

1 ball of White will make several snowmen. Use a small amount of Orange for the nose.

Substitute Yarn: Yarn recommended for a gauge of 28-30 stitches in 4 in / 10 cm will make snowmen of the same size as suggested yarn.

Needles: U. S. size 1.5 / 2.5 mm: set of 5 dpn.

Crochet Hook: U. S. size A or B / 2.25 mm

Notions: Fiberfill; small glass beads for the eyes and buttons; needle and thread for sewing on beads.

GAUGE

The snowmen should be knitted firmly so the filling won't bulge out between the stitches. If you knit loosely, use smaller needles (for example, U. S. size 0 / 2 mm).







STRIPED MINI STOCKINGS

Striped long stockings for the elf mother, She wears these all winter.

SKILL LEVEL

Intermediate

MATERIALS

Yarn:

Small amounts of fine wool yarn good

for felting. I used CYCA #1 (fingering) Finull PT2 from Rauma Ullvarefabrikk (100% pure new wool, 191 yd/175 m / 50 g). Colors:

White, Red, and Green.

Needles: U. S. size 1.5 or 2.5 / 2.5 or 3 mm: Set of 5 dpn.

Notions: Cords for hanging the socks on the tree; decorative charms.

Instructions

① With White, CO 16 sts over 1 dpn. Divide the sts evenly over 4 dpn and join to work in the round. Work from the *Striped Mini Stocking* chart. Work 3 rnds k1, p1 ribbing as shown on the chart and then knit 1 rnd.

② Continue in charted stripe pattern.

③ The heel is worked back and forth in stockinette. With Green, knit the first 4 sts.

④ Turn and purl back over the next 8 sts. Leave rem sts on needle or holder for instep. Work 5 rows in stockinette over the 8 heel flap sts.

⑤ **Rnd 6:** K4, ssk; turn.

⑥ Continue as follows for heel turn:

WS: Sl 1 purlwise, p2tog.

RS: Sl 1 knitwise, ssk.

Rep WS and RS rows until 2 sts rem on heel.

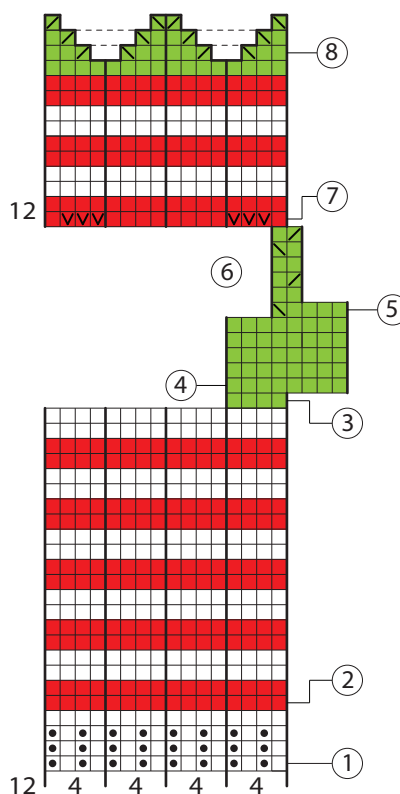
⑦ Now continue in the round. The rnd begins at the center of the sole.

Rnd 1: K1 of heel; pick up and knit 3 sts on side of flap; k8 across instep; pick up and knit 3 sts on opposite side of flap, k1 of heel. Now work the foot as shown on the chart.

⑧ Shape the toe at each side on every rnd as shown on the chart.

FINISHING

Cut yarn and draw end through 4 rem sts. Weave in all ends neatly on WS. Felt socks (see page 18). Stretch socks into finished shape, lay flat, and leave until completely dry.



Striped Mini Stockings

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SWEATER WITH WINTER BIRDS

No doubt the Christmas feeling will be spread with such a delightful sweater decorated with bullfinches and magpies. The sweater is knitted with a fine baby wool and the bullfinches on the front are embroidered after the knitting is complete. This is a somewhat long model that will fit for a long time. The top and bottom of the body have folded-in facings. The boat neck guarantees that the child's head will fit into the sweater without getting stuck.

SKILL LEVEL

Experienced

SIZE

Approx. 2-4 years

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Chest Circumference: Approx. 27½ in / 70 cm

Total Length: 13¾ in / 35 cm

Inner Sleeve Length: 9½ in / 24 cm

Sleeve Circumference: at top: 11¾ in / 30 cm; at cuff: 6 in / 15 cm

MATERIALS

Yarn: CYCA #1 (fingering) Rauma Baby Panda (100% Merino wool, 191 yd/175 m / 50 g).

Yarn Amounts and Colors:

Approx. 64 g White 11

Approx. 110 g Gray 12

Approx. 10 g Red 18

Approx. 13 g Green 78

Approx. 5 g Brown-black 110

Substitute Yarn: CYCA #1 (fingering) baby wool yarn for a gauge of 30 stitches in 4 in / 10 cm on U. S. size 1.5 / 2.5 mm needles.

Needles: U. S. sizes 0 and 1.5 / 2 and 2.5 mm: 24-32 in / 60-80 cm circulars; set of 5 dpn U. S. size 1.5 / 2.5 mm for the sleeves.

Notions: Tapestry needle for embroidering feather colors.

GAUGE

32 sts in pattern on larger needles = 4 in / 10 cm.

Adjust needle size to obtain correct gauge if necessary.

Instructions

The sweater is worked in the round, from the bottom up. The armholes are cut open after knitting the sides.

BODY

① With Gray and smaller circular, CO 224 sts. Join, being careful not to twist cast-on row; pm for beginning of rnd. The rnds begin at the side with the front being worked first. Work following *Chart*

1, *Sweater*. Begin with knitting 7 rnds for the facing.

② Work the eyelet rnd as the foldline for the facing. After completing eyelet rnd, change to larger circular. Continue following the chart. The repeat with the magpies is worked over 28 sts, repeated 8 times around, so pm every 28 sts to make counting easier.

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THE ELF MOTHER'S HEART-HAT

The Elf Mother's heart pattern works perfectly on a hat because the width and length of this pattern are the same. This is a nice cozy hat you can knit for yourself or for someone you care about.

The hat can be knitted in either women's or men's sizes from the same pattern—just use different needle sizes. I decorated my hat with a faux fur pompom I bought, but you can make a pompom yourself, or leave it off entirely.

SKILL LEVEL

Experienced

MATERIALS

For Women's Hat: Yarn recommended

for gauge of 22-24 sts in 4 in / 10 cm. 1 ball of each color. Needles U. S. size 4 / 3.5 mm: 16 in / 40 cm circular and set of 5 dpn.

For Men's Hat: Yarn recommended for gauge of 22-24 sts in 4 in / 10 cm. 1 ball of each color. Needles U. S. size 6 / 4 mm: 16 in / 40 cm circular and set of 5 dpn.

Yarn: The hat shown here was knitted with CYCA #3 (DK, light worsted) Du Store Alpaka Sterk (40% Merino wool, 40% alpaca, 20% nylon, 150 yd/ 137 m / 50 g) on needles U. S. size 4 / 3.5 mm.

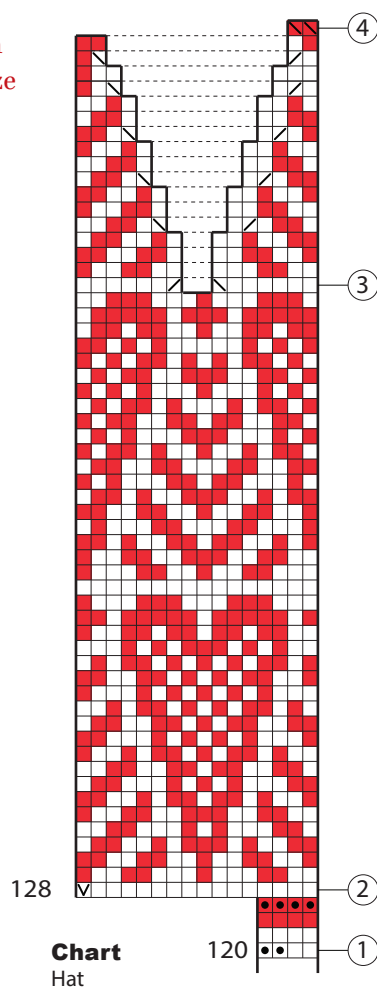
Instructions

① With White and circular, CO 120 sts. Join, being careful not to twist cast-on row. Pm for beginning of rnd. Work following the *Hat* chart, repeating the motifs around. Begin with k2, p2 ribbing for 12 rnds.

② (K15, M1) 8 times around = 128 sts. Continue following the chart to crown shaping.

③ **Crown shaping:** Decrease as shown on chart. When the sts no longer fit around circular, change to dpn.

④ (K2tog) around. Cut yarn and draw end through rem sts; tighten. Weave in all ends neatly on WS.



FELTED MITTENS

These mittens are long and delightful. They warm the hands up to the arms and right through to the heart. The mittens have wide cuffs and will stay in place well when pulled over sweater sleeves.

Both mittens are knitted the same way except for the thumb placement.

SKILL LEVEL

Intermediate

SIZES

Men's (Women's)

MATERIALS

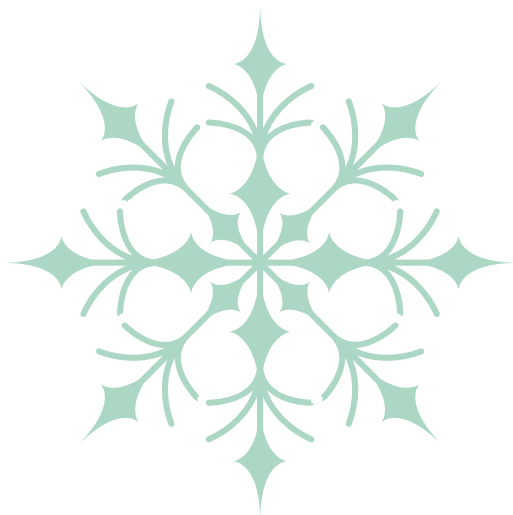
Yarn: CYCA #2 (sport, baby) Tove from Sandnes (100% wool, 175 yd/160 m / 50 g).

Yarn Amounts and Colors:

50 g each Dark Blue and White for one pair of mittens.

Needles: U. S. size 6 / 4 mm (U. S. 4 / 3.5 mm): Set of 5 dpn.

The mittens are knitted large and then felted to desired finished size. See page 18 for more on felting.



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