

The knitting NETWORK

Christmas Nativity KAL (Part four)

The Three Kings



The fancy beads as the King's gifts gives extra detail!

Essentials...

SKILL LEVEL



MEASUREMENTS

Figures: 12cm/4¾in tall

MATERIALS

★ **For each king:** 2 hanks of Anchor Tapisserie Wool in robe shade (deep green 8924, dark purple 8596 or burgundy 8528); 1 hank in headdress shade (mid green 8920, mid purple 8590 or bright pink 8490); 1 hank in head

shade (dark brown 9390 or mid brown 9388); 1 hank in beard shade (dark beige 9328, chocolate brown 9642 or dark grey 9766); length of ribbon cord in lilac or deep red; small amount of DK cotton yarn in gold colour; 1 large fancy glass bead (round, cylinder or oval)

★ Size Pair of 3¾mm (No. 9) knitting needles, washable toy stuffing, scrap of stout card, clear adhesive.

TENSION

24 stitches and 30 rows, to 10 x 10cm, over stocking stitch, using 3¾mm needles

ABBREVIATIONS

K, knit; **p**, purl; **st**, stitch; **tog**, together; **dec**, decrease (by taking 2 sts tog); **ss**, stocking st (k on right side and p on wrong side); **up1**, pick up loop lying between needles and work into the back

NOTE

Yarn amounts are based on average

requirements and are therefore approximate. Figures in square brackets are worked as stated after 2nd bracket.

How to make...

THE THREE KINGS

BODY AND HEAD

With beard shade, cast on 9 sts for base. P 1 row.

1st increase row: K1, [up1, k1] to end — 17 sts. P 1 row.

2nd increase row: K1, [up1, k2] to end — 25 sts. P 1 row.

3rd increase row: K1, [up1, k3] to end — 33 sts. P 1 row.

4th increase row: K1, [up1, k4] to end — 41 sts. P 1 row.

K 1 row. K 1 row for fold line.

Change to robe shade

Robe: Beginning with a k row, ss 6 rows.

1st dec row: K1, [k2tog, k6] to end — 36 sts. Ss 3 rows.

2nd dec row: K1, [k2tog, k5] to end — 31 sts. Ss 3 rows.

3rd dec row: K1, [k2tog, k4] to end — 26 sts. Ss 3 rows.

4th dec row: K1, [k2tog, k3] to end — 21 sts. P 1 row.

5th dec row: K1, [k2tog, k2] to end — 16 sts. Cast off pwise for neck.

Head: With right side facing and using head shade, pick up and k15 sts along cast-off edge of robe. P 1 row.

1st increase row: K1, [up1, k2] to end — 22 sts. P 1 row.

2nd increase row: K1, [up1, k3] to end — 29 sts. Beginning with a p row, ss 5 rows.

1st dec row: K1, [k2tog, k2] to end — 22 sts. P 1 row.

2nd dec row: K1, [k2tog, k1] to end — 15 sts. P 1 row.

3rd dec row: K1, [k2tog] to end — 8 sts.

4th dec row: [P2tog] to end — 4 sts. Break off yarn, leaving a long end. Thread end through sts, pull up and secure.

Join row-ends of base and robe from cast-on edge to 1cm after fold line. Gather cast-on edge, pull up tightly and fasten off.

Cut 6cm-diameter circle of stout card, glue inside base and leave to dry. Join remainder of seam, leaving an opening. Stuff head and body firmly and close opening.

ARMS (make 2)

With robe shade, cast on 8 sts for top edge.

Beginning with a k row, ss 4 rows.

1st increase row: K4, up1, k4 — 9 sts. Ss 2 rows.

2nd increase row: P4, p twice in next st, p4 —

10 sts. Ss 2 rows.

3rd increase row: K5, up1, k5 — 11 sts. Ss 3 rows. Cast off, but do not break off the yarn.

Hand: With wrong side facing and using attached robe shade, pick up and k11 sts along cast-off edge of arm. Change to head shade.

Dec row: K1, [k2tog] to end — 6 sts.

Beginning with a p row, ss 5 rows. Break off yarn, leaving a long end. Thread end through sts, pull up and secure.

Join row-ends edge from gathered end of hand to top of arm. Place top of arms at each side of body, just below neck and secure in position.

HEADDRESS

With headdress shade, cast on 24 sts.

Beginning with a k row, ss 11 rows.

Cast on 6 sts at beginning of next row for face edge — 30 sts. Ss 4 rows.

1st dec row: K2, [k2tog, k2] to end — 23 sts.

P 1 row.

2nd dec row: K2, [k2tog, k1] to end — 16 sts.

3rd dec row: [P2tog] to end — 8 sts.

Break off yarn, leaving a long end. Thread end through sts, pull up and secure. Join row-ends from gathered end to cast-on sts for face edge.

BEARD

With beard shade, cast on 2 sts.

Next row: K1, yarn forward to make a st, k1 — 3 sts. K 23 rows. Mark end of last row. **Next row:** Pull yarn through first st and break off, slip remaining 2 sts onto a safety pin.

Position marked edge of beard in crescent shape along lower part of face and back stitch through every stitch along marked edge.

Remove safety pin and to form loops, unravel the 2 sts all the way to cast-on edge.

With beard shade or dark brown, embroider eyes on face by working 2 satin stitches for each eye.

With 2 strands of head shade, work a few satin stitches between eyes for nose.

Place headdress on top of head and secure in position. Catch down lower edge of headdress to body.

Robe: Cut ribbon cord into 45cm length. Working along first decrease row on robe and beginning at front, thread end of ribbon through half of each decreased stitch, then wind ribbon around robe again. Tie ends at centre front and trim.

Fold arms towards centre front, placing bead in the hands as shown in photo and secure in position.

CROWNS

Plain crown: With two strands of DK yarn together, cast on 25 sts. Ss 2 rows. Cast off. Join row-ends together.

Two-colour crown: With two strands of DK yarn together, cast on 3 sts. Ss 30 rows. Cast off.

Join cast-on and cast-off edges together. Allow side edges of crown to roll. Wind ribbon cord around crown, then tie ends together and trim.

Fancy crown: With two strands of DK yarn together, cast on 44 sts. P 1 row.

Cast-off edge: K2, pass 1st st over 2nd st, [k4tog, pass 1st st over 2nd st, k1, pass 1st st over 2nd st, k1, pass 1st st over 2nd st] to end.

Fasten off. Join row-ends together. Attach crown to top of head, having cast-on edge uppermost on plain or fancy crown.