

Instructions for CLASS H, Sections 12 & 15

IZZY DOLLS or COMFORT DOLLS

Comfort Dolls, Izzy Dolls, Dolls of Joy. By whatever name, these little hand-knitted dolls bring happiness to the world's poorest children. In recent years, many AMS members and auxiliaries have become involved in this project

The idea for Comfort Dolls began with "Izzy dolls", created by Carol Isfeld and named in memory of her son. Master Cpl. Mark Isfeld was killed in 1994 while removing landmines during his third tour of UN duty in Croatia. Various humanitarian organizations have taken on the distribution of these dolls and all agree that they can never be used for financial gain. ICROSS Canada (International Community for the Relief Of Suffering and Starvation) and Rotary International use the dolls to pack around medical supplies to keep breakable items safe during the journey to Africa.

Once the medical supplies are unloaded, the dolls are given to HIV/AIDS orphans and the families of the poorest of the poor.

Here at home, the dolls have been given to firemen, police and paramedics to comfort children caught up in disastrous circumstances.

KNITTING PATTERN

You will need:

Small quantities of yarn (medium weight, various colours)
1 pair of 2.25 mm needles
tapestry needle
polyester fiberfill

Begin at the feet and knit a rectangle, changing yarn colour for each body segment. The head is stuffed and the neck formed by pulling in with a gathering thread. When the body is stuffed, the feet are formed by pulling with a thread. The arms and legs are defined by stitching through all the layers after the doll is stuffed. The number of rows in each part can be increased or decreased depending on the individual design. Finished height of each doll is about 13 cm. (5 inches).

To make:

Work in stocking stitch throughout.
Cast on 32 stitches. Knit 4 rows for feet.
Change yarn. Knit 14 rows for pants or skirt.
Change yarn. Knit 12 rows for sweater.
Change yarn. Knit 10 rows for head.
Change yarn. Knit 4 rows for cap.
Row 5 Decrease 5 stitches evenly across the row. (27 stitches)
Row 6 Purl across row
Row 7 Decrease 5 stitches evenly across row (22 stitches).
Row 8 Purl across row
Row 9 Decrease 5 stitches evenly across row (17 stitches)
Row 10 Purl across row.
Row 11 Knit 1 Knit 2 together nine times.
Draw yarn through remaining stitches and pull up.

To finish:

Sew sides together to form a center back seam.
Stuff head. Weave a single strand of matching yarn across the first face row.
Repeat for body, drawing in at ankles.
Stuff feet and sew up bottom, pulling in as much as possible.
With matching yarn, form arms with tiny back stitches through all layers from waist to two rows beneath neck.
Embroider hair and facial features as desired.

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Knitting with Four Needles

To begin: The basic method for each doll is the same. Begin at the feet, changing the colors for each body segment. The head is stuffed and the neck is formed by pulling with a thread. The arms and legs are formed by stitching through all layers after the doll is stuffed.

To make:

Knit throughout: Cast on 36 stitches.

Knit 6 rows for feet.

Change yarn colour.

K 14 rows for pants.

Change color.

K 12 rows for sweater.

Change color.

K 8 rows for face.

Change color for hat.

K 2 rows.

Row 3: K4, K2 together

Row 4: Knit

Row 5: K3, K3 together

Row 6: Knit

Row 7: K2, K2 together

Row 8: Knit

Row 9: K1, K2 together

Row 10: Knit

Row 11: K2 together

Row 12: Knit

Draw the yarn through the remaining stitches.

To finish:

1. Stuff the head. Weave a single strand of matching yarn across the first face row. Draw up to form neck and secure ends.
2. Repeat for body, drawing in at ankles.
3. Stuff feet and sew up bottom pulling in as much as possible.
4. With matching yard, form arms with tiny back stitches through all layers from waist to two rows below neck.

5. Define the legs in the same way from bottom to just below the waist.
6. Embroider hair and facial features as desired.

CROCHET PATTERN

Pattern adapted for people who prefer crocheting to knitting

You will need:

Crochet Hook (3.5)

Stuffing (Fiberfill)

Yarn (medium weight, various colours)

With color for “shoes”, chain 30. (Last 2ch are first stitch in first row). Slip stitch in first st. of same row, ch1 and start next row (in a round).

Row 1: Continuing with the “shoe” colour, sc in second st from hook and in each of remaining ch (should be 28) Ch1 and slip stitch in first st of same row, ch1 and start next row in a round.

Rows 2-3 Still with same colour, sc in each st across. Finish off. The “shoes” are complete.

Rows 4-12 *With colour you want for the pants, sc in each st across. Slip stitch in first stitch of same row. Ch1 and start next row in a round. Continue from * until you have eight rows of “pants” colour done. Finish off.

Rows 13-19 **With colour for “shirt”, sc in each stitch across. Slip stitch in first st of same row, ch1 and start next row in a round. Continue from ** until you have 6 rows of this colour done. Finish off. “Shirt” is complete.

Rows 20-27 ***With colour for “head”, sc in each stitch across. Slip stitch in first stitch of same row, ch1 and start next row in a round. Continue from *** until you have 7 rows of this colour done. Finish off. This is the “head”.

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Rows 28-36 **** With color for “hat”, sc in each st across. Slip stitch in first st of same row, ch1 and start next row in a round. Continue from **** but decrease a few stitches in each row. Finish off and draw the stitches in with a needle to make the pointed top of the “hat”.

Finishing

Lightly stuff.

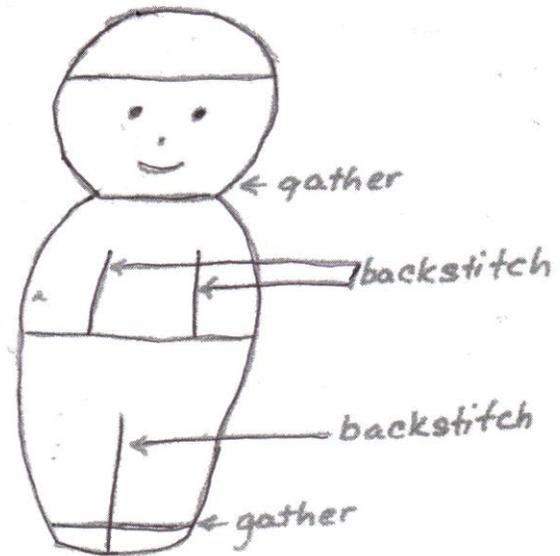
Make a gathering stitch between the “head” and the “shirt”. Pull it enough to delineate the “neck”.

Do the same between the “pants” and the “shoes”.

Sew the bottom of the “shoes” to keep the stuffing in.

With a fine backstitch, sew right through all the layers to make arms and legs. (See diagram)

Make eyes and mouth with embroidery yarn.



Make the face happy and say a little prayer!

