

Knitting Patterns for life size nativity

The same basic patterns (see below) were written and used as was appropriate on all of the figures. The heads were knitted balloon shapes with hair made using finger knitting. Head dresses, belts, jewellery etc. were created by individuals within the group, sometimes adapting existing patterns and sometimes simply creating a shape. Hands were formed using a glove pattern and shoes from sock patterns.

Tunic (all figures)

Skirt (4 panels required for each adult figure)

Needles size 8 (4mm)

Cast on 70 stitches

Knit 10 rows in Garter stitch (knit all rows).

Row 11, knit

Row 12, knit 1, purl to last stitch, knit 1

Alternate Row 11 and Row 12 until work measures 40inches.

Cast off

Top (Front and Back)

Needles size 8 (4mm)

Cast on 110 stitches

Knit 10 rows in Garter stitch (knit all rows)

Row 11, knit

Row 12, knit 1, purl to last stitch, knit 1

Alternate row 11 and row 12 until 162rows (64 cms)

Cast off

Sleeves (Knit two for each adult figure)

Needles size 8 (4mm)

Cast on 90 stitches

Knit 10 rows in Garter stitch (knit all rows)

Row 11, knit

Row 12, knit 1, purl to last stitch, knit 1

Alternate row 11 and row 12 for 19 inches (49 cms)

Cast off

Head dress (Mary)

Cast on 160 stitches and knit to the end of the wool (200gm ball).

Head dress (Joseph)

Cast on 70 stitches

Knit 10 rows Garter stitch (knit all rows)

Row 11 onwards stocking stitch to 110 cms, knitting first and last stitch on purl row.

10 rows from the end repeat 10 rows Garter stitch.

Cast off

Robe (Joseph and Kings)

Front (two panels required)

Using maroon wool and Needles size 8 (4mm)

Cast on 55 stitches

10 rows Garter Stitch (knit all rows)

Row 11, knit

Row 12, knit 1, purl to last stitch, knit 1

Alternate row 11 and row 12 for 320 rows (50 inches)

cast off

Back (two panels required, each panel in two halves)

Panel 1 (repeat for panel 2)

Bottom half

Cast on 70 stitches

10 rows Garter stitch (knit all rows)

row 11, knit

row 12, knit 1, purl to last stitch, knit 1

Alternate row 11 and row 12 for 150 rows (25 inches)

cast off

Top half

Cast on 70 stitches

Row 1, knit

Row 2, knit1, purl to last stitch, knit 1

Alternate row 1 and row 2 for 150 rows (25 inches)

cast off

SHEPHERD BOY

Needles size 8 (4mm)

Basic Tunic. Knit 1 each for front and back

100 grams each of 3 contrasting colours of DK.

Use each of the 3 colours to create a striped effect.

Cast on 70 stitches

Knit 10 rows in Garter Stitch (knit all rows)

Row 11, knit

Row 12, knit 1, purl to last stitch, knit 1

Alternate row 11 and row 12 until the work measures 40 inches or until $\frac{1}{2}$ the wool has been used.

Cast off.

The **baby Jesus** was knitted as simply as possible so that a face could be seen peeping through a shawl of knitted white squares. The Ruishton and Creech St Michael Brownies knitted a blanket which was a lovely addition to the tableaux.