



Miranda The Masham Sheep

by Janice Anderson



YARN

British Sheep Breeds DK

A Brown Bluefaced Leicester 781

1 x 50gm

B Grey Suffolk/Bluefaced Leicester 784/780

1 x 50gm

British Sheep Breeds Fine Boucle

C Ecu Masham 316

1 x 50gm

NEEDLES

1 pair 3¾mm (no 9) (US 5) needles

1 pair 3¾mm (no 9) (US 5) double-pointed needles

3.25mm (no 10) (US D3) crochet hook

EXTRAS

Washable toy filling

2 small black beads for eyes (optional)

TENSION

23 sts and 32 rows to 10 cm measured over stocking stitch using 3¾mm (US 5) needles.

FINISHED SIZE

Completed sheep is approx 17 cm (6¾ins) tall.

SPECIAL ABBREVIATION

yb = take yarn to back of work as if to knit.

Striped ridge patt

Row 1 (RS): Using yarn A, knit.

Rows 2 and 3: Using yarn B, knit.

Row 4: Using yarn A, purl.

BODY

Using 3¾mm (US 5) needles and yarn A cast on 72 sts.

Place markers between 21st and 22nd, 35th and 36th, and 55th and 56th sts.

Slipping markers as appropriate, work in patt as follows:

Row 1 (RS): Knit.

Row 2: *P2, P2tog, P to 3 sts before marker, P2tog tbl, P2, M1**, P to 1 st before marker, M1, rep from * to **, P to last 2 sts, M1, P2.

Row 3: *K2, M1, K to 1 st before marker, M1, K2, K2tog tbl**, K to 3 sts before marker, K2tog, rep from * to **, K to last 4 sts, K2tog, K2.

Rows 4 and 5: As rows 2 and 3.

Row 6: Purl.

Now work in striped ridge patt as follows:

Row 7: *K2, M1, K to 1 st before marker, M1, K2, K2tog tbl**, K2tog, rep from * to **, K to last 4 sts, K2tog, K2.

Work 9 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Row 17: K to 3 sts before marker, K2tog, (K2, M1) twice, K2, K2tog tbl, K to end.

Row 18: *P2, M1, P to 1 st before marker, M1, P2, P2tog **, P to 3 sts before marker, P2tog tbl, rep from * to **, P to last 4 sts, P2tog tbl, P2.

Row 19: K to 3 sts before marker, K2tog, K2, M1, K to 1 st before marker, M1, K2, K2tog tbl, K to end.

Row 20: *K2, M1, K to 1 st before marker, M1, K2, K2tog tbl**, K to 3 sts before marker, K2tog, rep from * to **, K to last 4 sts, K2tog, K2.

Row 21: Keeping contrast stripe sequence correct, as row 19.

Rows 22 to 24: As rows 18 to 20.

Remove all markers and break yarn A.

Row 25: Cast off 19 sts, patt to last 15 sts and turn, leaving

rem sts on left needle. 53 sts.

Row 26: Rejoin yarn A, patt to end, break yarn.

Shape rump

Row 27: Slip first 20 sts onto a holder for front neck, rejoin yarn to rem 33 sts, patt to last 15 sts and turn.

Row 28: Sl st from right needle to left needle, K2tog tbl, patt to end. 32 sts.

Row 29: K to last 15 sts and turn.

Work 1 row.

Row 31: Patt to last 14 sts, K2tog and turn.

Row 32: As row 28.

Row 33: Patt to last 12 sts, K2tog and turn.

Work 1 row.

Row 35: Patt to last 11 sts, K2tog and turn.

Cont in patt, (dec 1 st as set on next 2 and foll alt row) 3 times. 19 sts.

Cast off purlwise (on **WS**).

NECK AND HEAD

With RS facing, rejoin yarn A to sts from holder for neck, K across sts from holder, then pick up and knit 20 sts along back neck edge. 40 sts.

Beg with row 2 of striped ridge patt, work as folls:

Work 1 row, ending with RS facing for next row.

Next row (RS): K1, *K2tog, K6, rep from * to last 7 sts, K2tog, K to end. 35 sts.

Work 1 row.

Next row: K1, *K2tog, K5, rep from * to last 6 sts, K2tog, K to end. 30 sts.

Work 1 row.

Next row: K1, K2tog, K9, (K2tog, K3) 3 times, K2tog, K1. 25 sts.

Work 1 row.

Next row: (K1, K2tog) 4 times, (K2, K2tog) 3 times, K1. 18 sts.

Next row: K1, K2tog, K3, *K2tog, K1, rep from * to end. 13 sts.

Work 2 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Next row: K7 and turn, leaving rem sts on a holder for back of head.

Place markers at each end of last row.

Break off yarn B and cont using yarn A only, beg with a P row work 7 rows in st st, ending with RS facing for next row.

Cont in st st, inc 1 st at each end of next and foll alt row. 11 sts.

Beg with a P row work 7 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Dec 1 st at each end of next 3 rows, ending with **WS** facing for next row. 5 sts.

Place markers at each end of last row.

Work 1 row.

Next row (RS): K1, sl 2 sts as though to K2tog, K1, p2sso, K1. 3 sts.

Work 1 row, ending with RS facing for next row.

Shape nose

Cont in st st, inc 1 st at each end of next 4 rows. 11 sts.

Break off yarn A and complete using yarn B only as folls:

Inc 1 st at each end of next row, ending with **WS** facing for next row. 13 sts.

Beg with a P row, work 7 rows.

Dec 1 st at each end of next row and every foll alt row until 7 sts rem.

Work 1 row.

Cast off.

Left cheek

With RS facing and using yarn B, pick up and knit 14 sts between markers along left side of face.

Beg with a P row, work 3 rows in st st, ending with RS facing for next row.

Cast off.

Right cheek

Work as given for left cheek, picking up sts along right side of face.

With RS facing, rejoin yarns to sts from holder for back of head and cont in striped ridge patt as folls:

Next row (RS): K to end, inc 1 st at each end of row. 8 sts.

Next row: Knit.

Next row: K to end, inc 1 st at each end of row. 10 sts.

Next row: Purl.

Next row: K1, M1, K2, M1, K4, M1, K2, M1, K1. 14 sts.

Next row: Knit.

Next row: K1, M1, K3, M1, K6, M1, K3, M1, K1. 18 sts.

Next row: Purl.

Work 2 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Next row (RS): Knit.

Place markers at each end of last row.

Next row: P4, slip next 2 sts on a holder for left ear, P6, slip next 2 sts on a holder for right ear, P to end. 14 sts.

Next row: K9, K2tog tbl and turn. 13 sts.

Next row: K5, K2tog and turn.

Next 2 rows: Patt 5, work 2tog and turn.

Next row: K5, K2tog tbl and turn.

Next row: K5, K2tog and turn.

Place markers at each end of last row.

Next 2 rows: Patt 5, work 2tog and turn. 6 sts.

Next row: Knit.

Cast off knitwise (on **WS**).

LEFT EAR

With RS facing and using 3¼mm (US 5) double-pointed needles, rejoin yarn B to sts from holder for left ear.

Next row (RS): (Inc in next st) twice. 4 sts.

*Do not turn work.

Slip sts to opposite end of needle and knit across all sts, taking yarn tightly across **WS** of work. Rep from * 4 times more.

Next row: (Inc in next st) 4 times. 8 sts.

Now working in **rows**, not rounds, cont as folls:

Next row (WS): *K1, yfwd, sl 1, yb, rep from * to end.

Rep last row 9 times more, ending with **WS** facing for next row.

Break yarn and thread through sts to create a double-thickness fabric for ear.

Fasten off.

RIGHT EAR

Work as given for left ear, rejoining yarn to sts from holder for right ear and using yarn A.

LEGS AND UNDER-BODY

With RS facing and using 3 3/4mm (US 5) needles and yarn

A, pick up and knit 16 sts along cast-on edge of body to decs at right rump (i.e. back right of body).

Beg with a P row, work in st st throughout as folls:

Work 5 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Next row (RS): K1, M1, K to last st, M1, K1. 18 sts.

Work 3 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Break off yarn A and join in yarn B.

Work 2 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Shape hoof

Next row (RS): K12, wrap next st (by slipping next st from left needle to right needle, taking yarn to opposite side of work between needles and then slipping same stitch back onto left needle – when working back across wrapped sts, work the wrapped st and the wrapping loop tog as one) and turn.

Next row: P6, wrap and turn.

Next row: K8, wrap and turn.

Next row: P10, wrap and turn.

Next row: K12, wrap and turn.

Next row: P14, wrap and turn.

Next row: Knit.

Next row: Purl.

Next row: K16, wrap and turn.

Next row: P14, wrap and turn.

Next row: K12, wrap and turn.

Next row: P10, wrap and turn.

Next row: K8, wrap and turn.

Next row: P6, wrap and turn.

Next row: K to end.

Work 5 rows across all sts.

Break off yarn B and join in yarn A.

Beg with a K row, cont in st st as folls:

Work 4 rows.

Next row (RS): K1, K2tog tbl, K to last 3 sts, K2tog, K1. 16 sts.

Work 5 rows.

Place markers at each end of last row for top of back legs.

Beg with a K row, cont in st st, work 24 rows, ending with RS facing for next row. Place markers at each end of last row for beg of front legs.

Work a further 10 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Break off yarn A and join in yarn B.

Beg with a K row, cont in st st as folls:

Work 2 rows.

Shape hoof

Next row: K11, wrap and turn.

Next row: P6, wrap and turn.

Next row: K8, wrap and turn.

Next row: P10, wrap and turn.

Next row: K11, wrap and turn.

Next row: P12, wrap and turn.

Next row: Knit.

Next row: Purl.

Next row: K14, wrap and turn.

Next row: P12, wrap and turn.

Next row: K10, wrap and turn.

Next row: P8, wrap and turn.

Next row: K6, wrap and turn.

Next row: P to end.

Beg with a K row, cont in st st as folls:

Work 5 rows across all sts, ending with **WS** facing for next row.

Break off yarn B and join in yarn A.

Work 5 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Next row (RS): K1, K2tog tbl, K to last 3 sts, K2tog, K1. 14 sts.

Work 4 rows, ending with **WS** facing for next row.

Cast off knitwise (on **WS**).

MAKING UP

Using markers as a guide, join sides of head around muzzle.

Join right side of neck and cheek, and then, using photograph as a guide, create forehead ridge by allowing cast-off edge to overlap top of face and catching neatly in place on underside. Join left side of neck and cheek, inserting stuffing before closing the final gap.

Join cast-off edges of body along the centre of back.

Join seam from cast-on edge to left side of rump.

Matching markers at top of back legs and those at top of front legs to pick-up row and cast-off edge respectively, join leg seams using back stitch or mattress stitch as preferred.

Join sides of under-body to cast-on edge of body, firmly stuffing legs and body before closing the final gap.

Using photograph as a guide and using yarn A, make 4 long sts through full fabric of base of legs to form hooves.

Sew on beads for eyes, or embroider using tapestry thread if considered more appropriate.

Fleece

Cutting 15 cm lengths of yarn C as required, beg at first ridge on body, attach to raised sts of patt rows as folls:

Fold yarn in half.

Insert crochet hook through raised st, pull through yarn C to create a loop.

Thread loose ends of yarn through loop and pull up tight.

Repeat across every alt raised st of first, 3rd and 5th ridge on body, then on every st of foll ridge, using a combination of 15 cm and 20 cm lengths of yarn on final ridge.

Work 2 rows of fringing across chest, then 2 rows of shorter strands in to every ridge st of fringe.