

“Sophie” Knitted Amigurumi Cat Pattern

Designed by Diane Davis for Knit Your Own Murder by Monica Ferris



“Sophie” is a fluffy little avalanche of white with a patchwork of grey and tan on her ear, back and tail. She’ll be great company while you’re reading one of the Needlecraft Mysteries by Monica Ferris!

FINISHED SIZE:

Approx. 7” long by 3” wide

MATERIALS REQUIRED:

Worsted weight yarn—approx. 65 yards in Main Color

(MC), 10-15 yards in Grey (A) and Tan or Gold (B)

Satin ribbon for collar (approx 9”)

Embroidery floss or yarn for embroidering face

(Optional: Small plastic cat eyes and nose)

Stuffing material

Size 3 double pointed needles

Plastic needlepoint or darning needle

ABBREVIATIONS:

CO: Cast on

K: Knit

P: Purl

M1: Make 1 stitch

M1K1: Make 1, Knit one

skpo: Slip 1 stitch as if to knit, knit 1 stitch, pass the slipped stitch over

K2 tog: Knit 2 stitches together

w&t: Wrap and turn

PU: Pick up

dpn: Double pointed needle

SPECIAL STITCHES USED:

M1—Used to increase stitches. Make 1 stitch, lift right leg of the stitch in the row below the next stitch to be worked and place it on the left needle, then work it as a normal knit stitch.

W&T—Used in short rows to avoid “holes” in your work. When knitting, knit required stitches, pass yarn to the front, slip next stitch to the right needle, pass yarn to the back, slip stitch back to left needle and turn your work. When purling, pass yarn to the back, slip next stitch to the right needle, pass yarn to the front, slip stitch back to the left needle and turn your work.

Double Knitting—In this pattern, we’ll use double knitting to combine all of the stitches onto one dpn before binding off. However, instead of using separate strands of yarn for front and back layers, we’re going to use just one strand of MC, switching to B when we reach the left ear. *Purl one stitch from the rear needle, knit one from the front, continuing in the same pattern across the needles.* When you reach the B stitches, let MC trail out between the MC and B stitches (you’ll need it again when you’re ready to bind off). Continue in B for remainder of row until all stitches are on one dpn.

HINTS FOR COLOR WORK

(INTARSIA) KNITTING:

When switching from one color to another, wrap the two strands around each other to minimize holes or gaps between color patches

When knitting intarsia in the round, there are many times when your working yarn will end up at the wrong end of the patch you’re knitting. When this happens, knit up to the color change, slip stitches to be knitted from one needle to the other and turn your work. (These spots are noted in the pattern instructions) Pick up the working yarn and purl back across the stitches, then turn your work again and slip the purled stitches back to the right needle. Carry your MC behind the stitches and continue with your next color.

BODY

CO 26 st in MC, divide between 3 dpns (10 st on dpn1, 8 st each on dpn2 and dpn3). Connect in the round, making sure your stitches are not twisted..

Round 1-2: K all

Round 3: Dpn1—K3, M1 K4, M1, K3 (12 st); Dpn2 & Dpn3—K2, M1, K4, M1, K2 (10 st on each)

Round 4: Dpn1—K4 in MC, attach color A and K3, attach color B and K2, MC K3; Dpn2 & Dpn3: K all in MC

Round 5: Dpn1—K3 in MC, slip next 6 st, turn, P3 in B, P3 in A, turn and slip those 6 st back to working needle, K3 in MC; Dpn2 & Dpn3: K all in MC

Round 6: Dpn1—K4 in MC, K2 in A, K2 in MC, K3 in B, K1 in MC; Dpn2 & Dpn3: K all in MC

Round 7: Dpn1—K4 in MC, slip next 7 st, turn, P5 in B, P2 in A, turn and slip those 7 st back to working needle, K1 in MC; Dpn2 & Dpn3: K all in MC

Round 8: Dpn1—K2 in MC, K5 in B, K3 in A, K2 in MC; Dpn2 & Dpn3: K all in MC

Round 9: Dpn1—K3 in MC, slip next 7 st, turn, P5 in B, P2 in A, turn and slip those 7 st back to working needle, K2 in MC; Dpn2 & Dpn3: K all in MC

Round 10: Dpn1—K3 in MC, K3 in A, K4 in B, K2 in MC; Dpn2 & Dpn3: K all in MC

Round 11: Dpn1—K3 in MC, slip next 7 st, turn, P5 in B, P2 in A, turn and slip those 7 st back to working needle, K2 in MC; Dpn2 & Dpn3: K all in MC

Round 12: Dpn1: K3 in MC, K3 in B, K4 in A, K2 in MC; Dpn2 & Dpn3: K all in MC

Round 13: Dpn1—K3 in MC, slip next 7 st, turn, P5 in B, P2 in A, turn and slip those 7 st back to working needle, K2 in MC; Dpn2 & Dpn3: K all in MC

Round 14-16: Dpn1: K all in MC; Dpn2 & Dpn3: K all in MC

Round 17: Dpn1: K5 in MC, K2 in B, K5 in MC; Dpn2 & Dpn3: K all in MC

Round 18: Dpn1: K4 in MC, K4 in B, K4 in MC; Dpn2 & Dpn3: K all in MC

Round 19: Dpn1: K4 in MC, K5 in B, K3 in MC; Dpn2 & Dpn3: K all in MC

Round 20: Dpn1: K4 in MC, K5 in A, K3 in MC; Dpn2 & Dpn3: K all in MC

Round 21: Dpn1—K4 in MC, slip next 5 st, turn, P5 in A, turn and slip those 5 st back to working needle, K3 in MC; Dpn2 & Dpn3: K all in MC

Round 22: Dpn1—K5 in MC, K3 in A, K4 in MC; Dpn2 & Dpn3: K all in MC

Round 23: K all in MC

****NOTE:** Knit rounds 24-28 in MC**

Round 24: K3, skpo, *K6, skpo* 3 times, K3. (28 st)

Round 25: K3, skpo, *K5, skpo* 3 times, K2 (24 st)

Round 26: K3, skpo, *K4, skpo* 3 times, K1 (20 st)

Round 27: K3, skpo, *K3, skpo* 3 times (16 st)

Round 28: K3, skpo, K2, skpo, K2, skpo, K2, slip last stitch, pass over 1st stitch in the round (12 st)

Round 29: In Color A: K2, skpo, K1, skpo, K1, skpo, K1, slip last stitch, pass over 1st stitch in the round (8 st)

TAIL

Continue with the 8 stitches on the dpns

Round 1: K all in A

Round 2-16: All 3 colors should be trailing out the hole where the tail will be. For the remaining rows, hold together two of the strands for one round, and change combinations for each round.

Round 17: *K2 tog* in A only, repeat from * three times. Cut a length of yarn and thread a plastic darning needle. Pass stitches from needles to the yarn and pull tight to close the end of the tail. Fasten off and weave ends down inside tail. (Tail doesn't need additional stuffing)

PAWS (TWO)

CO 10 st in MC, divide between 2 dpns to give paws a flatter look. Connect in the round, making sure your stitches are not twisted.

Round 1-15: K all

Round 16: Skpo, K1, skpo twice, K1, skpo. Cut a length of yarn and thread a plastic darning needle. Pass stitches from needles to the yarn and pull tight to close the end of the paw. Fasten off. Stuff lightly to within a ½" from the closed end of the paw and shape paws around your thumb, giving them a slight downward curve. Sew paws to underside of body approx. 8-10 rows from neck opening. After paws are attached, stuff body to desired fluffiness.

HEAD/CHEST

Determine center of front neck opening, count 8 stitches to the right. This is where you will begin picking up stitches for the Head/Chest section. Pick up 26 stitches around the neck opening, moving clockwise as you look at the opening. Distribute the stitches on 3 dpns with 8 st each on left and right front sides (dpn1 on the right as you look at the opening, dpn 2 on the left) and 10 stitches on dpn3 across the back of the neck opening. Knit all of the stitches on dpn 1 (K8), which will bring you to the center of the neck opening, and begin the short rows. (The short row section will only be worked across dpn1 and dpn2)

Row 1&2: Dpn2: K2, w&t, P2; Dpn1: P2, w&t, K2

Row 3&4: Dpn2: K3, w&t, P3; Dpn1: P3, w&t, K3

Row 5&6: Dpn2: K4, w&t, P4; Dpn1: P4, w&t, K4

Row 7&8: Dpn 2: K5, w&t, P5; Dpn 1: P5, w&t, K5

Row 9&10, 11&12, 13&14:**

Continue adding a stitch each pair of rows until all 8 stitches on each dpn are wrapped and turned.

****Row 14—Note:** You will end the 14th Row at the center of the chest, then K the next 8 stitches on dpn2 to make the front rows even on both sides. Transfer 1 st from the ends of dpn1 and dpn2 to dpn 3, giving you 7 st on dpn1 & dpn 2, and 12 on dpn3.**

Round 15: Begin knitting in rounds, starting with dpn3. Dpn3: K11 in MC, K1 in B (beginning of color work for ear section); Dpn1: K1 in B, K6 in MC; Dpn2: K7 in MC

Round 16: Dpn3: K10 in MC, K2 in B; Dpn1: K2 in B, K5 in MC; Dpn2: K7 in MC;

Round 17: Dpn3: K9 in MC, K3 in B; Dpn1: K3 in B, K4 in MC; Dpn2: K7 in MC

Round 18: Dpn3: K8 in MC, K4 in B; Dpn1: K4 in B, K3 in MC; Dpn2: K7 in MC

Round 19: Dpn3: K7 in MC, K5 in B; Dpn1: K5 in B, K2 in MC; Dpn2: K7 in MC

Round 20: Dpn3: K6 in MC, K6 in B; Dpn1: K6 in B, slip last st on dpn1, K first st on dpn2 in MC and psso, K6 in MC (7 st on dpn1); Dpn2: K6 in MC (25 st)

Round 21: Dpn3: K6 in MC, K6 in B; Dpn1: K7 in B; Dpn2: K6 in MC (25 st)

NOTE: At this point you will need stop and stitch the facial features and stuff the head and chest before seaming the top. Don't forget to add a few whiskers!

Round 22: There are now 13 stitches on dpns1 & 2, and 12 stitches on dpn3. Turn work so that dpn3 is closest to you, and hold the front needles parallel to it. Starting with the first st on dpn2, doubleknit the front and back stitches (P st from dpn1 & 2, K st from dpn3), alternating until all stitches are on one needle. (First 6 from each dpn will be in MC, remaining 7 will be in B).

Row 23: Turn work so the back of the neck is closest to you. K2tog, binding off the row as you go. Fasten off and weave in ends.

FINISHING TOUCHES:

Stitch along where ears meet the head and over the top seam between the ears to give them more definition. Tie off at back of head and weave ends in.

Tuck tail around the side of the body and stitch if desired, or let it hang naturally.

Add a "collar" of satin ribbon with a bell or charm on it for a sophisticated touch.