



# EASTER BUNNY

knitting pattern by Claire Garland

FINISHED SIZE 20cm/ 8in long - from tail to nose

YARN DK/ sport weight, however to create the multi-layering of colour I used two shades; one dk yarn with mohair yarn at the same time in these shades:

Yarn **A** – King Cole Baby Alpaca dk shade 179 straw

Yarn **B** – Phil Mohar Soie shade 105 poudre (peach)

Yarn **C** – Phildar Phil Alpaga dk shade 107 ecru

Yarn **D** – Debbie Bliss Angel Mohair shade 1501 white

You'll need less than 1 ball of each of the colours listed

NEEDLES Pair 3.50mm/ US 4 knitting needles

TENSION 14 rows and 12 stitches over 5cm

EXTRAS Toy filling or scraps fabric or yarn for stuffing, pair 15mm toy safety eyes or black amigurami safety eyes - however if the toy is intended for a very young child then embroider eyes instead.

- You will also need 10 stitch markers.

## PATTERN NOTES:

Use Cable Cast-on throughout

**W+Tk** bring working yarn to the front of the work, slip next st purl-wise onto the RH needle, take working yarn to the back, slip the slipped stitch back onto the LH needle, turn the knitting = **W+Tk** (wrap and turn knit)

**W+Tp** take working yarn to the back of the work, slip next st purl-wise onto the RH needle, bring working yarn to the front, slip the slipped stitch back onto the LH needle, turn the knitting = **W+Tp** (wrap and turn purl)

**Begin at the Nose**

As mentioned in the ingredients, unless stated in the pattern, I have used two yarns of yarn held together throughout.

With yarns A & B (straw dk and peach mohair) and 3.50mm/ US 4 needles, cast on 13 sts

**Rows 1-2** St st 2 rows

**Row 3** inc) K5, kfb, k1, kfb, k to end - 15sts

**Rows 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 & 14** P

**Row 5** inc) K6, kfb, k1, kfb, k to end - 17sts

**Row 7** inc) K7, kfb, k1, kfb, k to end - 19sts

**Row 9** inc) K8, kfb, k1, kfb, k to end - 21sts

**Row 11** inc) [K2, kfb] three times, k3, [kfb, k2] three times - 27sts

**Row 13** inc) K10, kfb, k5, kfb, k to end - 29sts

**Row 15** inc) Kfb, k10, kfb, k5, kfb, k to last st, kfb - 33sts. Place marker at each end for **Chin**

**Rows 16-20** St st 5 rows. Place marker at each end of fifth row for **Ear Front**

... decreases for **Head Back**

**Row 21** dec) Skpo, k to last 2 sts, k2 tog - 31sts

**Row 22** dec) P1, p2 tog, p to last 3 sts, p2 tog, p1 - 29sts

**Rows 23-26** dec) Rep last 2 rows twice - 21sts

**Row 27** dec) Skpo, k5, skpo, k3, k2 tog, k to last 2 sts, k2 tog - 17sts.

**Row 28** dec) P6, p2 tog, p1, p2 tog, p to end – 15sts

**Row 29** dec) Skpo, k to last 2 sts, k2 tog - 13sts

**Row 30** dec) P4, p2 tog, p1, p2 tog, p to end – 11sts

**Row 31** dec) K2, skpo, k3, k2 tog, k2 - 9sts

**Row 32** P

**Row 33** inc) K1, kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1 - 11sts

**Rows 34-37** inc) Rep last 2 rows twice – 15sts

**Row 38** P. Place marker at each end for **Ear Back**

**Head Sides**

**Rows 39 & 40** inc) Cast on 7 sts at beg. of next 2 rows – 29sts.

... **shape back**

**Row 41** inc) K9, kfb, k2, kfb, k3, kfb, k2, kfb, k to end – 33sts. Place marker at each end for **Neck**

**Rows 42 & 44** P

**Row 43** inc) K10, [kfb, k3] three times, kfb, k to end – 37sts

**Row 45** inc) Kfb, k15, kfb, k3, kfb, k to last st, kfb – 41sts

**Row 46** P

Cut yarn A (straw dk), join on yarn C (ecru dk), cont. with two yarns as foll:

**Row 47** inc) K18, kfb, k3, kfb, k to end – 43sts

**Rows 48-56** Work 9 rows st st.

**Row 57** dec) K18, skpo, k3, k2 tog, k to end - 41sts

**Row 58** P

**Row 59** dec) K16, skpo, k5, k2 tog, k to end - 39sts

**Row 60** P

Cut yarn C (ecru dk), join on yarn A (straw dk), cont. with two yarns as foll:

**Left Hind Leg**

Cast on 6 sts - then cont. with short rows as foll:

**... short rows to create the top of the left leg**

Short row 1 K8, W+Tk

Short row 2 P1, W+Tp

Short row 3 K2, W+Tk

Short row 4 P3, W+Tp

Short row 5 K4, W+Tk

Short row 6 P5, W+Tp

Short row 7 K6, W+Tk

Short row 8 P7, W+Tp

Short row 9 K8, W+Tk

Short row 10 P9, W+Tp

Short row 11 K10, W+Tk

Short row 12 P11, W+Tp

**Row 61** K19, skpo, k5, k2 tog, k15 sts to end.

**Right Leg**

P-side is facing cast on 6 sts, cont. with short rows as foll:

**... short rows to create the top of the right leg**

Short row 1 P8, W+Tp

Short row 2 K1, W+Tk

Short row 3 P2, W+Tp

Short row 4 K3, W+Tk

Short row 5 P4, W+Tp

Short row 6 K5, W+Tk

Short row 7 P6, W+Tp

Short row 8 K7, W+Tk

Short row 9 P8, W+Tp

Short row 10 K9, W+Tk

Short row 11 P10, W+Tp

Short row 12 K13 sts to end

**Row 62** P across to the other side of the body

**Row 63** dec) K21, skpo, k3, k2 tog, k to end - 47sts

**Rows 64, 66 & 68** P

**Row 65** dec) K21, skpo, k1, k2 tog, k to end - 45sts

**Row 67** dec) K20, skpo, k1, k2 tog, k to end - 43sts **Row**

**69** dec) K19, skpo, k1, k2 tog, k to end - 41sts

**... separate lower back from hind legs**

**Row 70** P31. Turn, so knit-side is facing

**Row 71** dec) K8, skpo, k1, k2 tog, k8. Turn, so purl-side is facing

**Row 72** P19. Turn

LOWER BACK

Work on 19 sts for **Lower Back** as foll:

**Row 73** dec) K7, skpo, k1, k2 tog, k7. Turn - 17 lower back sts

**Row 74** P17, Turn

**Row 75** dec) K6, skpo, k1, k2 tog, k6. Turn - 15 lower back sts

**Row 76** P15, Turn

**Row 77** dec) K5, skpo, k1, k2 tog, k4. Turn - 13 lower back sts

**Row 78** P13, Turn

### Tail

Cut yarn A (straw dk) and join on yarn C (ecru dk), cont. with two yarns as foll:

**Row 79** dec) Skpo, k9, k2 tog - 11sts

### ... short rows to create the bobtail

**Short row 1** P9, W+Tp

**Short row 2** K8, W+Tk

**Short row 3** P7, W+Tp

**Short row 4** K6, W+Tk

**Short row 5** P5, W+Tp

**Short row 6** K4, W+Tk

**Short row 7** P3, W+Tp

**Short row 8** K2, W+Tk

**Short row 9** P6

Cast off all 11 tail sts, leaving a long tail end to sew the seam with.

Working on one side at a time, rejoin yarns A and B to the 11 sts either side of the tail and **cast off** for thigh seams, leaving a long tail end to sew the seam with.

Working on one side at a time, with RS (knit side) facing, ease the cast-off edge for thigh seam with the row ends for lower back, the corner of the cast-off edge should meet the last row end before the tail colour change, back stitch to join.

**Therefore, joining dashed line to dotted line (see diagram).**

Turn out to RS, mattress sew the tail seam.



**Belly**

With yarns C & D (ecru dk and white mohair) and 3.50mm/ US 4 needles, beg at the left side outer thigh marker, pick up and knit 25 sts evenly around to the right-side outer thigh marker, making sure you are working beneath the tail. Remove thigh markers.

**Rows 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 & 11 P**

**Row 2** dec) K10, skpo, k1, k2 tog, k to end – 23sts

**Row 4** dec) K8, skpo, k3, k2 tog, k to end – 21sts

**Row 6** dec) K6, skpo, k5, k2 tog, k to end – 19sts

**Row 8** dec) K4, skpo, k7, k2 tog, k to end – 17sts

**Row 10** dec) K2, skpo, k9, k2 tog, k to end – 15sts

**Row 12** dec) Skpo, k11, k2 tog – 13sts

**... short rows to shape the belly**

**Short row 1** P11, W+Tp

**Short row 2** K9, W+Tk

**Short row 3** P8, W+Tp

**Short row 4** K7, W+Tk

**Short row 5** P10 to end of row

**Rows 13-18** Work 6 rows st st. Place marker at each end of sixth row for

**Neck**

**Row 19 dec)** K3, skpo, k3, k2 tog, k to end – 11sts

**Rows 20-21** Work 2 rows st st

**Row 22 dec)** P3, p2 tog, p1, p2 tog, p to end - 9sts

**Rows 23-24** Work 2 rows st st

**Row 25** dec) K2, skpo, k1, k2 tog, k2 - 7sts

**Row 26** P

**... short rows to create the mouth**

Short row 1 dec) K1, skpo, k1, k2 tog, W+Tk - 5sts

Short row 2 P3, W+Tp

Short row 3 K2, W+Tk

Short row 4 P1, W+Tp

Short row 5 K3 sts across to the end of the row

**Row 34** dec) P2 tog, p1, p2 tog - 3sts

Cut yarns and thread through all 3 sts - pull up and secure end.

**Ears****Left Ear**

With yarns B & C (peach mohair and straw dk) and 3.50mm/ US 4 needles, beg at the left ear front marker, pick up and knit 12 sts across, evenly, to the left ear back marker

**\*Row 1** P

**Row 2** inc) Kfb, k to last st, kfb - 14sts

**Rows 3-4** inc) Rep last 2 rows once - 16sts

**Rows 5-9** Work 5 rows st st

**Row 10** dec) K1, skpo, k to last 3 sts, k2 tog, k1 - 14sts

**Row 11** P

**Rows 12-17** dec) Rep last 2 rows three times - 8sts

**... short rows to shape the ear tip**

**Short row 1** K7, W+Tk

**Short row 2** P6, W+Tp

**Short row 3** dec) Skpo, k1, k2 tog, W+Tk

**Short row 4** P2, W+Tp

**Short row 5** K1, W+Tk

**Short row 6** P3

**Row 18** Skpo, k2, k2 tog – 4sts

Cut yarn, thread end through all 4 sts. Pull up and secure the end.

Weave in all ends to neaten\*

### **Right Ear**

With yarns B & C (peach mohair and straw dk) and 3.50mm/ US 4 needles, beg at the right ear back marker, pick up and knit 12 sts across, evenly, to the left ear front marker

Work as left ear from \* to \*\*.

Remove ear markers.

**Working on one side at a time, join the very bottom of the ear – at the ear base – mattress sew with just a couple of stitches.**

**Match the chin marker with the neck marker, ease them join from marker to the base of the ear.**

**Match the neck markers and mattress sew to join along the row ends down to the thigh.**

**RS facing, fold the cast on edge, from the beginning of the pattern, in half and back stitch to join at the nose but leave about 5mm (about 4 stitches) un-sewn at the top/ bend so that when the nose is turned out it creates a tiny nose.**

**Turn out to right side.**

**Stuff the rabbit into the head and body via the neck, making sure you ease stuffing into the shaping created at the cheeks, thighs and back - though don't over stuff - you still want an element of floppiness especially around the ears and the neck.**

**Match the nose seam with the fastened off point at the chin then mattress-sew to join each side of the muzzle, easing and matching shaping.**

**For the nose, embroider three straight stitches to create with ecru yarn to create a 'Y' either side and beneath the nose.**

**If you still want to add more stuffing there are still small gaps under the ears.**

**When you are happy with the final look work a few discrete stitches inside the ears to close the gaps.**

**Remove markers.**

### **Forelegs *make 2 alike***

Using yarns C & D (ecru dk and white mohair) and 3.50mm/ US 4 needles, cast on 11 sts leaving a long tail end for which to join leg to body

**Row 1** inc) Kfb, k to last st kfb - 13sts

**Rows 2-4** Work 3 rows st st.

Cut yarn C and join on yarn A (straw dk), cont. with 2 yarns as foll:

**Rows 5-10** Work 6 rows st st

... **short rows to create the foreleg feet**

Short row 1 K12, W+Tk

Short row 2 P11, W+Tp

Short row 3 K10, W+Tk

Short row 4 P9, W+Tp

Short row 5 K8, W+Tk

Short row 6 P7, W+Tp

Short row 7 K6, W+Tk

Short row 8 P5, W+Tp

Short row 9 K9 sts across

**Row 11** dec) P2 tog, p to last 2 sts, p2 tog – 11sts

Cast off leaving a long tail end to sew the seam with.

**Fold in half across the cast-off edge with WS facing matching the row ends and mattress sew, and stuff quite lightly, all along the row ends and joining the cast-off edge which becomes the paw - the cast on edge at the top of the leg is over-sewn to the side of the body, beginning at the marker then over-sewing around the cast of edge joining the foreleg to the side seams, just beneath the neck.**

**Hind Leg Feet** *make 2 alike*

Using yarns A & B (straw dk and peach mohair) and 3.50mm/ US 4 needles, beg at the cast on 9 sts leaving a long tail end for which to join leg to body

**Rows 1-4** Work 4 rows st st

**Row 5** inc) K3, kfb, k1, kfb, k to end - 11sts

**Rows 6, 8 & 10** P

**Row 7** inc) K4, kfb, k1, kfb, k to end - 13sts

**Row 9** inc) K5, kfb, k1, kfb, k to end - 15sts

**Row 11** inc) K6, kfb, k1, kfb, k to end - 17sts

**Rows 12-17** Work 6 rows st st

**Rows 18, 20, 22 & 24** dec) P2 tog, p to last 2 sts, p2 tog - 15sts; 11sts; 7sts; 3sts

**Row 19** dec) K3, skpo, k5, k2 tog, k3 - 13sts

**Row 21** dec) K2, skpo, k3, k2 tog, k2 - 9sts

**Row 23** dec) K1, skpo, k1, k2 tog, k1 - 5sts

Cut yarn leaving a long tail end with which to join seam, thread end through all 3 sts. Pull up and secure the end.

**Fold in half across the cast on edge with WS facing matching the row ends and mattress sew, and stuff fairly well, all along the row ends across the bottom of each foot and up to the cast on edge - the cast on edge at the ankle is over-sewn to the body back and tucked just inside the hind leg crease.**

**To make the face squish up a little, bend a length of yarn in half and pass the cut ends through a yarn sewing needle. Pass the threaded needle through one side of the head - halfway between the ears and chin -and out the other side of the head - about one inch away - then back in to emerge back out where you started - pull up to squish the face. Secure the thread.**

**Abbreviations**

**K** = knit

**P** = purl

**inc** = increase

**dec** = decrease;

**M1** = make one

**foll** = follows

**K2 tog** = knit two together;

**Rep** = repeat

**RH/LH** = right hand/ left hand

**RS/WS** = right side/ wrong side

**st/ sts** =stitch/ stitches

**cont.** = continue

**Skpo** = slip one stitch, knit next stitch, pass slipped stitch over knit stitch

**Kfb** = knit into front then into back of stitch to increase by one stitch

**Pfb** = purl into front then into back of stitch to increase by one stitch

**Beg.** = beginning

**rem.** = remaining



NOTE: If there is any part of this pattern that you do not understand then please feel free to email me:

[claire.garland@btopenworld.com](mailto:claire.garland@btopenworld.com)

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