

The Duck Family

Mother and father ducks measure 13cm [5in] in height, excluding the hats. The ducklings are 9.5cm [3³/₄in] high. Baby duckling measures 6cm [2³/₄in], including the egg shell pieces.

Materials: 3mm [No 11, USA 2] knitting needles; 4mm [No 8, USA 5] knitting needles; stuffing.

Basic duckling or duck

Note: For the duckling, use *single* yarn and 3mm [No 11, USA 2] knitting needles.

For the duck use *double* yarn and 4mm [No 8, USA 5] knitting needles.

Body and head

Begin at lower edge of body and using yellow for duckling, white for duck, cast on 16 sts.

P 1 row.

Next row: Inc K wise into every st — 32 sts. Beginning with a P row, continue in st-st and work 11 rows.

Shape body

Dec 1 st at each end of next 6 rows — 20 sts.

Inc for head

Next row: (K1, inc in next st) to end — 30 sts. St-st 13 rows.

Next row: (K1, K2tog) to end — 20 sts. P 1 row.

Next row: (K2tog) to end — 10 sts. B & T loosely.

Join row ends, leaving a gap in head seam. Gather round cast on sts, pull up tightly and fasten off. Turn right side out and stuff firmly. Pull up length of yarn tightly at top of head, then fasten off.

To shape the neck, use a length of matching yarn to gather round the knitted row just below the head inc row. Pull up the gathers very tightly and knot ends of yarn. Sew yarn ends into neck.

Mark the eye positions, eight knitted rows above head inc row, leaving two clear knitted sts between them.

Use single lengths of black yarn for the eyes. Make eye knots, winding yarn round three times for ducklings, five times for ducks. Pass one yarn end of one eye through one marked position, to come out at opening in head seam. Pass other yarn end through just above first position. Knot yarn ends tightly and trim off ends. Repeat with other eye. Add a little more stuffing, then close gap in seam.

Beak

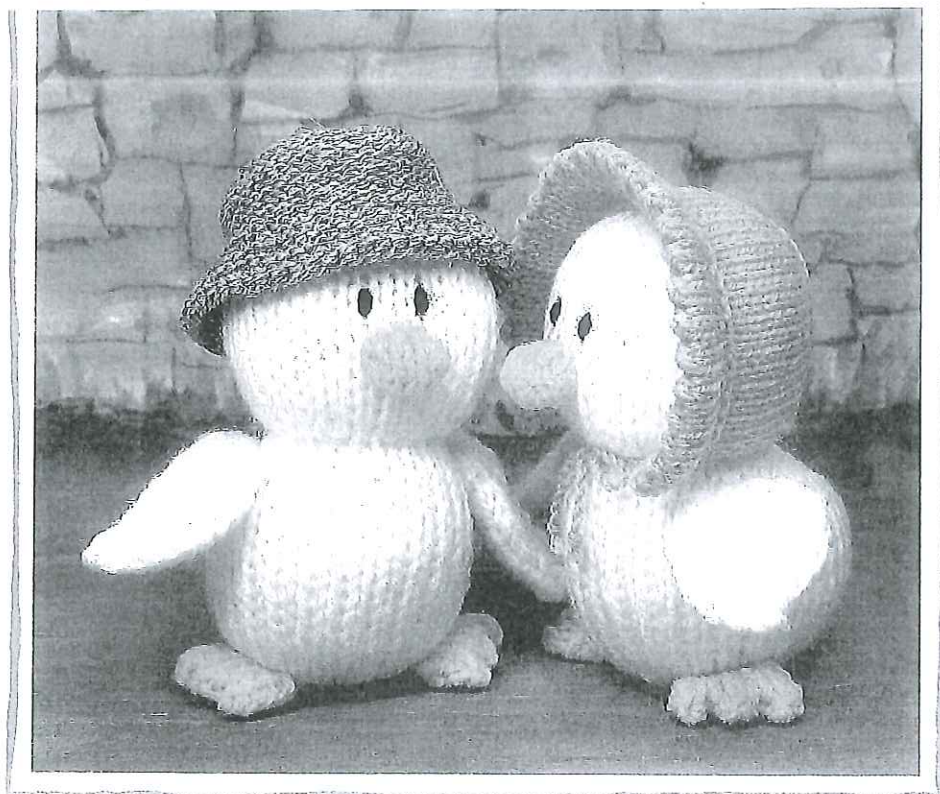
Using orange for duckling, yellow for duck, cast on 5 sts. St-st 2 rows.

Continue in st-st and dec 1 st at each end of next row — 3 sts.

St-st 4 more rows. Cast off.

With right side of st-st outside, bring cast on edge to cast off edge. Oversew row ends together at each side. Push a little stuffing in beak.

Sew the open cast on and cast off edges to face below the eyes, with the cast off edge underneath the beak.



Feet [make two alike]

Use orange for duckling, yellow for duck and cast on 3 sts.

1st row: Inc K wise into every st — 6 sts. Beginning with a P row, st-st 4 rows.

Next row: (K2tog, yrn) twice, K2tog — 5 sts. Beginning with a K row, st-st 4 rows. Cast off.

Sew up as for the beak, but do not stuff. Oversew the cast on and cast off edges together. Sew these edges of feet to base of body as shown in the illustration, with cast on edges of feet against the body.

Wings [make two alike]

Use yellow for duckling and white for duck. Begin at top edge and cast on 10 sts. P 1 row.

Next row: Inc K wise into every st — 20 sts. P 1 row.

Beginning with a K row, continue in st-st and dec 1 st at each end of every row until 4 sts remain. B & T tightly.

With right side of st-st outside, oversew row ends together, then across cast on sts. Sew cast on edges to sides of body just below neck, with the folded edges of wings facing towards the front.

Duckling's Cap

Note: Use *single* yarn and 3mm [No 11, USA 2] knitting needles.

Begin at lower edge and using green or pink cast on 36 sts.

G-st 2 rows.

Join on white and beginning with a K row, st-st 2 rows.

Using green or pink st-st 2 rows.

Continue working in two-row stripes and st-st 6 more rows.

Next row: (K1, K2tog) to end — 24 sts.

P 1 row. Break off green or pink and continue in white.

Next row: (K2tog) to end — 12 sts.

G-st 6 rows, for the cap bobble. B & T tightly.

Oversew row ends of cap bobble together. Join row ends of the cap. Turn right side out. Stuff bobble, then gather round just below first g-st row. Pull up gathers tightly and fasten off. Sew cap to the duckling's head, just above the g-st rows at lower edge of cap.

Mother's bonnet

Note: Use *single* yarn and 3mm [No 11, USA 2] knitting needles.

Begin with the bonnet brim and using blue cast on 39 sts.

1st row: (K2, inc in next st) to end — 52 sts. Beginning with a P row, st-st 6 rows.

Work picot edge of bonnet brim

Next row: K2tog, (yrn, K2tog) to end — 51 sts. Beginning with a K row, st-st 6 rows.

Next row: K2, (K2tog, K2) 12 time, K1 — 39 sts. This completes the bonnet brim.

Work bonnet back section

Beginning with a K row st-st 14 rows, but K the first and last st on every P row.

Next row: K11, (K2tog) 8 times, K12 — 31 sts. G-st 3 rows.

Next row: K11, (K2tog) 4 times, K12 — 27 sts. Cast off.

Fold bonnet brim at the picot edge, with right side of st-st outside. Catch the cast on edge of brim to the first knitted row of bonnet back section. Oversew row ends of the brim together at each side.

Fold cast off edge of bonnet in half and oversew along cast off sts. Make two 12cm [4³/₄in] single twisted blue cords.

Sew folded ends of cords to bonnet brim at cast on edge. Tie cords in a bow under mother's chin. Sew through bow to secure.