

R3

Keyring Buddy



The keyring buddy pattern is a blank for a small doll that can be attached to a keyring by the little loops on it's arms/legs. This base pattern can be worked with a variety of different body types and accessories to make it look like your favourite character.

You will need:

scraps of yarn in multiple colours (dk weight) • toy stuffing • split ring
4 x double ended knitting needles (3mm) • tapestry needle • scissors

Pattern (Arms/Legs):

Cast on 2 sts leaving a short tail for sewing.

I-cord 8 rows.

Take the yarn around the back of the knitting as you would for i-cord.

Row 9: kfb, k1 (3)*

I-cord 9 more rows.

Thread the yarn through the remaining stitches and pull tight.

Create the little loop for the hand/foot by threading the cast-on tail of yarn straight through the middle of the increase (ninth) row and sewing firmly in place.

* I usually avoid a bit of structural sewing by picking up from the cast on edge instead of increasing. That can be pretty fiddly and if you don't have my absolute horror at sewing up you probably won't need to bother.

COLOUR CHANGES

All the i-cord up to the increase row forms the hand/foot. I usually place the knee/elbow at three rows after the increase then at six rows after the increase you're in short sleeve or short shorts territory. Plan your colour changes accordingly.

Pattern (Head):

Cast on 6 sts and join into the round.

Round 1: kfb x 6 (12)

Round 2: [kfb, k1] x 6 (18)

Rounds 3 to 7: k –

Round 8: [k2tog, k1] x 6 (12)

Round 9: k2tog x 6 (6)

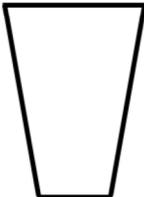
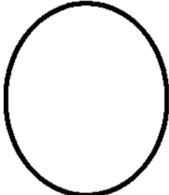
Round 10: k –

Stuff lightly. Thread the yarn through the remaining stitches and pull tight.

COLOUR CHANGES

Because anything other than horizontal colour changes are tough in the round, I usually knit the whole head in whatever flesh tone I'm using, then sew on a separately knitted hair piece (see Variations).

Pattern (Bodies):

<p>Rectangular</p> 	<p>Cast on 18sts using the magic cast-on method.</p> <p>Knit 18 rounds straight.</p> <p>Stuff body lightly and bind the opening together using Kitchener stitch.</p>
<p>Triangular</p> 	<p>Cast on 12sts using the magic cast-on method.</p> <p>Round 1: k – Round 2: [k4, kfb, k1] x 2 (14) Rounds 3-5: k – Round 6: [kfb, k6] x 2 (16) Rounds 7-9: k – Round 10: [k6, kfb, k1] x 2 (18) Rounds 11-13: k – Round 14: [kfb, k8] x 2 (20) Rounds 15-18: k –</p> <p>Stuff body lightly and bind the opening together using Kitchener stitch.</p>
<p>Pinched</p> 	<p>Cast on 18sts using the magic cast-on method.</p> <p>Rounds 1-6: k – Round 7: [k1, k2tog, k4, k2tog] x 2 Rounds 8-11: k – Round 12: [kfb, k4, kfb, k1] x 2 Rounds 13-18: k –</p> <p>Stuff body lightly and bind the opening together using Kitchener stitch.</p>
<p>Round</p> 	<p>Cast on 16 sts using the magic cast-on method.</p> <p>Round 1: k – Round 2: [kfb, k7] x 2 (18) Round 3: [k7, kfb, k1] x 2 (20) Round 4: [kfb, k9] x 2 (22) Round 5: [k9, kfb, k1] x 2 (24) Rounds 6 to 14: k – Round 15: [k1, k2tog, k9] x 2 (22) Round 16: [k9, k2tog] x 2 (20) Round 17: [k1, k2tog, k7] x 2 (18) Round 18: [k7, k2tog] x 2 (16)</p> <p>Stuff body lightly and bind the opening together using Kitchener stitch.</p>

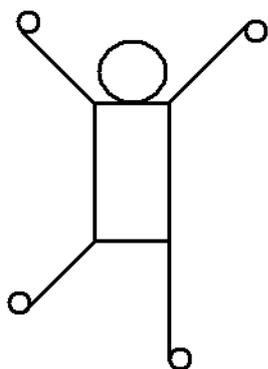
COLOUR CHANGES

Assuming you're knitting the body from the bottom up low slung trousers end at approximately round 3, but high rise waists can be as high as round 9.

Variations:

The beauty of the keyring buddy is how easy the pattern is to adapt for your own favourite characters. The webpage for this pattern contains a list of mini patterns for various accessories I've used to decorate mine.

Making Up:



Arms and legs are attached firmly at the four corners of the body and the head is sewn on top. Try to limit the number of stitches used to secure the pieces or the joints will be stiff. All the other accessories are attached as per their individual instructions.

Because the keyring buddies are small keep decorative embroidery as simple as possible. For example I usually stick to just eyes when doing the faces.

Notes:

Abbreviations

[] x number	Repeat the section in square brackets the required number of times.
(number)	Gives the total number of stitches you should have on needle by the end of the row.
dpns	Double pointed needles.
k –	Knit every stitch to the end of the row.
k number	Knit this number of stitches.
kfb	Knit into the front and then the back of a single stitch (+1 stitch).
k2tog	Knit the next two stitches together (-1 stitch).
sts	Stitches.

Needle/Yarn Size

As with most ODDknit patterns the yarn and needle sizes in the "you will need" section are just a guide. Feel free to improvise with whatever needles and yarn you have lying around - that's half the fun!