

Squeeeeeal!



This pattern is lovingly dedicated to Margaret Wise Brown, one of the greatest children’s book authors that ever lived, and her book *The Big Red Barn*.

“By the big red barn in the great green field, there was a pink pig who was learning to squeal...”

Materials Required

Yarn - approximately 150 yards of Red Heart Super Saver (recommended)
Size 4 double pointed needles
Darning needle
Stuffing
Scrap yarn to embroider eyes and nostrils (if desired)
Small (about 3 X 3 inch) piece of pink felt or fabric to line the inside of mouth

Abbreviations

CO – cast on
dpn – double pointed needle
K – knit
P - purl
Kfb – knit in the front and the back of the next stitch
st – stitch
sts – stitches
K2tog – knit two stitches together
PU – pick up (create) a new stitch from existing work

Special note

Pattern is written to be knitted using four double pointed needles. Each needle in the "Head" section is separated within the rounds by a long dash (--). If using a circular needle instead of dpns, please use stitch markers to mark the places where the dpns would begin. It is especially important to maintain the point between the beginning of the 1st needle, and the end of the 3rd needle.

Body

CO 60 sts onto 3 dpns, join in the round, and K all sts until work measures 6 inches. Then work the rounds below to form the head and snout.

Head and snout

- 1) (K2tog) repeat to end of dpn – (K2tog) repeat to end of dpn – K5, Kfb, (K2, Kfb) 3 times, K5
- 2-4) K all sts
- 5) K all sts – K all sts – K6, Kfb, (K4, Kfb) 2 times, K7
- 6-8) K all sts
- 9) K all sts – K all sts – K11, Kfb, K3, Kfb, K11
- 10-12) K all sts
- 13) K all sts – K all sts – K8, K2tog, (K2tog, K2) 3 times, K7
- 14-16) K all sts
- 17) K all sts – K all sts – K8, K2tog, (K1, K2tog) 2 times, K9
- 18-20) K all sts
- 21) K1, (K2tog, K1) 3 times – K1, (K2tog, K1) 3 times – K9, K2tog, K1, K2tog, K8
- 22) K all sts

Thread a darning needle with a piece of scrap yarn, and slip all sts (14) from the 1st and 2nd dpns onto it. These will be worked later to form the pig's mouth.

Separate the 20 sts remaining sts onto two dpns. CO 8 additional sts and then move these to a third dpn. These 28 sts will form the pig's snout. Join in the round and K all sts for 7 rounds. Cast off.

Place the 14 sts from scrap yarn onto 1 dpn and work the following rows back and forth:

- 1) K2tog, (K1, K2tog) 4 times
- 2) P all sts
- 3) (K1, K2tog) 3 times
- 4) P all sts
- 5) K all sts
- 6) P all sts
- 7) Cast off

Snout end-piece

CO 2 sts to one dpn and work the following rows back and forth:

- 1) P all sts
- 2) (Kfb) 2 times
- 3) P all sts
- 4) (Kfb) 4 times
- 5) P all sts
- 6) Kfb, K6, Kfb
- 7) P all sts
- 8) K all sts
- 9) P all sts
- 10) K2tog, K6, K2tog
- 11) P all sts
- 12) (K2tog) 4 times
- 13) P
- 14) (K2tog) 2 times

Cut yarn, thread through 2 remaining live sts, and pull closed.

Slip the small piece of felt or fabric inside the pig's head to cover his mouth. This fabric may be seamed to the inside, but it's not necessary. Stuff the pig's snout, and seam the end-piece in place. Then stuff the entire head and top half of body very firmly.



Bottom and tail

Stitches are now picked up at the original cast on sts to form the pig's bottom and tail. PU one st for each one of the cast on sts; it makes no difference where you begin. Then work the following rounds:

- 1) K all sts
- 2) (K4, K2tog) repeat to end of round
- 3) K all sts
- 4) (K3, K2tog) repeat to end of round
- 5) K all sts
- 6) (K2, K2tog) repeat to end of round
- 7) K all sts
- 8) (K1, K2tog) repeat to end of round
- 9) K all sts

At this point you will finish stuffing the pig.

- 10) (K2tog) repeat to end of round
- 11) K all sts

Continue knitting K2tog's until you are down to only 2 sts. The tail is made from a 2 stitch i-cord as follows:

- 1) K the 2 sts
- 2) Instead of turning your work as usual, slip the 2 sts down to the opposite end of the dpn, and knit them again, pulling up the working yarn from the bottom stitch. This will create a tiny tube and form the pig's tail.

Continue working i-cord for 4 inches, cast off. Tie in a loose knot.



Ears (make 2)

CO 27 sts onto 3 dpns, join in the round, and begin the following:

- 1-5) K all sts
- 6) (K2tog, K7) repeat to end of round
- 7-10) K all sts
- 11) (K2tog, K6) repeat to end of round
- 12-14) K all sts
- 15) (K2tog, K5) repeat to end of round
- 16-17) K all sts
- 18) (K2tog, K4) repeat to end of round
- 19) K all sts
- 20) (K2tog, K3) repeat to end of round
- 21) (K2tog, K2) repeat to end of round
- 22) (K2tog, K1) repeat to end of round

Cut yarn, thread through remaining live sts and pull closed. Fold ears slightly lengthwise to create a hollowed center, and seam to pig's head as pictured about 2 inches apart.

Back legs (make 2)

CO 36 sts onto 3 dpns, join in the round, and K all sts for 10 rounds. Then work the following:

- 1) (K2tog, K4) repeat to end of round
- 1-6) K all sts
- 7) (K2tog, K3) repeat to end of round
- 8-12) K all sts
- 13) (K2tog, K2) repeat to end of round
- 14-18) K all sts
- 19) (K2tog, K4) repeat to end of round
- 20-24) K all sts

Work the hoof (see note below).

Note about the pig's hooves: All 4 of the pig's hooves are worked across 15 stitches in the same way. When the pattern calls for it, thread a darning needle with a small piece of scrap yarn, and slip the first 8 sts onto it, removing the dpns. Rearrange the remaining 7 sts onto 3 dpns, join in the round, and K all sts for 3 rounds. Cut yarn, thread through remaining live sts, and pull tightly closed. Secure end. Place sts from scrap yarn onto 3 dpns, join in the round, and K all sts for 3 rounds. There may be a small hole in between the toes which will need to be darned.

Stuff the hooves and small end of legs very firmly, using a dpn to help spread the stuffing into the toes.

Stitches are now picked up at the original cast on sts to form the top of the leg. Beginning anywhere, PU 36 sts (one for each of the cast on sts), and work the following rounds:

- 1) K all sts
- 2) (K2, K2tog) repeat to end of round
- 3) K all sts
- 4) (K1, K2tog) repeat to end of round
- 5) K all sts

At this point stuff the top of the leg loosely.

- 6) (K2tog) repeat to end of round
- 7) K all sts

Cut yarn, thread through remaining live sts, pull tightly closed and secure. The top (fat) part of the back legs should be flattened out as much as possible, and then seamed in place as pictured. Pig was designed to be sitting up on his back legs. In order to do this, the legs should be seamed to the body pointing nearly straight down when body is held parallel to the ground.

Front Legs (make 2)

CO 15 sts onto 3 dpns, join in the round, and K all sts for 2½ inches. Work hoof as noted above. Stuff firmly; seam to pig's body as pictured about 1 inch apart.

Eyes and nostrils can be embroidered on if desired, or made with buttons, felt, etc.

Enjoy!

