



## WHAT TO DO WITH ALL THIS WOOL? KNIT A SHEEP!

You will require: 50 grams of local aran-weight wool, 4.5mm (UK size 7) needles, washed fleece to stuff, a tapestry needle. Skill level: an easy sheep for beginners

**Body & head:** Cast on 21 sts & knit in garter stitch (knit every row) for 18 rows, then knit together the first 2 sts. on the next 4 rows (leaving 17 sts.) Change colour, if desired, for head and continue in stocking stitch (knit one row, purl one row) for 8 rows. Cut wool with an 25cm (10") tail and thread it, using the tapestry needle, through the stitches on the knitting needle, pull tight & make a stitch or two to hold. Use the same thread to sew up the body inside-out from nose to tail, leaving a hole at the end. Turn it the right-side-out & stuff with fleece, then sew up the hole at the end.

**4 legs:** With same colour as head, cast on 8 sts. & knit in stocking stitch for 8 rows. Cut wool, thread it through the stitches & pull tight in the same way as for body. Sew up legs inside out, then turn right-side out & stuff well with fleece, (a knitting needle head helps in both turning & stuffing). Sew legs on to body, one at each corner.

**2 ears:** With same colour as head, cast on 4 sts. & knit in garter stitch for 4 rows, cut wool, thread through stitches & pull tight. Sew ears on to head.

**Embroider eyes, nose & mouth on to the head.** Make a tail of about 2cm (1") with a plait, crochet or I-cord (cast on 3 sts on double-pointed needles, \*knit 3, slide sts. to other end of needle, knit 3\* repeat from \*) & sew it on.

### Options for your sheep

Different sheep breeds can be made simply by changing the shape & position of the ears.

Larger sheep can be made by doubling or trebling all the numbers of stitches & rows (remember you'll need more wool).

For a woollier sheep, try using loop stitch as follows (for more experienced knitters):  
Row 1: Knit every stitch tbl ( = through the back loop)  
Row 2: Knit 1st stitch tbl, \*knit next stitch tbl but leave stitch on the left needle, knit into the front of the same stitch winding wool around your index finger as well as the needle to make a loop, slide stitch off needle, put left needle into the front of the two newly-made stitches & knit them together. Tug the loop.\* Repeat from \* until the last stitch & knit this tbl  
Repeat Rows 1 & 2

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## NOW WHAT TO DO WITH ALL THESE SHEEP?

If you enjoy making sheep & would like to donate some for a very good cause, please join us in making them for our Special Sheep Auction at Woolfest 2009 in aid of Farm Africa. Sheep may be knitted, crocheted, felted, woven, whatever home-made method you like! They may be any size or colour – the more unique the better – but they **must** be made of natural fibres, preferably wool, and be finished (i.e. stuffed, sewn up, ends woven in & eyes completed safe for children – it's best to embroider them) & ready for sale. Synthetic & factory-produced sheep & unwanted second-hand toys will not be allowed to take part. Please attach a small label with information to help buyers choose your sheep and what it's made of (eg 100% wool). The sheep will be divided into lots & auctioned on Saturday afternoon at Woolfest 2009.

Please **do not send** your sheep to us, but bring them to Woolfest 2009 as early as possible in the show and definitely before 12 noon on Saturday 27th June 2009. If you really can't manage this & must send them, please keep your sheep until the beginning of June 2009 & then phone The Wool Clip on 016974 78707 or email us at [woolfest@woolclip.com](mailto:woolfest@woolclip.com) with "sheep auction" in the subject line and we'll tell you where to send them. **Under no circumstances must sheep be sent to Mitchell's Lakeland Livestock Centre.**

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