

KNITTED BOY DOLL

Two pieces

This makes up into a doll approx 33cms high, starting at the feet. It looks quite "boyish".
Uthando needs lots of boy dolls.

Choose needle size to suit the thickness of the wool, eg 3.75mm with 8 ply.

It is better to have quite firm knitting so the stuffing doesn't show through.

Brown wool is needed where there is skin. Any **other bright colours and textures** can be chosen for the clothing.

Black wool for hair.

After knitting one doll you will very likely invent your own variations according to type of wool and needle size and of course your own resources.

Each doll can be different.

The main aim is that it is strong, soft, cuddly and can be the "friend" for a vulnerable Zulu child.



FRONT

LEGS: Cast on 10 stitches (st) for one leg. Knit one row purl, one row plain (stocking stitch) until 13 cms, (5ins) (about 40 rows). Put on to holding pin. Repeat for second leg.

BODY: Knit along to join both legs and increase 1 st at centre. This gives a useful central stitch for counting. Now total is 21 sts. Change colour for knickers/ shorts if needed. Change back to brown from the waist. Knit stocking stitch up to underarms. 8cms, (3.5ins)

ARMS: Cast on, at each end of 2 rows, 12 sts for a sweater when hands will be picked up later or 15 sts if bare arms. Remember brown wool for skin. Knit for 4 cms or 12 rows. Cast off at the start of two rows leaving 11 sts for neck in the middle.

NECK AND HEAD: Knit 2 rows for neck then start incr. for face 1 st. at each end of every 2nd row until you have 21 sts. Knit 8 rows. Decrease 1 st. at the end of every 2nd row to remaining 13 sts. (Change to black wool. Change to moss stitch which gives a nice hair style. Ribbing also works. Or you may like fluffy wool for hair). Knit 2 rows and cast off.

BACK: Repeat pattern up to neck.

Knit 2 rows for brown neck, then incr 1st at each end of every second row for a further 4 rows.

Change to black hair colour. Use moss st or appropriate hair type st.

Follow same number of rows and sts for front of doll.

SEWING FRONT AND BACK TOGETHER:

Using ends of wool, stitch right sides together, around head, neck and shoulders to hands.

If you have knitted in a sweater type top, then pick up about 16 sts at the end of sleeves in brown wool for the hand. Stocking stitch for 2.5cms (1in) and cast off.

Repeat for other hand.

Continue to hand stitch front and back together all around the doll, leaving a gap to enable insertion of stuffing. Dark coloured stuffing does not show through. Fill the doll so that it is firm, feels well fed and has form. Make the head a nice full shape. Sew up opening.

FACE EMBROIDERY:

Using black wool, embroider the eyes in satin stitch and add two stitches of white wool either side of iris. Embroider mouth (chain stitch or stem stitch) and add one or two stitches of white for teeth (optional).

If your doll suits older children, you may want to knit or sew some clothes, add a scarf, earrings, beanie, shoulder bag, or back pack, etc.

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