Time Rabbit Double Knitting Pattern

As part of our campaign to raise awareness about the challenges posed by long parental absences, The Naval Children's Charity is delighted to invite you to create these Time Rabbits.

These will be sent out, alongside the original work of children's literature "Zoe and the Time Rabbit", to families that have requested them.

The time rabbits come in pairs – one with a happy face on the tummy, and one with a sad face.

Please send any bunnies you knit to the address below, or email: book@navalchildrenscharity.org.uk if you have any questions.

Thank you for your time.

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This pattern was very kindly created by Fiona Goble. For more information on Fiona, you can visit her website www.fionagoble.com



MEASUREMENT
Approx 16-17 cm from tip of feet to the top of the head (excluding ears)

EQUIPMENT
Pair 3.25mm knitting needles
Needle to sew up rabbit
Large-eyed embroidery needle

MATERIALS
25g Double Knitting yarn in bright yellow (eg King Cold Dollymix in Gold)
Small amount of polyester toy stuffing
Small amounts of red and black dk or 4ply yarn (or you could use embroidery thread)

ABBREVIATIONS
Inc 1 – Increase by knitting into front and back of next stitch
K – Knit
K2tog – knit next 2 sts together
M1 – make one by picking up loop between st on needle and next st and knitting into back P – Purl
Psso – pass slip stitch over (knit st)
P2tog – purl the next 2 stitches together
P2tog tbl – purl the next 2 stitches together through the back of loops
St/sts – stitch/stitches
St st – stocking stitch – alternate rows of knit and purl
Sl1 – slip next st without knitting it

BODY AND HEAD
Knitted in one piece from base of body to top of head

Cast on 20 sts
R1 – K3, inc1, K1, inc1, K7, inc1, K1, inc1, K4 (24 sts)
R2 – P
R3 – K5, M1, K2, M1, K10, M1, K2, M1, K5 (28 sts)
R4 – P
R5 – K6, M1, K2, M1, K12, M1, K2, M1, K6 (32 sts)
R6 – P

Work 10 rows in st st beginning with a K row.

R17 – *K1, [K2tog] 3 times, K2, [sl1, K1, psso]3 times, K1. Repeat from * (20 sts)
R18 – P1, P2tog, P2tog tbl, P1, P2tog, P2tog, P2tog tbl, P2tog tbl, P1, P2tog, P2tog, P1 (12 sts)
R19 – K
R20 – P
R21 – [K1, M1] 5 times, K2, [M1, K1] 5 times (22 sts)
R22 – P
R23 – [K2, M1] twice, K3, M1, K2, M1, K4, M1, K2, M1, K3 [M1, K2] twice (30 sts)

Work 7 rows st st beginning with P row

R30 – K2, [K2tog, K1] twice, K1, [S1, K1, psso, K1] twice, K1, [K1, K2tog] twice, [K1, S1, K1, psso] twice, K2 (22 sts)
R32 – [P1, P2tog] repeat to last st, P1 (15 sts)

Cast off

LEGS (knitted from top of thigh to tip of foot)
Make x2
Cast on 10 sts
Work 6 rows in st st beginning with a k row
R7 – K2, M1, K3, M1, K3, M1, K2 (13 sts)
Work 7 rows in st st beginning with a p row
R15 – [Sl1, K1, psso] 3 times, K1, [K2tog] 3 times (7 sts)
Break yarn, thread it through remaining sts, pull up and fasten securely

ARMS (knitted from top of arm to tip of hand)
Make x2
Cast on 9 sts
Work 12 rows in st st beginning with a k row
R13 – [sl1, K1, psso] twice, K1 [K2tog] twice (5 sts)
Break yarn, thread it through remaining sts, pull up and fasten securely

EARS (knitted from base to tip)
Make x2
Cast on 4 sts
Sts 14 rows
R15 – Sl1, K1, psso, K2tog (2 sts)
R16 – P2tog
Fasten off

MAKING UP
Sew edges of body and head together (centre back seam). Close seam at top of head. Stuff head and body, sew up seam at base of body.
Sew back seams of arms and legs, leaving top edges open. Stuff fairly lightly. Sew arms in place, just to the front rather than exactly on the sides. Sew legs in place. Sew ears in place.

Use black yarn (or embroidery thread) to embroider 2 French knots for eyes and one French knot for nose. Embroider a straight st for the mouth.

Use red yarn (or embroidery thread) to embroider a circle in chain st on the rabbits tummy for a clock face. Add French knots for the eyes and work a flattened 'v' in straight st for the smiley mouth or an upside-down flattened 'v' for the sad mouth.