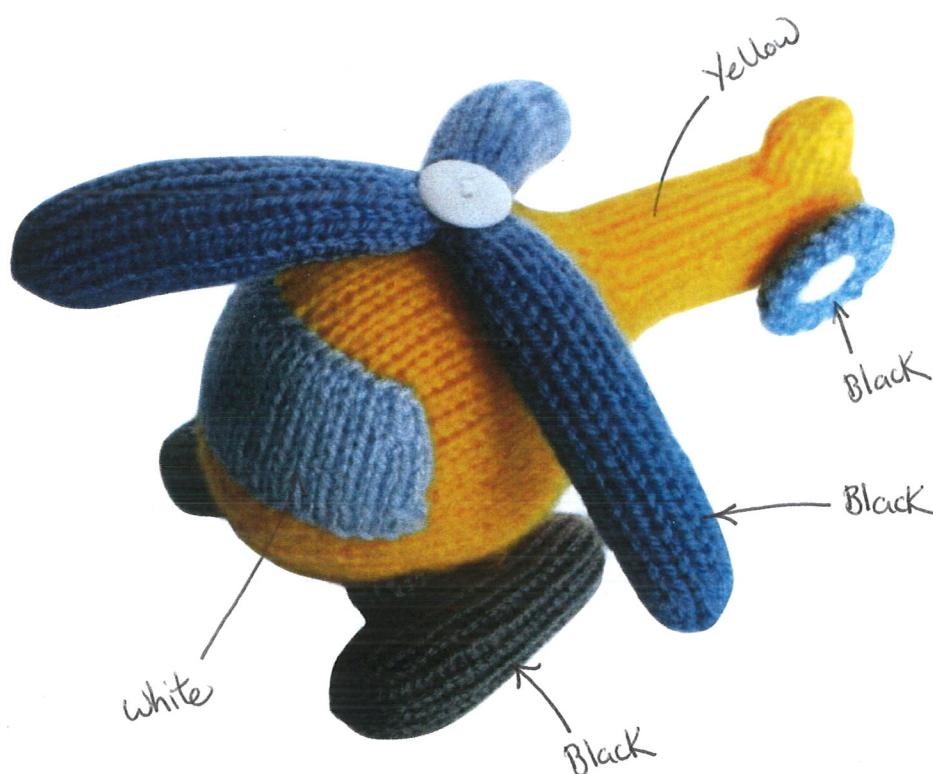


* * Helicopter * *

KNITTING PATTERN BY AMANDA BERRY

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YARN

- The helicopter is made from 100% acrylic DK yarns (double knitting, light worsted weight, 8 ply); up to 50g in each of four shades: Yellow, Light Blue, Dark Blue and Grey.
- The helicopter photographed was knitted in **Paintbox Yarns Simply DK** 100% Acrylic in shades *Buttercup Yellow 122*, *Duck Egg Blue 135*, *Sky Blue 138* and *Slate Grey 105*.
- This yarn or a similar DK weight acrylic yarn is recommended.

NEEDLES & NOTIONS

- A pair of 3.5mm (US 4) single pointed needles, minimum length 20cm
- A darning or tapestry needle for seaming
- A 200g bag of toy filling
- Three 18mm diameter 2-hole white buttons
- A doll making sewing needle to attach the rotor blades
- Sewing needle and thread to sew on buttons

NOTES

Introduction: You are cleared for take off ... This woolly helicopter has rotor blades that turn round on the top, and a tail rotor that spins round too. Lots of fun for budding pilots to play with!

Work flat: All pieces are worked flat (back and forth) on a pair of straight single pointed knitting needles, not in the round.

Casting on: Use the long tail cast on unless otherwise instructed for this pattern.

Pull through to cast off: Cut the yarn leaving at least a 30cm tail. Thread the tail onto a darning needle and sew through the remaining sts on the knitting needle. Pull the sts off the knitting needle onto the yarn, gather together tightly and secure the yarn.

Stockinette stitch: Also known as stocking stitch, purl the WS rows and knit the RS rows.

Doll making sewing needle: This is a long sewing needle usually used to attach limbs to dolls, and can be purchased from haberdasheries or good craft stores.

One size: 17cm long x 13cm tall.

Tension: 24 sts x 30 rows for a 10cm x 10cm square in stockinette stitch on 3.5mm needles. Don't worry about tension for this pattern, it is not critical as the knitted pieces stretch when stuffed.

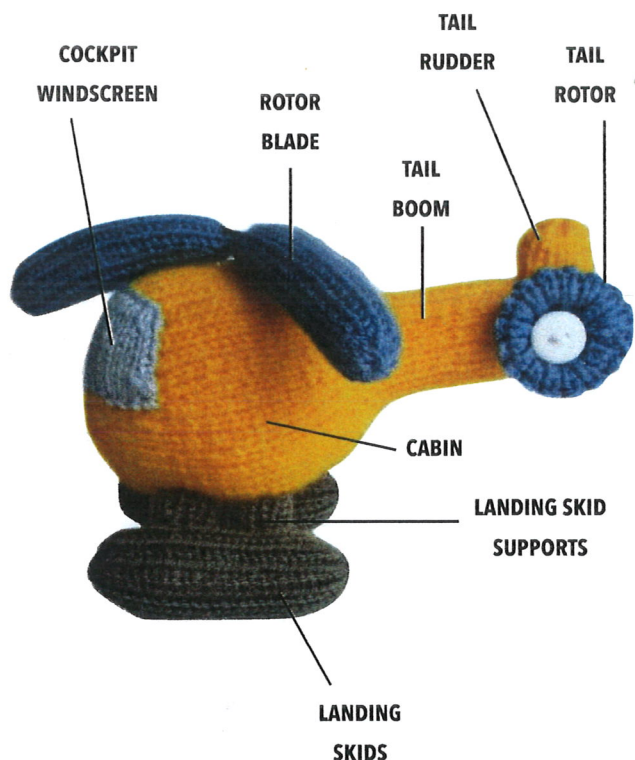
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ABBREVIATIONS

foll	Following
k	Knit
k2tog	Knit two stitches together (decrease by 1)
kfb	Knit into front and back (increase by 1)
p	Purl
rep	Repeat
RS	Right side
ssk	Slip the next stitch knit-wise, slip the next stitch purl-wise, knit through the front of the 2 slipped stitches (decrease by 1)
st(s)	Stitch(es)
St st	Stockinette
tog	Together
WS	Wrong side



KNITTING PATTERN

TAIL BOOM AND CABIN

(Yellow)

Make 1. Cast on 7 sts in yellow on 3.5mm needles.
Start at the end of the tail boom.

Row 1 (WS): purl

Row 2 (RS): [kfb] 6 times, k1 (13 sts)

Row 3: purl

Row 4: [k2, kfb] 4 times, k1 (17 sts)

Rows 5 to 27: starting on a WS purl row work 23 rows in St st

Row 28: [k3, kfb] 4 times, k1 (21 sts)

Row 29: purl

Row 30: k1, [kfb, k1] 10 times (31 sts)

Row 31: purl

Row 32: k1, [kfb, k2] 10 times (41 sts)

Rows 33 to 35: starting on a WS purl row work 3 rows in St st

Row 36: k1, [kfb, k4] 8 times (49 sts)

Rows 37 to 49: starting on a WS purl row work 13 rows in St st

Row 50: k1, [k2tog, k6] 6 times (43 sts)

Rows 51 to 53: starting on a WS purl row work 3 rows in St st

Row 54: k1, [k2tog, k5] 6 times (37 sts)

Rows 55 to 57: starting on a WS purl row work 3 rows in St st

Row 58: k1, [k2tog, k4] 6 times (31 sts)

Row 59 and all foll WS rows: purl

Row 60: k1, [k2tog, k3] 6 times (25 sts)

Row 62: k1, [k2tog, k2] 6 times (19 sts)

Row 64: k1, [k2tog] 8 times (9 sts)

Pull through to cast off.

COCKPIT WINDSCREEN

(White)

Make 1. Cast on 20 sts in light blue on 3.5mm needles. Start at the bottom edge.

Row 1 (WS): purl

Row 2 (RS): k1, ssk, k14, k2tog, k1 (18 sts)

Rows 3 to 7: starting on a WS purl row work 5 rows in St st

Row 8: k1, ssk, k12, k2tog, k1 (16 sts)

Row 9: purl

Cast off all sts.

TAIL RUDDER

(Yellow)

Make 1. Cast on 12 sts in yellow on 3.5mm needles. Start at the bottom edge.

Rows 1 to 5: starting on a WS purl row work 5 rows in St st

Row 6: [k2tog] 6 times (6 sts)

Pull through to cast off.

ROTOR BLADE

(Black)

Make 3. Cast on 6 sts in dark blue on 3.5mm needles.

Row 1 (WS): purl

Row 2 (RS): [kfb] 6 times (12 sts)

Rows 3 to 28: starting on a WS purl row work 26 rows in St st

Pull through to cast off.

TAIL ROTOR

(Black)

Make 1. Cast on 9 sts in dark blue on 3.5mm needles.

Row 1 (WS): purl

Row 2 (RS): k1, [kfb] 8 times (17 sts)

Rows 3 to 5: starting on a WS purl row work 3 rows in St st

Row 6: k1, [kfb] 16 times (33 sts)

Row 7: knit

Row 8: k1, [k2tog] 16 times (17 sts)

Rows 9 to 11: starting on a WS purl row work 3 rows in St st

Row 12: k1, [k2tog] 8 times (9 sts)

Cast off all sts.

LANDING SKIDS (Black)

Make 2. Cast on 13 sts in grey on 3.5mm needles.

Rows 1 to 28: starting on a WS purl row work 28 rows in St st

Pull through to cast off.

LANDING SKID SUPPORTS (Black)

Make 4. Cast on 9 sts in grey on 3.5mm needles.

Rows 1 to 4: starting on a WS purl row work 4 rows in St st

Cast off all sts.

MAKING UP

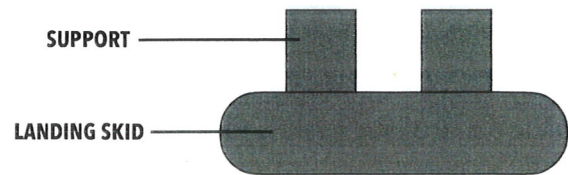
⇒ **NOTE:** Use mattress stitch for seaming.

Cabin and tail: Sew the side edges tog, adding stuffing as you sew. This seam runs down the centre underside of the cabin/tail. Gather the cast on sts tog at the end of the tail.

Cockpit windscreen: Sew onto the front of the helicopter cabin with the longer cast on edge at the bottom.

Landing skids: Sew the side edges tog, stuffing as you sew to make a sausage shape. Gather the cast on sts tog.

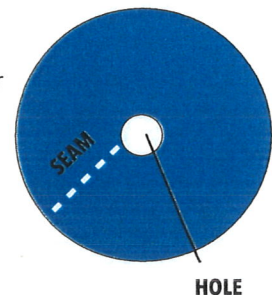
Landing skid supports: Sew the side edges tog to make a small tube shape. Sew the cast on edge of two supports onto a landing skid.



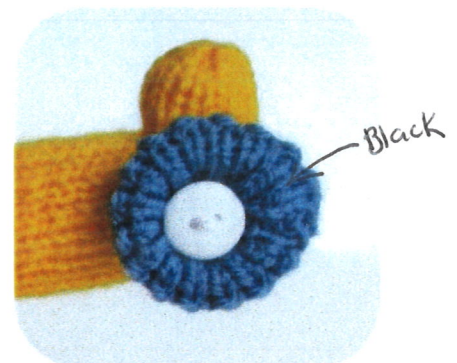
Sew the cast off edge of the supports onto the underside of the cabin.

Tail rudder: Sew the side edges tog. Add a little stuffing inside the rudder. Sew the cast on edge on top of the end of the tail, with the seamed edge running down the back.

Tail rotor: Sew the side edges tog to make a circular shape, with a small hole in the centre (the cast on/off edge).

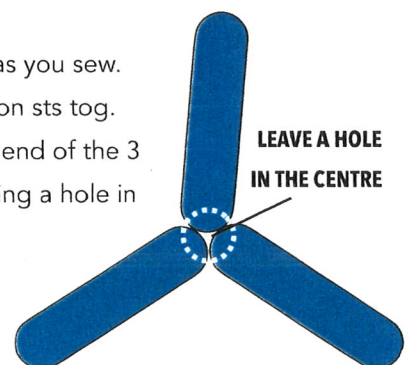


Sew a button onto the end of the helicopter's tail boom. Then stretch the little hole in the middle of the tail rotor over that button.

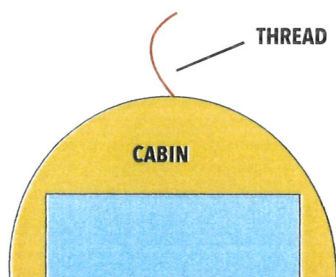


Rotor blades:

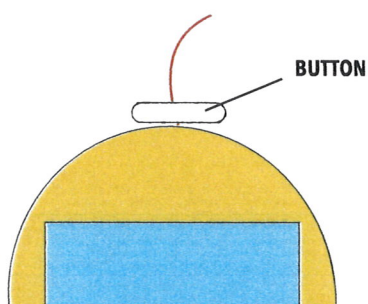
For each blade, sew the side edges tog, adding stuffing as you sew. Gather the cast on sts tog. Join the cast on end of the 3 blades tog, leaving a hole in the centre.



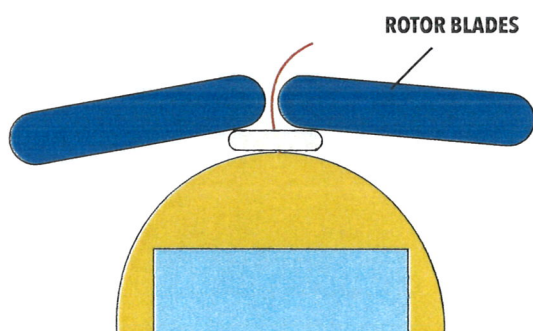
Attach the rotor blades: You will need your doll making sewing needle and 2 buttons. Cut a 1 metre length of thread, and secure it onto the centre top of the cabin at the point where your rotor will be and thread onto the doll needle.



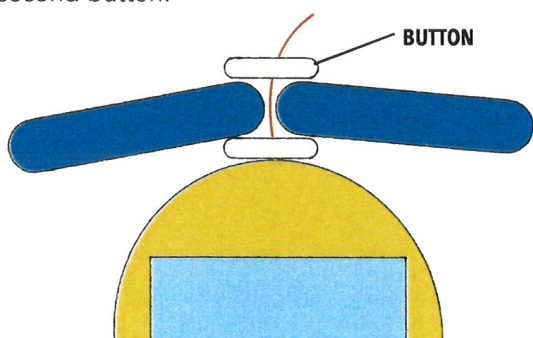
Bring the needle through one hole in a button.



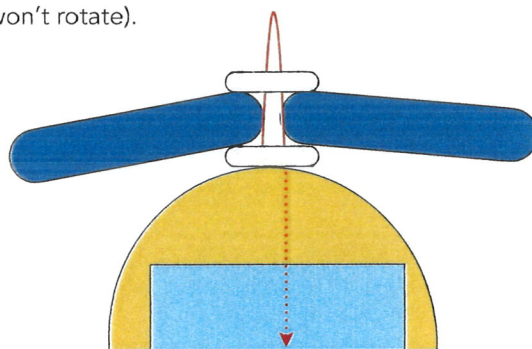
Then bring the needle through the hole in the middle of the rotor blades.



Then bring the needle through one hole in the second button.



Take the needle down through the other hole in the top button, through the hole in the middle of the rotor blades, and through the second hole in the other button, and then down through the helicopter cabin bringing your needle out at the bottom of the helicopter. (Make sure you don't sew through the knitted rotor blade itself, only through the hole in the middle of the blades, otherwise it won't rotate).



Take the needle back up through the body of the helicopter, through the buttons, and back down again, to sandwich the rotors between the two buttons. Secure the thread to finish. The rotor blades should rotate around the thread between the buttons.



⇒ **NOTE:** If you don't have a long sewing needle you could simply sew the rotor blades onto the top of the helicopter, but they won't spin round.