



This is one of the simplest dogs to knit.

The Corgi is a foxy dog, with remarkably short legs and an instinct for herding. Corgis are athletic and use their agility to nip at the heels of sheep and horses. No one seems to know why the Corgi is associated with Wales but there are two types, Pembroke and Cardigan; ours is a Pembroke, identified by having almost no tail. They are much loved by the British Royal Family (sixteen dogs), although there have been stories of the Royal Corgis reverting to their old herding ways with some visitors. Also much loved by my Aunt Joanie (a mere three dogs).

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Measurements

Length: 16cm (6¼in)

Height to top of head: 9cm (3½in)

Materials

- Pair of 2¾mm (US 2) knitting needles
- 4 spare 2¾mm (US 2) knitting needles or small stitch holders or safety pins
- 10g (¼oz) of Rowan Cashsoft 4ply in Cream 433 (cr)
- 15g (½oz) of Rowan Cashsoft 4ply in Walnut 441 (wa)
- Small amount of Rowan Pure Wool 4ply in Black 404 for collar and nose and eyes

Abbreviations

See Hints page.

Right Back Leg

With cr, cast on 9 sts.

Beg with a k row, work 2 rows st st.

Row 3: Inc, k1, k2tog, k1, k2tog, k1, inc. (9 sts)

Row 4: Purl.

Rep last 2 rows once more.*

Work 3 rows st st.**

Row 10: Join in wa, p4wa, p5cr.

Row 11: Inccr, k3cr, k4wa, incwa. (11 sts)

Row 12: P4wa, incwa, p1wa, inccr, p4cr. (13 sts)

Row 13: K5cr, incwa, k1wa, incwa, k5wa. (15 sts)

Row 14: P6wa, incwa, p1wa, incwa, p1wa, p5cr. (17 sts)

Row 15: Cast (bind) off 5 sts cr, cast (bind) off 3 sts wa, k to end wa (hold 9 sts on spare needle for Right Side of Body).

Left Back Leg

Work as for Right Back Leg to **.

Row 10: P5cr, join in wa, p4wa.

Row 11: Incwa, k4wa, k3cr, inccr. (11 sts)

Row 12: P4cr, inccr, p1wa, incwa, p4wa. (13 sts)

Row 13: K5wa, incwa, k1wa, incwa, k5cr. (15 sts)

Row 14: P5cr, p1wa, incwa, p1wa, incwa, p6wa. (17 sts)

Row 15: K9wa, cast (bind) off 3 sts wa, cast (bind) off 5 sts cr (hold 9 sts on spare needle for Left Side of Body).

Front Leg

(make 2)

Work as for Right Back Leg to *.

Row 7: Knit.

Row 8: Purl.

For right leg: Cast (bind) off 4 sts, k to end (hold 5 sts on spare needle for Right Side of Body).

For left leg: K5, cast (bind) off 4 sts (hold 5 sts on spare needle for Left Side of Body).

Right Side of Body

Work in wa throughout.

Row 1: Cast on 1 st, with RS facing k5 from spare needle of Right Front Leg, cast on 10 sts. (16 sts)

Row 2: Purl.

Row 3: K16, cast on 8 sts. (24 sts)

Row 4: Purl.

Row 5: Inc, k23, with RS facing k9 from spare needle of Right Back Leg, cast on 2 sts. (36 sts)

Row 6: Purl.

Row 7: K35, inc. (37 sts)

Work 5 rows st st.

Row 13: Inc, k36. (38 sts)

Row 14: P2, p2tog, p34. (37 sts)

Row 15: K33, k2tog, k2. (36 sts)

Row 16: P2, p2tog, p32. (35 sts)

Row 17: K31, k2tog, k2. (34 sts)

Row 18: P2tog, using st on right needle as first st, cast (bind) off 23 sts, p to end (hold 10 sts on spare needle for right neck).

Left Side of Body

Work in wa throughout.

Row 1: Cast on 1 st, with WS facing p5 from spare needle of Left Front Leg, cast on 10 sts. (16 sts)

Row 2: Knit.

Row 3: P16, cast on 8 sts. (24 sts)

Row 4: Knit.

Row 5: Inc, p23, with WS facing p9 from spare needle of Left Back Leg, cast on 2 sts. (36 sts)

Row 6: Knit.

Row 7: P35, inc. (37 sts)

Work 5 rows st st.

Row 13: Inc, p36. (38 sts)

Row 14: K2, k2tog, k34. (37 sts)

Row 15: P33, p2tog, p2. (36 sts)

Row 16: K2, k2tog, k32. (35 sts)

Row 17: P31, p2tog, p2. (34 sts)

Row 18: K2tog, using st on right needle as first st, cast (bind) off 23 sts, k to end (hold 10 sts on spare needle for left neck).



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Neck and Head

Row 1: With wa, and with RS facing k10 from spare needle of Right Side of Body then k10 from spare needle of Left Side of Body. (20 sts)

Row 2: Purl.

Row 3: K2tog, k16, k2tog. (18 sts)

Row 4: Purl.

Row 5: K4, k2tog, k6, k2tog, k4. (16 sts)

Row 6: Purl.

Row 7: K13, pult (pick up loop below next st on left needle by inserting tip of right needle from back through loop - this stops a hole forming when turning work - then turn, leaving rem 3 sts on left needle unworked).

Row 8: Working top of head on centre 10 sts only, p2tog (first st of p2tog is loop picked up at end of last row), p9, pult.

Row 9: K2tog, k9, pult.

Rep last 2 rows once more.

Row 12: P2tog, p9, pult.

Row 13: K2tog, k to end. (16 sts)

Work 3 rows st st.

Row 17: K2togwa, k5wa, join in cr, k2cr, k3wa, pult (leave 4 sts on left needle).

Row 18: P2togwa, p2wa, p2cr, p3wa, pult.

Row 19: K2togwa, k2wa, k2cr, k3wa, pult. Rep last 2 rows once more.

Row 22: P2togwa, p2wa, p2cr, p3wa, pult.

Row 23: K2togwa, k2wa, k2cr, k5wa, k2togwa. (14 sts)

Row 24: P2tog wa, p2wa, p2togwa, p2cr, p2togwa, p2wa, p2togwa. (10 sts)

Row 25: K3wa, k4cr, k3wa.

Row 26: P3wa, p4cr, p3wa.

Row 27: K2togwa, k6cr, k2togwa. (8 sts)

Row 28: P1wa, p6cr, p1wa.

Work 3 rows st st cr.

Cast (bind) off in cr.

Tummy

With cr, cast on 6 sts.

Beg with a k row, work 2 rows st st.

Next row: K2tog, k2, k2tog. (4 sts)

Work 9 rows st st.

Next row: Inc, k2, inc. (6 sts)

Next row: Inc, p4, inc. (8 sts)

Work 26 rows st st.

Next row: K2tog, k4, k2tog. (6 sts)

Next row: P2tog, p2, p2tog. (4 sts)

Work 4 rows st st.

Next row: Inc, k2, inc. (6 sts)

Work 2 rows st st.

Next row: Inc, p4, inc. (8 sts)

Work 2 rows st st.

Next row: Inc, k6, inc. (10 sts)

Work 11 rows st st.

Next row: K2tog, k6, k2tog. (8 sts)

Work 3 rows st st.

Next row: K2tog, k4, k2tog. (6 sts)

Work 3 rows st st.

Next row: K2tog, k2, k2tog. (4 sts)

Work 5 rows st st.

Next row: K2tog twice. (2 sts)

Next row: K2tog and fasten off.

Ear

(make 2 the same)

With wa, cast on 6 sts.

Knit 6 rows.

Row 7: K2tog, k2, k2tog. (4 sts)

Knit 4 rows.

Row 12: K2tog twice. (2 sts)

Row 13: Knit.

Row 14: K2tog and fasten off.

Collar

With bl, cast on 24 sts.

Knit one row.

Cast (bind) off.

To Make Up

Sew in ends, leaving ends from cast on and cast (bound) off rows for sewing up.

Using mattress or whip stitch, sew up legs starting at paw. Stuff all four legs.

Using mattress or whip stitch, sew down centre back, around tail and down bottom.

At head, fold in half and sew cast (bound) off edges of nose together.

Using mattress or whip stitch, sew cast on row of tummy to bottom end of dog and sew cast (bound) off row to nose. Ease and sew tummy to fit body, matching curves to legs. Leave a 2.5cm (1in) gap between front and back legs on one side. Turn right side out, stuff then sew up gap with mattress stitch.

Sew ears to head as shown in photograph.

Using black yarn, embroider the nose using satin stitch and make two French knots for eyes.

Sew ends of collar together and slide over head onto neck.



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This pattern extract is taken from **Best in Show: Knit Your Own Dog** by Sally Muir & Joanne Osborne. Showcasing 25 different breeds of dog you can knit, from a perky Poodle to a burly Bulldog, buy a copy of **Best in Show** and knit your own labradoodle.

www.knityourowndog.com

"This is a quirkily charming book and the results look brilliant."

— The Daily Telegraph

Head

When sewing on the ears, slightly curve the cast on row to give the Corgi its alert expression.

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Body

When sewing up, match the curve of the tummy with the leg shaping, sewing up one side then the other.

Hints

Choosing Yarns

Alternative yarns can be used – different colours or thicknesses. If using thicker yarns, refer to the ball band for needle size but use a needle at least 2 sizes smaller than recommended as the tension (gauge) needs to be tight to hold the stuffing. The thicker the yarn, the larger the dog will be. We feel that finer yarns create a more refined dog.

Knitting the Body and Head

When holding stitches to use later on in a pattern, use a spare needle, a stitch holder or safety pin.

Holes can develop around the short row shaping at the top of the head. When sewing on the ears, use the sewing up end to patch up any holes. Swiss darning can also be used to cover up any untidy stitches.

Don't worry if the neck of your dog is rather thickset, the collar is handy for giving the neck some shape. If needs be, reduce the number of stitches on the collar.

Stuffing the Dog

Stuffing the dog is as important as knitting it. Depending on the breed, your dog will need either light, normal or dense stuffing. For instance, the Basset Hound needs dense stuffing to give it a sturdy look while the Whippet needs light stuffing to enhance its delicate shape. Refer to the photographs of each dog.

You can completely change the dog's personality by moulding the stuffing. Make sure stuffing goes right to the end of the nose and do not over-stuff the neck. If the stitches become distorted then you have over-stuffed your dog.

We recommend using 100% polyester or kapok stuffing, which is available from craft shops and online retailers. A dog takes 20–40g ($\frac{3}{4}$ –1 $\frac{1}{2}$ oz) of stuffing, depending on size.

Sewing and Stuffing Legs

When sewing up thin or loopy stitch legs or tails, use mattress or whip stitch and sew up

on the right side of the dog: this means you won't have to turn the leg/tail inside out. Sew on legs with seams facing backwards unless otherwise stated.

Use a knitting needle end or chopstick to push stuffing down to the paws. To smooth out the stuffing in the legs, roll the leg between your fingers.

If the legs are floppy once they have been sewn on, at about 2cm ($\frac{3}{4}$ in) down from top edge of leg, sew through the body and legs to make the dog more stable.

If the legs are too bendy, using a pipecleaner within the stuffing will steady them. Cut a pipecleaner to approximately 2.5cm (1in) longer than the leg, bend the ends over to fit the leg (otherwise they'll poke through the knitting), roll the pipecleaner in some stuffing, wrap the leg around it and, starting at the paw, mattress or whip stitch the seam on the right side of the leg. By carefully bending the tips of the legs you can make paws.

These dogs aren't toys, but if you intend to give them to small children do not use pipecleaners in the construction.

Adding Personality

The placing of the ears, eyes and nose needs to be carefully considered. We recommend pinning on the ears to find the perfect position before sewing. For the eyes, experiment with both the size and the placing of the French knots until you are happy with your dog's expression. For the nose, refer to the photograph and work in satin stitch.

Methods

Abbreviations

alt alternate

approx approximately

beg begin(ning)

cm centimetre

cont continue

dec decrease

fol follow(s)(ing)

g grams

icos including cast (bound) off stitch. (After

casting (binding) off the stated number of stitches, one stitch remains on the right needle. This stitch is included in the number of the following group of stitches.)

in inches

inc work into front and back of next stitch to increase by one stitch

k knit

k2tog knit next two stitches together

k3tog knit next three stitches together

oz ounces

p purl

pult pick up loop below next st on left needle by inserting tip of right needle from back of work through loop – this stops a hole forming when turning work – then turn, leaving rem (number stated) sts on left needle unworked

p2tog purl next two stitches together

p3tog purl next three stitches together

rem remain(ing)

rep repeat

RS right side

st stitch

st st stocking (stockinette) stitch

tbl through back of loop

WS wrong side

[] work instructions within square brackets as directed

* work instructions after asterisk(s) as directed

Colour Knitting

There are two main techniques for working with more than one colour in the same row of knitting – the intarsia technique and the stranding (or Fair Isle) technique.

Intarsia Technique

This method is used when knitting individual, large blocks of colour. It is best to use a small ball (or long length) for each area of colour, otherwise the yarns will easily become tangled. When changing to a new colour, twist the yarns on the wrong side of the work to prevent holes forming.

When starting a new row, turn the knitting so that the yarns that are hanging from it untwist as much as possible. If you have several colours you may occasionally have to re-organize the yarns at the back of the knitting. Your work may look messy but once the ends are all sewn in it will look fine.

Stranding or Fair Isle Technique

If there are no more than 4 stitches between colours you can use the Fair Isle technique: this is good for the Dalmatian, where you have small numbers of stitches between the spots. Begin knitting with the first colour, then drop this when you introduce the second colour. When you come to the first colour again, take it under the second colour to twist the yarns. When you come to the second colour again, take it over the first colour. The secret is not to pull the strands on the wrong side of the work too tightly or the work will pucker.

I-cord

With double-pointed needles *knit a row. Slide the stitches to the other end of the needle. Do not turn the knitting. Rep from *, pulling the yarn tight on the first st so that the knitting forms a tube.

Loopy Stitch

Different dogs use slightly different loop techniques, so do check the one needed before you start knitting your dog.

Border Collie, Portuguese Water Dog, West Highland Terrier, Scottish Terrier, Miniature Schnauzer, Siberian Husky, Poodle

On a knit row, knit one stitch as normal, but leave the stitch on the left needle. Bring the yarn from the back to the front between the two needles. With the yarn in front, loop the yarn around your left thumb. Take the yarn back between the two needles to the back of the work. Knit the stitch from the left needle as normal. You now have two stitches on the right needle and a loop between them. Pass the first stitch over the second stitch to trap the loop, which is now secure. The end of the loop can be cut when finishing the dog.

Poodle (applies only to topknot)

On a purl row, work the loopy stitch knitwise as above. When the loop is complete, slip the loopy stitch onto the right needle, bring the yarn from the back to the front between the two needles. Slip the loopy stitch back onto the left needle, pushing the loop to the back (RS) of the work.

Rough Collie, Cocker Spaniel, Red Setter

Always worked on a purl row. Insert the tip of the right needle knitwise into the next stitch on the left needle. Place the first two (or three) fingers of the left hand behind the stitch and wrap the yarn around the fingers and the tip of the right needle, then knit the stitch without dropping it from the left needle. Keeping the fingers inside the yarn wrap, insert the tip of the left needle from left to right through the front of the stitch just made (on the right needle) and slip this stitch back onto the left needle. Knit the slipped stitch and the next stitch on the left needle together through the back of the loops. Slide the fingers out of the wrap to complete the loopy stitch.

Old English Sheepdog, Afghan Hound

For these dogs the loops are worked in Kid Silk/Tapestry yarn while the base stitches themselves are worked in 4ply yarn. Work loopy stitches knitwise on a purl row in the same way as for the Rough Collie, Cocker Spaniel and Red Setter.

Insert the tip of the right needle knitwise into the next stitch on the left needle. Place the first two (or three) fingers of the left hand behind the stitch and wrap Kid Silk/Tapestry around the fingers and the tip of the right needle, then knit the stitch without dropping it from the left needle. Keeping the fingers inside the yarn wrap, insert the tip of the left needle from left to right through the front of the stitch just made (on the right needle) and slip this stitch back onto the left needle. Using the 4ply yarn, knit the slipped stitch and the next stitch on the left needle together through the back of the loops. Slide the fingers out of the wrap to complete the loopy stitch.

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