

Outrageously Adorable

dog knits

25 Must-Have
Styles for the
Pampered Pooch



Featuring knits by Jill Bulgan, Noelle Woosley,
Rachael Matthews, and Max Alexander

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 HarperCollins *Publishers*

Dedicated to Ivy, Poppy, Tilly, Percy, Ruby, Jade, Casper, Elmo, Coco, Carla, Schnitzel, and Harry Potter. Thanks for the sniffs and licks.

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Caitlin Doyle asserts her moral rights as author of the text.

Jill Bulgan asserts her moral rights as creator and author of the following patterns: Vintage Ruffled Bonnet, French Beret, Ten-Gallon Cowboy Hat, Toasty Legwarmers, Sports Fanatic Bobble Hat and Scarf, Personalized Doggie Blanket, Cupcake Skirt and Hat, Trendy Cowl, Cutesy Booties, Chic Shawl.

Noelle Woosley asserts her moral rights as creator and author of the following patterns: Elizabethan Ruff, Feelin' Fancy Bowtie, Pompom Scarf for Petite Pooches, Chunky Scarf for the Larger Dog, Simple Roll-Neck Pullover, Holiday Patterned Sweater, Preppy Puppy Letterman Sweater, Rabbit-Ear Bonnet, Urban Hoodie, Stylish Stripes Sweater, Elf Hat, Rose Corsage.

Rachael Matthews and Max Alexander assert their moral rights as creators and authors of the following patterns: Bumblebee Costume, Superhero Cape and Wristbands.

Gemma Birss asserts her moral rights as author of Getting Started.

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No dogs were harmed or humiliated in the making of this book.

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introduction/author's note

Have you ever been all dressed up with no place to go? Well, imagine having the whole world at your (four) feet, but not a stitch to wear! Never fear; this book removes that bane of shame for your loyal best friend.

Your pooch adores you and has gone to so much trouble to show it. Just consider all that work Max put into chewing your slippers just so to ensure they epitomize worn-in comfort. Or the energy Bella has expended in growling away the mailman to keep unwanted bills at bay. It's time to return their gallant efforts. And what says "I love you" better than a flashy, one-of-a-kind superhero costume for patrolling the house? Or a hand-knit holiday sweater to complement the family photos on Christmas morning against a backdrop of shredded wrapping, courtesy of Olive the puppy?

Amusement is mutual: our pawed pals delight us, as we must surely fascinate them with our strange behaviors, such as relegating perfectly decent "trash" to a can and greeting the wrong end of fellow humans. However, of course, not all dogs like to be paraded for our entertainment. But some simply revel in the attention. If your pampered pup is one of the latter, you'll be all too familiar with the signs:

lapping up the limelight at every dinner party; showing off tricks to each and every new guest; leaving you in a heartbeat if a more captivating lap becomes available; posing perfectly at the first sign of a camera phone. If you share your home with such a diva, get some knitting needles *pronto* and start crafting some haute couture duds for your little angel.

Do remember that, like humans, dogs have their individual likes and dislikes. Some seem to love a good dress-up—even if it's at the grasping hands of an enthusiastic toddler. But others may have delicate ears, a sensitive paw, a strong aversion to wearing hats . . . or perhaps a more finely tuned fashion palate than yours. *Don't push it.* We love our fur kids, and our job as their keepers is to ensure that they're happy and healthy. So, before embarking on a time-consuming display of affection by knitting Milo an intricate cowboy hat, first test out whether he minds having his head adorned. If he is happily behatted, knit away! If he's not, perhaps choose some other delightful apparel to express your adoration. We employed the same caveat during our photo shoot—*please rest assured, no dogs were harmed or humiliated in the making of this book.*

Once you've ascertained your pet's style preferences, it's time to start knitting. This book will guide you to create bespoke knitwear for your cherished pooch—as well as setting you merrily on your way to developing your own designs. For novice knitters, simple patterns are clearly marked, while further embellishments and more complex outfits ensure that experienced woolsmiths are catered for, too. Most items can be tweaked to fit dogs of any size and shape—simply follow the individual pattern's measurement instructions. However, some garments are less straightforward and, as such, come in a one-size-fits-most format. Please consider your dog's statistics carefully before beginning a project.

The designs in this book have been carefully chosen to accommodate all levels, with a range of knitwear options, from fun Halloween costumes, to everyday sweaters for snuggling up in front of the fire on a cold winter's night, and everything in between. The wonderful knitters involved in this project come from a variety of backgrounds, but every one is passionate about sharing the joy of their craft and creating unique and wearable designs. Please read more about them in the Contributors section on p. 95 and check out their websites for more inspiration.

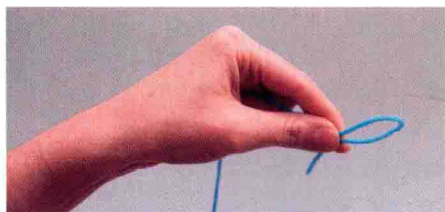
So, get those needles clacking and prepare to be showered with praise for your fine crafting skills and your pet's dashing outfits. Enjoy your knitting adventure!

Dogs can't knit. But they sure can wear it well.

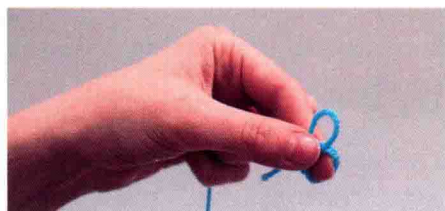


getting started

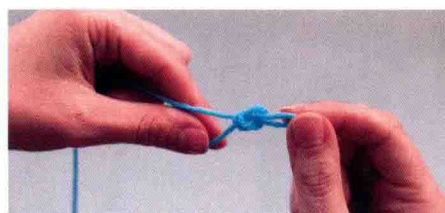
MAKE A SLIPKNOT



- 1 Cross the yarn into a loop and pinch closed with your thumb and forefinger, holding the short end of the yarn underneath.

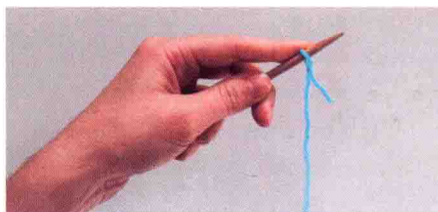


- 2 With the longer yarn length, make a second loop over and around the tip of your forefinger.

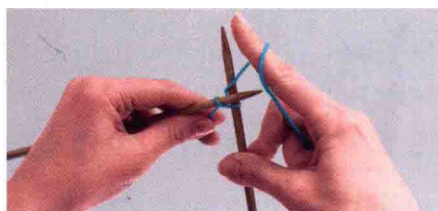


- 3 Pull the second loop through the first.

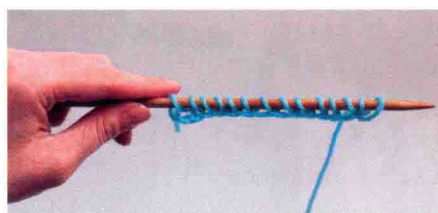
CASTING ON



- 1 Hold a needle in your left hand and tighten the slipknot around it. This is your first stitch.

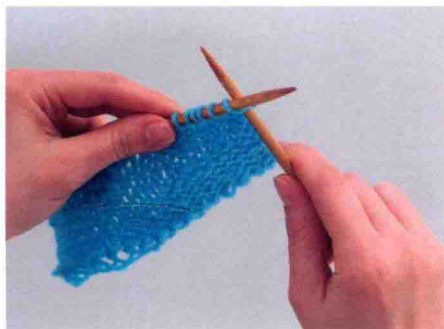


- 2 Insert the right-hand needle into the stitch, crossing it behind the left needle. Loop the yarn behind and around the right needle.

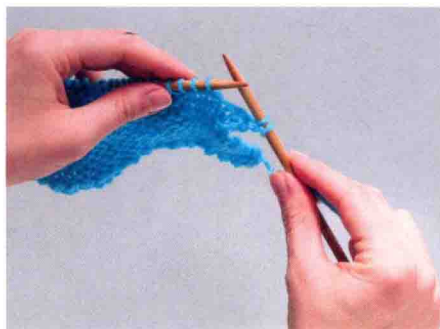


- 3 Draw the right needle under the left needle, catching the loop and transferring it across. You have created your second stitch. Continue until you have a row of stitches.

KNIT STITCH



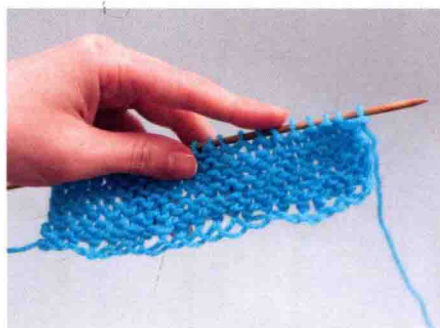
- 1 Hold the stitched needle in your left hand and the free needle in your right, keeping the yarn at the back of your work. Insert the right-hand needle into the first stitch, crossing behind the left needle.



- 3 Draw the right needle under the left, catching the loop and transferring it across.



- 2 Loop the yarn behind and around the right needle.



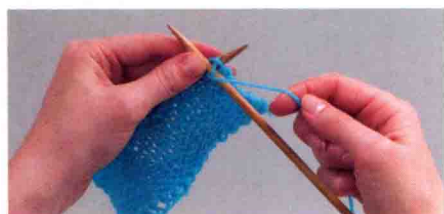
- 4 Continue with knit stitch for a more textured finish.



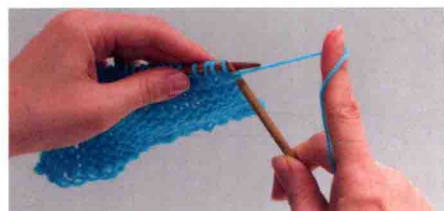
PURL STITCH



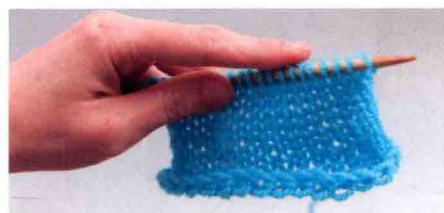
- 1 The technique for purl is similar to knit, but instead of inserting the right needle behind the left in the stitch, you angle it in front. Keep the yarn at the front of the work.



- 2 Loop the yarn over and around the right needle.



- 3 Draw the right needle under the left, catching the loop and transferring it across.



- 4 Purl creates a smoother, flatter finish than knit stitch.

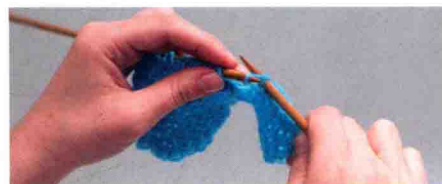
CASTING OFF



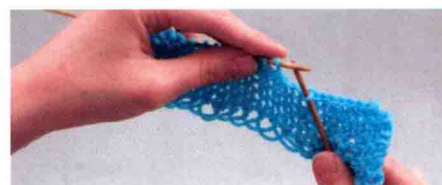
- 1 Keeping the yarn at the back of your work, knit the first two stitches onto the right-hand needle.



- 2 Insert the left needle into the stitch that's furthest from the tip.



- 3 Lift this stitch over the other stitch, slipping it off the needle.



- 4 Knit another stitch onto the right-hand needle and repeat to the end of the row.
- 5 When there is one stitch left, slip it off the needle and thread the yarn through to secure it.

ABBREVIATIONS

sts—stitches

k—knit

k1—knit one stitch

p—purl

p1—purl one stitch

m1—miss one—i.e., knit into front and back of same stitch

k2tog—knit 2 stitches together

k3tog—knit 3 stitches together

ktbl—knit into the back of the stitch

yo—yarn over—i.e., bring yarn over the needle and back to the front to make a loop

x2—make two

Rib stitch—k1, p1

Garter stitch—knit all rows

Stockinette stitch—knit one row, purl one row

Seed stitch—2 rows: k1, p1, 2 rows: p1, k1.
Repeat continuously



TIPS

- Your pet's skin may be sensitive to wool, so use acrylic yarn where possible
- Keep your stitches relaxed and loose to make life easier
- When adapting the patterns for bigger dogs, use larger needles and chunky yarn
- Have fun with colors and embellishments!

