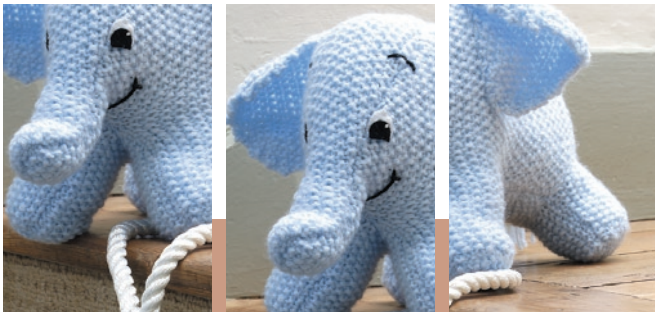




Free pattern from **knitting** magazine



## Baby blue elephant by Val Pierce

Who can resist this cute and cuddly toy with his cheeky smile and endearing eyes? He only takes 200g of the softest Aran yarn and a little bit of time and patience to create. Worked all in moss stitch, you can make him in just a weekend.

### SIZES

**The elephant will stand approx:**  
27cm (10.5in) in height.

### YOU WILL NEED

#### Sirdar Supersoft Toddler Aran

100% Courtele (236m per 100g)  
2 x 100g balls in 844 Pretty Blue  
Pair of 4.5mm needles  
Scraps of white and black felt for eyes  
Embroidery silk in white and black  
Fiberfill washable safety stuffing  
Stitch holders  
Large eyed sewing needle

**Note:** Yarn amounts given are based on average requirements and are approximate.

### TENSION

18 sts to 10cm over st st using 4.5mm needles  
Tension not critical if a small change in size is acceptable.

### TIPS

The elephant is worked entirely in moss stitch unless otherwise stated. This is a pattern created by alternately working one knit stitch and one purl stitch on every row. The purl stitch is worked over the knitted stitch on the subsequent row. Work a pattern swatch first if you are not familiar with the stitch pattern. Cast on 10 sts.

**Row 1:** \* K1 , p1 , rep from \* all across row.

**Row 2:** \*P1, k1, rep from \* all across row.

Continue in this way working first and second rows to create the moss stitch.

It's a good idea to mark down the rows as you knit because it's not quite so easy to keep count when working in this type of stitch. His eyes are felt, which are firmly stitched onto the head with embroidery silk, and the facial features are also embroidered, making it a very safe toy for the tiny people in your family!

### TRUNK

Work 2 pieces alike. Using 4.5mm needles cast

on 7 sts.

**Next row:** Inc in each of next 2 sts, patt to end.

**Next row:** Inc in each of next 3 sts patt to end. Rep last 2 rows once more.

**Next row:** Inc in first st patt to end.

**Next row:** Inc in first st patt to end.

Work 2 more rows straight in pattern, break yarn and keep sts on stitch holder. 19 sts

### BODY AND HEAD

Work 2 pieces alike.

#### Front legs

\*\*Using 4.5mm needles cast on 13 sts and work in moss stitch for 24 rows.

Leave sts on spare needle.

#### Back leg

As front leg but when you have worked 19 rows work thus:

**Next row:** Cast on 6 sts, patt to end.

**Next row:** Pattern.

**Next row:** Cast on 6 sts, patt to end

**Next row:** Pattern.

**Next row:** Cast on 5 sts patt to end.

**Next row:** Patt across back leg, then across front leg sts from spare needle, 43 sts.

Mark end of last row with coloured thread to denote front of elephant.

**Next 2 rows:** Pattern\*\*.

**Next row:** Keeping moss stitch correct inc 1st at end of row.

**Next 5 rows:** Pattern.

Now knit across sts of legs, inc 1 st in first st of trunk, work across trunk sts, inc 1 st in last st.

**Next row:** Pattern all across.

**Next row:** Pattern across until 13 sts remain, cast off 5 sts , pattern to end.

**Next row:** Working on these 8 sts work 6 rows straight in patt and cast off.

Rejoin yarn to main piece of body:

**Row 1:** Pattern.

**Row 2:** Patt to last 2 sts work 2 tog.

**Rows 3 and 4:** Pattern.

**Row 5:** Patt 2 tog, patt to end.

**Rows 6 and 7:** Pattern.

**Row 8:** As row 2.

**Rows 9 and 10:** Pattern.

**Row 11:** Dec 1 st at each end of row.

**Rows 12 and 13:** Pattern.

**Rows 14 and 15:** Patt to last 2 sts patt 2 tog.

**Row 16:** Pattern.

**Row 17:** Dec 1 st, patt to end.

**Row 18:** Dec 1 st patt to end.

**Row 19:** Pattern.

**Row 20:** Dec 1 st at each end of row.

**Row 21:** Pattern.

**Row 22:** Dec 1 st patt to end.

**Row 23:** Dec 1 st at each end of row.

**Row 24:** Dec 1 st patt to end.

**Row 25:** Dec 1 st each end.

**Row 26:** Cast off 4 sts work to last 2 sts, work 2 tog.

**Row 27:** Dec 1 st work to end.

**Row 28:** Cast off 4 sts work to last 2 sts, work 2 tog.

**Row 29:** Cast off 4 sts, work to end.

**Row 30:** Cast off 8 sts, work to end.

**Row 31:** Cast off 6 sts, work to end.

**Row 32:** Cast off rem sts.

### Head gusset

Using 4.5mm needles cast on 5 sts (this is the trunk end of gusset). Work 26 rows straight in moss stitch. Inc 1 st each end next and every foll 4th row until 15 sts. Work 8 rows straight. Dec 1 st each of next row and then every foll 4th row until 3 sts, k3tog. Fasten off.

### Feet base

Work 4 alike.

Using 4.5mm needles cast on 5 sts and knit 1 row. Cont in g-st throughout and inc every alt row until 9 sts. Work 4 rows straight. Dec 1 st each end of every alt row until 5 sts. Work 1 row and cast off.

### Under body gusset

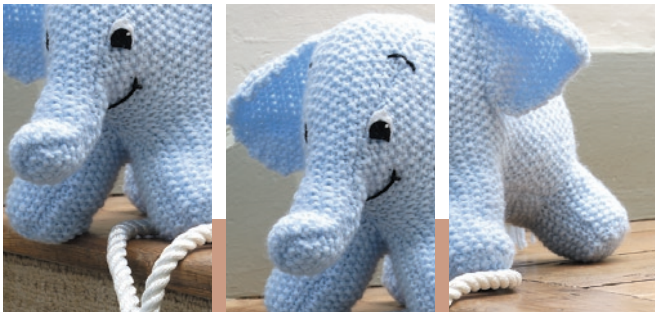
Make 2 pieces alike.

Work from \*\* to \*\* on head and body piece.

Work a further 2 rows in moss stitch and cast off.

### EARS

Using 4.5mm needles, cast on 5 sts and work 1 row moss stitch. Inc 1 st each end next row, and foll alt rows until you have 13 sts. Work a further 9 rows in moss stitch. Inc 1 st each end of next row, work 3 rows straight. Inc 1 st at beg of next row. (Mark beg of this row to denote outside edge of ear), work 1 row straight. Inc 1 st each end, of next row, work 1 row straight, 18 sts. Work 5 rows straight. Inc 1 st at beg of next row, work 1 row straight. Dec 1 st each end of next and foll alt row. Cast off 2 sts at beg of



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next 2 rows. Cast off 3 sts at the beg of next 2 rows. Cast off rem sts.

### TAIL

Take 9 strands of yarn, divide into 3 equal pieces and make a short plait, (about 6cm (2in) in length) knot the end of the plait and leave a small fringe at the end of the plait, attach to back of elephant.

### TO FINISH OFF

Work all ends in neatly on all pieces. Remember that with moss stitch there is no 'right or wrong side' of the work so just reverse the pieces when you sew them up. First join the two under-body pieces neatly along the cast off edges. Join under-body to main pieces matching legs. Join leg seams.

Stitch a foot base onto the bottom of each leg. Join head gusset to the 2 main pieces, start at the trunk end and carefully stitch one side at a time onto a main body and head piece. Run a gathering thread around the end of the trunk, shape and stitch up firmly. Continue to sew up the rest of the head and body, but leave a small space at the back seam to enable stuffing. Turn seam sides inside and begin to stuff the toy. Before finally closing the body, finish stuffing the elephant, shape as you stuff, don't overfill the trunk, it needs shape but it also needs to be able to 'curl up' a little at the end. Insert the tail and firmly sew the last bit of the body seam.

Take ears and sew a running thread around the outsides of each ear, gather very slightly to give a rounded shape, fasten off thread

firmly. Now position ears onto the elephant, place shaped inside of ear onto head, pin in place first to get them level and in the same place on each side of the head. Refer to photographs for help.

For eyes, cut two ovals of felt in black, and two half ovals in white, use photograph as a guide to help you. Position the smaller pieces of black felt onto the white ones, add a touch of craft glue to keep them in place, now put them on each side of the head and using two strands of white embroidery silk, stitch each eye firmly in place.

Using 6 strands of black embroidery silk, and a back-stitch, embroider eyebrows and a smiley mouth, again using the pictures as your guide.