



MEET OUR DESIGNER

Louise Smith

"This little critter was inspired by a real-life pack of raccoons I ran into in Vancouver, Canada. They all looked so cuddly and mischievous, I wanted one with me all the time!"

Cast on our raccoon in any DK yarn from your stash!

Robby Raccoon

Make a fun, furry friend for life with **Louise Smith's** animal bag charm, knitted using small amounts of DK yarn.



IMPROVE YOUR SKILLS



YOU WILL NEED

- Any DK yarn in:
 - Yarn A** Grey
 - Yarn B** White
 - Yarn C** Dark Grey
- A pair of 3mm needles
- A 3mm crochet hook
- Small amount of black stranded cotton
- Small amount of toy stuffing
- Tapestry needle
- Keychain

TENSION

Yarn used knits as 4ply to this tension: 26 sts and 30 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st using 3mm needles

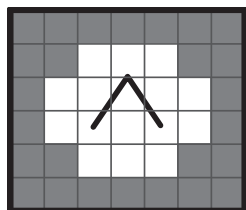
MEASUREMENTS

11cm wide (4¼in) x 10cm tall (4in)

ABBREVIATIONS

K1B Knit the next stitch using Yarn B
For a full list see www.gathered.how

EYE PATCH CHART



KEY

- Swiss darn in Yarn B
- ∧ Embroider sts in Black

Bag charms are all the rage, from fluffy pompoms to cool emojis, and now you can knit and show off your very own using our easy colourwork pattern! Robby Raccoon has been created using DK yarn, 3mm needles and a few simple-to-learn colour changes. Cast him on today and add him to your favourite bag in no time.

Note The Back of the Raccoon is worked in the same way as the Front, using Yarn A only. The eye patches are added after, using Swiss darning and the image as a guide, following the Eye Patch Chart.

FRONT

Cast on 4 sts using 3mm needles and Yarn A.

- Row 1** Purl to end.
- Row 2** K1, M1R, K2, M1L, K1. [6 sts]
- Row 3** Purl to end.

Join in Yarn B.

- Row 4** (K1B, M1R in Yarn B) twice, K2A, (M1L in Yarn B, K1B) twice. [10 sts]
- Row 5** P4B, P2A, P4B.
- Row 6** (K1B, M1R in Yarn B) 4 times, K2A, (M1LB, K1 in Yarn B) 4 times. [18 sts]
- Row 7** P8B, P2A, P8B.
- Row 8** (K1B, M1R in Yarn B) twice, K6B, K2A, K6B, (M1LB, K1 in Yarn B) twice. [22 sts]
- Row 9** P9B, P4A, P9B.

Break off Yarn A and B and join in Yarn C.

- Row 10** K1, M1R, knit to last st, M1L, K1. [2 sts inc'd]
 - Row 11** Purl to end.
- Repeat Rows 10 and 11 twice more. [28 sts]
- Row 16** K1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, K1. [26 sts]
 - Row 17** Purl to end.

Break off Yarn C and rejoin Yarn B.

- Row 18** K1B, sskB, K8B, K4A, K8B, k2togB, K1B. [24 sts]

Row 19 P10B, P4A, P10B.

Row 20 K1B, sskB, K6B, K6A, K6B, k2togB, K1B. [22 sts]

Continue in Yarn A only.

- Row 21** Purl to end.
 - Row 22** K1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, K1. [2 sts dec'd]
- Repeat Rows 21 and 22 until 16 sts remain.

Cast off.

BACK

Repeat instructions for Front, using Yarn A only.

EARS (MAKE 2 IN YARN A AND 2 IN YARN B)

Cast on 3 sts using 3mm needles.

- Row 1** Purl to end.
 - Row 2** K1, M1R, K1, M1L, K1. [5 sts]
 - Row 3** Purl to end.
 - Row 4** Ssk, K1, k2tog. [3 sts]
 - Row 5** Purl to end.
 - Row 6** Sk2po. [1 st]
- Fasten off.**

MAKING UP

1 With WS facing each other, sew one Yarn A ear to one Yarn B ear. Repeat for other two pieces. Using image as a guide, embroider a small amount of Yarn C on the middle of each ear (on the Yarn B side).


2 With RS facing out, begin sewing the Front and Back pieces together. Position the Ears at the top of the Raccoon, using image as a guide, and sew into place as you sew the face pieces together. Before you sew the pieces together completely stuff lightly. Then sew closed.

3 Make a small pompom (4cm/1.5in in diameter) using small amounts of Yarn A, Yarn B and Yarn C. Attach pompom to keychain using a small crochet chain (or preferred method) and Yarn A.

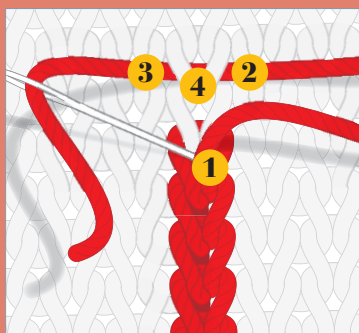
4 Using lengths of black stranded cotton, make a small tassel and secure around keychain ring.

5 Using a length of Yarn B, Swiss darn the eye patches onto the face, following the Eye Patch Chart. Position eyes using image as a guide.

6 Using a length of black stranded cotton and image as a guide, embroider small closed eyes into the centres of both patches.

7 Using a length of Yarn C, embroider a few single sts for nose, using image as a guide. Secure Raccoon to keychain just behind left ear. 

STEP-BY-STEP SWISS DARNING



Swiss darning or duplicate stitch is a great way to add small details to your knitting, covering the stitch with an embroidery stitch the same shape as the stitch beneath it.

Work from bottom to top, bringing the needle out at the base of the stitch at **1**. Take the needle behind the top of the 'V', in at **2** and out at **3**. Take the needle down at **1** and bring it up at **4**, at the base of the stitch above. Continue in this way up the line of knitted stitches.