

## Bodacious Bunny Baby Set

DESIGNED BY SHEILA MEYER

Sheila, a leading sweater designer and owner of One World Button Supply Co., cites her inspiration for this sweater: “It just seemed natural

to me that the soft and fuzzy angora/ lambswool blend felt like a bunny rabbit, and what baby wouldn’t want one?”

### Skill Level

Easy

### Sizes

Instructions are for infant size 3–6 months. Changes for 9 and 18 months are in parentheses. Shown in size 9 months.

### Finished Measurements

Chest 21 (22½, 24)"/53.5 (57, 61)cm

Length 11½ (12½, 14)"/29 (31.5, 35.5)cm

### Yarn

ANGEL by Lorna’s Laces Hand-Dye Yarns, ½oz/14.25g skeins, each approx 50yd/46m (70% angora/30% lambswool) or a medium weight yarn

#### Sweater

- 6 (6, 7) skeins in 43NS Sage (MC)

#### Bunny

- 1 skein in ONS Natural (CC)

### Needles & Notions

#### Sweater

- One pair each sizes 5 and 7 (3.75 and 4.5mm) needles or needed to obtain gauge

- Size 7 (4.5mm) circular needle, 16"/40cm long

- Tapestry needle

#### Bunny

- One set (4) size 4 (3.5mm) double-pointed needles (dpns) for bunny (**Note:** Short wooden ones work best with the small number of stitches.)

- Two large safety pins for stitch holders

- Stitch marker

- Washable stuffing

- Tapestry needle

### Gauge

22 sts and 28 rows = 4"/10cm over St st using larger needles.

*Adjust the needle size as necessary to obtain correct gauge.*





### Construction Notes

#### SWEATER

- 1) This sweater is worked in pieces from the bottom up.
- 2) The neckband is worked in the round after the pieces are assembled.

#### BUNNY

- 1) The bunny is worked in small pieces on double pointed needles (dpns).
- 2) The legs are worked first. They are joined to create the body that is decreased for the neck, then increased for the head.
- 3) The arms and ears are worked last, then sewn to the body after all pieces are stuffed.

#### GLOSSARY

- **SK2P** Slip one st k-wise, k2tog, pass the slipped st over—2 sts decreased.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE SWEATER

### Back

With smaller needles and MC, CO 58 (62, 66) sts. Work in k2, p2 rib for  $1\frac{1}{4}$ "/3 cm, end with a WS row. Change to larger needles and knit across row, inc o (2, 4) sts evenly spaced—58 (64, 70) sts. Cont in St st until piece measures  $11\frac{1}{4}$  (12 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ )"/28.5 (31, 34)cm, end with a WS row.

### Neck shaping

**Next row (RS)** Work across first 15 (18, 21) sts, join a 2nd ball of MC and BO center 28 sts for back neck, work to end. Working both sides at the same time, dec 1 st from each neck edge once—14 (17, 20) sts each side. Work even until piece measures  $11\frac{1}{2}$  (12 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 14)"/29 (31.5, 35.5)cm from beg. BO all sts each side.

### Front

Work as for back until piece measures  $9\frac{3}{4}$  (10 $\frac{3}{4}$ , 11 $\frac{3}{4}$ )"/24.5 (27.5, 30)cm from beg, end with a WS row.

### Neck shaping

**Next row (RS)** Work across first 19 (22, 25) sts, join a 2nd skein of MC and BO center 20 sts for front neck, work to end. Working both sides at the same time, BO 3 sts from each neck once, then 2 sts once—14 (17, 20) sts each side. Work even until piece measures same length as back to shoulder. BO all sts each side.

### Sleeves

With smaller needles and MC, CO 26 (30, 38) sts. Work in k2, p2 rib for  $1\frac{1}{4}$ "/3cm. Change to larger needles. Cont in St st and inc 1 st each side every 4th row 4 (4, 8) times, then every 6th row 4 (4, 5) times—42 (46, 64) sts. Work even until piece measures  $7\frac{1}{2}$  (8 $\frac{1}{2}$ , 10)"/19 (21.5, 25.5)cm from beg or desired length. BO all sts.

### Pocket

With larger needles and MC, CO 22 sts. Work in St st for  $2\frac{1}{2}$ "/6.5. BO all sts.

### FINISHING

Block pieces gently to avoid felting the angora. Sew shoulder seams.

### Neckband

With RS facing, circular needle and MC, pick up and k 86 (86, 90) sts evenly spaced around neck edge. Work around in k2, p2 rib for  $\frac{3}{4}$ "/2cm. BO all sts loosely in rib.

Place markers  $3\frac{3}{4}$  (4 $\frac{1}{4}$ , 5 $\frac{3}{4}$ )"/9.5 (10.5, 14.5)cm down from shoulders on back and front.

Sew sleeves to armholes between markers.

Sew side and sleeve seams. Center pocket on front, then sew in place. Using CC, stitch rolled top edge down, using blanket stitch or overcast stitch. With a tapestry needle, weave in loose yarn tails to the WS of work and secure.

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE BUNNY

### Legs

With dpns, CO 6 sts. Divide sts evenly between 3 needles (2 sts on each needle). Join and pm to indicate beg of rnd. Knit 1 rnd.

**Next rnd** K1 into front and back of each stitch around—12 sts. Cont around in St st for 15 rnds. Place 6 sts on one safety pin and 6 sts on 2nd safety pin. Work 2nd leg as for first; leave sts on needles.

### Body

Arrange 24 sts from legs in a circle on 3 dpns (8 sts on each). Join and pm to indicate beg of rnd. Work even in St st for 8 rnds.

### Separate for armholes

\*Transfer front 12 sts to one needle and work back and forth in St st for 6 rows. BO 3 sts each

side\*. Place rem 6 sts on safety pin. Rep from \* to \* for the 12 back sts—6 sts; leave sts on needle.

### Neck and head

Arrange rem 12 sts from body on 3 dpns (4 sts on each). Work 5 rnds (neck), then inc 1 st at each end of each needle (beg of head)—18 sts. Knit 7 rnds.

**Next (dec) rnd** [K2tog] 9 times—9 sts.

**Next (dec) rnd** [K2tog, k1] 3 times—6 sts. BO all sts.

### Arms

With dpns, CO 6 sts (2 sts on each needle). Join and pm to indicate beg of rnd. Knit 10 rnds. Bind off all sts.

### Ears

With dpns, CO 3 sts. Work back and forth in St st for 2 rows.

**Next row** Inc 1 st each side—5 sts. Work 8 rows even.

**Next row** SK2P—3 sts. Purl one row.

**Next row** SK2P—1 st. Fasten off.

## FINISHING

Close small opening between legs with tail. Stuff legs, body, head and arms. Sew each "hand" opening closed, then sew open end of arms to armholes. Sew on ears approx  $\frac{3}{4}$ "/2cm below top of head. With a tapestry needle, run loose yarn tails inside body.

### Embroidery

With MC, embroider face, then duplicate stitch or embroider heart.

