

PETAL THE KNITTED BUNNY

Free Knitting Pattern

A soft cream bunny with blush-pink ears and paws



Skill level

Confident beginner to intermediate

Main method

Knitted in the round with a few flat pieces

1. About this pattern

Petal is a softly rounded seated bunny with a pear-shaped body, large upright ears, a padded oval muzzle, blush-pink inner ears and paw tips, and a small pom-pom tail. The head, body, ears, arms, legs and muzzle are worked in the round. The inner-ear panels are worked flat and sewn to the ears. The pattern uses simple increases and decreases, small-circumference knitting, light embroidery and straightforward assembly.

Right and left: right and left are always described from the finished bunny's point of view unless stated otherwise.

Finished views



Front, three-quarter, side, back and opposite three-quarter views show the intended seated shape and tail position.

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2. Finished size

Approximately 25-27 cm / 9.8-10.6 in tall from the seated base to the ear tips when made to gauge and stuffed as described.

Measurement	Approximate size
Seated height to top of head	18.5-20 cm / 7.25-7.9 in
Overall width across feet	11.5-13 cm / 4.5-5.1 in
Head width	9-10 cm / 3.5-3.9 in
Head depth	8.5-9.5 cm / 3.35-3.75 in
Body width	8.5-9.5 cm / 3.35-3.75 in
Body depth	7.5-8.5 cm / 3-3.35 in
Ear, each	8.5-9.5 cm long x 4-4.5 cm wide / 3.35-3.75 x 1.6-1.8 in
Arm, each	4.5-5.5 cm / 1.8-2.2 in long
Foot/leg, each	3.5-4 cm / 1.4-1.6 in long
Muzzle	about 4-4.5 x 3-3.5 cm / 1.6-1.8 x 1.2-1.4 in
Tail	about 4 cm / 1.6 in diameter

Finished size may vary depending on yarn, needle size, tension, stuffing and individual technique.

3. Materials and tools

Item	Quantity / notes
DK / light worsted yarn - cream	about 110 g / 260 m / 285 yd
DK / light worsted yarn - blush pink	about 20 g / 48 m / 52 yd
DK / light worsted yarn - natural white	about 10 g / 24 m / 26 yd
Black embroidery yarn or stranded cotton	about 1 m / 1 yd
3.0 mm knitting needles	DPNs or a long circular needle for magic loop; the same needle can be used back and forth for flat pieces
Safety eyes	2 x 12 mm, with washers
Polyester stuffing	about 80-100 g
Stitch markers	1 BOR marker plus removable markers or waste yarn for landmarks
Tapestry needle	for assembly and embroidery
Pins	for checking placement before sewing
Scissors and measuring tape	1 each
4 cm pom-pom maker or cardboard template	optional, for the tail

Safety note: Safety eyes and other small rigid components may not be suitable for projects intended for children under three years. Embroidered eyes can be used instead.

4. Gauge and tension

26 sts x 38 rnds = 10 x 10 cm / 4 x 4 in in stockinette worked in the round on 3.0 mm needles, measured without stretching. For the flat inner-ear panels, aim for approximately 26 sts x 38 rows = 10 x 10 cm / 4 x 4 in in stockinette.

Use firm, even tension so the fabric remains dense when stuffed. If stuffing is visible between stitches, use a smaller needle or reduce stuffing pressure before continuing.

5. Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Meaning
BO	bind off
BOR	beginning of round
CO	cast on
k	knit
k2tog	knit 2 stitches together; decreases 1 stitch
kfb	knit into the front and back of the same stitch; increases 1 stitch
p	purl
rnd/rnds	round/rounds
row/rows	row/rows
RS	right side
ssk	slip 1 knitwise, slip 1 knitwise, return both stitches to the left needle and knit them together through the back loops; decreases 1 stitch
st/sts	stitch/stitches
WS	wrong side

6. Method and orientation

- Head, body, outer ears, arms and legs are worked in the round with the RS facing outward. Knit every round unless another instruction is given.
- Inner-ear panels are worked flat. RS rows are knit; WS rows are worked as written. The muzzle is worked in the round.
- Keep the BOR marker at centre back (CB) on the head and body. Do not move it unless an instruction specifically says to do so.
- Centre front (CF) is exactly halfway around from BOR. On the 72-st head section, CF is the gap after st 36. On the 64-st body section, CF is the gap after st 32. On the 48-st upper-body section, CF is the gap after st 24.
- For arm and leg placement, count outward from CF on each side rather than relying on right/left stitch numbers. This keeps paired pieces genuinely mirrored.
- For colour changes on arms and legs, keep BOR on the underside/back of the limb so the join is inconspicuous.

7. Construction overview

Piece	Construction and finish
Head - make 1	Worked from crown to neck. Insert eyes after Rnd 27. Stuff through the 32-st neck opening; leave the opening open for joining to the body.
Body - make 1	Worked from base to neck. Stuff through the 32-st neck opening; leave the opening open for joining to the head.
Outer ears - make 2	Worked in the round, closed at the tip, left unstuffed and flattened. The 16-st base remains open for sewing.
Inner-ear panels - make 2	Worked flat in pink and sewn to the front face of each outer ear before the ears are attached.
Muzzle - make 1	Worked in the round in natural white, lightly stuffed and closed. The smooth broad side is embroidered, then the muzzle is sewn to the face.
Arms - make 2	Worked from the open shoulder toward the pink paw. The paw is gathered closed; the shoulder remains open, is lightly stuffed, then flattened for attachment.
Legs - make 2	Worked from the open upper edge toward the pink toe. The toe is gathered closed; the upper edge remains open, is stuffed, then flattened for attachment.
Tail - make 1	A 4 cm cream pom-pom sewn firmly to CB on the lower body.

Complete the face and ears while the head neck opening is still accessible so embroidery and sewing tails can be secured inside. Join head and body only after the facial features and ears are finished.

8. Head - make 1

Work in cream from the crown downward. Leave a 20 cm / 8 in cast-on tail; after Rnd 4, use it to close any small crown gap, then secure it inside.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
CO	CO 8 sts in cream. Distribute evenly and join to work in the round, taking care not to twist. Place BOR marker at CB.	8
Rnd 1	Kfb in every st around.	16
Rnd 2	Knit all sts.	16
Rnd 3	*(K1, kfb); repeat from * around.	24
Rnd 4	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 5	*(K2, kfb); repeat from * around.	32
Rnd 6	Knit all sts.	32
Rnd 7	*(K3, kfb); repeat from * around.	40
Rnd 8	Knit all sts.	40
Rnd 9	*(K4, kfb); repeat from * around.	48
Rnd 10	Knit all sts.	48
Rnd 11	*(K5, kfb); repeat from * around.	56
Rnd 12	Knit all sts.	56
Rnd 13	*(K6, kfb); repeat from * around.	64
Rnd 14	Knit all sts.	64
Rnd 15	*(K7, kfb); repeat from * around.	72
Rnd 16	Knit all sts.	72
Rnd 17	Knit all sts.	72
Rnd 18	Knit all sts.	72
Rnd 19	Knit all sts.	72
Rnd 20	Knit all sts.	72
Rnd 21	Knit all sts.	72
Rnd 22	Knit all sts.	72
Rnd 23	Knit all sts.	72
Rnd 24	Knit all sts.	72
Rnd 25	Knit all sts.	72
Rnd 26	Knit all sts.	72
Rnd 27	Knit all sts.	72
Rnd 28	*(K7, k2tog); repeat from * around.	64
Rnd 29	Knit all sts.	64
Rnd 30	*(K6, k2tog); repeat from * around.	56
Rnd 31	Knit all sts.	56
Rnd 32	*(K5, k2tog); repeat from * around.	48
Rnd 33	Knit all sts.	48
Rnd 34	*(K4, k2tog); repeat from * around.	40
Rnd 35	Knit all sts.	40
Rnd 36	*(K3, k2tog); repeat from * around.	32
Rnd 37	Knit all sts. Then BO all 32 sts loosely knitwise, leaving a 45 cm / 18 in sewing tail.	0

Eye placement after Rnd 27: On the 72-st section, CF is the gap after st 36. Insert one eye stem in the gap after st 29 and the other in the gap after st 43, between Rnds 22 and 23. Check that both eyes are level before securing the washers.

Do not stuff the head yet. Continue through Rnd 37, then set the head aside with the bound 32-st neck opening accessible.

9. Body - make 1

Work in cream from the seated base upward. Leave a 20 cm / 8 in cast-on tail; after Rnd 4, use it to close any small base gap and secure it inside. Keep BOR at CB so the lower-body shaping and later placement remain easy to align.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
CO	CO 8 sts in cream. Distribute evenly and join to work in the round. Place BOR marker at CB.	8
Rnd 1	Kfb in every st around.	16
Rnd 2	Knit all sts.	16
Rnd 3	*(K1, kfb); repeat from * around.	24
Rnd 4	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 5	*(K2, kfb); repeat from * around.	32
Rnd 6	Knit all sts.	32
Rnd 7	*(K3, kfb); repeat from * around.	40
Rnd 8	Knit all sts.	40
Rnd 9	*(K4, kfb); repeat from * around.	48
Rnd 10	Knit all sts.	48
Rnd 11	*(K5, kfb); repeat from * around.	56
Rnd 12	Knit all sts.	56
Rnd 13	*(K6, kfb); repeat from * around.	64
Rnd 14	Knit all sts.	64
Rnd 15	Knit all sts.	64
Rnd 16	Knit all sts.	64
Rnd 17	Knit all sts.	64
Rnd 18	Knit all sts.	64
Rnd 19	Knit all sts.	64
Rnd 20	Knit all sts.	64
Rnd 21	Knit all sts.	64
Rnd 22	Knit all sts.	64
Rnd 23	Knit all sts.	64
Rnd 24	Knit all sts.	64
Rnd 25	*(K6, k2tog); repeat from * around.	56
Rnd 26	Knit all sts.	56
Rnd 27	Knit all sts.	56
Rnd 28	Knit all sts.	56
Rnd 29	*(K5, k2tog); repeat from * around.	48
Rnd 30	Knit all sts.	48
Rnd 31	Knit all sts.	48
Rnd 32	Knit all sts.	48
Rnd 33	*(K4, k2tog); repeat from * around.	40
Rnd 34	Knit all sts.	40
Rnd 35	Knit all sts.	40
Rnd 36	Knit all sts.	40
Rnd 37	*(K3, k2tog); repeat from * around.	32
Rnd 38	Knit all sts.	32
Rnd 39	Knit all sts.	32
Rnd 40	Knit all sts.	32
Rnd 41	Knit all sts.	32

Rnd	Instruction	Count
Rnd 42	Knit all sts. Then BO all 32 sts loosely knitwise, leaving a 45 cm / 18 in sewing tail.	0

Set the body aside with the bound 32-st neck opening accessible. Stuffing instructions are given in Section 16.

10. Ears

The outer ear is a double-layer cream tube worked in the round and flattened without stuffing. Make 2 outer ears and 2 pink inner-ear panels.

10A. Outer ears - make 2

Rnd	Instruction	Count
CO	CO 16 sts in cream. Join in the round and place BOR at one side edge of the ear.	16
Rnd 1	Knit all sts.	16
Rnd 2	Knit all sts.	16
Rnd 3	Knit all sts.	16
Rnd 4	Knit all sts.	16
Rnd 5	*(K1, kfb); repeat from * around.	24
Rnd 6	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 7	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 8	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 9	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 10	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 11	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 12	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 13	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 14	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 15	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 16	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 17	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 18	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 19	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 20	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 21	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 22	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 23	*(K4, k2tog); repeat from * around.	20
Rnd 24	Knit all sts.	20
Rnd 25	Knit all sts.	20
Rnd 26	*(K3, k2tog); repeat from * around.	16
Rnd 27	Knit all sts.	16
Rnd 28	*(K2, k2tog); repeat from * around.	12
Rnd 29	Knit all sts.	12
Rnd 30	*(K1, k2tog); repeat from * around.	8
Rnd 31	Knit all sts.	8
Rnd 32	Knit all sts.	8
Rnd 33	K2tog 4 times. Cut yarn, thread through remaining sts, draw closed and secure.	4

After closing the tip, flatten the tube so the two side folds are straight. Do not stuff. Choose one broad face as the front. Leave the 16-st cast-on edge open for attachment to the head.

10B. Inner-ear panels - make 2

Row	Instruction	Count
CO	CO 3 sts in blush pink. Work flat.	3
Row 1 (RS)	Kfb, k1, kfb.	5
Row 2 (WS)	K1, p3, k1.	5
Row 3 (RS)	Kfb, k3, kfb.	7
Row 4 (WS)	K1, p5, k1.	7
Row 5 (RS)	Kfb, k5, kfb.	9
Row 6 (WS)	K1, p7, k1.	9
Row 7 (RS)	Knit all sts.	9
Row 8 (WS)	K1, p7, k1.	9
Row 9 (RS)	Knit all sts.	9
Row 10 (WS)	K1, p7, k1.	9
Row 11 (RS)	Knit all sts.	9
Row 12 (WS)	K1, p7, k1.	9
Row 13 (RS)	Knit all sts.	9
Row 14 (WS)	K1, p7, k1.	9
Row 15 (RS)	Knit all sts.	9
Row 16 (WS)	K1, p7, k1.	9
Row 17 (RS)	Knit all sts.	9
Row 18 (WS)	K1, p7, k1.	9
Row 19 (RS)	Knit all sts.	9
Row 20 (WS)	K1, p7, k1.	9
Row 21 (RS)	K2tog, k5, ssk.	7
Row 22 (WS)	K1, p5, k1.	7
Row 23 (RS)	K2tog, k3, ssk.	5
Row 24 (WS)	K1, p3, k1.	5
Row 25 (RS)	K2tog, k1, ssk.	3
Row 26 (WS)	Knit all sts.	3
Row 27 (RS)	BO all 3 sts knitwise.	0

Weave in the pink panel tails on the WS. Pin each panel to the chosen front face of an outer ear, centred with approximately 4-5 mm / 1/8-3/16 in of cream showing at the sides, 8-10 mm / 3/8 in below the tip, and 8-10 mm / 3/8 in above the open base. Sew around the panel with small, evenly spaced cream whip stitches, placing the stitches directly along the pink-panel edge so they form the visible cream outline shown around the inner ear. Catch only the front layer of the cream outer ear so the stitches do not show on the back.

11. Muzzle - make 1

Work the muzzle in the round in natural white. It forms a small rounded oval with smooth stockinette on the front.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
CO	CO 8 sts in natural white. Distribute evenly and join in the round. Leave a 20 cm / 8 in cast-on tail.	8
Rnd 1	Kfb in every st around.	16
Rnd 2	*(K1, kfb); repeat from * around.	24
Rnd 3	*(K2, kfb); repeat from * around.	32
Rnd 4	Knit all sts.	32
Rnd 5	Knit all sts.	32
Rnd 6	Knit all sts.	32
Rnd 7	Knit all sts.	32
Rnd 8	*(K2, k2tog); repeat from * around.	24
Rnd 9	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 10	*(K1, k2tog); repeat from * around.	16
Rnd 11	K2tog around. Stop before closing to add a small amount of stuffing, then cut yarn, thread through remaining sts, draw closed and secure.	8

Use the cast-on tail to close any small opening at the top pole. Stuff lightly so the piece stays low and oval rather than spherical. Flatten it gently between your fingers and choose the smoothest broad side as the front. Embroider the pink nose and black mouth on this front face before attaching the muzzle to the head; bury those yarn tails inside the muzzle.

12. Arms - make 2

Work each arm from the open shoulder toward the paw. The pink paw is slightly fuller than the cream forearm.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
CO	CO 18 sts in cream. Join in the round. Place BOR on the underside/back of the arm. Leave a 35 cm / 14 in cast-on tail for sewing.	18
Rnd 1	Knit all sts.	18
Rnd 2	Knit all sts.	18
Rnd 3	Knit all sts.	18
Rnd 4	Knit all sts.	18
Rnd 5	*(K7, k2tog); repeat from * once.	16
Rnd 6	Knit all sts.	16
Rnd 7	Knit all sts.	16
Rnd 8	Knit all sts.	16
Rnd 9	Knit all sts.	16
Rnd 10	Knit all sts.	16
Rnd 11	Knit all sts.	16
Rnd 12	Knit all sts.	16
Rnd 13	Cut cream leaving a 10 cm / 4 in tail. Join blush pink at BOR; *(K3, kfb); repeat from * around.	20
Rnd 14	Knit all sts.	20
Rnd 15	Knit all sts.	20
Rnd 16	*(K3, k2tog); repeat from * around.	16
Rnd 17	*(K2, k2tog); repeat from * around.	12
Rnd 18	K2tog around. Cut pink yarn, thread through remaining sts, draw closed and secure inside.	6

Stuff each arm lightly from the open shoulder, keeping the top 1 cm / 3/8 in soft. Flatten the 18-st opening so 9 sts lie on the front layer and 9 sts on the back layer. Do not seam the opening closed before attachment.

13. Legs - make 2

Work each short seated leg from the open upper edge toward the rounded pink toe.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
CO	CO 20 sts in cream. Join in the round. Place BOR on the underside/back of the leg. Leave a 35 cm / 14 in cast-on tail for sewing.	20
Rnd 1	Knit all sts.	20
Rnd 2	Knit all sts.	20
Rnd 3	Knit all sts.	20
Rnd 4	Knit all sts.	20
Rnd 5	*(K4, kfb); repeat from * around.	24
Rnd 6	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 7	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 8	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 9	Cut cream leaving a 10 cm / 4 in tail. Join blush pink at BOR and knit all sts.	24
Rnd 10	Knit all sts.	24
Rnd 11	*(K1, k2tog); repeat from * around.	16
Rnd 12	Knit all sts.	16
Rnd 13	K2tog around. Cut pink yarn, thread through remaining sts, draw closed and secure inside.	8

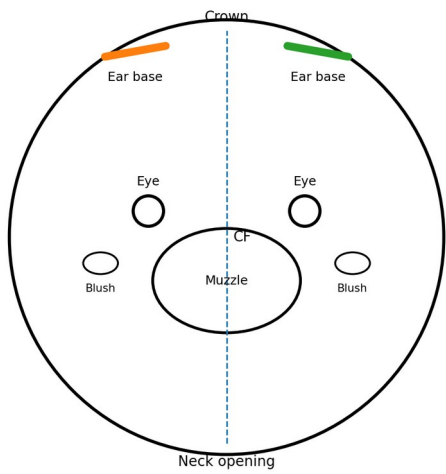
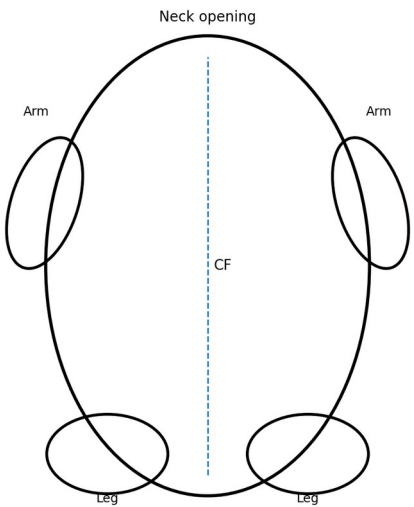
Stuff each leg moderately through the open top. Keep the upper 5-8 mm / 1/4 in soft. Flatten the 20-st opening so 10 sts lie on each layer. Do not seam the opening closed before attachment.

14. Tail - make 1

Make a firm cream pom-pom approximately 4 cm / 1.6 in in diameter. Wrap yarn densely around a 4 cm pom-pom maker or a 4 cm cardboard template, tie the centre very tightly with a separate 45 cm / 18 in strand, cut the loops, then trim the pom-pom into a rounded shape. Keep both long tying ends for sewing the tail to the body.

15. Placement maps

Pin every piece before sewing. Check the bunny from the front, both sides, top and back. Small adjustments of 1-2 stitches or 1 round are acceptable when needed to compensate for individual stuffing, but keep paired pieces mirrored.

Head placement map - front view 	Body placement map - front view 	
Feature	Round/area	Placement
Eyes	Head, between Rnds 22 and 23	On the 72-st section, CF is the gap after st 36. Place stems in the gaps after sts 29 and 43.
Muzzle	Head Rnds about 24-35	Centre the broad back face over CF. Keep the muzzle low and oval, spanning about 6 sts to either side of CF.
Blush cheeks	Head Rnds 25-26	Make each patch about 3 sts wide x 2 rnds high, centred 10-11 sts to either side of CF.
Ear bases	Head Rnds 14-16	Each flattened 8-st base sits on the upper crown, spanning approximately 5-12 stitch columns outward from CF on its side. Mirror the second ear.
Arms	Body Rnds 30-32, 48-st section	CF is the gap after st 24. Each flattened 9-st shoulder seam spans approximately 5-13 sts outward from CF on its side. Keep the seam short and nearly horizontal.
Legs	Body Rnds 14-16, 64-st section	CF is the gap after st 32. Each flattened 10-st upper seam spans approximately 3-12 sts outward from CF on its side. Angle toes slightly forward and outward.
Tail	Body CB around Rnd 16	Centre the pom-pom directly on CB/BOR, low enough to sit behind the body but above the seated base.

16. Stuffing and shaping

Piece	Stuffing and shaping
Head	Moderately firm. Fill the crown and sides evenly, then keep the lower cheeks slightly softer so the muzzle can sit smoothly. Add final stuffing through the neck opening after checking the face.
Body	Firm through the lower belly and base, moderately firm through the middle, and slightly firmer at the neck so the head remains upright. Keep the seated base broad and flat rather than spherical.
Arms	Lightly stuffed. Keep the shoulder end soft enough to flatten without a bulky seam.
Legs	Moderately stuffed through the toe and centre. Keep the upper edge soft enough to flatten cleanly.
Muzzle	Lightly stuffed before closure. Keep it softly rounded and low; do not pack it firmly enough to become ball-shaped.
Ears	Do not stuff. Flatten the double-layer tubes and keep them flexible but crisp.

Before closing any join, gently roll and redistribute stuffing with your fingertips. Add small amounts at a time; overstuffing can widen seams, distort the eye spacing and make the bunny less stable when seated.

17. Assembly

- 1. Finish the ears.** Sew each pink inner-ear panel to the front face of a flattened cream outer ear as described in Section 10, using small visible cream whip stitches around the panel edge. Keep the cream border even and the two ears matched.
- 2. Stuff the body.** Fill through the 32-st neck opening. Shape a broad seated base and a softly pear-shaped belly. Keep the neck firm enough to support the head.
- 3. Stuff the head.** Fill through the 32-st neck opening. Keep the eyes level and the cheeks symmetrical. Add most of the stuffing now, but leave room for small adjustments while the muzzle is pinned.
- 4. Pin and sew the muzzle.** Place the closed muzzle over CF, approximately over Head Rnds 24-35, with its embroidered broad face outward. Pin the four compass points first. With natural-white yarn, use small ladder or whip stitches around the back perimeter of the muzzle, entering one head stitch at a time. Keep the seam snug enough to hold the oval flat against the face without compressing the stuffing.
- 5. Embroider the cheeks.** Work the pink blush patches using Section 18. Secure and bury the blush tails through the open neck. The nose and mouth are already embroidered on the muzzle.
- 6. Attach the ears.** Flatten each 16-st ear base so 8 sts lie on each layer. Pin the bases over Head Rnds 14-16 as shown in Section 15, with the pink panels facing forward and the ears angled outward about 10-15 degrees. Sew each base with cream yarn using a flattened two-layer attachment: every sewing stitch must catch both ear layers before entering the head. Check front and top views before tightening the seam.
- 7. Join head to body.** Bring the 32-st head neck opening and 32-st body neck opening together. Adjust final stuffing first. With cream yarn, work a neat whip stitch or mattress-style seam one head stitch to one body stitch all around. Keep CF aligned with CF and CB aligned with BOR. Close the final gap, secure the yarn inside and smooth the neck seam.
- 8. Attach the arms.** Pin each flattened 18-st shoulder opening across Body Rnds 30-32 in the mirrored positions from Section 15. Keep each seam short and nearly horizontal so the arms hang downward. With the cream cast-on tail, catch both layers of the flattened arm opening in every stitch before entering the body. Sew securely without cinching the shoulder into a narrow point.
- 9. Attach the legs.** Pin each flattened 20-st upper opening across Body Rnds 14-16. Rotate each leg so the pink toe faces forward and slightly outward. Sew through both layers of the flattened opening and into the body, keeping the seam low and shallow so the feet sit on the ground instead of pointing sideways.
- 10. Attach the tail.** Place the pom-pom at CB around Body Rnd 16. Use the two long pom-pom tie strands to sew through the body several times at different angles. Pull snugly, knot the strands together inside the pom-pom and bury the ends.
- 11. Final shaping.** Set the bunny on a flat surface. Adjust the belly and leg stuffing by massaging the fabric. Confirm that the head is upright, both feet touch the surface, the ears match, and no seams gape. Remove all temporary markers and bury every remaining yarn tail.

18. Facial embroidery

18A. Nose

Before the muzzle is sewn to the head, thread a tapestry needle with blush-pink yarn. On the chosen broad front face of the closed muzzle, centre a filled triangle in the upper third of the oval. Make the top edge about 1.2-1.4 cm / 1/2 in wide and bring repeated satin stitches down to a single point about 7-8 mm / 1/4-5/16 in lower. Keep the stitches parallel and smooth, then bury the yarn tail inside the muzzle.

18B. Mouth

With black embroidery yarn, bring the needle out at the lower point of the pink nose. Make one straight vertical stitch down approximately 1 cm / 3/8 in. From the bottom of that line, make one short curved or angled backstitch down-left and one matching stitch down-right to form a small soft "w" smile. Keep both sides equal, then bury the yarn tail inside the muzzle.

18C. Blush cheeks

With blush-pink yarn, work duplicate stitch over the cream head fabric. Make each cheek patch approximately 3 stitches wide and 2 rounds high at Head Rnds 25-26, centred 10-11 stitches to each side of CF. Use light tension so the duplicate stitches sit on the surface without puckering the head.

18D. Embroidered-eye option

If rigid eyes are not being used, embroider each eye at the same positions given in Section 15. Build a rounded black oval approximately 8-10 mm / 5/16-3/8 in tall with closely packed satin stitches, then add one tiny natural-white highlight stitch near the upper outer edge of each eye.

19. Final checklist

- ☐ Eyes are level and evenly spaced around CF.
- ☐ Muzzle is centred and sits as a low oval.
- ☐ Pink nose is centred above the mouth.
- ☐ Smile lines are balanced.
- ☐ Blush cheeks are mirrored.
- ☐ Ear bases are symmetrical and both pink panels face forward.
- ☐ Head is straight over the body with CF and CB aligned.
- ☐ Arms begin at matching heights and hang downward.
- ☐ Leg seams are mirrored and both toes face forward.
- ☐ Both feet make contact with a flat surface.
- ☐ Tail is centred on CB and firmly attached.
- ☐ Body has a broad seated base and does not tip backward.
- ☐ No stuffing is visible through stretched stitches.
- ☐ No seam gaps or unresolved openings remain.
- ☐ All markers, loose tails and exposed knots have been removed or buried.

20. Troubleshooting

Problem	Practical correction
Stuffing shows between stitches	Reduce stuffing pressure first. If the fabric is still too open, remake the affected piece with a smaller needle while keeping the same stitch counts.
Bunny is larger or smaller than expected	Check the stockinette gauge. A looser gauge produces a larger plush; a tighter gauge produces a smaller plush. Keep all pieces at the same structural gauge so attachment edges remain compatible.
Head leans to one side	Open a small section of the neck seam if needed, redistribute stuffing so both sides of the neck are equally firm, then resew one head stitch to one body stitch.
Ears twist or point in different directions	Flatten each ear with the side folds aligned, repin the bases, and compare the top view. The two pink panels should face the same direction before the base seams are tightened.
Ear heights do not match	Confirm both ears have 33 rounds and both inner panels have 27 rows. If the knitting is equal, adjust how deeply one base is sewn into the crown by 1 round rather than stretching the ear.

Problem	Practical correction
Muzzle looks too round or protrudes too far	Before attachment, remove a little stuffing through the gathered closing point and secure it again. If the muzzle is already attached, undo the perimeter seam, gently flatten and reshape the oval, then resew without compressing it into a ball.
Arms stick outward	The shoulder seam is probably too vertical or too high. Reposition the flattened opening across a short, nearly horizontal line on Body Rnds 30-32.
Feet point sideways	Rotate the leg before resewing so the pink toe faces forward. Keep the upper attachment seam shallow and mirrored on both sides.
Body rocks instead of sitting flat	Move some stuffing away from the very bottom centre and toward the lower side walls. Massage the base into a broad oval and press it gently on a flat surface.
Colour-change jog is noticeable on a paw	Keep the colour change at BOR on the underside/back of the limb. After finishing, use the yarn tail to make one small duplicate stitch over the step if needed.
Tail droops	Use both long pom-pom tie strands and pass them through the body at several angles. A few smaller anchoring stitches hold the pom-pom more securely than one tight stitch.
Paired pieces look uneven after sewing	Remove only the more obviously misplaced piece, repin both sides together, and compare front and top views before resewing. Use the same round range and the same distance from CF on both sides.
Finishing note: When every seam is secure, gently smooth the stockinette columns with your fingers and shape the ears, cheeks, belly and feet by hand. The finished bunny should sit comfortably without being forced into position.	

Petal the Knitted Bunny - Free Knitting Pattern