



PIP THE CREAM BUNNY

Free Knitting Pattern

A soft, classic knitted bunny with upright ears, embroidered features and a round tail



Pattern at a glance

Skill level: Confident beginner to intermediate

Method: Knitted in the round in separate pieces, then stuffed and seamed

Main fabric: Stockinette stitch in the round

Finished height: approximately 30-32 cm / 11.75-12.5 in including ears

1. Introduction

Pip is a softly stuffed bunny worked in smooth stockinette stitch. The head and body are shaped with simple increases and decreases, while the ears, arms, legs and tail are made separately and sewn in place. The face is finished with small dark eyes, a pink embroidered nose and a simple brown smile. The construction is straightforward, but working small circumferences in the round and keeping paired features symmetrical makes this best suited to a confident beginner or intermediate knitter.

2. Finished size

- Overall height: approximately 30-32 cm / 11.75-12.5 in, from feet to ear tips
- Head: approximately 10.5-11.5 cm / 4.1-4.5 in wide and 10-11 cm / 4-4.3 in high
- Body: approximately 9-10 cm / 3.5-4 in wide and 10-11 cm / 4-4.3 in high
- Ear: approximately 7.5-8 cm / 3-3.15 in long and 3.5-4 cm / 1.4-1.6 in wide when lightly filled
- Arm: approximately 5.5-6 cm / 2.2-2.4 in long
- Leg: approximately 3.5-4 cm / 1.4-1.6 in long
- Tail: approximately 2.5-3 cm / 1-1.2 in across

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

3. Construction overview

- Head - make 1. Work from the crown down to a 24-stitch neck opening. Add eyes and facial embroidery before final stuffing.
- Body - make 1. Work from the 24-stitch neck opening down to the base. Close the base and stuff through the open neck.
- Ears - make 2. Work from the open base to the gathered tip. Fill very lightly so they stay slim and upright.
- Arms - make 2. Work from the open shoulder edge to the rounded paw tip. Stuff lightly, keeping the upper rounds soft.
- Legs - make 2. Work from the open hip edge to the rounded foot tip. Stuff moderately and flatten the open top edge for attachment.
- Tail - make 1. Knit a small round ball, stuff lightly and sew to the centre back.
- Assembly order - finish the face, attach ears, finish stuffing the head, stuff the body, attach legs, arms and tail, then join head to body.

4. Materials and tools

Item	Specification	Approximate amount
Main yarn	DK / light worsted yarn in warm cream; smooth wool, wool blend or cotton blend with good stitch definition	180-220 m / 197-241 yd; about 85-105 g
Needles	4 mm / US 6 circular needle suitable for magic loop, or 4 mm double-pointed needles	1 set
Eyes	Two 9 mm dark safety eyes, or dark brown/black embroidery yarn for stitched eyes	2
Nose	Pink embroidery floss or fine pink yarn	Small amount
Mouth	Dark brown embroidery floss or fine brown yarn	Small amount
Stuffing	Washable polyester fibre fill	About 70-90 g
Notions	Tapestry needle, stitch marker, pins, scissors and measuring tape	As needed

5. 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. Secure all embroidery ends and attachment yarn firmly inside the knitted fabric.

6. Gauge and tension

Stockinette stitch in the round: 22 sts x 30 rnds = 10 x 10 cm / 4 x 4 in using 4 mm / US 6 needles.

Use a firm, even tension so the knitted fabric closes around the stuffing without becoming stiff. If stuffing is visible between stitches, use a smaller needle. If the fabric is very rigid or difficult to shape, use a slightly larger needle while staying close to the stated gauge.

7. 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
Rnd / rnds	round / rounds
St / sts	stitch / stitches

8. Method and orientation

All pieces are knitted in the round with the right side of the stockinette fabric facing outward. Use magic loop or double-pointed needles, whichever is most comfortable for the circumference.

- Place the BOR marker at the centre back of the head and body. Slip it at the start of each round; the marker does not move.
- On the 72-stitch head rounds, centre front lies between stitch columns 36 and 37.
- On the 64-stitch body rounds, centre front lies between stitch columns 32 and 33.
- Right and left are described from the finished bunny's point of view unless stated otherwise.
- For paired features, pin both pieces before sewing and check the bunny from the front, sides and top before committing to the seam.
- When closing a gathered tip, cut the yarn leaving a 15-20 cm / 6-8 in tail, thread it through the remaining live stitches, pull snug, pass through the centre once more and secure on the inside.

Small-circumference tip

If the first few rounds feel loose, redistribute stitches more often or use magic loop until the piece is large enough to handle comfortably.

After 3-4 rounds, use the cast-on tail to close any tiny centre opening at the crown of the head.

9. Head - make 1

CO 8 sts in cream. Join to work in the round, taking care not to twist. Place the BOR marker at centre back. Leave a 20 cm / 8 in cast-on tail for closing the crown centre if needed.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
1	K all sts.	8
2	Kfb in every st around.	16
3	K all sts.	16
4	*K1, kfb; repeat from * 8 times.	24
5	K all sts.	24
6	*K2, kfb; repeat from * 8 times.	32
7	K all sts.	32
8	*K3, kfb; repeat from * 8 times.	40
9	K all sts.	40
10	*K4, kfb; repeat from * 8 times.	48
11	K all sts.	48
12	*K5, kfb; repeat from * 8 times.	56
13	K all sts.	56
14	*K6, kfb; repeat from * 8 times.	64
15	K all sts.	64
16	*K7, kfb; repeat from * 8 times.	72
17	K all sts.	72
18	K all sts.	72
19	K all sts.	72
20	K all sts.	72

9. Head - continued

Rnd	Instruction	Count
21	K all sts.	72
22	K all sts.	72
23	K all sts.	72
24	K all sts.	72
25	K all sts.	72
26	K all sts.	72
27	K all sts.	72
28	K all sts.	72
29	*K7, k2tog; repeat from * 8 times.	64
30	K all sts.	64
31	*K6, k2tog; repeat from * 8 times.	56
32	K all sts.	56
33	*K5, k2tog; repeat from * 8 times.	48
34	K all sts.	48
35	*K4, k2tog; repeat from * 8 times.	40
36	K all sts.	40
37	*K3, k2tog; repeat from * 8 times.	32
38	K all sts.	32
39	*K2, k2tog; repeat from * 8 times.	24

After Rnd 28, pause to place the eyes before the lower shaping makes the opening smaller. On the 72-stitch fabric, place eye centres between Rnds 21 and 22 over stitch columns 30 and 43. These positions mirror exactly across centre front. Install the backs securely inside the head. For embroidered eyes, mark these two points with removable yarn and stitch the eyes during the facial-finishing step.

After Rnd 39, BO all 24 sts loosely. Leave the neck opening open. Do not seam it closed.

Use the cast-on tail at the crown to snug any small centre opening closed. Secure the tail inside the head.

10. Face finishing

Work the facial embroidery while the neck opening is still accessible so all thread ends can be secured inside.

1. Centre the pink nose between stitch columns 36 and 37, with its top edge around Head Rnd 24 and its point around Rnd 26. Build a small rounded triangle about 1.0-1.2 cm / 3/8-1/2 in wide using several satin stitches.
2. With dark brown thread, bring the needle out at the nose point and work a straight vertical line down to about Head Rnd 28.
3. From the lower end of the vertical line, embroider two shallow mirrored curves, one to each side, to form a soft W-shaped smile approximately 2-2.5 cm / 3/4-1 in wide.
4. If using embroidered eyes, stitch two small dark oval eyes at the marked points between Rnds 21 and 22. Keep them equal in size and angle.
5. Secure all embroidery ends inside the head without pulling the fabric inward.

11. Body - make 1

CO 24 sts in cream. Join to work in the round and place the BOR marker at centre back. The cast-on edge remains open and becomes the neck opening.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
1	K all sts.	24
2	*K2, kfb; repeat from * 8 times.	32
3	K all sts.	32
4	*K3, kfb; repeat from * 8 times.	40
5	K all sts.	40
6	*K4, kfb; repeat from * 8 times.	48
7	K all sts.	48
8	*K5, kfb; repeat from * 8 times.	56
9	K all sts.	56
10	*K6, kfb; repeat from * 8 times.	64
11	K all sts.	64
12	K all sts.	64
13	K all sts.	64
14	K all sts.	64
15	K all sts.	64
16	K all sts.	64
17	K all sts.	64
18	K all sts.	64
19	K all sts.	64
20	K all sts.	64

11. Body - continued

Rnd	Instruction	Count
21	K all sts.	64
22	K all sts.	64
23	K all sts.	64
24	K all sts.	64
25	K all sts.	64
26	K all sts.	64
27	*K6, k2tog; repeat from * 8 times.	56
28	K all sts.	56
29	*K5, k2tog; repeat from * 8 times.	48
30	K all sts.	48
31	*K4, k2tog; repeat from * 8 times.	40
32	K all sts.	40
33	*K3, k2tog; repeat from * 8 times.	32
34	K all sts.	32
35	*K2, k2tog; repeat from * 8 times.	24
36	*K1, k2tog; repeat from * 8 times.	16
37	K2tog 8 times.	8

After Rnd 37, cut the yarn leaving a 20 cm / 8 in tail. Thread the tail through the remaining 8 sts, pull closed and secure. The cast-on neck opening remains open for stuffing and later head attachment.

Stuff through the neck opening. Fill the lower body moderately firmly, keeping the base rounded but stable. Keep the top 2 cm / 3/4 in slightly softer so the head can sit neatly without a hard ridge.

12. Ears - make 2

CO 16 sts in cream. Join to work in the round. The cast-on edge is the ear base and remains open for stuffing and attachment.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
1	K all sts.	16
2	K all sts.	16
3	K all sts.	16
4	K all sts.	16
5	K all sts.	16
6	K all sts.	16
7	K all sts.	16
8	K all sts.	16
9	K all sts.	16
10	K all sts.	16
11	K all sts.	16
12	K all sts.	16
13	K all sts.	16
14	K all sts.	16
15	K all sts.	16
16	K all sts.	16
17	K all sts.	16
18	*K2, k2tog; repeat from * 4 times.	12
19	K all sts.	12
20	*K1, k2tog; repeat from * 4 times.	8
21	K all sts.	8
22	K2tog 4 times.	4
23	K all sts.	4

After Rnd 23, cut the yarn leaving a 20 cm / 8 in tail. Thread the tail through the remaining 4 sts, pull closed and secure at the tip.

Add only a small amount of stuffing, mainly through the lower two-thirds. The ear should feel lightly padded, not round. Flatten the cast-on opening so 8 sts lie in front and 8 sts lie behind. Do not seam the base closed yet.

13. Arms - make 2

CO 16 sts in cream. Join to work in the round. The cast-on edge is the shoulder opening.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
1	K all sts.	16
2	K all sts.	16
3	K all sts.	16
4	K all sts.	16
5	K all sts.	16
6	K all sts.	16
7	K all sts.	16
8	K all sts.	16
9	K all sts.	16
10	K all sts.	16
11	K all sts.	16
12	K all sts.	16
13	K all sts.	16
14	*K2, k2tog; repeat from * 4 times.	12
15	K all sts.	12
16	*K1, k2tog; repeat from * 4 times.	8
17	K all sts.	8
18	K2tog 4 times.	4

After Rnd 18, cut the yarn, gather the remaining 4 sts closed and secure. Stuff the paw and lower arm lightly. Keep the top 3 rounds almost unstuffed. Flatten the cast-on opening so 8 sts lie in front and 8 sts lie behind. The flattened edge will be sewn to the body through both layers.

14. Legs - make 2

CO 20 sts in cream. Join to work in the round. The cast-on edge is the hip opening.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
1	K all sts.	20
2	K all sts.	20
3	K all sts.	20
4	K all sts.	20
5	K all sts.	20
6	K all sts.	20
7	K all sts.	20
8	*K3, k2tog; repeat from * 4 times.	16
9	K all sts.	16
10	*K2, k2tog; repeat from * 4 times.	12
11	K all sts.	12
12	K2tog 6 times.	6

After Rnd 12, cut the yarn, gather the remaining 6 sts closed and secure. Stuff the foot moderately, but keep the cast-on edge soft enough to flatten. Flatten the opening so 10 sts lie in front and 10 sts lie behind. The flattened edge will be attached to the lower body through both layers.

15. Tail - make 1

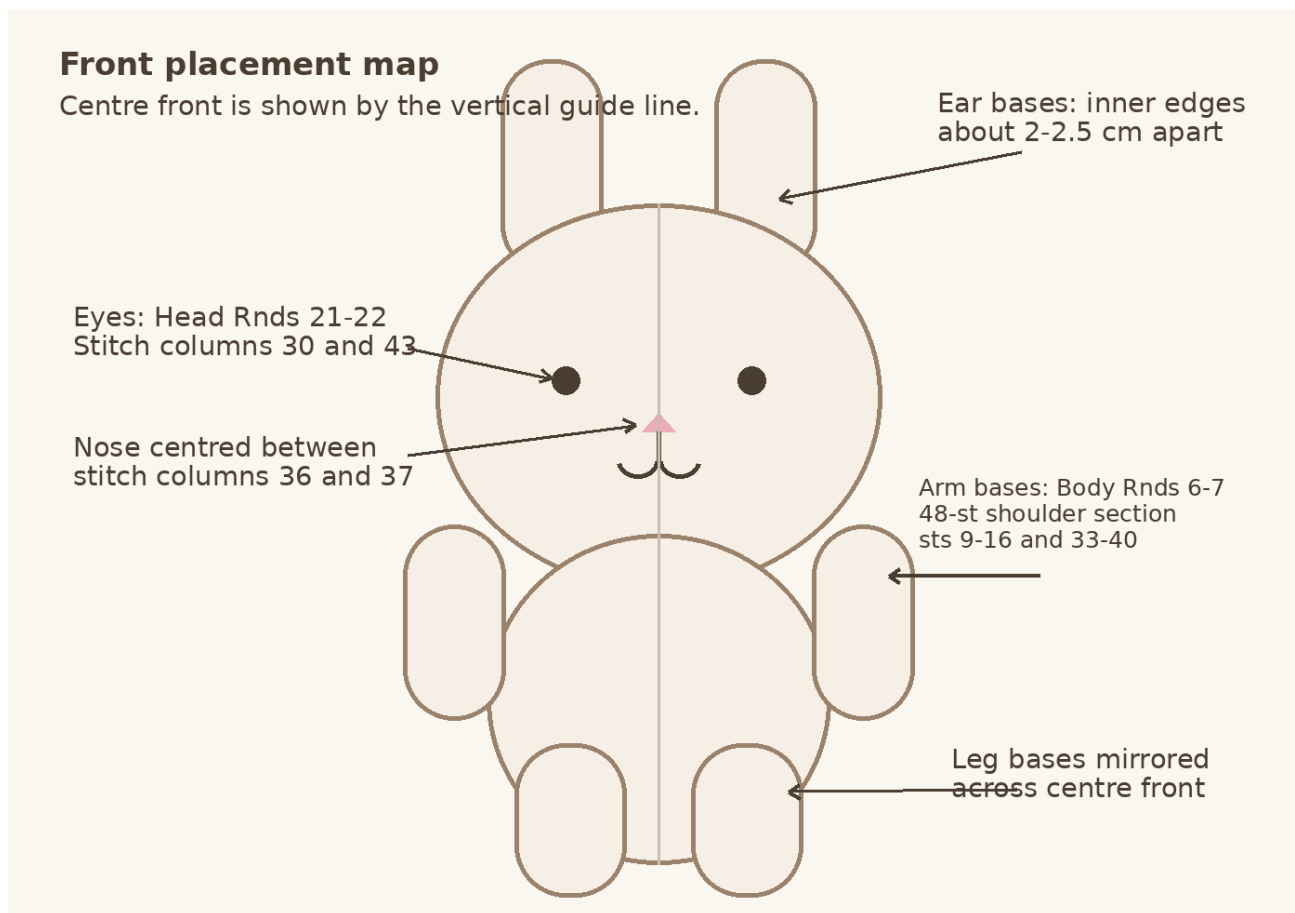
CO 6 sts in cream. Join to work in the round.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
1	K all sts.	6
2	Kfb in every st around.	12
3	*K1, kfb; repeat from * 6 times.	18
4	K all sts.	18
5	K all sts.	18
6	*K1, k2tog; repeat from * 6 times.	12
7	K all sts.	12
8	Add a small amount of stuffing, then K2tog 6 times.	6

After Rnd 8, cut the yarn, thread it through the remaining 6 sts, pull closed and secure. Leave the cast-on edge available as the attachment base; if the centre opening is loose, snug it with the cast-on tail before sewing.

16. Placement maps

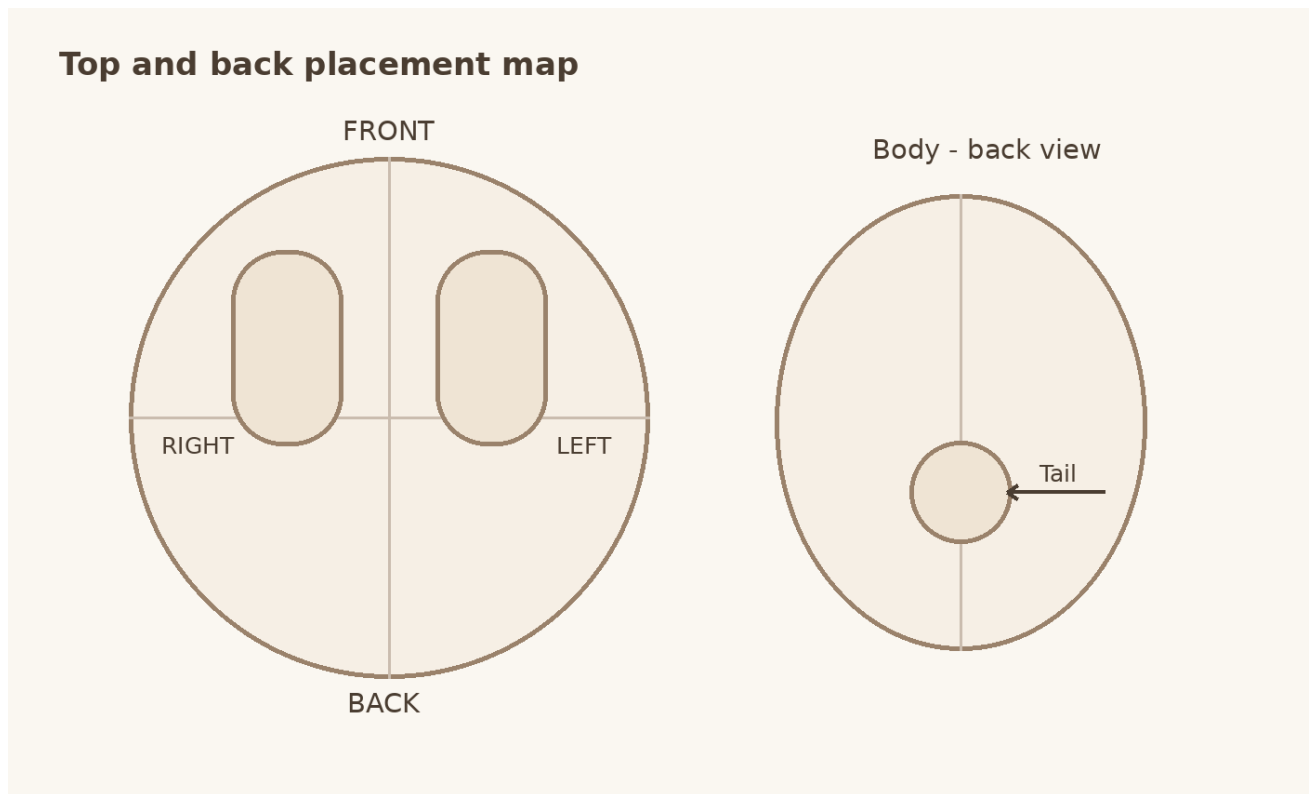
Use the maps together with the written placement notes. Pin all paired pieces first and compare their height, spacing and angle before sewing.



Arm attachment: Place the arm attachment lines on the 48-stitch shoulder section around Body Rnds 6-7. Centre each 8-stitch attachment line on a body side axis, spanning stitch columns 9-16 on one side and 33-40 on the other.

Leg attachment: Keep the leg attachment lines on the 64-stitch section, mirrored across centre front, spanning approximately stitch columns 22-31 and 34-43 around Body Rnds 25-26. Keep the two inner leg edges close but not touching.

16. Placement maps - continued



Ear placement

With the head upright and centre front facing you, pin the ear bases across the upper crown. Position the midpoint of each base around Head Rnds 9-11. Keep the inner base edges approximately 2-2.5 cm / 3/4-1 in apart. Angle both ears slightly outward, mirroring the angle from side to side. From the top view, both bases should sit equally far from centre front and centre back.

Tail placement

Place the tail on the centre-back/BOR line, centred around Body Rnds 24-26. The tail should sit slightly above the lowest body shaping so it is visible from the side without pushing the bunny forward when standing.

17. Assembly

Use cream yarn and a tapestry needle for structural joins. Pin every part before sewing. Keep seams secure but avoid pulling so tightly that the knitted fabric puckers.

1. Partially stuff the head. Add enough filling to round the cheeks and crown while leaving the neck area soft and accessible.
2. Attach the ears. Flatten each ear base. Using small whip stitches, pass the needle through both layers of the flattened ear base, then through the head fabric directly beneath it. Sew from one end of the base to the other. Repeat in the opposite direction through any loose spots. Check that both ears are equal in height and angle from the front and top, then secure the yarn inside the head.
3. Finish stuffing the head. Add small pieces of filling evenly around the sides and back until the head is round and firm without stretching the stitches. Keep the 24-stitch neck edge flexible.
4. Stuff the body through the open neck. Shape the belly evenly and keep the lower body stable. The upper body should remain slightly softer.
5. Attach the legs. Pin each flattened leg opening along the lower front placement line around Body Rnds 25-26. Each sewing stitch must pass through both layers of the flattened leg opening before entering the body. Keep the seam approximately horizontal so each leg hangs downward rather than rotating outward. Check from the front and side before securing the yarn.
6. Attach the arms. Pin one arm on each side around Body Rnds 6-7, on the 48-stitch shoulder section. Centre the flattened attachment edge on the side axis, spanning stitch columns 9-16 on one side and 33-40 on the other. Keep each shoulder seam short and approximately horizontal. Sew through both layers of the flattened arm opening and then into the body. The arms should hang gently downward with a slight outward angle.

17. Assembly - continued

7. Attach the tail. Centre the tail on the BOR line around Body Rnds 24-26. Use small whip stitches around the tail base, passing from the tail edge into the body fabric. Keep the tail round and do not flatten it against the body.
8. Recheck body balance. Set the body upright on a flat surface. Adjust stuffing through the neck opening if one leg carries more weight than the other or if the belly leans.
9. Join head to body. Align the head and body BOR markers at centre back and align both centre-front lines. Both openings contain 24 stitches. Pin the two edges together at centre front, centre back and both side points. Using mattress stitch or small whip stitches, join one head stitch to one body stitch all the way around. Before closing the final 3-4 cm / 1-1.5 in, add or remove a little stuffing at the neck if needed. Finish the seam, secure the yarn and bury the tail inside the body.
10. Remove all temporary markers and pins. Gently roll the bunny between your hands to settle the stuffing and smooth the knitted fabric.

18. Sewing methods

- Flattened two-layer attachment - used for arms and legs. Every attachment stitch must capture both layers of the flattened opening before entering the body.
- Whip stitch - useful for ears and tail. Take small even stitches over the edge and into the receiving fabric, spacing them closely enough that the join does not gape.
- Mattress stitch - useful at the neck. Work just inside the bound-off and cast-on edges so the seam is neat and flexible.
- Burying tails - after securing, pass the needle through the stuffed piece for 3-5 cm / 1-2 in, bring it out through the fabric, pull gently and trim close so the end retracts inside.

19. Final shaping and finishing

Shape the head by gently moving stuffing toward any flat area with your fingers. Keep the cheeks softly rounded and the forehead smooth. If the ears lean, adjust the stuffing at their bases and add one or two discreet securing stitches on the side that needs support. Keep the feet parallel enough that the bunny stands without twisting.

Lightly smooth the stockinette columns with your fingertips. Avoid stretching the fabric or pressing the stuffed pieces flat.

20. Final visual checklist

- ☐ Face is centred on the head.
- ☐ Eyes are level and evenly spaced.
- ☐ Pink nose is centred between the eyes.
- ☐ Mouth is centred beneath the nose and both smile curves are balanced.
- ☐ Ears match in height and mirror each other in angle.
- ☐ Head sits straight over the body.
- ☐ Arms are attached at matching heights and hang downward.
- ☐ Legs are mirrored across centre front and point downward without twisting.
- ☐ Tail is centred on the back and sits slightly above the lowest body shaping.
- ☐ Bunny stands in a balanced position without leaning strongly to one side.
- ☐ No stuffing is visible between stitches.
- ☐ All gathered tips and seams are fully closed.
- ☐ No pins, markers or loose yarn tails remain.
- ☐ Embroidery and attachment yarn ends are secured inside the fabric.

21. Troubleshooting

Problem	Practical correction
Stuffing shows between stitches	The fabric is too open. Remove some stuffing or use a smaller needle for the next piece. Check that your stockinette gauge is close to 22 sts per 10 cm / 4 in.
Bunny is noticeably larger or smaller	Check both stitch and round gauge. A looser stitch gauge increases circumference, while a different round gauge changes head, body and limb length.
Head looks tall or narrow	Do not overstuff the crown or neck. Move filling toward the side cheeks and keep the neck area slightly softer.
Head leans after assembly	Open a short section of the neck seam, rebalance stuffing at the upper body, realign centre front and centre back, then resew one head stitch to one body stitch.
Ears are uneven	Unpick the taller or more inward ear base and repin both ears at the same crown height. Compare from the front and top before resewing.
Arms point forward or backward	The shoulder seam is angled incorrectly. Reattach the flattened base along a shorter, more horizontal line centred on the side of the body.
Legs splay outward	Move the upper outer edge of each leg slightly inward and keep the attachment line horizontal. Avoid overstuffing the hip end of the leg.
Bunny rocks instead of standing	Redistribute stuffing in the lower body and feet. Keep the body base rounded but not overfilled, and make sure both leg tips end at the same height.
Neck seam gaps	Use smaller, more frequent mattress or whip stitches and make sure each head stitch is paired with one body stitch around the full 24-stitch opening.
Tail droops	Add a little more filling to the tail and take one or two extra stitches through the upper edge of the tail base into the body.
Embroidery puckers the face	The thread is too tight. Ease the stitches until they rest on the surface without pulling the knitted columns inward.

22. Quick piece count

- 1 head
- 1 body
- 2 ears
- 2 arms
- 2 legs
- 1 tail

When all pieces are present, all openings are closed or attached as described, and all yarn ends are secured inside the fabric, Pip is complete.