ELLIE THE LILAC ELEPHANT

Complete Digital Knitting Pattern

Worked flat on straight needles - seamed construction

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Lavender elephant with cream inner ears, powder-blue scarf, curved trunk and tasselled tail

1. Digital download notice

This file contains knitting instructions for making the pictured-style elephant plushie. It is a digital pattern, not a finished plushie, and no physical item will be shipped.

Finished measurements below are calculated design targets. Your result may vary with yarn, needle size, tension, stuffing density and finishing.

Safety note: If the plushie may be used by a child under 3, do not use detachable safety-eye components. Embroider the eyes securely instead and follow local toy-safety requirements.

2. Finished measurements

Feature	Design target
Seated height	24-26 cm / 9.5-10.25 in
Overall width, ear tip to ear tip	24-26 cm / 9.5-10.25 in
Seated depth	15-17 cm / 6-6.75 in
Head	about 10.5-11.5 cm high x 10-11 cm wide
Body	about 12-13 cm high x 9-10 cm wide
Each ear	about 8-9 cm high x 8-9 cm wide
Trunk	about 8.5-9.5 cm along the curve
Each foot	about 5.5-6 cm across
Each arm	about 8-9 cm long
Scarf	about 3.2 cm wide x 36-38 cm long, excluding fringe

Pattern at a glance

Skill level: Confident beginner to intermediate.

Construction: All plushie pieces are knitted flat and seamed. The visible centre-back seams are intentional and suit the reference style.

Main stitch: Stockinette stitch. Scarf: stockinette tube, worked flat and seamed.

Pieces: 1 head, 1 body, 1 trunk, 2 outer ears, 2 inner ears, 2 arms, 2 feet/legs, 1 tail, 1 scarf.

3. Materials and tools

Medium / worsted / aran weight yarn (#4): lavender 150-170 g; warm cream 15-20 g; powder blue 20-25 g; small amount of black for facial embroidery.

4.5 mm (US 7) straight knitting needles, or size needed to obtain gauge.

2 x 12 mm black safety eyes with washers, or black yarn for embroidered eyes.

Polyester fibre filling, approximately 120-150 g.

Tapestry needle, stitch markers or waste yarn, pins, scissors, row counter and measuring tape.

4. Gauge

18 stitches x 26 rows = 10 cm / 4 in in stockinette stitch, measured over a flat swatch at a firm plushie tension.

Exact gauge matters because it controls both the finished size and how tightly the stuffing is contained. If you can see stuffing through the fabric, use smaller needles or tighten your tension.

5. Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Meaning
BO	bind off
CO	cast on
K	knit
P	purl
RS	right side of fabric
WS	wrong side of fabric
st / sts	stitch / stitches
st st	stockinette stitch: knit RS rows, purl WS rows
kfb	knit into front and back of the same stitch; increases 1 stitch
k2tog	knit 2 stitches together; decreases 1 stitch
p2tog	purl 2 stitches together; decreases 1 stitch
ssk	slip 1 knitwise, slip 1 knitwise, return both to left needle and knit together through back loops; decreases 1 stitch
ssp	slip 1 knitwise twice, return both stitches to the left needle and purl together through the back loops; decreases 1 stitch

Stitch-count rule: All stitch counts include the edge stitches. Do not add extra selvage stitches. Work the first and last stitches exactly as written. Seam just inside the edge. For mattress stitch, work with the RS facing; for backstitch, place the RS together.

6. Construction overview and orientation

The head and body are shaped as flat stockinette panels, then the side edges are joined to form a centre-back (CB) seam. The head is rounded by drawing the top and lower opening closed after stuffing. The body is rounded at the lower opening and gathered at the neck. Limbs and trunk are knitted flat, seamed into tubes, stuffed, then attached. Each cream inner-ear panel is sewn onto a larger lavender outer-ear panel before the ears are attached to the head. The scarf is knitted last and tied around the finished neck.

Right and left always mean the elephant's own right and left.

CF (centre front) is the point directly opposite the CB seam after the piece is seamed.

When a flat panel is at its widest, the centre gap between the two middle stitches marks CF; the two side edges become CB when sewn together.

Pin all paired pieces before sewing and compare from the front, side and back.

Access sequence: Install safety eyes before the head is permanently closed. Stuff each tube before its attachment opening is sewn to the body. Do not close the body neck until the body is fully stuffed and shaped.

Recommended assembly order

1. Knit all pieces.
2. Sew cream inner-ear panels onto lavender outer ears.
3. Install eyes on the flat head panel.
4. Seam and stuff the head; close top and lower opening.
5. Seam, curve, lightly stuff and close the trunk tip; leave the base open.
6. Seam and stuff the body; gather the lower opening and neck.
7. Seam and stuff arms and feet, leaving attachment edges open.
8. Attach head to body, then trunk and ears.
9. Attach arms, feet and tail.
10. Embroider smile curves, add scarf and complete final symmetry checks.

7. Complete written pattern

Head - make 1 in lavender

Worked from the lower head opening to the crown. CO 12 sts. The RS will become the outside.

Row(s)	Instruction	Stitch count
1 (RS)	kfb in every st across.	24
2	P24.	24
3	(K1, kfb) 12 times.	36
4	P36.	36
5	(K2, kfb) 12 times.	48
6	P48.	48
7	(K3, kfb) 12 times.	60
8	P60.	60
9-26	Odd-numbered RS rows: K60. Even-numbered WS rows: P60.	60 each row
27	(K3, k2tog) 12 times.	48
28	P48.	48
29	(K2, k2tog) 12 times.	36
30	P36.	36
31	(K1, k2tog) 12 times.	24
32	P24.	24
33	k2tog 12 times. Break yarn, leaving a 35 cm tail; do not draw closed yet.	12

Eye placement before seaming

Lay the head panel RS up with the CO edge at the bottom. On Rows 7-26 the panel has 60 sts; the gap between sts 30 and 31 is CF.

Place the eye stems between Rows 18 and 19, approximately between sts 25-26 and sts 35-36. This gives about 10 stitches / 5.5 cm centre-to-centre spacing.

Check both eyes are level and equally spaced from CF. Attach washers on the WS now. If embroidering eyes, mark these positions and embroider after stuffing.

Head finishing

Using mattress stitch with the RS facing, or backstitch with the RS together, join the two long side edges from Row 33 down toward the CO edge, leaving a 5 cm stuffing gap near the lower back. If backstitched, turn RS out.

Use the Row 33 tail to pass through all 12 live sts, draw firmly closed at the crown and secure on the inside.

Stuff the head firmly and evenly, keeping the face smooth and round. Do not overpack the eye area.

Close the stuffing gap. Thread a separate lavender yarn tail through the 12 CO loops, draw the lower opening closed and secure. Bury all tails.

Trunk - make 1 in lavender

CO 24 sts. The side edges will form the underside seam. Stuff lightly so the trunk can curve.

Row(s)	Instruction	Stitch count
1 (RS)	K24.	24
2	P24.	24
3	K1, ssk, K18, k2tog, K1.	22
4	P22.	22
5	K22.	22
6 (WS)	P1, p2tog, P16, ssp, P1.	20
7 (RS)	K20.	20
8 (WS)	P20.	20
9	K1, ssk, K14, k2tog, K1.	18
10	P18.	18
11	K18.	18
12 (WS)	P1, p2tog, P12, ssp, P1.	16
13 (RS)	K16.	16
14 (WS)	P16.	16
15	K1, ssk, K10, k2tog, K1.	14
16	P14.	14
17	K14.	14
18 (WS)	P1, p2tog, P8, ssp, P1.	12
19 (RS)	K12.	12
20 (WS)	P12.	12
21 (RS)	K12.	12
22 (WS)	P12.	12
23 (RS)	K12.	12
24 (WS)	P1, p2tog, P6, ssp, P1.	10
25 (RS)	K10.	10
26 (WS)	p2tog 5 times. Break yarn and draw through remaining sts.	5

Sew the long edges together from tip to base, keeping the seam on the underside. Leave the 24-st CO edge open.

Add a small amount of stuffing, firmest at the base and lighter toward the tip.

To create the gentle downward curve, thread a lavender yarn strand inside the underside seam from about Row 8 to Row 23. Draw it just enough to shorten the underside by about 1.5 cm, then secure. The trunk should bend smoothly, not kink.

Outer ears - make 2 in lavender

CO 4 sts.

Row(s)	Instruction	Stitch count
1 (RS)	kfb in every st across.	8
2	P8.	8
3	(K1, kfb) 4 times.	12
4	P12.	12
5	(K2, kfb) 4 times.	16
6	P16.	16
7-16	Odd-numbered RS rows: K16. Even-numbered WS rows: P16.	16 each row
17	(K2, k2tog) 4 times.	12
18	P12.	12
19	(K1, k2tog) 4 times.	8
20	P8.	8
21	k2tog 4 times.	4
22	P4.	4
After Row 22	BO all 4 sts.	0 live sts

Inner ears - make 2 in cream

CO 3 sts.

Row(s)	Instruction	Stitch count
1 (RS)	kfb in every st across.	6
2	P6.	6
3	(K1, kfb) 3 times.	9
4	P9.	9
5	(K2, kfb) 3 times.	12
6	P12.	12
7-10	Odd-numbered RS rows: K12. Even-numbered WS rows: P12.	12 each row
11	(K2, k2tog) 3 times.	9
12	P9.	9
13	(K1, k2tog) 3 times.	6
14	P6.	6
15	k2tog 3 times.	3
16	P3.	3
After Row 16	BO all 3 sts.	0 live sts

Ear finishing: Place each cream insert RS up on a lavender outer ear RS up, centered so an even lavender border remains. Pin, then whipstitch the cream panel down with cream yarn just inside its edge. Make the second ear the same, then mirror their final attachment angles on the head.

Body - make 1 in lavender

Worked from lower centre to neck. CO 12 sts.

Row(s)	Instruction	Stitch count
1 (RS)	kfb in every st across.	24
2	P24.	24
3	(K1, kfb) 12 times.	36
4	P36.	36
5	(K2, kfb) 12 times.	48
6	P48.	48
7	(K5, kfb) 8 times.	56
8	P56.	56
9-24	Odd-numbered RS rows: K56. Even-numbered WS rows: P56.	56 each row
25	(K5, k2tog) 8 times.	48
26	P48.	48
27	K48.	48
28	P48.	48
29	(K4, k2tog) 8 times.	40
30	P40.	40
31	K40.	40
32	P40.	40
33	(K3, k2tog) 8 times.	32
34	P32.	32
35	(K2, k2tog) 8 times.	24
36	P24.	24
After Row 36	BO all 24 sts loosely.	0 live sts

Body finishing

Sew the long side edges together to form the CB seam, leaving the neck opening free. Turn RS out.

Thread lavender yarn through the 12 CO loops at the lower centre and draw them closed firmly. Secure and bury the yarn.

Stuff the lower body firmly enough to support a seated pose, then use moderate stuffing through the upper body so the neck area stays narrower.

When fully shaped, run lavender yarn through the 24 BO loops and draw the neck opening down to about 2.5-3 cm across. Secure firmly. This gathered area will be hidden under the head and scarf.

Arms - make 2 in lavender

CO 8 sts. Work both pieces the same; mirror only the attachment angle.

Row(s)	Instruction	Stitch count
1 (RS)	kfb in every st across.	16
2	P16.	16
3	(K3, kfb) 4 times.	20
4	P20.	20
5-18	Odd-numbered RS rows: K20. Even-numbered WS rows: P20.	20 each row
19	(K3, k2tog) 4 times.	16
20	P16.	16
21	K16.	16
22	P16.	16
After Row 22	BO all 16 sts.	0 live sts

Sew the long edges to form the underside seam. Gather the 8-st CO end closed.

Stuff the hand and lower arm moderately; keep the top 2 cm lightly stuffed so the arm can lie against the body. Leave the BO edge open for attachment.

Feet / legs - make 2 in lavender

CO 8 sts. These form the rounded front feet seen in the seated pose.

Row(s)	Instruction	Stitch count
1 (RS)	kfb in every st across.	16
2	P16.	16
3	(K1, kfb) 8 times.	24
4	P24.	24
5	(K2, kfb) 8 times.	32
6	P32.	32
7-12	Odd-numbered RS rows: K32. Even-numbered WS rows: P32.	32 each row
13	(K2, k2tog) 8 times.	24
14	P24.	24
15	(K1, k2tog) 8 times.	16
16	P16.	16
17	K16.	16
18	P16.	16
After Row 18	BO all 16 sts.	0 live sts

Sew the long edges, gather the 8-st CO end closed and turn RS out.

Stuff each foot firmly at the rounded front and moderately toward the BO opening. Leave the BO edge open for attachment. When positioning each foot for attachment, keep the long seam visible on the upper/front surface, slightly toward the body centre, to match the reference.

Tail - make 1 in lavender

CO 4 sts.

Row(s)	Instruction	Stitch count
1	K4.	4
2	P4.	4
3-6	Odd-numbered rows K4; even-numbered rows P4.	4 each row
After Row 6	BO all 4 sts.	0 live sts

Let the narrow strip curl naturally, then overcast the long edges together into a slim cord. Make a small 2 cm tassel at the free end using 6-8 lavender strands. Secure the tassel tightly.

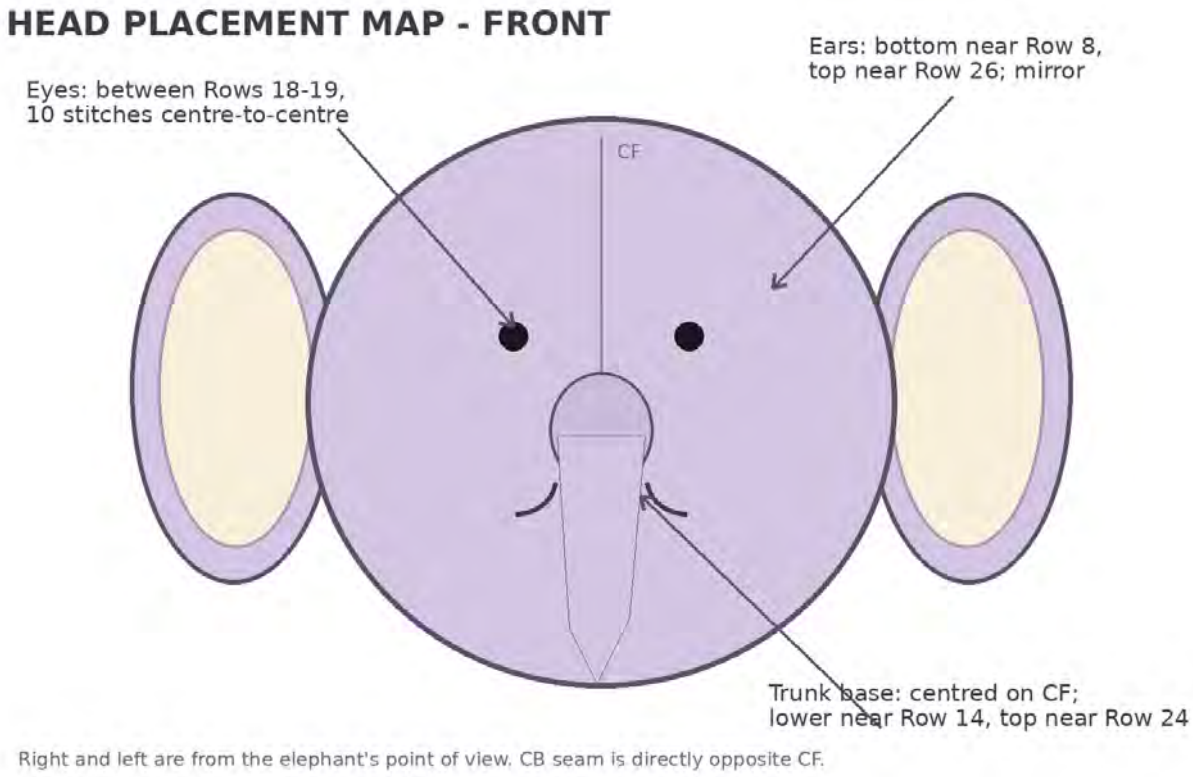
Scarf - make 1 in powder blue

CO 12 sts.
Row 1 (RS): K12.
Row 2 (WS): P12.
Repeat Rows 1-2 until 96 rows have been worked.
BO all 12 sts loosely.

With the RS facing outward, join the two long side edges neatly to form a narrow stockinette tube. Flatten the tube gently with the seam positioned at the back.
Fringe: Cut 8 strands of blue yarn, each about 10 cm long. Attach 4 evenly spaced fringe loops to each scarf end. Trim the finished fringe to about 3 cm.

8. Placement maps

Use the diagrams together with the row and stitch landmarks below. Pin first and check symmetry before sewing.



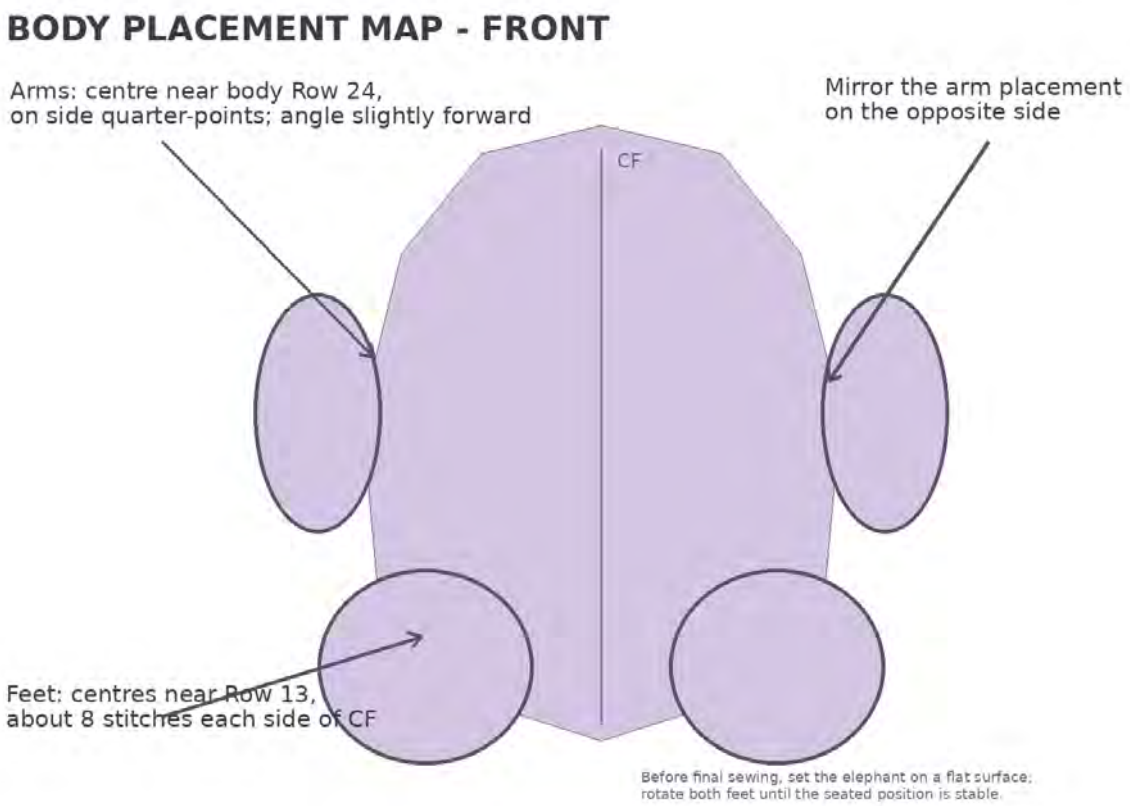
Head placement details

Eyes: between Rows 18-19, centres approximately 10 sts apart, equally spaced from CF.

Trunk: pin the open 24-st base as a vertical oval centred on CF. Aim for its lower edge near Head Row 14 and top edge near Row 24; the oval should extend about 4 sts to each side of CF. Sew the base securely all around.

Ears: position the inner attachment edge of each outer ear on the side of the head. Bottom of attachment near Head Row 8, top near Row 26. At the eye line, the attachment sits approximately one quarter of the way around the head from CF. Mirror the opposite ear exactly.

Smile curves: use black yarn to embroider one shallow upward curve on each side of the trunk, around Head Rows 13-15. Keep both curves the same length, approximately 1-1.5 cm.

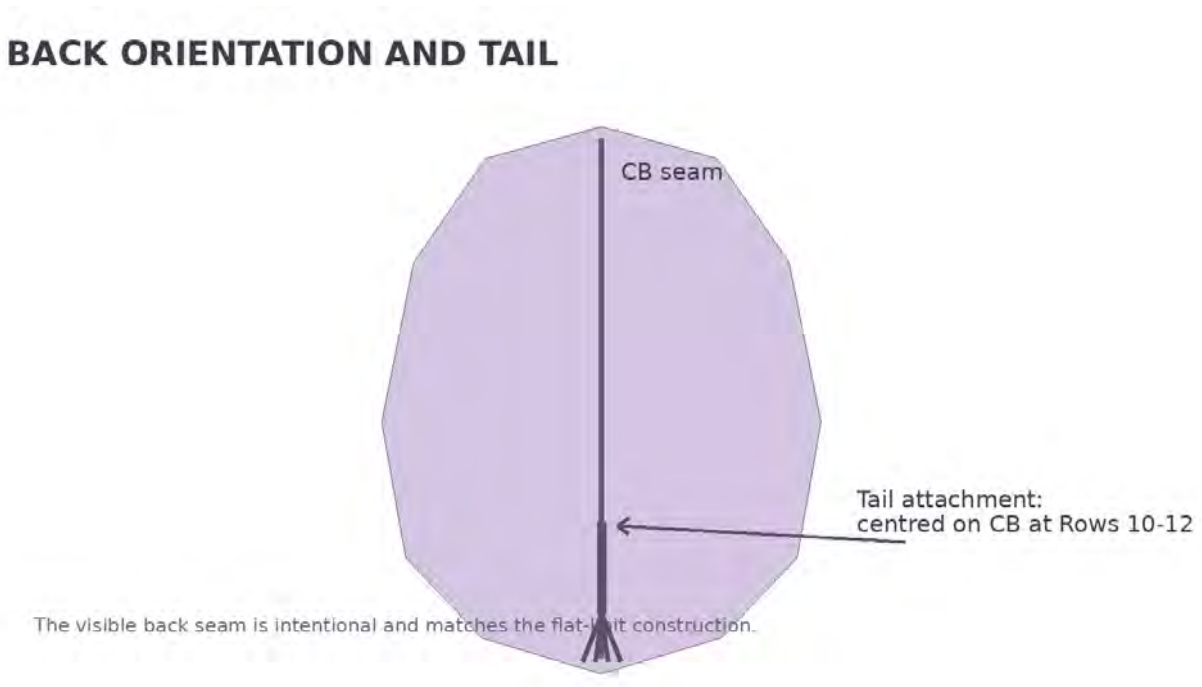


Body placement details

Arms: with the body upright, centre each arm attachment near Body Row 24 at the side quarter-point. Let the upper edge reach about Row 30 and the lower edge reach about Row 20. Angle each arm 15-20 degrees forward. Mirror the two sides.

Feet: centre the two 16-st attachment openings near Body Row 13, approximately 8 stitches to either side of CF on the 56-st section. Rotate each foot so its long seam remains visible on the upper/front surface, slightly toward the body centre. Angle the rounded ends slightly outward. Pin both feet, set the plushie on a flat surface, and adjust until stable before sewing.

Head: centre the head over the gathered neck with the head CF aligned exactly over body CF and head CB aligned over body CB. Pin around the neck circle before stitching.



Tail: sew the straight tail end to the CB seam at approximately Body Rows 10-12. The tassel should point downward and remain free.

9. Stuffing and shaping

Head: Firm and even. Add small tufts at a time. Keep the eye area smooth and avoid stretching the knitted fabric around the washers.

Body: Firmest at the lower body and seat; moderate toward the shoulders and neck so the silhouette stays pear-shaped.

Trunk: Light to moderate. The base should hold its shape; the tip should stay flexible enough to curve.

Arms: Moderate in hands and forearms, light in the upper 2 cm.

Feet: Firm at the rounded front and underside; moderate near the body attachment.

Ears and scarf: Do not stuff.

Shaping check: After stuffing the body and feet, press the lower body gently against a flat surface for a few seconds and rotate the feet into matching angles. The design should sit without leaning before you permanently sew the feet.

10. Assembly instructions

1. Prepare ears: confirm each cream inner panel is securely sewn to its lavender outer ear and that both finished ears match in size.
2. Complete the head: install safety eyes, seam and stuff the head, close crown and lower opening.
3. Attach trunk: place the trunk underside seam facing down. Centre the open base on CF at the mapped position. Sew twice around the base with small secure stitches, adding or removing a tiny amount of stuffing before the final few stitches if needed.
4. Attach ears: pin both ears using the mapped row range. View the head from the front and back. Sew each inner edge securely to the head while keeping the cream panels facing forward.
5. Complete the body: seam, stuff and gather bottom and neck. Keep the CB seam straight.
6. Join head to body: align CF-to-CF and CB-to-CB. Pin at four points, then sew all the way around the neck with lavender yarn. Make a second pass for strength. Bury the tail inside the body/head join.
7. Attach arms: pin mirrored at the upper sides, angled slightly forward. Sew the open BO edge to the body and close any remaining gap as you go.
8. Attach feet: pin symmetrically at the lower front with each long foot seam visible on the upper/front surface, slightly toward the body centre. Place the elephant on a flat surface, adjust both feet to matching outward angles, then sew the openings securely to the body.
9. Attach tail: sew to the CB seam at Body Rows 10-12, keeping the tassel free.
10. Embroider the two smile curves if not already added. If using embroidered eyes instead of safety eyes, add them now at the marked positions.
11. Wrap the blue scarf around the neck, cross once at the front-side and let one fringed end hang down the chest. Do not sew permanently unless desired.
12. Inspect every seam, bury all yarn tails, and remove all temporary markers and pins.

11. Final visual checklist

[ ] Head is round, with no flattened crown or exposed stuffing.

[ ] Eyes are level and balanced around CF.

[ ] Trunk is centred, smoothly tapered and curves gently downward without twisting.

[ ] Ears are the same height and angle; cream inner panels face forward and show an even lavender border.

[ ] Arms are mirrored and sit at matching heights.

[ ] Feet are equally stuffed, point slightly outward and support a stable seated position.

[ ] Head CF aligns with body CF; the CB seams align down the back.

[ ] Tail is centred on the CB seam and tassel hangs freely.

[ ] Scarf sits comfortably around the neck and does not pull the head off-centre.

[ ] No visible holes, exposed filling, loose washers, loose embroidery ends or unburied yarn tails.

12. Troubleshooting

Issue	Practical fix
Stuffing shows through	Remove a little filling and redistribute it in smaller tufts. If the fabric is still open, use smaller needles on a future version.
Eyes look uneven	Before the washers are locked, count from CF and the same head row. If already secured, small differences can often be softened by adjusting nearby stuffing.
Head or body seam twists	Unpick only the affected seam section, realign the first and last stitch columns, then resew without stretching one edge more than the other.
One ear sits higher	Measure from the crown and eye line, re-pin the higher ear and compare from the back before resewing.
Trunk is off-centre	Use the CB seam to find the exact opposite point for CF. Re-pin the trunk base so equal fabric shows on both sides before sewing.
Trunk bends sharply	Loosen the internal curve thread slightly and massage the stuffing so the bend is gradual.
Arms or feet are uneven	Compare attachment rows, then check stuffing quantity. Re-pin and test the seated pose before permanent stitching.
Visible holes at joins	Use small ladder stitches through full edge loops and add a tiny amount of matching yarn as an internal reinforcing stitch if needed.
Scarf twists or seam shows at front	Rotate the flattened scarf so the seam stays at the back. Smooth the stockinette fabric gently by hand before wrapping it around the neck.

13. Printing and customer notes

Print at 100% / Actual Size if printing the file. The written stitch counts, not the screen zoom level, control the finished piece.

Keep a digital copy available while working so you can zoom into the placement maps.

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Before you finish: Check the face from straight on, then rotate the elephant to both side views and the back. Small placement adjustments are easiest before the final securing stitches are buried.

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