MILO THE BOW-TIE TABBY CAT

Complete Digital Knitting Pattern



DIGITAL DOWNLOAD ONLY - NO PHYSICAL ITEM WILL BE SHIPPED

1. DIGITAL DOWNLOAD NOTICE

This PDF is a digital knitting pattern for making a plush tabby cat. It is not a finished plushie, and no physical item will be shipped.

Finished measurements below are calculated design targets. Your result can vary with yarn thickness, needle size, tension, stuffing, and blocking.

Skill level
Confident beginner to intermediate.

Skills used: knitting in the round, knit/purl, kfb, k2tog, ssk, simple color changes, duplicate stitch, seaming, and embroidery.

2. FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Seated height	about 28-30 cm / 11-12 in, including ears
Head	about 14-15 cm wide x 12-13 cm high
Body	about 11-12 cm wide x 12-13 cm high
Foot	about 5-5.5 cm across each
Arm	about 9.5-10 cm long
Tail	about 12-13 cm long before curving
Bow tie	about 9-10 cm wide x 4 cm high

Reference look to preserve
Soft gray tabby body and head; cream muzzle, paws, and foot pads; blush inner ears; sage collar and bow; dark gray forehead/tail stripes; seated pose; upward-curved striped tail.

3. MATERIALS AND TOOLS

Main yarn	DK / light-worsted yarn, approx. 100 m per 50 g. Main gray: 110-130 g / 220-260 m.
Cream	25-35 g / 50-70 m for muzzle, paws, and foot pads.
Sage green	15-20 g / 30-40 m for collar and bow.
Blush pink	5-8 g / 10-16 m for inner ears.
Dark gray	10-15 g / 20-30 m for tail stripes and duplicate-stitch tabby markings.
Embroidery yarn	Small amount dark brown or charcoal for nose, mouth, and whiskers.
Needles	3.5 mm needles for magic loop or DPNs; same size straight needles may be used for flat pieces.
Eyes	2 x 14-16 mm black safety eyes, or embroidered-eye alternative.
Other	Polyester stuffing, tapestry needle, stitch markers, removable contrast yarn, pins, scissors, measuring tape.

Safety note
Safety eyes contain detachable components. For items intended for children under 3, use securely embroidered eyes instead and follow applicable local safety requirements.

4. GAUGE

In the round, stockinette: 22 sts and 30 rnds = 10 cm / 4 in on 3.5 mm needles, measured on firm plush fabric.

Flat stockinette: approximately 22 sts and 30 rows = 10 cm / 4 in. Exact gauge affects the finished size; choose a needle size that makes a dense fabric with no stuffing showing.

5. ABBREVIATIONS

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

6. CONSTRUCTION OVERVIEW

The plush is made as separate knitted pieces and assembled at the end. The head, body, arms, feet, and tail are worked in the round. The muzzle, ear layers, foot pads, collar, and bow are worked flat.

Make the pieces in this order: head; muzzle and ears; body; foot pads and feet; arms; tail; collar and bow. Install safety eyes while the head is still open. Sew foot pads to the feet while each foot still has an access opening. Stuff each piece before its final closure or attachment as directed.

Orientation rule

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

BOR is a knitting landmark only. It is not automatically CF or CB.

When instructed, place a removable CF guide through a chosen stitch column and a CB guide exactly halfway around. Keep those guides until assembly is complete.

Joining in the round

Cast on the stated number, distribute stitches for magic loop or DPNs, and join without twisting. Place a BOR marker. On very small openings, use the cast-on tail to close any tiny centre gap before stuffing.

Firm plush fabric

Keep tension snug. If gaps appear between stitches, use a smaller needle rather than over-stuffing. Stuffing should shape the knitted fabric without stretching it until holes appear.

Color changes

For the tail, change yarn at BOR and carry the unused color loosely up the inside for short stripe changes. Catch floats only if needed; never pull them tight enough to narrow the tube.

7. COMPLETE WRITTEN PATTERN

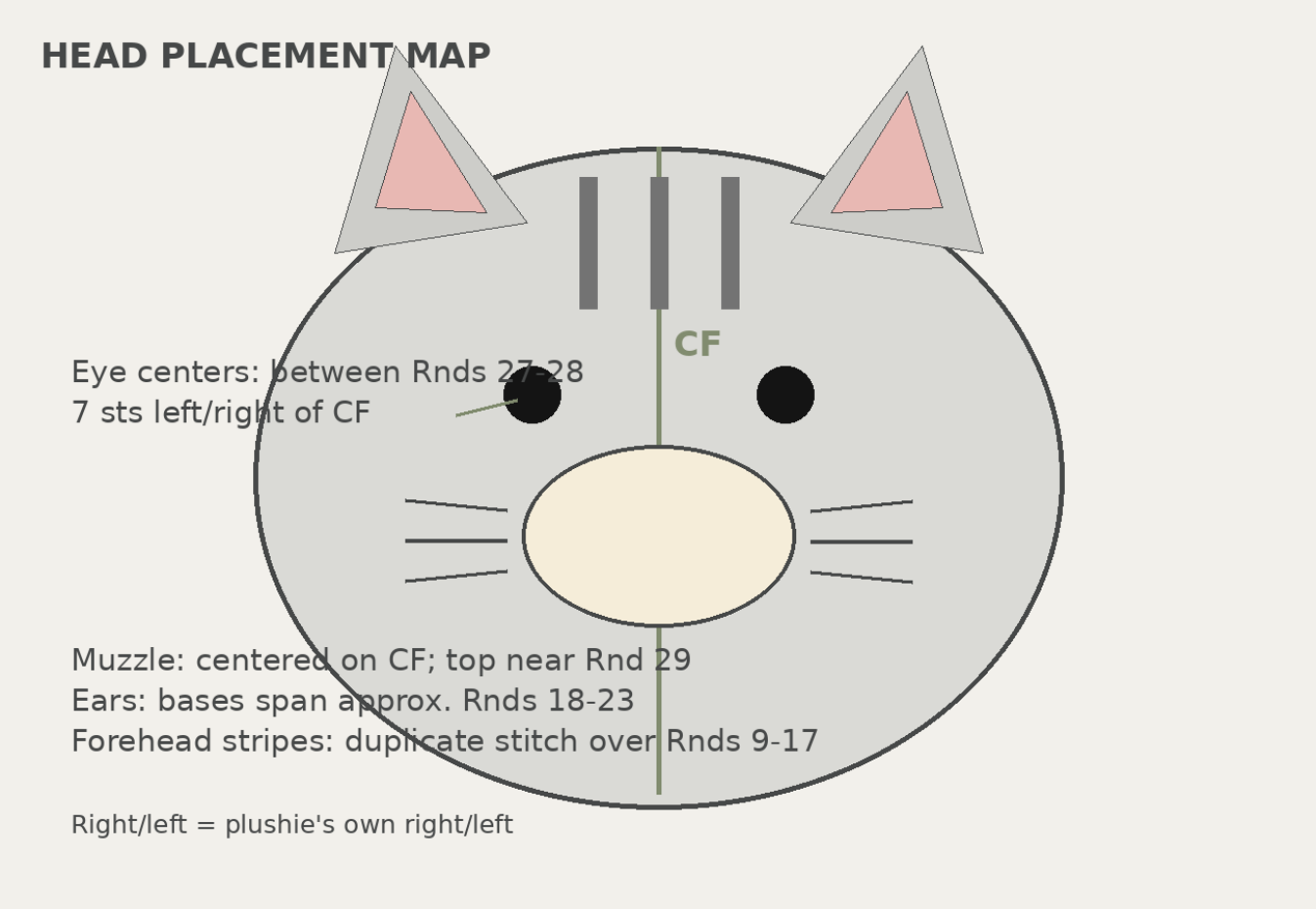
A. HEAD - make 1

Before shaping the lower head
After Rnd 18, choose the front of the head. Thread a removable contrast-yarn guide vertically through one stitch column and call it CF. Mark CB exactly 40 sts around from CF. These guides are independent of BOR.

Eye access: After completing Rnd 34 and before working Rnd 35, install the safety eyes at the placement given on the next page. The head is still wide open here, so washers can be secured from inside. If using embroidered eyes, embroider them before final stuffing.

Row/Rnd	Instructions	Sts
CO	CO 8 sts in main gray. Join in the round; place BOR marker.	8
1	kfb in every st around.	16
2	k all sts.	16
3	(k1, kfb) x 8.	24
4	k all sts.	24
5	(k2, kfb) x 8.	32
6	k all sts.	32
7	(k3, kfb) x 8.	40
8	k all sts.	40
9	(k4, kfb) x 8.	48
10	k all sts.	48
11	(k5, kfb) x 8.	56
12	k all sts.	56
13	(k6, kfb) x 8.	64
14	k all sts.	64
15	(k7, kfb) x 8.	72
16	k all sts.	72
17	(k8, kfb) x 8.	80
18-34	k all sts on every round.	80
35	(k8, k2tog) x 8.	72
36	k all sts.	72
37	(k7, k2tog) x 8.	64
38	k all sts.	64
39	(k6, k2tog) x 8.	56
40	k all sts.	56
41	(k5, k2tog) x 8.	48
42	k all sts.	48
43	(k4, k2tog) x 8.	40
44	k all sts.	40
45	(k3, k2tog) x 8.	32
BO	BO all 32 sts loosely, leaving a long sewing tail.	32

HEAD DETAILS AND FACE PLACEMENT



Safety eyes	Place eye centres in the fabric gap between Rnds 27 and 28, one 7 sts to the plushie's right of CF and one 7 sts to the plushie's left of CF. This gives about 14 sts centre-to-centre.
Muzzle	Centre the cream oval on CF. Pin with its upper edge near Rnd 29 and lower edge near Rnd 41. Check that the muzzle sits exactly midway between the eyes.
Forehead stripes	Using dark gray and duplicate stitch, make 3 vertical tabby stripes. Central stripe: 2 stitch columns centred on CF over Rnds 9-17. Outer stripes: 2 stitch columns each, centred about 5 sts left and right of CF over Rnds 11-17.
Side tabby marks	On each side, duplicate stitch a 3-st horizontal dark-gray bar on Rnd 28, centred about 18 sts from CF. Add a second 3-st bar on Rnd 30, shifted 1 st toward the back.
Whiskers	Embroider 3 straight whiskers on each side of the muzzle with dark brown/charcoal. Keep the two sides mirrored.

Stuffing: Once all internal eye hardware and hidden embroidery ends are secure, stuff the head firmly but evenly. Keep the muzzle area rounded rather than over-packed. Leave the 32-st neck opening accessible for attachment to the body.

B. MUZZLE - make 1

Row/Rnd	Instructions	Sts
CO	CO 10 sts in cream; work flat.	10
1 RS	kfb, k8, kfb.	12
2 WS	p12.	12
3 RS	kfb, k10, kfb.	14
4 WS	p14.	14
5 RS	k14.	14
6 WS	p14.	14
7 RS	k14.	14
8 WS	p14.	14
9 RS	k2tog, k10, ssk.	12
10 WS	p12.	12
11 RS	k2tog, k8, ssk.	10
12 WS	p10.	10
BO	BO 10 sts. Leave a long sewing tail.	10

With dark brown/charcoal, embroider a small inverted triangular nose centred about 1 cm below the top edge. From the nose tip, work one short vertical line, then a shallow curved mouth to each side. Secure all ends on the WS. Pin the muzzle to the head, sew around most of the edge, add a very small amount of stuffing for a gentle dome, then close the remaining opening.

C. OUTER EAR TRIANGLES - make 4

Row/Rnd	Instructions	Sts
CO	CO 14 sts in main gray; work flat.	14
1 RS	k14.	14
2 WS	p14.	14
3 RS	k1, ssk, k8, k2tog, k1.	12
4 WS	p12.	12
5 RS	k1, ssk, k6, k2tog, k1.	10
6 WS	p10.	10
7 RS	k1, ssk, k4, k2tog, k1.	8
8 WS	p8.	8
9 RS	k1, ssk, k2, k2tog, k1.	6
10 WS	p6.	6
11 RS	k1, ssk, k2tog, k1.	4
12 WS	p4.	4

Row/Rnd	Instructions	Sts
13 RS	ssk, k2tog.	2
14 WS	p2.	2
BO	BO 2 sts.	2

D. INNER EAR TRIANGLES - make 2

Row/Rnd	Instructions	Sts
CO	CO 10 sts in blush pink; work flat.	10
1 RS	k10.	10
2 WS	p10.	10
3 RS	k1, ssk, k4, k2tog, k1.	8
4 WS	p8.	8
5 RS	k1, ssk, k2, k2tog, k1.	6
6 WS	p6.	6
7 RS	k1, ssk, k2tog, k1.	4
8 WS	p4.	4
9 RS	ssk, k2tog.	2
10 WS	p2.	2
BO	BO 2 sts.	2

Centre one pink inner triangle on the RS of two of the gray triangles, leaving an even gray border. Sew the pink pieces in place with small stitches. Pair each decorated gray triangle with one plain gray triangle, RS together, with the pink inner triangle sandwiched between the two gray layers. Sew around the two sloping sides and tip; leave the base open. Turn the ear right side out through the open base and neaten the edges. Do not stuff.

To give the ear a slight cup, overlap the two base corners by about 6-8 mm and tack. Make the second ear as a mirror of the first when positioning the overlap.

Ear placement
Place the inner base corner of each ear about 10 sts from CF and the outer base corner about 22 sts from CF, with the base spanning approximately head Rnds 18-23. Angle both ears outward equally. Pin both before sewing.

E. BODY - make 1

Row/Rnd	Instructions	Sts
CO	CO 8 sts in main gray. Join in the round; place BOR.	8
1	kfb in every st around.	16
2	k all sts.	16
3	(k1, kfb) x 8.	24
4	k all sts.	24
5	(k2, kfb) x 8.	32
6	k all sts.	32
7	(k3, kfb) x 8.	40
8	k all sts.	40
9	(k4, kfb) x 8.	48
10	k all sts.	48
11	(k5, kfb) x 8.	56
12	k all sts.	56
13	(k6, kfb) x 8.	64
14-28	k all sts on every round.	64
29	(k6, k2tog) x 8.	56
30-31	k all sts on every round.	56
32	(k5, k2tog) x 8.	48
33-34	k all sts on every round.	48
35	(k4, k2tog) x 8.	40
36-37	k all sts on every round.	40
38	(k3, k2tog) x 8.	32
39-40	k all sts on every round.	32
BO	BO all 32 sts loosely, leaving a long sewing tail.	32

Body orientation
After Rnd 14, choose the front. Thread a removable CF guide through one stitch column. Mark CB exactly 32 sts around from CF. Keep these guides until all limbs and the tail are attached.

Stuff the body firmly at the lower half so it holds a seated shape, and moderately through the upper chest. Keep the top 1-2 cm slightly softer so the head can be seated neatly on the 32-st neckline.

F. CREAM FOOT PADS - make 2

Row/Rnd	Instructions	Sts
CO	CO 6 sts in cream; work flat.	6
1 RS	kfb, k4, kfb.	8
2 WS	p8.	8
3 RS	kfb, k6, kfb.	10
4 WS	p10.	10
5 RS	kfb, k8, kfb.	12
6 WS	p12.	12
7 RS	k12.	12
8 WS	p12.	12
9 RS	k12.	12
10 WS	p12.	12
11 RS	k2tog, k8, ssk.	10
12 WS	p10.	10
13 RS	k2tog, k6, ssk.	8
14 WS	p8.	8
15 RS	k2tog, k4, ssk.	6
16 WS	p6.	6
BO	BO 6 sts; leave a long sewing tail.	6

G. FEET - make 2

Row/Rnd	Instructions	Sts
CO	CO 8 sts in main gray. Join in the round; place BOR.	8
1	kfb in every st around.	16
2	k all sts.	16
3	(k1, kfb) x 8.	24
4	k all sts.	24
5	(k2, kfb) x 8.	32
6-12	k all sts on every round.	32
13	(k2, k2tog) x 8.	24
14	k all sts.	24
15	(k1, k2tog) x 8.	16
16	k all sts.	16
PAUSE	Before working Rnd 17, leave the 16-st opening accessible and sew the cream foot pad to the front of the foot as described below.	16
17	k2tog x 8.	8
CLOSE	Cut yarn, thread through remaining 8 sts, pull closed, and secure.	0

Pad placement while the foot is open: Treat BOR as back-centre of the foot. The front is directly opposite BOR.
Centre the cream pad on the front so it spans approximately Rnds 1-16, with the widest middle section across approximately Rnds 5-10.
Sew all around the pad and bury the yarn tails inside through the remaining 16-st opening.

After Rnd 16 and after the cream pad has been sewn in place, stuff the foot firmly enough to stay rounded but flatten the attachment side slightly with your fingers.
Work Rnd 17 and close.

H. ARMS - make 2

Row/Rnd	Instructions	Sts
CO	With cream, CO 8 sts. Join in the round; place BOR.	8
1	kfb in every st around.	16
2-6	k all sts on every round in cream.	16
7	Change to main gray; (k3, kfb) x 4.	20
8-26	k all sts on every round in main gray.	20
27	(k3, k2tog) x 4.	16
28-30	k all sts on every round.	16
BO	BO all 16 sts loosely; leave a long sewing tail.	16

Stuff the cream paw and lower two-thirds of each arm moderately. Leave the top 2-3 cm lightly stuffed so the arm can lie smoothly against the body. Do not close the BO edge; it is the sewing edge.

I. STRIPED TAIL - make 1

Row/Rnd	Instructions	Sts
CO	With main gray, CO 20 sts. Join in the round. BOR is the underside/base landmark.	20
1-8	k all sts in main gray.	20
9-10	Change to dark gray; k all sts.	20
11-18	Change to main gray; k all sts.	20
19-20	Change to dark gray; k all sts.	20
21-24	Change to main gray; k all sts.	20
25	Main gray; (k3, k2tog) x 4.	16
26-28	Main gray; k all sts.	16
29-30	Change to dark gray; k all sts.	16
31-32	Change to main gray; k all sts.	16
33	Main gray; (k2, k2tog) x 4.	12
34-36	Main gray; k all sts.	12
37	Main gray; k2tog x 6.	6
CLOSE	Cut yarn, thread through remaining 6 sts, pull closed, and secure.	0

Stuff the tail lightly to moderately, keeping it flexible. The CO/base edge remains open for sewing to the body. After attachment, bend the tail upward into a smooth curve and place 2 or 3 small hidden ladder-stitch tacks along the inner curve to hold the shape.

J. SAGE COLLAR - make 1

Row/Rnd	Instructions	Sts
CO	CO 32 sts in sage green; work flat.	32
1-5	k every row for garter stitch.	32
BO	BO all 32 sts, leaving a sewing tail.	32

K. BOW BODY - make 1

Row/Rnd	Instructions	Sts
CO	CO 24 sts in sage green; work flat.	24
1-12	k every row for garter stitch.	24
BO	BO all 24 sts.	24

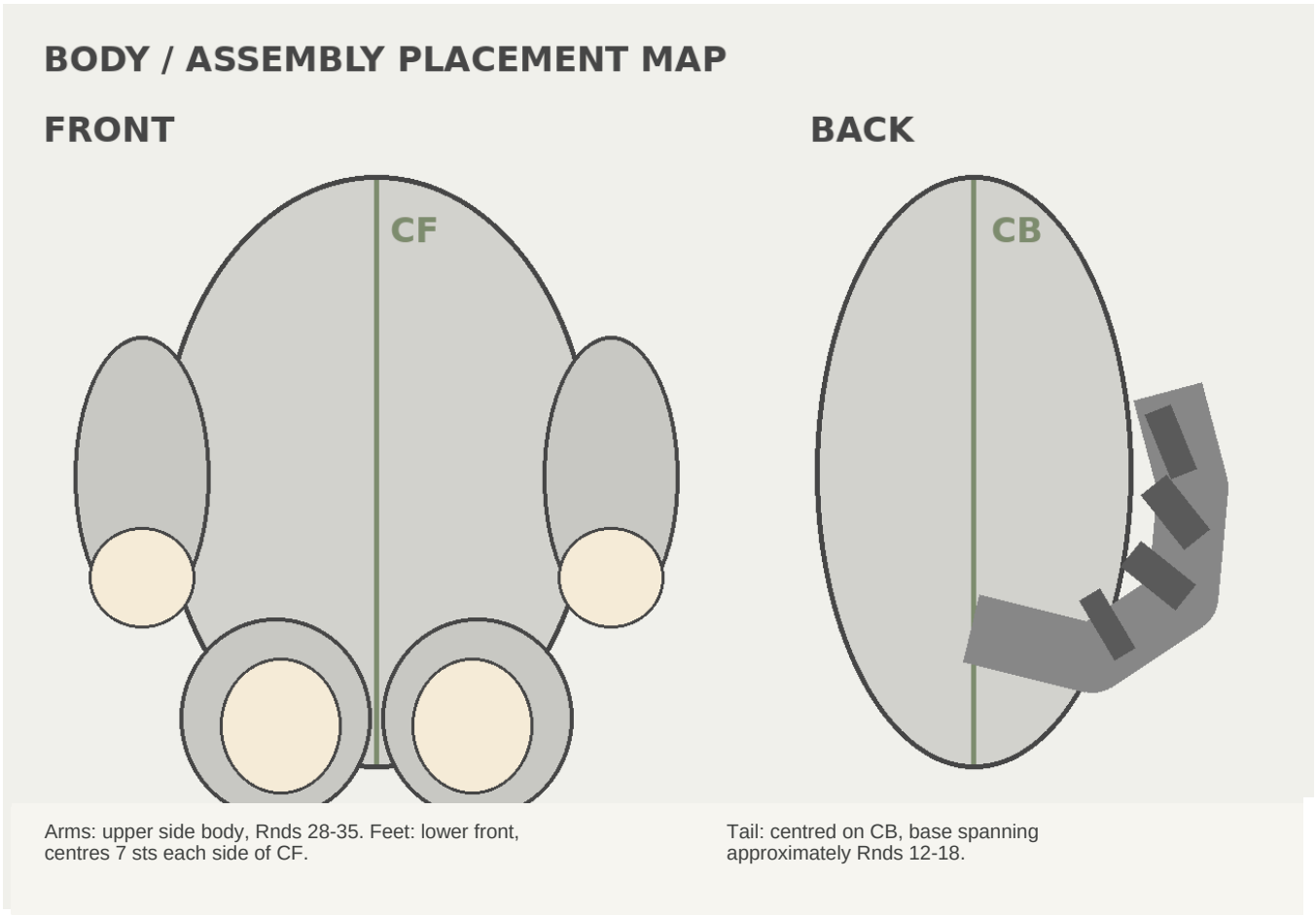
L. BOW CENTRE BAND - make 1

Row/Rnd	Instructions	Sts
CO	CO 6 sts in sage green; work flat.	6
1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13	k6 RS	6
2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14	p6 WS	6
BO	BO all 6 sts, leaving a sewing tail.	6

Shape the bow: Weave a length of sage yarn through the vertical centre of the bow body, pull gently to gather, and secure. Wrap the centre band around the gathered middle, overlap the ends on the back, and sew them together. The finished bow should be about 9-10 cm wide.

Collar: After the head is attached, wrap the garter strip around the neck seam, overlap the ends neatly at CB, and sew the ends together. Tack the collar lightly to the plush so it cannot rotate. Centre the bow on CF and sew it securely to the collar and upper chest.

8. PLACEMENT MAPS



Arms	Pin the BO edge of each arm to the upper side of the body across about Rnds 28-35. The arm centre should sit near the side line, approximately 16 sts around from CF. Angle the paws slightly forward. Mirror the two sides.
Feet	Place each foot on the lower front body with its cream pad facing forward. Centre the feet about 7 sts to each side of CF, with their attachment area spanning roughly body Rnds 8-18. Keep both feet level so the plush sits evenly.
Tail	Centre the open tail base on CB, spanning roughly body Rnds 12-18. Sew the base firmly, then curve the tail upward. Keep the striped side visible from the side/back.
Head-to-body	Match the 32-st head opening to the 32-st body neckline. Align head CF to body CF and head CB to body CB before pinning.
Bow/collar	Collar seam at CB. Bow centred on CF directly below the muzzle.

9. STUFFING AND SHAPING

Head	Firm and even. Add small tufts at a time. Keep the cheeks rounded and the neck opening smooth.
Muzzle	Very lightly padded - just enough to form a shallow dome.
Body	Firm at the lower belly/base, moderate at the chest, slightly softer near the neckline.
Arms	Moderate at paws/lower arms; light near shoulder seams.
Feet	Moderately firm. Flatten the body-contact side slightly before sewing.
Tail	Light to moderate so it can curve without looking kinked.
Ears / bow / collar	Do not stuff.

Shaping the seated pose

Before permanently sewing the feet, place the stuffed body upright on a flat surface. Pin both feet symmetrically and check that the body sits without tipping. Adjust the foot angle, not the stuffing, until both cream pads face forward and the plush rests evenly.

Shaping the face

Check the eye line before closing the head. If one eye appears higher, redistribute stuffing rather than pulling the safety eye hardware. The muzzle should cover CF and sit directly below the midpoint between the two eyes.

Tail curve

After the tail is attached, bend it gradually into an upward C-curve. Use hidden tacking stitches only on the inner curve; do not cinch across the visible stripe bands.

10. ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

1. Finish the head details

With the neck opening still accessible, confirm safety-eye washers are fully seated, embroidery ends are secured inside, and forehead/side duplicate stitch is complete. Stuff the head and leave the 32-st neck edge open.

2. Finish the body

Stuff the body as directed. Keep CF and CB guides visible.

3. Join head to body

Match 32 head-edge sts to 32 body-edge sts. Align CF to CF and CB to CB. Pin at CF, CB, and both side points first, then pin between. Sew around with mattress/ladder stitch using the long tail. Add tiny amounts of stuffing to the seam area before the final 2-3 cm are closed.

4. Add ears

Pin both ears using the head placement map. Compare height and outward angle from the front and back. Sew the open bases securely to the head.

5. Add feet

Place the plush on a flat surface. Pin both feet to the lower front at matching height and spacing. Sew around each attachment area firmly, keeping the cream pads facing forward.

6. Add arms

Pin BO edges to the upper sides across body Rnds 28-35. Angle the paws slightly forward. Sew the two sides as mirrors.

7. Add tail

Pin the tail base at CB across body Rnds 12-18. Sew around the entire open base. Shape and tack the upward curve.

8. Add collar and bow

Wrap the collar over the neck seam, seam it at CB, and tack it in place. Sew the bow to CF on the collar/upper chest.

9. Remove guides and finish

Only after all placements are checked, remove the temporary CF/CB guide yarns. Bury all remaining yarn tails inside the nearest stuffed piece and close any needle entry point neatly.

11. FINAL VISUAL CHECKLIST

- Eyes are level and equally spaced from CF.
- Muzzle is centred below the eyes; nose and mouth are balanced.
- Three forehead stripes are centred; side tabby marks are mirrored.
- Ears match in height, outward angle, and inner-pink placement.
- Arms are attached at matching height and both paws angle forward.
- Feet are level, cream pads face forward, and the plush sits stably.
- Collar lies flat and the bow is centred on CF.
- Tail is centred at CB, stripe sequence is clean, and the curve rises smoothly.
- No visible stuffing, loose tails, open gaps, exposed eye hardware, or trapped guide yarns remain.

12. TROUBLESHOOTING

Fabric shows stuffing	Use a smaller needle or slightly less stuffing. Do not pull stitches tighter after the piece is fully stuffed.
Eyes look uneven	Before final head stuffing, redistribute stuffing around the eye area. Confirm both eye centres sit between the same two rounds.
Head/body join twists	Realign CF-to-CF and CB-to-CB; repin the four quarter points before resewing.
Arms look uneven	Measure from the body neckline to each arm top and match the attachment-round range.
Feet cause tipping	Unpick only the upper half of the foot seam, rotate the foot slightly outward/downward, repin on a flat surface, and resew.
Muzzle is off-centre	Use CF as the centre line; unpick one side of the muzzle and repin until the nose sits directly on CF.
Ear leans differently	Compare both base overlaps. Re-tack the base fold so each ear cups outward by the same amount.
Tail looks kinked	Remove the hidden curve tacks, smooth the stuffing, then replace the tacks farther apart for a broader curve.
Visible holes at seams	Take smaller ladder stitches closer to the knitted edge and add a tiny amount of stuffing before the last section closes.

13. PRINTING AND CUSTOMER NOTES

This pattern is supplied as a digital download. No physical item is included or shipped.

Print at 100% / Actual Size when possible. If using US Letter paper, choose Fit to Printable Area only if your printer clips A4 margins; stitch counts do not depend on printed scale.

The pattern is written in English using standard knitting abbreviations defined in this PDF. Measurements are design targets and can vary with yarn, tension, stuffing, and finishing.

Handmade-use note
Unless your purchase/license states otherwise, this pattern is intended for personal handmade creation. Do not redistribute, resell, or upload the pattern file or its written instructions.

Project summary

Main construction	Knitting in the round + flat accessory pieces
Primary color	Soft gray
Contrast colors	Cream, blush pink, sage green, dark gray
Pose	Seated
Face	Safety eyes or embroidered alternative; embroidered nose/mouth/whiskers
Distinctive features	Large round head, triangular ears, cream muzzle/feet, sage bow, striped curved tail

End of pattern