NOEL THE FESTIVE BEAR

Complete Digital Knitting Pattern



DIGITAL DOWNLOAD ONLY - NO PHYSICAL ITEM WILL BE SHIPPED

Flat-knit construction on straight needles | Confident beginner / intermediate

1. DIGITAL DOWNLOAD NOTICE

This document contains knitting instructions for creating a handmade plushie. It is a digital pattern, not a finished bear, and no physical item will be shipped.

All finished measurements below are calculated design targets. Your result may vary with yarn, needle size, tension, stuffing density, seaming and blocking.

Safety: If the finished item may be given to a child under 3, use securely embroidered eyes instead of detachable safety-eye components and follow applicable local safety requirements.

2. FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Feature	Target size
Bear without hat	24-26 cm tall
Bear to top of relaxed hat / pom-pom	31-33 cm tall
Head	about 11-12 cm wide x 10-11 cm high
Body	about 9-10 cm wide x 12-13 cm high
Arms	about 8.5-9.5 cm long
Legs	about 6.5-7.5 cm tall
Muzzle	about 5-5.5 cm wide x 4-4.5 cm high
Hat from brim to tip	about 18-20 cm before bending
Scarf	about 44-48 cm long x 4-4.5 cm wide, plus fringe

Visual target

A soft ivory bear with a rounded head, small round ears, dark eyes, an oval muzzle with a dark embroidered nose and smiling mouth, a pear-shaped body, short rounded legs, tapered arms, a red Santa hat with cream folded brim and pom-pom, and a red/green striped scarf with fringe.

3. MATERIALS AND TOOLS

Item	Recommended quantity / specification
Cream / ivory worsted or aran yarn (C1)	150-180 g / approx. 270-330 m
Red worsted or aran yarn (C2)	35-45 g / approx. 65-85 m
Green worsted or aran yarn (C3)	20-30 g / approx. 40-55 m
Dark brown yarn (C4)	small amount for nose and mouth
Needles	4.0 mm straight needles, or size needed to obtain dense gauge
Eyes	2 x 9 mm safety eyes, or dark yarn for embroidered eyes
Stuffing	approx. 100-130 g polyester fiberfill
Other tools	tapestry needle, stitch markers, pins, scissors, measuring tape, scrap yarn; optional 4 cm pom-pom maker

4. GAUGE

18 sts x 26 rows = 10 cm in stockinette stitch, measured on a firm swatch. Plush fabric should be dense enough that stuffing does not show through. Exact gauge is not essential for fit, but it directly changes finished size and yarn use.

5. ABBREVIATIONS

Abbreviation	Meaning
CO	cast on
BO	bind off
K / P	knit / purl
st(s)	stitch(es)
RS / WS	right side / wrong side
St st	stockinette stitch: knit RS rows, purl WS rows
kfb	knit into front and back of next stitch - 1 stitch increased
k2tog	knit 2 stitches together - 1 stitch decreased
ssk	slip 1 knitwise, slip 1 knitwise, knit slipped stitches together through back loops - 1 stitch decreased
rep	repeat

Count note: The first and last stitch of every flat piece are included in the stated stitch counts. There are no extra seam-salvage stitches to add.

6. CONSTRUCTION OVERVIEW

This design is worked **flat on straight needles** and seamed. The visible back seam in the supplied design is used as a practical construction feature. The head, body, 2 arms, 2 legs, 2 ears, muzzle, hat and scarf are made separately. The pom-pom is made from cream yarn.

- **Head:** flat spherical panel, safety eyes installed before closing, back seam becomes centre back (CB).
- **Body:** flat pear-shaped panel, lower edge gathered, back seam becomes CB, neck opening used for stuffing.
- **Arms and legs:** identical paired pieces; placement is mirrored on the bear.
- **Ears:** identical ovals pinched at the base to form shallow cups.
- **Muzzle:** flat oval; nose and mouth embroidered before attachment.
- **Hat:** red tapered cap plus separate doubled cream ribbed brim and cream pom-pom.
- **Scarf:** flat red/green striped scarf with narrow non-curling garter borders and fringe.

Orientation: Right and left always mean the plushie's own right and left. On the head and body, the mattress seam is CB. Centre front (CF) is directly opposite that seam. Side lines are halfway between CF and CB.



Reference orientation supplied for the digital design. Use it as a silhouette and feature-placement guide.

7. COMPLETE WRITTEN PATTERN

7.1 Head - make 1 in C1

CO 8 sts, leaving a 25 cm tail. Row 1 is RS. Keep all side edges neat for mattress seaming.

Row(s)	Instruction	Sts
1	K8.	8
2	P8.	8
3	kfb in every st.	16
4	P16.	16
5	[K1, kfb] 8 times.	24
6	P24.	24
7	[K2, kfb] 8 times.	32
8	P32.	32
9	[K3, kfb] 8 times.	40
10	P40.	40
11	[K4, kfb] 8 times.	48
12	P48.	48
13	[K5, kfb] 8 times.	56
14	P56.	56
15	[K6, kfb] 8 times.	64
16	P64.	64
17-34	Work in St st for 18 rows. Row 17 K64; alternate K RS / P WS through Row 34.	64 each
35	[K6, k2tog] 8 times.	56
36	P56.	56
37	[K5, k2tog] 8 times.	48
38	P48.	48
39	[K4, k2tog] 8 times.	40
40	P40.	40
41	[K3, k2tog] 8 times.	32
42	P32.	32
43	[K2, k2tog] 8 times.	24
44	P24.	24
45	[K1, k2tog] 8 times.	16
46	P16.	16
47	k2tog 8 times.	8
48	P8. Cut yarn leaving a 30 cm tail; thread through the 8 live sts and draw closed.	8

Before seaming: Install safety eyes now if using them. On the RS, with Row 1 at the top, place eye posts between Rows 24-25 at the face columns described in the Head Placement Map (Section 8.1). Fit washers securely on the WS. For embroidered eyes, skip this step and embroider after stuffing.

With RS facing out, use mattress stitch to join the side edges from Row 1 downward and from Row 48 upward, leaving a 5-6 cm opening at lower CB. Use the starting tail to run through the CO edge and gather it firmly. Stuff the head moderately-firm, keeping the face broad and the sides rounded. Close the remaining CB opening and bury tails.

7.2 Body - make 1 in C1

CO 16 sts, leaving a 30 cm tail. Row 1 is RS.

Row(s)	Instruction	Sts
1	K16.	16
2	P16.	16
3	[K1, kfb] 8 times.	24
4	P24.	24
5	[K2, kfb] 8 times.	32
6	P32.	32
7	[K3, kfb] 8 times.	40
8	P40.	40
9	[K4, kfb] 8 times.	48
10	P48.	48
11	[K5, kfb] 8 times.	56
12	P56.	56
13-28	Work in St st for 16 rows. Row 13 K56; alternate K RS / P WS through Row 28.	56 each
29	[K5, k2tog] 8 times.	48
30	P48.	48
31	K48.	48
32	P48.	48
33	[K4, k2tog] 8 times.	40
34	P40.	40
35	K40.	40
36	P40.	40
37	[K3, k2tog] 8 times.	32
38	P32.	32
39	K32.	32
40	P32.	32
41	[K2, k2tog] 8 times.	24
42	P24.	24
43	K24.	24
44	P24.	24
45	BO all 24 sts loosely in knit.	0

Seam the side edges with mattress stitch to form CB. Use the CO tail to run through the 16 CO sts and gather the lower opening tightly. Leave the neck BO edge open. Stuff through the neck, firmest at the lower belly and medium-firm at the shoulders. Run a separate length of C1 through the BO edge and draw it in until the neck opening is about 2.5-3 cm across; secure but do not pull to a hard point.

7.3 Arms - make 2 in C1

Row(s)	Instruction	Sts
1	K8.	8
2	P8.	8
3	kfb in every st.	16
4	P16.	16
5	[K1, kfb] 8 times.	24
6	P24.	24
7-22	Work in St st for 16 rows. Row 7 K24; alternate K RS / P WS through Row 22.	24 each

Row(s)	Instruction	Sts
23	[K1, k2tog] 8 times.	16
24	P16.	16
25	k2tog 8 times.	8
26	P8. Cut yarn; thread through 8 live sts and draw closed.	8

Gather the CO edge with the starting tail. Mattress-seam the long edges, leaving a 3 cm opening. Stuff lightly at the upper arm and medium-firm at the rounded lower end. Close the opening. Make the second arm the same; mirror only the attachment placement.

7.4 Legs - make 2 in C1

Row(s)	Instruction	Sts
1	K12.	12
2	P12.	12
3	[K1, kfb] 6 times.	18
4	P18.	18
5	[K2, kfb] 6 times.	24
6	P24.	24
7	[K3, kfb] 6 times.	30
8	P30.	30
9-16	Work in St st for 8 rows. Row 9 K30; alternate K RS / P WS through Row 16.	30 each
17	[K3, k2tog] 6 times.	24
18	P24.	24
19	[K2, k2tog] 6 times.	18
20	P18.	18
21	[K1, k2tog] 6 times.	12
22	P12. Cut yarn; thread through 12 live sts and draw closed.	12

Gather the CO edge. Seam the long edges, leaving a 3 cm opening. Stuff medium-firm, with a little extra stuffing in the lower half to form a rounded foot. Close the opening. Make the second leg the same.

7.5 Ears - make 2 in C1

Row(s)	Instruction	Sts
1	K8.	8
2	P8.	8
3	K1, kfb, K4, kfb, K1.	10
4	P10.	10
5	K1, kfb, K6, kfb, K1.	12
6	P12.	12
7	K1, kfb, K8, kfb, K1.	14
8	P14.	14
9	K14.	14
10	P14.	14
11	K1, k2tog, K8, ssk, K1.	12
12	P12.	12
13	K1, k2tog, K6, ssk, K1.	10
14	P10.	10
15	K1, k2tog, K4, ssk, K1.	8
16	P8; BO all sts.	0

Weave in the BO tail. At the lower edge, overlap the two bottom corners by about 1 cm and secure with a few stitches to make a shallow cup. The cup opening should face slightly forward when attached.

7.6 Muzzle - make 1 in C1

Row(s)	Instruction	Sts
1	K6.	6
2	P6.	6
3	K1, kfb, K2, kfb, K1.	8

Row(s)	Instruction	Sts
4	P8.	8
5	K1, kfb, K4, kfb, K1.	10
6	P10.	10
7	K1, kfb, K6, kfb, K1.	12
8	P12.	12
9	K12.	12
10	P12.	12
11	K1, k2tog, K6, ssk, K1.	10
12	P10.	10
13	K1, k2tog, K4, ssk, K1.	8
14	P8.	8
15	K1, k2tog, K2, ssk, K1.	6
16	P6; BO all sts.	0

Nose and mouth: With C4, satin-stitch a rounded triangle across the centre of Muzzle Rows 6-9, about 4 sts wide. Bring a short vertical line down from the nose tip to about Row 12, then work two shallow curved smile lines toward the lower left and lower right. Keep all securing knots on the WS of the muzzle.

7.7 Santa Hat - red cap in C2

CO 64 sts. Row 1 is RS. The cap is intentionally long so the tip can bend to one side.

Row(s)	Instruction	Sts
1-6	Work in St st for 6 rows: Row 1 K64; Row 2 P64; continue alternating through Row 6.	64 each
7	[K14, k2tog] 4 times.	60
8	P60.	60
9	K60.	60
10	P60.	60
11	[K13, k2tog] 4 times.	56
12	P56.	56
13	K56.	56
14	P56.	56
15	[K12, k2tog] 4 times.	52
16	P52.	52
17	K52.	52
18	P52.	52
19	[K11, k2tog] 4 times.	48
20	P48.	48
21	K48.	48
22	P48.	48
23	[K10, k2tog] 4 times.	44
24	P44.	44
25	K44.	44
26	P44.	44
27	[K9, k2tog] 4 times.	40
28	P40.	40
29	K40.	40
30	P40.	40
31	[K8, k2tog] 4 times.	36
32	P36.	36
33	K36.	36
34	P36.	36
35	[K7, k2tog] 4 times.	32
36	P32.	32
37	K32.	32
38	P32.	32
39	[K6, k2tog] 4 times.	28
40	P28.	28
41	K28.	28
42	P28.	28
43	[K5, k2tog] 4 times.	24
44	P24.	24
45	K24.	24
46	P24.	24
47	[K4, k2tog] 4 times.	20
48	P20.	20
49	[K3, k2tog] 4 times.	16
50	P16.	16

Row(s)	Instruction	Sts
51	[K2, k2tog] 4 times.	12
52	P12.	12
53	[K1, k2tog] 4 times.	8
54	P8. Cut yarn; thread through the 8 live sts and draw closed.	8

Mattress-seam the two side edges from brim to tip. Bury tails. Do not stuff the cap.

Cream folded brim in C1

Row(s)	Instruction	Sts
1-8	[K1, P1] across every row.	64 each
After Row 8	BO all 64 sts in rib.	0

Join the short ends to make a ring. Fold the ring in half heightwise with the RS facing out; align the CO and BO edges. Place the doubled ring over the lower 2-3 rows of the red cap and sew both long edges neatly in place. The finished brim should be about 1.5-2 cm deep.

Pom-pom: Make one dense cream pom-pom about 4 cm across. Tie it firmly to the gathered hat tip and bury the tie ends inside the hat seam.

7.8 Striped Scarf - make 1

CO 8 sts in C3. The 2-st garter borders at each edge reduce curling while the centre keeps the smooth stockinette look seen in the reference.

Row(s)	Instruction	Sts
1-12, C3	Odd/RS rows: K8. Even/WS rows: K2, P4, K2.	8 each
13-24, C2	Odd/RS rows: K8. Even/WS rows: K2, P4, K2.	8 each
25-36, C3	Odd/RS rows: K8. Even/WS rows: K2, P4, K2.	8 each
37-48, C2	Odd/RS rows: K8. Even/WS rows: K2, P4, K2.	8 each
49-60, C3	Odd/RS rows: K8. Even/WS rows: K2, P4, K2.	8 each
61-72, C2	Odd/RS rows: K8. Even/WS rows: K2, P4, K2.	8 each
73-84, C3	Odd/RS rows: K8. Even/WS rows: K2, P4, K2.	8 each
85-96, C2	Odd/RS rows: K8. Even/WS rows: K2, P4, K2.	8 each
97-108, C3	Odd/RS rows: K8. Even/WS rows: K2, P4, K2.	8 each
109-120, C2	Odd/RS rows: K8. Even/WS rows: K2, P4, K2.	8 each
121	BO knitwise.	0

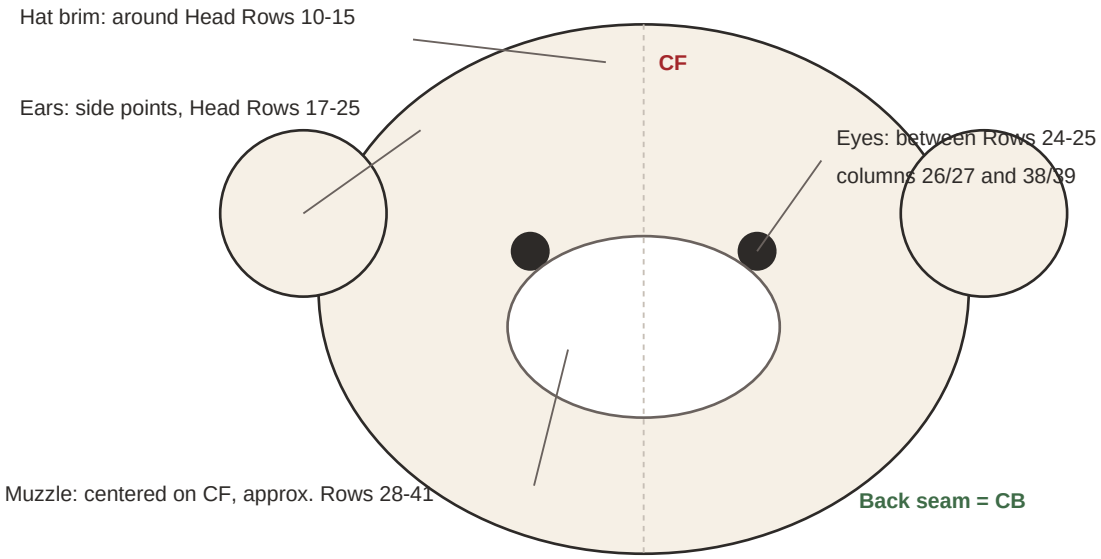
At each colour change, cut the old colour leaving a 10 cm tail and join the new colour at the row edge. Weave tails into the matching colour block.

Fringe: Cut 28 yarn lengths, each about 12 cm: 14 red and 14 green. At each scarf end, make 7 fringe bundles using 2 strands per bundle, alternating red and green. Fold each pair in half, pull the fold through the edge, then pass the ends through the loop and tighten. Trim to about 4 cm.

8. PLACEMENT MAPS

8.1 Head placement map

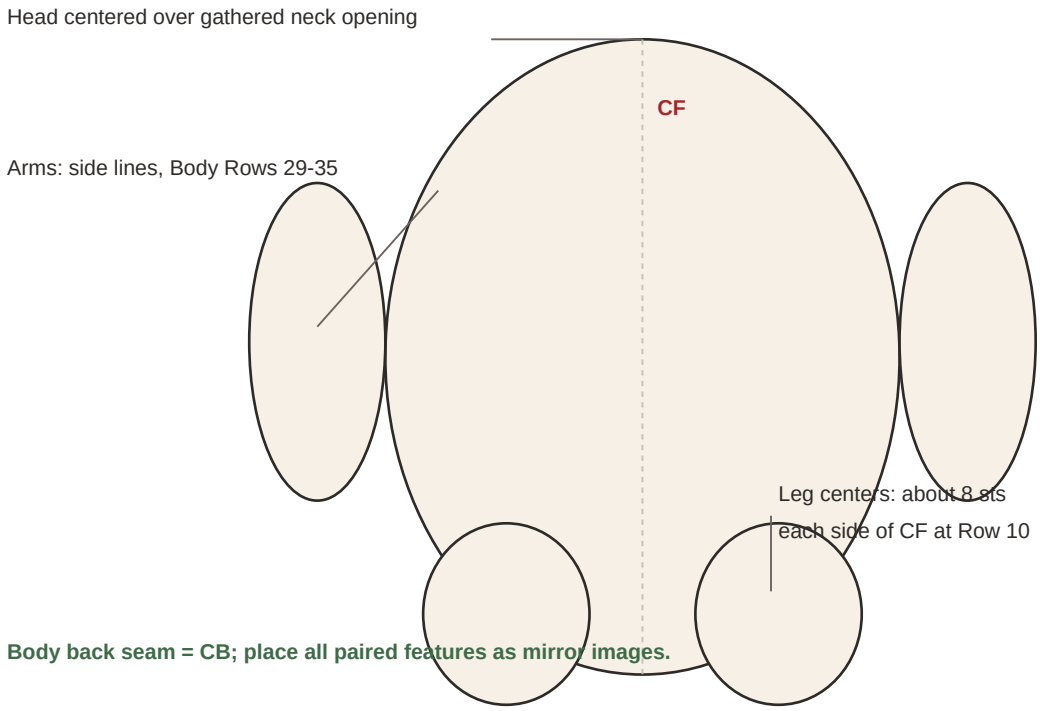
On the flat head, the two side edges become CB when seamed. The centre of the widest rows (between stitch columns 32 and 33) becomes CF. After seaming, the two side points sit halfway between CF and CB.



Feature	Placement
Safety eyes	Install before head closure, between Head Rows 24-25. On the flat piece, place the plushie-right eye between stitch columns 26-27 and the plushie-left eye between columns 38-39. Check that both are level before fitting washers.
Muzzle	Centre on CF. Pin the top edge around Head Row 28 and the lower edge around Row 41; keep the oval centred under the eyes.
Ears	Centre each pinched ear base on the side line, spanning approximately Head Rows 17-25. Cup openings face slightly forward.
Hat brim	Set around the upper head with lower edge roughly at Head Rows 10-15, keeping both ears visible below it. Place hat seam toward CB.

8.2 Body placement map

The body side seam is CB. CF is directly opposite the seam. All paired pieces must be pinned and checked from the front and back before sewing.



Body back seam = CB; place all paired features as mirror images.

Feature	Placement
Head	Centre the head over the gathered neck opening. Keep head CB seam aligned with body CB seam. Sew around the lower head about 1-1.5 cm above its gathered bottom point.
Legs	Place upper leg attachment zones across Body Rows 5-12. At about Body Row 10, centre each leg roughly 8 stitch columns to the right/left of CF (about 16 stitch columns centre-to-centre). Keep lower ends level so the bear stands evenly.
Arms	Centre upper attachment at the side lines over Body Rows 29-35. Angle each arm down about 10-15 degrees and mirror the angle.
Scarf	Wrap around the neck/head-body join. Cross the ends slightly to one side of CF and let one fringed end hang down the front as in the reference. Do not sew tightly; tack discreetly only if desired.

9. STUFFING AND SHAPING

Piece	Stuffing level	Shaping check
Head	Moderately firm	Keep front broad and cheeks rounded; do not over-pack around eye washers.
Body	Medium-firm to firm	Firmest at lower belly; keep neck area slightly softer so the head seats neatly.
Arms	Light to medium	Lower ends rounded; upper 2 cm softer for easy attachment.
Legs	Medium-firm	Add a little extra to the lower half so each foot supports the body.
Muzzle	Very light	Use only a thin pad of stuffing to create gentle projection.
Ears / hat / scarf	No stuffing	Shape by pinching, folding or draping only.

If the head looks tall rather than round, gently redistribute stuffing toward the sides and cheeks. If the body looks cylindrical, move more stuffing into the lower third and less into the shoulder/neck area. Do not pull shaping threads so tightly that stitch holes open.

Optional face shaping

For a slightly softer bear expression, use a length of C1 to make one gentle sculpting pass from the back of the head to just beside one eye, across the inside to the second eye, and back to the starting point. Tighten only enough to settle the eyes into the surface, then secure at CB and bury the ends. This step is optional.

10. ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS

1. Finish the head. Confirm safety-eye washers are installed if used. Complete the back seam, stuffing and closure. If using embroidered eyes, place them at the same eye coordinates shown in Section 8.1 after stuffing.

2. Prepare the muzzle. Complete the nose and mouth embroidery while the muzzle is still separate. Pin the muzzle to the head, centred on CF. Sew around most of the edge with small whip or ladder stitches, add a very thin layer of stuffing, then close the final 2 cm. Bury the sewing tail at the side/back of the head.

3. Attach the ears. Pin both cupped ears at the side points over Head Rows 17-25. Check front symmetry, top height and forward angle. Sew around each pinched base twice for a secure join.

4. Finish the body. Complete the body back seam and lower gathering. Stuff through the neck, then draw the neck edge to a 2.5-3 cm opening and secure.

5. Attach the legs. Pin both legs over Body Rows 5-12, centres about 8 stitch columns either side of CF at Row 10. Stand the body on a flat surface and adjust until the lower edges are level. Sew securely around the upper third of each leg.

6. Attach the arms. Pin arm tops on the side lines over Body Rows 29-35, angled slightly downward. Mirror the angles and sew around each upper attachment zone.

7. Join head to body. Align head CB with body CB and CF with CF. Pin around the lower head about 1-1.5 cm above its gathered bottom point. Sew all the way around with small firm stitches, catching both head and gathered neck fabric. Make a second pass where needed. The scarf will conceal the seam, but the join must be structurally secure before the scarf is added.

8. Assemble and place the hat. Finish the red cap seam, cream doubled brim and pom-pom. Set the hat seam at CB and the brim lower edge around Head Rows 10-15. Tack the brim to the head at CB and at both side points with removable-looking, discreet matching stitches. Bend the tip toward the plushie's left or right as preferred.

9. Add the scarf. Wrap once around the neck, keeping it loose enough not to compress the head-body join. Cross the ends slightly to one side of CF. Let one fringed end hang down the front. Tack the back crossing with 2-3 hidden stitches only if you want the scarf permanently fixed.

10. Final tidy. Remove temporary pins/markers, bury all yarn tails, brush the pom-pom lightly with fingers, and check the bear from front, both sides and back.

Access check: No internal step should remain unfinished before a seam is permanently closed. Safety-eye washers must be fitted before the head is fully closed, and all stuffing must be complete before body/limb openings are sewn shut.

11. FINAL VISUAL CHECKLIST

- Head is round and centred over the body; head CB seam aligns with body CB seam.
- Eyes are level and evenly spaced; eye hardware is not visible from the outside.
- Muzzle is centred under the eyes; nose sits level; smile is balanced.
- Ears are the same height, equally cupped, and angled slightly forward.
- Arms are mirrored in height and angle.
- Legs are even and support the bear without one foot floating above the surface.
- Hat brim sits level enough to frame the face while leaving both ears visible; pom-pom is secure.
- Scarf stripes read clearly, one fringed end hangs naturally, and the neck is not compressed.
- No exposed stuffing, large stitch holes, loose seams, trapped pins/markers or unsecured tails remain.

12. TROUBLESHOOTING

Issue	Quick fix
Stuffing feels lumpy	Open the nearest seam slightly, remove a small amount, tease the fiberfill into smaller pieces, then restuff gradually.
Eyes look uneven	Before final closure, loosen nearby stuffing and rotate the fabric gently around the post. If using embroidered eyes, remove and rework the shorter eye rather than pulling the fabric hard.
Back seam twists to one side	Unpick the affected section and rejoin matching row-to-row with mattress stitch; align row ends before continuing.
One arm or leg sits higher	Remove only the attachment stitches on the high piece, repin using the same row span as its pair, then resew.
Muzzle is off-centre	Unpick the upper half, realign its centre with CF, repin both eye-to-muzzle distances, then close again.
Hat turns on the head	Align hat seam with CB and add one hidden tack at CB plus one at each side point.
Scarf curls or twists	Lightly damp-block it flat; make sure the 2-st garter borders have not been folded under.
Stuffing shows through	Redistribute rather than adding more. If gaps remain, use a smaller needle size on a future make or duplicate-stitch the isolated loose area in matching yarn.

13. PRINTING AND CUSTOMER NOTES

This file is designed for digital use and standard A4 printing. Print at 100% / actual size; no scaling is required because all construction is stitch-count based. If you print only the pattern pages, keep Sections 5-10 together so abbreviations, construction and assembly references remain available.

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Quick project summary

Craft	Knitting
Construction	Worked flat on straight needles and seamed
Main stitch	Stockinette
Skill level	Confident beginner / intermediate
Main yarn	Worsted / aran weight
Needles	4.0 mm or size needed for dense gauge
Finished height	Approx. 24-26 cm without hat; 31-33 cm including relaxed hat/pom-pom

End of pattern. Enjoy making Noel the Festive Bear.