PERRY THE PARASAUROLOPHUS

Free Knitting Pattern

Skill level: Intermediate

A standing crested dinosaur with a shaped snout, cream belly, curved head crest, sturdy hind legs and a long tapered tail.



Worked mainly in the round with small flat stockinette panels for the crest insets and belly/throat patch.

1. Introduction

This pattern makes a softly stuffed Parasaurolophus-style dinosaur with an olive-green body, warm cream underside, dark brown nose and claws, and a tall backward-curving head crest. The body, head, tail and limbs are knitted in the round; the crest shells, crest insets and belly/throat patch are knitted flat. Assembly uses simple mattress, whip and ladder stitching, plus a decorative cream running stitch around selected joins.

The pattern is suited to an intermediate knitter who is comfortable working small circumferences in the round, reading shaped row/round instructions, seaming stuffed pieces and placing features symmetrically.

Finished size

Measurement	Metric	Imperial
Overall height, feet to crest tip	27-29 cm	10.5-11.5 in
Nose to tail tip	34-37 cm	13.5-14.5 in
Body maximum width	8-9 cm	3.25-3.5 in
Head, nose to back	12-13 cm	4.75-5 in
Tail length	about 15 cm	about 6 in
Crest, base to tip	10-11 cm	4-4.25 in
Upper leg length	5-5.5 cm	2-2.25 in
Foot length	5.5-6 cm	2.25-2.4 in
Arm length	4-4.5 cm	1.6-1.75 in

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

Materials and tools

Item	Specification	Quantity / note
Yarn A - olive/sage green	Worsted / Aran weight, smooth yarn	Approx. 145 g / 260 m (285 yd)
Yarn B - warm cream	Same weight and similar fibre behaviour as Yarn A	Approx. 40 g / 75 m (82 yd)
Yarn C - dark brown	Worsted / Aran weight	Approx. 12 g / 22 m (24 yd)
Main needles	3.5 mm (US 4) DPNs or long circular needle for magic loop	Use the same size for flat pieces
Safety eyes	1 pair, 12 mm	10-12 mm may be used according to preference.
Stuffing	Polyester toy stuffing	Approx. 80-100 g
Notions	5 stitch markers, scrap yarn, tapestry needle, pins, scissors, measuring tape	Locking markers are useful for placement
Optional eye alternative	Small amount of black or dark brown embroidery yarn	For embroidered eyes instead of rigid eyes
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.		

Gauge and tension

Main circular gauge: 22 sts x 30 rnds = 10 x 10 cm / 4 x 4 in in stockinette stitch in the round using 3.5 mm needles.

Flat gauge: 22 sts x 30 rows = 10 x 10 cm / 4 x 4 in in stockinette stitch using 3.5 mm needles.

Aim for a firm, dense fabric that keeps stuffing from showing. If the fabric is loose, use a smaller needle. If the fabric is very stiff and difficult to work, use a slightly larger needle while keeping the same finished gauge as closely as possible.

Abbreviations

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

Method and orientation

- All circular pieces are worked in continuous knitted rounds; do not turn unless the section specifically says to work flat.
- Place the BOR marker as instructed for each piece. The BOR marker is not a stitch and is not included in stitch counts.
- For the body/neck, BOR sits at centre back. For the head, BOR sits at centre underside. For the tail, place BOR on the underside. Hide limb BOR joins on the underside or back of each piece.
- Right and left are described from the finished dinosaur's point of view.
- RS means the smooth stockinette face. On flat panels, keep RS facing outward during assembly.
- When using DPNs, move the needle breakpoints by 1-2 sts every few rounds to reduce ladders.
- Stuff firmly enough to hold shape without stretching the knitted fabric or opening gaps between stitches.

2. Construction Overview

Piece	Qty	Method	Finish
Body and neck	1	In the round	Stuff firmly through body; neck moderately. BO top opening for head attachment.
Head	1	In the round	Install safety eyes or mark embroidered-eye positions before final decreases. Fully close snout and back openings.
Green crest shells	2 mirrored	Flat St st	Add cream insets, seam together, lightly stuff, leave base open for sewing.
Cream crest insets	2 mirrored	Flat St st	Sew to RS of green crest shells before crest is assembled.
Tail	1	In the round	Stuff firm at base, lighter toward tip; leave CO base open for body attachment.
Upper hind legs	2	In the round	Stuff firmly; both ends fully closed.
Feet	2	In the round	Stuff moderately; toe closes, CO ankle remains open for thigh attachment.
Arms	2	In the round	Light stuffing; hand tip closed, shoulder opening BO then flattened for attachment.
Belly/throat patch	1	Flat St st	Unstuffed applique; sew after head is attached to neck.
Brown nose	1	In the round	Lightly stuffed and fully closed; sew to snout tip.
Foot claws	6	I-cord	Unstuffed; sew 3 to each foot.
Hand claws	4	I-cord	Unstuffed; sew 2 to each hand.

Recommended assembly order: finish the head and facial details first; finish and attach the crest; attach the head to the stuffed neck; sew on the belly/throat patch; attach the tail; assemble and attach the hind legs and feet; finish and attach the arms; then add the cream decorative running stitch.

NOTE: Pin every major piece before sewing. Check the silhouette from the front, both sides, top and back before committing to a permanent seam.

3. Body and Neck

Use Yarn A. Work from the lower body upward. BOR is centre back. CO 8 sts, leaving a 25 cm / 10 in tail. Join to work in the round without twisting.

After Rnd 3, thread the CO tail through the 8 cast-on edge loops, draw the lower opening completely closed, secure the yarn on the inside and leave the remaining tail inside the body.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
Rnd 1	Knit.	8
Rnd 2	Kfb in every st.	16
Rnd 3	(K1, kfb) 8 times.	24
Rnd 4	(K2, kfb) 8 times.	32
Rnd 5	(K3, kfb) 8 times.	40
Rnd 6	(K4, kfb) 8 times.	48
Rnd 7	(K5, kfb) 8 times.	56
Rnd 8	Knit.	56
Rnd 9	Knit.	56
Rnd 10	Knit.	56
Rnd 11	Knit.	56
Rnd 12	Knit.	56
Rnd 13	Knit.	56
Rnd 14	Knit.	56
Rnd 15	Knit.	56
Rnd 16	Knit.	56
Rnd 17	Knit.	56
Rnd 18	Knit.	56
Rnd 19	Knit.	56
Rnd 20	(K5, k2tog) 8 times.	48
Rnd 21	Knit.	48
Rnd 22	Knit.	48
Rnd 23	Knit.	48
Rnd 24	Knit.	48
Rnd 25	(K4, k2tog) 8 times.	40
Rnd 26	Knit.	40
Rnd 27	Knit.	40
Rnd 28	Knit.	40
Rnd 29	Knit.	40
Rnd 30	(K3, k2tog) 8 times.	32
Rnd 31	Knit.	32
Rnd 32	Knit.	32
Rnd 33	Knit.	32
Rnd 34	Knit.	32
Rnd 35	(K2, k2tog) 8 times.	24
Rnd 36	Knit.	24
Rnd 37	Knit.	24

Rnd	Instruction	Count
Rnd 38	Knit.	24
Rnd 39	Knit.	24
Rnd 40	Knit.	24
Rnd 41	Knit.	24
Rnd 42	Knit.	24
Rnd 43	Knit.	24
Rnd 44	Knit.	24
Rnd 45	Knit.	24
Rnd 46	Knit.	24
Rnd 47	Knit.	24
Rnd 48	Knit.	24
Rnd 49	Knit.	24
Rnd 50	Knit.	24
Rnd 51	Knit.	24
Rnd 52	Knit.	24

After Rnd 18, begin stuffing the lower body firmly, keeping the base rounded but stable. Add stuffing again after Rnd 35 so the belly remains full and the back slightly flatter. Rnds 39-52 form the neck; stuff these rounds moderately and keep the final 2 rounds slightly softer so the head seam can settle smoothly.

After Rnd 52, BO all 24 sts loosely. Leave a 45 cm / 18 in sewing tail. Do not close the neck opening; it will be sewn to the underside of the head.

4. Head and Snout

Use Yarn A. Work from the snout tip toward the back of the head. BOR is centre underside. CO 12 sts, leaving a 25 cm / 10 in tail. Join without twisting.

After Rnd 4, thread the CO tail through the 12 cast-on edge loops, draw the snout-tip opening completely closed and secure the tail inside. The brown nose will cover this centre later.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
Rnd 1	Knit.	12
Rnd 2	(K1, kfb) 6 times.	18
Rnd 3	Knit.	18
Rnd 4	(K2, kfb) 6 times.	24
Rnd 5	Knit.	24
Rnd 6	Knit.	24
Rnd 7	Knit.	24
Rnd 8	(K3, kfb) 6 times.	30
Rnd 9	Knit.	30
Rnd 10	Knit.	30
Rnd 11	Knit.	30
Rnd 12	(K4, kfb) 6 times.	36
Rnd 13	Knit.	36
Rnd 14	Knit.	36
Rnd 15	Knit.	36
Rnd 16	Knit.	36
Rnd 17	(K5, kfb) 6 times.	42
Rnd 18	Knit.	42
Rnd 19	Knit.	42
Rnd 20	Knit.	42
Rnd 21	Knit.	42
Rnd 22	(K6, kfb) 6 times.	48
Rnd 23	Knit.	48
Rnd 24	Knit.	48
Rnd 25	Knit.	48
Rnd 26	Knit.	48
Rnd 27	Knit.	48

Eye placement before decreasing

After completing **Rnd 27 and before working Rnd 28**, pause for eye placement. The head has 48 sts. Keep BOR at the underside centre. Place temporary orientation markers 12 sts after BOR, 24 sts after BOR and 36 sts after BOR. The 24-st marker is the top-centre guide; the other two are the side-centre guides.

Place the safety-eye posts between **Head Rnds 24 and 25**. From each side-centre guide, count 3 sts toward the top-centre guide and place one eye there. Check both eyes from the front and top, then fasten the backs now while the head opening remains fully accessible.

If using embroidered eyes, leave the orientation markers in place until the head is stuffed and closed, then embroider matching oval eyes in the same positions.

Continue with **Rnd 28**.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
Rnd 28	(K6, k2tog) 6 times.	42
Rnd 29	Knit.	42
Rnd 30	(K5, k2tog) 6 times.	36
Rnd 31	Knit.	36
Rnd 32	(K4, k2tog) 6 times.	30
Rnd 33	Knit.	30
Rnd 34	(K3, k2tog) 6 times.	24
Rnd 35	Knit.	24
Rnd 36	(K2, k2tog) 6 times.	18
Rnd 37	(K1, k2tog) 6 times.	12
Rnd 38	K2tog 6 times.	6

Stuffing and closure

After Rnd 30, begin stuffing the snout and head. Keep the first 10-12 head rounds moderately filled so the snout stays long and tapered rather than round. Fill the cheek and cranium area more firmly. After Rnd 35, add the final stuffing while keeping the underside attachment area slightly softer.

After Rnd 38, cut Yarn A leaving a 25 cm / 10 in tail. Thread the tail through the final 6 sts, pull the back opening completely closed, secure inside and bury the tail.

5. Curved Head Crest

The crest is made from two mirrored green stockinette shells with one cream inset sewn to each RS. The shorter, more frequently decreased edge becomes the inner/front curve; the longer edge becomes the outer/back curve. After the insets are attached, seam the two green shells together with RS facing outward, lightly stuff and leave the CO base open for sewing to the head.

Green crest shell A - make 1 in Yarn A

Worked flat. CO 12 sts. On RS rows, the inner/front edge is at the beginning of the row.

Row	Instruction	Count
Row 1	K12.	12
Row 2	P12.	12
Row 3	K12.	12
Row 4	P12.	12
Row 5	Kfb, k to last st, kfb.	14
Row 6	P14.	14
Row 7	Ssk, k to end.	13
Row 8	P13.	13
Row 9	K13.	13
Row 10	P13.	13
Row 11	Ssk, k to end.	12
Row 12	P12.	12
Row 13	K12.	12
Row 14	P12.	12
Row 15	Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog.	10
Row 16	P10.	10
Row 17	K10.	10
Row 18	P10.	10
Row 19	Ssk, k to end.	9
Row 20	P9.	9
Row 21	K9.	9
Row 22	P9.	9
Row 23	Ssk, k to end.	8
Row 24	P8.	8
Row 25	Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog.	6
Row 26	P6.	6
Row 27	Ssk, k to end.	5
Row 28	P5.	5
Row 29	Ssk, k to end.	4
Row 30	P4.	4
Row 31	Ssk, k2tog.	2
Row 32	P2.	2
Row 33	K2tog. Cut yarn and draw through final st.	1

Green crest shell B - make 1 in Yarn A

Worked flat. CO 12 sts. On RS rows, the inner/front edge is at the end of the row.

Row	Instruction	Count
Row 1	K12.	12
Row 2	P12.	12
Row 3	K12.	12
Row 4	P12.	12
Row 5	Kfb, k to last st, kfb.	14
Row 6	P14.	14
Row 7	K to last 2 sts, k2tog.	13
Row 8	P13.	13
Row 9	K13.	13
Row 10	P13.	13
Row 11	K to last 2 sts, k2tog.	12
Row 12	P12.	12
Row 13	K12.	12
Row 14	P12.	12
Row 15	Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog.	10
Row 16	P10.	10
Row 17	K10.	10
Row 18	P10.	10
Row 19	K to last 2 sts, k2tog.	9
Row 20	P9.	9
Row 21	K9.	9
Row 22	P9.	9
Row 23	K to last 2 sts, k2tog.	8
Row 24	P8.	8
Row 25	Ssk, k to last 2 sts, k2tog.	6
Row 26	P6.	6
Row 27	K to last 2 sts, k2tog.	5
Row 28	P5.	5
Row 29	K to last 2 sts, k2tog.	4
Row 30	P4.	4
Row 31	Ssk, k2tog.	2
Row 32	P2.	2
Row 33	K2tog. Cut yarn and draw through final st.	1

Cream crest inset A - make 1 in Yarn B

Worked flat. CO 6 sts. The smooth RS will face outward. The inner/front edge is at the beginning of RS rows.

Row	Instruction	Count
Row 1	K6.	6
Row 2	P6.	6
Row 3	Kfb, k4, kfb.	8
Rows 4-14	Work in St st.	8
Row 15	Ssk, k6.	7
Rows 16-18	Work in St st.	7

Row	Instruction	Count
Row 19	Ssk, k5.	6
Rows 20-22	Work in St st.	6
Row 23	Ssk, k2, k2tog.	4
Row 24	P4.	4
Row 25	Ssk, k2tog.	2
Row 26	P2.	2

BO 2 sts loosely, leaving a 35 cm / 14 in sewing tail.

Cream crest inset B - make 1 in Yarn B

Worked flat. CO 6 sts. The smooth RS will face outward. The inner/front edge is at the end of RS rows.

Row	Instruction	Count
Row 1	K6.	6
Row 2	P6.	6
Row 3	Kfb, k4, kfb.	8
Rows 4-14	Work in St st.	8
Row 15	K6, k2tog.	7
Rows 16-18	Work in St st.	7
Row 19	K5, k2tog.	6
Rows 20-22	Work in St st.	6
Row 23	Ssk, k2, k2tog.	4
Row 24	P4.	4
Row 25	Ssk, k2tog.	2
Row 26	P2.	2

BO 2 sts loosely, leaving a 35 cm / 14 in sewing tail.

Assemble the crest

1. Lay each green crest shell RS up and match the corresponding mirrored cream inset to it. Position the inset with its CO edge approximately 1 cm / 0.4 in above the green CO edge. Follow the sweep of the inner/front curve and keep a visible green border around the cream inset, including at the shaped tip.
2. Pin the inset flat. Sew around its perimeter with small whip or ladder stitches, catching only shallow loops of the green fabric so the seam does not show strongly on the opposite side.
3. Place green shells together with WS facing inward and RS facing outward. Match Row 1 to Row 1 and the shaped tips exactly. Use mattress stitch along the inner/front and outer/back edges. Leave the 12-st CO base of each panel open.
4. Add a small amount of stuffing through the open base. The crest should stay slim and gently curved, not rounded like a tube. Keep the final 1 cm / 0.4 in at the base soft for sewing.
5. Use the shell yarn tails to neaten the tip and secure all ends inside.

6. Tail

Use Yarn A. Work from the open body end toward the tip. CO 32 sts, leaving a 45 cm / 18 in sewing tail. Join without twisting and place BOR on the underside. The CO edge remains open for attachment to the body.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
Rnd 1	Knit.	32
Rnd 2	Knit.	32
Rnd 3	Knit.	32
Rnd 4	Knit.	32
Rnd 5	Knit.	32
Rnd 6	Knit.	32
Rnd 7	(K6, k2tog) 4 times.	28
Rnd 8	Knit.	28
Rnd 9	Knit.	28
Rnd 10	Knit.	28
Rnd 11	Knit.	28
Rnd 12	Knit.	28
Rnd 13	Knit.	28
Rnd 14	(K5, k2tog) 4 times.	24
Rnd 15	Knit.	24
Rnd 16	Knit.	24
Rnd 17	Knit.	24
Rnd 18	Knit.	24
Rnd 19	Knit.	24
Rnd 20	Knit.	24
Rnd 21	(K4, k2tog) 4 times.	20
Rnd 22	Knit.	20
Rnd 23	Knit.	20
Rnd 24	Knit.	20
Rnd 25	Knit.	20
Rnd 26	Knit.	20
Rnd 27	Knit.	20
Rnd 28	(K3, k2tog) 4 times.	16
Rnd 29	Knit.	16
Rnd 30	Knit.	16
Rnd 31	Knit.	16
Rnd 32	Knit.	16
Rnd 33	Knit.	16
Rnd 34	Knit.	16
Rnd 35	(K2, k2tog) 4 times.	12
Rnd 36	Knit.	12
Rnd 37	Knit.	12
Rnd 38	Knit.	12

Rnd	Instruction	Count
Rnd 39	Knit.	12
Rnd 40	Knit.	12
Rnd 41	(K1, k2tog) 4 times.	8
Rnd 42	Knit.	8
Rnd 43	Knit.	8
Rnd 44	Knit.	8
Rnd 45	K2tog 4 times.	4

Begin stuffing after Rnd 20. Pack the first 8-10 rounds firmly so the tail base can support its own weight. Use progressively less stuffing toward the tip so the taper remains smooth and flexible. After Rnd 45, cut yarn, draw through the final 4 sts and close the tip completely. The 32-st CO base stays open.

7. Hind Legs and Feet

Upper hind legs - make 2 in Yarn A

Each upper leg is a closed stuffed pod. CO 8 sts, leaving a 20 cm / 8 in tail. Join in the round. After Rnd 3, use the CO tail to close the cast-on opening completely.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
Rnd 1	Knit.	8
Rnd 2	Kfb in every st.	16
Rnd 3	(K1, kfb) 8 times.	24
Rnd 4	(K2, kfb) 8 times.	32
Rnd 5	Knit.	32
Rnd 6	Knit.	32
Rnd 7	Knit.	32
Rnd 8	Knit.	32
Rnd 9	Knit.	32
Rnd 10	Knit.	32
Rnd 11	Knit.	32
Rnd 12	Knit.	32
Rnd 13	Knit.	32
Rnd 14	(K2, k2tog) 8 times.	24
Rnd 15	(K1, k2tog) 8 times.	16
Rnd 16	K2tog 8 times.	8

Stuff firmly after Rnd 13, shaping the piece into a slightly elongated oval. After Rnd 16, cut yarn, draw through the final 8 sts, close completely and secure.

Feet - make 2 in Yarn A

Work from the open ankle toward the toe. CO 16 sts, leaving a 35 cm / 14 in sewing tail. Join in the round and place BOR on the sole. Do not close the CO edge; it is the ankle opening.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
Rnd 1	Knit.	16
Rnd 2	Knit.	16
Rnd 3	(K3, kfb) 4 times.	20
Rnd 4	Knit.	20
Rnd 5	Knit.	20
Rnd 6	Knit.	20
Rnd 7	Knit.	20
Rnd 8	Knit.	20
Rnd 9	(K4, kfb) 4 times.	24
Rnd 10	Knit.	24
Rnd 11	Knit.	24
Rnd 12	Knit.	24
Rnd 13	Knit.	24
Rnd 14	(K4, k2tog) 4 times.	20
Rnd 15	(K3, k2tog) 4 times.	16

Rnd	Instruction	Count
Rnd 16	K2tog 8 times.	8
Rnd 17	K2tog 4 times.	4

After Rnd 13, stuff the foot moderately, keeping the sole flatter than the top. Add final stuffing before Rnd 16. After Rnd 17, cut yarn, draw through the final 4 sts and close the toe. Leave the 16-st ankle opening accessible for sewing to the thigh.

8. Arms

Make 2 in Yarn A. Work from the hand tip to the shoulder. CO 8 sts, leaving a 20 cm / 8 in tail. Join in the round. After Rnd 3, thread the CO tail through the 8 cast-on edge loops, close the hand-tip opening completely and secure inside.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
Rnd 1	Knit.	8
Rnd 2	Knit.	8
Rnd 3	Knit.	8
Rnd 4	(K1, kfb) 4 times.	12
Rnd 5	Knit.	12
Rnd 6	Knit.	12
Rnd 7	Knit.	12
Rnd 8	Knit.	12
Rnd 9	(K2, kfb) 4 times.	16
Rnd 10	Knit.	16
Rnd 11	Knit.	16
Rnd 12	Knit.	16
Rnd 13	Knit.	16

After Rnd 13, stuff lightly, keeping the shoulder end soft. BO 16 sts loosely and leave a 35 cm / 14 in sewing tail. Flatten the BO opening so 8 front stitches and 8 back stitches lie together. During attachment, every sewing stitch must pass through both flattened arm layers before entering the body.

9. Belly and Throat Patch

Use Yarn B. Worked flat in St st from the lower belly toward the throat. CO 8 sts. The smooth RS will face outward.

Row	Instruction	Count
Row 1	K8.	8
Row 2	P8.	8
Row 3	Kfb, k6, kfb.	10
Row 4	P10.	10
Row 5	Kfb, k8, kfb.	12
Row 6	P12.	12
Row 7	Kfb, k10, kfb.	14
Row 8	P14.	14
Row 9	K14.	14
Row 10	P14.	14
Row 11	K14.	14
Row 12	P14.	14
Row 13	K14.	14
Row 14	P14.	14
Row 15	K14.	14
Row 16	P14.	14
Row 17	K14.	14
Row 18	P14.	14
Row 19	K14.	14
Row 20	P14.	14
Row 21	K14.	14
Row 22	P14.	14
Row 23	K14.	14
Row 24	P14.	14
Row 25	K14.	14
Row 26	P14.	14
Row 27	Ssk, k10, k2tog.	12
Row 28	P12.	12
Row 29	K12.	12
Row 30	P12.	12
Row 31	K12.	12
Row 32	P12.	12
Row 33	K12.	12
Row 34	P12.	12
Row 35	Ssk, k8, k2tog.	10
Row 36	P10.	10
Row 37	K10.	10
Row 38	P10.	10
Row 39	K10.	10

Row	Instruction	Count
Row 40	P10.	10
Row 41	K10.	10
Row 42	P10.	10
Row 43	Ssk, k6, k2tog.	8
Row 44	P8.	8
Row 45	K8.	8
Row 46	P8.	8
Row 47	K8.	8
Row 48	P8.	8
Row 49	K8.	8
Row 50	P8.	8
Row 51	K8.	8
Row 52	P8.	8

After Row 52, BO 8 sts loosely, leaving a 60 cm / 24 in sewing tail. Lightly block or smooth the patch flat according to the yarn care instructions before pinning. Do not stretch it longer than the body/neck route.

10. Nose and Claws

Brown nose - make 1 in Yarn C

CO 6 sts, leaving a 25 cm / 10 in tail. Join in the round.

Rnd	Instruction	Count
Rnd 1	Kfb in every st.	12
Rnd 2	Knit.	12
Rnd 3	(K1, kfb) 6 times.	18
Rnd 4	Knit.	18
Rnd 5	Knit.	18
Rnd 6	(K1, k2tog) 6 times.	12
Rnd 7	K2tog 6 times.	6

After Rnd 2, use the CO tail to close the cast-on opening. Add a small amount of stuffing after Rnd 5. After Rnd 7, cut yarn, draw through the final 6 sts and close completely. Shape into a low oval rather than a round ball.

Foot claws - make 6 in Yarn C

Use 4-st I-cord. After each row, do not turn; slide the sts to the opposite needle tip, bring the yarn firmly across the back and knit the next row.

Row	Instruction	Count
Row 1	K4; slide sts without turning.	4
Row 2	K4; slide sts without turning.	4
Row 3	K4; slide sts without turning.	4
Row 4	K2tog twice.	2

Cut yarn, draw through the final 2 sts and secure. Leave the CO tail for sewing the claw to the foot. Do not stuff.

Hand claws - make 4 in Yarn C

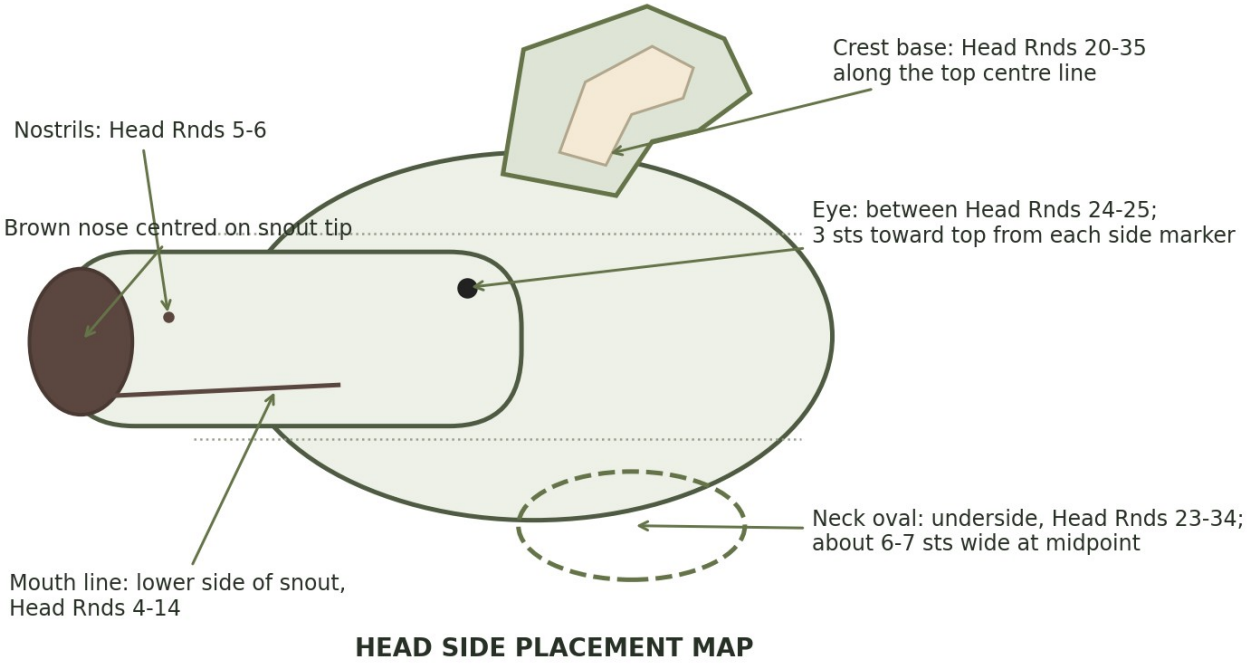
Use 3-st I-cord, sliding the sts without turning after each row.

Row	Instruction	Count
Row 1	K3; slide sts without turning.	3
Row 2	K3; slide sts without turning.	3
Row 3	K2tog, k1.	2

Cut yarn, draw through the final 2 sts and secure. Leave the CO tail for sewing. Do not stuff.

11. Placement Maps

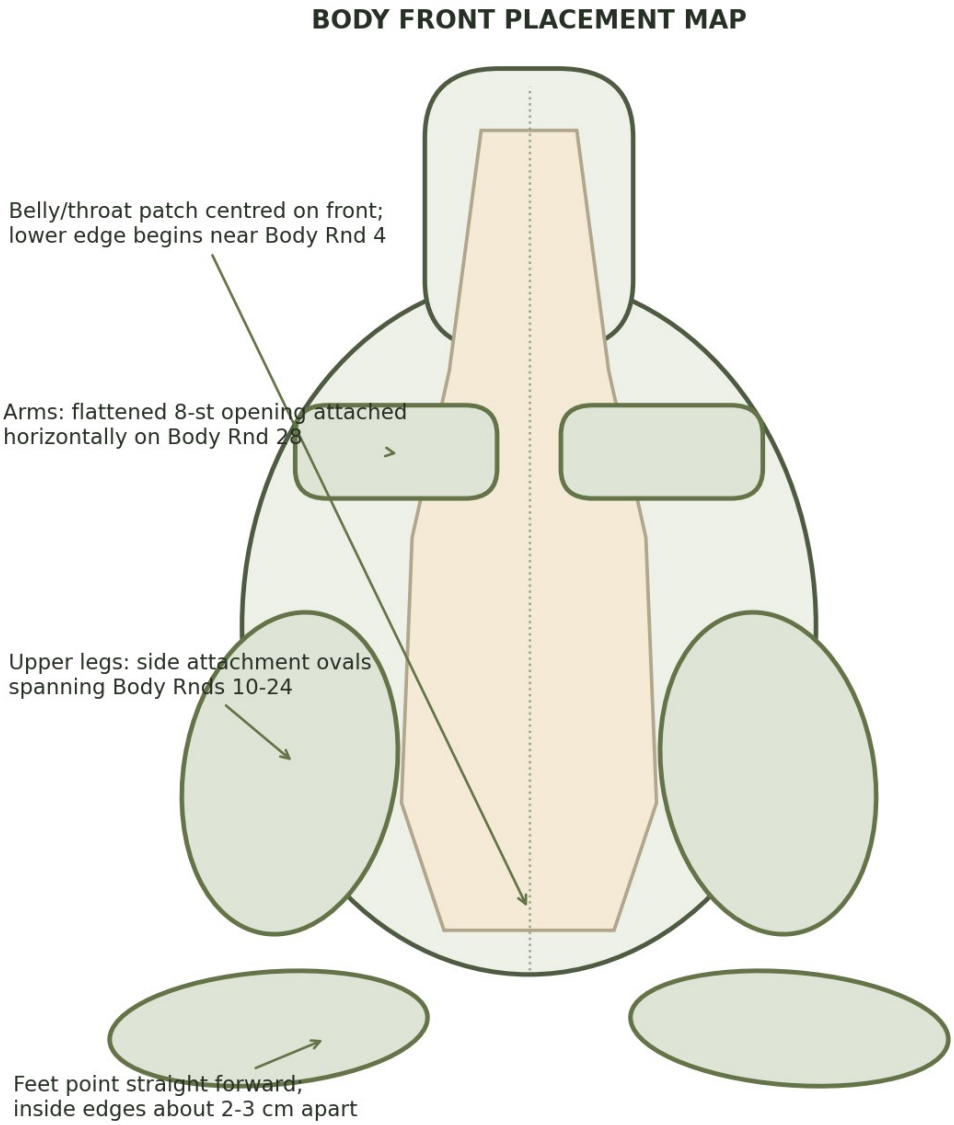
Use the round positions below as practical placement guides. Knitted fabric and stuffing can shift a seam slightly, so pin every part first and make small adjustments only to improve symmetry and balance. Keep right and left placements mirrored.



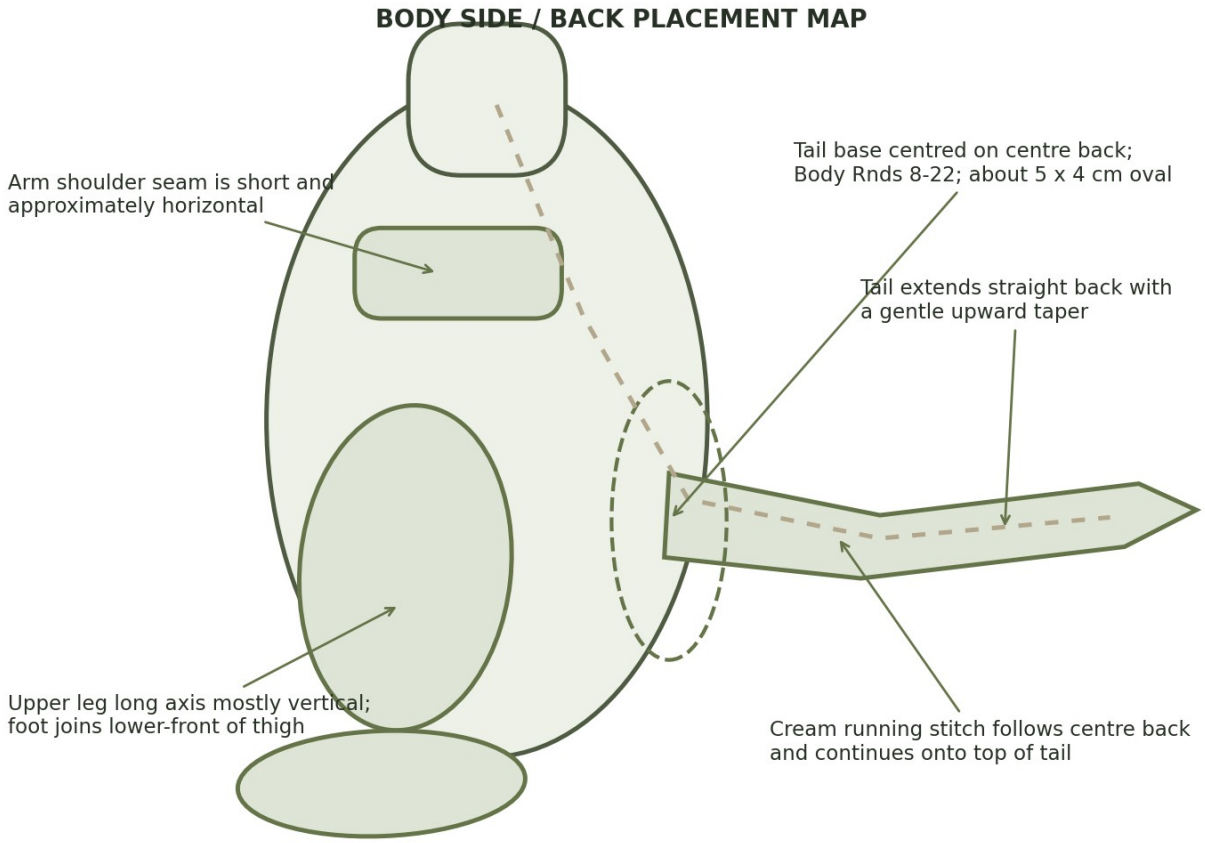
Head side placement map. All Head round numbers refer to the written head pattern.

Head and face placement

Feature	Placement
Eyes	Between Head Rnds 24-25. On the 48-st section, each eye sits 3 sts toward the top-centre guide from its side-centre marker.
Brown nose	Centred on the fully closed snout tip; sew as a low horizontal oval.
Nostrils	One on each upper side of the snout at about Head Rnds 5-6, approximately 1 cm / 0.4 in behind the brown nose.
Mouth	A shallow dark-brown backstitch line on each lower side of the snout from the edge of the nose toward about Head Rnd 14.
Crest base	Centred on the top line of the head, spanning approximately Head Rnds 20-35. Inner/front curved edge faces the snout; tip leans backward.
Neck attachment	Underside oval centred on BOR, spanning approximately Head Rnds 23-34 and about 6-7 sts wide at its midpoint.



Front placement map. The centre-front line is directly opposite the body BOR/centre-back line.



Side/back placement map. The tail opening is sewn to a body oval that matches the 32-st base without gathering.

Body, limbs and tail placement

Piece	Placement
Belly/throat patch	Centre on the front. Place the lower CO edge near Body Rnd 4. The 14-st wide section covers the lower/mid belly; the tapered upper section runs straight up the neck and finishes on the head underside just in front of the neck seam.
Tail	Centre on the body BOR/centre-back line. Pin the 32-st open base around a vertical oval spanning about Body Rnds 8-22 and measuring about 5 cm / 2 in high by 4 cm / 1.6 in wide.
Upper hind legs	Centre one on each visual side line, spanning approximately Body Rnds 10-24. Keep the long axis mostly vertical and shift the lower end slightly forward.
Feet	Attach each open ankle to the lower-front portion of its thigh. Toes point straight forward. When standing, keep the inside edges of the feet about 2-3 cm / 0.8-1.2 in apart.
Arms	Attach the flattened 8-st-wide shoulder opening horizontally along Body Rnd 28. Centre each arm on the corresponding side line, with the hand pointing forward and slightly downward.

12. Assembly

1. Finish the face

1. Sew the brown nose to the closed snout tip with small ladder stitches around its edge. Keep it centred and slightly flattened.
2. With Yarn C, embroider one small nostril on each upper side of the snout at Head Rnds 5-6. Use 2-3 short satin stitches for each nostril.
3. With Yarn C, backstitch a shallow mouth line from each lower side of the nose toward about Head Rnd 14. Keep both sides at the same height and avoid pulling the stitches tight enough to dent the snout.
4. Check the eye level, nose centre and mouth symmetry from the front and top.

2. Attach the crest to the head

1. Pin the open crest base along the head top-centre line from about Head Rnd 20 to Rnd 35. The inner/front curved edge faces the snout; the longer outer edge faces the back of the head.
2. Tilt the crest backward so the tip curves over the rear of the head rather than standing vertically.
3. Using Yarn A and a whip stitch, sew through one open base edge loop of the crest, then through a shallow head stitch directly below. Alternate from side to side so the base stays centred. Add or remove a small amount of crest stuffing before closing the last 2 cm / 0.8 in.
4. Secure the seam and bury the yarn inside the head.

3. Attach head to neck

1. Mark an oval on the underside of the head spanning approximately Head Rnds 23-34 and about 6-7 sts wide at its midpoint.
2. Pin the 24-st BO neck edge evenly around this oval without gathering. Position the head so the snout points forward with a slight upward lift and the crest remains centred over the spine.
3. Use the body sewing tail and a firm whip or ladder stitch. Pass through one neck edge stitch, then through a shallow head loop along the marked oval. Work around the full opening.
4. Before the final 3 cm / 1.2 in are closed, adjust stuffing in the neck and head so the neck supports the head without a hollow gap. Finish the seam and bury the tail.

4. Sew on the belly/throat patch

1. Find centre front directly opposite the body BOR. Pin the patch CO edge near Body Rnd 4 and keep the patch centred as it runs upward.
2. Let the 14-st section cover the rounded belly. Follow the natural taper through the upper body and neck. The final 8-st section should reach the head underside just in front of the neck seam.
3. Check that equal amounts of green fabric remain visible on both sides from the front view.
4. Using Yarn B, sew around the patch with small whip or ladder stitches taken just inside the patch edge. Catch only shallow loops of the green fabric. Do not overtighten or the patch will ripple.

5. Attach the tail

1. Pin the 32-st tail CO edge around the centre-back oval spanning approximately Body Rnds 8-22. Match the tail underside BOR to the lower centre of the oval and the tail top to the upper centre.
2. The tail should project backward with a gentle upward line rather than hanging downward. Check from the side and top before sewing.
3. Use Yarn A and whip stitch through each tail CO edge loop and a shallow body loop. Do not gather the tail base; the full edge should be distributed around the oval.
4. Add a little stuffing at the base before the final section is closed if needed for support, then secure and bury the tail.

6. Assemble each hind leg unit

1. Pin one 16-st open foot ankle to the lower-front surface of one stuffed upper thigh. The foot BOR/sole faces downward and the toe points forward.
2. Use the foot sewing tail and whip stitch around the ankle ring, passing through one ankle edge loop and one shallow loop of the thigh. Add final foot stuffing before closing the last 2 cm / 0.8 in.

3. Sew 3 brown foot claws across the front of the toe. Space them evenly, with the centre claw pointing straight forward and the outer claws angled slightly outward.
4. Repeat for the second leg, mirroring the foot angle.

7. Attach the hind legs to the body

1. Pin each upper thigh to a side attachment oval spanning Body Rnds 10-24. Keep the long axis mostly vertical and the lower end slightly forward.
2. Set the dinosaur on a flat surface while pinned. Adjust both legs until the feet sit level, point forward and carry the body without twisting. Keep the inner foot edges about 2-3 cm / 0.8-1.2 in apart.
3. Using Yarn A, sew each thigh to the body with ladder stitch around the full contact oval. Take matching shallow bites from the thigh and body so the seam closes neatly without flattening the thigh.
4. Recheck standing balance before burying the final yarn tails.

8. Finish and attach the arms

1. Sew 2 brown hand claws to the closed tip of each arm, spacing them side by side. Keep them small and slightly forward-facing.
2. Flatten each 16-st BO shoulder opening so 8 front sts and 8 back sts lie together.
3. Pin the flattened opening approximately horizontally along Body Rnd 28, centred on the side line. Angle the arm so the hand points forward and slightly downward.
4. With the arm sewing tail, pass the needle through both flattened arm layers, then through a shallow body stitch. Repeat across the full 8-st width. This two-layer attachment keeps the arm from twisting.
5. Mirror the second arm carefully before securing either seam completely.

13. Decorative Cream Running Stitch

Use Yarn B doubled on the tapestry needle for a clearly visible hand-sewn accent. Keep the stitches relaxed so they sit on the surface without pulling the knitted fabric inward. Aim for running stitches about 5-7 mm / 0.2-0.3 in long with similar gaps.

1. Head/neck: work a ring of cream running stitch around the head-to-neck seam.
2. Crest: work a line of running stitch just inside the green outer edge on both crest sides, following the curved silhouette without crossing onto the cream inset.
3. Arms: outline each shoulder attachment with a short ring of running stitch.
4. Hind legs: outline the upper thigh attachment seam where it meets the body.
5. Belly/throat patch: work a continuous cream running-stitch outline through the green fabric immediately outside the visible edge of the cream belly/throat applique. Follow both sides from the lower belly upward through the throat to the head underside, keeping the stitch length and spacing consistent with the other decorative running stitch.
6. Back and tail: begin at the nape on the centre-back line, run the stitches straight down the spine to the tail root, then continue along the top centre of the tail to within about 2 cm / 0.8 in of the tip.
7. If desired, add one short cream accent line along the upper edge of each thigh/foot join, keeping both sides mirrored.

Secure all decorative yarn ends inside the nearest stuffed piece and bury them well. Remove all temporary placement markers and basting guides.

14. Final Visual Checklist

[ ] Eyes are level, evenly spaced and sit at the same height on the head.

[ ] Brown nose is centred on the snout tip; nostrils and mouth lines are mirrored.

[ ] Head sits straight on the neck without leaning or twisting.

[ ] Crest is centred, slim, curved backward and has matching cream insets on both sides.

[ ] Belly/throat patch is centred from lower body to head underside with no ripples.

[ ] Arms are attached at matching heights and point forward/downward at the same angle.

[ ] Upper legs are mirrored and feet point forward rather than inward or outward.

[ ] Three claws are secure on each foot and two claws are secure on each hand.

[ ] Tail is centred on the back, supported at the base and tapers smoothly to a closed tip.

[ ] Cream running stitch is evenly spaced and follows the intended seams, centre-back line and visible perimeter of the belly/throat patch.

[ ] No stuffing is visible through the fabric or at seams.

[ ] Every opening is closed or fully incorporated into an attachment seam.

[ ] No markers, loose yarn tails or exposed knots remain.

[ ] The dinosaur stands with both feet flat and the body balanced between the hind legs.

15. Troubleshooting

Problem	Practical correction
Stuffing shows through	Check the 22-st gauge. Use a smaller needle or slightly firmer tension. Add stuffing in smaller pieces rather than forcing a large clump against the fabric.
Finished dinosaur is too large or small	Recheck both stitch and round gauge. A stitch-gauge difference changes circumference; a round-gauge difference changes length. Keep Yarn A and Yarn B at similar gauge so the cream panels fit.
Head droops forward	Add firmer stuffing to the upper body and lower neck. If needed, reopen a small section of the neck seam, add support stuffing, and resew the head slightly deeper onto the underside oval.
Head twists to one side	Check that the neck opening was distributed evenly around the underside oval and that the crest is centred. Re-pin the head using the body BOR and head top-centre guide as alignment references.
Crest looks puffy instead of slim	Remove stuffing from the crest. It needs only enough filling to stop the two shell layers collapsing. Press the seam flat with your fingers as you restitch the base.
Crest twists	Confirm that shell A and shell B have identical row counts and that Row 1 edges were matched before seaming. The inner/front decreased edges must face each other along the snout side.
Eyes look uneven	Use the side-centre and top-centre guides. The eye centres should be mirrored 3 sts toward the top from the two side markers on the 48-st section.
Snout looks too round	Move stuffing away from Head Rnds 1-12 and into the cheek/cranium area. The early snout rounds should be moderately filled, not packed hard.
Tail droops	Firm the first 8-10 tail rounds and make sure the 32-st base is sewn around the full Body Rnds 8-22 oval without gathering. A wider, well-supported base holds the tail higher.
Feet do not sit flat	Redistribute foot stuffing toward the top and toe, keeping the sole flatter. Re-pin the ankle slightly farther forward on the thigh before resewing.
One leg looks higher	Set the dinosaur on a flat surface with both thighs pinned. Match the upper attachment span on Body Rnds 10-24 and adjust before sewing the second thigh completely.
Belly patch ripples	Do not stretch the patch while sewing. Pin the centre line first, then both long edges, and use shallow ladder stitches with relaxed tension.
Seam gaps appear	Take slightly closer sewing bites and add a small amount of stuffing behind the join. Avoid pulling so tightly that the surrounding stockinette puckers.
Decorative running stitch looks uneven	Mark light guide points with removable pins at regular intervals before stitching. Keep stitch length and gap length visually consistent rather than pulling each stitch tight.

16. Quick Reference

Piece	Qty	Key count	Length
Body/neck	1	56 sts max; 24-st neck opening	Body Rnds 1-52
Head	1	48 sts max	Head Rnds 1-38
Crest shells	2 mirrored	14 sts max	33 rows each
Crest insets	2 mirrored	8 sts max	26 rows each
Tail	1	32-st open base	45 rnds
Upper hind legs	2	32 sts max	16 rnds each
Feet	2	16-st open ankle; 24 sts max	17 rnds each
Arms	2	16-st flattened shoulder	13 rnds each
Belly/throat patch	1	14 sts max	52 rows
Nose	1	18 sts max	7 rnds
Foot claws	6	4-st I-cord	4 rows each
Hand claws	4	3-st I-cord	3 rows each

Key placement summary

- Eyes: Head Rnds 24-25, mirrored 3 sts toward top from each side-centre guide.
- Crest: top centre of Head Rnds 20-35.
- Neck-to-head seam: underside Head Rnds 23-34, about 6-7 sts wide at midpoint.
- Tail: centre back, Body Rnds 8-22, about 5 x 4 cm / 2 x 1.6 in oval.
- Upper legs: side ovals spanning Body Rnds 10-24.
- Arms: horizontal flattened seams on Body Rnd 28.
- Belly patch: lower edge near Body Rnd 4, centred on front and continuing to head underside.

FINAL SHAPING: Before the final yarn ends are buried, stand the dinosaur on a flat surface and make the last small adjustments to head angle, foot position and tail lift. Small placement changes are easiest while seams are still accessible.

Perry the Parasaurolophus is complete.