PERRY THE PARASAUROLOPHUS

Free Knitting Pattern

A softly sculpted crested dinosaur with a cream belly, curved head crest, long tail and sturdy feet



Skill level: Intermediate

1. Introduction

This pattern makes a standing Parasaurolophus-style knitted dinosaur with a rounded pear-shaped body, elongated head, backward-sweeping crest, compact arms, sturdy hind legs and a long tapered tail. The main green pieces are worked in stockinette in the round, while the cream belly, jaw/throat and tail-underside panels are worked flat and sewn in place. Small I-cord claws and cream running-stitch details complete the look.

The shaping is straightforward, but the project uses several small pieces, deliberate placement and careful assembly. Confident beginners who are comfortable knitting in the round can work through it slowly; intermediate knitters should find the construction familiar.

Finished Project Views



2. Finished Size

Measurement	Approximate finished size
Overall height	Approximately 30-32 cm / 11.75-12.5 in, including crest
Nose to tail tip	Approximately 40-43 cm / 15.75-17 in
Widest body width	Approximately 10-11 cm / 4-4.25 in
Head length	Approximately 12-13 cm / 4.75-5 in
Crest length	Approximately 14-15 cm / 5.5-6 in along the outer curve
Tail length	Approximately 15-16 cm / 6-6.25 in
Thigh height	Approximately 6-7 cm / 2.25-2.75 in
Foot length	Approximately 5-5.5 cm / 2-2.25 in
Arm length	Approximately 5-5.5 cm / 2-2.25 in

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

3. Materials and Tools

- Smooth worsted or light aran weight yarn (approximately 90-110 m / 98-120 yd per 50 g is a useful range).
- Color A - olive green: approximately 160-180 m / 175-197 yd.
- Color B - warm cream: approximately 55-65 m / 60-71 yd.
- Color C - dark brown: approximately 8-10 m / 9-11 yd.
- 3.25 mm knitting needles suitable for small circumferences: DPNs, or a circular needle long enough for magic loop.
- 3.25 mm straight or circular needle for the flat cream panels.
- Two 12 mm black safety eyes, or black embroidery yarn for stitched eyes.
- Polyester fiberfill, approximately 120-150 g.
- Tapestry needle, locking stitch markers, removable contrast yarn for guidelines, pins, scissors and measuring tape.

4. Safety Note

Safety eyes and other small or rigid components may not be suitable for projects intended for children under three years. Embroidered eyes can be used instead. Secure all yarn tails and attachments carefully, and choose materials appropriate for the intended use of the finished toy.

5. Gauge and Tension

22 sts x 30 rnds = 10 x 10 cm / 4 x 4 in in stockinette worked in the round with 3.25 mm needles, measured unstretched.

For the flat panels, aim for approximately 22 sts x 30 rows = 10 x 10 cm / 4 x 4 in in stockinette.

Tension for stuffed pieces

Use a firm, dense fabric so stuffing does not show between stitches. If your fabric is loose at the stated gauge, move down a needle size and recheck the fabric before beginning the main pieces.

6. Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Meaning
BO	bind off
BOR	beginning of round
CB	centre back
CF	centre front
CO	cast on
DPN/DPNs	double-pointed needle/needles
k	knit
k2tog	knit 2 stitches together; 1 stitch decreased
kfb	knit into the front and back of the same stitch; 1 stitch increased
p	purl
rnd/rnds	round/rounds
RS	right side
ssk	slip 1 knitwise, slip 1 knitwise, knit the slipped stitches together through the back loops; 1 stitch decreased
st/sts	stitch/stitches
WS	wrong side

7. Method and Orientation

All 3D green pieces are knitted in stockinette in the round unless stated otherwise. Knit every stitch of every plain round. The cream belly, jaw/throat and tail-underside panels are worked flat in stockinette: knit RS rows and purl WS rows.

Right and left are described from the finished dinosaur's point of view. The body BOR sits at centre back. The head BOR sits along the centre underside. The tail BOR sits along the underside. Keep these markers aligned as you work so the placement instructions remain easy to follow.

After the body is knitted, use a length of removable contrast yarn to mark a centre-front (CF) guideline directly opposite the body BOR from the lower belly to the top of the neck. Mark the right and left side axes halfway between CF and centre back. These simple vertical guides are used for limb placement.

I-cord method used for claws: knit the stated stitches, do not turn, slide them to the other end of the DPN, bring the working yarn firmly across the back, and knit the stitches again. Repeat for the stated number of rows.

8. Construction Overview

Piece	Make / treatment
Body	Make 1. Work lower pole to neck; fully stuff and close the top.
Cream belly panel	Make 1 flat. Block flat, then sew to the body front.
Head	Make 1. Work nose to rear; install safety eyes or mark embroidered-eye positions before closing, then stuff firmly and close.
Cream jaw/throat panel	Make 1 flat. Sew to the head underside.
Crest	Make 1. Work open base to closed tip; lightly stuff, shape the curve with underside tacking, then sew the open base to the head.

Piece	Make / treatment
Tail	Make 1. Work open root to closed tip; stuff gradually and keep the root open for attachment.
Cream tail underside panel	Make 1 flat in Color B. Block flat and sew centred along the tail underside before attaching the tail to the body.
Thighs	Make 2. Work lower pole to open top; stuff and sew the open top around side-body attachment ovals.
Feet	Make 2. Work toe to open ankle; add toe claws, lightly stuff, flatten the ankle edge and sew to the lower front of each thigh.
Arms	Make 2. Work paw to open shoulder; add hand claws, lightly stuff, flatten the shoulder edge and sew horizontally to the upper body.
Toe claws	Make 6 in brown I-cord; unstuffed.
Hand claws	Make 4 in brown I-cord; unstuffed.
Face and decorative stitching	Embroider the nose, then add cream running-stitch accents after assembly.

Recommended assembly order

Work all knitted pieces in the order given, following the stuffing and closure instructions within each piece -> block all flat cream panels -> sew the cream belly panel -> complete the face -> sew the cream jaw/throat panel and cream tail-underside panel -> shape and attach the crest -> attach the head -> attach the tail -> build and attach the hind legs -> attach the arms -> add decorative running stitch -> final shaping and checks.

9. Written Pattern

9.1 Body - Color A

Worked in the round from the lower pole to the neck. CO 8 sts, leaving a 25 cm / 10 in tail. Join without twisting and place BOR at centre back.

Rnd 1: Knit. **(8 sts)**
Rnd 2: Kfb in each st around. **(16 sts)**
Rnd 3: Knit. After completing this round, thread the cast-on tail through the 8 cast-on edge loops at the lower pole, pull the opening fully closed, secure firmly on the inside and leave the remaining tail inside the body. **(16 sts)**
Rnd 4: (K1, kfb) 8 times. **(24 sts)**
Rnd 5: Knit. **(24 sts)**
Rnd 6: (K2, kfb) 8 times. **(32 sts)**
Rnd 7: Knit. **(32 sts)**
Rnd 8: (K3, kfb) 8 times. **(40 sts)**
Rnd 9: Knit. **(40 sts)**
Rnd 10: (K4, kfb) 8 times. **(48 sts)**
Rnd 11: Knit. **(48 sts)**
Rnd 12: (K5, kfb) 8 times. **(56 sts)**
Rnd 13: Knit. **(56 sts)**
Rnd 14: (K6, kfb) 8 times. **(64 sts)**
Rnds 15-34: Knit every round. **(64 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 35: (K6, k2tog) 8 times. **(56 sts)**
Rnds 36-38: Knit. **(56 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 39: (K5, k2tog) 8 times. **(48 sts)**
Rnds 40-42: Knit. **(48 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 43: (K4, k2tog) 8 times. **(40 sts)**
Rnds 44-46: Knit. **(40 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 47: (K3, k2tog) 8 times. **(32 sts)**
Rnds 48-50: Knit. **(32 sts each rnd)**

Rnd 51: (K2, k2tog) 8 times. **(24 sts)**
Rnds 52-60: Knit. Begin stuffing after Rnd 54. Stuff the lower body firmly, keep the base broad rather than ball-shaped, and keep the upper neck moderately firm. **(24 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 61: (K1, k2tog) 8 times. **(16 sts)**
Rnd 62: Knit. Add final stuffing now, especially through the shoulders and neck. **(16 sts)**
Rnd 63: K2tog 8 times. Cut yarn, leaving a 20 cm / 8 in tail. Thread the tail through the remaining stitches, draw fully closed, secure and bury the tail inside. **(8 sts)**
Shape the stuffed body into a pear silhouette: broad through the lower belly and hips, narrower through the chest and neck. The closed lower pole should sit slightly forward of the centre so the feet can support the dinosaur without the body tipping backward.

9.2 Cream Belly Panel - Color B

Worked flat from the lower belly upward. CO 8 sts.

Row 1 (WS): Purl. **(8 sts)**
Row 2 (RS): K1, kfb, knit to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. **(10 sts)**
Row 3 (WS): Purl. **(10 sts)**
Row 4 (RS): K1, kfb, knit to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. **(12 sts)**
Row 5 (WS): Purl. **(12 sts)**
Row 6 (RS): K1, kfb, knit to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. **(14 sts)**
Row 7 (WS): Purl. **(14 sts)**
Row 8 (RS): K1, kfb, knit to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. **(16 sts)**
Rows 9-29: Work in stockinette, beginning and ending with a WS row. **(16 sts each row)**
Row 30 (RS): K1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. **(14 sts)**
Rows 31-33: Work in stockinette, beginning and ending with a WS row. **(14 sts each row)**
Row 34 (RS): K1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. **(12 sts)**
Rows 35-37: Work in stockinette, beginning and ending with a WS row. **(12 sts each row)**
Row 38 (RS): K1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. **(10 sts)**
Rows 39-41: Work in stockinette, beginning and ending with a WS row. **(10 sts each row)**
Row 42 (RS): K1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. **(8 sts)**
Rows 43-45: Work in stockinette, beginning and ending with a WS row. **(8 sts each row)**
Row 46 (RS): K1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. **(6 sts)**
Rows 47-54: Work in stockinette, beginning with a WS row and ending with an RS row. **(6 sts each row)**
Row 55 (WS): BO purlwise without pulling the edge tight. **(6 sts bound off)**
Wet-block or gently steam the panel flat using a method suitable for the yarn fibre. Do not stretch it wider than the knitted shape.

9.3 Head - Color A

Worked in the round from the nose tip toward the rear of the head. CO 8 sts, leaving a 20 cm / 8 in tail. Join without twisting and place BOR along the centre underside of the head.

Rnd 1: Knit. **(8 sts)**
Rnd 2: Kfb in each st around. **(16 sts)**
Rnd 3: Knit. Thread the cast-on tail through the 8 cast-on edge loops at the nose tip, pull the opening fully closed, secure on the inside and leave the remaining tail inside the head. **(16 sts)**
Rnd 4: (K1, kfb) 8 times. **(24 sts)**
Rnds 5-7: Knit. **(24 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 8: (K2, kfb) 8 times. **(32 sts)**
Rnds 9-14: Knit. **(32 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 15: (K3, kfb) 8 times. **(40 sts)**
Rnds 16-19: Knit. **(40 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 20: (K4, kfb) 8 times. **(48 sts)**
Rnds 21-26: Knit. Pause after Rnd 26 to install the eyes. **(48 sts each rnd)**

Eye placement

Insert the safety-eye posts between Head Rnds 22-23 at approximately st 15 and st 34 of the 48-st round. These positions are mirrored around the top-centre line. Before adding the washers, check from the front and both sides that the eyes are level and equally spaced. If using embroidered eyes, mark these points now and stitch the eyes after the head is stuffed.

Rnd 27: (K4, k2tog) 8 times. **(40 sts)**
Rnds 28-29: Knit. **(40 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 30: (K3, k2tog) 8 times. **(32 sts)**
Rnds 31-32: Knit. **(32 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 33: (K2, k2tog) 8 times. **(24 sts)**
Rnds 34-35: Knit. Begin stuffing after Rnd 35. Keep the snout firm enough to hold its long shape and round the rear head smoothly. **(24 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 36: (K1, k2tog) 8 times. **(16 sts)**
Rnd 37: Knit. Add final stuffing and check the profile before closing. **(16 sts)**
Rnd 38: K2tog 8 times. Cut yarn, thread through the remaining stitches, draw fully closed, secure and bury the tail. **(8 sts)**

Gently shape the head so the snout is elongated and slightly tapered, the top is softly domed, and the rear head is rounded rather than pointed.

9.4 Cream Jaw and Throat Panel - Color B

Worked flat from the underside of the nose toward the neck. CO 6 sts.

Row 1 (WS): Purl. **(6 sts)**
Row 2 (RS): K1, kfb, knit to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. **(8 sts)**
Row 3 (WS): Purl. **(8 sts)**
Row 4 (RS): K1, kfb, knit to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. **(10 sts)**
Row 5 (WS): Purl. **(10 sts)**
Row 6 (RS): K1, kfb, knit to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. **(12 sts)**
Rows 7-17: Work in stockinette, beginning and ending with a WS row. **(12 sts each row)**
Row 18 (RS): K1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. **(10 sts)**
Rows 19-27: Work in stockinette, beginning and ending with a WS row. **(10 sts each row)**
Row 28 (RS): K1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. **(8 sts)**
Row 29 (WS): Purl. **(8 sts)**
Row 30 (RS): K1, ssk, knit to last 3 sts, k2tog, k1. **(6 sts)**
Rows 31-36: Work in stockinette, beginning with a WS row and ending with an RS row. **(6 sts each row)**
Row 37 (WS): BO purlwise without tightening the edge. **(6 sts bound off)**

Block the panel flat. The wider portion sits under the front half of the snout; the narrower end runs back beneath the throat toward the neck.

9.5 Nose Embroidery - Color C

Using dark brown yarn and a tapestry needle, embroider a small horizontal oval on the upper nose between Head Rnds 5-7. Centre it opposite the BOR, around the top-centre point of the 24-st section. Build the oval with several short satin stitches until it measures approximately 7-9 mm / 0.3 in wide. After completing the nose, run each yarn

tail deeply through the stuffed head for several centimetres, bring it out at a distant point, pull gently and trim so the cut end retracts inside the fabric.

9.6 Crest - Color A

Worked in the round from the open root to the closed tip. CO 24 sts, leaving a 35 cm / 14 in sewing tail. Join without twisting and place BOR along the underside of the crest.

Rnds 1-8: Knit. **(24 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 9: (K4, k2tog) 4 times. **(20 sts)**
Rnds 10-19: Knit. **(20 sts each rnd)**
Rnds 20-26: Knit. Begin adding a small amount of stuffing through the open root; keep the tube lightly filled. **(20 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 27: (K3, k2tog) 4 times. **(16 sts)**
Rnds 28-36: Knit. Continue very light stuffing, keeping the upper half flexible. **(16 sts each rnd)**
Rnds 37-40: Knit. **(16 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 41: (K2, k2tog) 4 times. **(12 sts)**
Rnd 42: K2tog 6 times. **(6 sts)**
Rnd 43: Knit. Cut yarn, thread the tail through the remaining 6 stitches and draw fully closed. **(6 sts)**
Leave the 24-st cast-on root open for attachment.

Shape the Crest Curve

Thread a 45 cm / 18 in strand of Color A onto the tapestry needle. Anchor it securely inside the open root on the crest underside. Working along the underside only, take four shallow basting bites spaced about 2-2.5 cm / 0.75-1 in apart, each bite catching the backs of 2-3 adjacent rounds. Draw the strand gradually until the underside shortens by about 2.5-3 cm / 1-1.25 in and the crest forms a smooth backward arc. Secure the strand inside the root. When positioned on the head, the crest should sweep backward over the nape with the distal tip curving gently downward; the curve should be continuous, not sharply kinked.

9.7 Tail - Color A

Worked in the round from the open root to the tip. CO 32 sts, leaving a 45 cm / 18 in sewing tail. Join without twisting and place BOR along the tail underside.

Rnds 1-4: Knit. **(32 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 5: (K6, k2tog) 4 times. **(28 sts)**
Rnds 6-10: Knit. **(28 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 11: (K5, k2tog) 4 times. **(24 sts)**
Rnds 12-17: Knit. Begin stuffing lightly from the root. **(24 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 18: (K4, k2tog) 4 times. **(20 sts)**
Rnds 19-25: Knit. **(20 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 26: (K3, k2tog) 4 times. **(16 sts)**
Rnds 27-33: Knit. Continue stuffing, keeping the tail flexible rather than rigid. **(16 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 34: (K2, k2tog) 4 times. **(12 sts)**
Rnds 35-40: Knit. Add only a small amount of stuffing toward the narrow section. **(12 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 41: (K1, k2tog) 4 times. **(8 sts)**
Rnds 42-45: Knit. **(8 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 46: K2tog 4 times. Cut yarn, thread through the remaining stitches and draw fully closed. **(4 sts)**
Leave the 32-st cast-on root open. Finish the root stuffing only after the tail is pinned to the body.

9.8 Cream Tail Underside Panel - Color B

Worked flat from the tail root toward the tip. CO 8 sts.

Row 1 (WS): Purl. **(8 sts)**
Rows 2-11: Work in stockinette, ending with a WS row. **(8 sts each row)**
Row 12 (RS): K1, ssk, k2, k2tog, k1. **(6 sts)**
Rows 13-25: Work in stockinette, beginning and ending with a WS row. **(6 sts each row)**
Row 26 (RS): K1, ssk, k2tog, k1. **(4 sts)**
Rows 27-39: Work in stockinette, beginning and ending with a WS row. **(4 sts each row)**
Row 40 (RS): Ssk, k2tog. **(2 sts)**
Rows 41-45: Work in stockinette, beginning and ending with a WS row. **(2 sts each row)**
Row 46 (RS): BO knitwise. **(2 sts bound off)**

Block gently without stretching. Centre the strip directly over the tail underside/BOR, with the 8-st cast-on edge at the tail root and the 2-st end at the tip. Pin the panel from approximately Tail Rnds 1-46 and sew both long edges with Color B using small mattress or ladder stitches. Keep the strip flat and centred without stretching it around the sides of the tail.

9.9 Thighs - Make 2 in Color A

Worked in the round from the lower pole to the open top. For each thigh, CO 8 sts, leaving a 30 cm / 12 in tail. Join without twisting.

Rnd 1: Knit. **(8 sts)**
Rnd 2: Kfb in each st around. **(16 sts)**
Rnd 3: Knit. Thread the cast-on tail through the 8 cast-on edge loops, pull the lower pole fully closed and secure inside. **(16 sts)**
Rnd 4: (K1, kfb) 8 times. **(24 sts)**
Rnd 5: Knit. **(24 sts)**
Rnd 6: (K2, kfb) 8 times. **(32 sts)**
Rnds 7-15: Knit. **(32 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 16: (K2, k2tog) 8 times. **(24 sts)**
Rnds 17-20: Knit. Begin stuffing after Rnd 18. Stuff the lower two-thirds firmly and keep the open top slightly softer for a smooth body join. **(24 sts each rnd)**
BO loosely. Leave the top open for sewing to the body.

9.10 Feet - Make 2 in Color A

Worked in the round from the toe end to the open ankle. For each foot, CO 8 sts, leaving a 20 cm / 8 in tail. Join without twisting and place BOR on the underside.

Rnd 1: Knit. **(8 sts)**
Rnd 2: Kfb in each st around. **(16 sts)**
Rnd 3: Knit. Close the cast-on opening by threading the tail through the 8 cast-on edge loops, pulling fully closed and securing inside. **(16 sts)**
Rnd 4: (K1, kfb) 8 times. **(24 sts)**
Rnds 5-10: Knit. **(24 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 11: (K4, k2tog) 4 times. **(20 sts)**
Rnds 12-16: Knit. Add moderate stuffing, keeping the ankle area soft enough to flatten. **(20 sts each rnd)**
BO loosely. Flatten the ankle opening so the upper and lower layers lie together, giving a 10-st two-layer edge. Do not seam it closed yet.

9.11 Toe Claws - Make 6 in Color C

For each toe claw, CO 5 sts on a DPN.

Rows 1-5: Work 5-st I-cord. **(5 sts each row)**
Cut yarn, leaving a 15 cm / 6 in tail. Thread the tail through the 5 live stitches, pull closed and secure. Leave the cast-on end available for sewing to the foot. Do not stuff.

9.12 Arms - Make 2 in Color A

Worked in the round from paw tip to open shoulder. For each arm, CO 6 sts, leaving a 20 cm / 8 in tail. Join without twisting.

Rnd 1: Knit. **(6 sts)**
Rnd 2: Kfb in each st around. **(12 sts)**
Rnd 3: Knit. Close the cast-on opening by threading the tail through the 6 cast-on edge loops, pulling fully closed and securing inside. **(12 sts)**
Rnds 4-12: Knit. **(12 sts each rnd)**
Rnd 13: (K4, k2tog) 2 times. **(10 sts)**
Rnds 14-16: Knit. Lightly stuff the paw and lower arm; keep the shoulder soft. **(10 sts each rnd)**
BO loosely. Flatten the shoulder opening so the front and back layers lie together, creating a 5-st two-layer attachment edge.

9.13 Hand Claws - Make 4 in Color C

For each hand claw, CO 4 sts on a DPN.

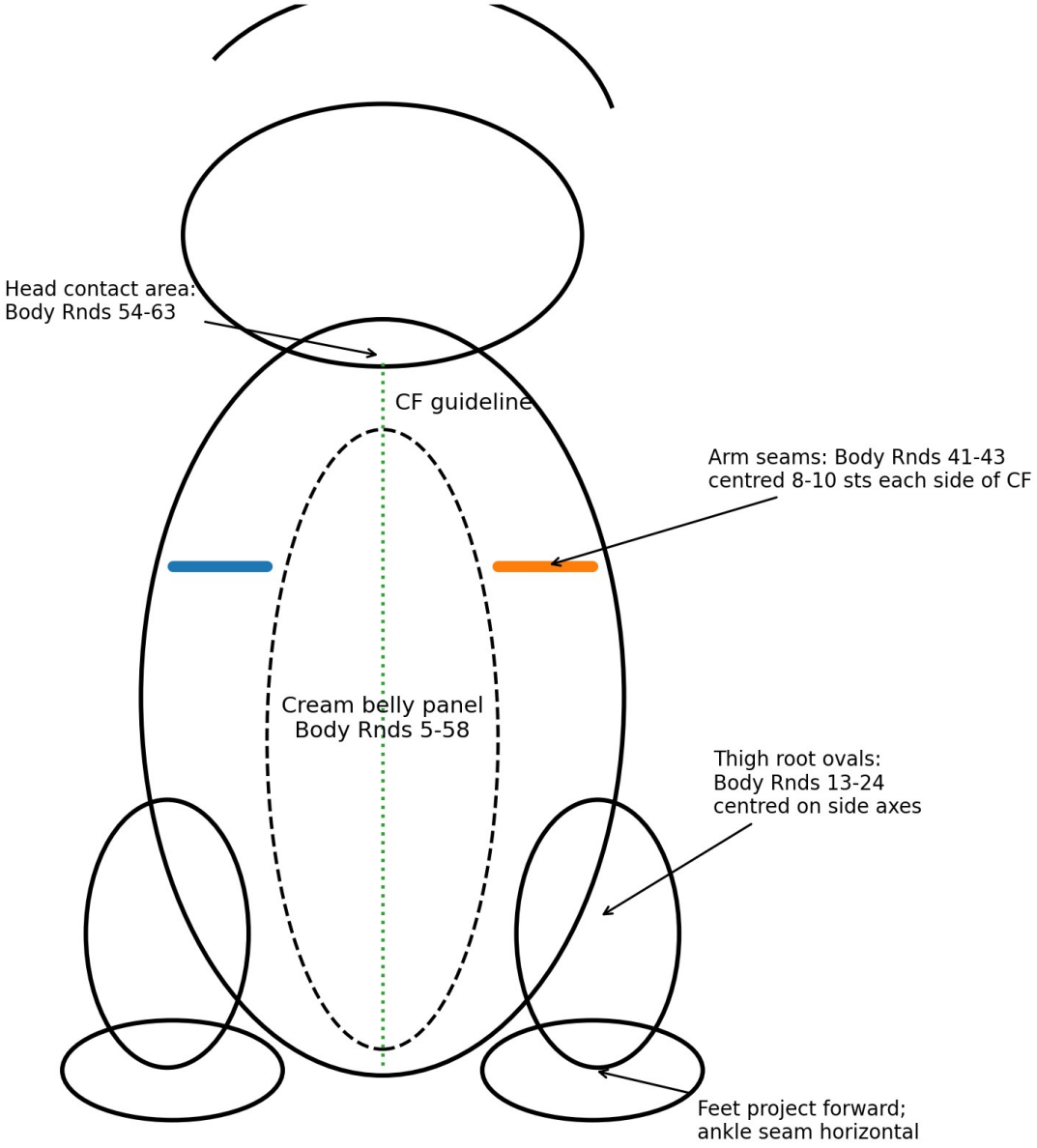
Rows 1-4: Work 4-st I-cord. **(4 sts each row)**

Cut yarn, thread through the 4 live stitches and draw closed. Leave the cast-on end for sewing to the paw. Do not stuff.

10. Placement Maps and Pinning Guides

Pin every major piece before sewing. Check the dinosaur from the front, both sides, the top and the back. Small shifts of a few millimetres are acceptable when needed to balance the stuffed shapes, but keep paired pieces mirrored and keep all seam directions as stated.

10.1 Body Front Placement

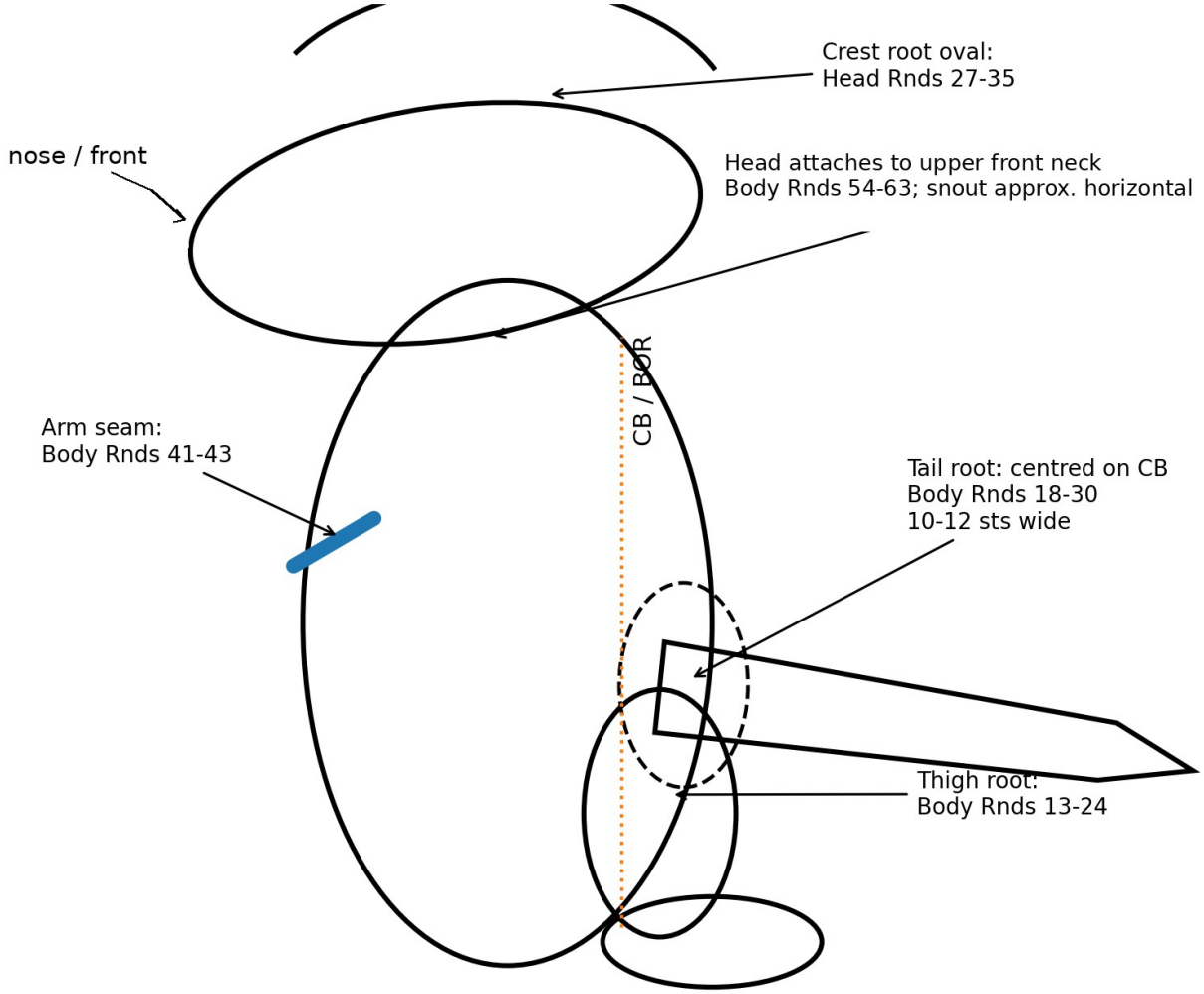


Belly panel: centre the panel on CF. Position the 8-st cast-on end around Body Rnds 5-7 and the 6-st upper bound-off edge around Body Rnds 56-58. The 16-st widest section should sit over the lower-middle belly. Baste before final sewing so the panel lies smooth without stretching.

Arms: attach each flattened 5-st shoulder edge approximately horizontally across Body Rnds 41-43. Centre the right and left shoulder seams about 8-10 stitches to either side of CF. The arms should angle slightly forward and downward, with the claws facing the centre front.

Thighs: centre each 24-st open thigh top on a side axis. Pin the attachment as a vertical oval spanning approximately Body Rnds 13-24 and about 6-8 body stitches from front edge to back edge. Match the height before sewing either thigh permanently.

10.2 Side and Back Placement

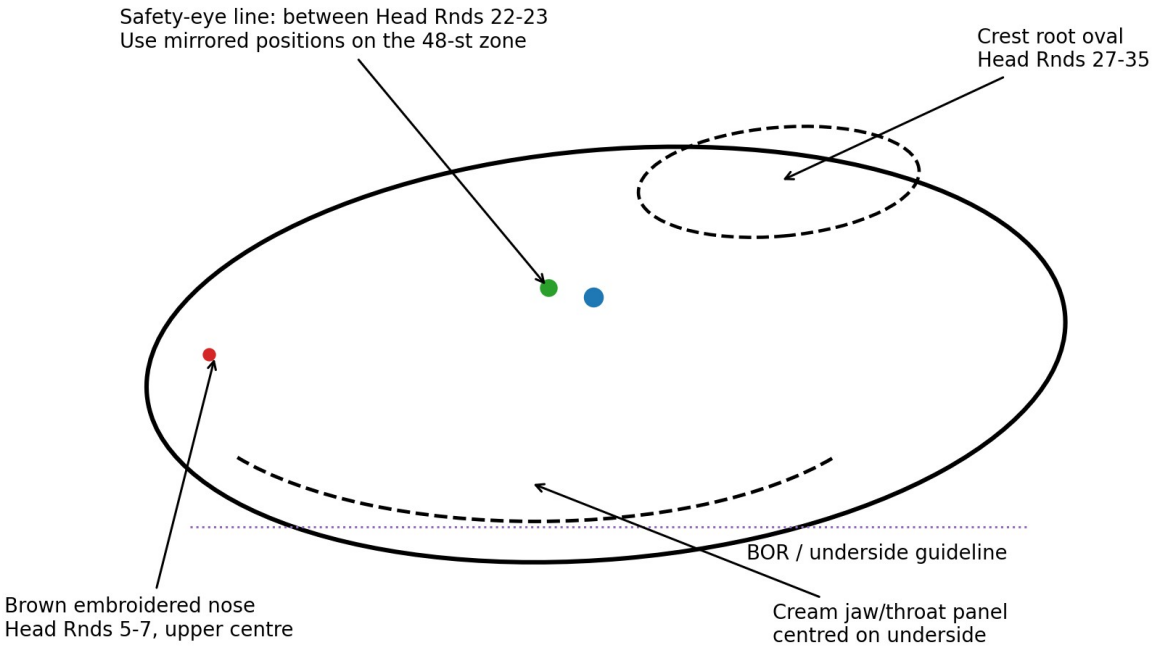


Tail: with the cream tail-underside panel already sewn and centred on the tail BOR, centre the 32-st tail root on the body CB/BOR line. Pin the open root around a vertical-to-diagonal oval spanning approximately Body Rnds 18-30 and about 10-12 body stitches wide. The tail should leave the body backward with a slight upward sweep before tapering toward the tip.

Head: place the rear third of the head against the upper front of the neck, using Head Rnds 31-38 as the main contact area and Body Rnds 54-63 as the neck contact area. Align the head underside/BOR line with the body CF line. Keep the long axis of the snout approximately horizontal; a slight downward pitch toward the nose of up to about 10 degrees is acceptable. Leave clear space above and behind the nape for the crest to sweep backward.

Crest: centre the 24-st open root on the rear/top of the head, spanning approximately Head Rnds 27-35. Orient the crest so it leaves the head backward over the nape, with the distal tip curving gently downward. The root should sit broad and low rather than standing upright like a horn.

10.3 Head and Face Placement



Jaw/throat panel: centre the panel on the head underside/BOR line. Place the cast-on edge close to Head Rnd 3 beneath the nose. The widest area should sit under Head Rnds 8-20, and the narrow 6-st bound-off end should reach toward Head Rnds 33-35. Keep both panel edges equally distant from the underside guideline.

Eyes: the two eye positions are between Head Rnds 22-23 at approximately sts 15 and 34 of the 48-st zone. They should be level when the head is viewed from the front and balanced above the cream jaw line.

Nose: centre the brown embroidered oval on the upper snout between Head Rnds 5-7, opposite the BOR.

11. Assembly Instructions

1. Sew the cream belly panel. With the body stuffed and the CF guideline in place, pin the blocked belly panel from Body Rnds 5-58, with the 8-st cast-on end at the lower belly and the 6-st bound-off end at the upper chest. Use Color B and small mattress or ladder stitches just inside the panel edge, alternating between one edge bar of the panel and one body stitch. Do not pull tightly enough to pucker the stockinette. Secure and bury the yarn inside the body.
2. Complete the face. If embroidered eyes are being used, stitch them now at the marked eye positions. Check that the brown nose is centered and the eyes are level before adding any other pieces to the head.
3. Sew the cream jaw/throat panel. Pin it symmetrically along the head underside. Use Color B and small mattress or ladder stitch, beginning at the nose end and working evenly toward the rear. Keep the panel flat and centered. Bury the yarn tail deeply through the stuffed head.
4. Attach and shape the crest. Finish the light stuffing and the underside curve first. Pin the open root to the top-rear of the head over Head Rnds 27-35, with the crest projecting backward over the nape and the curved tip pointing backward and slightly downward. Using Color A, whip stitch through each crest cast-on edge loop and a corresponding small bite of head fabric. Work all the way around the root. Before closing the final 2-3 cm / 0.75-1.25 in, adjust the stuffing at the root so it is broad and stable, then finish the seam and bury the tail.
5. Attach the head to the neck with the snout held approximately horizontal and projecting forward. Pin the head contact area over Body Rnds 54-63, with the head underside line aligned to the body CF line. Use Color A and ladder stitch around a contact oval approximately 3.5-4 cm / 1.4-1.6 in across. Begin at the lower front of the join, work around one side and across the top, then down the other side. Before the final 3 cm / 1.25 in of seam, add a small amount of stuffing between the neck and head if needed to hold the angle. Finish the seam firmly and bury the yarn.
6. Attach the tail after the cream tail-underside panel has been sewn in place. Pin the open 32-st root around the CB oval over Body Rnds 18-30. Align the tail BOR with the underside of the tail and the body BOR/CB. Using the long Color A root tail, whip stitch through each tail cast-on loop and a small bite of body fabric around the entire oval. Before closing the last section, add enough stuffing at the root to make the transition full but still flexible. Finish and bury the yarn.
7. Build each hind leg. First sew three toe claws across the front of each foot, evenly spaced. Pass the claw cast-on edge against the foot around Foot Rnds 2-4 and sew through the cast-on loops with Color C, keeping the closed I-cord tips pointing forward. Next, flatten the foot ankle opening and pin it horizontally across the lower front of the matching thigh around Thigh Rnds 4-7. Using Color A, every attachment stitch must capture both layers of the flattened foot edge before entering the thigh fabric. Sew from one side to the other, keeping the foot centered and projecting forward.
8. Attach the hind legs to the body. Pin each open thigh top around its side-body oval over Body Rnds 13-24. Check that both knees sit at the same height and both feet point forward. With Color A, whip stitch through the thigh bound-off edge and the body around the complete oval. Before closing the final gap, adjust the upper-thigh stuffing so the join is smooth. Finish both sides only after comparing them from the front and back.
9. Finish the arms. Sew two brown hand claws side by side at each paw tip. Keep the claw tips pointing slightly inward. Pin each flattened shoulder edge horizontally across Body Rnds 41-43, centered 8-10 stitches to either side of CF. With Color A, sew across the flattened edge from one end to the other; each stitch must capture both layers of the shoulder edge before entering the body. The arms should angle slightly forward and down.
10. Remove all temporary markers and basting threads. Roll the body gently between your hands to redistribute stuffing, then recheck head angle, leg symmetry, foot direction, crest curve and tail sweep before adding the decorative stitching.

12. Decorative Running-Stitch Detail - Color B

Use a single strand of cream yarn in the tapestry needle. Keep visible stitches approximately 6-8 mm / 0.25-0.3 in long with similar gaps between stitches. Do not pull tightly; the stitches should sit on the surface without indenting the fabric.

- Outline the outer edge of the cream jaw/throat panel, especially along the side where green meets cream.
- Outline the cream belly panel from the upper chest down both sides to the lower belly.
- Work a single centre-back running-stitch line from the nape down the body CB/BOR line. Continue the line across the top of the tail root and along the tail top toward the tip.
- Add a short line of cream running stitches around each crest root seam, shoulder seam and thigh root seam. Keep these seam accents narrow and consistent rather than covering the green fabric.

Secure all decorative yarn tails by weaving deeply through the stuffed fabric and trimming only after the yarn has been buried for several centimetres.

13. At-a-Glance Piece Counts

Piece	Quantity	Key count / finish
Body	1	64 sts max; closed top and bottom
Head	1	48 sts max; closed nose and rear
Crest	1	24 sts at open root; closed tip
Tail	1	32 sts at open root; closed tip
Cream tail underside panel	1	8 -> 6 -> 4 -> 2 sts; 46 rows, worked flat
Thighs	2	32 sts max; 24-st open top
Feet	2	24 sts max; 20-st open ankle flattened to 10-st seam
Arms	2	12 sts max; 10-st open shoulder flattened to 5-st seam
Cream belly panel	1	8 -> 16 -> 6 sts, worked flat
Cream jaw/throat panel	1	6 -> 12 -> 6 sts, worked flat
Toe claws	6	5-st I-cord
Hand claws	4	4-st I-cord

14. Final Visual Checklist

- Head is centered over the neck, with the snout approximately horizontal and projecting forward.
- Crest root is broad and secure; the crest forms a smooth backward sweep without a sharp kink.
- Eyes are level and balanced on both sides of the head.
- Brown nose is centered on the upper snout.
- Cream jaw/throat, belly and tail-underside panels lie smooth, centered and free of puckers.
- Arms are attached at matching heights with horizontal shoulder seams and claws facing inward.
- Thighs are mirrored at the same height on the body sides.
- Feet point forward and sit flat enough to support the standing pose.
- Each foot has three toe claws and each hand has two hand claws.
- Tail root is centered on the back and the tail sweeps backward without twisting.
- Cream running stitches are evenly spaced and follow the intended seam and centre-back paths.
- No stuffing is visible through the fabric or seams.
- All openings are closed or fully attached, with no gaps at crest, tail, thighs, feet or arms.
- No markers remain inside or outside the work.
- All yarn tails are secured and buried; no exposed knots remain.

15. Troubleshooting

Problem	Practical correction
Stuffing shows between stitches	Move down a needle size for any replacement piece, or remove a little stuffing from the affected area. Dense stockinette should close around the stuffing without being stretched.
Body looks too round	Redistribute stuffing upward through the chest and neck, then press the lower side walls inward slightly so the front-to-back depth is greater than the side width.
Head looks short or blunt	Check the 22-st stitch gauge and 30-rnd round gauge. A tighter round gauge can shorten the snout; gently redistribute stuffing lengthwise from rear head toward the nose.
Head leans to one side	Open only the loose section of the neck seam, repin with the head underside line exactly on CF, then resew while comparing the head from front and back.

Problem	Practical correction
Crest stands straight instead of sweeping backward	Remove some stuffing from the upper crest and retighten the underside shaping strand a little at a time. The underside should be shorter than the top edge.
Crest has a sharp bend	Release the underside shaping strand slightly, massage the stuffing across the bent area, then retack using shallower bites over a longer distance.
Tail twists at the root	Check that tail BOR sits on the underside and body BOR sits at centre back. Repin the root before resewing so the top surface of the tail continues the body back line.
Feet point outward	The flattened ankle seam must run approximately horizontally across the lower front of each thigh. Remove that seam, rotate the foot forward, repin and resew through both ankle layers.
One thigh sits higher	Use Body Rnds 13-24 as the same vertical span on both sides and compare the upper and lower edges before completing either seam.
Cream panel puckers	Remove the tight section, repin the panel without stretching, and resew with smaller ladder stitches. Keep seam tension just firm enough to close the edge.
Eyes appear uneven	Compare the eye line from the front. For embroidered eyes, restitch at the marked mirrored positions. For safety eyes, a small difference can sometimes be softened by redistributing stuffing around the sockets.
Decorative running stitch wanders	Lay a removable contrast-yarn guideline first, then stitch beside it and remove the guideline when the path is complete.
Toy tips backward	Flatten the feet by redistributing stuffing away from the ankles, angle the feet slightly farther forward, and press the body base so more weight sits over the feet.
Gauge differs between green and cream yarns	Check each yarn separately in stockinette. The cream panels should lie on the green fabric without stretching; if they are too large or too small, adjust the needle size used for the flat panels only.

16. Finishing

Give the completed dinosaur one final shaping by gently massaging the stuffing into smooth curves. Straighten the head and tail from the side view, match the feet from the front, and check the crest from both sides. Trim only yarn ends that have already been buried securely inside the stuffed fabric.

Perry is complete when the seams are closed, the stance is balanced, the face is centered, and the crest and tail hold their intended curves.