SAGE THE SAILBACK SPINOSAURUS

Free Knitting Pattern

A soft knitted sailback dinosaur with a long crocodile-style snout, striped dorsal sail, cream belly, and oversized feet.



Skill level	Finished height	Needles
Intermediate	Approx. 27-29 cm / 10.5-11.5 in	3.5 mm / US 4

1. About the Pattern

This pattern makes a standing knitted Spinosaurus-style dinosaur with a rounded stuffed body, long tapered snout, broad hind legs, small forearms, a curved tail, and seven layered dorsal sail fins. The main pieces are worked in the round in stockinette; the belly and throat panels are knitted flat. The project uses basic increases and decreases, simple seaming, i-cord claws, duplicate stitch, and embroidery.

At a glance

Construction: knitted mostly in the round; belly and throat panels knitted flat.

Main yarn: medium/worsted weight yarn at a dense toy gauge.

Key techniques: kfb increases, k2tog and ssk decreases, Kitchener stitch, mattress/whip stitch, i-cord, duplicate stitch, and simple embroidery.

Right and left are always described from the finished dinosaur's point of view.

Finished Size

Using the stated yarn and gauge, the finished dinosaur measures approximately 27-29 cm / 10.5-11.5 in tall to the top of the head, 29-31 cm / 11.5-12.25 in to the top of the tallest sail fin, and 39-42 cm / 15.5-16.5 in from snout to tail tip.

Part	Approximate finished measurement
Body	14-15 cm / 5.5-6 in tall; about 10-11 cm / 4-4.25 in wide at fullest point
Head and neck	About 11-12 cm / 4.25-4.75 in long
Snout	About 5-5.5 cm / 2-2.25 in from tip to widening
Tail	About 16-18 cm / 6.25-7 in long
Arms	About 6 cm / 2.4 in before claws
Hind thighs	About 6.5-7 cm / 2.5-2.75 in tall
Feet	About 6 cm / 2.4 in long
Sail fins	About 5.3, 6.7, 8, and 9 cm / 2.1, 2.6, 3.1, and 3.5 in by size

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

2. Materials and Tools

- Medium/worsted weight (#4) smooth yarn in olive green: approximately 130 g / 220 m / 240 yd.
- Medium/worsted weight (#4) smooth yarn in warm cream: approximately 45 g / 75 m / 82 yd.
- Medium/worsted weight (#4) yarn in dark brown: approximately 12 g / 20 m / 22 yd for claws, nostrils, and mouth.
- 3.5 mm / US 4 DPNs, or a long circular needle suitable for magic loop.
- Two 14 mm black safety eyes, or black yarn for embroidered eyes.
- Polyester stuffing, approximately 180-220 g.
- Tapestry needle, locking/removable stitch markers, straight pins, scissors, and measuring tape.
- A blunt stuffing tool or the capped end of a pen for guiding stuffing into the tail and snout.

Safety 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.

3. Gauge and Tension

22 sts x 30 rnds = 10 x 10 cm / 4 x 4 in in stockinette worked in the round with 3.5 mm needles. For the flat cream panels, aim for approximately 22 sts x 30 rows = 10 x 10 cm / 4 x 4 in in stockinette.

Use a firm, dense tension so stuffing does not show between stitches. If your fabric is loose enough to expose stuffing, use a smaller needle. If it is very stiff and difficult to shape, use a slightly larger needle while keeping the same dense toy fabric.

4. Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Meaning
BO	bind off
BOR	beginning of round
CO	cast on
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
row/rows	row/rows
RS	right side
ssk	slip 1 knitwise, slip 1 knitwise, return both stitches to the left needle and knit them together through the back loops; 1 stitch decreased
st/sts	stitch/stitches
WS	wrong side

5. Method and Orientation

- All green three-dimensional pieces are worked in continuous circular knitting. Do not turn at the end of a round.
- Place the BOR marker as instructed for each piece. The marker remains fixed unless the pattern specifically says otherwise.
- For the body, BOR is the centre back (CB). Centre front (CF) is directly opposite BOR.
- For the head, BOR runs along the centre underside. The top-centre line is directly opposite BOR.
- For the tail, BOR runs along the centre underside. The top-centre line is directly opposite BOR.
- Right and left are described from the finished dinosaur's point of view.
- The belly and throat panels are knitted flat in stockinette. The RS is the smooth knit side.
- When a circular opening is flattened for attachment, place the front and back layers together and capture both layers with every sewing stitch.

6. Construction Overview

Piece	Quantity	Preparation
Body	Make 1	Stuff firmly without stretching. Close both poles completely.
Belly patch	Make 1	Unstuffed flat cream panel; sew to centre front before limbs.

Piece	Quantity	Preparation
Head and neck	Make 1	Stuff through the open 32-st neck edge. Attach after face and throat panel are complete.
Throat patch	Make 1	Unstuffed flat cream panel; sew to underside of head and neck.
Arms	Make 2	Lightly stuff. Paw tips are grafted closed; shoulder openings stay open and are flattened for sewing.
Hind thighs	Make 2	Moderately stuff. Lower poles are closed; top openings remain open for body attachment.
Feet	Make 2	Lightly stuff. Heels are closed; toe openings are flattened and grafted closed.
Tail	Make 1	Stuff as shaping progresses. Tip closes; 36-st root remains open for attachment.
Sail fins	Make 7	2 small, 2 medium, 2 tall, 1 tallest. Leave bases open, keep unstuffed, flatten for sewing.
Claws	Make 10	Dark brown 3-st i-cord nubs; 2 per hand and 3 per foot.

Recommended order: knit all pieces; finish the head face and cream panels; attach feet to thighs and claws to all paws; sew the belly patch; attach tail, legs, head, arms, and sail fins; add the cream running-stitch details; then complete the final alignment and seam check.

7. Body - Olive Green

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

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Count
1	Knit.	8 sts
2	Kfb in each stitch around.	16 sts
3	Knit. After this round, thread the cast-on tail through the 8 cast-on edge loops at the lower pole, draw the opening fully closed, secure on the inside, and leave the remaining tail inside the body.	16 sts
4	(K1, kfb) 8 times.	24 sts
5	Knit.	24 sts
6	(K2, kfb) 8 times.	32 sts
7	Knit.	32 sts
8	(K3, kfb) 8 times.	40 sts
9	Knit.	40 sts
10	(K4, kfb) 8 times.	48 sts
11	Knit.	48 sts
12	(K5, kfb) 8 times.	56 sts
13	Knit.	56 sts
14	(K6, kfb) 8 times.	64 sts
15	Knit.	64 sts
16	(K7, kfb) 8 times.	72 sts
17	Knit.	72 sts
18	Knit.	72 sts
19	Knit.	72 sts
20	Knit.	72 sts
21	Knit.	72 sts
22	Knit.	72 sts
23	Knit.	72 sts
24	Knit.	72 sts
25	Knit.	72 sts
26	Knit.	72 sts
27	Knit.	72 sts
28	(K7, k2tog) 8 times.	64 sts
29	Knit.	64 sts
30	(K6, k2tog) 8 times.	56 sts
31	Knit.	56 sts
32	(K5, k2tog) 8 times.	48 sts
33	Knit.	48 sts
34	(K4, k2tog) 8 times.	40 sts
35	Knit.	40 sts
36	Knit.	40 sts
37	Knit.	40 sts
38	Knit.	40 sts
39	(K3, k2tog) 8 times.	32 sts

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Count
40	Knit.	32 sts
41	(K2, k2tog) 8 times.	24 sts
42	(K1, k2tog) 8 times. Add the final stuffing before working the next round; keep the upper pole rounded but not hard.	16 sts
43	K2tog 8 times. Cut yarn, thread through the remaining stitches, pull closed, secure, and bury the tail.	8 sts

Stuffing: begin after Rnd 28. Add small amounts evenly, keeping the lower body broad and the front slightly fuller than the back. By Rnd 41 the body should be firmly stuffed without stretching the stitches. Add the final stuffing during Rnd 42 and close at Rnd 43.

8. Belly Patch - Warm Cream

Worked flat from lower edge to upper edge. CO 10 sts. The smooth knit side is the RS. Leave a 45 cm / 18 in tail at both the cast-on and bind-off edges for sewing.

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Count
1 (RS)	Knit.	10 sts
2 (WS)	Purl.	10 sts
3	K1, kfb, k6, kfb, k1.	12 sts
4	Purl.	12 sts
5	K1, kfb, k8, kfb, k1.	14 sts
6	Purl.	14 sts
7	K1, kfb, k10, kfb, k1.	16 sts
8	Purl.	16 sts
9	K1, kfb, k12, kfb, k1.	18 sts
10	Purl.	18 sts
11 (RS)	Knit.	18 sts
12 (WS)	Purl.	18 sts
13	Knit.	18 sts
14	Purl.	18 sts
15	Knit.	18 sts
16	Purl.	18 sts
17	Knit.	18 sts
18	Purl.	18 sts
19	K1, ssk, k12, k2tog, k1.	16 sts
20	Purl.	16 sts
21	K1, ssk, k10, k2tog, k1.	14 sts
22	Purl.	14 sts
23	K1, ssk, k8, k2tog, k1.	12 sts
24	Purl.	12 sts
25	K1, ssk, k6, k2tog, k1.	10 sts
26	Purl.	10 sts
27 (RS)	Bind off all stitches knitwise.	

Block only with light finger shaping. Do not stretch the panel. The lower edge remains rounded by placement; the upper edge will sit beneath the lower neck.

9. Head and Neck - Olive Green

Work from the snout tip toward the neck. CO 8 sts, leaving a 25 cm / 10 in tail. Join carefully and place BOR at the centre underside of the head.

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Count
1	Knit.	8 sts
2	Kfb in each stitch around.	16 sts
3	Knit. After this round, thread the cast-on tail through the 8 cast-on edge loops at the snout tip, draw the opening fully closed, secure inside, and leave the remaining tail inside the head.	16 sts
4	(K1, kfb) 8 times.	24 sts
5	Knit.	24 sts
6	Knit.	24 sts
7	Knit.	24 sts
8	Knit.	24 sts
9	Knit.	24 sts
10	Knit.	24 sts
11	Knit.	24 sts
12	Knit.	24 sts
13	Knit.	24 sts
14	Knit.	24 sts
15	Knit.	24 sts
16	Knit.	24 sts
17	(K2, kfb) 8 times.	32 sts
18	Knit.	32 sts
19	(K3, kfb) 8 times.	40 sts
20	Knit.	40 sts
21	Knit.	40 sts
22	Knit.	40 sts
23	Knit.	40 sts
24	Knit.	40 sts
25	Knit.	40 sts
26	Knit.	40 sts
27	Knit.	40 sts
28	Knit.	40 sts
29	(K3, k2tog) 8 times.	32 sts
30	Knit.	32 sts
31	Knit.	32 sts
32	Knit.	32 sts
33	Knit.	32 sts
34	Knit.	32 sts
35	Knit.	32 sts
36	Knit.	32 sts

Eye placement and eye options

The 40-st head zone runs from Rnds 19-28. The top-centre line lies directly opposite BOR, between sts 20 and 21.

Right eye position: between Head Rnds 23-24 at approximately st 14 of the 40-st round.

Left eye position: between Head Rnds 23-24 at approximately st 27 of the 40-st round.

Check from the front and top before finalising either eye option. Both eyes should sit at the same height and at equal distance from the top-centre line.

If using safety eyes, insert them at the positions above and lock the backs securely before stuffing.

After Rnd 36, BO all 32 sts loosely knitwise. Cut yarn, leaving a 60 cm / 24 in sewing tail. Leave the neck opening open. Stuff the snout moderately so it stays long rather than round, then stuff the head more firmly behind the eye area. Keep the final 2–3 neck rounds a little softer so the neck edge can conform to the body.

If using embroidered eyes, skip the safety-eye insertion. After the head is stuffed, use black yarn to satin-stitch a compact oval about 12–14 mm / 1/2 in wide at each of the same Head Rnds 23–24 positions. Check that the two embroidered eyes are level and symmetrical, then complete them before attaching the head to the body.

10. Throat Patch - Warm Cream

Worked flat from the narrow front edge toward the neck. CO 6 sts. The smooth knit side is the RS. Leave a 35 cm / 14 in tail at each end for sewing.

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Count
1 (RS)	Knit.	6 sts
2 (WS)	Purl.	6 sts
3	K1, kfb, k2, kfb, k1.	8 sts
4	Purl.	8 sts
5	K1, kfb, k4, kfb, k1.	10 sts
6	Purl.	10 sts
7	Knit.	10 sts
8	Purl.	10 sts
9	Knit.	10 sts
10	Purl.	10 sts
11	Knit.	10 sts
12	Purl.	10 sts
13	Knit.	10 sts
14	Purl.	10 sts
15	Knit.	10 sts
16	Purl.	10 sts
17	Knit.	10 sts
18	Purl.	10 sts
19	Knit.	10 sts
20	Purl.	10 sts
21	K1, ssk, k4, k2tog, k1.	8 sts
22	Purl.	8 sts
23	K1, ssk, k2, k2tog, k1.	6 sts
24	Purl.	6 sts
25 (RS)	Bind off all stitches knitwise.	-

11. Face and Mouth Details

1. Pin the throat patch to the centre underside of the head with its narrow cast-on edge beginning around Head Rnd 6 and its bound-off edge ending around Head Rnd 31. Keep the patch centred on BOR. Sew with mattress stitch along both long sides and small whip stitches across the ends. Do not pull tightly enough to flatten the snout.
2. With dark brown yarn, embroider two small oval nostrils between Head Rnds 5-6, placing one approximately 2 sts to each side of the top-centre line. Build each oval with 3-4 short satin stitches.
3. Embroider the right mouth line along the right side of the snout from Head Rnd 5 to Rnd 16, following a stitch column approximately 6 sts away from BOR. Mirror the same line on the left side, also 6 sts from BOR. Join the two lines at the front of the snout with a short curved stitch so the mouth reads continuously from the front.
4. Using cream yarn, embroider 6 small downward-pointing tooth triangles along each mouth line, centred approximately at Head Rnds 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 15. Each tooth should be about 4-5 mm / 3/16 in deep. Build each triangle with 2-3 satin stitches and keep all 12 teeth similar in size.
5. With cream yarn, work a neat running-stitch line along the top-centre of the head from approximately Head Rnd 19 to the neck edge at Rnd 36. Use one visible stitch over roughly every second knitted round.

12. Arms - Make 2 in Olive Green

Work from shoulder to paw. CO 18 sts, leaving a 45 cm / 18 in tail for body attachment. Join to work in the round and place BOR on the underside of the arm.

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Count
1	Knit.	18 sts
2	Knit.	18 sts
3	Knit.	18 sts
4	Knit.	18 sts
5	Knit.	18 sts
6	Knit.	18 sts
7	(K4, k2tog) 3 times.	15 sts
8	Knit.	15 sts
9	Knit.	15 sts
10	Knit.	15 sts
11	Knit.	15 sts
12	Knit.	15 sts
13	(K3, k2tog) 3 times.	12 sts
14	Knit.	12 sts
15	Knit.	12 sts
16	Knit.	12 sts
17	Knit.	12 sts
18	Knit.	12 sts

Lightly stuff the arm, keeping the final 3 rounds near the paw soft. Divide the 12 live stitches evenly over two needles with 6 sts on the front and 6 sts on the back. Graft the paw edge closed with Kitchener stitch. The 18-st cast-on shoulder opening stays open until assembly.

13. Hind Thighs - Make 2 in Olive Green

Work from the lower pole toward the body opening. CO 8 sts, leaving a 35 cm / 14 in tail. Join and place BOR at the inner side of the thigh.

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Count
1	Knit.	8 sts
2	Kfb in each stitch around.	16 sts
3	Knit. After this round, close the cast-on opening at the lower pole with the cast-on tail, secure inside, and leave the remaining tail inside the thigh.	16 sts
4	(K1, kfb) 8 times.	24 sts
5	Knit.	24 sts
6	(K2, kfb) 8 times.	32 sts
7	Knit.	32 sts
8	Knit.	32 sts
9	Knit.	32 sts
10	Knit.	32 sts
11	Knit.	32 sts
12	Knit.	32 sts
13	Knit.	32 sts
14	Knit.	32 sts
15	(K6, k2tog) 4 times.	28 sts
16	Knit.	28 sts
17	Knit.	28 sts
18	Knit.	28 sts
19	Knit.	28 sts
20	Knit.	28 sts

Stuff the lower two-thirds moderately firm and the upper third slightly softer. BO all 28 sts loosely knitwise, then cut yarn leaving a 55 cm / 22 in sewing tail. Leave the bound-off top opening open for attachment to the body.

14. Feet - Make 2 in Olive Green

Work from heel to toe. CO 8 sts, leaving a 25 cm / 10 in tail. Join and place BOR at the underside of the foot.

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Count
1	Knit.	8 sts
2	Kfb in each stitch around.	16 sts
3	Knit. After this round, close the cast-on opening at the heel with the cast-on tail, secure inside, and leave the remaining tail inside the foot.	16 sts
4	(K1, kfb) 8 times.	24 sts
5	Knit.	24 sts
6	Knit.	24 sts
7	Knit.	24 sts
8	Knit.	24 sts
9	Knit.	24 sts
10	Knit.	24 sts
11	Knit.	24 sts
12	Knit.	24 sts
13	Knit.	24 sts
14	Knit.	24 sts

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Count
15	(K4, k2tog) 4 times.	20 sts
16	Knit.	20 sts
17	Knit.	20 sts
18	Knit.	20 sts

Lightly stuff the foot so it remains broad and flat. Flatten the 20-st toe opening with 10 sts on the upper needle and 10 sts on the lower needle. Graft the 10 pairs with Kitchener stitch. The grafted edge is the toe edge and should lie horizontally.

15. Claws - Make 10 in Dark Brown

Each claw is a tiny 3-st i-cord nub. CO 3 sts, leaving a 15 cm / 6 in tail. Work on one DPN; do not turn between rows.

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Count
1	K3, then slide the stitches to the other end of the DPN without turning.	3 sts
2	K3, pull the working yarn firmly across the back, then slide the stitches to the other end without turning.	3 sts
3	K3, slide the stitches to the other end without turning.	3 sts
4	K3, slide the stitches to the other end without turning.	3 sts
5	K2tog, k1. Cut yarn, thread through the remaining 2 stitches, and pull snug.	2 sts

Make 10 identical claws. Leave the cast-on tail available for sewing. Arrange 2 claws evenly along each grafted hand edge and 3 claws evenly along each grafted toe edge. On each hand, angle the two claws slightly outward from the centre. On each foot, point the centre claw straight ahead and angle the two outer claws slightly outward.

16. Tail - Olive Green

Work from the open body root to the tip. CO 36 sts, leaving a 60 cm / 24 in sewing tail. Join without twisting and place BOR on the centre underside of the tail. The cast-on edge remains open for attachment.

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Count
1	Knit.	36 sts
2	Knit.	36 sts
3	Knit.	36 sts
4	Knit.	36 sts
5	Knit.	36 sts
6	Knit.	36 sts
7	(K7, k2tog) 4 times.	32 sts
8	Knit.	32 sts
9	Knit.	32 sts
10	Knit.	32 sts
11	Knit.	32 sts
12	Knit.	32 sts
13	(K6, k2tog) 4 times.	28 sts
14	Knit.	28 sts

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Count
15	Knit.	28 sts
16	Knit.	28 sts
17	Knit.	28 sts
18	Knit.	28 sts
19	(K5, k2tog) 4 times.	24 sts
20	Knit.	24 sts
21	Knit.	24 sts
22	Knit.	24 sts
23	Knit.	24 sts
24	Knit.	24 sts
25	(K4, k2tog) 4 times.	20 sts
26	Knit.	20 sts
27	Knit.	20 sts
28	Knit.	20 sts
29	Knit.	20 sts
30	Knit.	20 sts
31	(K3, k2tog) 4 times. Begin stuffing through the open root after this round, pushing small tufts toward the tip with a blunt tool.	16 sts
32	Knit.	16 sts
33	Knit.	16 sts
34	Knit.	16 sts
35	Knit.	16 sts
36	Knit.	16 sts
37	(K2, k2tog) 4 times.	12 sts
38	Knit.	12 sts
39	Knit.	12 sts
40	Knit.	12 sts
41	Knit.	12 sts
42	Knit.	12 sts
43	(K1, k2tog) 4 times. Add a little more stuffing after this round, keeping the tail firm enough to hold shape but still bendable.	8 sts
44	Knit.	8 sts
45	Knit.	8 sts
46	Knit.	8 sts
47	Knit.	8 sts
48	Knit.	8 sts
49	K2tog 4 times. Add the final small amount of stuffing before closing.	4 sts
50	Knit. Cut yarn, thread through the remaining stitches, pull the tip fully closed, secure, and bury the tail.	4 sts

Curve shaping: before attaching the tail, hold it in a shallow upward curve. With a separate length of olive green yarn, make three hidden ladder tacks along the top-centre line, directly opposite BOR, joining Tail Rnd 18 to Rnd 21, Rnd 30 to Rnd 33, and Rnd 41 to Rnd 44. Tighten each tack only until the tail holds a gentle upward curve, then secure and bury the yarn.

17. Dorsal Sail Fins - Olive Green

All fins are worked in the round from a narrow open attachment base to a 12-st fin body and a closed tip. CO 4 sts, leaving a 35 cm / 14 in tail for attachment. Join and place BOR at one narrow edge of the fin. Do not stuff the fins. The 4-st cast-on base remains open and will be flattened into 2 stitch pairs for attachment. From Rnd 2 upward, the 12-st fin body flattens into 6 sts on each broad face.

Small Fin - Make 2

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Count
1	Kfb in each stitch around.	8 sts
2	(K1, kfb) 4 times.	12 sts
3	Knit.	12 sts
4	Knit.	12 sts
5	Knit.	12 sts
6	Knit.	12 sts
7	Knit.	12 sts
8	Knit.	12 sts
9	(K4, k2tog) 2 times.	10 sts
10	Knit.	10 sts
11	(K3, k2tog) 2 times.	8 sts
12	Knit.	8 sts
13	(K2, k2tog) 2 times.	6 sts
14	Knit.	6 sts
15	(K1, k2tog) 2 times.	4 sts
16	K2tog twice. Cut yarn, thread through the remaining 2 stitches, pull closed, and secure.	2 sts

Medium Fin - Make 2

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Count
1	Kfb in each stitch around.	8 sts
2	(K1, kfb) 4 times.	12 sts
3	Knit.	12 sts
4	Knit.	12 sts
5	Knit.	12 sts
6	Knit.	12 sts
7	Knit.	12 sts
8	Knit.	12 sts
9	Knit.	12 sts
10	Knit.	12 sts
11	Knit.	12 sts
12	Knit.	12 sts
13	(K4, k2tog) 2 times.	10 sts
14	Knit.	10 sts
15	(K3, k2tog) 2 times.	8 sts
16	Knit.	8 sts
17	(K2, k2tog) 2 times.	6 sts
18	Knit.	6 sts
19	(K1, k2tog) 2 times.	4 sts

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Count
20	K2tog twice. Cut yarn, thread through the remaining 2 stitches, pull closed, and secure.	2 sts

Tall Fin - Make 2

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Count
1	Kfb in each stitch around.	8 sts
2	(K1, kfb) 4 times.	12 sts
3	Knit.	12 sts
4	Knit.	12 sts
5	Knit.	12 sts
6	Knit.	12 sts
7	Knit.	12 sts
8	Knit.	12 sts
9	Knit.	12 sts
10	Knit.	12 sts
11	Knit.	12 sts
12	Knit.	12 sts
13	Knit.	12 sts
14	Knit.	12 sts
15	Knit.	12 sts
16	Knit.	12 sts
17	(K4, k2tog) 2 times.	10 sts
18	Knit.	10 sts
19	(K3, k2tog) 2 times.	8 sts
20	Knit.	8 sts
21	(K2, k2tog) 2 times.	6 sts
22	Knit.	6 sts
23	(K1, k2tog) 2 times.	4 sts
24	K2tog twice. Cut yarn, thread through the remaining 2 stitches, pull closed, and secure.	2 sts

Tallest Fin - Make 1

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Count
1	Kfb in each stitch around.	8 sts
2	(K1, kfb) 4 times.	12 sts
3	Knit.	12 sts
4	Knit.	12 sts
5	Knit.	12 sts
6	Knit.	12 sts
7	Knit.	12 sts
8	Knit.	12 sts
9	Knit.	12 sts
10	Knit.	12 sts
11	Knit.	12 sts
12	Knit.	12 sts

Rnd/Row	Instruction	Count
13	Knit.	12 sts
14	Knit.	12 sts
15	Knit.	12 sts
16	Knit.	12 sts
17	Knit.	12 sts
18	Knit.	12 sts
19	Knit.	12 sts
20	(K4, k2tog) 2 times.	10 sts
21	Knit.	10 sts
22	(K3, k2tog) 2 times.	8 sts
23	Knit.	8 sts
24	(K2, k2tog) 2 times.	6 sts
25	Knit.	6 sts
26	(K1, k2tog) 2 times.	4 sts
27	K2tog twice. Cut yarn, thread through the remaining 2 stitches, pull closed, and secure.	2 sts

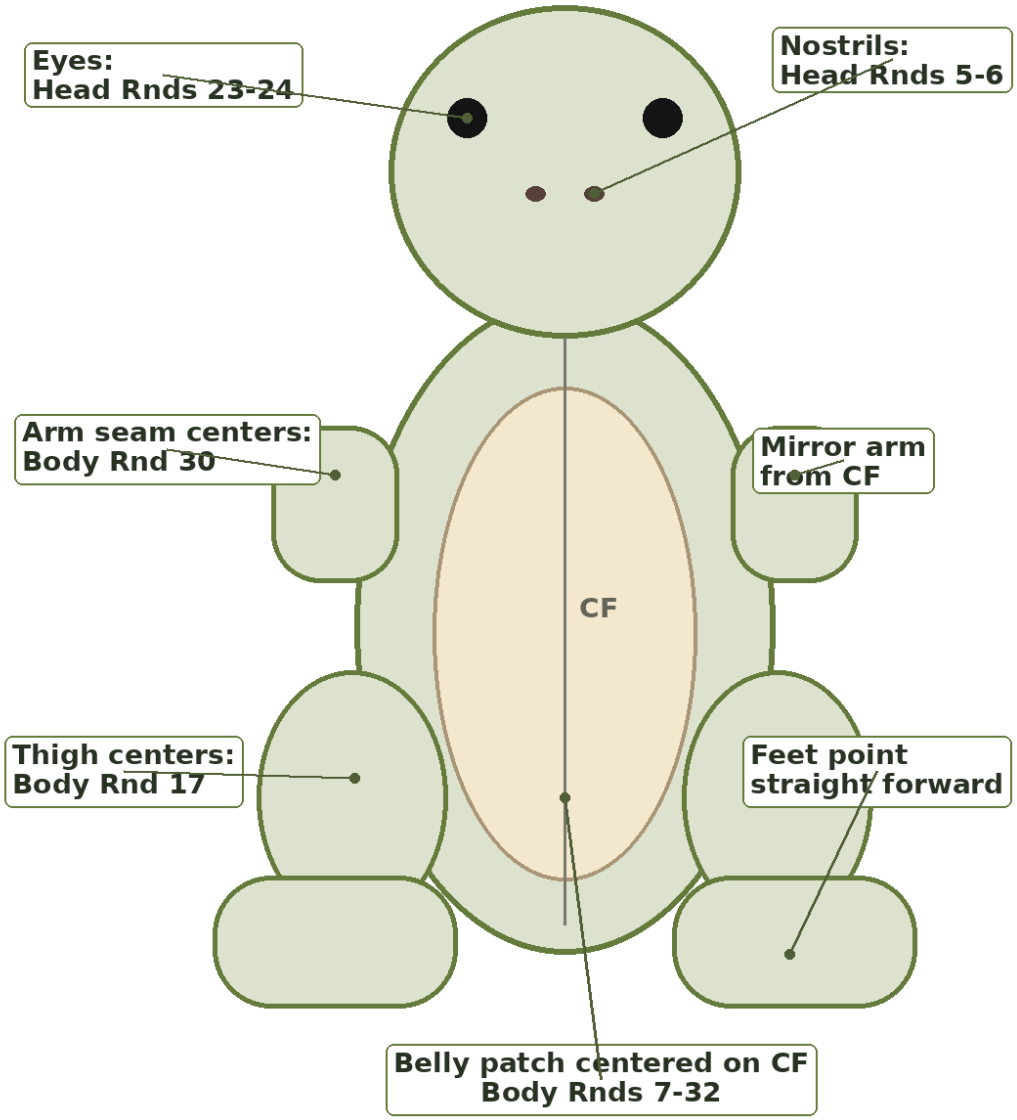
Cream Sail Stripes

1. Flatten each fin from Rnd 2 upward with BOR at one narrow side edge. The 12-st section forms two broad faces of 6 stitch columns each. The narrow 4-st cast-on base remains below this section.
2. Using warm cream yarn and duplicate stitch, work a 2-st-wide vertical stripe down the centre of each broad face, using the two middle columns of the 6-st face.
3. Begin the cream stripe at Fin Rnd 3 and stop approximately 4 rounds below the shaped tip. Keep green fabric visible at the narrow base, on both sides, and at the rounded top.
4. Repeat on the opposite broad face. The two sides of each fin should match before attachment.

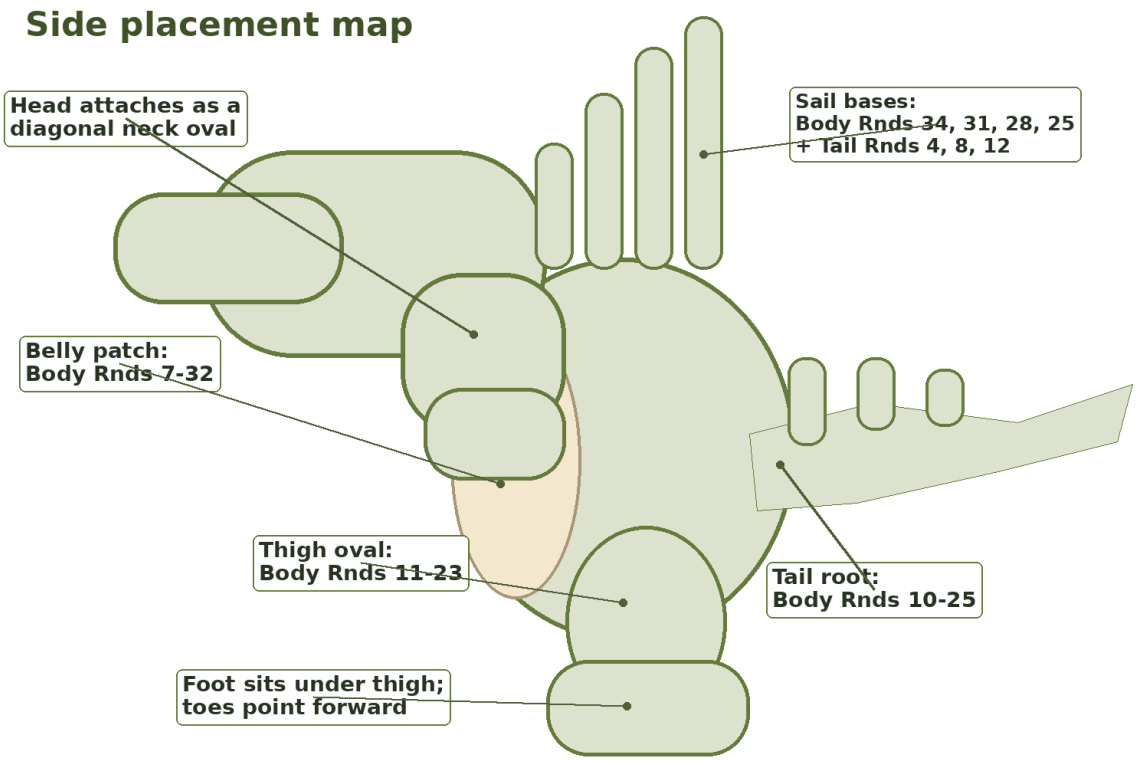
18. Placement Maps

Pin all major pieces before permanent sewing. Check the dinosaur from the front, both sides, the top, and the back. The maps below use the same orientation throughout: body BOR is CB, and CF is directly opposite it.

Front placement map

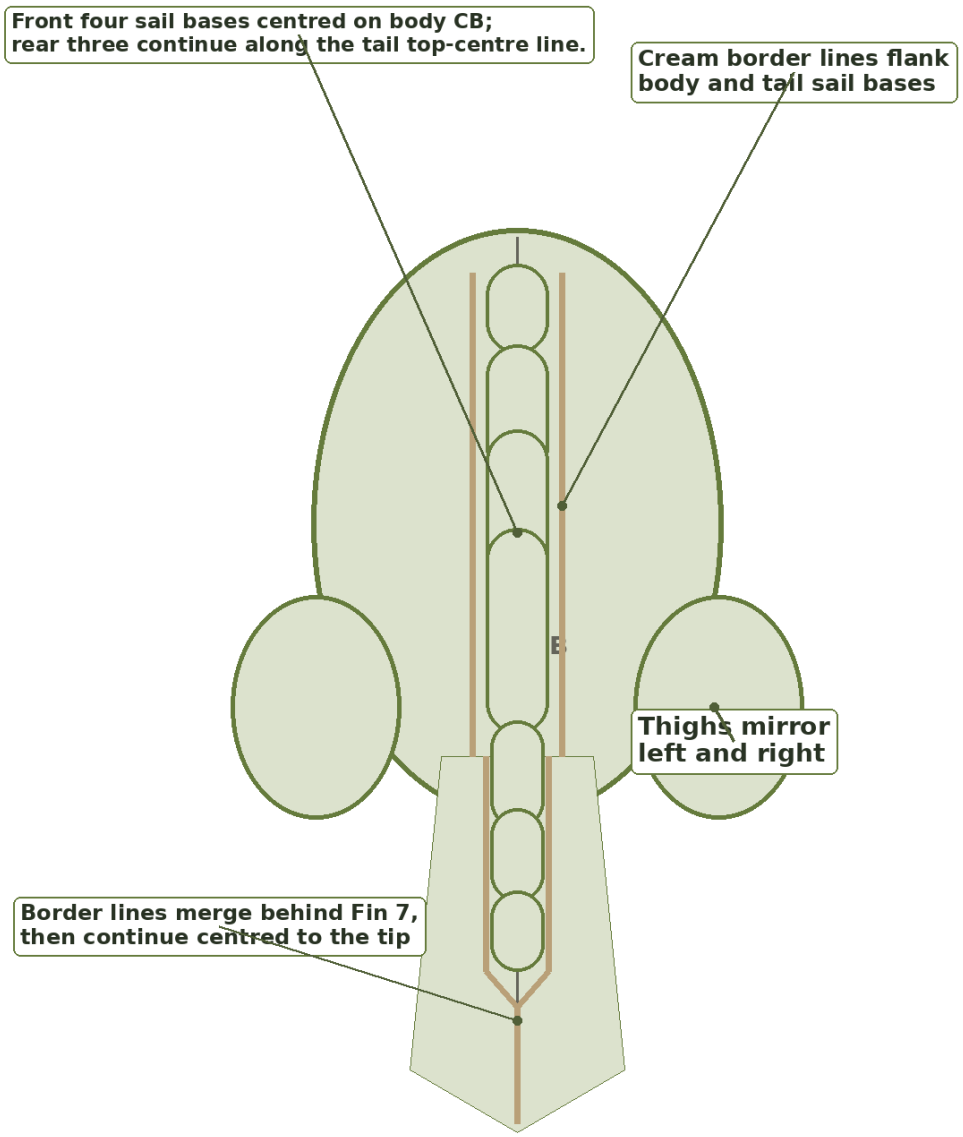


Front placement: paired features mirror across CF.



Side placement: keep the snout slightly raised, feet forward, and tail gently upturned.

Back placement map



Back placement: body sail bases stay centred on CB, rear sail bases continue along the tail top-centre line, and the hind legs mirror left to right.

Detailed Placement Guide

Feature	Placement
Belly patch	Centre on CF. Pin lower edge around Body Rnd 7 and upper edge around Body Rnd 32. Keep equal green fabric visible on both sides.
Tail root	Centre on CB. Pin the 36-st open root as a vertical oval spanning approximately Body Rnds 10–25 and about 12 body stitches across at the widest area.
Right thigh	Centre the 28-st open top on the right lower side around Body Rnd 17. Pin as a rounded oval spanning approximately Body Rnds 11-23. Keep the foot directly below and pointing forward.
Left thigh	Mirror the right thigh at the same height and distance from CF.

Feature	Placement
Head/neck	Pin the 32-st neck opening as a diagonal oval across the upper front of the body. The lower throat edge meets the top of the belly patch around Body Rnds 30-32; the upper neck edge reaches the top of the body around Body Rnds 39-41. Keep the snout approximately level to 10 degrees upward.
Right arm	Flatten the 18-st shoulder opening into 9 paired stitches. Centre the attachment near Body Rnd 30 on the right upper side, approximately 13-15 body stitches from CF. Sew as a short nearly horizontal shoulder line so the arm hangs downward and slightly forward.
Left arm	Mirror the right arm at the same height and angle.
Sail fin 1	Small front fin: base centred on CB at approximately Body Rnd 34.
Sail fin 2	Medium fin: base centred on CB at approximately Body Rnd 31.
Sail fin 3	Tall fin: base centred on CB at approximately Body Rnd 28.
Sail fin 4	Tallest fin: base centred on CB at approximately Body Rnd 25.
Sail fin 5	Tall fin: base centred on the top-centre line of the tail at approximately Tail Rnd 4.
Sail fin 6	Medium fin: base centred on the top-centre line of the tail at approximately Tail Rnd 8.
Sail fin 7	Small rear fin: base centred on the top-centre line of the tail at approximately Tail Rnd 12.

19. Assembly

1. Prepare the feet and legs. Sew 3 dark brown claws evenly across each grafted toe edge. Place each thigh on the upper-rear half of its matching foot, with the thigh lower pole centred over Foot Rnds 5-9. Pin so the foot projects clearly forward. Sew the thigh to the foot with small ladder stitches around the contact area, taking shallow bites through both pieces. Secure firmly and bury all ends.
2. Sew the belly patch. Pin it to CF from Body Rnds 7-32. Use mattress stitch along the side edges and small whip stitches across the top and bottom. Keep the panel smooth and do not pull the body narrower.
3. Attach the tail. Pin the open 36-st tail root to the CB oval spanning Body Rnds 10-25. Use whip stitch through each tail edge loop and a corresponding body stitch. Work around the full opening, adding a small amount of stuffing at the root before closing the last 3 cm / 1.25 in. The tail should leave the body straight back and then curve gently upward.
4. Attach the hind legs. Pin both leg assemblies before sewing either one. Each thigh opening forms a rounded side oval spanning approximately Body Rnds 11-23. Check the front view: knees should sit at equal height and both feet should point forward with similar spacing from CF. Sew each open thigh edge to the body with whip stitch, using every edge loop. Add or remove a little stuffing near the top of the thigh before closing the final section.
5. Attach the head and neck. Pin the 32-st open neck edge as the diagonal upper-front oval described in the placement guide. The cream throat patch should meet the top of the body belly patch without a large green gap. Check from both sides so the snout is level or only slightly raised. Sew the neck opening to the body with whip stitch, using every neck edge loop. Add final neck stuffing before closing the last section.
6. Attach the arms. Flatten each 18-st shoulder opening into 9 paired stitches. Pin each seam as a short, nearly horizontal line around Body Rnd 30, mirrored left to right. With olive green yarn, sew through both flattened arm layers on every stitch pair before entering the body. The arms should hang down and slightly forward rather than sticking straight sideways.
7. Attach the sail fins from front to rear. Flatten each open 4-st cast-on base into 2 stitch pairs. Centre Fins 1-4 on body CB at their assigned Body Rnds, and centre Fins 5-7 on the tail top-centre line at their assigned Tail Rnds. Sew through both base layers with every stitch pair, then into the body or tail. Keep the broad cream-striped faces pointing left and right. The fin bodies may overlap visually, but the narrow sewing bases must remain separate and centred.
8. Add cream seam accents. Around each arm attachment, work a loose cream running stitch over the visible upper half of the shoulder seam. Repeat around the visible upper half of each thigh attachment. Keep the stitch length similar to the cream line on the head.
9. Add the dorsal cream border. Starting behind the neck, work one cream running-stitch line approximately 3 body stitches to the right of CB and a second matching line approximately 3 body stitches to the left of CB, flanking Fins 1-4 down to the upper edge of the tail-root attachment. Continue the two lines onto the tail, keeping them equally spaced to either side of the tail top-centre line so they flank the bases of Fins 5-7. Immediately behind Fin 7, bring the two lines together into one centred line and continue that line along the tail top-centre to the tip.
10. Final finishing. Remove all temporary markers and pins. Check every seam for gaps, especially the tail root, thigh tops, and neck. Add a small amount of stuffing through any still-open final centimetre before closing. Secure every yarn end inside a stuffed piece or weave it invisibly through a flat panel.

20. Finished Placement Views

Use these views as a practical check for overall posture, sail spacing, limb angle, and tail curve while making final adjustments.



21. Final Visual Checklist

- Head is centred over the upper body and the snout is level or only slightly raised.
- Eyes are level, evenly spaced, and symmetrical from the front and top.
- Nostrils are centred as a pair and similar in size.
- Mouth lines match on both sides and the front bridge is smooth.
- All 12 cream teeth are secure and visually even.
- Throat patch and belly patch meet neatly without twisting.
- Arms are at the same height and hang downward with the same forward angle.
- Hind thighs are mirrored and feet point straight forward.
- Each hand has 2 dark brown claws and each foot has 3, evenly spaced and mirrored left to right.
- Tail root is centred on CB and the tail curves gently upward without kinking.
- Seven sail fins are present in the correct size sequence: small, medium, tall, tallest, tall, medium, small.
- All sail fin bases are centred on body CB or along the tail top-centre line.
- Cream sail stripes are centred and match from left to right.
- Cream running-stitch borders are balanced and not pulled tight.
- No stuffing is visible through the fabric or seams.
- All cast-on openings that were meant to close are fully closed.
- No attachment opening remains unsecured.
- No markers, pins, loose tails, or exposed knots remain.
- The dinosaur stands evenly on both feet without a strong lean.

22. Troubleshooting

Problem	Practical correction
Stuffing shows between stitches	Your fabric is too loose or overstuffed. Remove a little stuffing first. For another version, use a smaller needle while keeping the same yarn.
Body is too large or too small	Check stockinette gauge before remaking. A small gauge change affects all pieces and the final height.
Head looks round instead of long	Remove some stuffing from the snout and redistribute it toward the back of the head. Keep the 24-st snout zone moderately stuffed, not hard.
Snout droops	Add a little stuffing where the snout meets the wider head and raise the head slightly before tightening the final neck seam.
Eyes look uneven	Before locking safety-eye backs, count from the top-centre line and compare height across Head Rnds 23-24. For an assembled head, a small duplicate-stitch eyelid line can visually correct a difference of less than one stitch.
Mouth lines do not match	Remove only the uneven side and restitch while counting the same Head Rnd positions used on the first side.
Teeth point in different directions	Secure each tooth triangle at both top corners. Keep the cream stitches short and pull only enough to define the point.
Belly patch ripples	The sewing thread is too tight or the patch was stretched. Ease the seam, smooth the panel from centre outward, and resew using smaller bites.
One arm sticks sideways	The shoulder seam is too vertical. Re-pin the flattened 9-pair shoulder edge as a shorter, nearly horizontal line around Body Rnd 30.
Feet turn outward	Rotate the thigh-to-foot join before tightening the thigh body seam. The grafted toe edge should face straight forward.
Legs are different heights	Compare the top and bottom round positions of each thigh oval before sewing the second leg. Mirror both sides from CF.
Tail points downward	Confirm that the three shaping tacks are positioned on the top-centre line, directly opposite BOR. Tighten the tacks slightly and evenly until the tail forms a shallow upward curve. Do not shorten the underside.
Tail has a sharp kink	One ladder tack is too tight. Release it and retighten only until a shallow curve forms.
Sail leans to one side	Confirm that each fin base is flattened evenly and centred on its assigned centre line: body CB for Fins 1-4 and the tail top-centre line for Fins 5-7. Reseam the base through matching stitch pairs without pulling one side more tightly.
Sail spacing looks crowded	Keep the stated centre positions, but allow the fin bodies to overlap visually without stacking one sewing base directly over another.
Cream sail stripe is off-centre	On each flattened 12-st fin, identify the 6-st broad face first, then duplicate-stitch the two middle columns only.
Neck seam gaps	Use every neck edge loop and take slightly deeper body bites. Add a final small tuft of stuffing before closing the last gap.
Dinosaur leans forward	Shift a small amount of body stuffing toward the back and confirm both feet sit flat. The tail may also be raised slightly to improve balance.
Dinosaur leans to one side	Compare thigh placement from the front and back. Reposition the higher or more inward thigh before adjusting stuffing.

23. Quick Reference

Piece	Qty	Key note
Body	1	Max 72 sts; belly patch Body Rnds 7-32

Piece	Qty	Key note
Head/neck	1	40-st head zone; eyes Head Rnds 23-24; 32-st open neck
Arms	2	18-st open shoulder flattened to 9 pairs
Thighs	2	28-st open tops; centres around Body Rnd 17
Feet	2	20-st toe opening flattened to 10 pairs and grafted
Claws	10	2 per hand and 3 per foot
Tail	1	36-st open root; Body Rnds 10-25; 50 rnds long
Sail fins	7	Small, medium, tall, tallest, tall, medium, small
Sail centres	7	Body Rnds 34, 31, 28, 25; Tail Rnds 4, 8, 12

Before you finish

Check the face, paired limb height, foot direction, sail sequence, tail curve, seam closure, and visible stuffing one last time from every angle.