

# Sackboy Knitting Pattern

Knitting a Sackboy has the advantage of texture: the stocking stitch exactly matches the texture the in-game character has. However, knitting is a bit of an imprecise science, and knitting patterns have a little less flexibility than a crocheting pattern. This Sackboy doesn't have an open mouth, and his head is not made from separate piece (simply because making a piece that matches his appearance would be annoying – knitting something round with texture in that direction is just not how knitting works!)

This pattern is adapted from Alan Dart pattern that appeared in "Simply Knitting" magazine, January 2009. I am a novice knitter, and I couldn't read the pattern, and it just wouldn't work out for me, so I kept notes of the adjustments I made and what is recorded below is the exact way I made my Sackboy. I also couldn't work out the fingers, so this pattern has "mitten hands", if you want to have a crack at a Sackboy with fingers, you can find the original pattern with a simple Google search.

I confess that some of the instructions probably seem overly-laboured, and could have been notated in simpler terms, but I was simply tracking what I did. I'm just not that sophisticated a knitter. I also never learned how to increase, so I was using the most simplistic method I came across when Googling for help. This method means that an increase can't be the last stitch on a row, so I had to shuffle the increases around to ensure that they stayed approximately symmetrical, while leaving at least a single knit stitch at the end to hold everything together.

I made this pattern using 3mm needles, and Sackboy turned out approx 21cm high. If you have a heavy-weight yarn, you can use 4mm needles to make a Sackboy that is closer to 30cm tall.

Sackboy in his most basic iteration is a very dark brown; I had trouble finding a wool colour that I liked. If you want your Sackboy wearing a costume (as he can in the games), you can make a basic Sackboy in brown and dress him up; or for skin-tight leotards like superheroes wear, try knitting him in the colours of his costume and adding details with felt and paint.

## Abbreviations

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St / sts	Stitch / stitches
K	Knit
P	Purl
K2tog	Knit 2 stitches together
Inc	Increases stitches by number given
St st	Stocking stitch
( )	Repeat instructions in the brackets the number of times shown after the brackets
[ ]	The number of stitches you should have on your needle at the end of the row

If you make a Sackboy using this pattern, please message me and tell me how you went!

## HEAD (make 1)

**Cast on** 12st and st st 2 rows.

**First Inc:** K2, (inc1, K1) 3 times, inc1, K2, (inc1, K1) 3 times, inc1, K2 [20sts]

**Next Row:** Purl

**Second Inc:** K1, (inc1, K2) 9 times, inc1, K1 [30sts]

**Next Row:** Purl

**Third Inc:** K2, (inc1, K3) 9 times, inc1, K1 [40sts]

**Next Row:** Purl

**Fourth Inc:** K2, (inc1, K4) 9 times, inc1, K2 [50sts]

**Next Row:** Purl

**Fifth Inc:** K3, (inc1, K5) 9 times, inc1, K2 [60sts]

**Next Row:** Purl

**Sixth Inc:** K3, (inc1, K6) 9 times, inc1, K3 [70sts]

St st 7 rows

**First Dec:** (K6, K2tog, K6) to end [65sts]  
St st 3 rows

**Second Dec:** (K6, K2tog, K6) to end [55sts]  
St st 3 rows

**Third Dec:** (K5, K2tog, K5) to end [50sts]  
St st 3 rows

**Shape top of head:** (K2, K2tog, K1) to end [40sts]

St st 2 rows

**Second Dec:** (P2tog, P2) to end [30sts]  
St st 2 rows

**Third Dec:** (K1, K2tog) to end [20sts]

**Next Row:** Purl

**Fourth Dec:** (K2tog) to end [10sts]

Cut yarn leaving a long end. Thread end through stitches and draw up tight.

**To make up:** Using long end of yarn, sew across the top of the head and down the back with mattress stitch. Stop at the bottom of the widest part of the head and stuff firmly. Tease a hole into the centre of the stuffing with your thumbs and put a craft stick into the middle of the head so that it sticks out of the neck. Finish sewing the head seam so the cast on row forms a ring around the craft stick and tie the yarn off to the cast-on thread.

## BODY (make 1)

**Cast on** 14sts and st st 2 rows.

**First Inc:** K2, (inc1, K2) to end [20sts]

**Next Row:** Purl

**Second Inc:** (K3, inc1) 3 times, K2, (inc1, K3) to end [26sts]

**Next Row:** Purl

**Third Inc:** K3, (inc1, K4) 5 times, inc1, K3 [32sts]  
St st 15 rows

**First Dec:** (K2, K2tog, K1) 6 times, K2 [26sts]

**Next Row:** Purl

**Second Dec:** K2, (K2tog, K2) to end [20sts]

**Next Row:** Purl

**Third Dec:** (K1, K2tog) 6 times, K2 [14sts]

**Next Row:** Purl

**Fourth Dec:** K3, K2tog, K4, K2tog, K3 [12sts]  
Cast off.

**To make up:** Position zip so that the zipper pull is approx 1cm from the cast-off row. Sew long sides to the zipper until just short of the cast-on row. Fold the zipper under and tuck inside the body. Pinch the cast on row together across the zipper (from left to right, not front to back) and sew seam closed. Stuff body firmly and tease a hole into the middle of the stuffing, as for the head. Place the head onto the body. Close up the top of the body over the zipper pull, then sew neck edge to top body edge, tying off and threading the ends into the body.



## LEGS (make 2)

**Cast on** 8sts, leaving a long end of yarn.

**First Inc:** (K1, inc1) to end [16sts]

**Next Row:** Purl

**Second Inc:** (K1, inc1, K1) to end [24sts]

St st 3 rows

**First Dec:** (K1, K2tog) to end [16sts]

St st 13 rows

**Second Dec:** (K2tog) to end [8sts]

Cut yarn leaving a long end. Thread end through stitches and draw up tight.

**To make up:** Cut two circles of felt approx 1inch in diameter in a colour that matches the yarn. Using the cast-on end begin sewing up the leg seam, approx halfway, stop and place the circle of felt in the bottom of the foot (this will cover the hole at the bottom of the foot, and help give it shape). Stuff the leg firmly and finish the seam, tying the yarn off to the cast-off thread. Use these strands to firmly attach the legs to either side of the body.



## ARMS (make 2)

**Cast on** 6sts.

**Next Row:** Purl

**First Inc:** K2, inc1, K2, inc1, K2 [8sts]

**Next Row:** Purl

**Second Inc:** (K1, inc1, K1) to end [12sts]

**Next Row:** Purl

**Third Inc:** K2, inc1, K3, inc1, K2, inc1, K3, inc1, K2 [16sts]

St st 13 rows

**Shape Thumb:** Cast on 4sts, K to end [20sts]

**Next Row:** Cast on 4sts, P to end [24sts]

St st 2 rows

**Next Row:** Cast off 4sts, K to end [20sts]

**Next Row:** Cast off 4sts, P to end [16sts]

**Shape Hand:** K4, inc1, K3, inc1, K2, inc1, K3, inc1, K4 [20sts]

St st 4 rows and cast off.

**To make up:** Fold arm in half, right side together, and stitch around the hand seam, shaping the sides to give a rounded appearance. Stitch around thumb, again shaping the corners. Turn right side out and begin mattress stitching the arm seam. Near top stuff arm firmly, starting with the thumb. Finish seam, going past the cast on thread and along the top of the arm. Use these ends to firmly attach arms to either side of the body.

## FINISHING

Once Sackboy has been made up, he needs some final details to make him complete. Pinch along the upper edge of the head to make the top flat and using a contrasting yarn, unevenly sew whip stitches around the circumference. Add contrasting whip stitches around the wrist (as if the hands had been sewn on), down the sides of the body, and inside of legs and arms. Add a pair of eyes and a massive grin, and you're done!