

# Tyrannosaurus Rex

by Tina Barrett

# deramores

## Size

T-Rex measures 46cm (18in) from nose to tail

## Materials

- 1 x 100gm ball of *Stylecraft Life DK* in Shade Olive (2302) (A)
- 1 x 100gm ball of *Stylecraft Life DK* in Shade Daffodil (2394) (B)
- 1 x 100gm ball of *Stylecraft Life DK* in Shade Claret (2310) (C)
- 1 x pair of 3.00mm (UK11) needles
- Yellow and white felt for eyes and teeth
- Needle and white sewing thread
- 2 x small red buttons (approximately 5mm)
- Fabric glue
- Polyester toy stuffing

## Tension

26 sts and 36 rows to 10cm square using 3mm needles



## Instructions

### Body

Worked tail to head (make 1)

Using A, cast on 3 sts.

Purl 1 row.

Beg with a K row and working in st st throughout cont as follows:

Inc 1 st at each end of next and every following alt rows to 17 sts.

Inc 1 st each end of next and every foll 4th row to 33 sts.

Work 13 rows in st st.

### Belly

• **Row 1:** Kfb, k14, kfb, k1, kfb, k14, kfb (37 sts).

• **Row 2:** Pfb, p17, k1, p17, pfb (39 sts).

• **Row 3:** Kfb, k17, kfb, k1, kfb, k17, kfb (43 sts).

• **Row 4:** Pfb, p20, k1, p20, pfb (45 sts).

• **Row 5:** Kfb, k20, kfb, k1, kfb, k20, kfb (49 sts).

• **Row 6:** Pfb, p23, k1, p23, pfb (51 sts).

• **Row 7:** Kfb, k23, kfb, k1, kfb, k23, kfb (55 sts).

• **Row 8:** Purl.

Work 8 rows in st st.

Dec 1 st at each end of next and foll 4th row (51 sts).

Work 1 row.

Dec 1 st at each end of next and every foll alt row to 37 sts.

Purl 1 row.

### Neck

• **Row 1:** Ssk, k14, ssk, k1, k2tog, k14, k2tog (33 sts).

• **Row 2:** P16, k1, p16.

• **Row 3:** Ssk, k12, ssk, k1, k2tog, k12, k2tog (29 sts).

• **Row 4:** P14, k1, p14.

• **Row 5:** Ssk, k10, ssk, k1, k2tog, k10, k2tog (25 sts).

• **Row 6:** P12, k1, p12.

• **Row 7:** Ssk, k8, ssk, k1, k2tog, k8, k2tog (21 sts).

• **Row 8:** Purl.

Work 4 rows in st st.

### Head

• **Row 1:** K9, kfb, k1, kfb, k9 (23 sts).

• **Row 2:** P10, pfb, k1, pfb, p10 (25 sts).

• **Row 3:** K11, kfb, k1, kfb, k11 (27 sts).

• **Row 4:** P12, pfb, k1, pfb, p12 (29 sts).

• **Row 5:** K13, kfb, k1, kfb, k13 (31 sts).

• **Row 6:** P14, pfb, k1, pfb, p14 (33 sts).

Work 6 rows in st st.

• **Row 13:** K14, ssk, k1, k2tog, k14 (31 sts).

• **Row 14:** P13, p2tog, k1, p2togtbl, p13 (29 sts).

• **Row 15:** K12, ssk, k1, k2tog, k12 (27 sts).

• **Row 16:** Purl.

• **Row 17:** Knit.

• **Row 18:** P2tog, P to end of row (26 sts).

### Divide for jaws

• **Row 1:** K20, turn, leave rem 6 sts on a holder.

• **Row 2:** P13, turn, leave rem 7 sts on holder.

Working on these 13 sts only, work 6 rows in st st.

Dec 1 st at each end of next and every foll 4th row to 9 sts.

Purl 1 row.

Dec 1 st at each end of next and every foll alt rows until 3 sts rem.

Purl 1 row.

• **Next row:** Sl1, k2tog, psso and fasten off.

For lower jaw, slide both sets of stitches from the stitch holders onto 1 needle. Make sure they line up without twisting and the RS is facing you for the next row. You want a row of 13 sts which lay parallel below the top jaw. Work 6 rows in st st.

Dec 1 st at each end of next and every foll 4th row to 9 sts.

Purl 1 row.

Dec 1 st at each end of next and every foll alt rows until 3 sts rem.

Purl 1 row.

• **Next row:** Sl1, k2tog, psso and fasten off.

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## Mouth Gusset

Make 1 in C

Cast on 3 sts.

Beg with a K row and working in st st throughout, cont as follows:

Inc 1 st at each end of next and every foll alt row to 9 sts.

Work 1 row.

Inc 1 st at each end of next and every foll 4th row to 13 sts.

Work 15 rows in st st.

Dec 1 st at each end of next and every foll 4th row to 9 sts.

Work 1 row.

Dec 1 st at each end of next and every foll alt rows to 3 sts.

Purl 1 row.

• **Next row:** Sl1, k2tog, pss0 and fasten off.

## Back legs

Worked from foot to top of leg (make 2)

Cast on 30 sts in A.

Beg with a K row, work 4 rows in stocking stitch.

• **Row 5:** K13, ssk, k2tog, k13 (28 sts).

• **Row 6:** P12, p2tog, p2tog tbl, p12 (26 sts).

• **Row 7:** K11, ssk, k2tog, k11 (24 sts).

• **Row 8:** P10, p2tog, p2togtbl, p10 (22 sts).

• **Row 9:** K9, ssk, k2tog, k9 (20 sts).

• **Row 10:** Purl.

Work 12 rows in st st.

## Top of leg

• **Row 1:** (K1, kfb) 10 times (30 sts).

• **Row 2:** Purl.

• **Row 3:** (K2, kfb) 10 times (40 sts).

• **Row 4:** Purl.

Work 10 rows in st st.

• **Next row:** (K2, k2tog) 10 times (30 sts).

• **Next row:** Purl.

• **Next row:** (K1, k2tog) 10 times (20 sts).

• **Next row:** Purl.

• **Next row:** (K2tog) 10 times (10 sts).

Break yarn leaving a long tail, thread through rem stitches, pull tight and fasten off.

## Sole

Make 2

Using B, cast on 4 sts.

Working in g st throughout cont as follows:

Inc 1 st at each end of every row to 12 sts.

Work 6 rows.

Dec 1 st at each end of every row to 4 sts.

Cast off.

## Front legs

Make 2

Using A, cast on 4 sts.

• **Row 1:** Kfb into each st (8 sts).

• **Row 2** and every foll alt row: Purl.

• **Row 3:** (K1, kfb) 4 times (12 sts).

• **Row 5:** (K2, kfb) 4 times (16 sts).

Work 7 rows in st st.

• **Next row:** (K2, k2tog) 4 times (12 sts).

Work 3 rows in st st.

• **Next row:** (K1, k2tog) 4 times (8 sts).

Work 5 rows in st st.

Change to B and work 2 rows in st st.

## Claws

• **Row 1:** K4, turn and work on these sts only.

• **Row 2:** Knit.

• **Row 3:** (K2tog) twice (2 sts).

• **Row 4:** Knit.

• **Row 5:** K2tog and fasten off.

With RS facing, rejoin yarn to last 4 sts.

Work rows 1–5 once more.

## Spine

Make 1

Using A, cast on 60 sts.

Knit 1 row.

Work Picot cast off as follows:

### Picot Cast off

Cast off 3 sts, (cast on 2 sts in the stitch on your LH needle, cast off 4 sts) rep brackets to last stitch. Fasten off.

## Making up

Darn in loose yarn ends

## Head and body

Sew up belly seam on body and stuff through mouth firmly, leaving the head unstuffed for the moment. Using the purl side of the mouth gusset as the RS, pin the gusset inside the jaws and stitch around each edge leaving a small opening for stuffing. Finish stuffing the head and body and close opening.

## Legs

Sew rear seam and stuff firmly through the sole. Sew the sole onto the bottom of the leg. Repeat for second leg. Position legs onto the body. Make sure the legs and tail form a balanced triangle shape so your T-Rex will stand up unaided. Sew the legs on firmly using the thread jointing method. Fold the front legs in half lengthwise and sew up leaving the claw end open. Stuff each leg firmly and sew across the end, leaving the claws free.

## Spine

Pin the spine in place from tip of T-Rex's tail to the bottom of his neck. Stitch in place with small slip stitches.

## Spots

Using the template below, cut 10 spots in yellow felt. Position them randomly along T-Rex's back and use the fabric glue to stick in place.

## Spot template: 100%



## Facial features

Cut two teardrop shapes from yellow felt for the eyes. Stick them into place with fabric glue. Sew a small button on top of each. Using A, sew two French knots for nostrils on top of T-Rex's top jaw (refer to photo).

## Teeth

Cut a strip of white felt approx 1cm wide. Make sure it is long enough to wrap around the top edge of the jaws. Draw a zig-zag line through the centre of the strip with a pencil or soluble marker and cut this line. You should have two zig-zag strips, each with a straight edge. Dab the straight edges with fabric glue. Stick in place along top and bottom edges of jaw (refer to picture for placement). Use the sewing thread and needle to stitch firmly in place along the straight edge.

## Finishing Touches

### Stuffing your dinosaur

How you stuff your dinosaur will affect his final appearance and character. Always try to stuff firmly but beware overstuffing, which stretches the knitting so the stuffing shows through on the outside.

Try and stuff in small sections, filling the smaller spaces first such as the head and tail.

Feed the stuffing through into tapered areas with the blunt end of a knitting needle and always mould and shape as you go.

Check you are satisfied with the shape and silhouette as you work. Finally, fill the larger areas like the tummy and legs, continuing to mould and shape to the very end. Make a final check on the shape before you close the stuffing hole.

### Thread jointing your dinosaur

It is fun to make your dinosaur walk and be able to move his arms and legs around.

The joint threading technique is very simple and works as follows:

1 - Pin the arms or legs to the sides of the body.

2 - Thread a needle with a long piece of thread and double it for strength.

3 - Push the needle through one side of the body at the pin position, take it through the body to the opposite side then finally, through the opposite limb.

4 - Now go back through the body in the opposite direction, taking the needle through all layers and coming out the opposite side through that limb.

5 - Repeat this process until the limbs are secure, pulling the thread tightly each time so you get a little dimple where the needle enters and exits the limb.

6 - When you are satisfied you have secured the limb properly, fasten off.

### Attaching the eyes

It is recommended that you use a good quality glue that is not PVA based.

This is because PVA glue doesn't stand up to washing in hot water and if your dinosaur is to be well loved and washed, then this could be a problem.

### Safety warning

If you are giving your dinosaur to very small children or babies then it is recommended that you do not use buttons for eyes. French knots sewn in a contrast colour can be used instead. The felt pieces can also be sewn in place with backstitch, which is more secure.

### ABBREVIATIONS

**K** – knit

**P** – purl

**st(s)** – stitch(es)

**st st** – stocking stitch

**g st** – garter stitch

**foll** – following

**kfb** – increase by working into front and back of same stitch

**pfb** – purl into front and back of next st

**ssk** – slip the next 2 stitches knitwise, slip back on LH needle and knit 2 together

**k2tog** – decrease by knitting 2 stitches together

**p2togtbl** – purl 2 together through the back loops

**p2tog** – purl 2 together

**rem** – remaining

**sl** – slip

**pssso** – pass slipped stitch over

## knitted dinosaurs

A collection of prehistoric pals to knit from scratch



Tina Barrett

