Flossie Bear  
by Debbie Orr

When my children were a little younger, I used to knit them teddies from made-up patterns and whatever fluffy yarn they chose from the local craft shop.

Now I have the temptation of Lotus Yarns cashmere sitting in my workshop, I couldn’t resist tinkering with this fairisle pattern, my favourite way of knitting, and Flossie was born. Flossie is a hugging bear and hence is constructed with no arms or legs to get in the way of affectionate hugs.

Needles
6mm - US size 10

Yarn
Lotus Yarns Cashmere Soft  
Supplier -skeinquueen.co.uk  
Suitable for any DK weight yarn  
Oatmeal (MC) plus 5 contrast colours (CC)  
Ruby, Sugar Pink, Hot Pink, Chocolate and Lime.

Body
Cast on 120 stitches in MC  
Knit in the round using magic loop - knit every round.  
Body, face and ears knitted in one piece.

Knit 2 rounds in MC then follow pattern chart to end of last coloured round (Ruby).

Face
Knit 7 rounds in MC  
Wind off two small balls of chocolate colour.  
Round 8: K26 in MC, K3 chocolate, K3 MC, (separate ball) K3 chocolate, K to end of round in MC.

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Continue making facial features following the chart and at the same time, follow the decreases on the chart and the decreasing directions as given.

**Decreasing**
At the row where the eyes start, K2 tog twice, K52, (K2 tog) x 4, K52 to last 4 sts, K2 tog twice.
Round 2: Knit a round (maintaining pattern).
Round 3: K2 tog, K48, (K2 tog) x 2, K48 to last 4 sts, K2 tog.
Round 4: Knit
Round 5: K2 tog, K44, (K2 tog) x 2, K44, K2 tog.
Round 6: Knit
Round 7: K2 tog, K40, (K2 tog) x 2, K40, K2 tog.
Round 8: Knit
Round 9: Knit
80 sts
Cast off.

**Finishing**
Sew up head seam. Stuff lightly. Sew up bottom seam. Do a running stitch in the corners to create ears.

Give to someone small to hug.