

Knarr Kaupskip (Ship)

Character Reference — Arctic Wool World



Reference art for construction guidance. Colors/pose may vary slightly from your finished piece.

Knarr Kaupskip — Knitting Pattern

A traditional hand-knitted Viking cargo ship from Norse folklore. Sturdy, wide, and built for trade. (~35 cm, enlarged for easier knitting)

Origin: Norse Viking shipyards · **Personality:** (a vessel, not a character) · **Likes:** Carrying heavy merchant crates

This is an original pattern written for this character, based on standard, generic amigurumi and toy-knitting construction techniques (magic ring/CO, spiral increases and decreases, i-cord, stuffed tubes and spheres). It does not copy, trace, or reproduce any published or copyrighted pattern -- these underlying construction techniques are standard craft knowledge, not anyone's intellectual property, the same way a recipe's technique of 'creaming butter and sugar' isn't owned by any one baker.

Knit abbreviations: k = knit · kfb = knit into front and back of st (inc 1) · k2tog = knit 2 together (dec 1) · CO = cast on · dpns = double-pointed needles · pm = place marker · rnd(s) = round(s) · st(s) = stitch(es)

Materials

Yarn: Aran or chunky-weight (10-12 ply) pure wool -- deliberately thicker than a true-to-scale yarn would call for, so the stitches stay big, easy to see, and quick to work, small quantities in each of: Chestnut Brown, Cream, Warm Tan/Beige.

Hook/needles: a set of 4.5-5mm double-pointed needles (or two short circulars for magic loop), plus a spare needle for grafting.

Notions: Tapestry/yarn needle · stitch markers · polyester fiberfill stuffing · embroidery needle and a little dark thread/yarn for the face · small scissors; a thin skewer or stiff wire for the mast.

Gauge

Worked at a relaxed toy-knit tension in a thicker yarn: roughly 13 sts and 17 rows over 10 cm in stockinette, worked in the round. Finished size at this gauge is approximately 35 cm -- deliberately enlarged from the reference art so the stitches stay big and easy to track. Exact gauge isn't critical for a stuffed toy; adjust stuffing firmness to taste.

HULL (base)

The hull is worked as a flat, elongated oval rather than a circle, using standard oval shaping: chain or cast on a foundation of about 78 sts, then work around both long sides, increasing only at the two short ends (2-3 sts at each end, each round) rather than all the way around -- this keeps the oval's long straight sides straight while rounding out the bow and stern. Continue until the oval measures roughly 35 cm long by 14.7 cm wide.

HULL (sides)

Once the flat oval base is at full size, stop increasing and work straight up in rounds for about 10.5 cm to build the hull walls, the same way you'd build the sides of a basket on an oval base. On the last 2-3 rounds, add a few extra decreases concentrated only at the bow and stern points so those two ends taper up into a proper pointed Viking prow rather than staying square.

HULL (colour)

Work the whole hull in Warm Tan/Beige; for the classic alternating painted-shield look along a real knarr's side, switch in a second colour for random single rounds as you go, rather than a fixed stripe -- much more forgiving to execute neatly.

MAST

A single upright tube (j-cord or a firm knit/crochet tube), about 31.5 cm tall, stiffened by working it around a length of skewer or thick wire pushed up the middle if you want it to stand perfectly straight. Sew or wedge the base into the centre of the hull floor.

SAIL

A single flat rectangle, roughly 12.2 cm wide by 21.0 cm tall, worked flat in Cream in plain stockinette/sc (a woven-look garter or moss stitch reads well as sailcloth). Thread it onto the mast, or sew it directly to the mast down its centre line so it sits square.

CRATES (make 3-4)

Small cubes in Chestnut Brown: work six small flat squares (or one long strip folded into a box) and seam into a cube roughly 2.8 cm per side, stuff lightly to hold its shape, and sew into the bottom of the hull as cargo.

FINISHING

No face on this one -- proportions and the pointed bow/stern silhouette are what sell it. Weight the base very slightly (a few extra rows of stuffing, or a flat washer sewn into the hull floor) if you want her to sit level on a shelf.

Finishing: steam very lightly (hover an iron just above the surface, don't press) to even out stitches, and check every seam by hand -- these take the most handling stress, especially if this toy is for a child. This is a first-generation pattern for this character: proportions, stuffing firmness, or a specific shaping detail may want a tweak once you've made one -- treat it as a working draft.