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Best in Show:

**Knit Your Own Dinosaur**

Written by

Sally Muir & Joanna Osborne

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# Knit your own **Dinosaur**



**Best in Show**

*Sally Muir &  
Joanna Osborne*

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by  
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**For Geoffrey, Abigail, Gabriel, Orlando, Daniel and Milo.**



# *Knit your own* **Dinosaur**

**Sally Muir & Joanna Osborne**

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# Introduction

*Knit your own Dinosaur* is the latest addition to our *Best in Show* series, and the first to feature animals that are no longer with us. As nobody knows for sure what colour dinosaurs were, it has given us licence to be a little more adventurous with our colours, and so can you. We hope that we have chosen a representative selection for you, with a variety of shapes and sizes, from the winged to the crawling, from the long-necked to the squat and menacing.

We have added armature wire as well as pipecleaners to help strengthen our dinosaurs and make them more poseable. As before, the dinosaurs are not toys, but the ends of armature wire are less sharp than those of pipecleaners, so may be better for small children. Or you can stuff the dinosaurs very tightly and not use anything, if you don't mind them being slightly floppy.

Although none of them is particularly difficult to knit, if you are a more inexperienced knitter we would advise beginning with the simpler dinosaurs: the Brachiosaurus, Diplodocus, Archelon, Pterodactyl, Mammoth, Stegosaurus and Tyrannosaurus Rex. When you are more confident, you can proceed to the slightly more complicated Velociraptor, Archaeopteryx, Iguanodon, Triceratops and Ankylosaurus.

We do hope that you enjoy knitting our dinosaurs as much as we have enjoyed creating them.

Joanna and Sally





# Tyrannosaurus Rex

**King of the dinosaurs as well as a legendary 1970s glam rock band, the Tyrannosaurus Rex was one of the largest carnivorous dinosaurs, able to eat up to 500 pounds of meat in one bite. It also had very bad breath and a septic bite. Its tiny little arms have caused some hilarity, but may have been used for grasping prey or pushing itself up if it fell over. T-Rex the band became popular with hits such as 'Ride A White Swan' and 'Get It On', but the band became extinct when lead singer Marc Bolan died in 1977.**



## Velociraptor

**A carnivore, the small Velociraptor has strong claws for grabbing prey. A gang of aggressive Velociraptors attack and kill the gamekeeper, Robert Muldoon, in the first *Jurassic Park* film. Toronto named their baseball team the Raptors, and in Australia the garage band Velociraptors consists of 12 raptors.**

## Velociraptor

Slightly fiddly but worth the effort, the Velociraptor is a rewarding knit.

### Measurements

Length: 17cm (6¾in)

Height to top of head: 16cm (6¼in)

### Materials

Pair of 2¼mm (US 2) knitting needles

Double-pointed 2¼mm (US 2) knitting needles (for holding stitches)

Small amount of Rowan Pure Wool 4ply in Black 404 (bl) for claws and eyes

15g (½oz) of Rowan Felted Tweed in Avocado 161 (av)

5g (½oz) of Rowan Felted Tweed in Treacle 145 (te)

5g (½oz) of Rowan Felted Tweed in Stone 190 (st)

Small amount of Rowan Felted Tweed in Rage 150 (ra) for mouth

Small amount of Rowan Pure Wool 4ply in Snow 412 (sn) for teeth

3 pipecleaners for legs and tail

### Abbreviations

See page 78.

See page 79 for Colour Knitting.

See page 79 for Wrap and Turn Method.

### Right Back Leg

**Claws** (make 3)

With bl, cast on 1 st.

**Row 1:** Knit.

**Row 2:** Inc. (2 sts)

**Row 3:** [Inc] twice. (4 sts)

**Row 4:** Purl.

**Row 5:** Knit.

**Row 6:** Cast (bind) off 1 st, p1 icos, p2tog (hold 2 sts on spare needle for working leg).

Rep from beg twice more. (6 sts on spare needle in total)

### Shape leg

**Row 7:** With av, cast on 2 sts, with RS facing k6 from spare needle of Claws, cast on 2 sts.

(10 sts)

**Row 8:** Purl.

**Row 9:** K2, k2tog, k2, k2tog, k2. (8 sts)

**Row 10:** Purl.

**Row 11:** K1, k2tog, k2, k2tog, k1. (6 sts)

Work 5 rows st st.

**Row 17:** K2, [inc] twice, k2. (8 sts)

Work 3 rows st st.

**Row 21:** Inc, k6, inc. (10 sts)

**Row 22:** Purl.

**Row 23:** K4, [inc] twice, k4. (12 sts)

**Row 24:** Purl.

**Row 25:** Inc, k4, [inc] twice, k4, inc. (16 sts)

Work 3 rows st st.

**Row 29:** Inc, k6, [inc] twice, k6, inc. (20 sts)

Work 3 rows st st.\*

**Row 33:** Cast (bind) off 10 sts, k to end (hold 10 sts on spare needle for Right Side of Body).

### Left Back Leg

Work as for Right Back Leg to \*.

**Row 33:** K10, cast (bind) off 10 sts (hold 10 sts on spare needle for Left Side of Body).

### Front Legs

(make 2 the same)

**Claws** (make 2 for each leg)

With bl, cast on 1 st.

**Row 1:** Knit.

**Row 2:** Inc. (2 sts)

**Row 3:** [Inc] twice. (4 sts)

**Row 4:** Purl.

**Row 5:** Knit.



## Legs

Once stuffed, bend the legs to create the ankle and knee.

**Row 6:** Cast (bind) off 1 st, p1 icos, p2tog (hold 2 sts on spare needle for working leg). Rep from beg once more. (4 sts on spare needle in total)

### Shape leg

**Row 7:** With av, cast on 1 st, with RS facing k4 from spare needle of Claws, cast on 1 st. (6 sts)

Work 11 rows st st.

**Row 19:** Inc, k4, inc. (8 sts)

Work 3 rows st st.

Cast (bind) off.

### Right Side of Body

With av, cast on 11 sts.

**Row 1:** Knit.

**Row 2:** Cast (bind) off 7 sts, p4 icos, cast on 5 sts. (9 sts)

**Row 3:** Knit.

**Row 4:** Cast (bind) off 4 sts, p5 icos, cast on 3 sts. (8 sts)

**Row 5:** Knit.

**Row 6:** P2tog, p6, cast on 2 sts. (9 sts)

**Row 7:** K7, k2tog. (8 sts)

**Row 8:** P2tog, p6, cast on 2 sts. (9 sts) Join in te.

**Row 9:** K7av, k2togte. (8 sts)

**Row 10:** P2togte, p6av, cast on 2av sts. (9 sts)

**Row 11:** K5av, k1te, k1av, k2togte. (8 sts)

**Row 12:** P2togte, p1av, p1te, p4av, cast on 2av sts. (9 sts)

**Row 13:** K6av, k1te, k1av, k1te.

**Row 14:** P2togte, p1te, p1av, p1te, p4av, cast on 2av sts. (10 sts)

**Row 15:** K6av, k1te, k2av, k1te.

**Row 16:** P2togte, p1av, p1te, p6av, with WS facing p10 from spare needle of Right Back Leg, cast on 2av sts. (21 sts)

**Row 17:** K15av, k1te, k3av, k2te.

**Row 18:** P2togte, p4av, p1te, p2av, p1te, p11av, cast on 2av sts. (22 sts)

**Row 19:** K12av, k1te, k3av, k1te, k3av,

k2togte. (21 sts)

**Row 20:** P2togte, p2av, p1te, p3av, p1te, p12av, cast on 3av sts. (23 sts)

**Row 21:** K11av, k1te, k2av, k2te, k2av, k2te, k1av, k2togte. (22 sts)

**Row 22:** Cast (bind) off 3te sts, p1te icos, p2av, p2te, p2av, p2te, p3av, p1te, p6av. (19 sts)

**Row 23:** Incav, k4av, k1te, k4av, k2te, k2av, k2te, k1av, k2togte. (19 sts)

**Row 24:** Cast (bind) off 3te sts, p1te icos, p2av, p2te, p4av, p2te, p5av. (16 sts)

**Row 25:** Incav, k4av, k2te, k3av, k2te, k2av, k2togte. (16 sts)

**Row 26:** Cast (bind) off 4te sts, p1te icos, p3av, p2te, p6av. (12 sts)

**Row 27:** K7av, k1te, k2av, k2togte. (11 sts)

**Row 28:** Cast (bind) off 4te, 3av sts, p4av icos (hold 4 sts on spare needle for Neck and Head).

### Left Side of Body

With av, cast on 11 sts.

**Row 1:** Purl.

**Row 2:** Cast (bind) off 7 sts, k4 icos, cast on 5 sts. (9 sts)

**Row 3:** Purl.

**Row 4:** Cast (bind) off 4 sts, k5 icos, cast on 3 sts. (8 sts)

**Row 5:** Purl.

**Row 6:** K2tog, k6, cast on 2 sts. (9 sts)

**Row 7:** P7, p2tog. (8 sts)

**Row 8:** K2tog, k6, cast on 2 sts. (9 sts) Join in te.

**Row 9:** P7av, p2togte. (8 sts)

**Row 10:** K2togte, k6av, cast on 2av sts. (9 sts)

**Row 11:** P5av, p1te, p1av, p2togte. (8 sts)

**Row 12:** K2togte, k1av, k1te, k4av, cast on 2av sts. (9 sts)

**Row 13:** P6av, p1te, p1av, p1te.

**Row 14:** K2togte, k1te, k1av, k1te, k4av, cast on 2av sts. (10 sts)

**Row 15:** P6av, p1te, p2av, p1te.

**Row 16:** K2togte, k1av, k1te, k6av, with RS





## Teeth

French knots make the teeth for this naughty little dinosaur.

facing k10 from spare needle of Left Back Leg, cast on 2av sts. (21 sts)

**Row 17:** P15av, p1te, p3av, p2te.

**Row 18:** K2togte, k4av, k1te, k2av, k1te, k11av, cast on 2av sts. (22 sts)

**Row 19:** P12av, p1te, p3av, p1te, p3av, p2togte. (21 sts)

**Row 20:** K2togte, k2av, k1te, k3av, k1te, k12av, cast on 3av sts. (23 sts)

**Row 21:** P11av, p1te, p2av, p2te, p2av, p2te, p1av, p2togte. (22 sts)

**Row 22:** Cast (bind) off 3te sts, k1te icos, k2av, k2te, k2av, k2te, k3av, k1te, k6av. (19 sts)

**Row 23:** Incav, p4av, p1te, p4av, p2te, p2av, p2te, p1av, p2togte. (19 sts)

**Row 24:** Cast (bind) off 3te sts, k1te icos, k2av, k2te, k4av, k2te, k5av. (16 sts)

**Row 25:** Incav, p4av, p2te, p3av, p2te, p2av, p2togte. (16 sts)

**Row 26:** Cast (bind) off 4te sts, k1te icos, k3av, k2te, k6av. (12 sts)

**Row 27:** P7av, p1te, p2av, p2togte. (11 sts)

**Row 28:** Cast (bind) off 4te, 3av sts, k4av icos (hold 4 sts on spare needle for Neck and Head).

## Neck and Head

**Row 1:** With av and RS facing, k2, k2tog from spare needle of Right Side of Body, then k2tog, k2 from spare needle of Left Side of Body. (6 sts)

Work 3 rows st st.

**Row 5:** K2, [inc] twice, k2. (8 sts)

**Row 6:** Purl.

**Row 7:** K7, w&t (leave 1 st on left-hand needle unworked).

**Row 8:** Working top of head on centre 6 sts only, p6, w&t.

**Row 9:** K6, w&t.

**Row 10:** P6, w&t.

Rep rows 9–10 once more.

**Row 13:** K7. (8 sts in total)

Work 7 rows st st.

**Row 21:** K1, k2tog, k2, k2tog, k1. (6 sts)

**Row 22:** Purl.

**Row 23:** K1, [k2tog] twice, k1. (4 sts)

**Row 24:** Purl.

Cast (bind) off.

## Tummy

With st, cast on 2 sts.

Beg with a k row, work 2 rows st st.

**Row 3:** [Inc] twice. (4 sts)

**Row 4:** Purl.

**Row 5:** K1, [inc] twice, k1. (6 sts)

**Row 6:** Purl.

**Row 7:** K2, [inc] twice, k2. (8 sts)

**Row 8:** Purl.

**Row 9:** K3, [inc] twice, k3. (10 sts)

Work 9 rows st st.

**Row 19:** K3, [k2tog] twice, k3. (8 sts)

Work 3 rows st st.

**Row 23:** K2, [k2tog] twice, k2. (6 sts)

Work 5 rows st st.

**Row 29:** K1, [k2tog] twice, k1. (4 sts)

Work 7 rows st st.

**Row 37:** [K2tog] twice. (2 sts)

Work 7 rows st st.

**Row 45:** [Inc] twice. (4 sts)

**Row 46:** Purl.

**Row 47:** K1, [inc] twice, k1. (6 sts)

Work 5 rows st st.

**Row 53:** K1, [k2tog] twice, k1. (4 sts)

Work 3 rows st st.

**Row 57:** [K2tog] twice. (2 sts)

Work 2 rows st st.

Cast (bind) off.

## Jaws

With ra, cast on 2 sts.

Beg with a k row, work 2 rows st st.

**Row 3:** [Inc] twice. (4 sts)

Work 12 rows st st.

**Row 16:** Knit.

Beg with a k row, work 13 rows st st.

Cast (bind) off.

## To Make Up

**SEWING IN ENDS** Sew in ends, leaving ends from cast on and cast (bound) off rows for sewing up.

**LEGS** With WS together, fold each leg in half. Sew up each claw and then main leg on RS.

**HEAD AND BODY** With WS together, sew along back and around tail to 2cm (¾in) from back of back legs.

**TUMMY** Sew cast on row of tummy to top of tail 2cm (¾in) from back of back legs,

and sew along tummy to head, leaving 4cm (1½in) unsewn at head for jaws. Ease and sew tummy to fit body, leaving a 2.5cm (1in) gap between front and back legs on one side.

**JAWS** With RS of head (st st side) and WS of jaws (reverse st st side) together, sew together with cast on row to bottom flap of jaws, cast (bound) off row to top of jaws and the knit fold line at the back of the jaws.

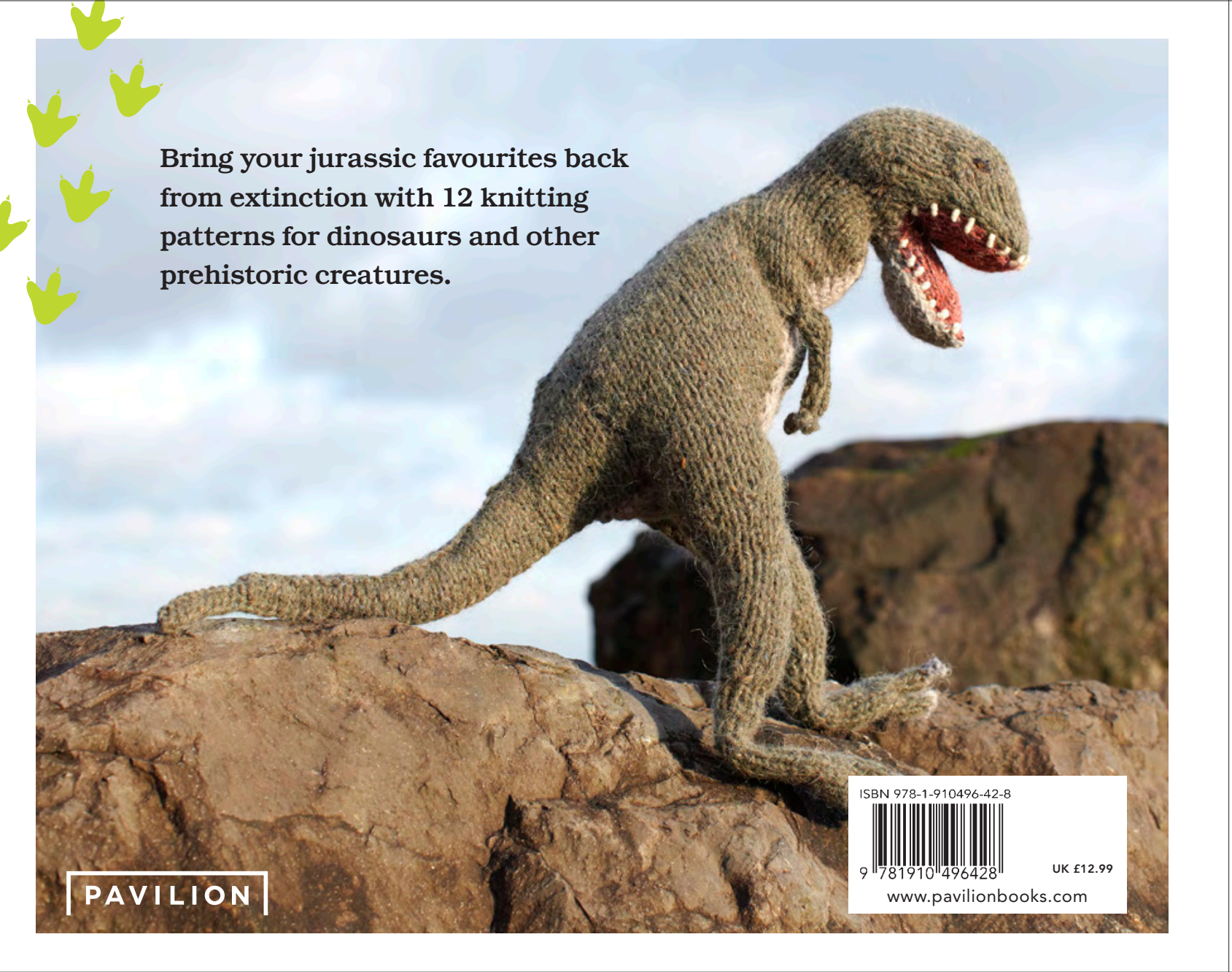
**STUFFING** Pipecleaners are used to stiffen the legs and help bend them into shape. Fold a pipecleaner into a 'U' shape and measure against back two legs. Cut to approximately fit, leaving an extra 2.5cm (1in) at both ends. Fold over the ends. Roll a little stuffing around pipecleaner and slip into body, one end down each back leg. Cut a 13cm (5in) pipecleaner, fold one end over, roll in stuffing and slip into tail. Slip a little stuffing into top of head and a tiny amount into lower jaw. Stuff the body of the Velociraptor, using the end of a knitting needle to ease the stuffing into tail and neck, then sew up the gap. Mould body and back legs into shape.

**FRONT LEGS** Cut a pipecleaner to fit each front leg, with one end folded over and 2cm (¾in) extra to stick into body. Roll in stuffing and slip into front leg. Push end of pipecleaner into body at seam, 2.5cm (1in) from front of back leg. Sew to body and bend into shape.

**EYES** With bl, sew 2-loop French knots positioned as in photograph.

**TEETH** With sn, make approx 17 2-loop French knots on edge of jaws.



A knitted dinosaur figurine, likely a T-Rex, is the central focus. It is made of a textured, greyish-brown wool and is posed standing on a dark, jagged rock. The dinosaur's mouth is wide open, revealing a red interior and several white, pointed teeth. The background is a bright, slightly cloudy sky. In the top left corner, there are several green, stylized footprints arranged in a descending line.

Bring your jurassic favourites back from extinction with 12 knitting patterns for dinosaurs and other prehistoric creatures.

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