Patterns & Prototypes

One-of-a kind knitted fun

Pikachu

Measurements

Pikachu is approximately 25cm tall when finished.

Materials

Pikachu was made using the following:

- o 1 pair of 3.75mm/US5 knitting needles
- o Stuffing
- o A small piece of black felt
- o A small amount of black sewing thread
- o A small piece of red felt
- o A small amount of red sewing thread
- o A small piece of white felt
- o A small amount of white sewing thread
- o A small amount of yellow sewing thread
- o A doll making needle
- o A standard sewing needle
- o 1 x 100 gram balls of yellow 8 ply yarn
- o Less than 50 grams of brown 8 ply yarn
- o Less than 50 grams of black 8 play yarn
- o 1 yellow sponge 16cm(L) x 12cm (W) x 1cm thick – a common (clean) dishwashing sponge is perfect.

For additional questions and pattern clarity don't hesitate to contact me on
the.devil.fooled@gmail.com

A small legal disclaimer

As cute as the Pikachu is, all associated rights for his design and usage remain with The Pokemon Company International Incorporated, Nintendo and Niantic. Profits made from this pattern are supporting the time taken to create the pattern and its shapes only and is not endorsed by any of the above companies.

Knitting techniques, stitches and abbreviations

Making it up as you go

Whilst I usually like to make all the pieces and then provide assembly instructions, this pattern requires that you assemble some parts as you go. This will be outlined at each point. Parts of this pattern rely on having one part in place before you can accurately measure and place the other, so it helps to make it up as you go!

Stocking stitch (st-st)

Stocking stitch is a basic knitting stitch. To knit stocking stitch, you alternate a knit row with a purl row. With references to the charts for this pattern, all odd numbered rows are K rows. All even numbered rows are P rows.

Garter stitch (gs-st)

Garter stitch is a basic knit stitch, where all stiches across each row are knitted, regardless of sides.

Increases (inc 1)

This pattern uses increases marked by "Inc 1" (sometimes referred to as KFB in online tutorials). This technique creates an increase by working into the front and back of the stitch, resulting in two stitches and limiting holes.

Decreases (K2tog or P2tog)

This pattern uses decreases marked by "K2tog" or "P2tog" depending on the row. This technique decreases work by knitting two stitches together as if they were one, thus reducing the number of stitches by one.

Casting on

All casting on in this pattern are using the traditional two-needle method. Unless otherwise stated, the first row following a cast on is K.

Casting off

For this pattern I casted off P-wise. I find this gives a nicer finish to the edges. However this is not a hard and fast rule; you're welcome to use the cast off method you're comfortable with.

Haunches and Body (make 1)

Pikachu's haunches and body are knitted as one piece. Pikachu's body is worked on 3.75mm needles, using yellow 8 ply yarn.

Right haunch

Cast on 7 stitches, leaving a long thread for later

Inc 1 into every stitch (14 stitches)

P row

(Inc 1, K1) *repeat the bracketed stitches to the end of the row* (21 stitches)

P row

(Inc 1, K2) *repeat the bracketed stitches to the end of the row* (28 stitches)

P row

Mark the beginning and end of this row with some contrasting yarn. Cut off the yarn. This is the first haunch complete. Leave the stitches on the needle, but don't work on them.

Left haunch

Repeat the instructions for the right haunch to make the left haunch.

Helpful tip
If you cast the second leg stitches on to the same needle that the finished leg is currently on, they'll land on the same needle when you get to the end of the second leg. This makes life easier when knitting them together and making the base of the body.

Joining the legs

K26, K2tog, K2tog, K26 (54 stitches)

P row

Shaping the base of the body

First increase row: K2, K2tog (K2, Inc 1, K3) *repeat the bracketed stitches another two times* K3, K2tog, K2tog, K3 (K3, Inc 1, K2) *repeat the bracketed stitches another two times* K2tog, K2 (56 stitches)

P row

Second increase row: K3, K2tog (K3, Inc 1, K3) *repeat the bracketed stitches another two times* K3, K2tog, K2tog, (K3, Inc 1, K3) *repeat the bracketed stitches another two times* K2tog, K3 (58 stitches)

P row

Third increase row: K2, K2tog (K4, Inc 1, K4) *repeat the bracketed stitches another five times* K2tog, K2 (62 stitches)

St-st 9 rows, beginning with a P row

Shaping the sides

K2 (K2tog, K5, K2tog) *repeat the bracketed stitches another three times* K4 (K2tog, K5, K2tog) *repeat the bracketed stitches another three times* K2 (50 stitches)

St-st 7 rows

K2 (K2tog, K3, K2tog) *repeat the bracketed stitches another three times* K4 (K2tog, K3, K2tog) *repeat the bracketed stitches another three times* K2 (38 stitches)

St-st 7 rows

Shaping the top of the body

First decrease row: (K7, K2tog, K1, K2tog, K7) *repeat the bracketed stitches once more* (34 stitches)

St-st 5 rows

Second decrease row: (K7, K2tog, K8) *repeat the bracketed stitches once more* (32 stitches)

St-st 3 rows

Cast off for neck edge.

Finishing the body

Match the row markers to the top of each leg. For each leg, sew from the row marker down to the cast-on edge. Use the long thread from the cast on and thread them through the cast-on stitches. Draw these stitches up and tie off. Repeat this process on the second leg. Once you have the legs sewn up, you can remove the stitch markers.

Matching the row ends together, sew the body together, leaving the neck edge open. Stuff the body firmly.

Head (make 1)

Pikachu's head is knitted on 3.75mm needles with yellow 8 ply yarn.

Cast on 32 stitches for the neck edge

Beginning with a K row, st-st 2 rows

Shaping the base of the head

K1 (Inc 1, K2) *repeat the bracketed stitches another two times* Inc1, K10, (Inc 1, K2) *repeat the bracketed stitches another two times* Inc1, K1 (40 stitches)

P row

Shaping cheeks

K7, (inc 1) *repeat bracketed stitches another six times* K12, (Inc 1) *repeat bracketed stitches another six times* K7 (54 stitches)

St-st 7 rows beginning with a P row

First decrease: K11 (K2tog) *repeat bracketed stitches another five times* K8, (k2tog) *repeat bracketed stitches another five times* K11 (42 stitches)

P row

Second decrease: K14, K2tog, K10, K2tog, K14 (40 stitches)

St-st 7 row starting with a P row

Shape top of head

(K1, K2tog, K1) *repeat bracketed stitches to the end of the row* (30 stitches)

P row

(K1, K2tog) *repeat bracketed stitches to the end of the row* (20 stitches)

P row

(K2tog) *repeat bracketed stitches to the end of the row* (10 stitches)

(P2tog) *repeat bracketed stitches to the end of the row* (5 stitches)

Cut the yarn from the ball, leaving a long thread. Thread the end of the yarn through the remaining stitches on your needle, draw up tightly and fasten off. Don't trim the thread just yet.

Making up and attaching the head

Use the left-over yarn from fastening off to sew down the row ends to the neck edge. Leave the neck edge open.

Using the excess yarn from sewing up the head, attach the head to the neck. Add additional stuffing to make the neck strong before closing it off completely.

Pinch the cheeks to round them into shape.

Feet (make 2)

Pikachu's feet are knitted on 3.75mm needles with yellow 8 ply yarn.

Starting from the 'heel' end, cast on 13 stitches

St-st 18 rows

K1 (K2tog) *repeat bracketed stitches to the end of the row* (7 stitches)

Cut the yarn from the ball, leaving a long thread. Thread the end of the yarn through the remaining stitches on your needle, draw up tightly and fasten off. Don't trim the thread just yet.

Match the row edges and sew down the foot. Add stuffing and close the cast-on seam by sewing across it.

Attaching the feet

Position each foot on the haunch, with the toes slightly pointing outwards. A good way to get them symmetrical is to pin them in place – see the photos for reference. Once you're happy with their position, sew them to the haunches.

Arms (make 2)

Pikachu's arms are knitted on 3.75mm needles with yellow 8 ply yarn.

Starting from the 'shoulder' end, cast on 5 stitches

Starting with a K row, st-st 2 rows

Inc 1 into every stitch (10 stitches)

P row

Cast on 3 stitches at the beginning of the next two rows (16 stitches)

St-st 16 rows and mark the row ends of the 16th row

St-st a further 6 rows

(K2tog) *repeat bracketed stitches to the end of the row* (8 stitches)

(P2tog) *repeat bracketed stitches to the end of the row* (4 stitches)

Cut the yarn from the ball, leaving a long thread. Thread the end of the yarn through the remaining stitches on your needle, draw up tightly and fasten off. Don't trim the thread just yet.

Making up the arms

Match the row edges and sew down the arm up to the row where you cast additional stitches for the shoulder. Stuff the arm. Leave a bit of extra yarn at this end to sew the arm to the body.

With an additional length of yellow yarn, weave a few stitches around the row where the stitch markers are. In the images below, I've done with red thread so you can get an idea of how to weave the yarn through. Pull these in slightly to create a wrist and secure the thread. Sew in any loose threads.

Attaching the arms

I tend to align his arms slightly inward towards his belly, rather than straight by his side. The top edge of the shoulder should sit slightly against the neck join.

Tip: Use pins to position the arms before using the additional yarn to sew them into place.

Ears (make 4)

Pikachu's ears are knitted on 3.75mm needles with yellow and black 8 ply yarn.

Starting from the base and using yellow yarn, cast on 6 stitches

St-st 6 rows

Increase at the beginning and end of next row (8 stitches)

St-st 9 rows

Switch to black yarn and leave a long thread to help you sew up later.

Decrease at beginning and end of next row (6 stitches)

St-st 3 rows

Decrease at beginning and end of next row (4 stitches)

P row

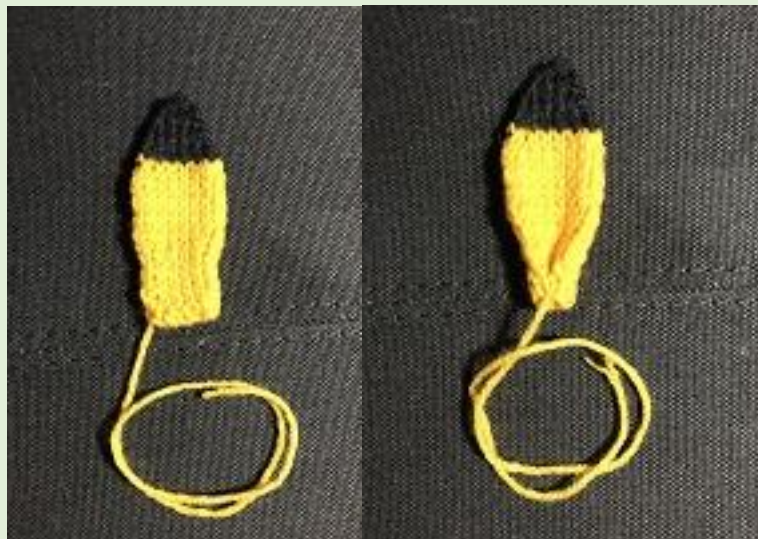Decrease at beginning and end of next row (2 stitches)

P2tog (1 stitch)

Cast off.

Making up the ears

Match two pieces together with the right side facing outward. Sew along the row edges.

When they're sewn together into a single piece, pinch the base edge and sew the edges together for about 1 centimetre. Use the images below to guide you. This will help the ears stand up themselves.

Repeat for second ear.

When both ears are in place, position them on either side of the head. Sew the ears to the head.

Larger back strap (make 1)

Pikachu has two cute little brown stripes across his back. The larger stripe is knitted on 3.75mm needles with brown 8 ply yarn.

Cast on 16 stitches and continue in garter stitch

Increase at the beginning and end of the next two rows (20 stitches)

Gs-st 5 rows

Decrease at the beginning and end of the next 2 rows (16 stitches)

Cast off. Leave a long thread to sew the stripe to the body.

Smaller back strap (make 1)

Pikachu has two cute little brown stripes across his back. The smaller stripe is knitted on 3.75mm needles with brown 8 ply yarn.

Cast on 13 stitches and continue in garter stitch

Increase at the beginning and end of the next two rows (17 stitches)

Gs-st 5 rows

Decrease at the beginning and end of the next 2 rows (13 stitches)

Cast off. Leave a long thread to sew the stripe to the body.

Position the two stripes on Pikachu's back, with the smaller one closest to his head and the larger closest to his feet. I recommend pinning them in place to ensure they are nicely aligned. Use the leftover thread from knitting the stripe to sew it into place.

Tail – Right side (make 1)

Pikachu's tail is knitted on 3.75mm needles, using both brown and yellow 8 ply yarn. For the right side of Pikachu's tail, all cast ons will occur on K rows. All cast offs will occur on P rows.

Cast on 7 stitches in brown

Beginning with a K row, st-st 4 rows

Cast on 8 stitches at the beginning of this row and K to end of row (15 stitches)

Cast off 5 stitches at the beginning of this row and P to end of row (10 stitches)

St-st 3 rows

Cast off 6 stitches at the beginning of this row and P to end of row (4 stitches)

Cast on 13 stitches in yellow and continue in yellow and K to end of row (17 stitches)

St-st 7 rows

Cast off 12 stitches and P to end of row (5 stitches)

Cast on 20 stitches and K to end of row (25 stitches)

St-st 13 rows, beginning with a P row

Cast off.

Tail – Left side (make 1)

Pikachu's tail is knitted on 3.75mm needles, using both brown and yellow 8 ply yarn. For the left side of Pikachu's tail, all cast ons will occur on P rows. All cast offs will occur on K rows.

Cast on 7 stitches in brown

Beginning with a P row, st-st 4 rows

Cast on 8 stitches at the beginning of this row and P to end of row (15 stitches)

Cast off 5 stitches at the beginning of this row, and K to end of row (10 stitches)

St-st 3 rows

Cast off 5 stitches at the beginning of this row. Slip the stitch on the right needle, back to the left needle, switch to yellow yarn, K2tog and K to end of row (4 stitches)

Cast on 13 stitches at the beginning of this row and P to end of row (17 stitches)

St-st 8 rows

Cast off 12 stitches and K to end of row (5 stitches)

Cast on 20 stitches and P to end of row (25 stitches)
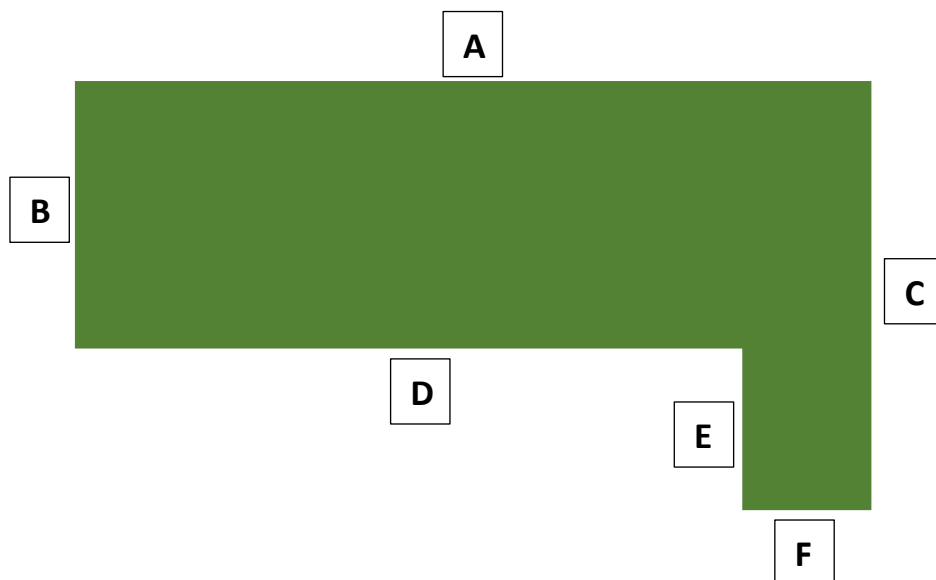
St-st 13 rows

Cast off.

When both sides are complete, they will be mirror images of each other.
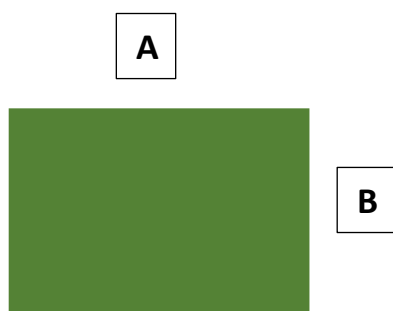
Making the tail 'stuffing'

Pikachu's tail has a lovely square quality about it. To keep those nice angles, I 'stuff' his tail using a simple house-hold sponge to keep both the softness and the squareness.

The sponge is cut into four different sized shapes to hold the structure. Below is the basic shape used for three of the four pieces. There's a table following to show you the size of each labelled straight edge below.

		Centimetres			
Piece	**A**	**B**	**C**	**D**	**E**	**F**
1	10.5cm	4.5cm	8cm	8.5cm	3.5cm	2cm
2	5.5cm	3cm	5cm	4cm	2cm	1.5cm
3	3.5cm	2cm	3.5cm	2.5cm	1.5cm	1.5cm
		Inches			
Piece	**A**	**B**	**C**	**D**	**E**	**F**
1	4.13in	1.77in	3.15in	3.35in	1.38in	0.79in
2	2.17in	1.18in	1.97in	1.57in	0.79in	0.59in
3	1.38in	0.79in	1.38in	0.98in	0.59in	0.59in

Piece	A	B
	Centimetres	
4	2.5cm	1.5cm
	Inches	
4	0.98in	0.59in

When arranged, the pieces should mirror one half of the tail, as shown below.

Lay each piece of sponge on the wrong side of one of the tail halves.

Using the yellow sewing thread, tack each corner of the sponge to the knitted piece to keep them in place.

Tip: You can trim the pieces to fit your tail outline. Make sure you make the sponge one row smaller than the knitted section to allow both parts to be joined around the sponge.

Place the second half of the tail over the sponge with the right side facing.

Using yarn, sew the two halves of the tail together, sandwiching the sponge in the middle snugly.

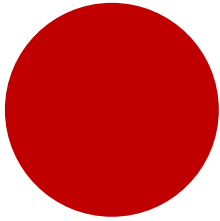Using brown yarn, attach the tail below the lower-most stripe.

In the image to the left, I have also used an additional stitch of yellow yarn to keep the tail upright. They tend to land just below the two stripes. These are identified by red circles on the image to the left.

Cheeks (make 2)

Using the red felt, cut out two circles approximately 2.8cm (1.10in) in diameter. The red circle below is actual size and can be used as a template.

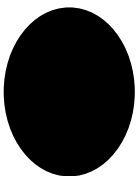Position the two red felt circles on the cheeks.

> **Helpful tip**
>
> Put a pin in the centre of the circle to hold it in place on Pikachu's face. This will help you get the positioning even before sewing them in place.

Once you're happy with the location, use the red sewing thread to sew the cheeks on.

Eyes (make 2)

Pikachu's eyes are made up of two black felt ovals with two small white felt circles over the top. The two shapes below are actual size and can be used as templates.

Cut out two black felt circles ovals

Cut out two white circles

Using the image below as a reference, position the white circles on the black ovals using white sewing thread. Position the eyes and sew them onto Pikachu's face.

Mouth and nose

Pikachu's mouth and nose are embroidered on using black yarn. His nose is a single horizontal stitch.

His mouth is embroidered like a wide W shape. I highly recommend looking up pictures online for the shape.

Helpful tip

You can use a pencil to temporarily 'draw' on a mouth. This will help you get the embroidery even.

Helpful tip

I recommend doing his nose with a separate thread to his mouth. Due to the yellow yarn, it's possible that black yarn will show through if you try to use the same thread for his mouth and nose.