

# The Buddha's Knot

A fun, free a no-sew tea cosy pattern from Tess Young

## Materials

- 5mm circular needle (40cm/16in long)
- Set of 5mm double pointed needles
- Tapestry needle
- Spare needle or waste yarn (optional)
- Stitchmarker

## Yarn

Aran or Bulky Yarn:

**Single colour:** 140m/154yds

**Striped:** 94m/103yds main colour, 43m/48yds contrast colour (you may need a little more contrast to do the I-cord knot in contrast rather than main colour if preferred).

To use different colours for each stripe: Main stripes each require 16m/18yds of yarn, the top stripe 12m/14 yds.

## Techniques

### Cable Cast on

Make a slip knot, knit into the slip knot to make a second stitch. Make the next stitch by knitting between these two loops. Repeat until you have the required number of sts.

### Changing colours

When changing colours, the first round is always knit to avoid purl bumps on the right side of the work.

## Overview

Buddha's Knot is a simple classic ribbed tea cosy designed to be a fun simple quick knit.

The cosy is knitted in one piece to avoid unnecessary finishing and sewing up at the end.

Worked in the round bottom up, the cosy is then split to work each side separately to make openings for the handle and spout. These openings are made in the middle of the 4 st knit section of the rib so the edges of the openings curl inwards and look nice and neat. This curl also conceals the non-working yarn which you can carry up the start of rounds and rows to avoid cutting and re-joining yarn (and sewing in ends).

The 2 sides are then joined to continue working in the round before starting the decreases to the top where it then transitions into the I-cord for the knot.

It is this wide knotted I-cord which reminded me of images of Buddha I'd seen whilst travelling in Asia that gives the cosy its name.

However, the I-cord is not necessary, you can just finish off and top your cosy with a pom pom, multiple pom poms, or any other topping you prefer.

Please feel free to share the link to this pattern: <https://tessyoungdesigns.com/pattern-store/free-patterns> and my website: <https://tessyoungdesigns.com> and post on social media using the hashtags: #TessYoungDesigns and #BuddhasKnotTeaCosy



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## Gauge

Measured over 10x10cm/4x4ins

Aran

Unstretched: 34 sts x 28 rows

Stretched: 18 sts x 28 rows

Bulky

Unstretched: 28 sts x 24 rows

Stretched: 16 sts x 28 rows

## Size

Aran

Height: 18cm/7ins (excluding l-cord knot)

Girth: max 56cm/22ins

Bulky

Height: 20½cm/8ins (excluding l-cord knot)

Girth: max 66cm/26ins

The opening for the handle and spout are approx 10cm /4ins.

Samples are photographed on a teapot with a 19inch/48cm girth.

All samples are made from aran weight yarn except the second sample shown on the page below.

## Abbreviations

cm centimeters

dec(d) decrease(d)

dpn(s) double pointed needle(s)

in(s) inch(es)

k knit

k2tog knit 2sts together

m meters

p purl

p2tog purl 2sts together

rem(s) remain(s)

rep repeat

RS right side

sts stitch(es)

WS wrong side

yds yards

## Directions

### Bottom Section (worked in the round)

With main colour and circular needle, cast on 128 sts using the cable cast on method. Being careful not to twist your sts and placing a stitchmarker to mark the beginning/end of the round, proceed as follows:

**Rounds 1 - 8:** K2, \*p4, k4, rep from \* until 6 sts rem, p4, k2.

**Round 9:** Change to contrast colour: Knit.

**Rounds 10 - 12:** K2, \*p4, k4, rep from \* until 6 sts rem, p4, k2.

Now divide for the two sides and work *back and forth* on the first 64 sts only. You may put the remaining 64 sts on a spare needle or waste yarn for ease, but this isn't strictly necessary.

### Side 1 (worked flat back and forth)

**Row 13(RS):** K2, \*p4, k4, rep from \* 6 more times, p4, k2., turn, 64 sts worked.

**Row 14 (WS):** P2, \*k4, p4, rep from \* 6 more times, k4, p2, turn, 64 sts worked.

**Row 15:** Change to main colour: Knit.

(Remember to catch the contrast yarn as you carry it up the start of the row and continue to work back and forth on these 64 sts)

**Row 16:** P2, \*k4, p4, rep from \* until 6 sts rem, k4, p2.

**Row 17:** K2, \*p4, k4, rep from \* until 6 sts rem, p4, k2.

**Rows 18 - 22:** Work rows 16 and 17 twice more, then row 16 once more.

**Row 23:** Change to contrast colour: Knit

**Row 24:** P2, \*k4, p4, rep from \* until 6 sts rem, k4, p2.

**Row 25:** K2, \*p4, k4, rep from \* until 6 sts rem, p4, k2.

**Row 26 - 28:** Work rows 24 and 25 again, then row 24 once more.

**Row 29:** Change to main colour: Knit.

**Row 30:** P2, \*k4, p4, rep from \* until 6 sts rem, k4, p2.

**Row 31:** K2, \*p4, k4, rep from \* until 6 sts rem, p4, k2.

**Row 32 - 34:** Work rows 30 and 31 again, then row 30 once more.

Break yarns leaving ends for sewing in. You may put the these 64 sts on a spare needle or waste yarn for ease while you work the second side, but this isn't strictly necessary.

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## Side 2 (worked flat back and forth)

Joining first the contrast colour, and then the main colour when required, work across the second set of 64 sts as for the first side starting with row 13 and finishing with row 34, but do not break the yarns this time.

## Top Section (worked in the round)

Pick up the saved sts from the first side and prepare to work across the sts from the side 1 then across the sts from the side 2 joining them and continuing to work in the round. Change to dpns when required.

**Rounds 35 and 36:** Working with the attached main yarn: K2, \*p4, k4 rep from \* until 6 sts rem, p4, k2.

**Round 37:** Rejoin contrast colour: Knit.

**Round 38 (dec):** K2tog \*p2, p2tog, k2, k2tog, rep from \* until 6 sts rem, p2, p2tog, k2; 32 sts dec'd, 96 sts rem.

**Row 39:** K1, \*p3, k3, rep from \* until 5 sts rem, p3, k2.

**Row 40 (dec):** K1, \*p2tog, p1, k2tog, k1, rep from \* until 5 sts rem, p2tog, p1, k2tog; 32 sts dec'd, 64 sts rem.

**Row 41:** Change to main colour: Knit until 1 sts rem. Move beginning/end of round marker back one stitch so that the last unworked st of this round becomes the new first st of the round.

**Row 42:** \*K2, p2, rep from \* to the end.

**Row 43 (dec):** \*K2tog, p2tog, rep from \* to the end; 32 sts dec'd, 32 sts rem.

**Row 44:** \*K1, p1, rep from \* to the end.

**Row 45 (dec):** \*K2tog, rep from \* to the end; 16 sts dec'd, 16 sts rem.

**Row 46 (dec):** \*K2tog, rep from \* to the end; 8 sts dec'd, 8 sts rem.

## Finishing

Continue as below to make the I-cord knot or thread the yarn through the remaining 8 sts, sew it closed and decorate as you choose, e.g. with a flower, pom pom or multiple pom poms.

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## I-cord knot

You can continue with the main colour or swap to a contrast colour as preferred. Making the I-cord with 8 stitches creates a flat rather than round I-cord.

To work the knotted I cord:

1. Transfer the remaining stitches onto one double pointed needle. You will work the I-cord on just 2 of the dpns.
2. Knit 1 row.
3. \*do not turn but instead slip the sts to the other end of the dpn, pull the yarn round the back of the work and knit another row.
4. Repeat step 3 until the I-cord is your desired length, (11 ½ cm /4½in- 15cm/ 6 in long)

Now taper the I-cord as follows:

5. \*k2tog, rep from \* to the end, slip the sts to the other end of the dpn, pull the yarn round the back of the work; 4 sts dec'd, 4 sts rem.
6. Rep step 5: 2 sts dec'd, 2 sts rem.
7. K2tog.
8. Thread yarn through remaining st
9. Tie into a knot

Sew in the remaining ends and block as required. Make a pot of tea to enjoy while you decide what to knit next.

## Thank you...

That you have chosen Tess Young Designs pattern is always very much appreciated. It is such a thrill to see how my patterns are transformed through your hands, and choices of colour and yarn, into fabulous finished objects.

It's also a great help to other knitters as they make similar choices, so if you can share via social media #TessYoungDesigns

## About me...

Originally from the south coast after living in both Edinburgh, Scotland and the north west of England, I now live in Italy. These places and my love of travel find their way into my knitwear design.

Inspired by environments as diverse as the coast, mountains and cities, alongside a love of textile and ceramic design and architecture, my designs aim to marry form with function.

Mobilising the characteristics of natural materials, I like to work with texture and construction to create well thought through, crafted pieces that will be a pleasure to knit and wear.

I hope you enjoy knitting this pattern.



You can find out more and follow my journey through making and designing, with a little added gardening, cooking, and natural dyeing along with some sojourns into textile production and history all at:

[www.TessYoungDesigns.com](http://www.TessYoungDesigns.com)

If you are able and would like to, you can contribute to the continued provision of free patterns, recipes and web content you could buy me a coffee (or tea) at [www.ko-fi.com/tessyoung](http://www.ko-fi.com/tessyoung)