



# Magnus Ragnar the Victorious Viking

## Knitting Pattern

### A Little Bit About Magnus Ragnar

Magnus Ragnar is named after Jen of Cedar House Yarns son. She and I have been friends for years and so when I found out she had started a yarn company, I knew we needed to collaborate. And when I thought collaborate, I immediately thought Viking since her son is Magnus Ragnar.

So, to celebrate yarn Magnus, here is a Viking poem (written by Magnus Ragnar's dad and Jen's husband, Eric the Red). In case you are not versed in Viking culture, to "go Viking" means to sail on a longship, a creation nearly synonymous with Viking culture.

*Magnus has gone Viking  
From wind and wave striking  
His deeds sung in glory  
His ancestors tell the story  
Seafaring to victory  
His name, sealed in history  
Magnus has gone Viking*

### Materials

#### Yarn

80-110 yards of yarn for the shirt and pants (A)

50-75 yards of skin color yarn for face, nose, ears, hands, and thumbs (B)

75-100 yards of yarn for hat, boots, belt (C)

50-75 yards of yarn for tunic (D)

70-100 yards of yarn for beard and hair (E)

15-25 yards of scrap white or gray yarn for hat base and horn (F) *Alternately I used the same color as the body.*

#### Needles

40" circular needle (for Magic Loop Method) in a size about 2 sizes smaller than those recommended for your yarn (example: yarn says U.S. size 8, use a size 6, or maybe even 5 instead)

40" circular needle (for Magic Loop Method) 1 size larger than your main needle (for Tunic, creates a slightly looser fabric for a part where stuffing wont show through)

#### Gauge

One of the greatest things about knitting toys is gauge doesn't matter! For those of you who detest gauging as much as me, this is the perfect project for you. Simply

use smaller needles than those recommended for your yarn to create a tighter knit fabric so that the stuffing doesn't show through. My rule of thumb is to go down 2 or 3 needle sizes from the smallest size recommended for your yarn. This also means this pattern can be worked in any size of yarn! Try sock yarn for little nugget gnome, or worsted for a medium gnome great for tucking places in your house, or bulky for a big gnome perfect for hugs.

### Notions

Scissors, tapestry needle, safety eyes/buttons/scrap yarn for eyes, stuffing, 15 removable stitch markers, or 14 removable markers and one not removable (to mark beginning of round), yarn holders (optional), row counter (optional, but very helpful), pins for making up (optional), Celtic knit button (3) for belt (optional, determine size based on the finished size of your viking).

### Notes

Make a Loop:

- 1) Knit the next stitch, hold the stitch on the needle LH needle and do not transfer it to the RH needle (as to finish the st).
- 2) Bring the working yarn forward between the two needles.
- 3) Move your thumb to where the yarn comes between the needles. Wrap the working yarn around you thumb, and run it back between the two needles, setting yourself up to work the next stitch on your RH needle.
- 4) Knit the same stitch you knitted before looping, and transfer to the RH needle to complete the stitch

*Note: This version of loop stitch will add an extra stitch every time you make a loop, which will be evened out with the rest of the stitch pattern.*

*If the making a loop part seems confusing you can check out the videos on [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GGKlbG_tHjI) (Here's one: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GGKlbG\\_tHjI](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GGKlbG_tHjI)). Just remember the version here is a modified version and only the loop making part is the same.*

### Modified Loop Stitch

R1: (Make a loop, K2tog) around

R2: (K2tog, Make a Loop) around

Repeat these two rounds to create your stitch.

## Directions

### Knit the Body

*The body is knit entirely in A.*

Using A and Turkish Cast On, CO 36 sts (18 loops). PM to indicate beg of rnd and join to begin knitting the body in the round using Magic Loop Method:

**R1:** Knit all sts from Turkish Cast On (36 total Sts)

Stop and place removable stitch markers in center of CO row below 7th and 11th sts in CO row (this marks where legs will be picked up).

**R2:** (KFB, K16, KFB) twice (40 sts)

**R3:** Knit all sts

**R4:** (KFB, K18, KFB) twice (44 sts)

**R5:** Knit all sts

**R6:** (KFB, K20, KFB) twice (48 sts)

**R7-R37:** Knit all sts.

After R37, stop and place a removable stitch marker in 4th, 21st, 27th, and 46th sts of rnd 37. These markers will be where you pick up sts for arms.

**R38 & R39:** Knit all sts

**R40:** (K1, SSK, K18, K2tog, K1) twice (44 sts)

**R41:** Knit all sts

**R42:** (K1, SSK, K16, K2tog, K1) twice (40 sts)

**R43:** Knit all sts. After R43, stop and place a removable stitch marker in 3rd, 18th, 23rd, and 38 sts of rnd 43.

These markers will be where you pick up sts for the head.

placing markers for head

**R44:** (SSK, K16, K2tog) twice (36 sts)

Cut your yarn, leaving an 18" or longer tail. Stuff the body now. Once the body is stuffed, use the Kitchener Stitch to close up the top of the body. You will want to add your last bits of stuffing as you finish closing up the seam.

### Knit The Head

*The head is knit entirely in skin color.*

To Knit Separately, CO 32 sts, then just knit all sts of R1 and work rest of pattern as written.

**R1:** Using B color and starting in marker from st #3 on R43, PU 16 sts, 1 per stitch to marker in st #18. Then, flip to other end of your needle tip, and heading opposite direction (toward first st picked up), PU same 16 sts starting in st #23 and working towards st #38. You will now have 32 sts on your needles. First st picked up

is first st of rnd. PM to indicate beg of rnd and beg to work in rnd using Magic Loop Method:

**R2-R20:** Knit all sts. Place removable st markers as you work:

**R9:** PM in sts 1 & 17 to mark for ears

**R10:** PM in sts 7 & 10 to mark for nose

**R12:** PM in sts 7 & 10 to mark for nose

**R17:** PM in sts 16 & 32 to make for ears

**R21:** (K1, SSK, K10, K2tog, K1) twice (28 sts)

**R22:** Knit all sts

**R23:** (K1, SSK, K8, K2tog, K1) twice (24 sts)

**R24:** (K1, SSK, K6, K2tog, K1) twice (20 sts)

**R25:** (K1, SSK, K4, K2tog, K1) twice (16 sts)

Stuff the head now. Add eyes using the nose markers to help determine where they should go. Cut your yarn, leaving an 18" or longer tail and use the Kitchener Stitch to close up the top of the head. Alternately you can place the live sts on waste yarn and wait until you have knit the ears and nose before you attach the eyes. Once the eyes are in place, you can slip the sts back to your needles and close the head then.

### Knit the Nose

*Nose is knit entirely in B.*

To Knit Separately, CO 10 sts, then just knit all sts of R1 and work rest of pattern as written and whipstitch to the face once finished.

**R1:** Using B and starting with marked st 7 on R10 of the head, PU 4 sts, 1 stitch per stitch across the face. Next, PU 1 sts from R11 of the head, in line with the last stitch picked up from R10. Then, flip to other end of your needle tip, move up 1 round to marked st #10 from R12 of the head, and PU the same 4 sts 1 round up, toward first st picked up. Finally, PU 1 st from R11, in line with the last st picked up on R12. You will now have 10 sts on your needles. First st picked up is first st of rnd. PM to indicate beg of rnd and beg to work in rnd using Magic Loop Method:

**R2:-R5:** Knit all sts

**R6:** K2tog five times around (5 sts)

Lightly stuff the nose. Cut your yarn and using a tapestry needle, pull it through the remaining sts to close up the nose

### Knit the Left Ear

*Ears are knit entirely in B.*

To Knit Separately, CO 18 sts, then just knit all sts of R1 and work rest of pattern as written.

**R1:** Using B and starting with marked st #1 on R9 of the head, PU 9 sts, 1 stitch per round towards the top of the head. Then, flip to other end of your needle tip, move over 1 stitch to marked st #32 from R17 of the head, and PU the same 9 sts 1 stitch over, heading toward first st picked up. You will now have 18 sts on your needles. First st picked up is first st of rnd. PM to indicate beg of rnd and beg to work in rnd using Magic Loop Method.

**R2-R4:** Knit all sts

**R5:** K2tog nine times around (9 sts)

Stuff ears as desired (samples are unstuffed). Cut your yarn and using a tapestry needle, pull it through the remaining sts to close up the ear.

### Knit the Right Ear

Repeat above instructions starting in marked st #17 from R9 of the head and moving toward marked st #16 from R17 of the head to make the second ear.

### Knit the Left Arm

To Knit Separately, CO 14 sts, then just knit all sts of R1 and work rest of pattern as written.

**R1:** Using A and starting with marked st #46 on R37 of the body, PU 7 sts, 1 stitch per stitch toward marked st #4. Then, flip to other end of your needle tip, move up 1 round and PU the same 7 sts 1 round up, toward first st picked up. You will now have 14 sts on your needles. Be sure the beg of the round is to the back of the body for correct thumb placement. First st picked up is first st of rnd. PM to indicate beg of rnd and beg to work in rnd using Magic Loop Method.

**R2-R54:** Using A, knit all sts

**R55 & R56:** Switch to B. Knit all sts. You will remain in B to the end of the arm.

**R57:** (KFB, K5, KFB) twice (18 sts)

**R58:** K8, PM, KFB, KFB, PM, K8 to end of round (20 sts)

**R59:** Knit to marker, SM, KFB, knit to 1 before marker, KFB, SM, knit to end of round (22 sts)

**R60:** Knit to marker, SM, KFB, knit to 1 before marker, KFB, SM, knit to end of round (24 sts)

**R61:** K8, remove marker, k1, place next 6 sts on waste yarn. Pulling yarn across gap, k1, remove marker, knit last 8 sts to the end of the round. 6 sts on waste yarn for thumb, 18 sts rem on needles.

**R62-R71:** Knit all sts.

**R72:** (K1, SSK, K3, K2tog, K1) twice (14 sts)

Cut your yarn, leaving an 18" or longer tail. Stuff the hand now. Use the Kitchener Stitch to close the hand.

### Knit the Thumb

*Thumb is knit entirely in B.*

To Knit Separately, CO 10 sts, then just knit all sts of R1 (don't add any where you PU in R1) and work rest of pattern as written.

Place 6 sts from waste yarn onto needles. Starting on outside of thumb (away from palm), work in rnd using Magic Loop Method:

**R1:** K3, PU 2 from join between thumb and palm, slide sts to cable, PU 2 additional sts from same spot, K3 to end of rnd (10 sts)

**R2-R7:** Knit all sts

**R8:** K2tog five times (5 sts)

Lightly stuff the thumb. Cut your yarn and using a tapestry needle, pull it through the remaining sts to close up the thumb.

### Knit the Right Arm

Repeat above instructions starting in marked st #27 and moving toward marked st #21 from R37 of the body to make the second arm. Be sure beginning of the round is to the back of the arm for correct thumb placement. Be sure to knit the second thumb as well.

### Knit the Left Leg

To Knit Separately, CO 18 sts, then just knit all sts of R1 and work rest of pattern as written.

**R1:** Using A and starting in marked st #7 from the base of the body, PU 7 sts toward the outside edge of the body. Then, PU 2 more sts from the increase rounds up the side of the body (look for the "bar" from the KFB's). Next, using the other end of your needle tip, begin at marked st #7 again, move towards the front of the body 1 stitch and PU the same 9 sts 1 stitch forward, toward first st picked up. You will now have 18 sts on your needles. First st picked up is first st of the round,

beginning of round will be to the outside of the body. Be sure the beginning of the round is to the back of body for correct heel and foot placement. PM to indicate beg of rnd and beg to work in rnd using Magic Loop Method.

**R2-R35:** Using A, knit all sts

**R36:** Knit all sts in C. You will remain in C to the end of the foot.

**R37-R42:** Repeat R1 & R2 of Modified Loop Stitch (see notes)

**R43-R62:** Knit all sts

Begin the heel by working just the first 9 sts of the round, and holding the last 9 sts of the round on the cable of your needle.

**Row 1:** S11, knit to end. Turn.

**Row 2:** S11, purl to end. Turn.

Repeat Rows 1 & 2 three more times until 8 total rows have been worked. You will end with a purl row.

**R1 of foot:** Knit across 9 heel sts once more. Using the same needle tip, PU 6 sts from the gusset edge. Flip to the other needle tip and knit the 9 held sts. Using the same needle tip, PU 6 sts from the gusset edge. You'll now have 30 total sts and a new beginning of round with the next st to be knitted, PM to indicate beginning of round.

**R2:** K9, K2tog twice, K13, SSK twice (26 sts)

**R3:** Knit all sts

**R4:** K9, K2tog twice, K9, SSK twice (22 sts)

**R5-R20:** Knit all sts

**R21:** (K1, K2tog five times) twice (12 sts)

Stuff the foot now. Cut your yarn and using a tapestry needle, pull it through the remaining sts to close up the foot.

### Knit the Right Leg

Repeat these instructions starting in marked st #12 from the base of the body and moving toward the outside of the body, then moving forward and picking up the same 9 sts 1 st forward to make sure the beginning of the round is to the back of the body again to make the second leg. Beginning of the round will be to the inside of the leg.

## Knit the Tunic

*Tunic is knit entirely in D.*

Using D, CO 52 sts onto your larger needle. PM to indicate beg of rnd and join to begin knitting the tunic in the round using Magic Loop Method:

**R1-R3:** (K1, P1) around

**R4-R43:** Knit all sts

Divide for Top:

**Row 1:** K8, K2tog twice, K1. Turn (11 sts)

**Row 2:** P11. Turn

**Row 3:** K6, K2tog twice, K1. Turn (9 sts)

**Row 4:** P9. Turn

**Row 5:** K4, K2tog twice, K1. Turn (7 sts)

**Row 6:** P7. Turn

**Row 7:** K2, K2tog twice, K1. Turn (5 sts)

**Row 8:** P5. Turn

**Row 9:** K5. Turn

**Row 10:** P5. Turn

Cut your yarn leaving a long tail for Kitchener Stitch and place these 5 sts on waste yarn or a yarn holder.

Move to the next 13 sts: Start at the inside next edge (the next st to be worked before you turned after R43)

**Row 1:** K1, SSK twice, K8. Turn (11 sts)

**Row 2:** P11. Turn

**Row 3:** K1, SSK twice, K6. Turn (9 sts)

**Row 4:** P9. Turn

**Row 5:** K1, SSK twice, K4. Turn (7 sts)

**Row 6:** P7. Turn

**Row 7:** K1, SSK twice, K2. Turn (5 sts)

**Row 8:** P5. Turn

**Row 9:** K5. Turn

**Row 10:** P5. Turn

Cut your yarn leaving a long tail for Kitchener Stitch and place these 5 sts on waste yarn or a yarn holder.

Move to the remaining 26 sts from R43:

**Row 1:** K1, SSK, K20, K2tog, K1. Turn (24 sts)

**Row 2:** Purl all sts. Turn

**Row 3-Row 8:** Work all sts in Stockinette St.

**Row 9:** Knit all sts. Turn

**Row 10:** P1, P2tog tbl, P3, BO next 12 sts, P3, P2tog, P1. (5 sts per side remain, 12 sts bound off in center)

Place sts of shoulders onto one needle tip, with sts from back on the second needle tip. Cut your yarn and use kitchener st to attach each shoulder to the back of the tunic, using the ends you left when you did the front shoulders (you may have to slip your sts around on your

needles or use a second needle to set this up to work correctly).

## Knit the Hat

Using F, CO 36 sts. PM to indicate beg of rnd and join to begin knitting the hat in the round using Magic Loop Method:

**R1:** (K1, P1) around

**R2:** (P1, K1) around

**R3 & R4:** Repeat R1 & R2

**R5:** Repeat R1 once more

**R6-R17:** Switch to C and knit all sts. You will remain in C to the top of the hat. Stop and place removable markers as you work:

**R7:** PM in sts 1 & 19 to mark for horns.

**R14:** PM in sts 18 & 36 to mark for horns.

**R18:** (K2, K2tog) around (27 sts)

**R19:** Knit all sts

**R20:** (K1, K2tog) around (18 sts)

**R21:** Knit all sts

**R22:** K2tog around (9 sts)

Cut your yarn and pull it through the remaining sts to close the hat.

## Knit the Left Horn

*Horns are knit entirely in F.*

To Knit Separately, CO 16 sts, then just knit all sts of R1 and work rest of pattern as written.

**R1:** Using F and starting with marked st #1 on R7 of the hat, PU 8 sts, 1 stitch per round towards the top of the hat. Then, flip to other end of your needle tip, move over 1 stitch to marked st #36 from R14 of the head, and PU the same 8 sts 1 stitch over, heading toward first st picked up. You will now have 16 sts on your needles. First st picked up is first st of rnd, be sure the beginning of the round is towards the bottom of the hat for correct horn shaping. PM to indicate beg of rnd and beg to work in rnd using Magic Loop Method.

**R2 & R3:** Knit all sts

**R4:** SSK, knit to last 2 sts, K2tog (14 sts)

**R5:** Knit all sts

**R6:** SSK, knit to last 2 sts, K2tog (12 sts)

**R7:** Knit all sts

**R8:** SSK, knit to last 2 sts, K2tog (10 sts)

**R9:** Knit all sts

**R10:** SSK, knit to last 2 sts, K2tog (8 sts)

**R11:** Knit all sts

**R12:** SSK, knit to last 2 sts, K2tog (6 sts)

**R13:** Knit all sts

**R14:** SSK, knit to last 2 sts, K2tog (4 sts)

**R15:** Knit all sts

You can stuff the horns as you wish, the small samples are unstuffed, the large samples are lightly stuffed. If you do wish to stuff the horns, begin stuffing around R9. Once stuffed, cut your yarn and using a tapestry needle, pull it through the remaining sts to close up the horn.

### Knit the Right Horn

Repeat above instructions starting in marked st #19 from R7 of the hat and moving toward marked st #36 from R14 of the hat to make the second horn.

### Knit the Belt

Using C and Provisional Cast On, CO 6 sts. Do not join.

**Row 1-Row 100:** Knit all sts

*Alternately you can not keep track of rows but just knit until the belt first snugly around your viking's waist.*

Slip prov CO sts to the second needle. Use 3 needle bind off to attach prov cast on sts to the end sts and make the belt into a circle. Be sure to bind off on wrong side. Add buttons to the belt as desired.

### Knit the Beard

*Beard is knit entirely in E.*

Using E and Turkish Cast On, CO 40 sts (20 loops). PM to indicate beg of rnd and join to begin knitting the body in the round using Magic Loop Method:

**R1:** Knit all sts from Turkish Cast On (40 total Sts)

**R2:** (KFB, K18, KFB) twice (44 sts)

**R3-R12:** Knit all sts

**R13:** (K1, SSK, K16, K2tog, K1) twice (40 sts)

**R14:** Knit all sts

**R15:** (K1, SSK, K14, K2tog, K1) twice (36 sts)

**R16:** Knit all sts

**R17:** (K1, SSK, K12, K2tog, K1) twice (32 sts)

**R18:** Knit all sts

**R19:** (K1, SSK, K10, K2tog, K1) twice (28 sts)

**R20:** Knit all sts

**R21:** (K1, SSK, K8, K2tog, K1) twice (24 sts)

**R22:** Knit all sts

**R23:** (K1, SSK, K6, K2tog, K1) twice (20 sts)

**R24:** Knit all sts

**R25:** (K1, SSK, SSK, K2tog, K2tog) twice (12 sts)

**R26:** K2tog six times around (6 sts)

Cut your yarn and using a tapestry needle, pull it through the remaining sts to close up the beard.

### Knit the Mustache

*Mustache is knit entirely in E.*

Using E, CO 6 sts. PM to indicate beg of rnd and join to begin knitting the hat in the round using Magic Loop Method:

**R1-R5:** Knit all sts

**R6:** K2, KFB twice, K2 to end of round (8 sts)

**R7:** Knit all sts

**R8:** SSK, K1, KFB twice, K1, K2tog (8 sts)

**R9:** Knit all sts

**R10:** K3, KFB twice, K3 to end of round (10 sts)

**R11:** Knit all sts

**R12:** K3, K2tog, SSK, K3 to end of round (8 sts)

**R13:** Knit all sts

**R14:** (SSK, K2tog) twice (4 sts)

**R15:** Knit all sts

**R16:** KFB all sts (8 sts)

**R17:** Knit all sts

**R18:** K3, KFB twice, K3 to end of round (10 sts)

**R19:** Knit all sts

**R20:** K3, K2tog, SSK, K3 to end of round (8 sts)

**R21:** Knit all sts

**R22:** KFB, K1, K2tog, SSK, K1, KFB (8 sts)

**R23:** Knit all sts

**R24:** K2, K2tog, SSK, K2 to end of round (6 sts)

**R25-R30:** Knit all sts

Cut your yarn and using a tapestry needle, pull it through the remaining sts to close up the mustache.

*Don't stuff. The dip in center goes up to nose.*

### Finish Your Viking

**If Knit Separately:** Whipstitch arms, legs, nose and ears to the body using removable stitch markers for placement reference.

**If Knit In One Piece:** Weave in any remaining ends.

**For both:** Add eyes now if you didn't earlier. Pin beard to the face so the top edge of the beards just about lines up with the bottom edge of the ears. Use a running stitch to sew across the top edge up the beard, across the face and to the other ear. Pin the mustache in

place right under the nose and use a running stitch to tack it in place (I like it so the ends are not sewn down and give the stache a little more dimension. Slip the tunic over the viking's head and the belt onto his waist. To make hair like on my samples, you will want to cut a bunch (read, a **bunch**) of pieces of hair. For my small viking the pieces were 6" long. For my bigger viking they were 12" long. The finished size is really going to depend on how long you want the hair. You can cut a couple sample pieces before you decide.

To attach each hair, and yes the hair is added one piece at a time, I put a piece of hair into my tapestry needle, run the tapestry needle under the 2 loops of a stitch, drop the needle, find the center of the piece of hair, and then tie the hair in a square knot, knotting twice to hold the hair in place. Then I move on to the next hair and the next stitch, and do the whole thing over again. And again. And again.

To determine my hairline shape, I used the decrease stitches at the top of the head as a guide, then I made a circle around the top of the head, along down behind the ear, across a straight line of what I felt would be the bottom of the hairline, and back up behind the other ear. It came out like a "D" on its side. Then, I ran two rows of hair down the center of the "D", right next to each other, along where I wanted the part. Again I put a piece of hair into each and every stitch of these two lines.



Lots of work I know, but I think totally worth it for the gorgeous head full of luscious locks. You can chose to leave your viking bald if you prefer!

**If you need help** with anything in this pattern, check out my *Frequent Questions* page:

[http://rebeccadanger.typepad.com/rebecca\\_danger/frequent-questions.html](http://rebeccadanger.typepad.com/rebecca_danger/frequent-questions.html)

If your question is not listed, check in with other knitters in the *Danger Crafts Ravelry.com* group.

If you still can't get an answer to your question, you can email me. I get back to questions as soon as I can, but I have 2 small children, one of whom is special needs, and only check email 1-2 times a week: [dangercrafts@gmail.com](mailto:dangercrafts@gmail.com)

**Terms Used In This Pattern** Can Be Found On My Blog: [http://rebeccadanger.typepad.com/rebecca\\_danger/2012/01/knitting-pattern-terms.html](http://rebeccadanger.typepad.com/rebecca_danger/2012/01/knitting-pattern-terms.html)

**Check my blog** for the most up-to-date news and products from the *Danger Studio*: [www.rebeccadanger.typepad.com](http://www.rebeccadanger.typepad.com)

## Samples Shown In This Pattern



### **Small Viking:**

Sapling Sock Sprouts from Cedar House Yarns in Oyster (A & F), Toasted Marshmallow (B), Smoked Porter (C), Moss (D), and Robin Red-Breast (E)

9 mm safety eyes

Us Size 0 Needles

Approx. 12" tall

### **Large Viking:**

Old Growth Worsted from Cedar House Yarns in Oyster (A & F), Toasted Marshmallow (B), Ink (C), A Land Far Away (D), and Ginger (E)

9 mm safety eyes

Us Size 4 Needles

Approx. 17" tall