

# EXTERMAKNIT

Plush Dalek Pattern  
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### Skill level

When I started this project, I had, in total, knit one hat and one scarf. I had to pick up new techniques to make this pattern work, but if you can do it, you can do it! This is an excellent learning project. Techniques include knitting and purling, working in the round including small diameter knitting, provisional cast-on, some basic increases/decreases, a bit of colorwork, bobbles, and I-

cord. This isn't a 'mindless' project – you need to be able to pay attention to the pattern, as there are a lot of seemingly random decreases. Ticking the checkboxes off as you work each row can help you keep track.

If you're feeling intimidated and want to reduce the skill level:

- Work in one color instead of two
- Skip the bobbles and sew on buttons, etc afterwards.
- Make the appendages out of felt/beads/etc. instead of knitting them.
- Knit flat and seam it up instead of knitting in the round. (If you do this, you will need to invert the instructions for every other row – knit where it says purl and purl where it says knit.)
- Knit the base first and then knit the rest of the body instead of using a provisional cast-on. (This will make it more of a nuisance to stuff and sew on appendages.)

### Size

This will depend on your choice of yarn and needles and your gauge. A Dalek knit in sportweight or worsted will probably end up around 8 inches tall.

### Yarn and other materials

Basic wool or acrylic worsted is an obvious yarn choice, but feel free to play around. Pick a thicker or thinner yarn depending on the size of Dalek you want, and try different fibers or novelty yarns. Just make sure whatever yarn you choose will make a dense enough fabric that your stuffing doesn't leak out.

You will need one skein of yarn in your body color and one skein in your contrast color. If you are going to knit bobbles for eyes, you will also need a couple of yards of yarn in your eye color. You will probably be able to get a couple of Daleks out of larger skeins. Obvious color choices here are gray for body, black for contrast, and white for eyes, but again, feel free to play around. If you don't want to do colorwork you can knit entirely in one color (new series Daleks are mostly gold, for example) but colorwork will make your Dalek more striking.

If not making bobbles, you will also need 56 buttons, beads, pompons, felt circles, etc. in your contrast color for the Dalek bumps. You will also need

two smaller buttons, etc. for the eyes. (My Doctor Who Technical Manual informs me that these are “Energy Dispensers”, not eyes. Whatever.)

### Needles

This is knit in the round, so you will need circular needles and/or DPNs in a size appropriate to your yarn choice. 16 inch circulars work well for the majority of the knitting until you hit the very small diameters at either end.. It is a good idea to knit on slightly smaller needles than you might usually choose – the tighter fabric will help keep the stuffing from showing.

### Abbreviations

k – knit

p – purl

k2tog – knit two together

p2tog – purl 2 together

ssk – slip, slip, knit

ssp – slip, slip, purl

s11 – slip 1

psso – pass slipped stitch over

mb – make bobble

R – row number

### Bobbles

Bobbles are really very easy – all you are doing is using one stitch to make a little area of knitting that is separate from the rest of the work. However, if you don't like bobbles, you can skip them by replacing all mb with k1. After you are finished knitting, you can then sew buttons, beads, pompons, felt circles, etc on where the bobbles would have gone. If you do this, you will need 56 buttons, etc. in your contrast color and two smaller ones in your eye color.

#### *Body bobble instructions:*

On the stitch marked mb,:

Switch to contrast color yarn

**R1** - k1 p1 k1 p1 k1 p1 into that one stitch, then turn work

**R2** - sl1 knitwise, p5, turn work

**R3** - sl1 purlwise, k5, turn work

**R4** - p2tog p2tog p2tog, turn work

**R5** - sl1, drop contrast yarn and pick up background yarn, k2tog psso

Then continue knitting according to pattern instructions.

*Eye bobble instructions:*

On the stitch marked mb,:

Switch to eye color yarn

**R1** – k1 p1 k1 into that one stitch, then turn work

**R2** – p3, turn work

**R3** – k3, turn work

**R4** – p2tog p1, turn work

**R5** – sl1, drop eye yarn and pick up background yarn, k1 psso

Then continue knitting according to pattern instructions.

*Special Note:*

Because you are doing colorwork in the round, you will notice a slight break or ‘jog’ in the lines of color up the back. If this bothers you, you can use a jogless join.

## **The Pattern**

### **BODY**

Work in body color, using contrast color for the bobbles.

Using waste yarn of a different color and a provisional cast on, cast on 114 stitches.

□ **Row 1** – k114 Insert stitch marker and join work, taking care not to twist it.

□ **R2** – k114

□ **R3** – k7 p2 k6 p2 k12 p2 k6 p2 k7 p2 k8 p2 k8 p2 k7 p2 k6 p2 k12 p2 k6 p2

k7 (114 st)

- **R4** – k7 p2 k6 p2 k12 p2 k6 p2 k7 p2 k8 p2 k8 p2 k7 p2 k6 p2 k12 p2 k6 p2 k6 k2tog (113 st remain) *Note: This decrease falls across the stitch marker, using one stitch on each side of the marker. Remove the marker, make the decrease, and replace the marker immediately after the decrease.*
- **R5** – k6 p2 k6 p2 k12 p2 k6 p2 k7 p2 k8 p2 k8 p2 k7 p2 k6 p2 k12 p2 k6 p2 k7 (113 st)
- **R6** – k6 p2 k6 p2 k12 p2 k6 p2 k2 k2tog k3 p2 k8 p2 k8 p2 k3 ssk k2 p2 k6 p2 k12 p2 k6 p2 k7 (111 st remain)
- **R7** – k3 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k3 p2 k2 mb k6 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k3 p2 k2 mb k3 p2 k3 mb k4 p2 k4 mb k3 p2 k3 mb k2 p2 k3 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k6 mb k2 p2 k3 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k4 (111 st)
- **R8** – k6 p2 k6 p2 k5 k2tog k5 p2 k6 p2 k6 p2 k8 p2 k8 p2 k6 p2 k6 p2 k5 ssk k5 p2 k6 p2 k7 (109 st remain)
- **R9** – k6 p2 k6 p2 k11 p2 k6 p2 k6 p2 k8 p2 k8 p2 k6 p2 k6 p2 k11 p2 k6 p2 k7 (109 st)
- **R10** – k6 p2 k6 p2 k11 p2 k6 p2 k6 p2 k3 k2tog k3 p2 k3 ssk k3 p2 k6 p2 k6 p2 k11 p2 k6 p2 k7 (107 st remain)
- **R11** – k6 p2 k6 p2 k11 p2 k2 k2tog k2 p2 k6 p2 k7 p2 k7 p2 k6 p2 k2 ssk k2 p2 k11 p2 k6 p2 k7 (105 st remain)
- **R12** – k6 p2 k6 p2 k11 p2 k5 p2 k6 p2 k7 p2 k7 p2 k6 p2 k5 p2 k11 p2 k6 p2 k5 ssk (105 st)
- **R13** – k6 p2 k6 p2 k11 p2 k5 p2 k6 p2 k7 p2 k7 p2 k6 p2 k5 p2 k11 p2 k6 p2 k6 (104 st remain)
- **R14** – k3 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k3 p2 k2 mb k5 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k3 p2 k3 mb k3 p2 k3 mb k3 p2 k3 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k5 mb k2 p2 k3 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k3 (104 st)
- **R15** – k6 p2 k6 p2 k11 p2 k5 p2 k6 p2 k2 k2tog k3 p2 k3 ssk k2 p2 k6 p2 k5 p2 k11 p2 k6 p2 k6 (102 st remain)
- **R16** – k6 p2 k6 p2 k11 p2 k5 p2 k6 p2 k6 p2 k6 p2 k6 p2 k5 p2 k11 p2 k6 p2 k6 (102 st)

- **R17** – k6 p2 k2 k2tog k2 p2 k11 p2 k5 p2 k6 p2 k6 p2 k6 p2 k6 p2 k5 p2 k11 p2 k2 ssk k2 p2 k6 (100 st remain)
- **R18** – k6 p2 k5 p2 k11 p2 k5 p2 k2 k2tog k2 p2 k6 p2 k6 p2 k2 ssk k2 p2 k5 p2 k11 p2 k5 p2 k6 (98 st remain)
- **R19** – k6 p2 k5 p2 k11 p2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k6 p2 k6 p2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k11 p2 k5 p2 k6 (98 st)
- **R20** – k6 p2 k5 p2 k4 k2tog k5 p2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k6 p2 k6 p2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k5 ssk k4 p2 k5 p2 k6 (96 st remain)
- **R21** – k3 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k4 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k2 p2 k3 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k3 p2 k2 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k4 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k3 (96 st)
- **R22** – k6 p2 k5 p2 k10 p2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k2 k2tog k2 p2 k2 ssk k2 p2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k10 p2 k5 p2 k6 (94 st remain)
- **R23** – k6 p2 k5 p2 k10 p2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k10 p2 k5 p2 k6 (94 st)
- **R24** – k6 p2 k5 p2 k10 p2 k1 k2tog k2 p2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k2 ssk k1 p2 k10 p2 k5 p2 k6 (92 st remain)
- **R25** – k6 p2 k5 p2 k10 p2 k4 p2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k4 p2 k10 p2 k5 p2 k5 k2tog (91 st remain) *Note: This decrease falls across the stitch marker, using one stitch on each side of the marker. Remove the marker, make the decrease, and replace the marker immediately after the decrease.*
- **R26** – k5 p2 k5 p2 k10 p2 k4 p2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k5 p2 k4 p2 k10 p2 k5 p2 k6 (91 st)
- **R27** – k5 p2 k5 p2 k10 p2 k4 p2 k5 p2 k1 k2tog k2 p2 k2 ssk k1 p2 k5 p2 k4 p2 k10 p2 k5 p2 k6 (89 st remain)
- **R28** – k2 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k4 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k1 p2 k2 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k1 p2 k1 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k2 p2 k1 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k4 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k2 p2 k2 mb k3 (89 st)
- **R29** – k5 p2 k5 p2 k10 p2 k4 p2 k1 k2tog k2 p2 k4 p2 k4 p2 k2 ssk k1 p2 k4 p2 k10 p2 k5 p2 k6 (87 st remain)

- **R30** – k5 p2 k5 p2 k4 k2tog k4 p2 k4 p2 k4 p2 k4 p2 k4 p2 k4 p2 k4 p2 k4 p2 k4 ssk k4 p2 k5 p2 k6 (85 st remain)
- **R31** – k5 p2tog k5 p2tog k9 p2tog k4 p2tog k4 p2tog k4 p2tog k4 ssp k4 ssp k4 ssp k9 ssp k5 ssp k6 (74 st remain)
- **R32** - k5 k2tog k4 k2tog k8 k2tog k3 k2tog k3 k2tog k3 ssk k3 ssk k3 ssk k3 ssk k8 ssk k4 ssk k5 (63 st remain)

### **SHOULDERS**

If desired, you can do some colorwork here by working all the stitches in ***bold italic*** in one color and all other stitches in your other color. You can choose body color against contrast color or contrast color against body color – Daleks had a lot of variety over the years and either is correct. Otherwise, if not wanting to do colorwork, work entirely in your body color.

- **Row 1 – k63**
- **R2 – p63**
- **R3 – p63**
- **R4 – p24 k14 p25**
- **R5 – k63**
- **R6 – k63**
- **R7 – (k1 p1 for 24 st) k14 p1 (k1 p1 for 24 st)**
- **R8 – (k1 p1 for 24 st) k14 p1 (k1 p1 for 24 st)**
- **R9 – (k1 p1 for 24 st) k14 p1 (k1 p1 for 24 st)**
- **R10 – (k1 p1 for 24 st) k14 p1 (k1 p1 for 24 st)**
- **R11 – (k1 p1 for 24 st) k14 p1 (k1 p1 for 24 st)**
- **R12 – (k1 p1 for 36 st) k2tog p1 (k1 p1 for 24 st) (62 st remain)**
- **R13 – k1 p1 all around**
- **R14 – k1 p1 all around**
- **R15 – k1 p1 all around**

- **R16** – k3 k2tog k4 k2tog k4 k2tog k3 k2tog k4 k2tog k4 k2tog k3 ssk k4 ssk k4 ssk k3 ssk k4 ssk (51 st remain)
- **R17** – k51

## **NECK**

Worked in a color pattern – colors are noted for each row.

- **Row 1** – k51 (*body color*)
- **R2** – p51 (*body*)
- **R3** – k51 (*contrast color*)
- **R4** – k15 k2tog k15 ssk k15 ssk (*contrast*) (48 st remain)
- **R5** – k48 (*contrast*)
- **R6** – k48 (*body*)
- **R7** – p48 (*body*)
- **R8** – k48 (*contrast*)
- **R9** – k4 k2tog k14 k2tog k14 ssk k10 (*contrast*) (45 st remain)
- **R10** – k45 (*contrast*)
- **R11** – k45 (*body*)
- **R12** – p45 (*body*)
- **R13** – k45 (*contrast*)
- **R14** – k9 k2tog k13 ssk k13 ssk k4 (*contrast*) (42 st remain)
- **R15** – k42 (*contrast*)

## **HEAD**

Work entirely in body color except for eyes.

Note that mb means you need to knit the EYE BOBBLE here, not the body bobble.

- **Row 1** – k42
- **R2** – p42



- **R3** – p42
- **R4** – p42
- **R5** – p42
- **R6** – p42
- **R7** – p10 p2tog p19 p2tog p9 (*40 st remain*)
- **R8** – p10 mb p19 mb p9
- **R9** – p3 p2tog all around (*32 st remain*)
- **R10** – p32
- **R11** – p2 p2tog all around (*24 st remain*)
- **R12** – p24
- **R13** – p1 p2tog all around (*16 st remain*)
- **R14** – p2tog all around (*8 st remain*)

Break thread, leaving a tail. Thread tail through the remaining 8 stitches and pull snug. Weave in tail.

Now is a good time to go back and weave in all your yarn ends. It's also a good time to see if there are any fixes you need to do – bobbles that need tightening, etc. If you did not knit bobbles, sew on the 'Dalek bumps' and 'eyes' now. You will also want to knit and sew on the appendages now.

### **APPENDAGES**

To help keep them from flopping, you may wish to knit the appendages on a smaller gauge needle than you used for the rest of the Dalek.

If you don't like working small diameters in the round, you can knit the non-I-cord portions flat and seam the appendages shut.

#### **Manipulator Arm (“plunger” arm)**

Cast on 3 stitches using doubled body color yarn

- **Rows 1-15** Knit in I-cord for 15 rows depending on desired length

Switch to contrast color yarn, not doubled

- **R16** K3
- **R17** Knit and purl into each stitch
- **R18** K6
- **R19** Knit and purl into each stitch
- **R20** Knit 12
- **R21** Knit and purl into first stitch, k1 into second stitch, work in this pattern to end of row

Bind off and cut yarn, leaving a long tail.

You can stiffen the arm by running the yarn tail up and down the inside of the I-cord a few times. You can also stiffen it with wire if necessary, as long as the recipient is old/human enough not to poke his/her/its eyes out with it.

Use the remaining tail to sew the arm to the right-front of the Dalek's instrument panel.

### **Blast-Gun**

Cast on 10 stitches using doubled body color yarn

Work in garter stitch for 8 rows

Bind off, leaving a tail

Use the tail to sew the cast-on edge to the bind-off edge to make a tube.

Use the remaining tail to sew the gun to the left-front of the Dalek's instrument panel.

### **Eyestalk**

Cast on 3 stitches

- **Rows 1-5** Work in I-cord for 5 rows
- **R6** Knit and purl into each stitch
- **R7** Knit and purl into each stitch
- **R8** Knit 12
- **R9** K2tog all
- **R10** K2tog all
- **R11** Work in I-cord for 2 rows

- **R12** Knit and purl into each stitch
- **R13** Knit 6
- **R14** Knit and purl into each stitch
- **R15** Knit 12
- **R16** K2tog all

Bind off.

You can stiffen the eyestalk by running the yarn tail up and down the inside of the I-cord a few times. You can also stiffen it with wire if necessary, as long as the recipient is old/human enough not to poke his/her/its eyes out with it. Use the remaining tail to sew the eyestalk to the center front of the Dalek's head, about on level with the 'eyes'.

Now go ahead and stuff the Dalek with batting or other stuffing. If you want it to have a bit more weight, you can include a little pillow full of beans, gravel, etc. in the stuffing. Take care to stuff the Dalek evenly – overstuffing can distort the shape. You can leave a bit at the bottom un-stuffed to give yourself more working room for knitting the base, then stuff the last bit just before you seam it shut.

### **BASE**

Undo provisional cast-on and pick up 114 stitches.

Work in contrast color.

- **Row 1** k114
- **R2** p114
- **R3** p114
- **R4** p114
- **R5** p114
- **R6** k114
- **R7** k10 k2tog k10 k2tog k19 k2tog k10 k2tog k10 k2tog k10 k2tog k19 k2tog k10 k2tog (106 st remain)

- **R8** k106
- **R9** k2tog k9 k2tog k18 k2tog k9 k2tog k9 k2tog k9 k2tog k18 k2tog k9 k2tog k9 (98 st remain)
- **R10** k98
- **R11** k8 k2tog k8 k2tog k17 k2tog k8 k2tog k8 k2tog k8 k2tog k17 k2tog k8 k2tog (90 st remain)
- **R12** k90
- **R13** k2tog k7 k2tog k16 k2tog k7 k2tog k7 k2tog k7 k2tog k16 k2tog k7 k2tog k7 (82 st remain)
- **R14** k82
- **R15** k6 k2tog k6 k2tog k15 k2tog k6 k2tog k6 k2tog k6 k2tog k15 k2tog k6 k2tog (74 st remain)
- **R16** k74
- **R17** k2tog k5 k2tog k14 k2tog k5 k2tog k5 k2tog k5 k2tog k14 k2tog k5 k2tog k5 (66 st remain)
- **R18** k66
- **R19** k4 k2tog k4 k2tog k13 k2tog k4 k2tog k4 k2tog k4 k2tog k13 k2tog k4 k2tog (58 st remain)
- **R20** k58
- **R21** k2tog k3 k2tog k12 k2tog k3 k2tog k3 k2tog k3 k2tog k12 k2tog k3 k2tog k3 (50 st remain)
- **R22** k50
- **R23** k2 k2tog k2 k2tog k11 k2tog k2 k2tog k2 k2tog k2 k2tog k11 k2tog k2 k2tog (42 st remain)
- **R24** k42
- **R25** k2tog k1 k2tog k10 k2tog k1 k2tog k1 k2tog k1 k2tog k10 k2tog k1 k2tog k1 (34 st remain)
- **R26** k34
- **R27** k2tog k2tog k9 k2tog k2tog k2tog k2tog k9 k2tog k2tog (26 st remain)

Break yarn, leaving a long enough tail to seam with. Divide stitches evenly onto two needles, the first half of the row on one needle, the second half on the other needle. Before seaming, add any necessary extra stuffing to the Dalek. Then seam the stitches together and weave in end.

**Go forth and exterminate the world with cuddly evil.**