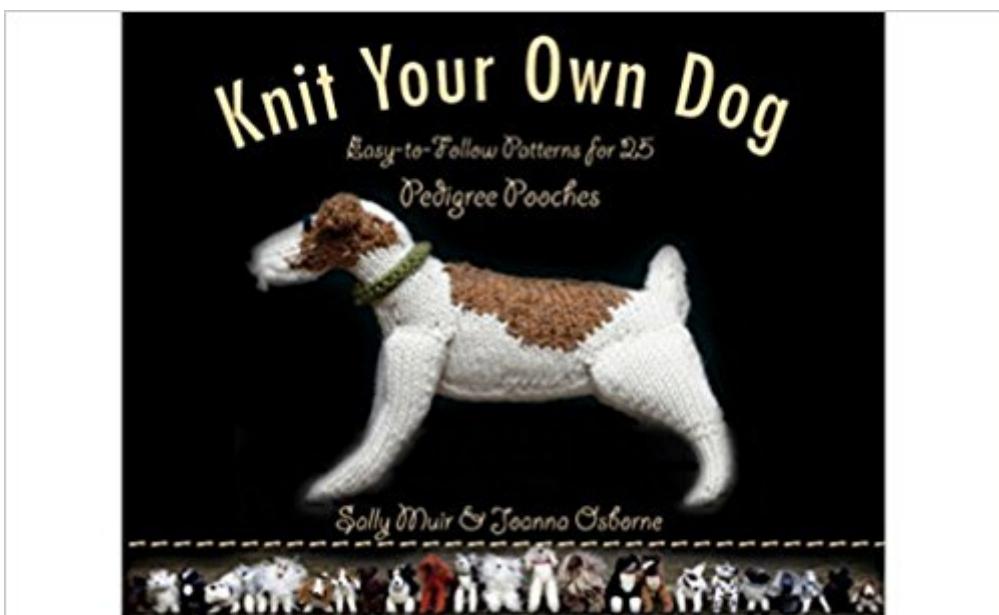


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# Knit Your Own Dog: Easy-to-Follow Patterns For 25 Pedigree Pooches



## Synopsis

The perfect gift for dog-lovers who knit! From a spotted Dalmatian to a wrinkly Bulldog, the step-by-step patterns in *Knit Your Own Dog* let you knit the dog you've always wanted. The knitted dog is indeed the ideal companion: There's no feeding, barking, shedding, or vet's bills, and he'll live forever! *Knit Your Own Dog* is the irresistible guide to knitting the perfect pup. With patterns for 25 different pedigree pooches, *Knit Your Own Dog* lets you choose the dog you want, whether it's a pretty Poodle or a loyal Labrador. Or knit them all for a pack of canine fun! The patterns are easy-to-follow for both new and veteran knitters. It should take only a few evenings to create a covetable companion for life. And yet each pattern is extremely detailed and includes all of the distinguishing features of each breed, from the startling blue eyes of the Siberian Husky and the long, woolly curls of the Old English Sheepdog to the lolling tongue of the German Shepherd. Accompanying the patterns are a brief description of each breed, as well as expert tips on choosing yarns, stuffing and sewing the dogs, and adding personality to your creation. Beautiful color photographs of the finished dogs, as well as detail shots, both inspire and instruct. *Knit Your Own Dog* is the perfect book for knitters and devoted dog lovers. Breeds include: Afghan Hound, Basset Hound, Border Collie, Cocker Spaniel, Corgi, Dachshund, Dalmatian, English Bulldog, English Bull Terrier, French Bulldog, German Shepherd, Jack Russell, Labrador, Miniature Schnauzer, Old English Sheepdog, Poodle, Portuguese Water Dog, Pug, Red Setter, Rough Collie, Scottish Terrier, Siberian Husky, West Highland Terrier, Whippet, Wire-haired Fox Terrier.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Sally Muir and Joanna Osborne run their own knitwear business, Muir and Osborne ([www.muirandosborne.co.uk](http://www.muirandosborne.co.uk)). They have a shop in London and export their knitwear to stores in the U.S., Japan, and Europe, including Barneys New York, Saks Fifth Avenue, Liberty, and The Cross. They won the U.K. Fashion Export Small Business Award in 2002, and several pieces of their knitwear are in the permanent collection of the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. Their previous books include *Knit Your Own Dog*, *Knit Your Own Cat*, *Knit Your Own Dog: The Second Litter*, and *Knit Your Own Zoo*. Sally Muir and Joanna Osborne run their own knitwear business, Muir and Osborne ([www.muirandosborne.co.uk](http://www.muirandosborne.co.uk)). They have a shop in London and export their knitwear to stores in the U.S., Japan, and Europe, including Barneys New York, Saks Fifth Avenue, Liberty, and The Cross. They won the U.K. Fashion Export Small Business Award in 2002, and several pieces of their knitwear are in the permanent collection of the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. Their previous books include *Knit Your Own Dog*, *Knit Your Own Cat*, *Knit Your Own Dog: The Second Litter*, and *Knit Your Own Zoo*.

Dog lovers may want to knit these 25 charming "pedigree pooches" as a display set, although it will be a lot of work! Each little dog--they range from 6.75" high x 8" long (Afghan) to 3.5" x 6.25" (Corgi)--has a lot of parts, which need to be joined or sewn together, stuffed, and embroidered with noses and eyes. For example, the cover dog (Wire-haired Fox Terrier) requires knitting two back legs, two front legs, a right side and tail, a left side and tail, a body, a neck and head, a tummy, two ears, and a collar. The designers have done a fine job in capturing the essentials of each breed. My favorites are the Poodle (knit in boucle yarn) and the wrinkly English Bulldog; my least favorites are the Labrador and Dalmatian, which are still quite identifiable by their breeds. Breeds included are: Afghan Hound, Whippet, Dachshund, Basset Hound, Wire-haired Fox Terrier, Jack Russell, Scottish Terrier, West Highland Terrier, English Bull Terrier, Cocker Spaniel, Red Setter, Labrador, Portuguese Water Dog, Dalmatian, Poodle, Miniature Schnauzer, French Bulldog, English Bulldog, Pug, Rough Collie, Border Collie, German Shepherd, Old English Sheepdog, Corgi, and Siberian Husky. Experienced, creative knitters can no doubt adapt the patterns for other breeds. The patterns call for small amounts of various Rowan yarns (Pure Wool, Kidsilk Haze, Cashsoft, Felted Tweed, etc.), but the authors include a brief note on substituting yarns. If I were knitting these, I would use

something other than Kidsilk Haze for the Schnauzer's long muzzle hair and the Rough Collie's thick "mane", as the thin mohair isn't quite convincing as a dog's silky coat. I haven't knit-tested the patterns, but the instructions seem very clear. Stitch counts are included at the end of increase/decrease rows, and close-up photos illustrate head details and leg angles (for sewing to bodies). I was briefly confused by the instructions "k3wa" and "k2cr", but these merely refer to yarn colors ("wa" for "walnut" and "cr" for "cream"). Special stitches, such as loopy stitches, are explained at the end of the book, and there are hints on stuffing, and on adding pipecleaners as needed to strengthen legs. This is a book for experienced knitters, as the patterns call for a lot of shaping, saving stitches on holders, and some special techniques. However, any moderately experienced but adventurous knitter should be able to knit the dogs from the pattern instructions. If you're a real dog lover, this is a 5-star book, because it's fun to look through even if you don't want to knit the dogs. If you're mainly interested in patterns for knitted toys, then better choices might be Debbie Bliss' *Toy Knits: More Than 30 Irresistible and Easy-to-Knit Patterns*, Kath Dalmeny's *World of Knitted Toys*, Zoe Mellor's *Knitted Toys: 25 Fresh and Fabulous Designs*, or Sarah Keen's *Knitted Wild Animals: 15 Adorable, Easy-to-Knit Toys*.

While the patterns in this book are pretty cute, finishing the patterns was terrible! there was a lot of sewing involved, I found that the pieces didn't quite line up right, and overall, it was somewhat difficult to follow. Unless you're into seaming and sewing things up, I don't recommend this book. There are so many better stuffed animal books out there. I made a terrier from this book. I call it demented dog because it just doesn't look right.

Cute booklet with photos & step by step instructions...HOWEVER, this is not for a beginner nor is it easy at all.

Errors in the pattern for the lab. I am an expert knitter of many years and found these patterns to be counter intuitive and no fun to knit.

I'd say the same thing about this book that I said about the cat book. I actually decided against using this for the dog I wanted to make because I found a clearer pattern, albeit a totally different style. If at a later date I decide to use this I'll write an updated review.

more difficult than expected, small for these fingers with arthritis....

I bought this book for my mother who has been knitting and crocheting for 80 years..This woman can master anything with or without a pattern but this book threw her for a loop. I should have paid better attention to the poor reviews it received. Some of the patterns are inaccurate,, the pieces are very difficult to sew together and some pieces do not match...Another friend of ours bought the book also and is having the same trouble. We could not give this book one star as the stories on the dog breeds does deserve some merit.

Great gift for experienced knitter in your life! Such a fun idea! This edition has a great selection of breeds!

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