Knitting Nature
Kangaroo paw instructions

Materials:
• 25 g red cotton dk yarn
• 25 g green cotton dk yarn
• set of 4 mm double pointed needles
• darning needle
• 6 cm flower stick or cane
• 6 cm flower stick or cane

Abbreviations
• k, knit
• p, purl
• st(s), stitch(es)
• tog, together
**How to knit I-cord**

Cast on 4 sts using double pointed needles. Row 1: K, do not turn work. Row 2: Slide sts to the other end of the needle. Repeat rows 1 and 2 until cord is the required length.

Cut yarn and thread through the 4 loops.

Draw up and secure.

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**Flower head buds**


Knit 7 petals in total using this method, decreasing the green section two rows each time. Place each piece, in decreasing size order, onto the original needle.

End bud:
Using red yarn, cast on 4 sts. Work I-cord for 6 rows. Cut yarn and place on needle with the other pieces.

Base of buds:
Using red, knit across the eight pieces on the needle. P 1 row. Cast off.
**Stem**

Using red yarn, cast on 6 sts. Work in stocking stitch (k 1 row, p 1 row) until piece measures 40 cm.

Cut yarn and pull end through the sts and secure. Fold in half lengthwise and, using the darning needle, stitch closed the first 4 cm along the edge.

Insert the flower head into the top of the stem, with the smallest bud facing the top of the stem. Stitch the buds in place.

Insert 36 cm length of cane into the flower head.

Wrap remaining stem around cane and stitch closed.

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**Leaf**

Using green yarn, cast on 8 sts. Work in stocking stitch (k 1 row, p 1 row) until piece measures 22 cm, ending on a p row.

Next row k2tog across the row.

P 1 row.

K 1 row.

Cut the yarn and pull the yarn end through the remaining 4 sts and secure.

Fold in half lengthwise. Stitch closed along this edge and insert 26 cm length of cane.

Stitch closed along bottom edge.

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Created for Kew by textile artist Clare Sams.

For more information about this plant visit temperate.house/plant/kangaroo-paw/
**Flower**

1. Knit first I-cord as per pattern, leave on the spare needle.

2. Knit I-cord pieces and gradually transfer onto the spare needle until there are seven buds.

3. Knit across the pieces, then purl one row and cast off.

4. Knit flower stem as per pattern, fold in half lengthwise then stitch the top 4 cm closed.

5. Lay the flower head piece into the stem and stitch in place.

6. Insert the 36 cm cane and stitch closed.

**Leaf**

1. Knit the leaf as per pattern then fold in half lengthwise.

2. Insert the 26 cm cane, then stitch closed along the edge and bottom.