



LM6285



## knitting

Designed by Nancy Anderson

### What you will need:

**RED HEART® Amigurumi:**  
1 ball 9695 Mermaid

**Susan Bates® Knitting**  
**Needles:** 2.75 mm [US 2]  
double pointed needles (set of 5).

**Susan Bates® Crochet Hook:**  
Small hook for attaching hair to mermaid

Stitch markers, stitch holders, stuffing, two 6mm safety eyes, black embroidery floss and embroidery needle for mouth, scrap of pink felt for cheeks, sharp scissors, craft glue, regular size drinking straw for leg armature, and yarn needle.

**Optional:** Knee high stocking and plastic pellets for weighted stuffing.

**GAUGE:** 30 sts = about 4" [10 cm]; 36 rounds = about 4" [10 cm] in Stockinette stitch worked in rounds (knit every round). **EXACT GAUGE IS NOT CRITICAL TO THIS PROJECT. Use any size needles to obtain the gauge.**

### BUY YARN



**RED HEART® Amigurumi, Art E885** available in 3.5 oz (100 g) 239 yds (219m) cakes.



## Tina & Nina Mermaid

Tina & Nina are ready to swim the seas with you! Look for shells, travel the world on land or sea with these adaptable friends.

**Mermaid measures about 5½" [14 cm] tall not including tail, and 7" [18 cm] tall including tail.**

### Special Stitches

**kfb (Knit into front and back)** = Knit next stitch but do not remove from needle, knit into back loop of same stitch and remove from needle - 1 st increased.

### Notes

1. Before beginning, separate the different color sections of the yarn as follows: Pop the center color out by pushing gently on the center of the ball so that it comes out intact. Find the point where the color changes and cut the yarn. Repeat this process for the remaining yarn colors by carefully pushing the rings of color out of the larger ring and cutting. Wind each color into a separate ball to prevent tangling. You may find that one color appears both in the center, and on the outside of the ball, wind together or separately. In the pattern instructions, the peach color is referred to as **A**, the purple as **B**, the teal as **C**, and the red as **D**.
2. Mermaid is made from 10-12 pieces: Body, 4 limbs, head, wig base, tail, tutu, sundress, and optionally two side buns.
3. Body, head, tail, tutu, and sundress are worked in rounds.
4. Limbs (arms and legs) are made from I-cord. A drinking straw is inserted in each piece of I-cord for armature.

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## LM6285 Tina & Nina Mermaid

5. Wig base and optional side buns are worked back and forth in rows.
6. You can personalize the mermaid by selecting your choice of bikini and hair color, hair style, and clothing.
7. Pieces are sewn together using yarn scraps, yarn tails or sewing thread.
8. Take care to attach safety eyes before head opening becomes too small. Do not use safety eyes if toy is intended for a child 2 years of age or younger.

### BODY

Beginning at top of body with **A**, leaving a long beginning tail, cast on 6 sts. Distribute stitches evenly over 3 double pointed needles (2 stitches on each needle). Place marker for beginning of round. Prepare to work in rounds.

**Round 1 (right side):** [Kfb] 6 times—12 sts.

**Round 2:** Knit.

**Round 3:** [K1, kfb] 6 times—18 sts.

**Round 4:** Knit.

Bikini

Join your choice of bikini yarn color **B** or **C**. Cut **A**.

**Rounds 5-8:** With bikini color, knit.

Join **A**. Cut bikini yarn.

**Rounds 9-14:** With **A**, knit.

Join bikini color.

**Rounds 15-18:** With bikini color, knit.

Stuff body with stuffing or with optional knee high filled with plastic pellets.

Complete piece with bikini color only.

**Round 19:** [K1, k2tog] 6 times—12 sts.

Finish stuffing body.

**Round 20:** [K2tog] 6 times—6 sts.

Cut yarn, leaving a long tail. Thread ending tail through stitches of last round and pull to close opening. Thread beginning tail through stitches of Round 1 and pull to close opening. Secure tails and weave to inside of body.

### ARMS AND LEGS (make 4)

**Note:** Arms and legs are made of I-cord "stuffed" with drinking straw cut to size. Do not stuff with fiber.

With 2 double pointed needles and **A**, leaving a long beginning tail, cast on 6 sts.

**I-Cord:** K6, \*slide sts to opposite end of needle; carry working yarn tightly along back of work and the knit the 6 sts again; repeat from \* 12 more times for a total of 14 rounds.

Cut yarn, leaving a long tail. Insert straw into limb and cut straw even with top opening of limb. Thread ending tail through stitches of last round and pull to close opening. Thread beginning tail through stitches of Round 1 and pull to close opening. Weave in and trim beginning tail. Do not weave in or trim ending tail, it can be used later for sewing limb to body.

### HEAD

Beginning at top of head with **A**, leaving a long beginning tail, cast on 6 sts.

Distribute stitches evenly over 3 double pointed needles (2 stitches on each needle). Place marker for beginning of round. Prepare to work in rounds.

**Round 1 (right side):** [Kfb] 6 times—12 sts.

**Round 2:** Knit.

**Round 3:** [K1, kfb] 6 times—18 sts.

**Round 4:** Knit.

**Round 5:** [K2, kfb] 6 times—24 sts.

**Round 6:** Knit.

**Round 7:** [K3, kfb] 6 times—30 sts.

**Round 8:** Knit.

**Round 9:** [K4, kfb] 6 times—36 sts.

**Rounds 10-16:** Knit.

Attach safety eyes between Rounds 10 and 11, about 7 sts apart.

**Round 17:** [K2, k2tog] 9 times—27 sts. Begin stuffing head and continue stuffing head as work progresses.

**Round 18:** Knit.

**Round 19:** [K1, k2tog] 9 times—18 sts.

**Round 20:** Knit.

Cut yarn, leaving a long tail. Thread ending tail through stitches of last round but do not close opening. Do not weave in or trim ending tail, it can be used later for sewing head to body. Thread beginning tail through stitches of Round 1 and pull to close opening. Weave in and trim beginning tail.

### WIG BASE

With your choice of yarn color **B** or **D**, leaving a long beginning tail, cast on 32 sts.

**Rows 1-8:** Knit—32 sts.

**Row 9:** [K2tog, k14] twice—30 sts.

**Row 10:** [K3, k2tog] 6 times—24 sts.

**Row 11:** Knit.

**Row 12:** [K2, k2tog] 6 times—18 sts.

**Row 13:** Knit.

**Row 14:** [K2tog] 9 times—9 sts.

**Bind off. Weave in and trim ending tail. Use beginning yarn tail to sew wig base seam. Do not weave in or trim beginning yarn tail. It can be used later for sewing wig base to head. Note:** Hair instructions are found at the end of the pattern. Hair is added very last.

### TAIL

Beginning at waist with **C**, cast on 20 sts.

Distribute stitches evenly over 4 double pointed needles (5 stitches on each needle). Place marker for beginning of round. Prepare to work in rounds.

**Rounds 1-3:** Knit.

**Round 4:** [K4, kfb] 4 times—24 sts.

**Rounds 5-15:** Knit.

**Round 16:** [K2tog, k10] twice—22 sts.

**Round 17:** Knit.

**Round 18:** [K2tog, k9] twice—20 sts.

**Round 19:** Knit.

**Round 20:** [K2tog, k8] twice—18 sts.

**Round 21:** Knit.

**Round 22:** [K2tog, k7] twice—16 sts.

**Round 23:** Knit.

**Round 24:** [K2tog, k6] twice—14 sts.

**Rounds 25-27:** Knit.

**Round 28:** [Kfb] 14 times—28 sts.

**Round 29:** Knit.

**Round 30:** [K2, kfb] 9 times, kfb—38 sts.

**Rounds 31 and 32:** Knit.

### First Fin

With right side of piece facing upwards and piece lying flat, find the middle of the sts. Place the 19 stitches that do not include the working yarn onto a holder for second fin. Distribute the remaining 19 stitches over 3 or 4 double pointed needles to begin first fin. Place marker for beginning of round. Prepare to work in rounds.

**Rounds 1 and 2:** Knit.

**Round 3:** [K1, k2tog] 6 times, k1—13 sts.

**Round 4:** Knit.

**Round 5:** [K1, k2tog] 4 times, k1—9 sts.

**Round 6:** Knit.

**Round 7:** [K1, k2tog] 3 times—6 sts.

Cut yarn, leaving a long tail. Thread tail through stitches of last round and pull to close opening. Weave in and trim end.

### Second Fin

Return 19 fin stitches on holder to needles. Join **C** and repeat Rounds 1-7 of first fin.

Cut yarn, leaving a long tail. Thread tail through stitches of last round and pull to close opening. Weave in and trim ends.

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### TUTU

With **B**, cast on 19 sts.

Distribute stitches over 3 or 4 double pointed needles. Place marker for beginning of round. Prepare to work in rounds.

**Rounds 1 and 2:** Knit.

**Round 3:** Kfb in each st around—38 sts.

**Round 4:** \*K1, kfb; repeat from \* around—57 sts.

**Rounds 5-9:** Knit

**Round 10 (hem):** TURN, knit around. Bind off, leaving a long tail. With yarn tail, sew hem edges together. Weave in and trim ends. Try tutu on doll for size. Adjust tightness as needed by taking a small tuck in the waistband using a scrap of yarn.

### SKIRT

Beginning at lower edge with **B**, cast on 30 sts.

**Row 1 (garter ridge):** Knit 1 row, turn (this is not a round).

Cut **B**. Join **C**.

**Round 2:** Knit.

Distribute stitches evenly over 3 or 4 double pointed needles. Place marker for beginning of round. Prepare to work in rounds.

**Rounds 3-16:** Knit.

**Round 17:** [K1, k2tog] 10 times—20 sts.

Cut **C**. Join **B**.

**Rounds 18-21:** Knit.

Bind off. Use beginning tail to sew edges of Row 1 (garter ridge) together. Weave in and trim ends.

### FINISHING

Referring to photograph as a guide to placement, use yarn tails or yarn scraps to sew the following pieces together.

1. Sew head to body, taking care to position face frontwards.
2. Sew arms to upper sides of body at Rounds 3 and 4.
3. Sew legs to lower portion of body.

**Bangs:** Before sewing wig base to head, embroider bangs as follows: With yarn same color as wig base, begin embroidering bangs about 2 rows above the eyes and make long stitches that will be partially hidden under the wig base. Vary the length of the bang stitches for a tousled look.

Place wig base on head, overlapping bangs by a fraction of an inch. Pin in place, for best results, and sew base to head. Weave and trim ends.

**Smile:** With embroidery needle and 2 strands of black embroidery floss, embroider a smile at Round 13 of head, in the middle of the face, about 3 stitches wide.

**Cheeks:** Cut small circles from pink felt. Referring to photo for placement, glue cheeks to face directly under and to the sides of the eyes.

### Hair Version 1 (side buns)

With **B**, leaving a long beginning tail, cast on 18 sts.

**Row 1:** [K2, kfb] 6 times—24 sts.

**Row 2:** [K3, kfb] 6 times—30 sts.

**Row 3:** [K4, kfb] 6 times—36 sts.

Bind off, leaving a long tail. Roll the piece in spiral (jelly roll) fashion. With one yarn tail, sew layers to one another

to retain the shape. With the other yarn tail, sew bun to side of head, about level with the eyes. Repeat to make and attach second bun.

### Hair Version 2 (long hair)

Cut about 40 strands of **D**, about 9" [23 cm] long. Attach strands to wig base as follows: \*Insert crochet hook through any stitch of outermost round of wig base. Fold a strand in half and place the fold on hook. Draw fold halfway through stitch, forming a loop. Using the hook, catch the two yarn ends and draw them through the loop. Pull the two yarn ends to tighten. Repeat from \* until strands have been attached around the entire outermost round of wig base.

Cut a length of **B**, pull the front and front side strands to back of head and tie into a ponytail with the length of **B**. Place a dab of glue on the bow knot to keep it from coming untied. Leave remaining hair hanging down doll's back. Fold top pony tail forward to access the wig base, with **D** insert a row of strands, left to right, across the back of the head, midway between crown and neck, in order to fill out hair.

Adjust number and location of hair strands as desired.

Excluding the upper ponytail, pull strands even along back and torso of the doll. Trim ends even using sharp craft scissors

Weave in and trim any remaining ends. Dress mermaid in outfit of your choice.

### ABBREVIATIONS

**A, B, C, and D** = Color A, Color B, Color C, and Color D; **k** = knit; **k2tog** = knit next 2 sts together; **st(s)** = stitch(es); **[ ]** = work directions in brackets the number of times specified; \* = repeat whatever follows the \* as indicated.

*See next page for alternate photos*



## LM6285 Tina & Nina Mermaid



Hair Version 1 and Tutu



Hair Version 2 and Skirt

