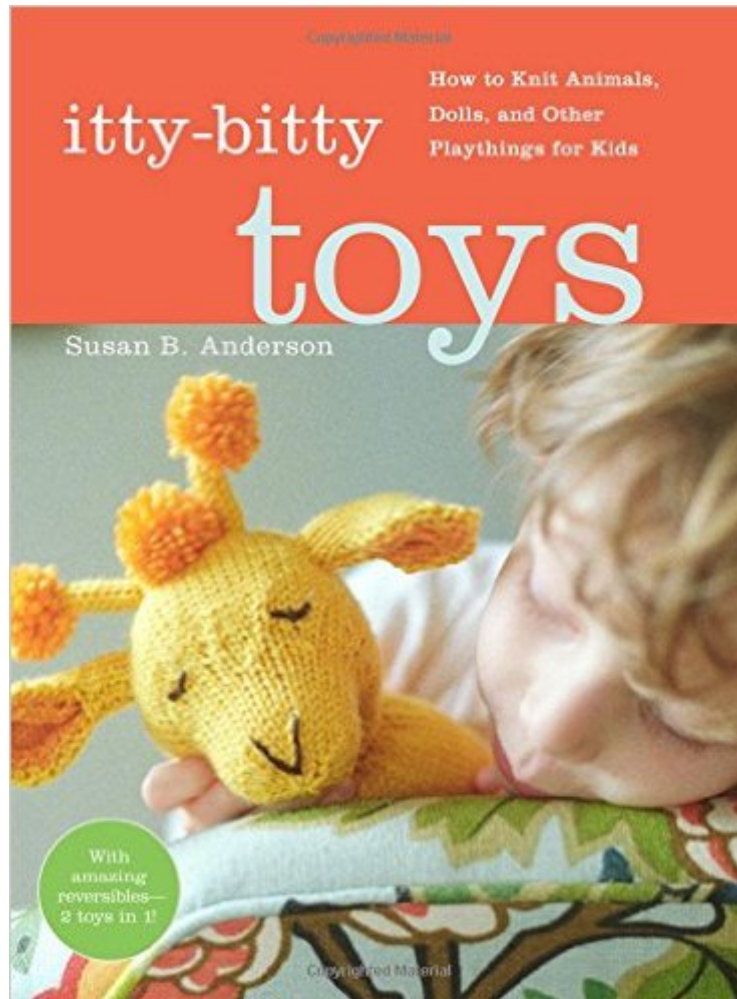


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# Itty-Bitty Toys: How To Knit Animals, Dolls, And Other Playthings For Kids



## Synopsis

Adorable hand-knit playthings, featuring clever twists on classics and enchanting reversibles and interactive toys. Kids love toys, and toys you make yourself are extra-special. If you could buy these imaginative playthings in stores, they would fly off the shelves! This book features stuffed animals, including a luscious lamb and a gigantic giraffe, and finger-puppet fruits that will delight babies and toddlers. With step-by-step directions, clear diagrams and drawings, and gorgeous photographs, knitters of all levels will find it easy to make the Pull-Toy Mama Duck and Ducklings, the set of Russian nesting dolls, and the Princess and the Pea Set. Even older kids will enjoy these, as well as the Felted Bouncy Ball, a felted version of a Super Ball that's perfect for indoor play. A series of five reversible toys • a frog that turns into a turtle, a mouse that changes into a cat, an egg in a nest that transforms into a blue bird, and so on • showcases the creativity that makes Susan B. Anderson a rising star in the knitting world.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

If you like to knit toys, you need this book in your knitting library, plain and simple. There is a huge variety of yarn weight, toy and pattern types in this book, and the adorability factor is off the charts. The section on knitting toys with sock yarn is one of my favorites, not only because of how cute the toys are, but because sock yarn is such a rich canvas for a knitter. (And for those of us who don't like to knit socks, how wonderful to have a fresh excuse to plunge into the sock yarn section!) The two patterns jockeying for top spot in my queue are the Hippo (in sock yarn!) and the Giraffe pictured on the cover, but there are plenty of others tugging at my needles too. One of the best toy

knitting books out there.

June 25, 2010 Update: It's been several months since I first reviewed this book, and I wanted update my review to show that I'm still incredibly enthusiastic about this book! I've now made several toys from the book, and there are more on my summer knitting list. The patterns have all been well-written and so much fun to finish. I just really like Susan B. Anderson's aesthetic and instructions. The instructions are clear but concise, and they encourage confidence. This is the longest I've kept any knitting book on my "always handy" shelf or in my knitting bag, and I've made more patterns from it than from any other book. It's also fun because the finished toys always get rave reviews and amazed reactions when others see them. This is definitely money well-spent!

Original review (October 2009): I love this book! I load up on knitting books because I start projects in rapid succession and also because I like to dream about what I'll make someday, and this book is easily one of my favorite knitting books ever. The toys are fun, and I think they'd be appreciated by kids of any age (and even by the young-at-heart). The toys also seem original and fresh to me. The patterns are well-written and easy to follow. And the first toy that I started (New Sock Monkey) has been knitting up quickly this week, so I may actually finish one of the toys I've started for my 9-month-old! Overall, this is an excellent book and a really amazing price for the collection of toys you get. Oh, and there are five "reversible" toys that are really unique, at least among knitting patterns that I've seen.

Concur with prior reviewer on the chance to use the sock yarn on something that isn't a sock. I received the book this weekend and I still haven't decided which project to start with. I love the hippo and the giraffe but what really intrigues me is the section on reversible toys. The Lion that flips over and becomes an elephant looks like so much fun. The book itself has lots of color pictures and like the author's prior books has a spiral binding that lets the pages lay flat. Since I haven't started a project yet, I can't comment on errata.

This book is great! Really fun projects and easy to follow patterns. I have only been knitting for 5 months and easily completed some of the "more advanced" animals in this book. The patterns are not only simply written, but the author makes things very clear, breaking down patterns into smaller sections. Though she suggests stitching parts together as you go, I only did that with the first animal.... I found it easier to do all the knitting and then stitch together all at once. The ONLY down side to this book is that as someone brand new to making stuffed animals I needed more guidance

around putting the pieces together ("use the photo as a guide" wasn't enough in my opinion. I wanted more specific instructions on how and where to whipstitch). Otherwise, this book rocks!

I have the entire collection of Susan B Anderson books and this one is just as wonderful as the others. All the toys in the book seem simple enough to knit even for beginners. The book gives clear instructions on how to knit with double pointed needles, explains knitting abbreviations with images for the visual learners, and it even gives you toy knitting tips. The toys are separated into chapters. There's the "Quick and Easy" chapter, "Sock-yarn toys" chapter, "Take-action Toys" chapter which includes toys that you bounce, toss, pull and push. There's also "Classic Toys Revisited" chapter which takes you back in time to the original toys, such as princess and the pea, and nesting dolls. And the last chapter which is my favorite the "Reversibles" toys. You will absolutely love this book! Whether you knit the toys for kids or for decoration around the house, Itty Bitty Toys is a great book to add to your bookshelf.

I have to admit to being a lazy knitter. On numerous occasions I've started a project without finishing it, either because I get bored or become frustrated by confusing instructions. But even so, I love this book. I just finished two koala bears, and I can't wait to start on a bunny. The bears were so cute as they came together that I couldn't put my needles down. (And, I'd never used double-pointed needles before, but the instructions are very clear.) The other thing I like is that so many of the projects are appealing. I rarely buy knitting books b/c usually I only like one or two of the patterns, but I can imagine trying about 75% of the toys in this book.

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