

R O W A N



# Denim Bean Bag Bag



## DENIM BEANBAG



Approximately 2m calico  
Polystyrene beads  
1 x 40cm or 2 x 20cm jean zipper or  
touch-and-close tape size

### ACTUAL MEASUREMENTS

One size (beanbag measures approximately  
82cm high by 228cm circumference)

### TENSION

20 stitches and 24 rows to 10cm square  
over stocking stitch on 4mm (no. 8) needles.  
Always work a tension swatch and change  
needles accordingly if necessary. Once you  
have knitted your swatch, wash and dry it  
following the instructions on the ball  
band. Measure the swatch again you  
should now have a tension of 20 stitches  
and 30 rows to 10cm square. (The swatch  
should shrink approximately 20 per cent  
in length.) The instructions given allow for  
the shrinkage of the knitted panels only.

### TIPS

Keep the patched denim simple, but  
incorporate pockets, buttons and seams for  
extra detail and practicality. If insufficient,  
patch in another piece to size and cut all  
to shape. A 1cm seam allowance is  
included in the pattern pieces.

### MAKING THE SIDE PANELS

(work 3 pieces)

With 4mm (no. 8) needles and the denim  
yarn, cast on 60 stitches.

**Row 1 (right side):** \* knit 3, purl 2,  
repeat from \* to end.

**Row 2:** \* knit 2, purl 3, repeat from \* to  
end.

These 2 rows form the rib.

Work a further 6 rows.

Increase 1 stitch at each end of next and  
every 9th row to 80 stitches, working  
additional stitches into knit 3, purl 2 rib.

Work 3 rows in rib.

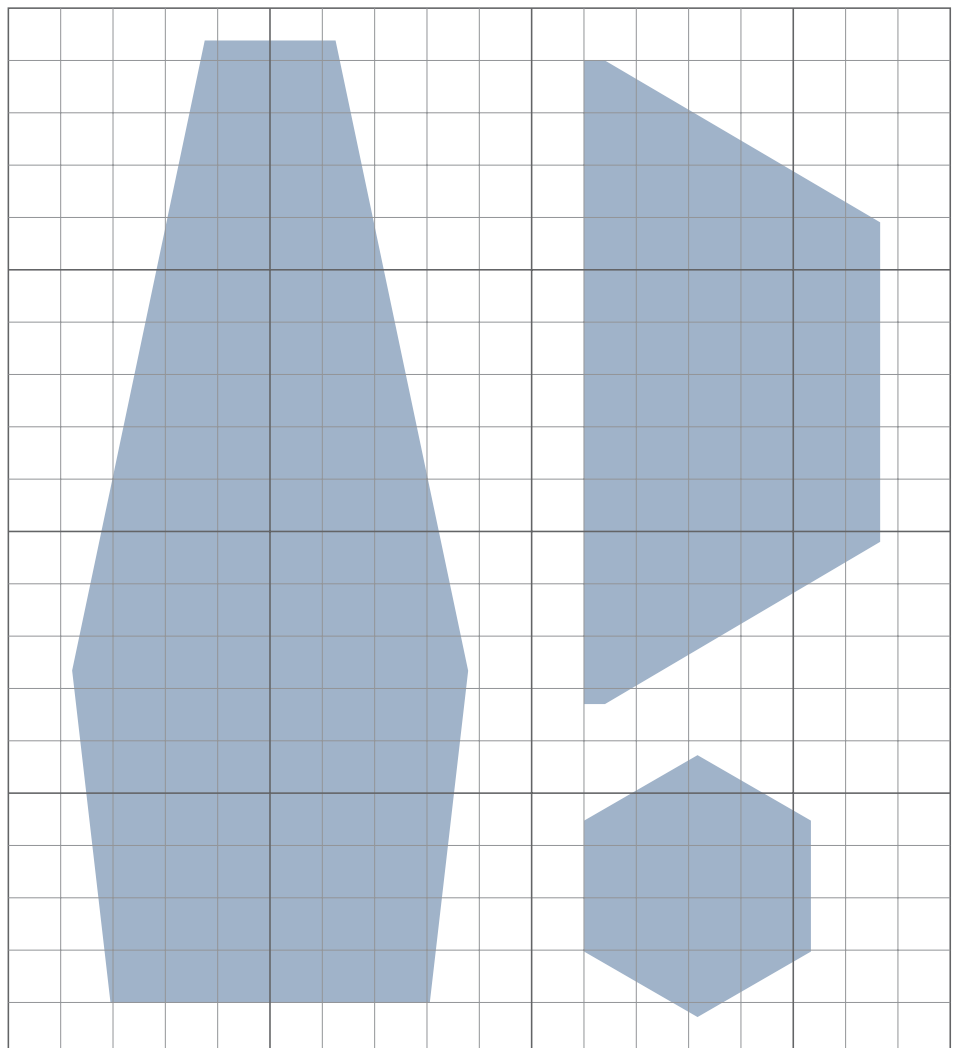
Rowan are pleased to feature this clever  
design from 'New Knits', a new book by  
Erika Knight, available May 2004.

A new twist on jeans with a jumper! Not  
to wear this time, though, but to sit on.  
Denim jeans have always been considered  
more desirable once faded, worn, patched  
and recycled. Just like its woven cousin,  
denim yarn shrinks and fades to a wonderful  
colour after washing. This beanbag uses both  
the jeans and the yarn in its construction;  
patched pieces of jeans are sewn together  
with ribbed knit pieces. The beanbag is  
made from six lozenge-shape pieces, three  
in denim knit and three in denim fabric,  
which are sewn into a large hexagon of  
fabric for the bottom opening and a  
smaller hexagon of denim knit for the top.  
The detailing is the most interesting to do;  
try to incorporate pockets, buttons and  
seams into your design to create a really  
relaxed and casual piece of fun furniture.

### TO MAKE

#### MATERIALS

11 x 50g balls Rowan Denim  
1 pair of 3.75mm (no. 9) knitting  
needles, 1 pair of 4mm (no. 8) knitting  
needles  
1 or 2 pairs of old jeans





Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next and every 6th row until 24 stitches remain. Cast off.

#### MAKING THE TOP PANEL

With 3.75mm (no. 9) needles and the denim yarn, cast on 24 stitches.

Work 2 rows in stocking stitch. Increase 1 stitch at each end of next and every 3rd row to 48 stitches. Work 2 rows in stocking stitch. Decrease 1 stitch at each end of next and every 3rd row until 24 stitches remain. Cast off. Weave in any yarn ends. Launder the knitted panels following the instructions on the ball band. Lay panels out flat and press into shape.

#### MAKING THE DENIM PATCHES

Using the templates on previous page, draw out pattern pieces onto newspaper or brown paper. Cut 3 large lozenge panels and 2 half hexagon shapes from the denim jeans. Use a strip from the jeans waistband to make a carry handle.

#### MAKING UP THE BEANBAG

Sew short top sides of lozenge panels to knitted hexagon, alternating knitted and denim panels. Double stitch for extra strength. Sew two half hexagons together, turning seam allowance in at centre and inserting

one large 40cm zipper or two 20cm zippers (with pullers towards the centre). Alternatively, use touch-and-close tape instead to fasten the beanbag.

#### MAKING THE CALICO INNER

Using the same templates, cut 6 lozenge panels, 2 half hexagon shapes and 1 small hexagon shape from the calico. Sew short top sides of lozenge panels to small hexagon, with 1cm seams. Join all side seams of lozenge panels. Sew two half hexagon pieces to bottom edges of lozenge panels, leaving centre edges open but overlapping.

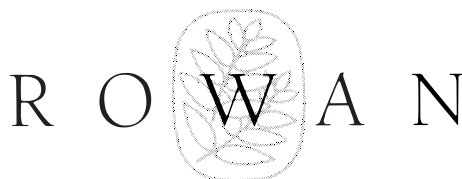
#### FILLING THE BEANBAG

Insert the calico inner into the finished denim beanbag, attaching it to the inside at the top with a few secure stitches. Carefully fill the inner with polystyrene beads. Oversew the slit at the bottom of the inner to close. Zip up the denim outer. Squish into shape and relax.

Photography Graham Atkins Hughes



New Knits by Erika Knight is available at [www.knitrowan.com](http://www.knitrowan.com) from mid May 2004, priced £14.99 (Member's price £13.49)



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