

## Alice 3 in 1 kit by Barely a Stitch

This is one for the fashionistas! The little mesh handbag contains everything you need for a gentle start into knitting, a great squishy ball of Rowan big wool, 10mm needles, buttons, trimmings and easy to follow illustrated instructions. The kit also contains three easy patterns designed for beginners. You should end up with coordinating cuffs, anklets and collar. The anklets look great worn with a pair of high heels for a cool, quirky twist. You will need to know how to cast on and off and knit and purl so if you are a total novice I'd grab a knowledgeable, knitting friend and tackle your new project together. The beautiful bag the kit arrives in can serve as a home to your stash and many projects to come.



RRP: £29

Website: [www.notonthehighstreet.com](http://www.notonthehighstreet.com)

## The Knitted Necklace by Toft Alpaca

This is a great kit for the novice who doesn't necessarily want to dedicate huge amounts of time to their new hobby. The kit includes 100g Toft double knitting yarn and a generous 200g of beautifully soft Alpaca fleece stuffing and is available in a range of colours. You will need to invest in 3.5mm needles if you don't already own a pair. The instructions take you through how to knit and construct the beads leaving room for creativity if you want to vary the sizes of your beads. You will need a basic knowledge of how to cast on and off and creating a stitch but once you've grasped the technique you can wear your first knit project with pride.



RRP: £15

Website: [www.thetoftalpacashop.co.uk](http://www.thetoftalpacashop.co.uk)

# Top knits

This month: **William Abakhan of Abakhan** Suppliers of fabrics and craft supplies, based in Mostyn, North Wales

**Online shop & website:**  
[www.abakhan.co.uk](http://www.abakhan.co.uk)

Started by the Abakhan family in the late forties as a rug weaving business, the first retail outlet opened in Mostyn, North Wales over 30 years ago.

This site also occupies the head office and distribution operations of Michael Abakhan Ltd. and is a site of considerable local historic interest. The company has taken great care to preserve the old works buildings, resulting in the presentation of an award by the Prince of Wales for the sympathetic restoration of the buildings.

Still headed by family members, Abakhan has now been trading for almost 60 years, with seven branches including North Wales, Manchester, Liverpool, Birkenhead, Chester, Hanley and Preston, as well as an online shop [www.abakhan.co.uk](http://www.abakhan.co.uk). The company also owns a subsidiary business in the Baltic States, which has been operational since the nineties and now has seven retail outlets in Estonia and four in Latvia, also trading under the Abakhan name.

At Abakhan, we pride ourselves on offering value for money throughout the vast range of fabrics, yarns, crafts, sewing accessories and trimmings we have on offer. We are committed to sourcing the best products at the best prices and frequently have stock lots, clearance parcels and special offers available. Our top selling yarns include a wide range of Sirdar and James C Brett products and are just two of a wide and varied selection.

In September 2010 we attended the annual 'Sunday Times International Track 100' awards dinner at the Jumeirah Carlton Tower Hotel in London where we were awarded 41st in the 2010 international track 100 league table for the most improved privately owned export companies.

We also do full and half day workshops and courses ranging from 2-8 weeks, including soft furnishing, knitting and crochet. A new programme for January 2011 onwards is now available and will be running at both our Mostyn and Liverpool stores. Pick up a brochure in-store or download one from our website [www.abakhan.co.uk](http://www.abakhan.co.uk).



Abakhan, North Wales



Great deals on yarns



Lovely ribbons



Fantastic fabrics



Lots of accessories



The Sunday Times International Track 100 Awards

