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KNITTED CHRISTMAS BAUBLE

Knitting pattern



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Create your own knitted Christmas bauble using leftover yarn. You can keep it simple with a single colour, add stripes or experiment with different colour patterns.

MATERIALS

- Small quantities of 4 ply yarn (also known as fingering or sock yarn). This is a great project for using up leftover yarn.
- One 7 cm polystyrene ball.
- 2.5 mm circular knitting needles, or the size needed to achieve the recommended tension.
- Double pointed needles (DPNs) in the same size.
- Tapestry needle.

Alternative filling: You can use polyester toy stuffing instead of a polystyrene ball. You can also use an existing Christmas bauble as the centre, although glass baubles may break.

ABBREVIATIONS

- CO: Cast on
- K: Knit
- K2tog: Knit two stitches together
- M1: Make one stitch by increasing
- DPNs: Double pointed needles
- Sts: Stitches

MESUREMENT

Aim for approximately 32 stitches and 42 rows over 10 cm (4 inches). The knitted fabric needs to stretch around the ball, so an exact match isn't essential.

INSTRUCTIONS



The bauble is knitted in the round in three sections: increasing, knitting straight and decreasing.

Increase section

- Cast on 8 stitches, distribute evenly across your needles and join to work in the round.
- Round 1: Knit into the front and back of every stitch (16 stitches).
- Round 2: Knit all stitches.
- Round 3: K1, M1, K2. Repeat from * to the last stitch, M1, K1 (24 stitches).
- Round 4: Knit all stitches.
- Round 5: K1, M1, K3. Repeat from * to the last 2 stitches, M1, K2 (32 stitches).
- Round 6: Knit all stitches.
- Round 7: K1, M1, K4. Repeat from * to the last 3 stitches, M1, K3 (40 stitches).
- Round 8: Knit all stitches.
- Round 9: K1, M1, K5. Repeat from * to the last 4 stitches, M1, K4 (48 stitches).
- Round 10: Knit all stitches.
- Round 11: K1, M1, K6. Repeat from * to the last 5 stitches, M1, K5 (56 stitches).
- Round 12: Knit all stitches.
- Round 13: K1, M1, K7. Repeat from * to the last 6 stitches, M1, K6 (64 stitches).

Plain section

- Rounds 14 to 26: Knit all stitches for 13 rounds.

Decrease section

- Round 27: Knit all stitches.
- Round 28: K6, K2tog. Repeat to the end of the round (56 stitches).
- Round 29: Knit all stitches.
- Round 30: K5, K2tog. Repeat to the end of the round (48 stitches).
- Round 31: Knit all stitches.
- Round 32: K4, K2tog. Repeat to the end of the round (40 stitches).
- Round 33: Knit all stitches.
- Round 34: K3, K2tog. Repeat to the end of the round (32 stitches).
- Now it's time to insert your polystyrene ball. It will be difficult to fit it through the opening once you continue decreasing, so make sure you do this before moving on.
- Round 35: Knit all stitches.
- Round 36: K2, K2tog. Repeat to the end of the round (24 stitches).
- Round 37: Knit all stitches.
- Round 38: K1, K2tog. Repeat to the end of the round (16 stitches).
- Round 39: Knit all stitches.
- Round 40: K2tog all around (8 stitches).

Finishing your bauble

If you are using toy stuffing or a solid decorative bauble and don't need a hanging loop, you can finish here.

Cut the yarn, leaving a long tail. Thread it through the remaining 8 stitches, pull tightly to close the opening and secure. Use the cast-on yarn tail to close the opening at the bottom in the same way.

To make a hanging loop:

- Round 41: K2tog all around (4 stitches).
- Transfer the 4 stitches onto one double pointed needle and knit an i-cord for 10 rows.
- Cut the yarn, thread it through the remaining 4 stitches and pull tightly to close. Use the yarn tail to sew the end of the i-cord securely to its base to create a hanging loop.
- Your knitted Christmas bauble is now complete!

Make it your own:

There are lots of ways to personalise your bauble:

- Single colour: Keep it simple with one festive colour.
- Stripes: Change colours wherever you like to create stripes.
- Fair Isle: Add a decorative pattern using different colours.

For Fair Isle designs, the central plain section is 13 rounds high and has 64 stitches. Patterns with repeats of 4, 8, 16 or 32 stitches will fit.

You can also experiment with different yarn colours and combinations to create your own unique Christmas decorations.

