

The knitted cat

(pattern provided by Ursula Matheson)

Supplies needed:

a small ball of sport or worsted weight yarn
a small amount of black yarn,
2 little buttons for eyes (optional)
a little stuffing material
a pair of # 8 needles, (5 mm) single or double pointed
large eye yarn needle (or darning needle)
scissors

no gauge needed



The body:

1. Knit the body. Cast on 16 stitches, leaving a long about 18 inch tail (will be used later to sew up the side) knit 72 rows in garter stitch
The finished piece should measure approximately 11 inches long and 3 and a half inches wide.
Bind off, so that the end is on the opposite side as the beginning tail. Leave a long tail to sew up the other side.



2. Sew the side seams. Fold this piece in half. Thread the yarn needle with one of the tails and use it to sew up its long side, by picking up the little ridges from each piece. When done, put the needle through the corner of the this folded piece and pull it inside. Remove the needle.



Repeat this process on the other side.

3. Form the ears. Turn the piece inside out. Now it is like a sack with one of the short sides still open. We take the darning needle and thread the yarn coming from one corner and stitch a couple of stitches across, than diagonally stitching down, creating a corner, which will be the ears. At the end we stitch with a little extra tug, to keep the yarn snug, secure the stitches and cut the tail off.

Repeat on the other side.



4. Stuff the Cat. Now we stuff this little cat with the stuffing material. Stuff it not too much, as there should be a little "give" to the material.

When stuffed, we take some matching yarn and the yarn needle and sew the bottom closed.

5. Create the head. We count about 8 ribs from the top, then, using matching yarn, tie that stuffed portion tightly to form the neck and head.

We make a simple knot and then take the darning needle and pull both ends through the cat's body, to hide it.

Next we create the face:

Eyes: Take the dark (black) yarn and dread the darning needle. We will sew on both eyes.

Nose and whiskers: Next we take some black yarn and create a bow. We tie a knot in the middle and that bow we sew on as the nose / whiskers.



Next we create a ribbon for the tail.

4. We take yarn, 3 stings at about 9 inches long. Or more strings multiple by 3 for a bushier tail. We fold each string in half and pull the loop through the bottom of the cat. We will have 3 double stings. Now we braid the strings and tie a knot at the end.



Enjoy your little cat!

