

XCentric Ideas

Knit 1, Purl 1 ..
Let's dish up some wool



Patterns from friends & Internet
Photos my own

September 2013
Volume 8 — Issue 9
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ADULT BEANIE

1 ball chunky wool 100g
6 or 7 mm needles

Cast on 60 stitches.

Knit 1, purl 1 ribbing for 9 cm. Or you can knit 2, purl 2. Or knit 3, purl 2. You can even do this ribbing for the whole beanie.

Change to stocking stitch (one row knit, one row purl - or any other pattern you like)

Knit until the whole beanie measures 23 cm.

Next row knit 2 together until you have 30 stitches.

Next row knit 2 together until you have 15 stitches.

Measure the yarn of wool so that its 30 cm long and cut. Use a darning needle.

Now thread that long yarn of wool through the remaining 15 stitches still on your knitting needle, slide the stitches off the knitting needle and pull tightly together. That forms the top of the beanie. Sew up the seam and work away the threads.

You can decorate your beanie with buttons.



CHILD BEANIE

1 ball chunky wool 100g
6 or 7 mm needles

Cast on 52 stitches.

Knit 1, purl 1 ribbing for 5 cm. Or you can knit 2, purl 2. Or knit 3, purl 2. You can even do this ribbing for the whole beanie.

Change to stocking stitch (one row knit, one row purl - or any other pattern you like)

Knit until the whole beanie measures 14 cm.

Next row knit 2 together until you have 26 stitches.

Next row knit 2 together until you have 13 stitches.

Measure the yarn of wool so that its 30 cm long and cut. Use a darning needle.

Now thread that long yarn of wool through the remaining 13 stitches still on your knitting needle, slide the stitches off the knitting needle and pull tightly together. That forms the top of the beanie. Sew up the seam and work away the threads.

You can decorate your beanie with buttons.



EARFLAP BEANIE (1)

1 ball chunky wool 100g - 6 or 7 mm needles

Cast on 12 stitches

Next row: Knit, after each stitch, yarn over the wool (next page), doubling the stitches to 24

Next row: knit and treat the 'yarn over wool' as a stitch (next page)

Next row: Knit, after each stitch, yarn over the wool (next page), doubling the stitches to 48

Next row: knit and treat the 'yarn over wool' as a stitch (next page)

Knit for 15 cm in any pattern you like. *Get ready for the earflaps:*

Cast off 4 stitches, knit 13 stitches (will form an earflap), cast of 14 stitches, knit 13 stitches (will form an earflap), cast of 4 stitches. Cut the yarn.

Start the one flap with a new yarn on the 13 stitches:

Row 1: knit

Row 2: knit

Row 3: knit

Row 4: knit 2 together, begin and end (11 stitches)

Row 5: knit

Row 6: knit

Row 7: knit

Row 8: knit 2 together, begin and end (9 stitches)

Row 9: knit

Row 10: knit 2 together, begin and end (7 stitches)

Row 11: knit

Row 12: knit 2 together, begin and end (5 stitches)

Cast off the earflap.



Repeat with the other earflap. *Work away the loose yarns. Crochet/knit 2 braids of 30 cm each and attach to each earflap. You can add a pom pom (next page) to the top of the beanie.*

YARN OVER

To make a yarn over between two stitches (in order to increase your stitches), just wrap the yarn around the right-hand needle from back to front counter clockwise before knitting the next stitch. Then just work the next stitch as normal. When you get to the yarn over on the next row, treat it as a regular stitch.

Working a yarn over is the same whether you're knitting or purling the next stitch. When knitting you wrap the yarn around the needle and leave it in the back; when purling, wrap it all the way around the needle so the yarn is back in front where it needs to be to purl.

Yarn over leaves a little hole to form a nice pattern.

http://knitting.about.com/od/knittingglossary/g/yarn_over.htm

TO MAKE A POM POM:

Take your yarn or ribbon and wrap it around something hard, such as a small piece of cardboard, a book, a stack of post-its:

OR, use the best tool....your hand! For larger pom poms, 4 fingers is a good width: - for smaller pom poms, use 2-finger width.

Wind the yarn around and around and around. The more you wrap, the fuller the pom pom will be. When you've wound to your desired "poof", slide the yarn off of the surface and tie a piece of yarn around the center in a knot. Leave the ends of this string long, so you can attach it to the beanie. Take a pair of scissors and cut through the loops on both sides of the pom pom. Pull all the hairs up and give your pom pom a trim! This step is a must, for a fine looking pom. Just keep cutting till it looks poofy and full and you're done!

<http://www.danamadeit.com/2010/12/pom-poms-a-very-simple-tutorial.html>

EARFLAP BEANIE (2)

CHILD BEANIE + 2 earflaps

1 ball chunky wool 100g
6 or 7 mm needles

Cast on 52 stitches.

Knit 1, purl 1 ribbing for 5 cm. Or you can knit 2, purl 2. Or knit 3, purl 2. You can even do this ribbing for the whole beanie.

Change to stocking stitch (one row knit, one row purl - or any other pattern you like)

Knit until the whole beanie measures 14 cm.

Next row knit 2 together until you have 26 stitches.

Next row knit 2 together until you have 13 stitches.

Measure the yarn of wool so that its 30 cm long and cut. Use a darning needle.

Now thread that long yarn of wool through the remaining 13 stitches still on your knitting needle, slide it off and pull tightly together. That forms the top of the beanie. Sew up the seam and work away the threads.

You can decorate your beanie with buttons and pom poms.

Earflaps (knit 2):

Cast on 5 stitches. Knit 1 row, Purl 1 row and continue in those stitches. At the same time increase 1 stitch each side on every other row a total of 2 times = 9 stitches. Then increase 1 stitch each side on every 4th row a total of 2 times = 13 stitches. Cast off. Sew the earflaps on to the beanie. Crochet/knit 2 braids of 30 cm each and attach to each earflap. You can add a pom pom (previous page) to the top of the beanie.

CROCHET BEANIE

This was an experiment, so I don't have a pattern!!

I started with 60 stitches on a 5mm crochet needle, crocheted 23 cm long and decreased the pattern to form the top. I've then thread my yarn through the top, pulled it tight and sewn close the seam.



KNIT A SQUARE

If you are not very good at knitting, but at least know how to knit basic stitches, start knitting squares.

You can decide how many stitches you want to cast on. 20 Stitches with chunky wool on 6mm needles will make a lovely square.

Knit the square with a knit stitch, or one row knit, one row purl. Or any other pattern you're comfortable with.

To ensure your knitting is a square, use a tape measure or form a triangle by folding one corner of your square over to meet the opposite corner - if all sides are equal - then you have a square!

SQUARES FOR CHARITY

Find a charity close to you and ask them what size squares they need.

Most charities need squares to sew up into blankets.

TOYS FROM KNITTED SQUARES

I found some amazing toy ideas on the Internet - toys made from a simple knitted square. Check out the next few pages.

Turn a knit square into a ball

Cast on 10 stitches of bulky wool yarn and complete a square. You know it is square when right corner was folded up, it met the left hand corner.

Leaving a long tail, use a darning needle and do a running stitch along the very bottom of the square. Pulling it to close, a stitch secure the circle and then the side of the ball can be stitched up.

Use wool to stuff the balls with and to add a little weight you can put in a marble (a small rock would also work) in the middle of the wool. For the last seam, do running stitches, pull it close and stitch up.

The small ball was knitted with 10 stitches. The bigger ball was knitted with 20 stitches, but somehow I just couldn't get it in a round shape. Although it makes a lovely 'stress ball'.



Turn a knit square into a cat

Cast on 20 stitches of bulky wool yarn on 6 mm needles and complete a square.

Fold the knit square in half, sew the two sides. Stuff the square, sew the other seam. Stitch across 2 corners to form the ears and tie a lovely colour wool/ribbon around the neck. Add a little tail by using a fluffy yarn.



Catnip toy from 2 squares

Cast on 10 stitches, chunky wool, 6 mm needles and knit 2 squares.

Pin the two squares right sides together. Using a wool needle and the strands of wool left when casting on and off, sew the two squares together leaving the fourth side open. Turned the little bag round the right way. Trimming of the excess wool.

Add stuffing but also a good handful of catnip sprinkled in and around the stuffing. Then twist the bag so that the seams are lined up and pinned the opening closed. This gives a triangular/pyramid shape. Taking another length of wool and the wool needle again, over sew the opening shut securely and knot off carefully.



Pattern: <http://indigo-blue-designs.blogspot.com>

Handbag from 2 squares

Cast on 20 stitches, chunky wool, funky colours, 6 mm needles and knit 2 squares.

Sew the seams of handbag on 3 sides. Add a cord or knitted string at the top.

You can decorate the handbag with tassels at the bottom and lovely buttons on the front and/or back.

Knit the handbag in bright orange, thread a ribbon through the top and decorate with felt Halloween decorations.

Or knit the handbag in white, thread a ribbon through the top and decorate the front with Easter eggs and chicks, cut from felt and sewn onto the bag.



Cube toy from 6 squares

Cast on 13 stitches on 6 mm needles with chunky wool in funky colours and knit 6 squares, all in the same colour, or each square a different colour. (or use bigger or smaller knitting needles.)

To sew it: Put your squares down as per the diagram below. Sew the squares 1, 2, 3, 4 together (i.e. 4 seams). Then you sew the square 6 as your bottom. Stuff the cube and sew in place the square 5 for your top. Decorate as you wish. You can even add a little bell in-between the stuffing.

