

Popcorn the Penguin

by Denise



Popcorn the Penguin is a worry eater with a large mouth and mouth pocket to receive children's worries.

Materials

- Popcorn is knitted in either chunky yarn, or two strands of double knitting yarn used together in black and white for body. You will also need orange or yellow double knitting yarn for beak and feet.

- The size of your pins for single strand double knitting yarn needs to be between 3mm and 4mm. Please remember that the finish needs to be tight enough not to let the filling poke through.
- A pair of safety eyes, or felt to make eyes
- A tapestry needle.
- Stuffing should be BS or CE marked toy stuffing.

Tension

It is important that no stuffing is accessible in your finished item as this would be a safety hazard.

Tension varies between yarn brands and weights and from knitter to knitter. Needle sizes are suggested in the pattern, but if you know you knit loosely, reduce your needle size to achieve a firm weave. As a rough guide use a needle a size smaller than that recommended for garment knitting on the ball band.

Abbreviations

st/sts - stitch/stitches

k - knit

p - purl

ss - stocking stitch (1 row k, 1 row p)

gs - knit every row

k2tog - knit 2 stitches together

p2tog - purl 2 sts together

sl1 - slip one stitch

pssso - pass slipped stitch over the stitch just knitted

inc1 - increase by knitting into the back and front of the stitch on a knit row, or purling into the front and back of the stitch on a purl row

k2togtbl – knit 2 together through backs of sts, inserting the knitting pin through 2nd st first

Popcorn the Penguin body and head

Using black chunky yarn, or two strands of double knitting yarn used together on 4mm needles, cast on 51 sts.

Ss 2 rows

(K7, Kfb) 3 times, K3, (Kfb, K7) 3 times (57sts)

Ss 3 rows

(k8, Kfb) 3 times, K3, (Kfb, K8) 3 times (63 sts)

Ss 3 rows

(k9, Kfb) 3 times, K3, (Kfb, K9) 3 times (69 sts)

Ss 3 rows

(k10, Kfb) 3 times, K 3, (Kfb, K10) 3 times (75sts)

P 1 row

Put first 21 sts onto a stitch holder

join white and k 32

put last 21 sts onto a stitch holder

working in white on the centre 32 sts and starting with a p row, ss a further 55 rows

put into a stitch holder

using black yarn, take the first 21 sts from holder and ss 56 rows.

put back onto holder

using black yarn, take the last 21 sts from holder and ss 56 rows.

with black yarn knit across all 75 sts

p 1 row

Penguin mouth pocket

Cast off whole row using black yarn. This makes the mouth less slack and also gives the suggestion of a neck.

With RS facing and black yarn for mouth pocket, leave first 25 sts, pick up and knit 25sts, leave remaining 25sts.

Beginning with a purl row work in ss

After 4 rows, change to white yarn

When mouth pocket is 8 inches long, change to black yarn for the last 2 inches.

With RS facing and 2 strands of DK (or chunky) yarn in black, pick up and knit first 25 cast off sts, K 25 sts from mouth pocket, pick up and knit remaining 25 cast off sts. (75sts)

Purl 24, P2tog, P 23, P2tog, P24 (73sts)

Ss further 26 rows. This will be 96 rows from cast on edge.

Decrease for top of head:

K1, (K7, K2tog) 4 times, (K2tog, K7) 4 times (65sts)

P

K1, (K6, K2tog) 4 times, (K2tog, K6) 4 times (57sts)

P

K1, (K5, K2tog) 4 times, (K2tog, K5) 4 times (49sts)

P

K1, (K4, K2tog) 4 times, (K2tog, K4) 4 times (41sts)

P

K1, (K3, K2tog) 4 times, (K2tog, K3) 4 times (33sts)

P

K1, (K2, K2tog) 4 times, (K2, K2tog) 4 times (25sts)

P

K1, (K2tog) to end (13sts)

P

K1 (K2tog) to end (7sts)

Cut yarn leaving enough length to sew back seam. Thread on tapestry needle and pass needle through remaining sts. Draw up tightly and fasten off. Leave tail of yarn for making up later.

Sew up sides of mouth pocket. Smooth flat and catch down bottom edge to underside of body front.

Penguin beak (make 1)

Cast on 24 sts in 2 strands DK (or chunky) orange yarn

ss 8 rows

(k2tog) x 12 (12 sts)

purl

(k2tog) x 6 (6 sts)

purl

(k2tog) x 3 (3 sts)

Cut yarn leaving enough length to sew up, pass sewing needle through sts, draw up and fasten off.

Penguin wings (make 2)

Using 2 strands DK (or chunky) in white yarn cast on 20 sts

ss 15 rows

Change to black yarn

ss 15 rows

Cast off.

Feet (make 2)

With 2 strands DK (or chunky) in orange yarn cast on 10 sts

ss 2 rows

inc1, k to last st, inc1

ss 3 rows

repeat the last 4 rows until you have 20 sts

ss 4 rows

k2tog, k to last 2 sts, k2tog

ss 3 rows

repeat the last 4 rows until you have 10 sts and cast off.

To make up Popcorn the Penguin

Join the white and black seams that run down either side of penguin's front body.

Mouth Pocket: Fold pocket in half right sides together and sew up sides. Put the penguin body face down, smooth the mouth pocket down to make sure it is lying flat, and then stitch the bottom of the pocket to the underside of the body.

Body and Head: If you are using safety eyes, put these in now. With right sides together, sew up back seam leaving bottom open. Turn right way and stuff. With seam centre back, sew across bottom edge.

Wings: With right sides together, sew bottom and side edges, turn and sew across top.
Attach to body sides.

Beak: With right sides together, sew up seam leaving cast on edge open. Stuff, and sew cast on edge together with seam underneath. Sew to face.

Feet: With right sides together, fold foot in half. Sew sides together leaving cast on and cast off edges open. Turn, stuff and sew remaining seam (this is the top of the foot). Thread a sewing needle with orange yarn and starting at about 1" up from the bottom edge and an 1" in from the side, loop the yarn over the bottom edge of foot pulling tightly to make a toe. Repeat on the other side of the foot give the appearance of 3 toes. Attach to bottom of penguin at body cast on seam.