

Smiley Flower



Materials:

Small amount of Double Knitting yarn
(I used Skein Queen 'Crush DK')
Toy filling
Two small black beads
Black sewing cotton

Needles:

These flowers can be knitted using any yarn, here is a guide of which size of needle to use, depending on the yarn you choose:

4-ply yarn - 2.75mm (UK12, US2) knitting needles
DK yarn - 3mm (UK11, US2 or 3) knitting needles
Aran yarn - 3.75mm (UK9, US5) knitting needles
Chunky yarn - 5mm (UK6, US8) knitting needles

Notions:

Darning needle
Fine sewing needle
Pins

Abbreviations:

K	Knit
K2tog	Knit two stitches together
Kfb	Knit into the front and back of the stitch, making 1 extra stitch
M1	Make 1 stitch (see techniques)

P	Purl
P2tog	Purl two stitches together
P2togtbl	Purl two stitches together, through the backs of the loops
sl	slip a stitch (purlwise)
SS	Stocking Stitch
ssK	slip two stitches knitwise one at a time, pass the two slipped stitches back to the left hand needle, knit both stitches together through the back of the loop
st(s)	stitch(es)
wyif	with yarn in front (towards you)

Techniques:

Make one stitch (M1):

Work to the point where you want to make a stitch. With your right hand needle, pick up the 'bar' of yarn between the stitches on your left and right hand needles. If on a knit row, knit the stitch through the back of the loop. If on a purl row, purl the stitch through the back of the loop. This tightens the stitch and makes it neater.

Notes:

The edges of the petals are worked as an applied i-cord. This is really easy to do, just follow the instructions and it will work, I promise!

Petals:

Using your chosen size of knitting needles, cast on 4 sts and knit 1 row.

* Next row: Kfb, sl3 wyif, turn. (5 sts)

Knit 1 row.

Next row: Kfb, K to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif, turn. (6 sts)

Knit 1 row.

Repeat last two rows twice more. (8 sts)

Next row: Kfb, K to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif, turn. (9 sts)

Next row: K4, turn.

Next row: Sl4 wyif, turn.

Next row: K5, turn.

Next row: Sl1, K1, sl3 wyif, turn.

Next row: K6, turn.

Next row: Sl1, K2, sl3 wyif, turn. (9 sts)

Next row: K2, K2tog, slip sts back onto left hand needle. (8 sts)

Repeat last row five more times. (3 sts) **

Slip sts back onto left hand needle.

Next row: K2, Kfb. (4 sts) *

Repeat instructions from * to * three more times. Work from * to ** once more. (making a total of five petals).

Thread yarn through remaining 3 sts and fasten, leaving a length of yarn for sewing up.

Centre:

Using your chosen size of knitting needles, cast on 8 sts.

Next row: (K2, Kfb) twice, K2. (10 sts)

Next row: P2, M1, P1, M1, P4, M1, P1, M1, P2. (14 sts)

Next row: K3, M1, K1, M1, K6, M1, K1, M1, K3. (18 sts)

Next row: P4, M1, P1, M1, P8, M1, P1, M1, P4. (22 sts)

Starting with a knit row, work 2 rows in SS.

Next row: K3, ssK, K2tog, K8, ssK, K2tog, K3. (18 sts)

Next row: P2, P2tog, P2togtbl, P6, P2tog, P2togtbl, P2. (14 sts)

Next row: K1, ssK, K2tog, K4, ssK, K2tog, K1. (10 sts)

Next row: (P2, P2tog) twice, P2. (8 sts)

Cast off remaining sts, leaving a length of yarn for sewing up.

Making up:

Taking the centre of the flower and starting at the cast off edge, sew the long seam. This seam will be along the back of the flower. Sew the cast-on edges together from side to side so that the back seam is in the centre. Stuff lightly with toy filling.

Sew the cast-off edges together. Taking the petals and using a darning needle and yarn, thread the yarn through the purl 'bumps' along the inside edge of the petals. Gather slightly and pin the petals in place around the centre, evenly distributing the gathers. Sew each petal in place. Using black sewing cotton and a fine sewing needle, sew the beads in place and embroider a small smiley mouth! Alternatively, embroider a small french knot using embroidery thread or black yarn for each eye.