

BIBBITY-BOBBITY PUMPKINS

A fun and easy project for autumn

by Lynne Rowe

UK Terminology



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www.knitcrochetcreate.com

email: lpp10@sky.com

YOU WILL NEED....

YARN....

This is a perfect project for using up your small scraps of yarn. You can use either:
Approximately 40-45g of double knitting yarn (held double); chunky yarn or aran yarn.
Approximately 20g of double knitting yarn (used as a single strand).

KNITTING NEEDLES....

For Pumpkin: use a needle size that is one size less than the recommended size for your yarn, eg:

Double knitting yarn held double, with 5mm (US 8) needles;

Chunky yarn, with 5mm (US 8) needles;

Aran yarn, with 4mm (US 6) needles;

Double knitting (single strand), with 3mm (US 2 or US 3 needles).

For Stalk: 4mm needles (alternatively, two 4mm double-pointed needles if i-cord is preferred)

EXTRAS....

A wool/tapestry needle for weaving in ends; oddments of a dark coloured yarn for stalk; small amount of toy filling.

FINISHED SIZE....

Depends on the yarn being used and amount of stuffing added. Measured across:
Chunky yarn or double knitting held double and 5mm needles, approximately 14cm.
Aran yarn and 4mm needles, approximately 13cm.
Double knitting (single strand) and 3mm needles, approximately 11cm.

TENSION....

Tension is not critical for this project and finished size will depend on yarn being used.

NOTE....

You can experiment with any other yarn too and follow the same pattern.

ABBREVIATIONS....

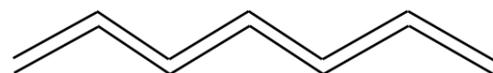
k = knit; **p** = purl, **kfb** = knit into the front and back of the same stitch (to increase 1 stitch); **k2tog** = knit the next 2 sts together as 1 stitch (to decrease 1 stitch); **st(s)** = stitch or stitches; **rep** = repeat.

CONSTRUCTION....

Worked in rows, turning after each row. Stalk is knitted separately and sewn on.

ADD TO RAVELRY....

My user name is Lynne Rowe and this project is called "Bibbety-Bobbity Pumpkins".



PUMPKIN....

Using chosen yarn and needles (see Knitting Needles on page 2), cast on 27 sts.

Set-up row: Knit the first stitch, *kfb in next st; rep from * to end. (53 sts)

Now start the pattern.

Pattern row 1 (WS): P1, *k2, p2; rep from * to the end.

Pattern row 2 (RS): K1, *p2, k2; rep from * to the end.

Rows 1 and 2 form the seeded rib stitch pattern. Pattern 6 more rows. WS is facing for next row. Note that next three rows are shaping rows that help to form a nice shape.

Shaping rows (worked over 3 rows): P1, *k2, p2; rep from * to last 8 sts, knit 1 st then turn work and leave remaining sts unworked, slip first st purlwise with yarn at front, take yarn between needles to the back, k1, **p2, k2; rep from ** to the last 8 sts, p1, turn work, slip 1 st purlwise with yarn at the front, p1, take yarn to the back, ***k2, p2; rep from *** to the end.

Now return to pattern rows and starting with pattern row 2, work another 29 rows.

With WS facing, repeat the shaping rows over next 3 rows.

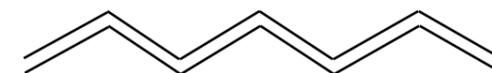
Return to pattern rows and starting with pattern row 2, work another 8 rows.

Next row: Knit the first st, [k2tog] to the end. (27 sts)

Rep the last row once more. (14 sts)

MAKING UP....

Cut yarn leaving a long tail end and thread onto a wool needle. Weave through remaining stitches and take them off the needle. Pull tightly to close the hole. Secure with a few stitches. Now use the same thread to sew the side seam. Working from RS, use whip stitch (oversew) through the very ends of the stitches (through just one loop of the stitch) to make the seam look like a ridge on the pumpkin. Fill the pumpkin with toy filling. It's important to take your time here to make sure your pumpkin is a nice shape. Firmly fill the bottom of the pumpkin, spreading out the knitting and making it round and plump. Your knitting will stretch quite a lot. Add more stuffing to the top, but don't fill as firmly. Gather the top stitches and pull yarn to start closing the hole, making sure that you have a nice shape when you squash the top and bottom together. Add or remove stuffing as needed before pulling tight to close the hole. Fasten off securely but don't cut yarn.



Using same tail end, weave yarn down through pumpkin and out at the bottom, then insert needle back through fabric and up through pumpkin and out at the top. Pull tight to squash the pumpkin and create an indent. Repeat the process again if you need to before fastening off yarn securely and weaving in the end.

STALK....

Add a stalk as follows (or you could use a twig or cinnamon stick if preferred):
Using dark coloured double knitting yarn (single strand), cast on 4 sts onto 4mm needles. Starting with a knit row, work one row knit and one row purl (to form stocking stitch), until your stalk is the length desired. Cast off. Your stalk will naturally curl inwards.

Alternatively you can use two 4mm double-pointed needles and yarn held double. Cast on 4 sts and knit an i-cord for length desired before casting off.

Sew one end of the stalk to the centre top of pumpkin and weave in all the ends.



I'm passionate about sharing my knowledge and expertise to help you find and enjoy your inner creativity. My easy-to-follow knitting and crochet patterns will help you build your confidence stitch-by-stitch. I hope you will feel really proud to show off your skills and be inspired to make beautiful things that you will love.

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