

HANDWORK PROJECT PATTERNS & PICTURES

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Following the much-loved first grade project of The Kitten...

The Chicken

Materials:

- yellow wool yarn
- assorted other colors of yarn for embellishments
- pair of knitting needles
- yarn needle for sewing up
- wool batting for stuffing

Pattern:

Cast on 16 stitches.

Knit until piece forms a square.

Cast off.

Fold into the shape of a triangle. Stuff and sew up. Embellish as desired!



The Lamb (pattern follows)



side view (finger knitted collar and tail)



sweet little lamb face

KNITTED LAMB PATTERN

Materials:

- white wool yarn
- colored wool yarn for collar (optional)
- small jingle bell (optional)
- pair of knitting needles
- yarn needle for sewing up
- wool batting for stuffing

Pattern:

You start knitting at the lamb's back legs and behind.

Cast on 36 stitches.

Knit 10 rows. This forms the back legs.

At the beginning of each of the next two rows cast off 8 stitches. You should have 20 stitches remaining on your needle. This completes the back legs.

Knit 8 rows. This forms the tummy area.

At the beginning of each of the next two rows cast on 8 stitches. You should have 36 stitches on your needle. These are the first edges of the front legs.

Knit 10 rows. This forms the front legs.

At the beginning of each of the next two rows cast off 12 stitches. This is the second edge of the front legs. You should have 12 stitches remaining on your needle.

Knit 24 rows. This forms the head.

Cast off.

See me for help with sewing up.

Knitted Pouch with Button Closure (pattern follows)

This project incorporates color theory (darker colors have a gesture of holding, lighter colors have a gesture of welcoming) as well as wet felting. This pouch sew up best if you turn it inside out before doing the mattress stitch for the seams. I do NOT turn animals inside out as this is often distressing to the child.



KNITTED POUCH PATTERN WITH BUTTON CLOSURE

Materials Needed: bulky weight wool yarn in two colors (darker "holding" color for the bottom and lighter "welcoming" color for the flap), size 10 knitting needles, yarn needle, sewing needle, thread, scissors, hot water and liquid hand soap for wet felting button

Note: for those knitters wishing to work on an advanced skill, every time you knit a row *slip the first stitch purlwise*. This makes for a straighter edge when sewing up.

Cast on 18 stitches in the darker color. You can also do fewer stitches for a smaller pouch.

Knit 60 rows or until the pouch is a pleasing size when folded in half.

Cut yarn and tie on lighter color.

Knit 4 rows.

Knit 2 stitches together at the start of each row (then knit to the end of the row) until you have 5 stitches left on your needle.

Cast off 4 stitches. Cut a long tail.

Use the remaining loop and your long tail to finger knit a few stitches to form a little string which, when attached to the end of the flap, makes a little loop closure.

Sew the loop closure securely.

Sew up the sides of the pouch and weave in the ends for 8 stitches, then cut the ends.

Gather all of your yarn scraps from the project and unravel the yarn into each ply. Untwist and fluff each small piece, opening it up and making it into a pile of wool fibers which matches the colors of your pouch.

Use a squirt of liquid hand soap and hot water in the bathroom sink to wet felt a ball (pinching the pile of fibers together) which fits your loop closure.

Once it is dry, sew the ball onto your pouch with a needle and thread.

Animal Headband

"Choose an animal you really like and go to the basket of plant dyed colors and get the yarn which is the predominant color of that animal." You could also dye the yarn yourself to get the color of your animal, which is fun if you haven't done a lot with dyeing! We dye our yarn in the crockpot or using the sun jar method.

<https://switzerite.blogspot.com/2019/04/crockpot-dyed-wool-instructions-photos.html>

Cast on 6 stitches on size 6 needles. Knit in garter stitch until you have a piece of knitting that is the length of your fingertip to elbow. Continue until your garter stitch piece is long enough to make a headband that will fit you, then cast off and sew the two ends together. Design a knitting pattern for the ears for your animal and knit them, then sew them onto your headband. Mine was a chipmunk. Zac loves to wear them!



Embroidered Felt Pencil Case

We plant-dyed both our wool felt and our silk embroidery floss, but of course you can purchase wool felt and floss in any color you prefer. Cut a long rectangle. There's no specific measurement. Make it wide enough and long enough to hold your pencils when doubled over with a flap.

Several embroidery stitches are practiced in this project. Embroider a "holding" shape (Steiner discusses this concept specifically in *Handwork and Handicrafts: Indications by Rudolf Steiner* <https://www.waldorflibrary.org/books/3/view/52/ebooks/61/handwork-and-handicrafts-indications-by-rudolf-steiner-ebook>) on your pencil case using *vine stitch*. I felt like my curved design looked like a cat, so I added cat whiskers on the flap and a tail on the back. Embroider your initials on the back using *backstitch*. Sew up the sides using either *running stitch* or *blanket stitch*. Cut a hole for your button closure and sew on a wood button.



pencil case front



pencil case back

Star Gnome

Use this project as a chance to learn purling, if you haven't already. Your gnome can be done all in garter or stockinette stitch, or his clothes can be in garter stitch and face in st st.

Gnome Body: Begin with pants color, cast on 10 stitches, knit 10 rows. Keep this leg on the needle and cast on 10 again, knit 10 rows, join the two legs. Knit 10 rows. Switch to face color, knit 10 rows, do a gathering stitch and close the top of the head (cinch, not cast off).

Gnome Cap: cast on 24, knit 4 rows, k2tog at start of each row until it reaches a point

Gnome Arms: cast on 10 stitches in shirt color, knit 10 rows. Switch to skin color towards the end, if desired. Gather hand as at the top of the head. Make a second arm.

Sew up your little star gnome. For a beard, tie on white yarn, then unravel the ends.



Knitted Recorder Bag

This bag is an exercise in color theory. Like the knitted pouch, the darkest color, on the bottom, works as a holding color. The lightest color, on the top, works as a welcoming color.

Cast on 22 stitches on size 6 needles in a dark color. Knit 10 rows in garter stitch.

Switch to stockinette stitch for the remainder of the bag. Choose three more colors that will progress from your dark color in a logical gradation from dark to light. Make the bag 11 inches long and use all four of the colors in order. Make a butterfly stitch cord for the drawstring.

Important Note: When you change colors do NOT cut the yarn right away. Knit two rows of the new lighter color, then knit two rows of the previous darker color, and then cut the darker color yarn and continue in the lighter color yarn until you are ready to change colors again.

To finish the recorder bag, knit as follows:

- row 1 - k1, k2tog, repeat this all the way across the row
- row 2 - p2, yarn over, repeat this all the way across the row
- row 3 - knit all stitches
- row 4 - knit all stitches
- row 5 - cast off



Diamond Washcloth

This pattern makes a diamond shaped washcloth. It introduces the skill of making a new stitch by knitting into the front and the back. This has the effect of creating a nice design on the border, easy to crochet into if you'd like to introduce crochet to your child at this time.

use white or off-white worsted weight cotton yarn and size 6 needles

k1

knit in front and back (making two stitches out of one)

for the first stitch in every row knit in front and back

continue until it is wide as you would like it to be

then k2tog at the start of each row until you get back to one stitch

optional: crochet a border around your washcloth



Knitted Doll with Clothes & Accessories

"I can't give you a pattern for this because people are different sizes"

Cast on 12 stitches, knit until the leg is as long as you would like, then cast on for a second (as with the Star Gnome). Knit second leg, join them, knit torso as long as you want it to be, knit the head smaller than the torso, k2tog across last row to decrease and gather.

"we come in all different sizes and so do our dolls"

"we come in all different colors and so do our dolls"

Cast on 10 stitches for arms in shirt color, knit until the arm is as long as you would like, switch to hand color at end of arm where the gather is. Make a second arm. You could also cast on 10 stitches for the legs (in which case you would use 8 stitches for the arms).

Some Options & Notes:

Do garter stitch for feet / hands / face and then stockinette stitch for clothing

For slower knitters: the doll can be made so that he/she is completely clothed already. In this case, begin with shoe color, and then switch to pants color and then shirt color

Important: DO NOT make the doll all in skin color such that he/she is naked

For faster knitters: the doll body can be made with only undergarments like tights/undies and then separate clothing and accessory patterns are invented & knitted or crocheted. This can go on for as long as your child holds interest! In this case, begin with legs in skin color or tights color, then shorts or undies color, then skin color for the upper body

NOTES ON HANDWORK PROJECTS