

The Nifty Knitted Potholder

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Ingredients:

1 skein worsted weight wool yarn (bulky works, too)
1 pair knitting needles size 7
1 small/medium button
Yarn needle to weave in ends

Abbreviations:

K1inc- Knit one stitch, but do not slip off needle. Knit again into the back side of the stitch, creating a second stitch and slip both off the needle together.

PM- Place marker

RS/WS- Right side/Wrong side

SM- Slip marker

K- knit

P- purl

K2tog- Knit two stitches together at the same time, which decreases one stitch

Yo- yarn over. Wrap your working yarn once around the right hand needle as if it were a stitch and then continue working.

(S,K,pss0)- Slip one stitch off of the left needle onto the right hand needle without knitting it. Knit the next stitch. Pass the slipped stitch over the knitted stitch to create a decrease of one stitch. If you are not sure how to do this stitch, you can also just K2tog to create the same effect (but using this stitch angles the decreases so that they look a little nicer in this pattern).

Note:

You will be placing markers on either side of the center stitch, just to remind you that it's time to purl on that stitch when you are on the wrong side (ws) rows. By using the markers you will not have to count stitches on the (ws) rows. Slip the markers as you knit past them on the right side (rs) rows as if they are not there.

Increase Rows:

1. Cast on 3 stitches.
2. K1inc, K1, K1inc (rs)
3. K2, PM, P1, PM, K2 (ws)
4. K1, K1inc, K1, K1inc, K1 (rs)
5. K3, P1, K3 (ws)
6. K1, K1inc, K to last 2 stitches, K1inc, K1 (rs)
7. K4, SM, P1, SM, K4 (ws)
8. K1, K1inc, K to last 2 stitches, K1inc, K1 (rs)
9. K to marker, P1, K to end (ws)

Repeat rows 8 & 9 until you reach the desired center size of your potholder. I knit roughly 35-40 rows on mine. Be sure to end your increase rows with a (ws) row, so that you are beginning your decrease rows on the (rs) row.

Decrease Rows-

Next row: K1, (S1,K1,pss), K to last 2 stitches, K2tog, K1 (rs)

Next row: K to marker, P1, K to end (ws)

Next row: K1, (S1,K1,pss), K to last 2 stitches, K2tog, K1 (rs)

Next row: K to marker, P1, K to end (ws)

Repeat these two rows until you get down to the last 5 stitches.

Next row: (S1,K1,pss), K1, K2tog

With remaining three stitches you may either bind off the potholder and weave in the yarn ends, or continue knitting to create a button loop (as show in the photo).

Button Loop-

On three stitches, knit every row until you reach the desired length of your button loop. You will want to knit at least 4". On the next row, K2tog, yo, K1. This creates a button hole. Knit one more row to seal up the button hole, and then cast off. Weave in remaining ends.

Stitch a button to the front of your potholder so that your button loop can be secured into place.

Get cooking!