

COFFEE CUPCAKE

Materials:

- 1 ball each of light worsted (DK/8-ply) pure merino yarn in cream and coffee; 50g/57yd/53m
- 1 ball of fingering (4-ply) 100% cotton yarn in white; 50g/169yd/155m
- A pearl bead

- A 2¼in (60mm) polystyrene craft ball
- Toy stuffing

Needles:

- 1 pair of 4mm (UK 8, US 6), 1 pair of 2.25mm (UK 13, US 1) and 1 pair of 3.25mm (UK 10, US 3) knitting needles

Instructions:

Top of cake

Cast on 40 sts in cream yarn using 4mm (UK 8, US 6) knitting needles.

Rows 1–4: st st for 4 rows.

Rows 5–10: change to coffee and g st for 6 rows.

Row 11: (K4, K2tog) to last 4 sts, K4 (34 sts).

Row 12: knit.

Row 13: knit, decreasing 6 sts randomly across row (28 sts).

Row 14: knit.

Row 15: knit, decreasing 4 sts randomly across row (24 sts).

Row 16: knit.

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through stitches on needle and draw up tightly.

Side of case

Cast on 60 sts using white cotton fingering (4-ply) yarn and 2.25mm (UK 13, US 1) needles.

Rows 1–11: K1, P1 across row for 11 rows.

Row 12: inc every second P st across row.

Cast off.

Base of case

Cast on 10 sts using white cotton fingering (4-ply) yarn and 2.25mm (UK 13, US 1) needles. Work in st st.

Row 1: * purl.

Row 2: knit, increasing 1 st at beg and end of row. *

Rows 3–8: repeat rows 1 and 2 from * to * (18 sts).

Rows 9–11: continue in st st.

Rows 12–18: dec 1 st at beg and end of every K row (10 sts).

Row 19: purl.

Cast off.

Petal (make 4)

Using 3.25mm (UK 10, US 3) needles and cream yarn, cast on 1 st.

Row 1: ** K1, P1, K1, P1, K1 into the cast-on stitch (5 sts).

Row 2: slip 1, K3, leave the last st unworked. Work on the 3 centre sts until row 6.

Row 3: P3, leave last st.

Row 4: K3, leave last st.

Row 5: P3, leave last st.

Row 6: K4.

Row 7: P1, P2tog, P2tog.

Row 8: K2tog, K1.

Row 9: P2tog. ** [1 st].

Break yarn and pull through the remaining stitch.

Repeat for each petal.

Making up

Join the side seam of the cup cake case, then stitch the bottom in place. Join the side seam of the cup cake top. Pull up the thread holding the stitches at the top of the cake, and darn the thread end in to hold it firmly in place. Attach the petals to the top of the cake, adding a bead to the centre. Using cream wool, make French knots on the top of the cake. Position the cake top inside the cup cake case. Insert a polystyrene craft ball, adding some stuffing to pad out the shape, then catch-stitch the top to the bottom.

Instructions:

With 4mm (UK 8, US 6) needles cast on 92 sts.

Row 1: (k2, p2) to end.

Rep row 1 fifteen times more.

Change to 5mm (UK 6, US 8) needles and, beg with a k row, work 24 rows in stocking stitch.

Row 41: (k13, k2tog) six times, k2 (86 sts).

Row 42 and each even-numbered (WS) row: purl.

Row 43: (k12, k2tog) six times, k2 (80 sts).

Row 45: (k11, k2tog) six times, k2 (74 sts).

Row 47: (k10, k2tog) six times, k2 (68 sts).

Row 49: (k9, k2tog) six times, k2 (62 sts).

Row 51: (k8, k2tog) six times, k2 (56 sts).

Row 53: (k7, k2tog) six times, k2 (50 sts).

Row 55: (k6, k2tog) six times, k2 (44 sts).

Row 57: (k5, k2tog) six times, k2 (38 sts).

Row 59: (k4, k2tog) six times, k2 (32 sts).

Row 61: (k3, k2tog) six times, k2 (26 sts).

Row 63: (k2, k2tog) six times, k2 (20 sts)

Row 64: (p2tog) ten times (10 sts).

Row 65: (k2tog) five times.

Cut yarn, leaving a tail, and thread through rem 5 sts.

Making up

Stitch up the back seam, reversing the seam on the ribbed band. Weave in any loose ends.

Mini Classic

For a child-size hat, follow the same pattern as for the adult hat but use light worsted (DK/8-ply) yarn; you should need only one 50g ball. Cast on using 3.25mm (UK 10, US 3) needles and work 16 rows in rib, then change to 4mm (UK 8, US 6) needles before continuing. Check your gauge (tension): you should have 19 sts and 29 rows to 4in (10cm) using 4mm needles.