

Ollie the Knitted Octopus

Requirements:

Approx. 30g soft baby DK Yarn (Some hospitals prefer if cotton yarn is used)
3.25mm (size 10) and 4mm (size 8) needles
Small amount of toy grade filling for stuffing the body
Contrast yarn to sew on facial features



For Legs (Tentacles) ~ Make 8

- Use double knitting wool & 4mm needles cast on 40 stitches loosely
- ROW 1: Knit into front, back and front again of each stitch (120 stitches)
- ROW 2: Cast off leaving last stitch on a stitch holder or safety pin
- Can just knit into front and back (80 stitches) & cast off. Wrap around needle after to create more spring

Head Section:

- With the 8 stitches from each leg slip them all onto size 3.25mm needle and knit across these 8 stitches. Purl 1 row
- ROW 3: Increase for body, increase in every stitch (16 stitches)
- ROW 4: Purl to end
- ROW 5: (knit 1, increase in next stitch), repeat this to end of row (24 stitches)
- Stocking stitch for 3 rows
- ROW 9: (knit 2, increase into next stitch) repeat to end (32 stitches)
- Stocking stitch for 3 rows
- ROW 13: (knit 3, increase into next stitch) repeat to end (40 stitches)
- Stocking stitch for 3 rows
- ROW 17 (knit 4, increase into next stitch) repeat to end (48 stitches)
- Sticking stitch for 11 rows
- ROW 29: (knit 4, knit 2 together) repeat to end (40 stitches) ROW 30: Purl row
- ROW 31: (knit 3, knit 2 together) repeat to end (32 stitches) ROW 32: Purl row
- ROW 33: (knit 2, knit 2 together) repeat to end (24 stitches) ROW 34: Purl row
- ROW 35: (knit 1, knit 2 together) repeat to end (16 stitches) ROW 36: Purl row
- ROW 37: (knit 2 together) repeat to end (8stitches)

Break off yarn leaving sufficient to sew up the body.

Thread a needle with the yarn and draw it through the 8 remaining stitches and secure

Turn inside out so that the right sides are together and join the seam which will go down the centre part of the body. Sew to about $\frac{3}{4}$ ways down and secure.

Turn the right way round and gently stuff the body.

Once stuffed continue sewing up the seam and you will need to put a couple of stitches around the top of the legs to prevent any stuffing escaping. Sew on the facial features. You may sew on the facial features before stuffing the body if you wish.

