



Yummy Cotton Candy Cupcakes

You can make these cuter than cute cupcakes with any spare 4ply or sock yarn that you have left lying around. I used a lovely soft cotton for mine, but many yarns would work well.

Materials:

5 x 50g Rowan Fine Milk Cotton:

- 1 x Sherbert (480)
- 1 x Opaque (506)
- 1 x Apple Pips (482)
- 1 x Sepia (501)
- 1 x Bloom (505)

1 x 50g Patons UK Eco Cotton:

- 1 x Sweet Pink (35)

(Or substitute the above for your favorite 4ply/sock yarn.)

2.5mm (1.5 USA) DPNS **and** a Circular Needle/s if you prefer to use them.

2.5mm (??USA) crochet hook

Stitch markers

Stuffing

Cardboard

Beads as required to decorate

Cotton to attach beads etc

Yarn needle

Sewing needle (for cotton)



- Row 6** knit row
- Row 7** k2, kfb across row (36)
- Row 8** knit row
- Row 9** k3, kfb (repeat to last 4 stitches), k4 (44)
- Row 10** Purl across row
- Row 11** K1, p1 across row
- Repeat row 11 for another 9 rows
- Row 21** purl across row

Change to cake colour.

- Row 22** Knit 2 rows

Cupcake:

In your cake case colour, cast on 6 stitches and place a stitch marker at the beginning of the round.

- Row 1** kfb across row (12)
- Row 2** knit row
- Row 3** k1, kfb across row (18)
- Row 4** knit row
- Row 5** k1, kfb across row (27)

Going round in circles:

I prefer to use the magic loop technique when making all these pieces but you can use whichever method of circular knitting technique you prefer to create these cakes, dpn's, magic loop, 2 circs or any other....

Change to the icing colour

Row 24 k3, yo, k4 (repeat to last 2 stitches), k2 (56)

Row 25 purl 3 rows

Row 28 p6, p2tog across row (49)

Row 29 purl row

Row 30 p5, p2tog across row (42)

Row 31 purl row

Row 32 p4, p2tog across row (35)

Row 33 purl row

Row 34 p3, p2tog across row (28)

Row 35 purl row

At about this point I like to turn the cake inside out and weave in the ends. Turn the cake case the right way round again and cut a circle of card the same size as your case base to slip inside the bottom of the cake. This will make the bottom flatter and more defined and the cake will stand up better. I also stuff cake case at this point.

Row 36 p2, p2tog across row (21)

Row 37 purl row

Row 38 p1, p2tog across row (14)

Row 39 purl row

Add any final stuffing and the Cut yarn leaving a length to sew up and using a yarn needle. Thread the end of the yarn through the stitches and off the needle. Pull stitches tight to close the hole and secure using remaining yarn end.

In a strawberry colour (A), cast on 4 stitches and place a stitch marker at the beginning of the round.

Stuffing marvelous:

Take your time when it comes to stuffing the cakes, this stage will really make a big difference to the final shape, so make sure you are happy with how it looks before you sew up.

Strawberries:

Row 1 kfb across row (8)

Row 2 knit row

Row 3 k1, kfb across row (12)

Row 4 knit row

Row 5 k3, kfb across row (15)

Abbreviations:

kfb: Knit into the front of the stitch as normal and then the back of the stitch to make an increase.

yo: Make an additional stitch by bring the yarn to the front of the work before knitting the next knit stitch.

kbl: Knit through the back loop.

p2tog: Purl the next two stitches together as one.

Row 6 knit row

Row 7 k2, kfb across row (20)

Attach a leaf colour (B) and knit as follows:

Row 8 k1 in A, k1 in B, *k3 in A, k3 in B* (repeat from * to * to last 2 stitches), k2 in A

Row 9 *K3 in B, k3 in B* (repeat from * to * to end)

Continue on in the leaf colour (B) only.

Row 10 k2tog (10)

At this point, turn the strawberry inside out to weave in the cast on end. If you would like to add any beads to body of the strawberry, this is the easiest time to do it. Once this is done, you can stuff the strawberry.

Row 11 K2tog (5)

Row 12 K2tog twice, k1 (3)

Switch to dpn's (if you're not already using them) and using the i-cord method, knit 2 rows of i-cord then cast off and weave in the end.

Cherries with stalk:

In a cherry colour, cast to 6 stitches and place a stitch marker at the beginning of the round.

Row 1 kfb across row (12)

Row 2 knit row

Row 3 k1, kfb across row (18)

Row 4 knit 5 rows

Row 9 K1, k2tog across row (12)

Row 10 knit row

Now is the time to weave in that end and stuff.

Row 11 k2tog across row (6)

Change to the stalk colour

Row 12 k2 tog across row (3)

If necessary, switch to dpn's and using the i-cord method knit until you have a length for the stalk (About an inch, inch and a half?), cast off and weave in the end.

Cherries:

Follow 'Cherries with stalk' up to row 10. Weave in the end and stuff the cherry. Then cut the yarn, leaving a length to sew up and use your yarn needle to catch up the remaining stitches, pull tight and secure in place. Weave in this last thread.

Cream Swirl:

With a suitable cream colour and your dpn's, cast on 3 stitches and make an i-cord as long enough to make a cream swirl as big as you would like. Mine were about 40cm (15inches) long.

Piped icing:

Using the crochet hook, make a chain as long as required and weave in ends.

Making up:

The only making up that needs to be done is to decorate your cakes. This part, is quite literally puts 'the cherry on the cake' as it were, so again, take your time to play around with different colours and combinations to make sure you are happy with the look of the decorations before you sew them on.

For the cream swirls, I like to pile the i-cord into a swirly heap to look like a pile of cream, so I sew the i-cord around into spiral first, then attach it to the cake.



The piped icing is great for making all sorts of patterns and just needs to be sewn onto the cake once you are happy with your positioning.

Cherries and strawberries can just be sewn directly onto the cake, or on top of cream swirls or icing, or anywhere you like really.

For the final, finishing touch, I like to add beads or bugles to mimic sprinkles or sugar stands. Again, just go with what looks right to you and sew on as you see fit.

You can also experiment with other types of decorations, buttons, sequins, felt cut outs, crochet flowers etc, etc can all look fabulous. Have fun with it!

Invisible Aids:

One way to get the perfect 'sprinkled on' look for beads is to use invisible thread which is available at most sewing stores. I personally find it fiddly to use and generally just use a cotton colour that will blend into the background, but if you can master the art of it, it can look fab!