

Fiber Trends®

FT-228

Huggable Hedgehogs



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With one or more of these cuddly creatures around the house you will never be without someone to hug. In Tussock and Temptation from Naturally.

Size: Approximately 7"-10" (18-25cm) tall.

Yarn Requirements

Choose a worsted weight (10 ply) yarn that will felt easily and firmly and a thick "fur-like" synthetic novelty yarn.

Shown in Tussock 10 ply and Naturelle 10 ply, both with Temptation for the "fur" and Perendale for the paws. All yarns from Naturally New Zealand Yarns.

Caution

All yarns react differently to the felting process. If you are using yarns other than those shown it is very important to test felt a sample of your yarn.

Yardage

Approximately 165 yards (151m) main wool; 100 yards (91m) of the novelty yarn; 10 yards (9m) of darker wool for paws.

Needles

US size 10½ (6.5 mm) and size 11 (8 mm) 24" (60cm) circular needles. Hedgehog is knit in rows. Circular needle is used when knitting the back to accommodate shaping.

Other Supplies

Small amount of a colorfast waste cotton for basting; stuffing; purchased eyes and nose or, if you wish to needle felt the eyes and/or nose, you will need a small amount of fiber and a felting needle.

Gauge

Approximately 13 sts to 4" (10 cm) before felting. It is not necessary to get an exact gauge, but knitting must be loose to felt properly.

Stitches and Abbreviations Used

RS or WS: Right side or wrong side.

brackets []: Work only the stitches within the brackets the specified number of times (x).

k2tog: Knit two stitches together as one.

ssk (slip, slip, knit): Slip 2 stitches, one at a time, as if to knit. Slide left needle through the front loops of these slipped stitches, from left to right, and knit them together from this position.

Inc in a st: Knit into the front and then into the back of one stitch.

m1 (make one): Insert left needle, from front to back, under the horizontal strand between the stitch on left needle and the stitch just worked, forming a loop on left needle. Knit this loop through the back.

w&t (wrap & turn): Slip the next stitch to the right needle as if to purl.

Bring the yarn between the needles to the front. Put the stitch back on the left needle. Turn and work in the other direction.

Instructions

Begin with the front. With size 10½ (6.5 mm) needles and single strand of wool, cast on 20 sts.

Rows 1-3: Knit. (Mark row 2 as the RS.)

Row 4: k5, w&t, k5.

Row 5: Knit.

Row 6: k5, w&t, k5.

Row 7: Knit.

Rows 8-11: Repeat rows 4-7.

Row 12: k10, m1, k10.

Row 13: (WS) Knit. (21 sts)

Legs

Row 14: k4, turn, leaving remaining stitches unworked.

Working on these 4 sts only, knit 9 more rows.

Cast off these 4 leg sts.

Cut yarn, leaving about 8" (20cm) for sewing.

With RS facing, rejoin yarn to remaining stitches.

Knit 17. Turn.

Working on first 4 sts only, knit 10 rows, then cast off.

Cut yarn, leaving about 8" (20cm) for sewing.

Tummy

With WS facing, rejoin yarn to remaining sts.

Row 1: Knit. (13 sts)

Row 2: k2, [m1, k1] 9x, m1, k2. (23 sts)

Row 3: Knit.

Row 4: [k2, m1] 5x, k3, [m1, k2] 5x. (33 sts)

Rows 5-7: Knit.

Row 8: [k2, k2tog] 4x, k1, [ssk, k2] 4x. (25 sts)

Row 9: Knit.

Row 10: (RS) Cast on 5 sts, k7, [k2tog, k2] 2x, k2tog, k1, [k2tog, k2] 3x. (24 sts)

Row 11: Cast on 5 sts, knit to end. (29 sts)

Row 12: k5, w&t, k5.

Row 13: Knit.

Row 14: k5, w&t, k5.

Rows 15-17: Knit.

Row 18: (RS) k5, w&t, k5.

Row 19: (RS) k6, k2tog, k4, k2tog, k1, ssk, k4, ssk, k6. (25 sts)

Row 20: (WS) k5, w&t, k5.

Arms

Working on first 4 sts only, knit 10 rows, cast off.

Cut yarn, leaving about 8" (20cm) for sewing.

With WS facing, join yarn to remaining stitches and knit to the end of row. (21 sts)

Working on first 4 sts only, knit 10 rows, cast off.

Cut yarn, leaving about 8" (20cm) for sewing.

Neck and Face:

With RS facing, rejoin yarn.

Row 1: k2, k2tog, k9, ssk, k2. (15 sts)

Row 2: (WS) Knit.

Row 3: (RS) k5, inc in each of the next 5 sts, w&t, k10,

w&t, k15. (20 sts)

Rows 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 & 14: Knit.

Row 5: k2, m1, k6, m1, k4, m1, k2, w&t, k10, w&t, k14, m1, k2. (24 sts)

Row 7: k2, m1, k8, m1, k4, m1, k3, w&t, k12, w&t, k17, m1, k2. (28 sts)

Row 9: k18, w&t, k8, w&t, k18.

Row 11: k8, ssk, k2, k2tog, ssk, k2, k2tog, k8. (24 sts)

Row 13: k8, ssk, k2tog, ssk, k2tog, k8. (20 sts)

Row 15: k8, ssk, k2tog, k8. (18 sts)

Row 16: (WS) k2, ssk, k8, w&t, k6, w&t, k8, k2tog, k2.

Row 17: (RS) Knit. (16 sts)

Row 18: k2, ssk, k6, w&t, k4, w&t, k6, k2tog, k2.

Row 19: k2, [ssk] 2x, k2, [k2tog] 2x, k2. (10 sts)

Cast off remaining stitches.

Paws (all four)

With RS facing and using a darker color yarn, pick up and knit 12 sts along long side of one arm or leg.

Rows 1 & 3: Purl.

Row 2: Knit.

Row 4: [k2tog] 6x. (6 sts)

Cut yarn. Using tapestry needle, thread yarn through last 6 stitches, draw up and fasten off.

Repeat for remaining legs/arms.

Sew short seams in arms and legs, leaving back open for stuffing.

Back

With size 11 (8 mm) needle, one strand wool, one strand eyelash and with right side of front facing you, pick up and knit 77 stitches as follows:

Begin at center of cast on edge. (Between legs.)

Pick up 4 at cast on edge, 7 around leg opening, 6 up the side, 7 around arm, 1 at neck, 10 up side of face, 7 across top of face, 10 down side of face, 1 at neck, 7 around arm, 6 down side, 7 around leg opening, 4 in cast on. (77 sts)

Working back and forth in rows, knit 3 rows.

Row 4: k16, ssk, k6, ssk, k25, k2tog, k6, k2tog, k16. (73 sts)

Row 5: Knit.

The back is now worked in a series of short rows.

Begin first set of short rows:

k39, w&t, k5, w&t, k6, w&t, k7, w&t, k8, w&t, k9, w&t, k10, w&t, k11, w&t, continue as established, working one more stitch before the wrap and turn each row, until you have worked k35.

Second set of short rows:

Continuing from where you finished the k35, w&t, k33, w&t, k32, w&t, k31, w&t, k30, w&t, k29, w&t, k28, w&t, k27, w&t, continue as established, working one less stitch before the wrap and turn each row until you have worked k21.

Third set of short rows:

Continuing from where you finished the k21, w&t,

k27, k2tog, w&t, k36, k2tog, w&t,

k37, k2tog, w&t, k38, k2tog, w&t,

k39, k2tog, w&t, k40, k2tog, w&t,

k41, k2tog, w&t, k42, k2tog, w&t,

k16, k2tog, k7, k2tog, k16, k2tog, k9. (62 sts)

(You should be at the end of the row.)

Continue in rows.

Row 1: (RS) [k6, k2tog] 3x, k14, [k2tog, k6] 3x. (56 sts)

Row 2: (WS) [k2tog, k7] 6x, k2tog. (49 sts)

Row 3: [k6, k2tog] 3x, k1, [k2tog, k6] 3x. (43 sts)

Row 4 and all remaining WS rows: Knit.

Row 5: [k3, k2tog] 8x, k3. (35 sts)

Row 7: [k3, k2tog] 3x, k5, [k2tog, k3] 3x. (29 sts)

Row 9: [k4, k2tog] 2x, k5, [k2tog, k4] 2x. (25 sts)

Row 11: [k2, k2tog] 3x, k1, [k2tog, k2] 3x. (19 sts)

Row 13: [k1, k2tog] 3x, k1, [k2tog, k1] 3x. (13 sts)

Row 15: [k2tog] 3x, k1, [k2tog] 3x. (7 sts)

Cut yarn and draw through last 7 sts. Fasten off.

Prepare for Felting

Weave in any remaining yarn ends. Check for any holes and if needed loosely mend them closed with a strand of the wool.

Use a smooth, cotton waste yarn to baste opening closed during felting.

Felting Instructions

Place in a zippered pillow protector to protect your washer from excess fiber that is washed out during felting.

Set washer for hot wash, longest cycle and low water level. Add a small amount of a mild detergent.

Do not use your washer's spin cycle as it may cause permanent creases. While agitating, check on the progress every 5 minutes. Remove from the bag each time and check that all parts are felting. If you find that one part is not keeping up with the rest, scrub on it by hand to catch it up.

Set washer back to agitate longer if needed. When your hedgehog has felted to a firm fabric and a nice size, remove and rinse by hand in cool water.

Roll in a towel to remove as much water as possible.

For the best shape, stuff firmly with a temporary stuffing while still damp. Shape your hedgehog into a shape you like, paying particular attention to the tummy and nose, before allowing to dry.

Finishing

When completely dry, remove temporary stuffing. If using purchased eyes and/or nose attach them now, then restuff to desired firmness. Using matching wool and a sharp needle, lace the opening together as invisibly as possible. To make the seam all but disappear, brush over the seam with a blunt needle.