

Mini Lion



Size: Approx. 2.5 inches long.

Materials:

2.75mm needles
Oddments of double knitting yarn in yellow and orange, and some black to embroider the face
Darning needle
Polyester stuffing

Gauge:

7 sts and 10 rows to 1 inch, or close to this. You want nice tight knitting that the stuffing won't show through.

Glossary: k - knit; p - purl; st(s) - stitch(es); st-st - stocking stitch; kfb - increase by knitting into the front and back of the next st; k2tog - decrease by knitting the next 2 sts together; kfbf - increase by 2 extra sts by knitting into the front and back, and then front again of the next st; yrn - yarn round needle.

Body and Head:

Using yellow, cast on 10 sts.
Row 1: (kfb) into every st - 20 sts.
Row 2: p
Row 3: (kfb) into every st - 40 sts
Rows 4-26: st-st, beginning p (23 rows)
Row 27: (k2tog) to end - 20 sts.
Row 28: p
Row 29: (k2tog) to end - 10 sts.
Break off a long length of yarn, thread through the remaining sts, pull up tightly and fasten off.
Seam row edges, leaving about 1 cm open at the cast on edge. Stuff body and head firmly. Close remaining seam. Gather round cast on sts, pull up tightly and fasten off.

Legs (make 4):

Using yellow, cast on 14 sts.
Rows 1-6: st-st, beg k
Row 7: (k2tog) to end - 7 sts.
Break off a long length of yarn, thread through remaining sts, pull up tightly and fasten off.
Seam row edges. Stuff well. Position 4 legs on base of body, taking care to ensure that lion can stand unaided, and sew in place.

Mane:

Using orange, cast on 51 sts.
Rows 1-2: st-st, beg k
Row 3: k1, (yrn, k2tog) to end
Rows 4-5: st-st, beg p
Cast off purlwise.
Join row ends. Sew cast on and cast off edges together. Place mane around front of body and sew in position.

Ears (make 2):

Using yellow, cast on 8 sts.
Rows 1-2: st-st, beginning k
Row 3: (k2tog) to end - 4 sts.
Break off a long length of yarn, thread through remaining sts, pull up tightly and fasten off. Join row ends. Position ears on head, using photo as a guide and sew cast on edge in place.

Tail:

Using yellow, cast on 16 sts.
Cast off.
Sew one row edge of tail just above the gathered cast on sts at the back of the body. Sew a few loops to the other end of the tail using yellow yarn.

Face:

Use black yarn to embroider two eyes, nose, mouth and whiskers, using the photo as a guide for placement.

