

Christmas decorations – Cracker

Materials

50g dk yarn any colour

50g dk yarn in white

4mm needles

Piece of thin card 2 ¼ x 4 ¼ in (5.5x10.5cm)

Cast on 21 sts using 4mm needles and white yarn.

Row 1 Knit.

Row 2 Purl.

Rows 3-8 Rep rows 1 and 2 a further 3 times

Row 9 Switch to yarn in colour of choice (fasten off white yarn), K.

Row 10 Purl.

Row 11 Knit.

Row 12 Purl.

Rows 13-18 Rep rows 11 and 12 a further 3 times.

Row 19 *K2tog, K1; rep from * to end. [14 sts]

Row 20 Purl.

Row 21 *K2 tog; rep from * to end. [7 sts])

Row 22 Purl.

Row 23 Knit

Row 24 Inc 1 purlwise in every stitch. [14 sts]

Row 25 Knit.

Row 26 *Inc 1, P1; rep from * to end. [21 sts]

Row 27 Knit.

Row 28 Purl.

Rows 29-40 Rep rows 27 and 28 a further 6 times.

Row 41 *K2 tog, K1; rep from* to end. [14 sts]

Row 42 Purl.

Row 43 *K2tog; rep from * to end.[7 sts]

Row 44 Purl.

Row 45 Knit.

Row 46 Inc 1 Purlwise in every stitch [14sts]

Row 47 Knit.

Row 48 *Inc 1, P1; rep from * to end. [21 sts]

Row 49 Knit

Row 50 Purl.

Rows 51-56 Rep rows 49 and 50 a further 4 times.

Row 57 Switch to white yarn (fasten off other yarn). K.

Row 58 Purl.

Row 59 Knit.

Row 60 Purl.

Rows 61-64 Rep rows 59 and 60 a further 2 times.

Cast off.

To make up

With the purl side facing outwards, fold the work in half lengthways and sew up the side seams of each of the white sections. Sew up the coloured side seams from the point at where the colour meets the white up to just before the sts begin to reduce. Turn work right side out. Roll up the cardboard from the 2¼ in (5.5cm) side so that the end result is a cylinder 2¼ in (5.5cm) long. Insert cylinder into the centre part of the cracker and then stitch up the remainder of the side seam. Fold the white sections into each end of the cracker and then stitch down in order to prevent them unfolding at a later date.

