

# **Baby Pumpkin**

By Terry Liann Morris - SailingKnitter

*Decorate with Jack-O-Lantern faces for Halloween, or leave plain for Autumn decorations. These can also be fun kick-sack toys.*

## **Materials:**

US Size 8 needles

Worsted Weight yarn:

Orange – 12 yards

Green/or brown for stem – 1 yard

Black for face 1 yard

Uncooked rice, lentils or small beans

Nylon hosiery (women's pantyhose or knee-high)



**Cast on** 7 stitches with orange yarn. This is the bottom of the pumpkin.

**Row 1:** Increase 1 in every stitch by knitting in the front and back of each stitch. You will now have 14 stitches on your needle

**Row 2:** Purl all stitches

**Row 3:** Repeat row 1. You will have 28 stitches

**Row 4:** (Knit 1, Purl 3), repeat across whole row

**Row 5:** (Knit 3, Purl 1), repeat across whole row

**Row 6:** (Knit 1, Purl 3), repeat across whole row

**Row 7:** (Knit 3, Purl 1), repeat across whole row

**Row 8:** (Knit 1, Purl 3), repeat across whole row

**Row 9:** (Knit 3, Make 1, Purl 1), repeat across row. Note: "Make 1" means to create one stitch by lifting the strand between the stitches with the left-hand needle and knitting into the back of it.

**Row 10:** (Knit 1, Purl 4) across row

**Row 11:** (Knit 4, Purl 1) across row

**Row 12:** (Knit 1, Purl 4) across row

**Row 13:** (Knit 2, Knit 2 together, Purl 1) across row

**Row 14:** (Knit 1, Purl 3) across row

**Row 15:** (Knit 3, Purl 1) across row

**Row 16:** (Knit 1, Purl 3) across row

Now start decreasing for the top...

**Row 17:** Knit 2 together all the way across the row. You will end up with 14 stitches

**Row 18:** Purl all stitches

**Row 19:** Knit 2 together across whole row. You will now have 7 stitches left.

Cut off orange yarn leaving a 10" strand of yarn (tail).

Change to green or brown yarn for stem.

**Row 20:** Purl all 7 stitches

**Row 21:** Knit 2 together 3 times, then Knit 1 = you will have 4 stitches left.

**Row 22:** Purl these 4 stitches

**Row 23:** Knit these 4 stitches

Cut green yarn leaving a 10" tail.

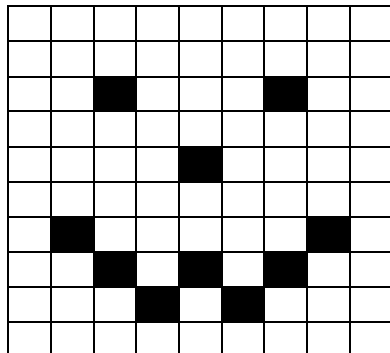
**Last row: Gathering the top stitches** – Begin to Purl the first stitch but stop before sliding the stitch off of the left-hand needle. Keep pulling the purl wrap yarn loop bigger and bigger until the end of the cut yarn tail pops all the way through the stitch. Now, let old stitch slide off of the left hand needle and drop. This threads the yarn through the last stitches without having to use a darning needle. Continue to Purl each stitch pulling the yarn tail all the way through.

### **Finishing of Stem**

Pull green/or brown tail tight at top gathering the stitches. Thread the tail onto a yarn darning needle and sew up the side seam of the stem. Weave in the tail on the wrong (inside) of pumpkin stem.

### **Face**

Using black yarn, duplicate stitch or embroider eyes, nose, mouth and/or other features as you desire. This graph is just a suggestion – let your imagination run wild.



### **Finishing of the Pumpkin**

Thread the orange yarn tail onto a yarn darning needle and weave/sew up the back seam. Do not cut the yarn yet. Leave the bottom open so you can stuff the pumpkin.

Stuff the toe end of the nylon stocking into the pumpkin through the bottom hole. Spoon dry rice, lentils or small beans into the nylon stocking until pumpkin feels full.

Tie a knot in the nylon stocking and cut off the excess nylon. Pick up orange yarn tail again and sew up bottom edge by weaving yarn through the cast on stitches and pulling tight. Weave in all loose yarn tails.

**END**