

## **RAKU FELTED BOWLS**

*By Terry Liann Morris – SailingKnitter*

*Raku* is a process that potters use where they place red-hot clay bowls in a bucket of dry leaves. The process creates beautiful one-of-a-kind results. They never know what the end result will look like. Felting your knitted items that are knit in multicolored yarns is much the same as you never know what you're going to get, but it is all beautiful.



Let the yarn do the talking in these simple-to-knit rolled-edge felted bowls. Plus, after knitting and before felting, add interesting “bobbles” by using river rock or marbles tied into the fabric with rubber bands if you want a truly freeform look! Bowls are knit in the round from the top down.



### **Materials**

Kureyon by Noro, 100% wool yarn - samples knit in colorways #32 blues, and #55 browns

Or any heavy worsted weight wool yarn

US Size 13 double point needles

10 to 15 Small ½” to ¾” smooth river rocks, marbles, or other hard material to add bobbles. (*Optional*)

**Gauge** *not important as you will felt your knitting*

**Cast on** 60 stitches. Divide between 3 needles (20 sts each). Join, being careful not to twist the stitches.

Knit 8 rounds. The rolled edge will automatically curl towards the outside.

**Increase Round:** (k4, ktfbl BUT do not knit the back loop – simply insert the needle into the back loop as if to knit it, but just slip it off the needle onto the right hand needle.) Repeat to end of round. You will have 72 stitches now.

Knit 20 rounds.

### **Decrease Rounds:**

Round 1: (k10, k2tog) repeat to end of round = 66 sts

Rounds 2 & 3: knit

Round 4: k4, k2tog, \*(k9, k2tog)\* repeat \* to \* to the last 5 stitches of the round, k5 = 60 sts

Round 5 & 6: knit

Round 7: (k8, k2tog) repeat to end of round = 54 sts

Round 8: knit  
Round 9: (k7, k2tog) repeat to end of round = 48 sts  
Round 10: knit  
Round 11: (k4, k2tog) repeat to end of round = 40 sts  
Round 12: knit  
Round 13: (k3, k2tog) repeat to end of round = 32 sts  
Round 14: knit  
Round 15: (k2, k2tog) repeat to end of round = 24 sts  
Round 16: knit  
Round 17: (k1, k2tog) repeat to end of round = 16 sts  
Round 18: knit  
Round 19: k2tog repeated to end of round = 8 sts

Break yarn leaving an 8" tail. Thread tail through the remaining 8 loops and gather stitches. Secure yarn ends.

### **Optional Bobbles**

Place a rock or marble on the interior wall of bowl. Gather the fabric tightly around the rock, stretching fabric slightly and twist a rubber band around the gathers to secure. Repeat for as many bobbles as you desire placing them randomly, or in a pattern.

FELT your bowl in the washing machine, removing before spin cycle. Blot dry with towels, remove (carefully snipping rubber bands) rocks, and coax into desired finished shape. Stuff lightly with paper towels or rags and let dry. Enjoy!

**END**