

The Window Cat



The Window Cat is a simple pattern knit in the round from the bottom up. Tail and paws are knit separately, also in the round, and seamed to the body. Finishing touches (eyes, nose and whiskers) can be embroidered on or embellished with buttons, fabric, etc. There is no end to the ways that this cat can be personalized!

Materials Required

Worsted weight yarn – app. 170 yards
Size 4 double pointed needles
Size 4 circular needle (optional)
Darning needle
Stuffing
Embroidery thread, buttons, or other embellishments for face

Abbreviations

CO – cast on
dpn – double pointed needles
K – knit
inc1 – increase 1 stitch in the next stitch (see note below)
st – stitch
sts – stitches
K2tog – knit two stitches together
PU – pick up (create) a stitch from existing work
SSK – slip next two stitches purl-wise, place them back onto left needle, and then knit them together through the back loop

Special Notes

- Pattern is written to be knitted using four double pointed needles, but you may want to start out using a circular needle for the body of the cat due to the number of stitches. Each dpn is separated within the rounds by a long dash (–). If using a circular needle instead of dpns, please use stitch markers to mark the places where the dpns would begin. It is especially important to maintain the point between the beginning of the 1st needle, and the end of the 3rd needle.
- The increases in this pattern are done by lifting the right “leg” of the next stitch with the tip of your right needle, placing it on the left needle, and then knitting it as you would any other stitch. After that, knit the next stitch as part of the increase. In other words – the newly created stitch and the original stitch will count as one for that round only.
- Resist the temptation to overstuff!

Cat Body and Head

CO 78 sts onto 3 dpns and K in the round for 6 inches, then begin the following rounds:

- 1) *K2tog, K1*, repeat 1 time, K2tog, K to last 8 sts in round, *SSK, K1*, repeat 1 time, SSK
- 2-3) K all sts

Repeat these 3 rounds 4 more times until 48 sts remain. Arrange these sts on dpns as 12 – 24 – 12, then begin the following rounds:

- 1) K2tog, K10 – K9, SSK, K1, K2tog, K10 – K to last 2 sts, SSK
- 2-3) K all sts
- 4) K2tog, K9 – K8, SSK, K1, K2tog, K9 – K to last 2 sts, SSK
- 5-6) K all sts
- 7) K1, inc1, K8 – K8, inc1, K2, inc1, K8 – K to last 2 sts, inc1, K1
- 8-9) K all sts
- 10) K1, inc1, K9 – K9, inc1, K2, inc1, K9 – K to last 2 sts, inc1, K1
- 11-12) K all sts
- 13) K1, inc1, K10 – K10, inc1, K2, inc1, K10 – K to last 2 sts, inc1, K1
- 14-15) K all sts
- 16) K1, inc1, K11 – K11, inc1, K2, inc1, K11 – K to last 2 sts, inc1, K1
- 17-18) K all sts



At this point 56 sts remain arranged on dpns as 14 – 28 – 14.

- 19) K1, K2tog, K11 – K11, SSK, K2, K2tog, K11 – K to last 3 sts, SSK, K1
- 20-21) K all sts
- 22) K1, K2tog, K10 – K10, SSK, K2, K2tog, K10 – K to last 3 sts, SSK, K1
- 23-24) K all sts
- 25) K1, K2tog, K9 – K9, SSK, K2, K2tog, K9 – K to last 3 sts, SSK, K1
- 26-27) K all sts

At this point 44 sts remain and you are ready to knit the ears. Slip the first 7 sts onto your working dpn without knitting them. Thread a darning needle with a piece of scrap yarn, and slip the next 30 sts onto it for working later. You now have 14 sts remaining on 2 dpns. Transfer some of them to a 3rd dpn since you will be knitting in the round. Begin with the first original st on the outer right side of the head and work the following rounds:

- 1-3) K all sts
- 4) SSK, K3, K2tog, SSK, K3, K2tog
- 5-6) K all sts
- 7) SSK, K1, K2tog, SSK, K1, K2tog
- 8) K all sts

Cut yarn and thread through a darning needle. Remove dpns and thread through remaining live sts. Pull tightly closed, insert needle down through center of ear and secure to inside.

Place the next 8 sts from scrap yarn at the front of the head onto a dpn. Place last 8 sts from the scrap yarn at the back of the head onto a 2nd dpn. With the Kitchener stitch, graft these 16 sts together to form the area between the ears.

Arrange the 14 remaining live sts onto 3 dpns. The first stitch should be the innermost stitch on the right side of the ear. Repeat all rounds (1-8) for this ear as with the first one. Stuff ears, head and top half of body.

Base of Cat

PU 75 sts from the original cast on sts at bottom of body, then work the following rounds:

- 1) K all sts
- 2) *K3, K2tog*, repeat to end of round
- 3) K all sts
- 4) *K2, K2tog*, repeat to end of round
- 5) K all sts
- 6) *K1, K2tog*, repeat to end of round
- 7) K all sts

At this point you can stuff the rest of the cat body.

- 8) *K2tog*, repeat to end of round
- 9) K all sts

Cut yarn and thread through a darning needle. Remove dpns and thread through remaining live sts. Do not pull tightly closed. I recommend leaving about a 1 inch opening at the bottom of the cat for adding/removing stuffing if needed. This opening also helps to reduce a “gathered” look at the bottom.

Tail

CO 15 sts onto 3 dpns and K in the round for 11 inches. Cut yarn, thread through live sts and pull tightly closed. Stuff all but 1 inch (at open end) and sew this end to bottom of cat extending out from the right side.

Paws

CO 15 sts onto 3 dpns and K in the round for 2 inches. Cut yarn, thread through live sts and pull tightly closed. Stuff closed half only and sew to bottom of cat – opposite the tail. Paws should lie side by side, extending out only about ¾ inch from the body.



Have fun!