

MYSTERY KNIT

by Terry Morris - SailingKnitter

Category: Toy, Home or Seasonal Decor

CLUE 1

Materials

Small amounts (just a few yards) of 3 different colored fingering or sock weight yarns. Sample knit in Lion Brand "bonbons" (96% acrylic, 4% metallic polyester) 6pk of assorted colors – celebrate

US size 1 (2.25mm) needles

Gauge is not important

Notes

1. This piece is knit back and forth in rows.
2. **M1** = Make 1 by lifting the strand between the stitches on the row below and knitting into the back of it so it will twist closed.
3. Carry unused colors loosely up the side, do not cut. When picking up the next color hold the yarn for the two resting colors in front of your work and pick up the next working color from the back. Check your tension on these carried colors by stretching the edge and aiming for the same flexibility as the opposite edge.

CLUE 1 OF 2

INSTRUCTIONS

Color A: loosely CO 26 sts

Row 1: k1, ssk, k22, m1, k1

Row 2: knit

Row 3: **Color B**, k1, ssk, k22, m1, k1

Row 4: same as Row 2

Row 5: **Color C**, k1, ssk, k22, m1, k1

Row 6: same as Row 2

Repeat these 6 rows 9 more times.

Bind off with Color C. Break yarn leaving a 12" tail for seaming.

End of Clue 1

CLUE 2

Additional Material Requirements:

Polyester fiber fill, unspun wool roving, or a Styrofoam ball
Small length of ribbon or cording for ornament hanger and bow.

FINISHING INSTRUCTIONS

After completing Clue #1, you should have a parallelogram similar to the photo.

Now you will add some seams and gather together a couple of edges to form a sphere as follows:



Bring cast-on and bound-off edges together. Thread yarn tail onto a tapestry needle and using the *mattress stitch method*, seam together. Both the cast-on and the bind-off rows will fold to the inside/wrong side so that color pattern is uninterrupted.

Weave in all yarn tails to the inside. Thread tapestry needle with yarn and pick up about 20 sts around the edge that has the carried strands. Pull yarn tightly to gather together. Do not cut yarn. Turn ornament inside out. Bring threaded

needle to the inside and pick up about 5 sts around edge and gather tightly. Weave in yarn end closing any remaining gaps.

Stuff ornament about $\frac{3}{4}$ full with fiberfill or wool roving or insert Styrofoam ball into remaining opening. If using soft filling material, press and stretch to make a round ball.

Thread tapestry needle with yarn and repeat as above to gather edge but leave a small finger-sized hole for additional stuffing. Stuff and shape until a good shape is achieved. Gather together and secure yarn tail.

For hanging as a Christmas tree ornament, sew a length of cording or ribbon to the top and if desired, add a pretty bow.

