

PUFFY WOOLEN CUSHION

Abbreviations: *st(s)* = *stitch(es)*

CO = *cast on*

k = *knit*

p = *purl*

k2tog = *knit 2 sts together*

M1 = *make one*

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Finished size: diameter: 48 cm, height: approx. 14 cm

Yarn: 1 kg of Muhku Wool Yarn in Undyed (1) or Orange (11) (100% wool, 1 kg = approx. 360 m)

Needles: 7 mm circular knitting needle (80 cm long), 6 mm double pointed needles, or according to personal gauge

Other supplies: 30 cm zipper, small amount of thin mercerized cotton yarn, 150x50 cm piece of fabric for making the inner cushion in a matching color, sewing thread, and filling.

Gauge: approx. 10 sts and 14 rounds = 10 cm (st st knitted with the thicker needles and steamed)

Garner stitch in the round: Round 1: purl, Round 2: knit. Repeat rounds 1 & 2.

Stockinette stitch (st st): Flat: Knit right side rows, purl wrong side rows. In the round: Knit all rounds.

Partial knitting: work in st st on the flat according to the instructions.



Upper piece: CO 132 sts on the circular needle.

Rounds 1-6: Garner stitch in the round.

Rnd 7: k10, *k2tog, k20*, repeat *-* 4 more times, k2tog, k10 = 126 sts. Begin the petals with partial knitting:

Row 1: k3, turn work.

Row 2: p3, CO 3 sts to the end of row, turn. Knit 6 more rows in st st on flat with these 6 sts = 8 rows of the petal. Move on to the next petal:

Row 1: k9 (6 sts of the first petal + 3 sts more from the left needle), turn.

Row 2: p6, turn. **Rows 3-8:** Knit st st on flat with the 6 sts = 8 rows of the petal. Repeat rows 1-8 of the second petal. Except for the row 8 of the last petal: Bind off 3 sts in purl of the beg of round, p2, turn, k3. The first round of petals is now done. Continue with st st in the round.

Rnd 1: *k2tog, k1*, repeat *-* till the end of rnd = 84 sts.

Rnd 2: Knit.

Rnd 3: k2, *M1 (= pick up the loop btw sts and knit it through the back loop), k5, M1, k6*, repeat *-* till the end of rnd = 99 sts. Make a round of petals as before. Continue with st st in the round.

Rnd 1: *k2tog, k1*, repeat *-* till the end of rnd = 66 sts.

Rnd 2: **k2tog, k6, *k2tog, k5**, repeat *-** 2 more times, then repeat **-* once, k2tog, k6 = 57 sts.

Rnd 3: Knit. Make a round of petals as before. Change into double pointed needles and continue in st st in the round.

Rnd 1: k2tog until 1 st remaining, k1 = 29 sts.

Rnds 2-3: Knit.

Rnds 4-5: Repeat rnds 1-2.

Rnd 6: As rnd 1. Pull the yarn through remaining sts, tighten, and weave in ends.

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Bottom piece: CO 132 sts on the circular needle. Close into a round and knit 3 rnds of garter stitch in the round. Knit 4 rnds. Decrease rnd: k10, *k2tog, k20*, repeat *-* 4 more times, k2tog, k10 = 126 sts. Knit 4 rnds. 2nd decrease rnd: *k2tog, k1*, repeat *-* till the end of rnd = 84 sts.

Knit 9 rnds. 3th decrease rnd: As 2nd decrease rnd = 56 sts. Knit 8 rnds. 4th decrease rnd: k2tog till the end of rnd = 28 sts. Knit 3 rnds. 5th decrease rnd: k2tog till the end of rnd. Knit 1 rnd. 6th decrease rnd: k2tog till the end of rnd. Pull the yarn through the remaining sts, tighten, and weave in ends.

Finishing: Take 1 or 2 strands of the wool yarn and finish the petal rounds by stitching together the edges of 3 cast-on and 3 bind-off-sts. Weave in ends. Wash the pieces in a machine: 30 °C delicate wash, no detergent and no other textiles, spinning cycle max. 800 rnds/min. Stretch the pieces to measurements and lay flat to dry on a surface that allows air to circulate. Try to shape the petals so that they stand out of the piece. Repeat the wash if necessary. The cushions in the picture were washed twice.

Note: Machines do vary, check the result and try different programs on a swatch first. Sew the pieces together by hand using the thin cotton yarn. Sew from the right side using a butt seam and short stitch length. Leave an opening for the zipper. Overstitch the zipper ends and pin it into the opening. Sew the zipper with double sewing thread and using small stitches, first from the right side next to the chain and then from the wrong side at the outer edges.

Making the inner cushion: Cut 2 round pieces: diameter 46 cm. Cut 4 pieces for the edge: 38x8 cm. Fold the round pieces in quarters and cut small notches to the edge to mark the quarters. Sew the edge pieces into a circle: sew the short edges together, fold the allowance to one side and topstitch. Pin 1 round piece and the edge together, aligning the notches with the seams. Sew with 1 cm seam allowance. Sew the other round piece as above, but leave an opening. Fill the cushion with filling (approx. 350 g) and sew the opening closed. Use a long, sharp needle and a double sewing thread to make stitches through the cushion to keep the filling in place: Leave 7 cm tail, make 2 small stitches near each other. Knot the thread strongly together with the tail. Make couple more stitches like this in the same place. Push the needle through the cushion and tighten the thread so that the stitch is the same height as the edge piece. Make couple small stitches to secure the thread. Weave in ends. Make in total 7-10 tightening stitches like this at even intervals.

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