

Sue Stratford



Easter Decorations

Materials:

Ten mini balls of 4-ply yarn (different colours)
Nine 5cm polystyrene eggs
Toy filling
Gold metallic yarn

Needles:

2.75mm knitting needles

Tension:

Tension is not important as you will be using slightly smaller needles than recommended for this yarn

Techniques:

French knots

bring the needle up from the back of the work through to the front and wind the yarn around the needle twice. take the needle through the work, half a st away, holding the loops around the needle with your finger while pulling the yarn through to the back

of your work. fasten off.

Chain stitch

Bring your threaded needle from the back of the knitting to the front. Re-insert the needle from the front to the back where it first came through. Bring the needle point back up through to the RS of the knitting a short way from where the needle went in. Wrap the yarn around the needle so that the needle comes through a loop of yarn. Pull the needle through the knitting and loop, remembering not to pull the loop too tightly. To continue, re-

insert the needle from the front to the back and repeat the above instructions.

w&t (wrap and turn)

This technique ensures you do not end up with a 'hole' in your knitting when working short row shaping and turning your work mid-row. Slip following stitch from left needle to right needle. Move yarn from back to front of work, between the needles, slip stitch back to left hand needle. Turn work and work back.

Abbreviations:

K	Knit
Kfb	Knit into the front and back of the stitch, making one extra stitch
Kfbf	Knit into the front, back and front of the stitch, making two extra stitches
M	Marker
M1	Make a backwards loop on your needle by twisting the yarn towards you and slipping the resulting loop onto the right hand needle. On the following row knit or purl through the back of the st. This produces a very neat result.
P	Purl
ssK	slip 2 sts knitwise one at a time, pass the two slipped sts back to left needle, knit both together through the back of the loop.
SS	Stocking stitch (knit one row, purl one row)
st(s)	stitch(es)
tog	together
w&t	Wrap and turn (see techniques)

Egg: (one colour)

Cast on 14 sts and purl 1 row.

Work increase rows as follows:

The first row is written out in full to enable you to see the pattern of the increases.

Next row: K1, Kfb, K1, Kfb, Kfb, K1, Kfb, Kfb, K1, Kfb, Kfb, K1, Kfb, K1. (22 sts)

Purl 1 row.

K1, (Kfb, K3, Kfb) to last st, K1. (30 sts)

Purl 1 row.

K1, (Kfb, K5, Kfb) to last st, K1. (38 sts)

Purl 1 row.

K1, (Kfb, K7, Kfb) to last st, K1. (46 sts)

Starting with a purl row, work 5 rows in SS.

Next row: K1, (K2tog, K4) seven times, K2tog, K1. (38 sts)

Purl 1 row.

Next row: (K2, K2tog, K3, K2tog) four times, K2. (30 sts)

Purl 1 row.

Next row: (K1, K2tog, K2, K2tog) four times, K2. (22 sts)

Purl 1 row.

Next row: (K1, K2tog) seven times, K1. (13 sts)

Purl 1 row.

Next row: (K2tog) six times, K1. (7 sts)

Thread yarn through remaining sts and fasten

Egg: (two colours)

Cast on 14 sts and purl 1 row.

Work increase rows as follows:

The first row is written out in full to enable you to see the pattern of the increases.

Next row: K1, Kfb, K1, Kfb, Kfb, K1, Kfb, Kfb, K1, Kfb, Kfb, K1, Kfb, K1. (22 sts)

Purl 1 row.

K1, (Kfb, K3, Kfb) to last st, K1. (30 sts)

Purl 1 row.

K1, (Kfb, K5, Kfb) to last st, K1. (38 sts)

Purl 1 row.

K1, (Kfb, K7, Kfb) to last st, K1. (46 sts)

Purl 1 row.

Join in second colour (CC). First colour is now called MC.

Next row: (K3MC, K1CC) repeat 11 times, K2MC.

Next row: (P3CC, P1MC) 11 times, P2CC.

Break off MC yarn and continue in CC only.

Starting with a knit row, work 2 rows in SS.

Next row: K1, (K2tog, K4) seven times, K2tog, K1. (38 sts)

Purl 1 row.

Next row: (K2, K2tog, K3, K2tog) four times, K2. (30 sts)

Purl 1 row.

Next row: (K1, K2tog, K2, K2tog) four times, K2. (22 sts)

Purl 1 row.

Next row: (K1, K2tog) seven times, K1. (13 sts)
Purl 1 row.

Next row: (K2tog) six times, K1. (7 sts)

Thread yarn through remaining sts and fasten

Bird:**Body and head:**

Cast on 14 sts and purl 1 row.

Work increase rows as follows:

The first row is written out in full to enable you to see the pattern of the increases.

Next row: K1, Kfb, K1, Kfb, Kfb, K1, Kfb, Kfb, K1, Kfb, Kfb, K1, Kfb, K1. (22 sts)

Purl 1 row.

K1, (Kfb, K3, Kfb) to last st, K1. (30 sts)

Purl 1 row.

K1, (Kfb, K5, Kfb) to last st, K1. (38 sts)

Starting with a purl row, work 9 rows in SS.

Next row: K4, w&t.

Next row: Purl to end of row.

Knit 1 row.

Next row: P4, w&t.

Next row: Knit to end of row.

Purl 1 row.

Cast off 7 sts at the beginning of the next two rows. (24 sts)

Change colour and, starting with a knit row, work 6 rows in SS.

Next row: K1, (K2tog, K2) five times, K2tog, K1. (18 sts)

Purl 1 row.

Next row: (K1, K2tog) six times. (12 sts)

Thread yarn through remaining sts, leaving a length of yarn for sewing up.

Wing: (make two)

Cast on 1 st.

Next row: Kfbf. (3 sts)

Knit 1 row.

Next row: (K1, M1) twice, K1. (5 sts)

Knit 2 rows.

Next row: K1, M1, K to last st, M1, K1. (7 sts)

Knit 6 rows.

Next row: K2tog, K3, K2tog. (5 sts)

Knit 2 rows.

Next row: K2tog, K1, K2tog. (3 sts)

Knit 1 row.

Next row: Sl1, K2tog, pss0. (1 st)

Thread yarn through remaining stitch and fasten.

Beak:

Cast on 5 sts and, starting with a knit row, work 2 rows in SS.

Next row: ssK, K1, K2tog. (3 sts)

Thread yarn through sts, gather and fasten, sew small side seam.

Leg:

Cast on 14 sts.

* Next row: Cast off 3 sts, slip next st to RH needle, wrap yarn around this stitch, slip the stitch back to the left hand needle. Slide the remaining stitch from the RH needle to the LH needle and cast on 3 sts.

Repeat from * twice more, casting off all sts the second time. Making three 'toes'.

Thread yarn through remaining st to fasten.

Bunting:

Cast on 1 st.

Next row: Kfbf. (3 sts)

Knit 1 row.

Next row: (K1, M1) twice, K1. (5 sts)

Next row: K2, P1, K2.

Next row: K2, M1, K1, M1, K2. (7 sts)

Next row: K2, P3, K2.

Next row: K2, M1, K3, M1, K2. (9 sts)

Next row: K2, P5, K2.

Next row: K2, M1, K5, M1, K2. (11 sts)

Next row: K2, P7, K2.

Next row: K2, M1, K7, M1, K2. (13 sts)

Next row: K2, P9, K2.

Next row: K2, M1, K9, M1, K2. (15 sts)

Next row: K2, P11, K2.

Next row: K2, M1, K11, M1, K2. (17 sts)

Next row: K2, P13, K2.

Next row: K2, M1, K13, M1, K2. (19 sts)

Next row: K2, P15, K2.

Knit 4 rows.

Cast off.

Making Up:

Egg - Wrap the knitting around the egg and, starting from the cast off gathered edge, sew the side seam until you reach the cast off edge.

Thread yarn through cast on stitches and gather.

Secure the end of yarn. Taking a length of gold metallic yarn threaded through a darning needle, thread through the top of the egg and knot the yarn.

Embroider lazy daisy motifs on the eggs knitted in one colour using chain stitch.

Bird - Starting from the cast off gathered edge, sew the seam which will form the head. Change colour to match the body and sew towards the cast on edge. Stuff with toy filling and sew the remainder of the seam. Thread a length of yarn through the cast on stitches and gather. Fasten off yarn.

Sew each wing in place using pictures as guidance.

Taking the beak, sew the side seam and sew in place just above the colour change from body to head.

Taking the legs, sew in place either side of the cast on edge seam.

Using a chain stitch sew a line around the join between head and body. Embroider lazy daisy motifs using chain stitch.

Using black yarn, embroider the eyes using french knots.

Bunting - Sew in the end at the cast on point.

Use the cast off end of yarn to sew the pennant to the next pennant, and so on, until all flags have been joined.

