

Knitted Guinea Fowl



Needles: Size US 1

Yarn: Dale Baby Ull in black and white (small amount of each)

Gauge: 8 sts per inch (doesn't matter as long as fabric is tight)

Size at above gauge: body is the size of a nice cherry tomato

To knit the fair isle pattern, alternate black and white in Stockinette stitch. All black stitches will be knit with white on the following row and vice versa.

Color A: White

Color B: Black

Body:

Alternate colors every stitch on every row.

With A, CO 17

Row 1: Knit across row starting with B

Row 2: Purl across first 12 stitches (starting with A) and turn, leaving 5 sts on the needle

Row 3: Knit across 7 stitches, turn

Row 4: Purl 10 stitches, turn

Row 5: Knit 13 stitches, turn

Row 6: Purl all stitches

Row 7: Knit all stitches

Repeat rows 2-7 three more times then work 3 rows of Stockinette, continuing to alternate colors. Bind off and break yarn, leaving an eight inch tail. Put the tail on a needle and join the bound off edge to the cast on edge with mattress stitch and close up the end. Weave tail. Stuff the body through the open end, which will become the neck.

Neck:

With small crochet hook and color B pick up 4 sts around the opening of the body and work I-cord for 4 rows. Let yarn drop.

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Head:

With Color A, Knit into the back/front/back of each stitch (12 sts total), turn

Row 2: *Purl 3 tog*, repeat to end

Row 3: *Knit 2 tog*, repeat to end

Row 4: Purl 2 tog, break yarn and fasten off.

Tail:

With B, CO 5 stitches. Purl 1 row in fair isle pattern.

Row 2: SSK, K1, K2 tog

Row 3: Purl 3 in fair isle pattern

Bind Off

To finish:

Use color B to make a French knot on either side of head for eyes, Use a small amount of red to embroider on the wattles and comb and a small amount of orange to embroider the beak. Sew cast on edge of tail to body on opposite end from neck and head. Weave all ends. I didn't stuff the neck in the above example, but I did thread many of the ends down the middle of the I-cord to help give it some body. Guineas don't have to be black and white, they come in white and lavender and several other colors. Choosing another color would eliminate the need for a fair isle stitch, the guinea could be knit solid.