

CHRISTMAS BAUBLE



These instructions are for a standard gauge (4.5mm) knitting machine, using scraps of 4 ply yarn. I used a Silver Reed SK280.

You will need a ball or foam sphere for the inside. I bought a pack of 6 polystyrene foam balls from The Range for £1.00. They are approx. 7cm in diameter, or 22cm circumference – about the size of a tennis ball.

Tension dial is at 7 throughout, for plain or fairisle pattern.

BASIC PATTERN

Starting with needle 27R and finishing at 26L, pull needles to B position, in the following needle arrangement:

X **0** **0** **X** **0** **0** **X** **0** **0** **X** **0** **0** **X**

With main yarn, knit one row (open cast on), and hang comb and weights.

Now put the middle needle of the groups of 3 (shown in **red** above) into work and knit one row.

Finally, put the remaining needles into work (shown in **green** above). Reset row counter to 000 and knit 30 rows. If you are using a fairisle pattern, pick one that is about 22-24 rows long, and knit within this 30 row sequence. Secure contrast thread on the back as you knit.

Transfer every alternate stitch to its neighbour, put empty needles out of work.
Knit 1 row.

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Cut yarn. Thread up a bodkin with the tail of the yarn, and pass through every remaining stitch, removing from the machine as you go. Remove weights and comb.

Draw up the bottom thread. Insert ball shape. Pull up both bottom and top threads tight and secure. Use one of the threads to slip stitch the opening together.

Attach a thread loop (if your bauble doesn't already have one).

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