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Tiny Turkey

An original pattern by Susan B. Anderson for Spud & Chloë

Yarn: Spud & Chloë Sweater (55% superwash wool, 45% organic cotton; 100 grams/160 yards), 1 skein in Rootbeer #7503 and small amounts of Firefly #7505, Firecracker #7509, Pollen#7508, Toast #7506 and Grass #7502 (or any assortment of fall inspired colors!)

Needles: US size 6 needles, double-pointed needles, set of 4 OR size to obtain gauge

Gauge: 5 ½ stitches per inch in stockinette stitch

Materials:

Yarn needle

Scissors

Small amount of fiberfill

Small amount of poly-pellets (optional and not recommended for babies or young children)

Ruler or tape measure

Abbreviations:

k knit

p purl

k2tog knit 2 stitches together

kfb knit in the front and the back of the same stitch

m1 make one stitch by lifting the bar in between the stitches onto the left needle, then knit the bar through the back loop

rnd(s) round(s)

st(s) stitch(es)

**Body:**

Starting at the back end of the body with Rootbeer and the double-pointed needles, cast on 9 stitches placing 3 stitches on each of 3 double-pointed needles. Join to work in the round being careful not to twist the stitches. Place a stitch marker on the first stitch.

Rnd 1: knit

Rnd 2: kfb in each stitch (6 sts per needle, 18 sts total)

Rnd 3: knit

Rnd 4: kfb in each stitch (12 sts per needle, 36 sts total)

Rnds 5 and 6: knit

Rnd 7: (k3, kfb) repeat to the end of the round (15 sts per needle, 45 sts total)

Place a stitch marker on round 7 and leave it there. Knit every round until the body measures 2 ½ inches above the stitch marker.

Decrease rounds:

Rnd 1: (k3, k2tog) repeat to the end of the round (12 sts per needle, 36 sts total remain)

Rnds 2 and 3: knit

Rnd 4: (k2, k2tog) repeat to the end of the round (9 sts per needle, 27 sts total remain)

Rnd 5: knit

Note: The tail feathers pull the weight to the back of the turkey. I suggest weighting the turkey down with something (poly-pellets, a rock, rice, poly-pellets placed in a muslin bag, etc. Always keeping in mind that poly-pellets should never be used for babies or young children as they can pose a choking hazard). The weight should be placed toward the front underside of the turkey. I made mine without any weight, only fiberfill, inside. The turkey still sits but you have to fuss with it more to get it to sit.

At this point, place the end from the cast on stitches on a yarn needle. Take a few stitches to close the hole. Pull the end to the inside. Weave in and trim the end. Fill the bottom (the cast on end is the back end of the turkey so the body will lay on the side) with a layer of poly-pellets and stuff the rest of the body until firm with fiberfill OR stuff with fiberfill only. Continue to stuff the body as you work to the end.

Rnd 6: (k1, k2tog) repeat to the end of the round (6 sts per needle, 18 sts total remain)

Rnd 7: knit

Rnd 8: (k1, k2tog) repeat to the end of the round (4 sts per needle, 12 sts total remain)

Rnds 9: knit

Rnd 10: (k1, k2tog, k1) repeat on each needle (3 sts per needle, 9 sts total remain)

Finish any stuffing. Cut the yarn and place the end on a yarn needle. Pull the end through the remaining stitches and pull up tight to close the hole. Pull the end to the inside and trim to stay inside.



Head:

Starting at the back end of the head with Rootbeer and the double-pointed needles, cast on 9 stitches placing 3 stitches on each of 3 double-pointed needles. Join to work in the round being careful not to twist the stitches. Place a stitch marker on the first stitch.

Rnd 1: knit

Rnd 2: (k1, m1, k1, m1, k1) repeat on each needle (5 sts per needle, 15 sts total)

Rnd 3: knit

Rnd 4: (k1, m1, k3, m1, k1) repeat on each needle (7 sts per needle, 21 sts total)

Rnd 5: knit

Rnd 6: (k1, m1, k5, m1, k1) repeat on each needle (9 sts per needle, 27 sts total)

Rnds 7-12 : knit

Rnd 13: (k1, k2tog) repeat to the end of the round (6 sts per needle, 18 sts total remain)

Rnd 14: (k1, k2tog) repeat to the end of the round (4 sts per needle, 12 sts total remain)

At this point, place the end from the cast on stitches on a yarn needle. Take a few stitches to close the hole. Take a few more stitches to secure. Leave the end on the outside to use later. Stuff the head with fiberfill until firm. Continue stuffing the head as you work to the end.

Switch to Pollen.

Beak:

Continuing on in Pollen.

Rnds 1 and 2: knit

Rnd 3: (k1, k2tog, k1) repeat on each needle (3 sts per needle, 9 sts total remain)

Rnd 4: knit

Rnd 5: (k1, k2tog) repeat on each needle (2 sts per needle, 6 sts total remain)

Finish stuffing the beak and head with fiberfill. Cut the yarn and place the end on a yarn needle. Pull the end through the remaining stitches and pull up tight to close the hole. Pull the end to the inside and trim to stay inside.

Place the end from the cast on stitches on a yarn needle. Pull the end through to the inside and back out on the bottom of the head. Place the head at the front top of the body. Whipstitch the head to the body. Pull the end through to the inside and trim to stay inside.

Eyes:

With a length of Toast threaded on a yarn needle, take a small horizontal straight stitch a few rows above the beak. Then take a tiny vertical straight stitch in the center of the first straight stitch. See photo. Pull the ends to the inside and trim to stay inside.

Foot and toes (make 2):

With Firecracker and the double pointed needles, starting at the back of the foot, cast on 9 stitches, placing 3 stitches on each of 3 double-pointed needles. Join to work in the round being careful not to twist the stitches. Place a stitch marker on the first stitch.

Rnd 1: knit

Rnd 2: (k1, kfb, k1) repeat on each needle (4 sts per needle, 12 sts total)

Knit every round until the foot measures 1 inch from the cast on stitches.

Toes (make three on each foot):

Continuing on to make the toes:

Next, knit the first 4 stitches on the first double pointed needle. Ignore the other 2 needles.

Work 4 rows of I-cord on these 4 stitches only.

Next row: k2tog twice, pass the first stitch over the second stitch (1 st remains)

Cut the yarn and pull the end through the remaining stitch.

Reattach the yarn to work the 4 stitches on the second double pointed needle and work the toe the same on the second 4 stitches.

Reattach the yarn to work on the last 4 stitches on the third double pointed needle and work the toe the same on the last 4 stitches.

Flatten out the foot and arrange the toes. Place one end from a toe on a yarn needle. Pull the end through the I-cord and then use this end to take a few stitches to close the opening at the base of the toes. Next weave in the other two ends from the toes ends to the inside and trim to stay inside.

Place the end from the cast on stitches on a yarn needle and take a few stitches to close the hole. Use this end to whipstitch the foot to the front underside of the body. Pin the feet in place before stitching down to make sure the body is balanced and the toes are sticking out. Sew down the foot leaving the toes loose.

Wing (make 2):

With Rootbeer and the double-pointed needles, cast on 9 stitches placing 3 stitches on each of 3 double-pointed needles. Join to work in the round being careful not to twist the stitches. Place a stitch marker on the first stitch.

Rnd 1: knit

Rnd 2: (k1, m1, k1, m1, k1) repeat on each needle (5 sts per needle, 15 sts total)

Knit every round until the wing measures 1 ½ inches from the cast on edge.

Decrease rounds:

Rnd 1: (k3, k2tog) repeat on each needle (4 sts per needle, 12 sts total remain)

Rnd 2: knit

Rnd 3: (k2, k2tog) repeat on each needle (3 sts per needle, 9 sts total remain)

Rnds 4 and 5: knit

Rnd 6: (k1, k2tog) repeat on each needle (2 sts per needle, 6 sts total remain)

Rnd 7: (k2tog) repeat to the end of the round (1 st per needle, 3 sts total remain)

Cut the yarn and place the end on a yarn needle. Pull the end through the remaining stitches. Pull up tight to close the hole. Take a couple of stitches to secure and pull the end to the inside and trim to stay inside.

Place the end from the cast on stitches on a yarn needle and whipstitch the cast on edge closed. Flatten out the wing and pull into the desired shape. Whipstitch the cast on edge to the body. Continue with the whipstitch across the top of the wing for 3 or 4 stitches. Pull the end to the inside and trim.

Waddle:

With Firecracker and the double pointed needles cast on 6 stitches placing 2 stitches on each of 3 double pointed needles. Join to work in the round being careful not to twist the stitches. Place a stitch marker on the first stitch.

Knit every round until the waddle measures 1 inch from the cast on edge.

Cut the yarn and place the end on a yarn needle. Pull the end through the remaining stitches. Pull up tight to close the hole. Take a couple of stitches to secure and pull the end to the inside and trim to stay inside.

Place the end from the cast on stitches on a yarn needle and whipstitch the cast on edge closed. Flatten out the waddle and pull into the desired shape. Whipstitch the cast on edge to the underside of the beak. Pull the end to the inside and trim.

Tail Feather (make 3, one in each feather colorway):

With selected color (Firecracker, Pollen, or Grass) and the double-pointed needles cast on 9 stitches placing 3 stitches on each of 3 double-pointed needles. Join to work in the round being careful not to twist the stitches. Place a stitch marker on the first stitch.

Rnd 1: knit

Rnd 2: (k1, m1, k1, m1, k1) repeat on each needle (5 sts per needle, 15 sts total)
Knit every round until the wing measures 2 ½ inches from the cast on edge.

Decrease rounds:

Rnd 1: (k3, k2tog) repeat on each needle (4 sts per needle, 12 sts total remain)

Rnd 2: knit

Rnd 3: (k2, k2tog) repeat on each needle (3 sts per needle, 9 sts total remain)

Rnds 4 and 5: knit

Rnd 6: (k1, k2tog) repeat on each needle (2 sts per needle, 6 sts total remain)

Rnd 7: (k2tog) repeat to the end of the round (1 st per needle, 3 sts total remain)

Cut the yarn and place the end on a yarn needle. Pull the end through the remaining stitches. Pull up tight to close the hole. Take a couple of stitches to secure and pull the end to the inside and trim to stay inside.

Place the end from the cast on stitches on a yarn needle and whipstitch the cast on edge closed. Flatten out the tail feather and pull into the desired shape.

Pin the feathers together in a crescent shape layering the feathers slightly. Before stitching the feathers together hold them up to the back end of the turkey to make sure they are placed correctly and that they don't get in the way of the wings.

With the end from the first feather, stitch up the side of the feather, about ½ inch, to attach it to the second feather. Pull the end to the inside of the feather and trim.

Place the end from the second feather on a yarn needle and stitch up the side to attach it to the third feather.

Now the feathers are stitched together. Pin the feathers to the back end of the turkey with the stitched side facing the turkey. With a length of Rootbeer placed on a yarn needle stitch across the cast on end of the feathers. Stitch up the side of the feather grouping about ½ inch and whipstitch across the backside of the turkey attaching the feathers to the body. Stitch back down the other side. Pull the end to the inside and trim to stay inside.

Suggestion: This project was a knitalong on the Spud & Chloë blog, Spud says! (see header for website address). For detailed photos and in progress tips and suggestions please look at the blog posts from October 30- November 6th, 2009. This pattern was presented in 6 blog posts.

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