Beanie Baby Sleeping Bag-Double Knit

Dawn's Dream Designs unique knitting designs by Dawn Adcock

Knit this no-sew Beanie Baby sleeping bag with attached pillow using a Double Knitting technique, knitting both sides of the bag at the same time. After separating the sides and casting off the front, the pillow pouch is knit using the double knitting technique again, stuffed, then a 3-needle bind off joins the front side with the back side, to finish it off. The whole thing is knit flat, (but in the round essentially), in one piece, and completed without any sewing of any seams. Just the way I like!

Materials

Yarn: Smooth Worsted Weight Yarn

Needles: Size 9 (US) needles (3 needles needed for transferring stitches around, a needle one size up or down will do just fine for the spare one) **Notions:** Yarn needle

Polyfill stuffing or cotton balls

Body:

Cast On 20 sts.

Increase in each stitch across row. (40 sts total)

Knit 1, slip 1 (purlwise with yarn in back) across row.

Repeat this row until about 7" long, (about 32 rows on each side).

Do 6 rows of garter stitch (knit 6 rows for 3 garter ridges) on the front side only (do this by purling one row, then knitting one row, on the front layer sts, 3 times-or for a simpler edge you can just work these rows the same as before and have a rolled edge instead).

Separate the front and the back sides layers, and place on separate needles.

Cast Off the front side layer stitches only. (20 sts cast off, and 20 sts remain for other side)

Pillow:

Increase in each stitch of the back side. (40 sts total again)

Knit 1, slip 1 (purlwise with yarn in back) across row.

Repeat until about 3" long from the pillow increase row, (about 11 rows each side).

Separate front and back side layers, stuff the pillow with fiberfill, then do a 3 needles bind off to join. Note: You'll have to fiddle around with transferring stitches back and forth between needles, using an extra one to hold stitches in the process, until you have them lined up front to back properly to do the 3 needle bind off.

Turn the bag inside out to have the smooth side of the stockinette stitch fabric showing (as shown in pictures, above), or leave it with the purl side out if you prefer-Knitter's Choice!

To make a larger doll sized bag, I've doubled the numbers above, and knit to desired lengths of sections. This double knitting technique can be useful for many types of knit items, from purses to men's ties and extra thick pot holders. See Elizabeth Zimmermann's Knitter's Almanac for a wonderful baby blanket/sleeping bag (and practice potholder) done with double knitting. (I highly recommend this knitting book, as well as all of her books! All are must haves on a knitter's book shelf!)

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