

Knit Grapes

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I created this pattern since I wanted to make some play fruit for my niece. After making a variety of fruits, my husband suggested making grapes. I wasn't able to find a good pattern and decided to make my own using the bobble stitch. What's great about this pattern is that it can be customized to make as large or small of a bunch as you'd like.

Materials

Green or Purple worsted weight yarn (< 200 yds)
Brown worsted weight scrap yarn
Yarn needle
Small amount of polyester fiber fill
Sizes 6-8mm straight needles
Sizes 5-8mm DPNs (4 needles)



Gauge

Does not really matter. Just use a yarn-to-needle ratio that will not show gaps between stitches

Abbreviations

k2tog – knit two sts together
p2tog – purl two sts together
MG – Make grape (aka: MB for make bobble. Watch this video for help with making bobbles:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3N3yKnTGqQA>)
k3tog- knit three sts together

Pattern

This pattern can be customized based on how large or small you want your bunch to be (formula below for customizing pattern). In this pattern, we're making a bunch with 8 rows of grapes. Use the included chart to see a visual of how the bunch is constructed.

CO 17 sts

Row 1: k17

Row 2: k1, [*MG, k1] repeat from * 7 more times (8 grapes – 17 sts)

Row 3: p17

Row 4: k2tog, [*MG, k1] repeat from * 5 more times, MG, k2tog (7 grapes – 15 sts)

Row 5: p15

Row 6: k2tog, [*MG, k1] repeat from * 4 more times, MG, k2tog (6 grapes – 13 sts)

Row 7: p13

Row 8: k2tog, [*MG, k1] repeat from * 3 more times, MG, k2tog (5 grapes – 11 sts)

Row 9: p11

Row 10: k2tog, [*MG, k1] repeat from * 2 more times, MG, k2tog (4 grapes – 9 sts)

Row 11: p9

Row 12: k2tog, [*MG, k1] repeat from * 1 more time, MG, k2tog (3 grapes – 7 sts)

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Row 13: p7

Row 14: k2tog, MG, k1, MG, k2tog (2 grapes – 5 sts)

Row 15: p5

Row 16: k2tog, MG, k2tog (1 grape – 3 sts)

Row 17: p3

Row 18: k3tog

Pull yarn through last st and pull tight. Leave a long tail for seaming. Cut yarn.

Form the grapes into a cone and seam along the edges beginning from just above the last, single grape and work up. Try to hide the seam as much as possible within the cone. Add a bit of fiber fill in the top of the cone to give it some stability.

Finishing

To finish the bunch, use the cast on edge (near the top along the inside of the cone) to pick up 18sts. Place 6 sts on 3 DPNs. Join in the round and knit as follows:

Row 1: k18

Row 2: [*k2tog, k2, k2tog] repeat from * 3 times (12 sts)

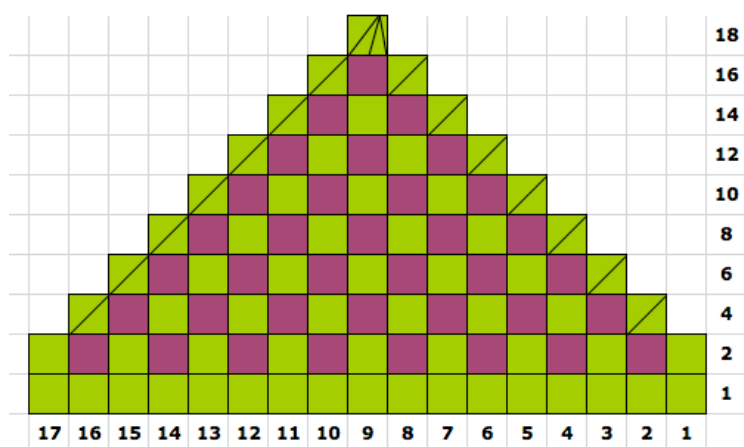
Row 3: [*k2tog, k1, k2tog] repeat from * 3 times (9 sts)

Row 4: [*k2tog, k1] repeat from * 3 times (6 sts)

Row 5: Cut yarn and leave long tail. Thread through last 6 sts using yarn needle and pull close.

Create a stem by picking up 2 sts from top of bunch and making a 2 st icord with brown scrap yarn. Make stem to desired length and bind off. Weave in all ends. You're grapes are complete!

Grape Pattern Chart



Purl all odd rows (with the exception of row 1)



Customize your Bunch (Formula)

If you would like a larger or smaller bunch than what this pattern covers, you can easily change the number of stitches. Use the formula below to calculate your number of CO sts:

$$(\text{\# of rows of grapes desired} * 2) + 1 = \text{CO sts}$$

At the start and end of each row of grapes, be sure to k2tog to create the bunch's taper. Continue doing so until you get to one remaining grape.

For a larger bunch, you could do 10 rows of grapes:

$$(10 * 2) + 1 = \text{CO 21 sts}$$

Likewise, make a smaller bunch of grapes with 5 rows:

$$(5 * 2) + 1 = \text{CO 11 sts}$$

Note: If you choose to make a larger/smaller bunch, the number of sts required to finish the top (see the Finishing section) may increase/decrease as well. Simply pick up a number of stitches that can be easily divided across three DPNs and work decreases on each round to close the gap.

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