

My Pi Wash Cloth

Gifts of Love by Mady's Originals

I invented this pattern on my own when I found I could actually knit in the round and avoid purling. It is based on the Pi R Round shawl I read about in Elizabeth Zimmerman's books where each increase round doubles the number of stitches so the resulting number of plain knit rounds increases in relation to keep the circle flat. Each Y/O round results in a row of holes.

Feel free to add rounds of Y/O, K2tog – or lacy patterns in the plain knit rounds if you wish. I usually keep them in plain stockinette stitch.

Materials:

1 ball Kitchen Cotton, Sugar & Cream or other cotton knitting yarn.
1 set of 4, 5 or 6 double pointed needles in a size to achieve the gauge and drape you like, anywhere from a size 4 to 8 US. (Gauge is not important).
1 crochet hook in appropriate size, similar to the needles you have chosen
1 stitch marker

Using the Emily Ocker method http://www.spellingtuesday.com/circular_co.html cast on 9 stitches and arrange on three needles, leaving a longish tale for weaving in later.

Place a marker for beginning of round (I use a split ring marker and move it up as needed to keep track of the beginning of the round)

First round knit every stitch around
Next round Y/O, Knit 1 around (18 sts)
Knit three rounds plain (knit every stitch)

Next round Y/O, Knit 1 around (36 sts)
Knit six rounds plain

Next round Y/O, Knit 1 around (72 sts)
Knit next 8 to 12 rounds plain, as desired.

You may decide you want fewer rounds for a smaller cloth or more rounds for a larger cloth. As long as you do not exceed 12 rounds after the last increase round your cloth should lay flat. You may wish to add another needle or change to a circular needle if your stitches get too crowded. This will also help you spread out your cloth to see how big it's getting.

When the cloth is as large as you like, after the 8 to 12 rounds plain, finish off as follows. Leaving the stitches on the knitting needles, you will work the crochet stitches into the knit stitches and work them off the knitting needle.

1st finish - Plain finish: CH 1, SC in the next st - repeat around, join to 1st st.
Next round SC in every st around.

2d finish – Shell Edge:

1 single crochet in each of the next two sts, chain 1 - repeat around – join to beginning of round – chain 1
Next round 3 DC in next st, skip next st, slip st in next st, skip next st – repeat around.

3d finish - Shell Edge

1 SC in next st, chain 1 – repeat around – joint to beginning of round – chain 1
Next round, same as next round for 2d finish.

Join to 1st st. Fasten off and weave in ends. Pull the center hole tight to close and weave in end.

If this is a gift for a new mother or a friend, buy a bottle of baby wash or a fancy bar of soap to include with the cloth. You can put the bar of soap in the center and run a ribbon through the edge to tie it up like a drawstring pouch.

Abbreviations:

CH = chain

CD = double crochet

K2tog = knit 2 together

SC = single crochet

ST = stitch

Y/O = yarn over (I pass the yarn between the needles to the front then wrap it over the right needle to the back)

