

Little Fish Ornament

By Catharine Hendricks



Based on Katrina Henderson's [Little Fish](#) pattern, the Little Fish Ornament replaces the right side k2tog with an ssk and kfb's are replaced with the backwards loop cast on method.

It can be knit with any yarn and any weight.

Materials:

Yarn:

- 1) Panda Pearl, Crystal Palace Yarns. 1 Skein, 204 yds. – Pattern uses approximately 21 yds.
- 2) Alpaca Silk, Blue Sky Alpacas. 1 Skein, 146 yds. – Pattern uses approximately 12 yds.

Needles (For Flat Knitting): US 4 (3.5 mm) with Panda Pearl yarn
US 1 (2.5 mm) with Alpaca Silk

Finishing: Needle for stitching the fish together, cotton balls for stuffing

Gauge: I didn't do gauge swatches on these. They are so small; the swatches would have used 3 times the yarn as the pattern! However, getting the gauge I was happy with took some experimenting.

Abbreviations:

CO – Cast On with the Longtail Cast On (Here is a good tutorial from knittinghelp.com)

BO – Bind Off

RS – Right Side

WS – Wrong Side

k – Knit (used as, k3 – knit 3 stitches)

m1 – Backwards loop cast on method

k2tog – Knit 2

ssk – slip, slip, knit.

p – Purl (used as, p3 – purl 3 stitches)

Instructions (Knit 2):

CO 10 stitches

Tail Section

Row 1: k10

Row 2: ssk, k6, k2tog (8 stitches)

Row 3: ssk, k4, k2tog (6 stitches)

Row 4: ssk, k2, k2tog (4 stitches)

Row 5: k4

Fish Body

Row 6 (RS): k1, m1, k2, m1, k1 (6 stitches)

Row 7 (WS): p6

Row 8 (RS): k1, m1, k4, m1, k1 (8 stitches)

Row 9 (WS): p8

Row 10(RS): k1, m1, k6, m1, k1 (10 stitches)

Row 11 (WS): p10

Row 12(RS): k1, m1, k8, m1, k1 (12 stitches)

Fish Body (Continued)

Row 13 (WS): p12
Row 14(RS): k1, m1, k10, m1, k1 (14 stitches)
Row 15 (WS): p14
Row 16 (RS): k14
Row 17 (WS): p14
Row 18 (RS): k14
Row 19 (WS): p14
Row 20 (RS): ssk, k10, k2tog (12 stitches)

Row 21 (WS): p12
Row 22 (RS): ssk, k8, k2tog (10 stitches)
Row 23 (WS): p10
Row 24 (RS): ssk, k6, k2tog (8 stitches)
Row 25 (WS): p8
Row 26 (RS): ssk, k4, k2tog (6 stitches)
Row 27 (WS): p6

Cast Off*

Finishing:

- 1) Put the right sides of the pieces together. Using a mouth-end yarn, sew one side of the fish (running the yarn as close to the edges as possible.) Stop at the end of the *fish body section*.
- 2) With the other mouth-end yarn, sew about one fourth of the other side of the *fish body*.
- 3) Turn the fish right side out and stuff cotton into the body.
- 4) Pull the edges together and continue sewing the second edge using the Mattress Stitch**. Again stopping at the end of the *fish body section*.
- 5) Leaving the tail section loose, weave the ends while closing the end of the *body section*.
- 6) Use a bit of extra yarn to make the ornament hanger.

Techniques & Notes:

* For final stitch in binding off: 1) When you cut your yarn, leave enough to sew the fish pieces together before weaving in the ends. Then 2) Follow Ysolda's technique for [Avoiding Ears When Casting On and Off](#)

** Knitting Help has a good tutorial on the [Mattress Stitch](#).