

R3

Quill Feather



Knit your own feather quill! Available in tail (symmetrical) and wing (unsymmetrical) versions, these knitted feathers have a lengthwise hollow to contain a pen or pencil.

You will need:

yarn that matches pen/pencil colour (dk weight) • pen or pencil
3 x double ended knitting needles (3mm) • tapestry needle • scissors

Pattern (Tail Feather):

Loosely cast on 6 sts and arrange so there are three stitches on each of two needles. Join these stitches into the round.

Rounds 1-5: k –

The shaft of the feather is knitted in the same way for the bulk of the pattern. We will be using the special abbreviation QF which represents the following line of instructions:

[yfwd, sl1, ybck, k1] x2, yfwd, sl1, ybck, kfb

The remainder of the feather is worked in the flat. Rearrange the stitches onto a single needle by slipping one stitch from the back needle, then one from the front, until all stitches are transferred.

Row 6: QF

Row 7: p1, QF

Row 8: p1, QF, k1

Row 9: p1, k1, QF, k1

Row 10: p1, k1, QF, p1, k1

Row 11: p1, k1, p1, QF, p1, k1

Row 12: p1, k1, p1, QF, k1, p1, k1

Row 13: [p1, k1] x2, QF, k1, p1, k1

Row 14: [p1, k1] x2, QF, [p1, k1] x 2

Row 15: k2tog, p1, k1, p1, QF, [p1, k1] x2

Row 16: k2tog, p1, k1, p1, QF, [k1, p1] x2

Row 17: p2togtbl, k1, p1, k1, QF, [k1, p1] x2

Row 18: p2togtbl, k1, p1, k1, QF, [p1, k1] x2

Repeat rows 15 to 18 around ten times total. It can be less or more depending on the length of your pen/pencil.

Row 55: k2tog, p1, k1, p1, [yfwd, sl1, ybck, k1] x3, [p1, k1] x2

Row 56: k2tog, p1, k1, p1, [k1, yfwd, sl1, ybck] x2, k1, [k1, p1] x2

Row 57: p2togtbl, k1, p1, k1, [k1, yfwd, sl1, ybck] x2, [k1, p1] x2

Row 58: p2togtbl, k1, p1, k1, yfwd, sl1, ybck, k1, yfwd, sl1, [p1, k1] x2

Row 59: k2tog, p1, k1, p1, yfwd, sl1, ybck, k1, [p1, k1] x2

Row 60: k2tog, p1, k1, p1, pfb, [k1, p1] x2

Row 61: p2togtbl, [k1, p1] x4

Row 62: p2togtbl, [k1, p1] x3, k1

Row 63: k2tog, [p1, k1] x3

Row 64: k2tog, [p1, k1] x2, p1

Separate the remaining stitches back out onto two needles by alternately slipping the knit stitches to the front needle and the purl stitches to the back needle.

Graft the remaining stitches together using Kitchener stitch.

Pattern (Wing Feather):

Work as for Tail Feather Pattern up to the end of Row 12.

Row 13: k2tog, p1, k1, QF, k1, p1, k1

Row 14: [p1, k1] x2, QF, p1, k1, p1

Row 15: p2togtbl, k1, p1, QF, [p1, k1] x2

Row 16: [p1, k1] x2, p1, QF, k1, p1, k1

Row 17: k2tog, p1, k1, QF, [k1, p1] x2, k1

Row 18: k2tog, [p1, k1] x2, QF, p1, k1, p1

Row 19: p2togtbl, k1, p1, QF, [p1, k1] x2, p1

Row 20: p2togtbl, [k1, p1] x2, QF, k1, p1, k1

Repeat rows 17 to 20 around ten times total.
It can be less or more depending on the length of your pen/pencil.

Row 57: k2tog, p1, k1, [yfwd, sl1, ybck, k1] x3, [k1, p1] x2, k1

Row 58: k2tog, [p1, k1] x2, [k1, yfwd, sl1, ybck] x2, kfb, p1, k1, p1

Row 59: p2togtbl, k1, p1, [yfwd, sl1, ybck, k1] x2, yfwd, sl1, [p1, k1] x2, p1

Row 60: p2togtbl, [k1, p1] x2, yfwd, sl1, ybck, k1, yfwd, sl1, ybck, kfb, k1, p1, k1

Row 61: k2tog, p1, k1, yfwd, sl1, ybck, k1] x2, [k1, p1] x2, k1

Row 62: k2tog, [p1, k1] x2, k1, yfwd, sl1, ybck, kfb, p1, k1, p1

Row 63: p2togtbl, k1, p1, yfwd, sl1, ybck, k1, yfwd, sl1, [p1, k1] x2, p1

Row 64: p2tog, [k1, p1] x2, yfwd, sl1, ybck, k2, p1, k1

Row 65: k2tog, [p1, k1] x4

Row 66: k2tog, [p1, k1] x3, p1

Row 67: p2togtbl, [k1, p1] x2, k2togtbl

Graft remaining sts as for Tail Feather.

Making Up:

There are only two loose ends that need to be sewn in. Insert a pen or pencil into the hollow and stretch out the feather so that it is approximately flat. The feathers can also be blocked to show more of the ribbing.

Notes:

Abbreviations

[] x number	Repeat the section in square brackets the required number of times.
(number)	Gives the total number of stitches you should have on needle by the end of the row.
dpns	Double pointed needles.
k –	Knit every stitch to the end of the row.
k number	Knit this number of stitches
kfb	Knit into the front and then the back of a single stitch (+1 stitch).
k2tog	Knit the next two stitches together (-1 stitch).
k2togtbl	Knit the next two stitches together through the back of the loops (-1 stitch).
p number	Purl this number of stitches.
p2tog	Purl the next two stitches together (-1 stitch).
p2togtbl	Purl the next two stitches together through the back of the loops (-1 stitch).
sl1	Slip the next stitch purl wise.
sts	Stitches.
yfwd	Bring the yarn to the front of the knitting (+1 stitch if followed by a knit stitch).
ybck	Take the yarn to the back of the knitting.