

Toadstools & Tiny Mushrooms by Kathy Lewinski



Supplies:

- Fingering weight yarn (You can use a different weight, but you will get different size finished items.)
- Stitch marker
- Scissors
- Tapestry needle
- Stuffing

Gauge: Gauge is not super important for this project, just keep in mind the bigger the stitch, the bigger the finished item. Also, a tighter stitch will look better than a loose one, especially for the stuffed toadstool. My gauge was 10 stitches per inch.

Size: The larger toadstool is about 2" tall and 1.75" wide. The smaller is about 1.5" x 1.5". The tiny mushroom caps are just big enough to fit on the tip of your baby finger and as tall as you wish. (Of course, this sizing depends on the yarn you use and what gauge you knit.)

Abbreviations:

- K-knit
- P-purl
- Ssk – slip, slip, knit
- K2tog – knit 2 stitches together
- Kfb – knit into the same stitch through the front and the back

Toadstool

Cap:

Cast on 6 stitches. Divide between 3 needles. Join to work in the round placing a stitch marker between the first and last stitch to mark rows.

Row 1: kfb into every stitch (12 stitches)

Row 2: (k1, kfb)6x (18 stitches)

Row 3: (k2, kfb)6x (24 stitches)

Row 4: (k3, kfb)6x (30 stitches)

Row 5: (k4, kfb)6x (36 stitches)

Row 6: (k5, kfb)6x (42 stitches)

Row 7: k

Row 8: (k6, kfb)6x (48 stitches)

Row 9 - 13: k

Row 14: p Change to white

Row 15 - 19: k

Row 20: (k6, k2tog)6x (42 stitches)

Row 21: k

Row 22: (k5, k2tog)6x (36 stitches)

Row 23: (k4, k2tog)6x (30 stitches)

Row 24: (k3, k2tog)6x (24 stitches)

Row 25: (k2, k2tog)6x (18 stitches)

Row 26: (k1, k2tog)6x (12 stitches)

Row 27: (k2tog)6x (6 stitches)

For a slightly small toadstool, I did one less increase (so basically getting rid of row 8 and moving row 7 between rows 5 and 6). On the straight knitting sections, rows 9 – 13 and 15 – 19, I did four rows instead of five. Then row 20 is no longer worked in the decreases and row 21 is moved between rows 22 and 23.



Lightly stuff through the hole. Cut the yarn leaving a good long tail, 12" - 15" or so. Put the tail on a tapestry needle. Weave the tail through the stitches on the knitting needles. Then, use the tail to make double French knots on the top of the mushroom cap while also pulling the bottom in a bit. Work your way around the cap in this manner, catching a stitch on the white side in between the decreases as you move on to where you want the next French knot on top. This gives the bottom of the cap its shape.

Stem:

Cast on 15 stitches, leave a tail long enough to sew the stem on, about 10" - 12". Divide between 3 needles. Join to knit in the round placing a stitch marker between the first and last stitch to mark rows.

Row 1 - 8: k

Row 9: (k4, kfb)3x (18 stitches)

Row 10 - 17: k

Row 18: (k4, k2tog)3x (15 stitches)

Row 19: k

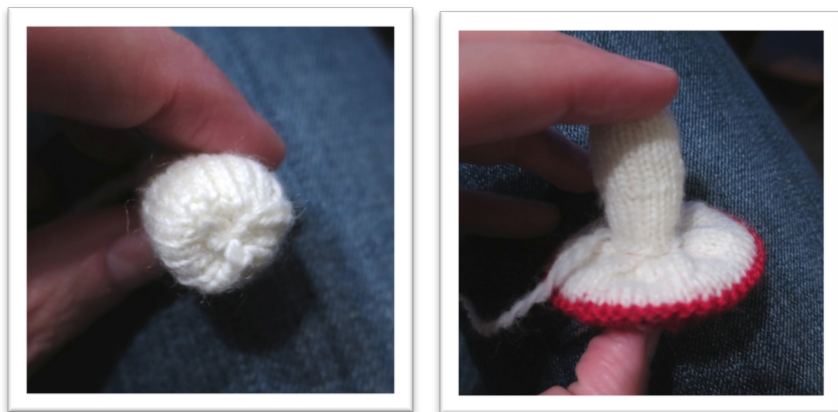
Row 20: (k3, k2tog)3x (12 stitches)

Row 21: (k2, k2tog)3x (9 stitches)

Row 22: (k1, k2tog)3x (6 stitches)

For the smaller toadstool, I did two less rows on the straight knitting sections, rows 1 - 8 and rows 10 - 17, working six rows instead of eight.

Cut the yarn leaving about a 6" tail. Thread through the stitches on the needles and pull tight to close the hole (this is the bottom of the stem). Stuff the stem. Pull the tail you just made, through the center of the bottom of the stem up through the stuffing to make the bottom flatter. Knot it to the top of the stem on the inside.



Sew the stem to the middle of the white side of the mushroom cap using the cast on tail. Weave in ends.

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Tiny Mushrooms

Cap:

Cast on 6 stitches. Divide between 3 needles. Join to work in the round placing a stitch marker between the first and last stitch to mark rows.

Row 1: kfb into every stitch (12 stitches)

Row 2: k

Row 3: (k1, kfb)6x (18 stitches)

Row 4: Bind off

Cut the yarn leaving about a 5" - 6" tail. Weave the tail through the bind off stitches all the way around and pull slightly to give a good cap shape. Weave in.

Bring the cast on tail through the top center. Do not cut.



Stem:

Cast on four stitches. Work an i-cord for the desired length. Cut yarn leaving a 4" - 5" tail. Weave through stitches on needle a few times. Take off needles and weave in the ends.

Use the cast on tail on the stem and the cast on tail on the cap to tie the cap on to the stem. Trim yarn so it doesn't show.

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