



C204

Cascade 128 Superwash

Penelope Penguin



Designed by Betty Balcomb

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Anyone how has ever knitted with me could have predicted that I would not be able to stop with my charming stuffed pig. Piggy was still forming on my needles when I started envisioning a similar critter in black and white with some touches of bright yellow. The penguin is even easier to make than the pig! Care to guess what will be next?

Materials: 1 100 gram skein of Cascade 128 Superwash yarn, Color #1913, black, 1 100 gram skein of Cascade 128 Superwash yarn, Color #871, white, 1 100 gram skein of Cascade 128 Superwash yarn, Color #821, bright yellow. Size 10 double point needles. Polyfil or other stuffing (see note below on stuffing). Tapestry needle.

Note: You will have lots of the white and yellow yarn leftover and even a little of the black. Save them, there will be more animals coming this way which will need little bits of these colors for eyes, feet, noses and beaks.

Gauge: 4 stitches per inch. NOTE: Gauge is not real critical with a stuffed penguin but be sure that your fabric is tight enough that the stuffing won't leak through.

DIRECTIONS:

Body: With black yarn, CO 4 sts. Slide the 4 sts to the right side of the needle, pull yarn behind sts and knit the 4 sts as if to make an I-cord. Slide the sts again but this time K1, M1, K1, start new needle M1, K1, M1, start new needle and K1, M1(8 sts). Join in the round and K 1 row even. On next round, [K2, M1] 8 times (16 Sts). K 1 row even. On next round, [K3, M1] 8 times (24 Sts). Continue in this manner with 1 more st between incs, adding 8 sts every other round until there are 56 sts in all. On final even row, inc 4 sts evenly spaced. Purl 1 round. If you prefer, there are enough sts to go to a 16" circular needle for a while, but I didn't bother since the need to return to the dpns comes so soon. Work even on the 60 sts until body measures about 5" from purl ridge.

Stuffing: Before starting decs, stuff the body. First pull all tails inside and secure them. Go ahead and tie knots, this is the exception to the never tie knots rule. I stuff it about 1/2-way with polyfil and then scrunch up a couple of plastic grocery bags and embed them in the middle of the stuffing. The plastic bags provide a great crinkly noise when the animal is squeezed and I feel so virtuous for reusing some plastic bags that would live in a landfill for all eternity.

Head: Now dec for head as follows: K8, K2tog 6 times, K 2 rounds even, K7, K2tog 6X, K 2 rounds even. Continue in this manner with 1 less st between decs, dec'g 6 sts every 3rd round until there are 18 sts. Work just 1 round even. Add more stuffing as you get close to the end. On next row, dec to 12 sts and then on the very next round dec to 6 sts. Cut yarn leaving about a 9" tail. Thread yarn onto tapestry needle, pass it through the 6 sts and pull tail tight.

For all the remaining parts, as you cast on leave nice long tails for sewing parts in place. After sewing in place, run any tails inside the animal.

Tummy: Slip a dpn through 20 sts in the row directly above the purl ridge at the edge of the base. Attach white yarn and knit these 20 sts. Turn and purl. Work back and forth on the 20 sts until tummy is 4" long. Round top by dec'g 1 st at each edge on **every** row. On knit rows work an SSK with the 2nd and 3rd sts at the beg. of the row and a K2tog on the 2nd and 3rd to last sts. On purl rows, P2tog on the 2nd and 3rd sts, and P2tog thru the back loops on the 2nd and 3rd to last sts. When 6 sts remain, bind off and sew the tummy in place flat against the body.

Beak: With yellow, CO 13 sts, Divide sts on dpns and work in the round for 5 rows. Dec 5 sts evenly space around next row. Work 1 row even. Dec another 5 sts evenly spaced. Tune and work a slip 1, K2tog, pssso. Sew beak to head centered above white tummy about 1/2 inch above the tummy.

Feet: With yellow, CO 10 sts. Divide sts on dpns and work 1 round even. Next round [K2, M1] 5 times (15 sts). Work 1 row even. Next round [K3, M1] 5 times (20 sts). Work 5 rows even. Divide sts so there are 10 on each of 2 needles. Turn foot inside out and join toes with a 3-needle bind off. Turn foot right side out. Sew feet to body where the white tummy meets the purl ridge with outside edge of each foot sitting at the outside edges of the tummy.

Wings: With black, CO 18 sts. Divide onto dpns and work in the round for 2". On the next 7 rows, begin the row with a K2tog and end with an SSK. Slide sts over from middle needle as needed. When 4 sts remain, cut yarn, put yarn on tapestry needle, run needle thru the 4 sts and pull tight. Sew wings to body about even with top of tummy and about 1" away from side edges of tummy.

Eyes: With white yarn, CO 4 sts, slide the 4 sts to the right side of the needle, pull yarn behind sts and knit the 4 sts as if to make an I-cord. Slide the sts again but this time K1, M1, K1, start new needle M1, K1, M1, start new needle and K1, M1(8 sts). Join in the round and K 1 row even. You will cast off on the next round but as you cast off, M1 between every 2 sts so you are casting off 16 not 8 sts. Sew white eye rings to face just above beak and about 1/2" away on each side. With black yarn, CO 2 sts. K1, M1, K1, turn K3, turn K1, M1, K1, M1, K1, turn K1, K2tog, K2tog, turn, Slip 1, K2tog, pssso. Form black eye centers into a bobble-like blob and sew securely to center of eye whites.

Tail. I chose not to bother with a tail but if you want one, I recommend making it more or less like the feet but with black yarn, starting with 5 sts and sew it on with the pointy end out.