



Emilie's Mermaid

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In 2015 my daughter Emilie (then 10 years old) took up knitting with a passion. After she had knitted scarves for everyone in the family, she began knitting blankets, then one day surprised me with a knitted mermaid. Her own design, using wool she had in her stash.

Since then she has knitted countless mermaids, mermans and baby mermaids. This pattern is an humble attempt to put her design into a written form so that others can enjoy this delightful little doll.



Material

- Knitting needles size 4 mm / UK 8 / US 6
- Hayfield Bonus Dk 963 skin color, 723 tail (or the color of your choice), 927 hair (or the color of your choice)
- Large eye needle, a little black wool for the eyes, and some embroidery cotton for the mouth.
- Polyester fill

Total length about 54 cm long / 20 cm in circumference.

This knitted doll is inspired by a mermaid design by my daughter; I have added a few more details to make it more challenging.

But if you want to keep true to Emilie's original idea, just knit the tail in solid purl, use beads for the eyes, and don't wrap around the arm to form hands. And knit a little square to make the hair, then tie some wool over it to create a bun.

Tips

This sweet little doll can be knitted in other colors, yarns.

You can also make the body and tail longer, or shorter.

For a baby mermaid work the pattern in half. And knit the tail in solid purl for simplicity.



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Knitted mermaid

Body

- . Cast on 32 in skin color
- . Knit 22 rows, place a marker
- . Knit another 26 rows. Change color
- . Purl 40 rows in blue
- . knit 1 row
- . Purl 7, knit 1, purl 5, knit 1, purl 4, knit 1, purl 5, knit 1, purl 7.
- . Now do the opposite, knit 7, purl 1, knit 5, purl 1, knit 4, purl 1, knit 5, purl 1, knit 7. Continue like this for a total of 34 rows (or desired length) and finish off.

Bra

- . Cast on 32 in blue
- . Purl 7 rows, then finish off

Arms x 2

- . Cast on 10 in skin color
- . Knit 30 rows, finish off, but leave a long piece of yarn for sewing it together.



Instructions

- Knit all the different parts of your doll.
- Sew the body together first, stopping at the row of knit , run a series of long stitches around the row of knit, then pull tight and wrap the yarn several times around to form the end of the body. Make a knot and tuck in yarn end.
- Stuff the doll up to the neck, do the same as with the tail. Run some long stitches, pull, wrap thread around, knot, tuck yarn end.
- Stuff head and finish off by also doing some long stitches, pulling, a few extra stitches to secure, then knot and tuck yarn end.
- For the bra, sew the two pieces together, and tuck in ends.
- The arms are not stuffed with polyester fill. Fold the knitting and sew carefully the two ends together, when you come to the end run the yarn through the end stitches and pull tight.
- To form the hands wrap the yarn twice around the arm, about 2 cm from the tip.
- Sew the arms onto the body.
- For the hair, wrap the yarn around a book of your choice to get matching lengths of hair. Sew them carefully onto the doll's head a couple at a time starting on the forehead.
- You can leave the hair as is, braid it, make a pony tail, or add a little decoration like I did with a small braid that I secured discreetly with small stitches.
- Now embroider the eyes and mouth. You can also use doll eyes, or a bead for the eyes.

Your doll is now finished, why not knit her a friend in another color ?



Run some long stitches



Pull, and tighten



Wrap yarn around a couple times



Pass the needle through the top of the head a few times, then knot to secure



Details of how to sew the arms



Details of the hair line

Emilie and some of her mermaids.

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