

Easy Ruffled Bowl

by Anna-Beth Meyer-Graham

This simple little bowl is felted, so it's a little floppy, but much firmer than when it's just a knit. The size will depend upon your knitting tension, choice of yarns, and how much you felt it.

Recommended Yarn: Patons Soy/Wool stripes – this is a lovely, slightly bulky yarn with beautifully graduated color changes, and makes a really pretty bowl. It felts really well, and one skein is about right for this bowl. You can use any wool yarn that is not marked as “superwash,” or “easy care” as superwash wool yarns will not felt. If it is a finer yarn, you can use smaller needles and have a smaller bowl, or double strand your chosen yarn.

Tools:

Size 7 Double Pointed Knitting Needles

Size 7 16” circular needle

You may wish to use a stitch marker to mark where your rows begin and end.

KFB = Knit the front of the stitch as usual, but do not drop the stitch off of your left needle. Instead, insert your right needle in the back of the stitch and knit it again from the back, making one stitch into two.

K2tog= Knit Two stitches together.

Using Size 7 dpn, cast on 6 stitches, two each on three needles. Being careful not to twist, join into a round.

Row 1. KFB all stitches. (12 Stitches)

Row 2. *K1, KFB. Repeat from * for all stitches (18 stitches)

Row 3. *K2, KFB. Repeat from * for all stitches (24 stitches)

Row 4. *K3, KFB. Repeat from * for all stitches (30 stitches)

Row 5. *K4, KFB. Repeat from * for all stitches (36 stitches)

Row 6. *K5, KFB. Repeat from * for all stitches (42 stitches)

Row 7. *K6, KFB. Repeat from * for all stitches (48 stitches)

Row 8. *K7, KFB. Repeat from * for all stitches (54 stitches)

Row 9. *K8, KFB. Repeat from * for all stitches (60 stitches)

Row 10. *K9, KFB. Repeat from * for all stitches (66 stitches)

Row 11. *K10, KFB. Repeat from * for all stitches (72 stitches)

Row 12. *K11, KFB. Repeat from * for all stitches (78 stitches)

Row 13. *K12, KFB. Repeat from * for all stitches (84 stitches)

Row 14. *K13, KFB. Repeat from * for all stitches (90 stitches)

Switch to size 7 16” circular needles.

Row 15 – K all stitches.

Repeat Row 15 till you have 6” from last decrease.

Next row – *K13, K2tog. Repeat from * for all stitches (84 stitches)

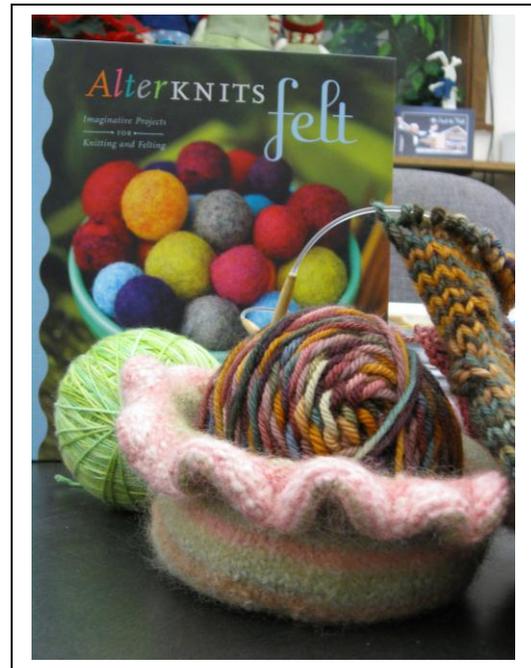
Next row: K all stitches

Next row: KFB all stitches (168 stitches)

Next Row: K all stitches.

Next row: *K1, KFB. Repeat from * for all stitches. (252 Stitches)

K for three more rows or until yarn runs low, whichever comes first – Bind off.



Felting:

Place bowl in a pillowcase and tie it shut – I use hair rubber bands to hold my pillowcases shut, and they always seem to hold well. Toss bowl-filled pillowcase into washer at hottest heat and lowest water level setting, with longest possible agitation time (wash cycle, pre spinning and rinsing.) Toss in a pair of jeans, a towel, or something else tough and bulky that can take a bit of heat. Start wash and, as wash cycle runs down, reset it once or twice, not letting washer enter spin cycle. Take your bowl out occasionally and stretch it out, checking how much it has felted and smoothing out any creases that may try to become permanent through felting. When you have felted your bowl enough, you will take it out, squeeze out any excess water, rolling your bowl into a towel and drying it a little more, then find something of about the right shape to block your piece – I found a nice kitchen bowl that worked perfectly. Blocking is a really important element of felting – what you use to block your project should fit snugly inside, pushing it into a smooth shape.

Let it dry, then remove your blocking shape and enjoy your lovely bowl! Now that you have the basic technique down, try experimenting with size, shape and finishing details – intarsia looks awesome felted, as do bold cables. You can increase more gradually, for a less flat bottom, or increase less, and make a dainty little bowl for your jewelry. Experiment and enjoy!

More Great Yarns for Felting Fun:

Cascade 220 – try the prints and heathers! ‘Tis one of the best all-purpose worsteds around, and comes in a farmer’s market of colors. (Pacific Fabrics carries 50 amazing shades!)

Cascade Pastaza – Loosely spun, llama and wool blend in beautiful rich colors.

Eco-Wool – All natural shades in massive 478 yard hanks, undyed and naturally processed.

Fjord by Crystal Palace - Loveably soft, snuggly little balls in solids and imaginative variegateds that felt beautifully.

Prism Felt Me – Nubby variegated yarn that becomes softer when felted.

Noro Kureyon – Vibrant colors and wonderful texture make this Japanese import many knitters’ passion.

Recommended Sources for fabulous Felted projects:

AlterKnits Felt: Imaginative Projects for Knitting and Felting by Leigh Radford – a gorgeous book with interesting ideas for creating textures and shapes that will give you many new creative tools. AlterKnits includes gorgeous modern projects for wearing, giving and living with.

Noni Patterns: This line of playful, creative patterns includes many felted projects – from intricate floral purses to practical grocery tote bags, to gleefully goofy pig satchels, Noni patterns are definitely worth checking out!

Pattern Designed and Written By Anna-Beth Meyer-Graham
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Exclusively for Pacific Fabrics and Crafts.

