

Dragon Glove Puppet / Dragon Soft Toy/Draught Excluder



Stuffed dragon toy

The dragon puppet could also be made into a long, cuddly soft toy by knitting extra length on both the back and belly pieces. But note that you will need extra yarn. If you knit 30 more rows on both pieces, the finished toy will be about 16in (40.5cm) long. When you have completed the puppet toy, as instructed, finish the making up as for the puppet and then stuff lightly along the entire length from the open tail end to the head. To finish the toy, gather the open end with matching yarn. The puppet would also make an unusual and amusing draught excluder

but you would need to knit enough rows to fit the toy across the door. Check the tension information as this will give you a guide to the amount of extra knitting you have to do.

For fun, you might decorate the puppet with glass beads and sequins, to give it more the look of a monster. Embroidery could be added also in bright colours – acid yellow, green, red and blue. If you are planning a puppet show, why not make two dragons, in different colour schemes, so that they can have a battle!

Dragon puppet

Materials

Sirdar Wash 'n' Wear Crepe Double Knitting, part balls in green, dark turquoise, pale turquoise and yellow; small quantities of yarn of white and orange; oddments of yarn for embroidery; pair of 4mm/No 8 knitting needles; washable polyester toy filling.

Measurements

Approx 12in (30cm) long and 5½in (14cm) wide.

Tension

24 sts and 30 rows to 4in (10cm) measured over st st on 4mm/No 8 needles.

Back (make 1)

Using green, cast on 33 sts.

Beg k row and working in st st, work until back measures 8in (20cm).

Dec 1 st each end of next, then every foll 3rd row until 15 sts rem.

Cast off.

Belly (make 1)

Using dark turquoise, cast on 33 sts.

Beg k row and working in st st stripes of 4 rows dark turquoise and 4 rows pale turquoise, work until belly measures 8in (20cm).

Keeping stripe pattern correct, dec 1 st each end of next, then every foll alt row until 15 sts rem.

Cast off.

Mouth (make 1)

Using yellow, cast on 15 sts.

Beg k row and working in st st, inc 1 st each end of first, then every foll alt row to 33 sts.

Dec 1 st each end of every foll 3rd row to 15 sts.

Cast off.

Tongue (make 1)

Using orange, cast on 20 sts.

Next row: Cast off 10 sts, k to end.

Next row: P.

Next row: Cast on 15 sts, cast off 15 sts, k to end.

Next row: P.

Next row: Cast on 10 sts, cast off all 20 sts.

Eyes (make 2)

Using dark turquoise, cast on 1 st.

Working in st st, work as follows:

Next row: Work 4 times knitwise into this st.

Next row: P.

Next row: Inc 1 st in every st – 8 sts.

Work 4 rows.

Change to yellow and work 3 rows, so ending p row.

Next row: (K2 tog) to end – 4 sts.

Next row: P.

K4 tog, fasten off.

Back spikes (make 2 in each of yellow, pale turquoise and dark turquoise)

Cast on 8 sts.

Working in garter st (k every row), dec 1 st each end of every 4th row until 2 sts rem.

K2 tog, fasten off.

Teeth (make 4)

Using white, work as for back spikes, but cast on only 6 sts.

Finishing

Join straight sides of back and belly together.

Sew in mouth matching shapings. Sew down a line either side of the centre of the lower jaw to accommodate the wearer's thumb.

Sew on spikes by their cast on edges in a line down the centre back. Sew on eyes, lightly padded with filling. Sew on teeth by their cast on edges, then sew in tongue. Embroider eye centres, lids and nostrils (see picture).