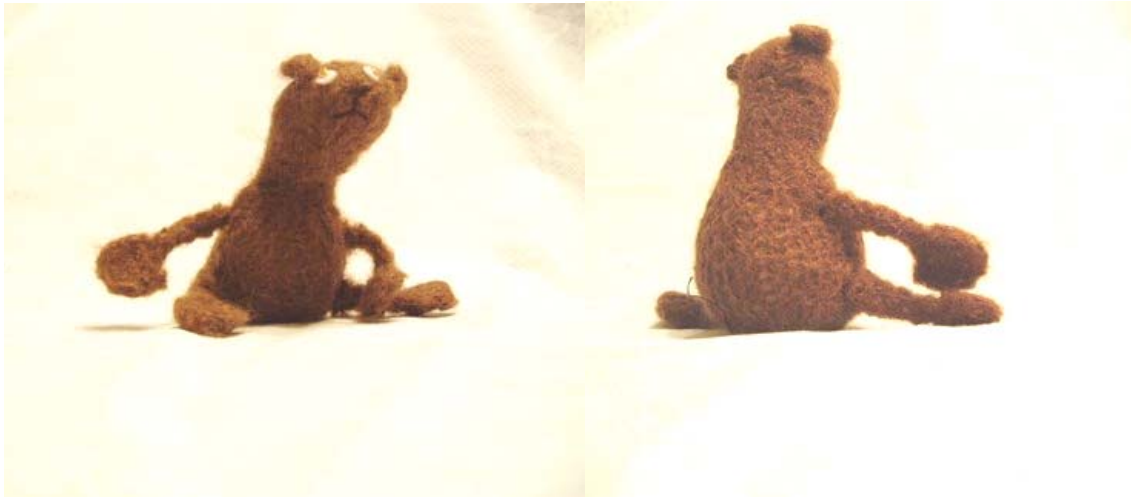


Beanie Weasel

An original *Weasel Knits* knitting pattern by Chris O'Brien
<http://squeakyweasels.blogspot.com>
<http://squeakyweasels.etsy.com>

This little weasel is knit flat on two needles, then seamed together, stuffed, and felted to fit neatly in the palm of your hand.



Finished size:

About 3-4 inches tall and 2-3 inches wide, depending on the amount of felting.

Materials:

About 20 yds. worsted weight 100% wool, or other yarn suitable for felting
Two size 8 needles
Tapestry needle
Embroidery/sewing needle
Small amount of white felt (for eyes)
Small amount of black embroidery floss (for face details)
Poly-fill stuffing
Poly-bead stuffing

Stitches/abbreviations used:

St – "stitch"/ **sts** – "stitches"

CO – cast on using your preferred method.

BO – bind off using your preferred method

k - knit

p - purl

Sl – slip one stitch without working it

K2tog – decrease one stitch by knitting two stitches together

P2tog – decrease one stitch by purling two stitches together

K3tog – decrease two stitches by knitting the next three stitches together

P3tog – decrease two stitches by purling the next three stitches together

Turn – stop mid-row and turn the work around (from right side to wrong side, or from wrong side to right side) to continue working in the other direction

pssso – decrease one stitch by passing the slipped stitch over the next stitch worked

st st - stockinette stitch: knit every stitch on right side, purl every stitch on wrong side

garter stitch – knit every row

KFB – increase one stitch by knitting into the front and back of the same stitch (Insert the needle into the stitch as if to knit, wrap yarn and pull through to front do not take stitch off needle. Bring tip of needle around to back again and insert down into the back of the stitch. Wrap yarn and pull through to front. Lift both new stitches off the needle.

KFBF – increase two stitches by knitting into the front, back, and front again of the same stitch (Work as for KFB but leave the two new stitches on the needle. Insert tip of needle back up through the original stitch as if to knit. Wrap yarn, pull through, and lift the 3 new stitches off.

Start at the tail end:

CO 3

Purl 1 row

KFB every st (6 sts)

P row

KFB every st (12 sts)

P row

KFB every st (24 sts)

P row

Begin shaping the rear:

K16, k2tog, k1, turn

Sl 1, p9, p2tog, p1, turn

Sl 1, k10, k2tog, k1, turn

Sl1 , p11, p2tog, p1, turn

Sl 1, k12, k2tog, k1, turn

Sl 1, p13, p2tog, p1, turn

Sl 1, k14, k2tog

Sl 1, p15, p2tog (16 sts)

Knit along the back:

K 1 row

P 1 row

K5, (k2tog) 3 times, k5 (13 sts)

Work next 3 rows st st

K5, sl 1, k2tog, pssso, k5 (11 sts)

Work next 8 rows st st

Begin shaping the head:

K3, KFB 5 sts, k3 (16 sts)

P row

K10, k2tog, k1, turn

Sl 1, p5, p2tog, p1, turn

Sl 1, k6, k2tog, k1, turn

Sl 1, p1, **make ear bobble:** [KFBB, turn; (KFB) 3 times, turn; (p3tog) 2 times, turn; k2tog, turn, p1], p4, make 2nd ear bobble, p2tog, p1, turn

Sl 1, k8, k2tog

P9, p2tog (10 sts)

Shape the face and nose:

K6, k2tog, k1, turn

Sl 1, p4, p2tog, p1

K6, k2tog (7 sts)

P row

K3tog, k1, k3tog (3 sts)

Continue down from chin to belly:

Work in st st 12 rows

KFB each st (6 sts)

St st 8 rows

(k2tog) 3 times

BO 3 sts

Legs (Make 4):

CO 5 and k 3 rows garter stitch

K2tog, k1, k2tog (3 sts)

Work in st st 6 rows

BO 3 sts

Seam, felt, and finish:

Fold body over in half at the nose.

Seam along edges of body. Leave an opening near the base large enough for stuffing.

Stuff and sew opening closed loosely with cotton thread. (Don't over-stuff! Allow room for your weasel to shrink.)

Run weasel body and legs through your washing machine to felt, or felt by hand rubbing pieces vigorously in hot, soapy water.

Remove stuffing and re-stuff and/or fill with poly beads. If the felting process left holes, you may wish to machine stitch a casing of scrap fabric for the beads and then insert this into the weasel's belly. Seam closed.

Sew legs in place.

Stitch eyes, nose, and other details in place with felt and embroidery thread as desired.