

CHICKEN EGG COVER

Use DK wool throughout. The chicken doesn't take much wool so do use up what you have around. Red is good for the plumage, with orange or yellow for the beak.

MAIN BODY – MAKE 1

Using UK size 11/US 3mm needles cast on 30 stitches.

Starting with a purl row (important to make the roll at the bottom) knit in stocking stitch for 19 rows, increasing one stitch at each end of rows 12, 14 and 16. (36 stitches).

Cast off 9 stitches, knit 18 and cast off 9 stitches, cutting thread.

With wrong side facing, rejoin wool to remaining 18 stitches, starting with a purl row continue in stocking stitch for 9 rows.

Row 10: Knit 2 tog. To end (9 stitches)

Cut wool, thread a needle and draw thread through remaining stitches. Pull up to make top of head.

Fold body in half and sew from drawn up stitches to cast on row.

Allow the bottom of the hen to curl up so it stands and leave bottom open.

BEAK – MAKE 1

With yellow or orange cast on 5 stitches.

Next 5 rows Sl 1, knit 4. (The slip stitch at the start helps to keep edges firm)

Cast off.

Fold in half along the diagonal and sew beak in place. You might need to sew on both upper and lower surfaces to get it to stick out rather than lie flat.

HEN PLUMAGE – MAKE 1

With red, cast on 18 stitches.

1st Row: Knit 2 together to end. 9 stitches

2nd Row: Cast off.

Sew the plumage to the top of the hen's head.

EYES

Sew a couple of stitches in black for each eye.