

Mardi Gras Party Bangles

Mobile, Alabama

About this Project

Skill Level: Easy

Finished Size: Will fit most wrists; after felting, bracelet inside circumference is about 8" (20cm) and width is approximately 3/4" (1.75cm)

Project Gauge: 28 stitches and 40 rows = approximately 4" (10cm) before felting

Stitch Guide

Pb (place bead)

Knit to stitch to be beaded. Bring yarn to front. Push bead up to right hand needle. Slip the stitch to be beaded purlwise with yarn in front. Bring yarn to back and knit the next stitch, pulling the beaded "collar" around the slipped stitch, making sure to keep bead to the front of the work, and snug it to the stitch.

Instructions

Thread desired number of beads onto yarn. CO 12 stitches (see *Tips* for instructions for other sizes of plastic bangles). Work in stockinette stitch (knit on RS, purl on WS) until piece measures 12" (30cm). Use the "pb" technique above to place beads as desired. When changing colors, either carry the unused color up the side or cut the yarn and tie the next color to the old color with a knot. Repeat for each bracelet. BO, leaving a 24" (60cm) tail.

Finishing

Do not weave in ends. If you have loose ends that were not previously tied, do that now. Trim ends to 1" (1.25cm) other than BO tail. Thread BO tail through tapestry needle. Using mattress stitch, stitch side edges of the knitting together, enclosing the plastic bangle as you go. The knitting will be longer than the

Mention "Mardi Gras" and New Orleans immediately springs to mind. But America's oldest celebration is in the city of Mobile. More family-friendly than debauched drinking spree, it's a great chance to party with or without your kids, since unlike its Creole cousin, at Mobile's Mardi Gras everyone stays clothed!



Shopping List

Cascade Yarns 220 Wool Sport (100% wool, 163 yards/150m); approximately 25 yards (22.5m) for each bracelet; shown in Cerise #7802, Purple Hyacinth #7808, Orange Sherbet #7825, Goldenrod #7827, Cyan Blue #8891, and Primavera #8903

Size US 6 (4mm) needles

Glass 6/0 beads


Beading needle

Tapestry needle

Hard plastic bracelet in size and width desired (bracelet shown is 11" (28cm) outer circumference and approximately 1/2" (1.25cm) wide (see *Tips* for adapting this pattern to other bracelet sizes)

bracelet, so just push finished part together slightly to keep it out of the way as you work. Mattress stitch open ends of tube together, making sure side seam is lined up. Knot last stitch and run end up through inside of bracelet. Trim end. Move seam to the inside edge of bracelet. Set washing machine on hottest temperature. Add small amount of laundry soap. If washer allows, turn off the spin cycle. Put the bracelets in washer with a few light-colored towels for friction. Put through a short cycle and check felting. Repeat cycle until fully felted and knitting is tight to plastic bracelet. Remove from washer and place on paper towels; dry completely.

Tips

 You may be tempted to put all the beads on the yarn at once, but restrain yourself. The yarn is slightly damaged by pushing the beads along and if you put too many beads on, it may break the yarn. If you need more, just break the yarn at the end of a row, string on more and tie the yarn back together.



When deciding where to place beads, it helps keep the felted fabric firm if you don't put them directly above each other on two consecutive right side rows. Instead, either work a couple of rows of stockinette between, or offset them by moving the next RS row beading over a stitch or two.

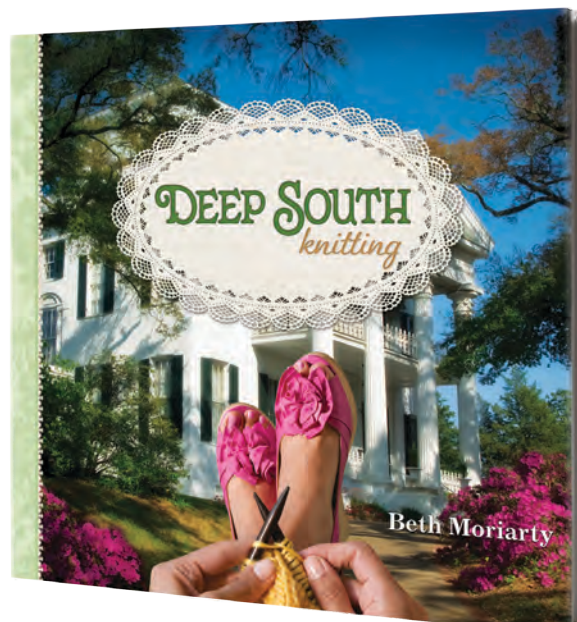


Before felting the bracelet, check to make sure all beads are sitting on the outside. If any have wiggled to inside, push them back through the knitting and center them on their little collars.



If you want to cover a different size bracelet, here's the proportion: for circumference, measure the outside edge of bracelet and add 10% to get the total length of the knitting. For width, measure the circumference of bracelet plastic by wrapping a tape measure from inside to outside and back to inside to measure how much width the knitting needs to cover when it's stitched into a tube; multiply by 1.75 to get the width in inches of the required knitting.

From the Planet Purl Press book:



Available at fine yarn shops and
www.DeepSouthKnitting.com