

Planet Penny Knitting Mobile

I've had a lot of requests for instructions on how to make the **Knitting Mobile** which has prove very popular on **Face Book** and **Pinterest**, in part I think due to the lovely **Planet Penny Cotton** colours.

The instructions and sizing are therefore specific to this yarn and your own adjustments will be necessary if using your own yarn.

Planet Penny Cotton Packs are available from
<https://www.etsy.com/uk/shop/PlanetPennyUK>

Materials:

Planet Penny Cotton COLOURS Pack: (light DK mercerised 100% cotton yarn - 50g balls) 12 rainbow shades

1 Pair 3.25mm **knitting needles**

7"/18cm **wooden hoop** I (got mine from www.partypacks.co.uk)

Single ended **cocktail sticks**, (try Amazon).

Some Beads to fit the blunt end of the cocktail stick, your colour choice (trial and error I'm afraid as I used some from my bead box!)

A Sewing needle, with an eye large enough to take yarn but sharp, (not a tapestry needle).

All Purpose Adhesive, UHU or similar

A Brass curtain ring or similar for hanging.

Bunting:

Abbreviations: st – stitch, k – knit, sl – slip stitch, pssso - pass slipped stitch over, tog - together

Cast on 14 st, leaving a tail for sewing up and attaching to wooden hoop.

Row 1: sl 1 k to end.

Rows 2 – 6: as Row 1

Row 7: sl 1, k 1 pssso k to end (13st)

Row 8 -18: sl 1, k 1 pssso at the beg of each row until 2 st remain.

Row 17: k 2 tog. Cut yarn, leaving a long tail to attach ball.

Make 12, one in each colour. Stitch side seams together to make a ring. Don't cut off the thread, you'll need this to stitch the bunting to the hoop.



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Balls of Yarn:

Using a ¾"/2cm polystyrene ball as a base, attach the end of the yarn with a small spot of glue and wind the yarn around the ball neatly until the polystyrene ball is covered.

Cut the yarn, then thread on to a needle and fasten off by taking the yarn under several threads on the wound ball. Trim thread and reinforce with glue if necessary.

Make 12 balls, one in each colour.

Knitting Needles:

Take a cocktail stick and a bead, put the smallest dab of glue on the blunt end of the stick and push on a bead. Leave to dry. If the pointed end looks a bit too sharp gently sand with an emery board, remembering it needs to be sharp enough to push through the polystyrene balls.

Make 24 needles

Assembling the Mobile:

Take the wooden hoop, measure and mark 3 points equally distanced around it's circumference. Tie on three lengths of yarn (which will be the hangers).

Lay the hoop flat, bring the threads up and knot together making sure the lengths of yarn are all the same length (so the mobile hangs level). Tie on a hanging ring.
Pin the bunting round the outside, easing to fit.

Using the individual threads, stitch from one side of the hoop to the other 2 or 3 times to attach the bunting to the hoop (see picture).

Smooth the bunting round the hoop, then use a dab of glue between each 'flag' of the bunting to make sure it hides the wood from the outside.

Push the knitting needles into the balls in a cross formation, with the beads at the top.

Thread one of the tails hanging from the bottom of the bunting flags on to a strong needle. Push it through the top of a yarn ball of matching colour and out through the bottom. Leaving it loose, do the same with the other 11 balls of yarn.

Hang the mobile up, and slide the balls up and down the yarn until you are happy with the balance and look of the arrangement. Carefully take the mobile down again so that you can glue then trim off, the spare yarn ends.

Now carry off to your craft corner, hang up and enjoy!

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