Knitting Nature
Mauritian Bellflower instructions

Materials:
• 25 g purple cotton dk yarn
• 25 g green cotton dk yarn
• 25 g light brown cotton dk yarn
• small amounts of red and yellow yarn
• one paper straw
• 4 mm knitting needles
• darning needle

Abbreviations
• k, knit
• p, purl
• st(s), stitch(es)
• kfb, knit in front and back of stitch
• sl, slip
• tog, together
• yf, yarn forward
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Small leaf (make 5)
Using green yarn, cast on 8 sts.
Row 1: K.
Row 2: Purl 4 stitches, then turn work.
Row 3: Sl1, knit 4.
Row 4: P.
Cast off.

Medium leaf (make 5)
Using green yarn, cast on 10 sts.
Row 1: K.
Row 2: Purl 6 stitches, then turn work.
Row 3: Sl1, knit 6.
Row 4: P.
Cast off.

Large leaf (make 5)
Using green yarn, cast on 12 sts.
Row 1: K.
Row 2: Purl 8 stitches, then turn work.
Row 3: Sl1, knit 8.
Row 4: P.
Cast off.

Flower
Using purple yarn, cast on 6 sts.
Row 1: Kfb to end.
Row 2, and each even row: P.
Row 3: *K1, kfb* repeat to end (18 sts).
Row 5: *K2, kfb* repeat to end (24 sts).
Rows 6–12: Work 7 rows stocking stitch.
Row 13: *K3, kfb* repeat to end (30 sts).
Row 15: K.
Row 17: *k2tog, yrn, k3* to end (30 sts).
Row 19: K.
Row 21: *K3, k2tog* repeat to end (24 sts).
Row 22–28: Work 7 rows stocking stitch.
Row 29: *K2, k2tog* repeat to end (18 sts).

Change to red yarn.
Row 30: P.
Row 31: *K1, k2tog* repeat to end (12 sts).
Row 33: K2tog to end (6 sts).
Cut yarn and pull end through remaining stitches.
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**Stamen**
Using yellow yarn, cast on 9 sts.
Cast off.

**Sepals**
Using green yarn, cast on 6 sts.
*Cast off 5 sts, cast on 5 sts*
Repeat 3 times until there are 5 sepals.
Cast off.

**Small stem**
Using green yarn, cast on 6 stitches.
Knit 2 rows stocking stitch.
Cast off and stitch closed into a tube.

**Large stem**
Using brown yarn, cast on 35 sts.
Knit 4 rows garter stitch.
Cast off.
Insert straw and stitch closed along the edges.

**To make up**
Take the five small leaves and stitch around the top of the large stem. Next, attach the large leaves around the stem, slightly below this. Stitch the medium leaves just below the large leaves.

Take the purple flower piece and use red yarn to Swiss darn some stitches to represent pollen droplets. Next, stitch the flower head closed along the edge.

Push the red stitched area inside to make a bell shape. Attach the stamen to the red centre of the flower head.

Stitch the sepal piece in a circle onto the top of the bell flower. Stitch the small stem securely to the flower head. Lastly, stitch the small green stem securely to the top of the large brown stem.
1. Wrap stem around straw and stitch closed along the edges to make the large stem.

2. Take the five small leaves, and stitch around the top of the large stem.

3. Attach the large leaves around the stem, slightly below the small leaves.

4. Attach the medium leaves just below the large leaves.

5. Swiss darn a few stitches to represent pollen droplets inside the flower.

6. Next, stitch the flower head closed along the edge.
7. Attach the stamen to the red centre of the flower head.

8. Push the red stitched area inside to make a bell shape.

9. Stitch the sepal piece and the small stem securely to the flower.

10. Lastly, attach the small stem securely to the top of the large stem.

Created for Kew by textile artist Clare Sams.

For more information about this plant visit temperate.house/plant/nesocodon-mauritianus/