Knitting Nature
Tree Pincushion instructions

Materials:
• small amounts of cotton dk yarn
• small amounts of orange cotton dk yarn
• small amounts of yellow cotton dk yarn
• pair of 3 mm knitting needles
• one paper straw
• darning needle and scissors
• cotton wool or stuffing
• spray starch or florist wire to stiffen the petals, or orange sewing thread and needle

Abbreviations
• k, knit
• p, purl
• kfb, knit in front and back of stitch
• st(s), stitch(es)
• tog, together
• tbl, through back of stitches
**Stem**
Using green yarn, cast on 6 sts.
Work in stocking stitch (k1 row, p1 row) until the piece measures the length of the straw (approximately 20 cm).
Cast off.
Wrap piece around the straw and stitch closed along the edges.

**Flower head**
Using green yarn, cast on 7 sts.
Row 1 (right side): Kfb in each stitch (14 sts).
Row 2 and every alternate row: P.
Row 3: *K1, kfb, repeat from * to end (21 sts).
Row 5: *K2, kfb, repeat from * to end (28 sts).
Row 7: K.
Row 9: K.
Row 11: K.
Row 13: *K2, k2tog, repeat from * to end (21 sts).
Row 15: *K1, k2tog, repeat from * to end (14 sts).
Row 17: *K2tog, repeat from * to end (7 sts).
Cut off yarn, thread end through remaining stitches, pull up and secure.
Stitch closed along the row end edge, then fill with stuffing.
Insert the finished stem into the small hole at the base of the flower head and attach the pieces together.

**Leaves (make 6)**
Using green yarn, cast on 5 sts.
Row 1: K.
Row 2: P.
Row 3: K1, kfb, k1, kfb, k1 (7 sts).
Row 4: P.
Row 5: K.
Row 6: P.
Row 7: K1, k2togtbl, k1, k2togtbl (5 sts).
Row 8: P.
Row 9: K2togtbl, k1, k2togtbl.
Pull yarn through remaining 3 sts and secure tightly.
Stitch the 6 leaves onto the stem.

**Large petals (make 8)**
Cast on 12 sts in orange, change to yellow and cast on 2 more sts for tip.
Cast off first 2 sts in yellow, cast off remaining 10 sts in orange.
Weave in loose ends.

**Medium petals (make 8)**
Cast on 10 sts in orange yarn, change to yellow and cast on 2 more sts for tip.
Cast off first 2 sts in yellow, cast off remaining 10 sts in orange.
Weave in loose ends.
**Small petals (make 8)**

Cast on 8 sts in orange, change to yellow and cast on 2 more sts.

Cast off first 2 sts in yellow, cast off remaining 8 sts in orange yarn.

Weave in loose ends.

---

**To make up the flower**

Take the eight small petals and stitch them in a circle near the top of the flower head.

Take the eight medium petals and stitch them in a circle around the middle of the flower head, spaced in between the small petals.

Take the eight large petals and stitch them in a circle near the bottom of the flower head, spaced in between the small petals.

You can use starch or wire to help hold the petals in position, or stitch with orange sewing thread.
1. Make the stem as per pattern. Wrap piece around the straw and stitch closed along the edges.

2. Make the flower head as per pattern. Stitch closed along edge, then fill with stuffing.

3. Insert the stem into the small hole and attach the pieces together.

4. Make six leaves as per pattern.

5. Stitch the six leaves onto the stem.

6. Make petals as per pattern, eight small, eight medium and eight large petals. Weave in loose ends.
7. Take the eight small petals and stitch them in a circle near the top of the flower head.

8. Take the eight medium petals and stitch them in a circle around the middle of the flower head.

9. Take the eight large petals and stitch them in a circle near the bottom of the flower head.

10. You can use starch or wire to help hold the petals in position, or stitch with orange sewing thread.

Created for Kew by textile artist Clare Sams. 

For more information about this plant visit temperate.house/plant/tree-pincushion/