



Yarmouth Ear Warmers

By Mary Burns and Katie Worthing

This pattern is based on the original orange and black ear warmers knitted by Yarmouth resident Mary Burns for family members and North Yarmouth Academy students from the 1950s onwards. The orange example below belongs to Mary's daughter, who kindly lent it to us so that we could reproduce the pattern and carry on Mary's knitting tradition. Knit one and stay warm all winter!



Materials:

Yarn: Worsted weight yarn; main color (1 skein) and a small amount of contrast color

Needles: size 7 (or size needed to obtain gauge)

Gauge: 20 sts=4 inches (or thereabouts; exact gauge is not crucial to this design)

Finished Size: about 6" wide x 18" long (not including ties)

Abbreviations:

k2tog: knit two together (dec 1)

k3tog: knit three together (dec 2)

kfb: knit into the front and back of a stitch (inc 1)

M1: insert the left-hand needle, from back to front, under the strand of yarn which runs between the stitch just worked and the next stitch on the left-hand needle. Pick up and knit this st (inc 1)

pm: place marker

rep: repeat

ssk: slip 1 as if to knit, slip 1 as if to knit, insert the left needle into the fronts of these two stitches and knit them together (dec 1)

yo: yarn over (inc 1)

Pattern:

CO 4 sts

Row 1: k4

Row 2: k2, yo, k2

Row 3: kfb, k to last st, kfb (7 sts)

Row 4: k all

Row 5: kfb, k to last st, kfb (9 sts)

Row 6: k all

Row 7: kfb, k to last st, kfb (11 sts)

Row 8: k all

Row 9: k3, M1, pm, ssk, yo, k1, yo, k2tog, M1, pm, k3 (13 sts)

Row 10: k 3, p7, k 3

Row 11: k3, M1, k to marker, slip marker, ssk, yo, k1, yo, k2tog, k to marker, M1, slip marker, k3 (15 sts)

Row 12: k3, p to second marker, k3

Rep these last two rows 7 more times until you have 29 sts

Row 27: k to first marker, slip marker, ssk, yo, k1, yo, k2tog, k to end

Row 28: k3, p to second marker, slip marker, k3

Rep rows 27 and 28 until piece is about 14" from beg (or about 4" from desired length)

Next row: k3, ssk, k to first marker, slip marker, ssk, yo, k1, yo, k2tog, k to 2 sts before second marker, k2tog, slip marker, k3

Next row: k3, p to second marker, slip marker, k3

Rep these two rows until 13 sts rem

Begin final dec as follows:

Row 1: k3, ssk, yo, k3tog, yo, k2tog, k3 (remove markers on this row)

Row 2: k all

Row 3: k3, ssk, k1, k2tog, k3

Row 4: k all

Row 5: k2, ssk, k3tog, k2

Row 6: k all

Row 7: k3tog, yo, k3tog

Row 8: k all

BO all sts

Weave a length of contrast color through each vertical row of eyelets

Using the eyelets on each end, attach a braided length of yarn (about 10-12") for ties. Use multiple strands of yarn to thicken the braid.

Weave in ends. Block if desired.