

READY, SET, KNIT

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KAL Knit Chickens, part 3

Last time we talked about picking up stitches around the base of your chicken. *I hope you remembered to go back to your regular needle size after the pick-up round if you used smaller needles for the pick-up!*

Now you just have to work even in stockinette (stripe pattern for size small) until the body measures the indicated number of inches from the pick-up round. **BE SURE TO END 10 STS BEFORE THE END OF THE LAST ROUND.**

Now you'll work the head. Divide the next 30 sts – the 10 you left unworked at the end of the last round, and the next twenty – evenly on 3 dpns. Leave the remaining sts on the circular needle and tuck the points inside the body of the chicken so they're not in your way. Work as indicated for head and head shaping, being sure to change yarn color for the 6 rounds **before** the head shaping. After round 6 of the head shaping, cut yarn and, using a tapestry needle, thread the tail through the 9 rem sts. Draw tight to close the hole, secure by drawing the end around through the 9 sts again and bring the tail to the inside of the head.

Time to stuff your chicken! If you use poly-pellets for the base, it's a good idea to place a piece of plastic or cloth (muslin) on the bottom and about an inch up the sides of the inside of the chicken before pouring in the pellets. This will prevent leakage of the pellets through the sts. Do not use poly-pellets if the chicken is a gift for a young child!! Then, stuff the chicken with fiberfill until firm...but don't stuff so much that the fiberfill starts oozing out through the sts!!!! Since the knitting will stretch, you could keep stuffing all day...use restraint!

