

WIP Ornaments



Imagine this: You are going to a party, and you know that there will be a gift-exchange. You don't have time to go to the store. Also, you're broke. You know the other guests at the party will all bring crazy-fancy gifts and you don't want to be shown up. And, did I mention, you leave in fifteen minutes?

I think it's a time to make WIP Ornaments!

These are super fast, super easy and super cheap (in fact, you probably have everything you need in your craft bin *right now*).

Materials:

- Round toothpicks (2 per ornament)
- Beads (with holes just big enough to fit over the pointy part of the toothpicks, large seed beads work well)
- Glue (plain ol' white glue or tacky glue work fine)
- About 5 yards of fingering-weight or sock yarn
- Tiny knitting needles (I'm using size 0's)
- Fishing line, thread or ornament hooks.
- Scissors



Instructions:

-Glue a bead to the end of each toothpick, let dry. Don't use too much glue, or it'll get messy. If the pointy end of your toothpick sticks out beyond the bead, trim it so that it is flush with the end of the bead.



-C. O. 8 stitches, knit in garter stitch for 6-8 rows. Trim the cast-on tail to about 1-2 inches, and transfer live stitches to one of the toothpicks.



-Cut the active yarn end to about 4 yards (don't bother measuring. Measuring is for suckers.) And, starting from the cut end, roll the yarn into a nice, firm ball.



-When you've rolled up all the yarn, apply a little glue to the pointy end of your toothpick "knitting needles," and poke them into your ball of yarn. If your toothpicks are splintery, you might need to twist them as you push them through. Add a little glue to fix any bits of yarn that poke out of your yarn ball. Let dry. (This will only take a minute or two.)



-Cut a few inches of fishing line, thread or embroidery floss and tie it around one of the knitting needles. Or, if you're using a wire ornament hook, you can loop the small end through the top of the yarn ball.



And Ta Da! Adorable handmade ornaments finished in less time than it takes to get through the checkout line at Macy's.

Questions? Comments? Mistakes? Contact me through my blog: www.ontheneedles.com, or via email: knittingontheneedles@gmail.com

© 2013 Allison Griffith