

## PUMPKIN COZY

by Becky Stern

🔗 If you carve your Halloween pumpkin into a jack-o-lantern too early, it'll be shriveled and rotten by the time of the big night, and that's no treat! Knit this pumpkin cozy in the meantime.

This project is great for practicing increases and decreases. Adjust the size by knitting fewer or more increase rows and easily customize it for your pumpkin, or knit one up first and bring it with you to the patch. The pattern fits a pumpkin approximately 11" in diameter as written.

## Pattern

### Bottom Half

- » Cast on 27 sts and distribute over 3 dpns.
- » Row 1: Join to work in the round with 1 knit stitch.
  - \*Increase 1, k1\* repeat from \*. 53 sts.
- » Row 2 and next few even rows: Knit.
- » Row 3: \*K2, increase 1\* repeat from \*.
- » Row 5: \*K3, increase 1\* repeat from \*.
- » Row 7: \*K4, increase 1\* repeat from \*.
- » Row 9: \*K5, increase 1\* repeat from \*. Switch stitches to a circular needle at any point during these increases.
- » Row 11: \*K6, increase 1\* repeat from \*.
- » Row 13: \*K7, increase 1\* repeat from \*.
- » Row 15: \*K8, increase 1\* repeat from \*. 135 sts.
- » Rows 16-34: Knit.

### Top Half

- » Row 35: Start the slit in the back by reversing direction of work (you'll now go back and forth instead of in the round) and purl.
- » Even rows 36-40: Knit.
- » Odd rows 37-39: Purl.
- » Row 41: \*K9, k2tog\* repeat from \*.
- » Row 42 and next few even rows: Purl.
- » Row 43: \*K9, k2tog\* repeat from \*.
- » Row 44: \*K8, k2tog\* repeat from \*.
- » Row 45: \*K7, k2tog\* repeat from \*.
- » Row 46: \*K6, k2tog\* repeat from \*. Switch sts to dpns at any point during these decreases.
- » Row 47: \*K5, k2tog\* repeat from \*.
- » Row 48: \*K4, k2tog\* repeat from \*.
- » Row 49: \*K3, k2tog\* repeat from \*.
- » Row 50: \*K2, k2tog\* repeat from \*.
- » Row 51: Use a knitted bind off and chain crochet a button loop, then tie off and weave in ends.



### MATERIALS AND TOOLS

- |   |                          |
|---|--------------------------|
| » 3 skeins chunky orange yarn             | » Size 8 dpns            |
| » Small amount of chunky brown/black yarn | » Size 8 circular needle |
| » Pumpkin                                 | » Crochet hook           |
| » Button                                  | » Yarn needle            |
|   | » Scissors               |

### ABBREVIATIONS

**dpns** = double-pointed needles  
**K** = knit  
**k2tog** = knit 2 stitches together  
**sts** = stitches



» Affix button with a yarn needle (Figure B).

## Stitch the Face

Instead of working two colors during the project to embed the jack-o-lantern face in the cozy, I stitched over existing stitches with a contrasting color on a yarn needle once the cozy was finished being knitted. You could also prepare a face on graph paper ahead of time and use a stranded technique to knit the face in two colors during rows 16–40.

Block by steaming or spraying with water while it's on the pumpkin.



## About the Author

Brooklyn crafter/artist  
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