

Magnificent Medals



Magnificent Medals mass display

Create your own magnificent medals for our next community display at the Army Flying Museum. These will go on display to mark remembrance and commemorate remembrance in November 2020 alongside over 3000 poppies that were created last year which will be turned to a sculptural art installation. Email: outreach@armyflying.com for further information. If you would like to knit and crochet some poppies as well let us know and we can email you a copy of the pattern or you can use your own. The deadline for submissions is the 1st November 2020. Please send your knitted medals and poppies to: Dan Ball (Outreach and Engagement Officer), Army Flying Museum, Middle Wallop, Stockbridge, Hants, SO20 8FB.

This medal is double sided (so it won't roll) - pieces are either folded and stitched together (that's why some pieces will seem big- don't worry), or, in the case of the "medal," you will make two. You will knit a total of 5 pieces - the top, the ribbon, and 3 medal pieces.

Tools and Materials:

You can use the recommended colours below or be creative as possible and use any colours! The brighter the better!

Size 2 straight knitting needles, one set of 4 size 2 double pointed needles, needle to weave in ends, safety pins and DK Yarn in (please note these are recommended colours, you don't have to use these specific colours)

Turquoise - 180090

Light Silver Grey - 180108

Inca - 180105

Bright Coral - 180096

Red - 180079

Skills and Details:

Cast on, knit, purl, pick up and knit, increase by knitting thru front and back loops, working on circular needles, bind off

Increase: when the pattern tells you to increase, knit the stitch through both front and back loops, making 2 stitches.

Gauge: isn't that important... but 7 stitches and 10 rows = one inch

Finished measurements: about 3.75 inches from top to bottom, about 2.5 inches at the widest point.

Abbreviations:

co - cast on

k - knit

p - purl

st - stockinette
inc - increase
bo - bind off
dpn's - double pointed needles

Instructions:

Top of medal: Using inca, co 12. work in st stitch until piece measures 2 inches. Bo, set aside.

Ribbon: (the ribbon is worked "sideways"- you are knitting horizontal stripes, but in the finished product they will be vertical) Using coral, co 20. work in st stitch until the piece measures 1.25 inches wide, then bind off. The ribbon may be worked in any striped pattern you choose. The one pictured is worked like this:

3 rows coral
2 rows turquoise
2 row inca
1 row red
2 rows turquoise
2 rows coral - bind off row in coral - set the ribbon aside.

Medal: you will make 2 identical larger medal circles (grey) and one smaller one (turquoise). You will start out working back and forth, and then change to DPNs. What you are doing is knitting an octagon- you will separate stitches onto dpns, and increase evenly at 8 points, every other row, until you get a circle of the desired size. (if you've ever knit a tam, it is just like knitting the top of a tam, but in reverse!)

Unlike "normal" circular knitting, where you are working in a tube, you are knitting a flat piece. You might need to think about it a bit differently- you are adding stitches to the edge of something flat, rather than to the top of a tube.

Instructions: Large medal circles (make 2):

1. using grey and straight needles, co2.
2. turn, p 2
3. turn, inc each stitch
4. turn, p4
5. turn, inc each stitch
6. turn, p8
7. switch to dpns. Divide stitches over 3 needles, being careful not to twist. These first few rows are rather treacherous, you have lots of needle and very little stitch. It gets easier! It helped me to lay the knitting flat on my lap)
8. inc each stitch (16 stitches)
9. k all stitches
10. *inc, k1* repeat * around. (24 stitches)
11. k all stitches
12. *inc, k2* repeat * around (32 stitches)r
13. k all stitches
14. *inc, k3* repeat * around (40 stitches)
15. bo in pattern - set aside.

Smaller circle- make one Using turquoise, work identical to larger circle up to ROW 10 (24 stitches), bo in pattern. You might need to use a stitch or tow to tighten the centre of this circle. Set aside.

Assembly:

Medal: using yarn to match your medal, line up both large circles with right sides facing out. Sew your medals together so that you have one double sided medal (I sewed through the edge stitch

exactly as I would when sewing a sweater). use a few stitches to tack the center of the medals together, as well.

Attach smaller blue circle: centre the blue circle on the grey medal. Using blue yarn, carefully stitch around the outside edge of the circle. If you don't want turquoise stitches to show on the back, be careful to sew only through the top grey layer. You will want to sew a few extra stitches around to tack it together.

Ribbon: on the finished object, the ribbon will be oriented so that the stripes are vertical. fold the ribbon in half, right side out. Stitch carefully up the sides. Stitch the end closed (this part will be covered up by the top of the medal)

Medal top: fold the medal top in half lengthwise. Stitch the sides closed. You should have sort of like a little knitted envelope.

Join top and ribbon: Insert the top of the ribbon (non folded edge, the one you stitched together) inside of the open edge of the medal top. Adjust the positioning, and then carefully sew the medal top closed, through all the layers of fabric.

Attach medal to ribbon: centre the medal below the ribbon. using a bit of grey yarn, stitch the selvedge edge of the medal to the bottom fold stitch on the ribbon.

Finishing: block, using blue, stitch a little zig-zag onto the top of the medal.