

Honeypot Bees – Knitting Pattern



Any shape or size of bee is welcome, Honeypot children prefer yellow or orange bees with black stripes and white wings. Smiley faces are popular and please provide woollen loops to hang them from something, so they can be displayed within Honeypot young carers homes to help them smile and remember Honeypot when they are looking after someone they love.

The bees are placed in the children's memory bags which they take home at the end of their annual residential respite break. We also take them out and about in the local community to raise awareness and funds for Honeypot.

Both patterns use small amounts of double knitting in yellow and black and smallish needles, to keep the knit quite tight. 3.25mm DPNS (UK 10, US 3) are good but it really doesn't matter too much. Ordinary needles are fine for the bigger bee but DPNs (double pointed needles) make the smaller bee easier.

Small Bee

It is suggested you use DPNs to avoid breaking the yarn at the end of each stripe. If you prefer to use normal needles, just alternate knit/purl and yellow/black, breaking and fastening as you go.

Cast on 5 stitches in Yellow

R1: Increase to 10 stitches by knitting into front and back of each stitch.

R2: purl

R3: knit

R4: purl

***If you're using DPNs, this is where they become useful

***If you're NOT using DPNs, ignore the next bit - just alternate black and yellow to make black and yellow stripes, one row each. Finish with black at R11 below.

Do not cut yellow

R5: in Black, knit.

Slide stitches back to the other end of the DPN to pick up the yellow yarn,

R6: knit in yellow

both yarns are now at the same end. Turn,

R7: purl in black,

slide stitches again,

R8: purl in yellow

R9: knit black

R10: knit yellow

R11: p2 together in black, cut both yarns, draw through black and fasten off. Use yellow end to sew seam, stuffing as you go. Embroider eyes and smile.

Wings (make 4 in white)

Cast on 10 stitches, cut yarn leaving a long end and pull through to form a circular wing (you may need to sew an additional stitch or two to form the circle) Stitch in place. If you're going to attach a keychain, leave a gap between the wings! I overlapped front/back slightly for effect.

Bigger Bee (DPNs not necessary for this size bee)

Cast on 5 stitches in yellow

R1: Increase to 10 stitches by knitting into front and back of each stitch.

R2: purl

R3: Increase to 20 stitches by knitting into front and back of each stitch.

R4: purl

R5: knit

R6: purl

don't break yellow, but join in black and continue in stocking stitch begin 2row stripes

R7: knit in black

R8: purl in black

R9: knit in yellow

R10: purl in yellow

Repeat last four rows until you have 3 black stripes, ending with a yellow stripe. Break yellow leaving a long end for sewing up.

Next row: knit black

Final row: purl 2 together in black to end, break off black leaving sufficient yarn to draw through stitches and fasten off.

Sew seam, stuffing as you go. You might like to embroider the face before seaming but it's easier to work out where they eyes "go" afterwards!

Wings (make 4 in white)

Cast on 20 stitches

R1: knit

R2: K2 together to end, cut yarn leaving a long end. Draw through stitches tightly. This will give you a "pacman" shape. Take a couple of stitches through the cast-on ends to form a circular wing, stitch in place on bee's back.

Posting

Please post to your closest Honey_pot house. Let us know who is sending them so we can thank you, and send us photos or tag us in your photos on social media!

Honey_pot Hampshire

Gatewood Hill
Exbury Road
Blackfield
Southampton
SO45 1XH

Honey_pot Dallegles

The Old School
New Cumnock
East Ayrshire
KA18 4QW

Honey_pot Pen y Bryn

Dolfor
Newtown
Powys
SY16 4AH

Thank you!