

Break A Bowl

A basic recipe for knitted
bowls from DestiKnit



Forward

This recipe will show you how to break a bowl into 3 sections so as to customize your own knitted bowl. Once you have learned the basics, there really is no limit to what you can create in terms of knitted vessels. You may start out with a bowl, which can turn into a basket, or even a sturdy bag! You are only as limited as your imagination. So, let's get started!

Materials

When selecting materials, it is important to consider gauge. Your gauge should be tight, making for a firm and sturdy vessel. In the example throughout this book, we will use a Bulky Weight yarn and size 9US DPN and circular needles, 29" circumference, with a gauge of 16 sts x 20 rows = 4", to make a bowl 8" in diameter and 4" in height (after fulling).

- * 2 or more skeins of yarn, depending on size of desired bowl
- * A set of DPNs and a set of circular needles in size to obtain desired gauge and circumference
- * Stitch Markers
- * Machine Felting/Fulling Supplies
- * Blunt sewing needle
- * Pad and Pencil for tracking rounds and stitches

Required Skills

- * Knitting in the round with DPN and circular needles
- * Increases
- * Decreases
- * Machine Felting/
Fulling
- * Binding off in attached i-cord

Not sure? Refer to "How-To..." at the end of this book.

Piece One: First Base

The base is the most important aspect to any knitted vessel. It has to be sturdy and tight. A good base starts as a knitted medallion shape. When choosing a medallion, it is important to consider the characteristics of the medallion. In other words, if there will be holes or gaps in the medallion, it probably is not suitable for a knitted vessel. There are several designs to choose from, but for this example, we will use a Radiating Circle Medallion.

Radiating Circle Medallion

Cast on 2 sts on each of 4 DPN and knit with the 5th

Round 1 Knit into the back of all sts.

Round 2 Inc 1 into each st.

Rounds 3, 4 and 5 Knit.

Round 6 Inc 1 into each st.

Rounds 7 to 11 Knit.

Round 12 Inc 1 into each st.

Rounds 13 to 19 Knit.

Round 20 Inc 1 into every 2nd st.

Rounds 21 to 25 Knit.

Round 26 Inc 1 into every 3rd st.

Rounds 27 to 31 Knit.**

Round 32 Inc 1 into every 4th st.

*The example in this book end the base on this Round.

Continue in this manner, to knit 5 rounds plain and then increase for a round, making increases on every 5th, 6th, and so on, until your medallion base is the desired size.

**Note: At this point, you may want to transfer your work to circular needles.

Piece Two: The Wall

Once you have your desired medallion circumference, it is time to begin the rounds that will build the wall of your knitted vessel. This part is easy. The only thing to consider is what depth you wish your vessel to be. In this example, we are knitting rounds until the bowl measures 6 inches in height. If your bowl seems floppy, don't worry, it will firm up in the final process of felting/fulling.

Piece Three: Round Rim Run

The next step involves working decreases evenly in 4 rounds, then binding off with an attached i-cord. There are several methods of decreasing stitches, but for our purposes in this example, we will decrease 20% of the stitches using the k2tog method in the following manner:

Knit 4 sts, k2tog, repeat to end

Knit

Knit 4 sts, k2tog, repeat to end

Knit

It is now time to BO. Again, there are many options when it comes to binding off a knitted piece. Often times, the right bind-off makes the piece. In this case, we are going to use the attached i-cord bind-off, as it will provide a nice sturdy lip to the bowl, preventing any 'roll-overs' or difficulties in fulling.

Felting

1. If your machine has a Hot Water Wash/Hot Water Rinse, select this. If not, you will have to interrupt the wash just before it hits the Rinse Cycle, as the cold water will stop the felting process. Toss in your old heavy garments, your project and some liquid detergent as the tub fills.
2. Grab another knitting project and stand-by. You will want to be nearby to monitor the felting process.
3. Again, if your machine has a Hot Wash/Hot Rinse option, let the wash finish it's cycle. If not, STOP the machine before it hits the Cold Rinse Cycle.
4. Inspect your project, if you can still clearly see the knit stitches, if your fabric is at all 'stretchy', you will have to run it through the wash cycle again. This is normal, in fact, it is typical to wash 2-3 times before the fabric stiffens up. If you have interrupted the wash cycle, you may not need to add any more detergent as the soap has not yet been rinsed out.
5. Once your project has felted, let it run through the Rinse Cycle.
6. Remove project from the tub and hand shape it. For this particular project, you will want to stuff the inside of the bowl with hand towels or plastic shopping bags, to help the bowl keep it's shape as it dries.



Congratulations!

You have just made a decorative yet functional knitted item!

How-To...

Increases: The method used in this project is simply k1fk1b. To do so, k1 st into the front, keep st on left ndl, k1fb, slide sts off left ndl and onto right ndl. You have just created 2 sts from 1 st.

Decreases: The method in this project is k2tog. To do so, insert right ndl into the front of 2 sts and through the back of the same sts, knit. You have just decreased 2 sts to 1 st.

Bind Off with an Attached i-cord: CO 3 sts at the beginning of the row you are about to BO. *K2, sl 1, K1, pssso (you will now have 3 sts on your right ndl). Slip these sts back to the left ndl, purlwise. Repeat from * until only 3 sts remain, thread yarn through 3 remaining sts.

About DestiKnit



- DestiKnit is Kerrie James, wife, mother and procrastinator. When she decides to be productive, you will undoubtedly find her knitting... slowly. If you see her in this state, approach with caution and consider that she is in her own little world and does not know you are there.
- Contact: destiknit@gmail.com with any questions or comments.
- Blog: destiknit.wordpress.com
- Ravelry User: DestiKnit