

Swine Flu Masque

a Splendor pattern by David R.
Castillo

Materials:

-Approx. 100 yards of your favorite DK weight yarn. I used GGH's Bali in Pink (not my favorite, but serviceable). Oh, and a little bit of black yarn for the nostrils (I used Cascade 220 in Jet).

-US2 straight needles, US3 DPNs for the Nose.
(OR the size you need to get gauge; I knit kinda loose, you might want US5-6)

-Stuffing for the nose.

- Sense of humor.

Size:

It's pretty much a one-size-fits-most kind of thing. The part that will cover your face is about 8-9 inches wide and about 6-7 inches tall. You can adjust it while you're knitting if you need more or less.



Gauge:

6 sts/inch or 24sts/4inches in stockinette.

Make it!

Top Strap:

CO 200 sts

Knit 3 rows in garter stitch (knitting each row)

At the beginning of the next 2 rows, cast off 75 stitches.

K 1 more row.

Mask:

Row 1: K

Row 2: K5, P to last five stitches, K5

Repeat rows 1&2 once more.

Short Row Shaping: Use your preferred short row method (wrap and turn or yarnover would be best) to work a total of 6 rows in shaping. I spaced them one right next to each other to mimic the folds in a real surgical mask. Here is the shaping method I used:

Row 1: K to last 5 stitches, turn work.

Row 2: YO, P to last 5 stitches, turn work.

Row 3: YO, K to last 6 stitches (not counting YO), turn work.

Row 4: YO, P to last 6 stitches (not counting YO), turn work.

Row 5: YO, K to last 7 stitches (not counting YO), turn work.

Row 6: YO, P to last 7 stitches (not counting YO), turn work.

Row 7: K to end of the row (SSK the yarnovers and adjacent knits as you come to them).

Row 8: P to end of the row.(P2tog yarnovers and adjacent purls as you come to them)

To finish the mask, knit as follows:

Knit rows 1&2 of "Mask" 4x

Repeat Short-row shaping.

Knit rows 1&2 of "Mask" 4x

Repeat short row shaping

Knit rows 1&2 of "mask" 2x

At the end of the last row, cast on (either backwards-loop, cable, or knitted-on cast-on are appropriate) 12 stitches.

Knit across the next row, then cast on 12 stitches at the end of the row.

Knit 2 rows plain, then cast off knitwise.

Stitch the ends of the shorter ties so that the form a comfortable triangle with the longer ties.

Nose:

Cast on 40 stitches and divide between DPNs with 13 stitches on the 1st and 2nd needles, and 14 stitches on a 3rd.

K 8 rows

P 1 row

SSK the first two stitches on the needle, K to last 2 stitches, k2tog. Repeat until you can no longer decrease in this manner. Cut the yarn, thread through remaining stitches 2x and then pull it tight, weave the end in on the other side.

At this point, I whip-stitched the black nostrils on the mask. You don't have to, you don't have to use black... Whatevs! It's all good! You'll notice the nostril is slightly triangular, but the base stays kind of circular.

When I made the mask, I intended the cast on edge to be the top, but I carelessly stitched the whole nose down to the wrong side. Don't make this mistake - it works better if your cast on edge is the top. Stitch the nose down to the middle, still keeping it approximately circular. It works really well if you just whip stitch it. If it's

in the same yarn as you knit the whole thing, it doesn't really matter cus you won't really see it. Before you stitch it all the way down, don't forget to stuff it! Voila! Swine Flu mask! (don't forget to weave in your ends)

