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FELT EASTER CHICKENS

Felted chickens

These cute Easter chickens are knitted and then felted in the washing machine. Before you know it, it's Easter. They are cute as a hostess gift, on the windowsill or in a flower decoration.

Below you can see more - here you will find the recipe and instructions.



You will need:

100% wool yarn suitable for felting (not superwash). I have used a thin wool yarn here, which fits needle size 2.5-3, but thicker wool is also suitable.

Woolen yarn for "comb", eyes and beak - must also be feltable. Alternatively, you can sew on the eyes and beak after the felting - but I think it's fun with the felted look on the eyes and beak as well.

Knitting needles suitable for the yarn thickness.

Cotton wool or other pillow stuffing

You do this:

The bottom is crocheted - a circle: Cast on 5 chain stitches (ch) and collect these with a chain stitch (km). Crochet 10 single crochets (sc) around the ring.

2nd round: crochet 2 sc in each underlying stitch - number of stitches thus increased to 20 stitches in total.

3rd round: 1 sc, increase (inc) = 2 sc in the same stitch, 1 sc - repeat.

4th round: Crochet* 2 sc, inc* - repeat

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Continue to increase the number of double crochets between the increases by 1 stitch - so that on the 5th round, crochet 3 sc, inc, etc., etc.

Continue until you think the base is a suitable size. My bottoms are approx. 8 cm in diameter - but it can be made larger or smaller as desired.

Break the yarn and pull through.

Then pick up stitches on double pointed needles all the way around the edge. 1 mask per crochet mask. Distribute the stitches on the 4 double pointed needles. Knit stockinette stitch all the way up. On every 3rd or 4th round, 1 stitch is increased - i.e. 4 stitches in one round = decrease on every needle (double pointed) Decrease is done by knitting 2 stitches together.

When you think the chicken is "tall enough", the chicken must be filled with pillow stuffing/wadding. Do not fill it too hard, as the yarn filters together around the filling.

Knit straight up until there are 2-3 stitches on each needle = (8/12 stitches on the round in total). Close and sew so that there is no hole at the top. Sew on eyes with wool yarn.

Crochet a small beak:

5 ch, 4 sc - one in each ch (the first ch is not crocheted, but used to turn)

Then on each row, take in one sc (crochet 2 together), so that 3 sc, 2 sc, 1 sc are crocheted respectively on the following rows.

Alternatively, if you don't want to crochet the beak, cut a small piece of felt once the chicken is felted and sew it on.

One of the chickens in the picture looks a little elongated (the dark one) - it has been stuffed a little hard with cotton wool and is therefore a little deformed - but that did not make it unworthy to be included in the picture..... When it now came out of the washing machine rather deformed - I chose to give it a tail and then felted it again.....

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The chickens are felted for about 30 minutes at 40 degrees in the washing machine - and if that is not enough, you can repeat the process.