



holly leaves

by Candice DeWitt - Stitch & Skein

holly leaves

Bring a little holly jolly to your holidays this season! Whip up a few leaves to decorate holiday packages, affix a wire hook so it can double as a tree ornament, or even make a bunch to string along your fireplace mantle.



Size

Finished leaf: 2"/5cm in length, 1"/2.5cm at the widest points

Each leaf can be made larger by changing the weight of yarn and needle size used, such as using a worsted weight yarn and a size 5 or 6 needle. Aim for a combination of yarn and needle that gives you a snug leaf – not too loose/drapey, and not so dense and tight that it is hard to knit and stiff.

Yarn requirements

Used in the pictured project: Ella Rae Lace Merino in "Emerald"

This pattern is intended for sock or fingering weight yarns and is perfect for scraps of leftovers you may have sitting around from other projects.

Needles and other notions

Needles: Size US 0 (2.0mm)

Other notions: 8mm glass pearl beads in red, matching red thread or embroidery floss, darning needle, stainless steel pins for blocking.

Common Terms & Abbreviations

CO – Cast On

BO – Bind off

K – Knit

K2tog – Knit 2 stitches together

M1L – make one left increase

M1R – make one right increase

P – Purl

PSSO – pass slipped stitch over 1 stitch

SL1 – Slip one stitch purl-wise

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Directions

CO 3 stitches using long-tail cast on

Row 1: knit 3 stitches

Row 2: k1, m1r, k1, m1l, k1 (5 stitches)

Row 3: k1, purl to last stitch, k1

Row 4: k2, m1r, k1, m1l, k2 (7 stitches)

Row 5: k1, purl to last stitch, k1

Row 6: k3, m1r, k1, m1l, k3 (9 stitches)

Row 7: k1, purl to last stitch, k1

Row 8: k4, m1r, k1, m1l, k4 (11 stitches)

Row 9: k1, purl to last stitch, k1

Row 10: BO 2 stitches, knit to end (9 stitches)

Row 11: BO 2 stitches purl-wise, purl to last stitch, k1 (7 stitches)

Rows 12-23: Repeat rows 6 through 11 twice. You should have 3 “tips” for each side of your holly leaf. You should be back down to 7 stitches on your needle.

Row 24: K2, sl1, k2tog, pss0, k2 (5 stitches)

Row 25: k1, purl to last stitch, k1

Row 26: k1, sl1, k2tog, pss0, k1 (3 stitches)

Row 27: K1, p1, k1

Row 28: sl1, k2tog, pss0 (1 stitch)

Pull yarn on last stitch until you have about 6” of length. Cut yarn loop and weave yarn ends in on the back side.

Finishing

Wash and block the leaves, pinning out each tip to define them more. To recreate the pictured project, make 2 leaves as above. Thread 3 pearl beads with embroidery floss or thread. Layer the two leaf ends across each other as desired, and then sew down beads to the leaves to secure together.

Share your make!

If you have made this pattern, I would love to see it! Share yours on Instagram and tag me at @thestitchandskein



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