

The Grand Old Duke of York French Knitting

INSTRUCTIONS

Materials

Wooden barbecue skewers

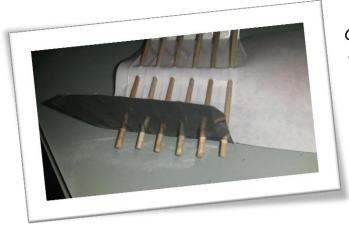
Laminator (thin laminating pounches), cardboard or photographic paper

Wool

To make this French knitter is like French knitting itself. Starts off a bit fiddly but soon gets a lot easier. Obviously this activity is for slightly older children and adults but you can make lots of things out of it (like bracelets, puppets and cuddly toys) which younger children can enjoy.

Print out the template on paper or photographic paper and then if you are using paper you need to laminate it. Then place the template face up on the table and fold neatly along the dotted lines as indicated. Green lines fold up. Yellow lines fold down.





Once this is done then carefully put the wooden skewers in the holes as indicated breaking them off neatly at the top so there is about 1 cm poking out of the top of the soldier's hat.

You then fold up tightly rolling the inner layer and sticky taping together in a cone before continuing to roll up the outer layer and sticking together with sticky tape.



Your French knitter is now done and you can use a spare wooden skewer as the needle.



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French Knitting

Begin by threading the wool through the central hole and pull it out of the bottom so that you have at least 3 or 4 inches showing.

Twist the yarn round each spoke as shown. Keep rotating round until you have two loops on the same spoke. When this happens you then hook off the bottom loop over the top of the top loop and off the hook altogether. You then move onto the next hook which will have two loops and again take off the bottom loop by hooking it over the top loop. Keep on doing this with every now and then pulling at the bottom piece of yarn to make sure that it is not all getting caught up in the French knitter. After a while you will start to see your French knitting coming out of the bottom.









Once you have got to your required length you can cut the wool at the top leaving enough spare so that you can then thread it through each of the loops left on the top of the spokes before taking them off the machine altogether.

You can then make with them what you want. If you want to add beads to your knitting you can either sew them on later or if you want to incorporate them into the knit you need to place the beads onto the wool before you start knitting and then pull them down into place over the hoops at the appropriate time.



More activities with this French knitter will be coming soon to this website.

