Loomy-licious Cupcake

Designed by Brenda Myers, 2/11/07



Chocolate- cherry with sprinkles cupcake is made with 1 strand of worsted weight yarn: brown rib knit on the bottom and pink garter stitch on the top. Pearlized ball capped straight pins are used for sprinkles, but beads could be substituted is needed.

CORRECTIONS: Rows in steps 8-10 were numbered incorrectly. Corrections applied 3/10/07.

SKILL LEVEL:

Intermediate (Level 3): More complicated stitch patterns and charts.

SIZE: Approximately 31/4 inches tall

MATERIALS

- Yarn for cup: sports weight or worsted weight in desired color. Some suggested colors: brown, tan, white or pastel colors.
- Yarn for cake: worsted weight, sports weight, fun fur or novelty yarn. Your choice of delicious colors.
- Optional yarn for cherry trim: red & brown worsted weight
- Looms: 24 peg blue Knifty Knitter; 12 peg flower loom
- Optional loom: 5 peg spool loom for cherry.
- Large eye darning needle
- Crochet hook
- Fiber fill for stuffing
- Small plastic coffee/drink cup
- Rock/golf ball to weight the bottom

NOTES

 Instructions are written for the Chocolate-Cherry cupcake (pictured above). Variations for the Strawberry-coconut cupcake are in parenthesis where applicable. The top of the Chocolate-coconut cupcake is made similar to the Strawberry-coconut; however.

- DO NOT recommend using two strands of worsted weight for the cup as I did in the one pictured below left.
- Instruction recommendations are for any of the following combinations:
 - o one strand of worsted weight
 - o two strands of sports weight held as one
 - one strand of sports with one strand of worsted weight held as one strand
- Item is worked from left to right in the rounds.
- Stitches: Flat knit, E-wrap, Purl, Garter stitch
- Techniques used: chain cast on hang-hem, changing yarn colors, decreasing, gathered bind off.

ABBREVIATIONS:		
BO st	= cup color = cake color = cast on = bind off = stitch = working yarn	EW = e-wrap K = knit FK = flat knit stitch P = purl stitch CC = change yarn colors WW = worsted weight yarn SW = sports weight yarn

INSTRUCTIONS

Cup sides

- Using one strand of WW yarn in A (or one strand of WW + one strand SW) and chain CO method, CO all 24 pegs on the blue KK loom.
- 2. Row 1: FK keeping tension moderately tight.
- 3. Rows 2-11: Using FK st, K1/P1 to form ribbing (or FK all rows). The height of the cup will vary depending on the type and the number of strands of yarn you use, so if you want the cup taller, add the desired number of rows. I have made cups with as few as 10 rows and as many as 14 rows.

Cake top

- 4. Row 12: CC to B. FK all pegs.
- 5. *Rows 13-18:* P all odd rows and EW & K all even rows.
- 6. Row 19: Do a hang-hem by lifting the loops from the last row of the cup (Row 11-color A) onto the corresponding pegs. K the B colored loops over the A colored loops; then P all pegs. This forms a fold in the cake icing part to give a fuller effect where the cup joins the cake.
- 7. *Row 20-32:* Continue the garter st pattern by FK even rows and P odd rows.
- 8. Row 33: There are two methods of finishing the top. The easiest is just to skip to the gathered BO described in step 10. The other method uses decreases to taper the top just a bit. You can experiment and see which one you prefer. Skip to Step 10 for a gathered BO without decreases, or decrease before BO as follows:
 - a. Lifting loop from peg 1, placing it on peg 2; FK 2/1.
 - b. Lift loop from peg 3 and place it on peg 4;
 - c. Lift loop from peg 2 and place it on peg 3.
 - d. Repeat steps a-c until there are 12 loops on 12 pegs.

- 9. *Row 34:* P all pegs
- 10. Row 35: FK all pegs and do a gathered BO using a yarn needle. Insert the needle through the middle to the inside and whip stitch in holes or openings if needed. Tie off and trim the yarn tail.
- 11. Block the cupcake by stretching it vertically so the knit stitches will go into place. This will shorten the width of the cup and lengthen the height if done properly.

Cup bottom

- 12. With chain CO edge turned up, place the cupcake inside the 12 peg flower loom. Lift the inner edge of one of the 24 chain CO st and place it on one peg of the flower loom. Move to the next chain st, lift the inner edge of this st and place it on the same peg. One peg now has two loops on it.
- 13. Continue around the loom until each of the 12 pegs has two loops from the inner CO edge.
- 14. FK for 3 rounds.
- 15. Cut the WY leaving a 12 inch tail.
- 16. Hook the WY and bring the tail through the loop on peg 1, but DO NOT remove the loop from the peg. Continue around in the same manner until the WY tail has been pulled through all the loops.
- 17. Remove the loops from the pegs, but DO NOT gather.

Finishing

- 18. Stuff the cake top with fiber-fill. If you plan on using it as a pin cushion, line the inside with the toe end of a stocking so the pins won't sink into the fiber-fill.
- 19. For the cup bottom, cut the top from a small plastic drink cup (about 2 inches wide on the bottom) so the height of the cup is about 11/4-11/2 inches tall. Put a small amount of fiber-fill in the cup bottom and add a rock or a golf ball to weight it down. Finish stuffing the cup with fiber-fill and place it inside the cupcake bottom.
- 20. Now for the magic: pull the yarn tail to gather the stitches and close the bottom. If you have done this correctly, the bottom will be flat with a starburst design and a nice little stitch pattern surrounding the outer edge.

Note: If you use fun fur for the cake topping, I recommend trimming it to approximately ½ inch for a more realistic effect.



Chocolate-coconut cupcake (left) has a rib knit cup made with two strands of antique white worsted weight. The cake is one strand of brown worsted weight with one strand of white fun fur.

Strawberry-coconut cupcake (right) has a cup made of one strand of pale yellow worsted weight with one strand of pale yellow sport weight with pink & blue flecks. The cake is one strand of medium pink worsted weight with one strand of hot pink fun fur.

Cherry topping (optional)

- 21. For the cherry, using one strand of red WW CO all pegs on the 5 peg end of the spool loom.
- 22. FK for 5 rounds and do a gathered BO. Tie off and leave a 6 inch yarn tail
- 23. With one strand of WW brown and using 2 pegs of the spool loom, make an I-cord approximately 1 inch long, or eight rounds. Tie off, leaving a 6 inch tail.
- 24. Thread the tail on a yarn needle and weave it back and forth through the st on the stem until it comes out on the opposite end of the stem. Pull lightly to create a curve in the stem and tie off.
- 25. Tie the yarn tails from the stem to the yarn tail from the cherry and whip st in place.
- 26. Thread the yarn needle with red yarn and whip st the cherry on top of the cupcake.