

Christmas Wreath

This knitted wreath is a variation on my Woodland Wreath pattern but with a much more festive feel.

I have adapted the original sets of leaves to make them more appropriate for mid winter and designed other decorations in keeping with the season.

You could even add a string of tiny lights to your finished wreath for added sparkle.



The pattern is divided into six parts: this first one explains covering the wreath with knitting and then there are five more patterns, each with instructions for two sets of leaves or other decorations.

I originally knitted my wreath just for myself with no intention to publish it as a pattern so some of the photos for individual items won't match those on the finished wreath as I had to re-work them to check my original, very scrappy notes.

Covering the Wreath

The wreath I used is made of polystyrene, curved on the front but with a flat back. Here are its measurements:

<u>External Diameter</u>	25 cm / 9¾"
<u>Internal Diameter</u>	14 cm / 5½"
<u>Circumference</u>	16 cm / 6¼"

The cover is knitted flat in sections and then sewn together on the wreath. This is less boring than knitting one huge cover and it makes sure that it will fit.

If your wreath is a different size to mine, measure the circumference and knit the first section to fit. It can be tried on the wreath as you go. Then just keep adding strips until you have covered the wreath.

I used Stylecraft Special DK (295 m / 100 g) in dark green (Bottle) and 4 mm / US 6 size needles. I knitted to a tension of about 16 stitches and 16 rows to 5 cm / 2"², working in K1, P1 rib but the tension is not crucial as long as you knit something that will fit your wreath. Working in rib allows the knitting to stretch over the wider parts. You will need about 50g of yarn.

Using the long tail method, cast on 40 stitches.

Work 45 rows in K1, P1 rib.

Cast off in rib, leaving a long tail.

Wrap the knitted strip round the wreath and sew the cast on and cast off ends together.

You can hide this join on the back of the wreath.



Work three more strips in the same way, sewing each on to the wreath as you go. Use mattress stitch to join the strips, matching up the seams on the back of the wreath. It might not look as though four strips will be enough but, remember, knitting stretches. The photo above shows two strips sewn together.



Abbreviations

K knit
P purl

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