



Gripping: \ 'grip-ing\ adjective
- fascinating, enthralling

Introduction: These can be made of nearly any yarn. Gauge doesn't matter, just choose needles that give a dense fabric. The pattern is very adaptable. Be sure to read the Modifications and Notes before you start knitting.

Round Definitions:

Round A: Knit all stitches

Round B: Knit across the first needle. Purl across the second needle. Knit across the third needle.

Round C: Knit across the first needle, make one. Knit across the second needle, make one. Knit across the third needle, make one.

Round D: Purl all stitches.

Round E: Knit 2 together, knit across the first needle. Knit 2 together, knit across the second needle. Knit 2 together, knit across the third needle.

Round F: Knit 3 together, knit across the first needle. Knit 3 together, knit across the second needle. Knit 3 together, knit across the the third needle.

Directions:

1) Cast on 6 stitches. Arrange across 3 dpns, place a marker to indicate the beginning of the round, and join for working in the round. Work the rounds as follows:

2) (A, B) 2 times, C, B. Work this series of 6 rounds 10 times.

3) A, B, C, B. Work this series of 4 rounds 4 times.

4) D, E 10 times. Work this series of 11 rounds 1 time.

5) F 2 times. Work this series of 2 rounds 1 time. Run the yarn through the remaining stitches, weave in ends.

Modifications and Notes:

1) It's awkward to work on dpns when you have so few stitches. Hang in there, it gets easier as the tentacle grows.

2) You can easily alter the tentacle. If you want it taller, work this series of 6 rounds more times. If you want it taller *and* pointier, work rounds A and B 3 times or 4 times instead of 2.

3) If you're worried your tentacle won't stand up well, or if you want it to be even taller, you can work this series of 4 rounds a few more times.

4) If you've worked extra repeats in step 2 or step 3, you'll need to work more than 10 decreases. Keep repeating Round E until you have 6 stitches per needle. You can put a flat rock or coin in the tentacle to weight the bottom and provide extra stability. You can insert a pipe cleaner to make it a bit more posable.

5) Draw the yarn through the stitches snugly to help the bottom stay flat. If you want to make the tentacle extra bendy, weave the tail up the side of the tentacle and pull it tight to encourage a curve.

About: Read about Hunter's knitting adventures and find her patterns at www.violentlydomestic.com. Learn about her first book, *Silk Road Socks: 14 Patterns Inspired by Oriental Rugs* at www.silkroadssocks.com.

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