

Level Pegging

by Dr Phil Saul at thetwistedyarn.com.

(A Stylish And Capacious Knitted Peg Bag For The Truly Discerning Launderer Of Clothing)



Yarn: Stylecraft Bellisima/Bambino. One 100g ball each of the following shades. (Colour names in brackets indicate how each shade is referred to in the pattern.)

- 3925 Mellow Yellow (yellow)
- 3923 Ash Rose (pink)
- 3926 Sugar Snap (green)
- 3932 Rio Red (red)
- 3921 Single Cream (cream)

Needles and notions:-

- Circular needles (4mm, US size 6), of length up to 60cm (24”).
- Double-pointed needles (4mm, US size 6).
- Unless your double-pointed needles are long, you will also need an additional pair of 4mm (US size 6) or very similar-sized needles, to work a 3-needle bind-off.
- Stitch marker.
- Needle for embroidery and for weaving in ends.
- Optional: 4mm (US size G/6) crochet hook for making washing line.

You'll also need a smart wooden coat hanger, from which to suspend your bag.

Dimensions: Width of bag = 31.5cm (12½”). Height excluding hanging straps = 31.0cm (12¼”). Height including straps = 35.5cm (14”).

Gauge: Don't tell the Knitting Police, but the world

won't end if your gauge is a little different from mine. In stockinette on 4mm (US size 6) needles, we're aiming for 22 stitches and 30 rows to a 10cm/4” square. But if your gauge comes out a little bigger, just be happy that your bag will hold more pegs.

Abbreviations:-

K = knit.

P = purl.

WS = wrong side.

RS = right side.

KFB = increase by knitting front and back.

DPN(s) = double-pointed needle(s).

St(s) = stitch(es).

Instructions:-

- In cream yarn on circular needles, cast on 132 stitches. Place stitch marker and join in round, taking care not to twist.
- Work 15 rounds of knit stitch, slipping marker at the end of each round. Cut cream yarn.
- Introduce green and then yellow yarn. Work 50 rounds of knit stitch, in the sequence dictated by the table below. Do not cut your yarn between stripes, but instead carry the unused colour up the inside of the work.

1. Green	11. Yellow	21. Yellow	31. Yellow	41. Green
2. Green	12. Yellow	22. Green	32. Green	42. Green
3. Green	13. Yellow	23. Green	33. Green	43. Green
4. Yellow	14. Green	24. Green	34. Green	44. Green
5. Yellow	15. Yellow	25. Green	35. Green	45. Green
6. Green	16. Green	26. Green	36. Yellow	46. Yellow
7. Yellow	17. Yellow	27. Yellow	37. Yellow	47. Yellow
8. Green	18. Green	28. Green	38. Green	48. Yellow
9. Green	19. Yellow	29. Yellow	39. Green	49. Green
10. Yellow	20. Yellow	30. Yellow	40. Yellow	50. Green

- In yellow, K20, (K1, P1) 13 times, K86 to end of round. (132)
- In green, K20, (K1, P1) 13 times, K86 to end of round. (132)
- Repeat each of previous 2 rounds once more. Cut yellow yarn.
- In green, K20, cast off 26 sts in pattern, K to end of round. (106). Cut green yarn.
- Slip 20 sts, and skip the opening gap that you began to create in the previous round. Re-join cream yarn at the first st to the left of the gap. K106, slipping the marker as you pass it.
- WS: Turn and P whole row. (106)
- RS: K whole row. (106)
- WS: P whole row. (106)
- K whole row, then use thumb method to cast on 26 sts. Join in round and work K st to end of round. Slip marker. (132 sts on needles)
- Work 4 rounds as follows: K20, (K1, P1) 13 times, K to end of round. (132)
- Work 6 rounds of K st.
- Lay work flat. Use 3-needle bind-off to work 66 sts closing the bag at its top by joining the front stitches to the back. Cut cream yarn.
- Next make one of the hanging straps. Lay your bag flat, with its front opening facing you. Find the first round of cream stitches, above the last stripe of green. From the right hand side of the bag, skip the first 8 sts, then join your cream yarn and from the 9th st, pick up and knit 12 sts. This will take you to the edge of the bag opening.
- Turn. You're going to work back the other way, purling these 12 sts whilst at the same time attaching them to the corresponding sts of the underlying bag fabric. To do this, use the right needle to lift 1st st of next row of underlying fabric and place it on your left needle. Purl this st together with the next st on your left needle. Repeat until you have purred all 12 sts. I'm not going to lie: this is fiddly! (12)
- Turn. Work 12 K sts, again both into your live sts and into the corresponding sts of the fabric below. Use your right needle to lift each underling st on to you left needle, then knit it together with the next st on the left needle. (12)
- Turn and work another purl row, as above. (12)
- Beginning with a right-side knit row, work 25 rows of stockinette (no longer working in to the fabric below). (12)
- P8. Wrap and turn. K8.
- P across, purling your wrap into its accompanying st. (12)
- K across. (12)
- P8. Wrap and turn. K8.

- Work 25 rows of stockinette, purling your wrap into its accompanying st on the first row, and ending with a wrong-side purl row.
- Work 4 rows of stockinette into the corresponding sts on the underlying fabric of the back of the bag. The last of these 4 rows should be a cast-off row. Cut cream yarn.
- Lay your bag front-side down so that its back is facing you. Make a second strap in the same way as the first. This time you will come across the front opening at the end of the strap, rather than at the beginning. Cut yarn.
- Weave in all ends.
- Using cream yarn and a darning needle, embroider two parallel lines of chain stitch to make the line prop. The prop should lean to the left slightly, as illustrated. At its top, embroider a small 'v' shape. Cut yarn. Then use the cream yarn to make your washing line. If you're happy using a crochet hook, use it to make a chain that's approximately 5cm (2") longer than the width of the bag. Otherwise, take 3 strands of cream yarn and plait them to the same length. Sew the washing line to your knitting at 3 anchor points: at the far left of the bag, in the 'v' of the yarn prop, and at the far right of the bag. These 3 points should all be at slightly different heights.

Now, knit some clothes to hang on your line!

Flirty skirt

- In red yarn and using your DPNs, cast on 16. Join in round.
- K 8 rounds even. (16)
- KFB, K to end of round (17)
- K 1 round even.
- Repeat the previous two rounds an additional 5 times. (22)
- (KFB, K3) 5 times, KFB, K1. (28)
- Cast off and weave in ends.

Questionable trousers

- In pink yarn using DPNs, cast on 14 and join in round.
- K 6 rounds even. (14)
- KFB, K6, then transfer the other 7 sts on to scrap yarn. (Scrap yarn is more flexible than a stitch-holder.) (8)
- Join these 8 sts in the round and K 14 rounds.
- Cast off these 8 sts. Cut yarn.
- Return the other 7 sts to your needles. Starting from the st beside the crotch, KFB, K6, and join in round. (8)
- K 14 rounds even. (8)
- Cast off. Weave in ends.

Reassuringly thick towel

- In pink yarn, cast on 11 sts.
- K 2 rows even. (11)
- Introduce red yarn and K 2 rows. Cut red.
- Carry pink yarn up the side of your work past the red rows, then work 18 rows of K stitch.
- Work another 2-row band of red, as above.
- Work another 3 K rows of pink. Cast off in pink.
- Cut yarn and weave in ends.

Enormous borrowed jumper

- In red yarn, use DPNs to cast on 16 sts, fairly tightly. Join in round.
- K 1 round. (16)
- (KFB, K3) 4 times. (20)
- K 1 round. (20)

- (KFB, K4) 4 times. (24)
- K 1 round. (24)
- (KFB, K5) 4 times. (28)
- K 1 round. (28)
- (KFB, K6) 4 times. (32)
- K 1 round. (32)
- (KFB, K7) 4 times. (36)
- K 1 round. (36)
- (K11, then place the next 7 sts on scrap yarn to be worked later) twice, pulling your yarn tightly across each gap where you save the 7sts. (22 live sts, plus 2 sets of 7 sts on scrap yarn)
- K 9 rounds of your 22 live sts, to form the body of the jumper.
- Cast off these 22 sts.
- Transfer one set of 7 saved sts onto DPNs. K 8 rounds to make a sleeve. Cast off. Cut yarn.
- Repeat for the other sleeve.
- Weave in all ends.

Arrange your clothes across the washing line, and embroider each to the line at two points, to look like pegs.