

MY 2020 CHRISTMAS PRESENTS: ORGANIC COTTON LEAFY WASHCLOTHS

PATTERN BY MEGAN GOODACRE

This notebook excerpt is a journal entry of sorts -- describing my journey and notes revolving around Megan Goodacre's Leafy Washcloth pattern. You can find more or her patterns on Ravelry and on her website: www.TricksyKnitter.com

Let's celebrate the work of all knitters!

January 6th, 2021

Notes around the Leafy Washcloth pattern by Megan Goodacre.

- Her free pattern can be found on Ravelry or on her website: www.TricksyKnitter.com
- The yarn I used was Pakucho by Vegan Yarn in Sport Weight with 4mm circular needles
- Pakucho cotton naturally grows in an array of Earth colours so no dyes are used!
- Like any knitter, I customized my leaves to look the way I wanted them to look. I made the stem a bit longer and the tippy top a bit pointier.
- Read on to find out the story behind why I chose to knit these leaves for Christmas during the Covid Era and the little tweaks I made.



MUST MAKE 🗕

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JOURNAL:

The Covid-19 era of 2020 really made me stop and think about life and what is important. I started meditating and dreaming about what I wanted my life to mean. I knitted while I imagined.

I played around with organic cotton yarn. I loved the feel of it. I loved the raw authenticity it symbolized. True and pure. I wanted to extend this thread of authenticity. I decided that this year's Christmas gifts will all be made by HAND. True and pure.

I stumbled upon the free knitting pattern: <u>Leafy Washcloth by Megan Goodacre at</u> <u>www.tricksyknitter.com.</u>

After knitting a few, I made a few tweaks of my own to make the stem a bit longer and the tippy top a bit pointier. If you are interested in my tweaks, I have outlined them below, but Megan's versions (she has 2!) are super just the way they are.

What can be better than being able to incorporate sustainability into our artist lives by doing what we are meant to do -- create. So indulge in some luxuriously soft organic cotton yarn and create some leafy washcloths for yourself -- savour the slow moments in your life.

NOTES: I used: Yarn: Pakucho by Vegan Yarn: Sport Weight: 1 ball can make many leafy washcloths Needles: 4mm 2 Stitch Markers

The ABBREVIATIONS Megan uses are: pm = place marker sm = slip marker ml = make l st (pick up and knit running thread between sts) ssk = slip-slip-knit (slip 2 sts knitwise, put left needle through front of slipped sts, knit together through the back) k2tog = knit 2 together

Here are my TWEAKS. Below I have re-typed Megan's pattern to incorporate the tweaks I made. I have divided the leaf into various sections so you can visualize as you go -- stem, bottom half of leaf, middle of leaf, top half of leaf, pointy tip & finishing.

STEM: This is where you start. I made mine a bit longer. Here's how I did it: Cast On 3 sts Rows 1 - 6: Garter Stitch (knit stitch both sides)

The actual leaf section I did not change at all. Here is how Megan instructs you do make the leaf:

PLACING MARKERS: Row 7: kl, pm, kl, pm, kl Row 8: knit



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SETTING UP BOTTOM HALF OF LEAF:

Row 9: k to marker, ml, sm, kl, sm, ml, k to end = 5 sts Row 10: knit Row 11: Repeat row 9 = 7 sts Row 12: k3, pl, k3

INCREASING BOTTOM HALF OF LEAF: Row 13: k to marker, ml, sm, kl, sm, ml, k to end = 9 sts Row 14: k3, p to marker, sm, pl, sm, p to last 3 sts, k3 Repeat these 2 rows 11 more times = 31 sts

MIDDLE: Row 37: knit across (no increases) Row 38: k3, p to last 3 sts, k3 Repeat these 2 rows 3 more times

DECREASE TOP HALF OF LEAF: Row 45: k to 2 before marker, k2tog, sm, k1, sm, ssk, k to end (29 sts) Row 46: k3, p to last 3 sts, k3 Repeat these 2 rows 11 more times = 7 sts remaining

MAKING POINTY TIP & FINISHING UP: Row 69: kl, k2tog, remove marker, kl, remove marker, ssk, kl = 5sts Row 70: knit Row 71: k2tog, kl, ssk = 3sts Row 72: knit Row 73: k2tog, kl = 2sts Row 74: knit Row 75: k2tog Snip yarn and pull tail through tightly to knot.

Use yarn needle to weave tail ends in.

GIFTING:

For my Christmas gifts, I arranged a few of my completed leaves in a beautiful gold wired basket and placed a bar of handmade soap on top of them along with a small Voluspa candle and a gold metal bookmark from Chapters Indigo. My intention was to give a gift of sustainability and the opportunity for my friends and family to time to pause in life and have a moment of reflection in 2021!.

THANK YOU MEGAN GOODACRE for a beautiful pattern!

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