Frankie's Knitted Stuff

Pocket Hearts



These knitted hearts are big enough to hold a small gift, a Valentine's message, a chocolate ... or perhaps a tiny knitted heart. The pockets are lined and they can be left plain or decorated with buttons or embroidery.

The big hearts are knitted with DK weight yarn and are about 8 cm / 3" tall. Using 4 ply yarn will give you a smaller heart, about 6 cm / 2½" tall.

This pattern is a variation on my Framed Hearts pattern, although I have changed the way the tops of the hearts are knitted.

Big Pocket Hearts

Tension

13 stitches and 18 rows = 5 cm / 2"², working in stocking stitch with DK weight yarn and 3.25 mm / US size 3 needles.

I used Sirdar Country Style DK (155 m / 50g) for all the big hearts.

The Pocket Hearts are made up of four knitted hearts: two for the outside and two smaller hearts for the lining.

Outside Hearts

Cast on one stitch and knit into the front and back of it (2 sts).

Next row: Kf&b, K to end.

Repeat this row until you have seven stitches on your needle.

Next row: K3, P1, K3.

Two different increases are used from now on, the normal kf&b on purl rows and **kb&f** on knit rows. In this variation you knit into the back first and then the front of the stitch. Using these two increases ensures that the garter stitch frame is the same width on both sides of the heart.

So, the bottom of the heart is shaped by repeating the following two row pattern:

Row 1: K1, kb&f, K to end.
Row 2: K1, kf&b, P to last 3 sts, K3.

Repeat these two rows until you have 21 stitches on your needle. The middle of the heart is worked with straight sides while, at the same time, beginning the top frame in the middle of the knitting.

Row 1: Knit.
Row 2: K3, P7, K1, P7, K3.
Row 3: Knit.
Row 4: K3, P6, K3, P6, K3.
Row 5: Knit.
Row 6: K3, (P5, K5) twice.

The top of the heart is worked in two parts, one at a time.

First Side

Row 1:	K11, turn.
Row 2:	K3, P4, K2, K2tog (10 sts).
Row 3:	K to last 2 sts, K2tog (9 sts).
Row 4:	K3, P2, K2, K2tog (8 sts).
Row 5:	K to last 2 sts, K2tog (7 sts).

Repeat Row 5 until you have three stitches left.
Cast off, slipping the first stitch knitwise. Darn in the tail down the outside edge of the top.

Second Side

This is worked on the ten stitches left on the needle.

Row 1:	Pick up and knit 1 st from the bottom of the first side, K to last 2 sts, K2tog (10 sts).
Row 2:	K3, P4, K3.
Row 3:	K to last 2 sts, K2tog (9 sts).
Row 4:	K3, P3, K3.
Row 5:	K to last 2 sts, K2tog (8 sts).

Repeat Row 5 until you have three stitches left on your needle.
Cast off, slipping the first stitch knitwise. Again, the tail should be darned in down the outside edge of the top. Darn in the other two tails of yarn and then knit another heart to match this one.



Don’t worry that your hearts don’t lie flat; they’re not meant to.

Lining Hearts

These are knitted in very much the same way but are a little smaller so that they will fit within the garter stitch frame on the outside hearts.

Cast on one stitch and knit into the front and back of it (2 sts).

Next row: Kf&b, K to end.

Repeat this row until you have seven stitches on your needle.

Next row: K3, P1, K3.

Shape the bottom of the heart with this two row pattern:

Row 1: K1, kb&f, K to end.
Row 2: K1, kf&b, P to last 3 sts, K3.

Repeat these two rows until you have 15 stitches on your needle.
Now for the middle of the heart ...

Row 1: Knit.
Row 2: K3, P4, K1, P4, K3.
Row 3: Knit.
Row 4: K3, (P3, K3) twice.
Row 5: Knit.
Row 6: K3, P2, K5, P2, K3.

Work the two sides of the top separately.

First Side

Row 1: K8, turn.
Row 2: K3, P1, K2, K2tog (7 sts).

Row 3: K to last 2 sts, K2tog (6 sts).

Repeat Row 3 until you have three stitches left.
Cast off, slipping the first stitch knitwise. Darn in the tail down the inside edge of the top this time.

Second Side

Row 1: Pick up and knit 1 st from the bottom of the first side, K to last 2 sts, K2tog (7 sts).
Row 2: K3, P1, K3.
Row 3: K to last 2 sts, K2tog (6 sts).

Repeat Row 3 until you have three stitches left on your needle. This tail should be darned in down the outside edge of the top.



Sewing the Hearts Together

Should you want to decorate your hearts, now is the time to do it.



That cream heart on top of the red pocket was knitted to the lining pattern but using 4 ply yarn and 2.25 mm needles. You could use a felt heart instead.

Pin each lining piece inside an outside heart and, using yarn to match the lining, sew it down. As the hearts aren't flat you will have to stretch it a bit to fit, especially at the top.



Lining the hearts improves their shape and makes the inside look nicer. You could use a fabric lining instead if you prefer.

When both pieces are lined you are ready to sew them together. Take a long length of the main colour and sew the two hearts together round the **inside** edge of the garter stitch frame, using small running stitches. Obviously, you will need to leave an opening. This can either be along one of the straight sides at the bottom of the heart or between the two points at the top.

Leave opening here



... or here.

When you have worked round to the other side of your opening, thread the yarn through to the outside edge of the heart and work back round the edge, oversewing it together.

When using the opening along the straight side I left it as it was; you could add a small press fastener to close it.

For the hearts with a top opening I added a length of crochet chain to the back which loops round the button on the front to close the pocket.



Small Pocket Hearts

You can make a smaller pocket heart (to hold something very tiny) by following the pattern above but using 4 ply yarn and 2.25 mm / US size 1 needles.



This pink heart was knitted with Sirdar Country Style 4 ply (226 m / 50g). I added a hanging loop which threads through another, much smaller loop, to close the pocket.

Tiny Hearts

These are knitted to the lining pattern, with 4 ply yarn and 2.25 mm needles. They are stuffed and measure about 5 cm / 2" tall. One of these will just fit in the big Pocket Heart. How about adding an initial to one of these hearts for a special person?



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Abbreviations

st / sts	stitch / stitches
K	knit
P	purl
kf&b	knit into the front and back of the stitch
kb&f	knit into the back and front of the stitch
K2tog	knit two stitches together



(The nearest I could get to an action photo!)

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