

Wire Princess Crown



This crown is knit with wire and beads. I found the process quite painful, but the results are charming, and there isn't much knitting involved. I had to take frequent breaks, though, so it took longer than you'd think.

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- Materials:** 28-gauge craft wire
Size 8 seed beads – about 120 beads
- Needles:** Size 1 US (2.5 mm) or size to get gauge. I used two circular needles.
- Hook:** Size 2 US (2.2 mm) (Optional – used in bind off)
- Gauge:** 22 stitches = 4 inches

Knitting with wire is a skill I don't really have, so your results may vary a lot from mine, but here's what I did to create this little crown.

Before starting to knit, string all the beads on the wire. I had several left, which is a good thing – I'm not sure what you'd do if you ran out.

Techniques:

Cast On: I used the backwards loop cast-on throughout this project. Simplicity is what you want the most when dealing with wire.

Place Bead: Before knitting the stitch, bring a bead up to the needle so that it will be caught in the next knit stitch.

Bind Off: Insert crochet hook through first stitch and pull a loop through, easing stitch off needle and leaving loop on hook. ** Insert hook through next stitch and pull a loop through the stitch, removing stitch from needle, and pulling the loop through the loop already on the hook. Repeat from **

Front piece

This section is knit back and forth on a single needle, so it makes garter stitch.

Cast on 4 stitches.

Row 1: Knit.

Row 2: Knit, placing bead on each stitch. Cast on 2 at the end of the row.

Row 3: Knit across six stitches on needle. Cast on 2 at the end of the row.

Repeat rows 2 and 3 (placing bead on cast on stitches at beginning of odd-numbered rows) until you have 20 stitches total, ending with row 3.)

Knit one more row plain with no increases.

Circlet

Cast on 90 stitches on the same needle you have been using (if it's long enough – these stitches don't compress very nicely).

Round 1: Take your second needle and start knitting the front piece. Knit it plus about 35 of the cast on stitches on the new needle. Then knit the rest of the stitches on the original needle.

Round 2: Knit around, placing a bead on every other stitch.

Round 3: Bind off. The bind-off technique described above is something I came up with to try to make the bind off bearable. It did – barely. Feel free to experiment with other techniques.

Turn it so the reverse stockinette side of the circlet is out.

I ended up with a 3 inch front piece plus a 16 inch circlet. My granddaughter modeled it balanced on top of her head. I think it should be attached by bobby pins for “play” wear.

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