

Groovy Girls Flower Accessories

Three flower accessories are shown. One is used as an anklet. It could also be used as a bracelet. The second is shown as a necklace. The third can be used as a belt over the shell, when it is worn outside the skirt. These little accessories have great versatility! Each accessory consists of two parts, the flower and the band.

Flower



These clever little flowers were designed by Alison Reilly and found as a free pattern on the web. To make one of these flowers, begin by deciding how many petals you want. The top flower in the picture above has 5 petals and the lower one has six. You can also vary the size of each petal. The following instructions will produce a five-petal flower similar to the one above.

Body

Cast on 35 stitches.

(Knit 1, bind off 5 sts) five times.

You now have 1 stitch, a space where stitches were bound off, (2 stitches, another space) 4 times and one more single stitch.

Cut the yarn, leaving around 9 inches of tail. Thread the tail into a tapestry needle, and run this needle through all stitches remaining on the needle. Make sure the flower is shaped gracefully, then run the needle through the same stitches again, and work in the end. You will use the other end to attach the flower to the band.

If you want a different number of petals or a different petal length, you change the number of stitches cast on, the number of stitches bound off per group and the number of times you repeat the group. Calculate the cast on stitches as number of petals times number of stitches bound off per group plus two.

For instance, casting on 54 stitches will give you six longer petals by binding off 7 stitches instead of 5 and making 6 groups instead of five.

Band

There are many ways of making these bands. Here are some suggestions:

Braid

The band for the necklace in the picture is made by braiding four pieces of Duchess Fingering in a simple braiding pattern. This makes a very narrow band, which is suitable for a necklace.

You could use only three stands and do the standard braiding pattern. You could use Duchess for a somewhat thicker (and somewhat faster) band.

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Knitted Band

The first knit pattern that came to mind was I-cord. A three or four stitch I-cord in either Duchess or Naiad should work fine, though I haven't tried it yet.

The anklet shown uses a knit stitch as follows:

Row 1: P1, K2, P1.

Row 2: K1, P2, K1.

Row 3: P1, twist two stitches (I do this by knitting the two stitches together without removing either from the needle, then knitting the first stitch), P1.

Row 4: Repeat row 2.

Obviously the twist could be omitted, and any other simple knit/purl stitch could be used in place of this.

Crocheted Band

This is a good opportunity to break out some simple crochet skills. A simple chain of the desired length looks surprisingly nice and is very fast to complete. Duchess works well - I used a size G hook, but anything in the vicinity should be fine. You can also single crochet back along your chain, for a more substantial band.

The sample anklet band is six inches long, which is plenty long for either an anklet or a bracelet.

The necklace band is eight and one half inches long. This works for a necklace with no difficulty. It ties as a belt as well, but there isn't much left. You might want to make the band a bit longer for this purpose.