Baby Fruit and Veggie Rattles
By Allison
For Jimmy Beans Wool

These are incredibly adorable little knitted baby rattles, or if made without rattles, really cute stuffed toys. The cotton is organic, although the dyeing is not. Substituting Blue Sky Alpacas Organic Cotton would remedy that. It is the same cotton used in the dyed cotton. And designer Allison's cats, Portia & Hannah, are very much in love with them (even without adding catnip to the stuffing.) For cats, you can add catnip and/or a bell. (Do we foresee a Cat Line of toys? Hmmm....)

Materials
- Blue Sky Alpacas Cotton : Honeydew, Thistle, Lemonade, Cumin, & Poppy.
- Size 7 double point needles, or size needed to obtain gauge.
- Darning needle.
- Stuffing material such as polyester batting.
- Rattles, if desired (note: not recommended for children under the age of 3)

Gauge
- 5 sts/inch in stockinette stitch. You will want a dense fabric so the stuffing doesn't show through.

Abbreviations
- co - cast on
- dp - double point
- inc - increase by knitting into front & back of stitch
- k - knit
- k2tog - knit two sts together
- p - purl
- p2tog - purl two sts together
- p/u - pick up

- rnd(s) - round(s)
- ssk - slip 1 st k-wise, slip next st k-wise, insert point of left needle into the fronts of these 2 slipped sts and knit them together through the back loops.
- st(s) - stitch(es)
- w&t - wrap and turn
- ws - wrong side
- * * - repeat directions between * * all the way around

Directions for I-cord
- With 3 sts on one dp needle, k3 sts. Do not turn. *Slide the sts from the left hand end of the needle to the right hand end of needle. Bringing yarn around back of sts, k them again.* Repeat directions between * * until I-cord is as long as desired. This creates a tube. Break yarn, leaving a 4" tail and thread onto a darning needle. Pull through the 3 sts to fasten off. Weave in end.

Directions for W&T
- (On the knit side), knit designated # of sts. Bring yarn forward (between the points of the needles), slip next st, bring yarn back (between the points of the needles), slip the slipped st from the right needle back to the left needle, turn work around. (On the purl side), purl designated # of sts. Bring yarn back (between the points of the needles), slip next st, bring yarn forward (between the points of the needles), slip the slipped st from the right needle back to the left needle, turn work around. When knitting next round, you will see a "bar" across these wrapped st. Pick up this bar along with the stitch above it by inserting right needle under the bar and the st above at the same time. Knit this as if it were 1 stitch, and you will never have a hole or a funny little bar in your work.

Baby Eggplant

- Onto 3 dp needles, co 24 sts. With 4th needle and Thistle, join, being careful not to twist sts. K 5 rnds.
- Rnd 6: *k6, inc* around (28 sts)
- K 2 rnds
- Rnd 9: *k7, inc* around (32 sts)
- K 2 rnds
- Rnd 12: *k8, inc* around (36 sts)

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- K 1 rnd
- Rnd 14: *k9, inc* around (40 sts)
- K 8 rnds
- Rnd 23: *k8, k2tog* around (36 sts)
- K 1 rnd
- Rnd 25: *k4, k2tog* around (30 sts)
- K 1 rnd
- Rnd 27: *k3, k2tog* around (24 sts)
- K 1 rnd
- Rnd 29: *k2, k2tog* around (18 sts)
- K 1 rnd
- Rnd 31: *k1, k2tog* around (12 sts)
- K 1 rnd
- Rnd 33: *k2tog* around (6 sts)
- Break yarn, leaving a 4" tail, thread onto a darning needle and work through these 6 sts, pulling tightly. Fasten off and weave in end.
- Leaves:
- With Honeydew or Cumin and working with ws facing (do not turn inside out) and leaving a 12" tail, p/u & k 24 sts from co edge.
- Working back and forth over 6 sts (it's easiest if you arrange your stitches so these 6 are only on one of the double point needles):
- Row 1 & 3 (rs): k
- Row 2, 4 & 6: p
- Row 5: ssk, k2, k2tog
- Row 7: ssk, k2tog
- Row 8: p2tog, break yarn, leaving a 4" tail, and pull through this last st to fasten off. Weave in end. Attach new yarn to work next set of 6 sts for leaf # 2, repeating directions above. Repeat for leaves #3 and #4.
- NOTE: before completing all leaves, stuff eggplant and insert rattle.
- When all leaves are completed, pick up 12" tail and thread onto darning needle. Weave this end through the purl st ridge of Thistle stitches to the inside of leaves. Pull just tightly enough to draw in top so that there is room left to pick up 3 sts in center. P/u 3 sts with tail and work 2" of I-cord (directions above).
- If leaves become insolent and tend to curl upward in an unnatural way, just tack them down with a bit of yarn.

Baby Cucumber

- Onto 3 dp needles, co 20 sts (10/5/5). With 4th needle and Honeydew join, being careful not to twist sts.
- Work rnds in following pattern: *k1, p4*
- Work until baby cucumber measures 4 1/2"
- Decrease rounds:
- Rnd 1: *ssk, p3* around
- Rnd 2: *ssk, p2* around
- Rnd 3: *ssk, p1* around
- Rnd 4: *ssk* around
- Break yarn, leaving a 4" tail, thread onto a darning needle and work through these 4 sts, pulling tightly. Fasten off and weave in end. Weave in tail from co edge. Pack in stuffing, adding stuffing as needed while working opposite end and inserting rattle.
- P/u 20 sts from co edge, starting with a k st, and picking up k sts k-wise and p sts p-wise. Before proceeding further, weave in tail.
- Work the next 4 rnds as for decrease rnds above. Do not break yarn.
- Rnd 5: ssk, k2. Place these 3 sts onto one dp needle and work I-cord for 2".

Baby Banana

- Onto 3 dp needles, co 18 sts. With 4th needle and Lemonade join, being careful not to twist sts.
- K 5 rnds
- Rnd 6: k 16, w&t, p14, w&t, k to end of rnd. (See directions above for w&t directions).
- Rnds 7 - 9: k
- Rnd 10: k14, w&t, p10, w&t, k to end of rnd.

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- Rnds 11 - 13: k
- Repeat rnds 10 - 13 two times more.
- Rnd 22: repeat rnd 6
- Rnd 23 & 25: k
- Rnd 24: *k4, k2tog* around (15 sts)
- Rnd 26: k12, w&t, p9, w&t, k to end of rnd.
- Rnd 27: *k3, k2tog* around (12 sts)
- Rnd 28: k9, w&t, p6, w&t, k to end
- Rnd 29: *k2, k2tog* around (9 sts)
- Rnd 30: k
- Rnd 31: *k1, k2tog* around (6 sts)
- Rnd 32: *k2tog* around (3 sts)
- Break yarn, leaving a 4" tail, thread onto a darning needle and work through these 3 sts, pulling tightly. Fasten off and weave in end. Weave in tail from co edge.
- Thread a length of Cumin onto darning needle. Using a back stitch, sew 3 accent edges up length of banana, dividing into thirds. Weave in ends. Stuff banana, working more stuffing in as you continue to knit top, insert rattle if desired.
- With Cumin, p/u 18 sts from co edge. Weave in tail.
- Rnd 1: *k4, k2tog* around (15 sts)
- Rnd 2: *k3, k2tog* around (12 sts)
- Rnd 3: *k2tog* around (6 sts)
- Rnd 4: *k2 tog* around (3 sts) and place these 3 sts onto one needle. Work I-cord for 1".

Baby Carrot

- Onto 3 dp needles co 18 sts. Using 4th needle and Poppy, join, being careful not to twist sts. K every rnd until piece measures 4" long.
- Decrease rounds:
- Rnd 1: *k4, k2tog* around.
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- Rnd 2: k
- Rnd 3: *k3, k2tog* around.
- Rnd 4: k
- Rnd 5: *k2, k2tog* around.
- Rnd 6: *k1, k2tog* around.
- Rnd 7: k
- Rnd 8: *k2tog* around.
- Break yarn, leaving a 4" tail. Thread onto a darning needle and pull through remaining 3 sts. Fasten off, weave in end. Weave in tail from co edge.
- Stuff baby carrot, adding rattle if desired. Add stuffing as needed while working top.
- With Honeydew, p/u 18 sts around co edge. Weave in this end.
- Decrease rounds:
- Rnd 1: *k4, k2tog* around.
- Rnd 2: *k3, k2tog* around.
- Rnd 3: *k2, k2tog* around.
- From needle 1, work I-cord for 2". Attach yarn and from needle 2, work I-cord for 2", weave in ends. Attach yarn, and from needle 3 work I-cord for 2". With tail from p/u of last 3 sts, close up hole in center of baby carrot top, weaving in ends. Naturally.

Baby Orange

- With 3 dp needles and poppy, co 41 sts (14/14/13), join with 4th needle, being careful not to twist sts.
- Rnd 1: *k1, p1* end k1
- Rnd 2: *p1, k1* end p1
- Repeat these pattern 2 rnds 4 more times, a total of 10 rounds.
- Rnd 11: *pattern 6 sts, p2tog*, end k1
- Rnd 12: *pattern 6 sts, p1*, end p1
- Rnd 13: *pattern 5 sts, p2tog*, end k1
- Rnd 14: pattern around
- Rnd 15: *pattern 4 sts, p2tog*, end k1
- Rnd 16: *pattern 4 sts, p1* end p1

- Rnd 17: *pattern 3 sts, p2tog*, end k1
- Rnd 18: pattern around
- Rnd 19: *pattern 2 sts, p2tog*, end k1
- Rnd 20: *p1, k2tog*, end p1
- Rnd 21: *k2tog, p2tog* end k1
- Break yarn and thread tail onto a darning needle. Work tail through the live stitches and fasten off. Weave in ends.
- P/u 41 sts around co edge, picking up in k1, p1 pattern, ending with a k1. Work Rnd 2 one time, weave in end. Adding stuffing as you go and inserting rattle, work Rnds 11 - 21. Break yarn, weave in end.
- Next Rnd: with Honeydew, k2tog around (3 sts remain). Work I-cord for 2".
- With Honeydew, p/u 3 sts at base of stem.
- Row 1: p
- Row 2: k1, inc, k1, inc, k1
- Row 3: p
- Row 4: k
- Row 5: p
- Row 6: ssk, k1, k2tog
- Row 7: p3 tog.
- Break yarn, pulling through remaining stitch. Weave in end.

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