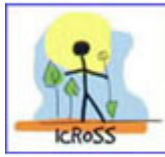


The International Community for the Relief of Starvation and Suffering



ICROSS CANADA

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The needy will not be forgotten, nor the hopes of the afflicted perish (Psalms 9:19)

AFRICAN COMFORT DOLLS



ICROSS Canada uses African Comfort Dolls to pack around their medical supplies to keep the medical vials, syringes and breakable items safe during the journey from Canada to Kenya. Once the medical supplies are unloaded, the dolls are given to HIV Aids orphans and to the families of the poorest of the poor.

The following is the pattern for the African Comfort Dolls (the actual size is about 13cm in height)

The basic method for making each doll is the same. Begin at the feet and knit a rectangle, changing yarn colour for each body segment. The head is stuffed and the neck formed by pulling in with a gathering thread. When the body is stuffed, the feet are formed by pulling in with a thread. The arms and legs are defined by stitching through all layers after the doll is stuffed. The number of rows in each part of the doll can be increased or decreased depending on the individual design. Finished height of each doll is approx. 13 cm (5 inches).

You need:

- Small quantities of Sayelle or similar-weight yarn
- 1 pair 2.25 mm needles
- Tapestry needle
- Polyester fibrefill



To make:

- Work in stocking stitch throughout.
- Cast on 32 sts.
- Work 4 rows for feet.
- Change yarn.
- Work 14 rows for pants.
- Change yarn.
- Work 12 rows for sweater.
- Change yarn.
- Work 8 rows for face.
- Change yarn.
- Work 11 rows for hat as follows:
 - Rows 1-4: Work evenly in stocking stitch.
 - Row 5: Dec 5 sts evenly across row (27 sts).
 - Row 6: P across row.
 - Row 7: Dec 5 sts evenly across row (22 sts).
 - Row 8: P across row.
 - Row 9: Dec 5 sts evenly across row (17 sts).
 - Row 10: P across row.
 - Row 11: (K1. K2 tog) 9 times. Draw yarn through remaining sts and pull up.

To finish:

1. Sew sides together to form a centre back seam.
2. Stuff head. Weave a single strand of matching yarn across the first face row. Draw up to form neck and secure ends.
3. Repeat for body, drawing in at ankles.
4. Stuff feet and sew up bottom, pulling in as much as possible.
5. With matching yarn, form arms with tiny back stitches through all layers from waist, to 2 rows beneath the neck. Define legs in same way, from bottom to just below waistline.
6. Embroider hair and facial features as desired.



The children shown above are from the Bondo Orphanage which is run by the Franciscan Nuns, the Sisters of St. Anne, and is supported by ICROSS.

Donations of dolls and/or financial support can be made to
ICROSS CANADA
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