

White Salamander

This might have become an idol if Mark Hoffman hadn't made the whole thing up. Mark got the story authenticated by the President, Prophet, Seer and Revelator of the Mormon Church. God told the Prophet the story was true and if Mark had been as good at building bombs as he was at forgery, this could have become part of the Secret Teachings that the Mormon Church doesn't like to acknowledge.



FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Height: 9.5"

Width: 19"

MATERIALS

2 balls Dale Baby Ull Merino wool (50gm/180 yards/ball, fingering weight), one of white and one of blue

You may use any yarn with good stitch definition. The salamander must be white because that is the color of Joseph Smith's salamander. Blue was chosen to match the Book of Mormon.

1 set US #3 (3.25mm) needles, circular or straight.

If you substitute yarn, choose needles slightly smaller than would normally be used for the yarn. The illusion depends on firm stitch definition.

notions required: tapestry needle

GAUGE

6.3 st/inch

11 rows/inch

PATTERN OVERVIEW

This pattern uses a technique known as shadow or illusion knitting. This produces an illusion where the object appears to be ordinary stripes. When viewed from an angle, a hidden image appears. In this case, the hidden image is a white salamander hiding in a blue background.

One row of pattern equals four rows of knitting. For each charted row, knit two rows in white (salamander) and two rows in blue (background). The right side rows are always knit plain. The pattern emerges from the knit and purl stitches on wrong side rows.

PATTERN

Bottom Border

Cast on 60 stitches blue yarn. Knit 12 rows garter stitch. This is the bottom border.

Salamander

Switch to white and start from row 1 of the chart.

For each row of the chart, work four rows as follows:

With white yarn,

Row 1: k plain across

Row 2: (wrong side) knit all plain squares and purl all dark squares.

Switch to blue yarn

Row 3: k plain across

Row 4: (wrong side) purl all plain squares and knit all dark squares

For example, for pattern row 15, work four rows as follows:

With white yarn,

Row 1: k plain across

Row 2 (wrong side) k22, p3, k8, p7, k3, p2, k5

Switch to blue yarn

Row 3: k plain across

Row 4: (wrong side) p22, k3, p8, k7, p3, k2, p5

Top Border

For row 47 of the chart, knit the white rows. Switch to blue yarn and knit 11 rows garter stitch. Cast off.

FINISHING

Sew all ends.

Block by baptising the salamander in water and laying it flat on a towel.

For best effect, hang the finished object on a wall near a door. From across the room, the object will appear to be ordinary stripes. From the doorway, a seeker can look to the side and see the hidden message.

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