



## Catoy

Like so many knitters you might have the obnoxious skein of eyelash yarn in your stash. But are you in the lucky position to have or know a cat? Here comes a simple pattern for a knitted a cat-toy reminding of the shape of a mouse. Conveniently, there is almost no seaming involved and the piece will be fullled (felted by using the washing machine). Thus, the pattern is also very suitable for a beginner, because any wonky stitches or “lazy knots” will become undetectable.



### Materials

Some yards of  
\* eyelash yarn (e.g. *Funny* from SandnesGarn)  
100% polyester  
\* feltable yarn, preferably 100% wool, e.g. *Lopi*

Knitting needles (3 dpns for three-needle BO)  
Crochet hook  
(choose sizes according to the weight of both yarns held together)

Tapestry needle

Scraps of wool or roving for filling

Optional: Bell (I got mine from a cat collar)

### Gauge

Of no importance, really.

### Instructions

With both strands hold together CO 6sts (leave idle strands about 50 cm/20 “ for the seam)

Rnd 1 (WS): K all sts

Rnd 2 (RS): Sl1, M1, knit to last st, M1, K1

Rnd 3 (WS): Sl1, K all sts

Repeat round 2 and 3 until you have 20 sts.

Proceed in garter stitch\* until peace measures 10 cm/ 4” or desired length (will shrink due to the fulling process!)

\*you can knit in the round from here for avoiding seams completely. However, I prefer adding the crochet seam because it uses the CO strand, strengthens the tail and adds a more mousy shape to *Catoy*.

K 10 sts

Divide piece onto two needles, 10 sts each and fold together.

Begin three-needle-BO until the last four sts (2 on each needle)

Place remaining four sts back on one needle (or stitch holder).

Fill “mouse” body with strands of yarn (wound loosely) or roving.

With strands from the CO side, close seam using single crochet stitch along the “V’s” of the edge.

Begin knitting an I-cord over the remaining four stitches for 20 cm / 8” or desired length.

Carry the left-over strand from the seam along the inside of the I-cord or knit with both (double) strands together until the yarn runs out. (It is desirable to add extra strength here!).

Cut yarn leaving 25 cm/10”.

Thread bell onto yarn, K2, place bell, K2.

Next rnd: K2, with tapestry needle thread yarn again through the bell, K2.

K one more round, pull yarn through loops and fasten with a tight knot. Cut yarn or pull along the inside of the I-cord, it will disappear during the fulling process.

Throw the finished *Catoy* in the washing machine next time you are washing jeans or other items that tolerate an agitated hot wash cycle for “soiled” clothes – if you can wait for so long. However, you might want to repeat this process one or two times because the *Catoy* should be of dense fabric before being test-played by your kitty.

*Tip:* Store your *Catoy* in a jar with catnip for some hours and it will be appreciated even more!