

# Spumellariinid

## Archaeospongoprimum cortinaensis

A Radiolarian Knitting Pattern  
By Naomi Spinak, Science Fiber



[www.joidesresolution.org](http://www.joidesresolution.org)



### FINISHED SIZE:

Approximately 14 inches long and 5 inches wide at center

### YARN:

I used Tahki Tweed in the sample on the left. You could use any worsted to get a radiolarian of approximately this size, or experiment with different sizes and colors for a varied model.

You need approximately 1 oz or 55 yards of yarn.

### NEEDLES AND NOTIONS:

US Size 7 Double Point Needles

Darning Needle for weaving in ends

Locking markers

Approximately 2-4 oz wool roving or polyfill for stuffing

### GAUGE:

17 sts and 26 rows in 4 inches.

Gauge is not essential in this project unless you are set on exact size of stuffed animal. You should choose a needle size 1-2 sizes smaller than suggested on ball band so the stuffing stays put.

### SKILLS NEEDED:

Intermediate level. Knitting in the round on double point needles.

### GLOSSARY:

•P= Purl

•PFB= Purl front and back of same stitch to increase

•P2Tog: Purl 2 together to decrease

•MB- Make bobble as follows: Knit into front, then back, then front of the same stitch. Turn. Purl those same three stitches. Turn. Knit 3 stitches. Turn. Purl three stitches. Turn. Knit those three stitches, then pass the first two individually over the last. You should not have increased any stitches, but you should have a bobble.

•If you need more help on this stitch, you can try You Tube:

•Wool and the Gang How to Knit a Bobble Stitch for a similar style, or another style of bobble.

## Instructions:

### Start the first spine:

Cast on 3 stitches on double point size 7 needles or size needed to get your gauge.

Divide your stitches onto 3 needles (this will be tricky but it will get easier). Join to work in the round.

Round 1: PFB on each stitch (6 stitches total). Place a marker to indicate the beginning of the round.

Round 2: Purl.

Round 3: Increase row: \*P1, PFB\* Repeat 3 times. (9 stitches total)

Purl in the round until your spine (the needlelike projection in a Radiolarian) is about 3.5 inches. Thread the tail onto a darning needle and thread through end to close. Draw end to inside.

Take a small pinch of stuffing (olive sized) and stuff it down into the tip of the spine with a spare knitting needle. Continue to add bits of stuffing until the tube holds its shape.

Purl until the spine is approximately 4.25 inches from the tip.

### Next round: Start the central capsule or shell:

Round 1: Increase round: \*P1, PFB, P1\* Repeat \*\*3 times. (12 sts total)

2: Purl.

3: Increase round: \*P1, PFB, P1, PFB\* Repeat \*\*3 times. (18 sts total)

4: Purl.

5: \*P1, MB, P2, MB, P1\* Repeat \*\* 3 times.

6: Purl.

7: Increase round. \*P1, PFB, P2, PFB, P1\* (24 stitches total, 8 per needle)

8. Needle 1: MB, P2, MB, P2, MB, P1, Needle 2: P2, MB, P3, MB, P1,

Needle 3: P2, MB, P3, MB, P1

9: Purl.

10. Increase round: \*PFB, P2, PFB, P2, PFB, P\* Repeat \*\* 3 times.

(33 stitches total, 11 per needle)

11. Needle 1: P2, MB, P4, MB, P3, Needle 2: MB, P5, MB, P4 Needle 3:

P1, MB, P4, MB, P4

12-13. Purl.

14. Needle 1: P3, MB, P5, MB, P1, Needle 2: P4, MB, P4, MB, P1,

Needle 3: P4, MB, P4, MB, P1

15-16. Purl.

Continue stuffing as you go.

17. \*P1, MB, P5, MB, P3\* Repeat \*\* 3 times.

18: Purl.

19. Decrease round: \*P2, P2Tog, P2, P2 Tog, P1, P2Tog\* Repeat \*\*3 times.

(24 stitches remain).

20. \*MB, P2, MB, P4\* Repeat \*\* 3 times.

21. Purl.

22. Decrease round: \*P1, P2Tog, P1, P2Tog, P2\* Repeat \*\*3 times.

(18 stitches remain)

23. \*P1, MB, P2, MB, P1

24. Purl.

25. Decrease round: \*P1, P2Tog, P1, P2Tog\* Repeat \*3 times. (12 sts)

26. Purl.

27. Decrease round: \*P1, P2Tog, P1\* Repeat \*\* 3 times. (9 sts)

Stuff remainder of capsule.

### Knit remaining spine:

Purl in the round until tube is 3 3/4" long.

Next round: Decrease round: \*P1, P2Tog\* Repeat \*\*3x. (6 sts)

Finish stuffing. Purl one round. Next round: \*P2Tog\*3 times. Cut yarn,

draw through remaining stitches to close. Pull ends of yarn to middle and cut.

