

THE TIKKUNTREE PROJECT: growing peace stitch by stitch

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Safed Double Leaf (seamless, knit in the round on dpns)

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Here is a new leaf for the TikkunTree. I'm calling it the "Safed" Leaf, since it reminds me of the primitive art of Shalom of Safed. This leaf is knit from stem to tip, on double-point needles, and is finished unstuffed. By applying toe-up sock technique and "double-knitting", I've created an entirely seamless two-sided leaf. It can be made with more or less texture (veining), as you choose (no veins, some veins, or many veins)

Materials

- worsted weight green or gray yarn
- a set of size 6 double-point needles (I used 5" long needles for ease of working, but any length will do)

Notes and abbreviations

- The pattern is based on a 17-stitch repeat (the large veined Tree Undone leaf), separated by a single k1
- **CO** = cast on, using the "knit-on" method (see illustrations below)
- **M1** = yo on the row in which the instruction occurs, **ktbl** (knit through back loop) or **ptbl** (purl through the back loop) on the next row, to make an invisible increase
- **[Sl2tog, k1, p2sso]** = slip 2 sts together knit-wise, as if knitting them together, knit next stitch, pass the slipped sts together over the knit st. This double-decrease produces the center vein of the leaf pattern



Directions for the highly textured "Safed" leaf

Stem

CO 5 on dpns.

Working on 2 dpns, work these 5 sts as I-cord for 5 rows, producing a stem.

Now continue by casting on sts for the two sides of the leaf on the same needle, as follows.

Leaf

- Row 1: CO 15 sts (20 sts)
Row 2: *sl 1, k1* across to end (10x), CO 14, turn (34 sts)
Row 3: *sl 1, k1* across to end (17x)
Row 4: *sl 1, k1* across to end, turn, repeat **

Separate these stitches (which are both the front and back leaf stitches on the single dpn needle) by redistributing the slipped sts onto 1 dpn and the knitted sts onto another dpn. Then redistribute the sts again onto 4 dpns (10 sts on needles 1 & 3, 7 sts needles 2 & 4). This may seem unnecessarily complicated, but it results in the seamless start to the leaf.

Continue on 4 dpns as follows:

- Row 5: *K1, m1, K6, [sl2tog, k1, p2sso], K6, m1, K1*, repeat ** (34 sts)
Row 6: knit around, remembering to knit the yo's through the back loop) (or: *K1, ktbl, P13, ktbl*, repeat **)
Row 7: *P8, K1, P8,* repeat **
Row 8: Repeat row 7
Rows 9-12: Repeat rows 5-8
Row 13-16: Repeat rows 5-8
Rows 14-17: Repeat rows 5-8
Row 18: *K7, [sl2tog, k1, p2sso], K7*, repeat ** (30 sts)
Row 19: knit



Rows 20-21: *P7, K1, P7,* repeat
 Row 22: *K6, [sl2tog, k1, p2sso], K6,* P1, repeat ** (26 sts)
 Row 23: knit
 Row 24-25: *P6, K1, P6*, repeat **
 Row 26: *K5, [sl2tog, k1, p2sso], K5,* P1, repeat ** (22 sts)
 Row 27: knit
 Row 28: *P4, [sl2tog, k1, p2sso], P4* repeat ** (18 sts)
 Row 29: *P4, K1, P4*, repeat **
 Row 30: *K3, [sl2tog, k1, p2sso], K3,* P1, repeat ** (14 sts)
 Row 31: knit
 Row 32: *P2, [sl2tog, k1, p2sso], P2*, repeat ** (10)
 Row 33: *P2, K1, P2*, repeat **
 Row 34: *K1, [sl2tog, k1, p2sso], K1*, repeat ** (6 sts)
 Row 35: knit
 Row 36: [sl2tog, k1, p2sso] 2x (2 sts)
 Break yarn, leaving a long tail (12" or more), and tie off the last 2 sts, then sink the yarn in the center of the leaf "pocket".
 Voila! A seamless 3-D leaf!

Directions for the basic "Safed" Tikkun Tree Leaf – with no veins

Works as for the Textured "Safed" Leaf above, but **all rows are knit rows.**

CO 5 on dpns for the stem.

Working on 2 dpns, work these 5 sts as I-cord for 5 rows.

Now continue by casting on sts for the two sides of the leaf on the same needle, as follows.

Row 1: CO 15 sts (20 sts)
 Row 2: *sl 1, k1* across to end (10x), CO 14, turn (34 sts)
 Row 3: *sl 1, k1* across to end (17x)
 Row 4: *sl 1, k1* across to end, turn, repeat **

Separate these stitches (which are both the front and back leaf stitches on the single dpn needle) by redistributing the slipped sts onto 1 dpn and the knitted sts onto another dpn. Then redistribute the sts again onto 4 dpns (10 sts on needles 1 & 3, 7 sts needles 2 & 4). This may seem unnecessarily complicated, but it results in the seamless start to the leaf.

Continue on 4 dpns as follows:

Row 5: *K1, m1, K6, [sl2tog, k1, p2sso], K6, m1, K1*, repeat ** (34 sts)
 Row 6: knit around, remembering to knit the yo's through the back loop) (or: *K1, ktbl, P13, ktbl*, repeat **)
 Row 7: *P8, K1, P8,* repeat **
 Row 8: Repeat row 7
 Rows 9-12: Repeat rows 5-8
 Row 13-16: Repeat rows 5-8
 Rows 14-17: Repeat rows 5-8
 Row 18: *K7, [sl2tog, k1, p2sso], K7*, repeat ** (30 sts)
 Row 19: knit
 Rows 20-21: *P7, K1, P7,* repeat
 Row 22: *K6, [sl2tog, k1, p2sso], K6,* P1, repeat ** (26 sts)
 Row 23: knit
 Row 24-25: *P6, K1, P6*, repeat **
 Row 26: *K5, [sl2tog, k1, p2sso], K5,* P1, repeat ** (22 sts)
 Row 27: knit
 Row 28: *P4, [sl2tog, k1, p2sso], P4* repeat ** (18 sts)
 Row 29: *P4, K1, P4*, repeat **
 Row 30: *K3, [sl2tog, k1, p2sso], K3,* P1, repeat ** (14 sts)
 Row 31: knit
 Row 32: *P2, [sl2tog, k1, p2sso], P2*, repeat ** (10)
 Row 33: *P2, K1, P2*, repeat **
 Row 34: *K1, [sl2tog, k1, p2sso], K1*, repeat ** (6 sts)
 Row 35: knit
 Row 36: [sl2tog, k1, p2sso] 2x (2 sts)
 Break yarn, leaving a long tail (12" or more), and tie off the last 2 sts, then sink the yarn in the center of the leaf "pocket".

Voila! A seamless 3-D leaf!