

ARNE & CARLOS

SHOPPING LIST

YARN

We have used ROWAN'S Alpaca Soft DK to knit our Christmas Balls, but any DK yarn suitable to use with 3.5 mm (U.S 4) needles will do. You will need the following colours and quantities to knit all 24 balls:

201 Simply White x 4 balls (200g / 500 m / 548 yds)

206 Deep Rose x 3 balls (150g / 375 m / 411 yds)

215 Clover x 1 ball (50g / 125 m / 137 yds)

ROWAN Alpaca Soft DK

70% Virgin Wool, 30% Alpaca
125 m (137 yds) per 50g ball



Simply White 201



Deep Rose 206



Clover 215

[Click on this button to get the yarn](#)

GAUGE: Make sure that your gauge is 23 stitches and 28 rows to 10 cm (4 inches). If you knit looser than that, *you must go down a size in needles* to get the correct gauge that we indicate in this chapter; otherwise, you will run out of 201 Simply White and possibly also 206 Deep Rose, if you base your purchase on the above information on yarn quantities for Alpaca Soft DK and knit to a looser tension.

STUFFING

Use 100% wool batting for stuffing because they make the balls firmer and suppler and they keep their shape. Although this material is more expensive, you will need less filling per ball. Choose natural white or beige colours. Figure on about 20 gr / .70 oz per ball

CRYSTALS or RHINESTONES

Because we are celebrating that our Christmas Balls book is ten years old, we have embellished all 24 new balls with flat back Swarovski Crystals (you can also use rhinestones which you can get in craft stores). Usually, these come with glue on the flat back, and you are supposed to iron them on, but because we embellish *after* we have stuffed the balls, we have chosen not to use the iron and instead, we use glue to attach the crystals to the balls. We have used super-glue to ensure that they stay on forever!

ARNE & CARLOS

NEEDLES and HOOKS

The principle of knitting a Christmas Ball is the same as knitting a sock in the round (except you don't need to turn a heel) and therefore, you will need the same kind of needles you would use when knitting socks.

Personally, we will *always* knit the balls using a set of 5 dpns. However, the balls can also be knitted using a long circular needle (magic loop) or using two short circular needles - it's up to you!

Whichever way you prefer knitting the Christmas Balls, the size of the needles should be 3.5 mm (U.S. size 4)

You will also need a crochet hook size 3 mm (U.S. size D3) to make the hanging loops and a blunt embroidery needle to weave in the loose ends and to attach the hanging loops.

We highly recommend PRYM ERGONOMIC NEEDLES. We love the white needles as it makes it so easy to see the stitches. The round tips of the needles are perfect for keeping the stitches in place as they aren't able to slide off. And the triangular shape of the needles makes them very comfortable to hold. PRYM ergonomic needles are now also available in black carbon material, in addition to the white composite material that we like so much. They are available as double pointed needles as well as circular needles with an excellent metal cable that has memory and doesn't get tangled.

Click on the buttons below to purchase the needles. For countries outside North America and Europe, please select International.

[PRYM Europe](#)

[PRYM North America](#)

[INTERNATIONAL](#)

[PRYM Germany](#)

Check our Knitting and Purling* the Norwegian way video tutorials by clicking on the buttons below:

[How to Knit the Norwegian Way](#)

[How to Purl* the Norwegian Way](#)

*There is no purling in the basic pattern for the Christmas Balls, as you knit in the round.