

KnitToday

Knit leaves as
embellishments

Skill level  Intermediate

LEAF CUSHIONS 

Autumn cushions

Take your needles beyond standard
cushion patterns with these seasonal
leaf designs, by **HELEN ARDLEY**

Start knitting today! 

September 2009 | Knit Today | 65

H LEAF CUSHIONS

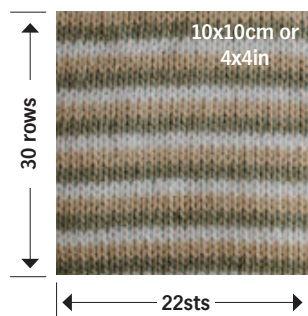
Pattern details

You will need...

- ✓ **Colour A**
3 x 50g balls of Stylecraft Kon Tiki DK in Pampas (shade 1442)
- ✓ **Colour B**
3 x 50g balls of Stylecraft Kon Tiki DK in Beige (shade 1455)
- ✓ **Colour C**
3 x 50g balls of Stylecraft Kon Tiki DK in Ivory (shade 1443)
- ✓ **Needles**
4mm (UK size 8) knitting needles
- ✓ **Other**
Eight small buttons per cushion

Tension

Yarn used knits as DK – 22sts and 30 rows to 10cm or 4in over st st, using 4mm (UK size 8) needles.



IN THE DETAIL

Follow the pictures here to sew on your leaves in an elegant starburst design, or in the classic falling leaves pattern at the top of the next page.

Get your home ready for autumn with these stylish leaf cushion covers. They're a simple way to update your garden or conservatory furniture, or use them

indoors, where they can be enjoyed all year.

Modern stripes create the background for our cushions covers, then bring them to life by knitting the leaves separately and sewing them onto the front. We've got two gorgeous arrangements for you to try – start with the easy falling leaves pattern, then have a go at the more challenging starburst design. Or, if you're feeling creative, why not experiment and see what patterns you can come up with yourself? We'd love to know how you get on!



Start here!

FRONT

With 4mm needles and colour A, **cast on** 88sts.

Row 1: Knit.

Row 2: Purl.

These two rows form st st.

Change to colour B, and work two rows in st st.

Change to colour C, and work two rows in st st.

These six rows form the stripe pattern.

Cont in stripe pattern until work measures

40cm or 15³/₄in. Cast off.

BACK WITH BUTTON BAND

With 4mm needles and colour A, **cast on** 88sts.

Cont as for front until work measures 19cm or 7¹/₂in, ending after a purl row.

Keeping stripe pattern correct, now work in moss st as follows:

Next row: *K1, P1 rep from * to end.

Next row: *P1, K1 rep from * to end.

These two rows form moss st. Work a further four rows in moss st. Cast off.

BACK WITH BUTTONHOLE BAND

Work as for back with button band until you reach 19cm or 7¹/₂in. Keeping stripe pattern correct, work two rows in moss st.

Next row (buttonhole row): (K1, P1) four times,

Our cushion covers close with a neat row of eight buttons





*k2tog, yf, (K1, P1) four times, rep from * to end.
Work a further three rows in moss st.
Cast off.

LEAVES

For the rising leaves design, make seven leaves in each yarn colour. 21 leaves total.

For the starburst leaves design, make 16 leaves in colour A, and eight leaves each in colours B and C. 32 leaves total.

Cast on 5sts.

Row 1: K2, yf, K1, yf, K2. 7sts.

Row 2 and all even rows: Purl.

Row 3: K3, yf, K1, yf, K3. 9sts.

Row 5: K4, yf, K1, yf, K4. 11sts.

Row 7: K5, yf, K1, yf, K5. 13sts.

Row 9: Sl1, K1, pssso, K9, k2tog. 11sts.

Row 11: Sl1, K1, pssso, K7, k2tog. 9sts.

Row 13: Sl1, K1, pssso, K5, k2tog. 7sts.

Row 15: Sl1, K1, pssso, K3, k2tog. 5sts.

Row 17: Sl1, K1, pssso, K1, k2tog. 3sts.

Row 19: Sl1, k2tog, pssso. 1st.

Fasten off.

MAKE UP

Sew in any loose ends.

With wrong sides facing, and using mattress stitch, sew the front onto the two backs, making sure that the button band goes under the buttonhole band.

Using the photograph as a guide, sew the leaves onto the front of the cushions in either the rising leaves or starburst designs. Lastly, sew the eight buttons onto the button band, matching the position of each buttonhole. ■

LEAF CUSHIONS H



“Try making up your own design with the leaves, or knit them in different colours to add your own touch.”

Helen Ardley

Abbreviations

cm	centimetre(s)
cont	continue
in	inch(es)
K	knit
k2tog	knit 2sts together
P	purl
pssso	pass slipped sts over
rep	repeat
sl1	slip 1st from left to right needle
st(s)	stitch(es)
st st	stocking stitch
yf	yarn forward

Finished size

40x40cm or 15³/₄x15³/₄in

TopTip

Sew on each leaf loosely until you're sure you've got them in the right positions, and then secure them with more thread