



BANANA COZY

By Jennifer McCann, author of [Vegan Lunch Box](http://www.veganlunchbox.com) (www.veganlunchbox.com)

Don't send your little monkey to school with a smushy banana! Knit this cute cotton **Banana Cozy** and bruises will be a thing of the past.



Materials:

- ❖ 100% cotton 4-ply worsted weight yarn, such as Sugar'n Cream or Lion Brand Kitchen Cotton: one ball main color and a small amount of contrasting color.
- ❖ One set of 4 double-pointed needles in size 7 (4.5 mm) or size to obtain gauge.
- ❖ Size H crochet hook.
- ❖ One $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch (15 mm) button.

Gauge:

- ❖ 20 sts = 4 inches (10 cm) in stockinette

Directions:

Cast on **12 stitches** in contrasting color. Divide evenly onto three needles (4 stitches on each needle). Join in the round and **knit 2 rounds** in stockinette stitch (knit every round).

Switch to main color and begin increases:

Round 1: On each needle, K1, M1, knit to end of needle.

Round 2: On each needle, knit to last stitch, M1, knit last stitch.

Repeat these two rounds until you have 24 stitches total (8 stitches on each needle).

Continue knitting even in until the piece measures **6 inches** from the beginning.

Now it's time to stop knitting in the round. Instead turn the work and begin knitting back and forth (purl on the wrong side, knit on right side). Continue until the piece measures **8 inches** from the beginning. Begin decreases:

Row 1 (wrong side): On each needle, P1, P2tog, purl to end.

Row 2 (right side): On each needle, K2tog, knit to end of needle.

Repeat these two rows until you have **12 stitches** left (4 on each needle).

Switch to contrasting color and decrease one more time (**3 stitches** left on each needle).

Knit 4 more rows in stockinette (purl on wrong side, knit on right side). Cast off.

Finishing:

Thread the tail yarn and use it to cinch up the bottom 12 stitches. Attach the button near the top of the banana at one side of the opening. Use the crochet hook to crochet a 10 st. single-chain loop and attach it opposite the button. Weave in all ends.