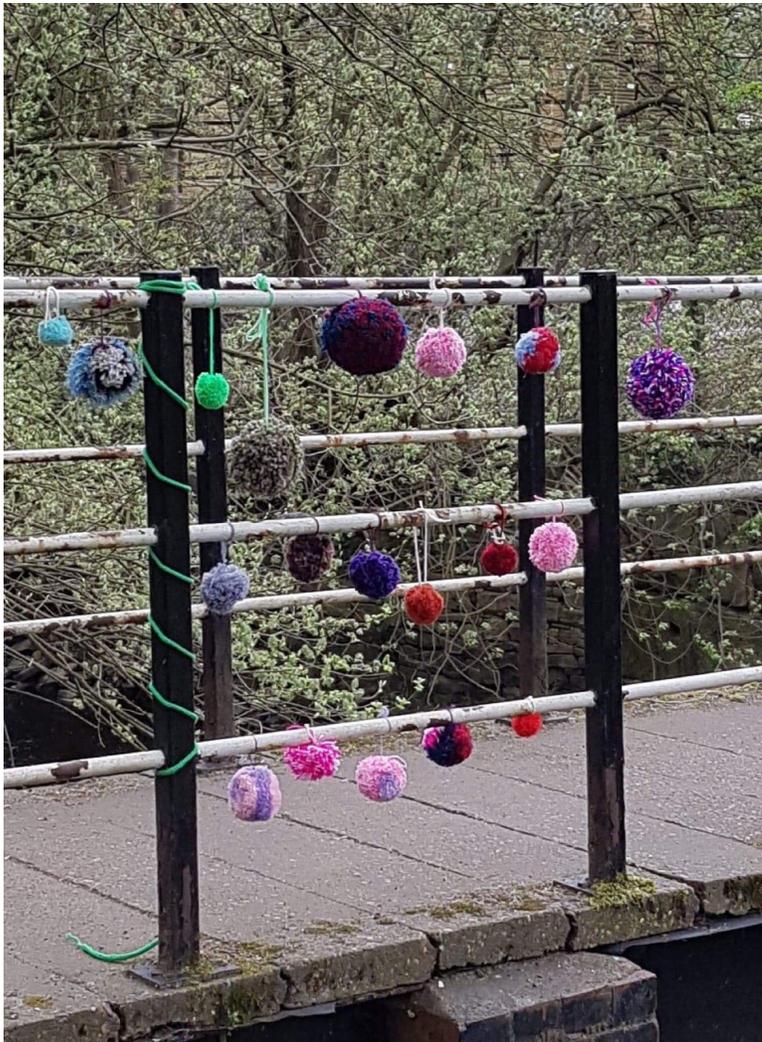


POM POM/TASSELS AND OTHER FRIPPERIES

A yarn bombing starter kit for the making of simple pom poms and tassels with some ideas on using existing shapes in the kit to make up flowers etc.



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PomPoms

There are many ways of making pom pom's. They can be all sorts of shapes and sizes and are a good way of using up left over bits and pieces of wool. You can experiment with different thicknesses of wool and layering different colours. However you create your pom-poms the secret to success lies in the tightness you can achieve when you secure them around the middle, so making them with others is helpful here – 2 pairs of hands ! Use a strong yarn to do this too, so you can pull in hard without breaking, string or twine would work and can be used to attach them when decorating. You will easily find different ways of making pom-poms on the internet and there are a number of commercial pom-pom making devices too, however for yarn bombing purposes - remember they don't have to be thick, dense balls or very uniform, you are looking for effect , not close-up, garment quality. They make a great group activity for all ages – so why not have a pom-pom party! Here are some simple, low-tech methods to get you started.

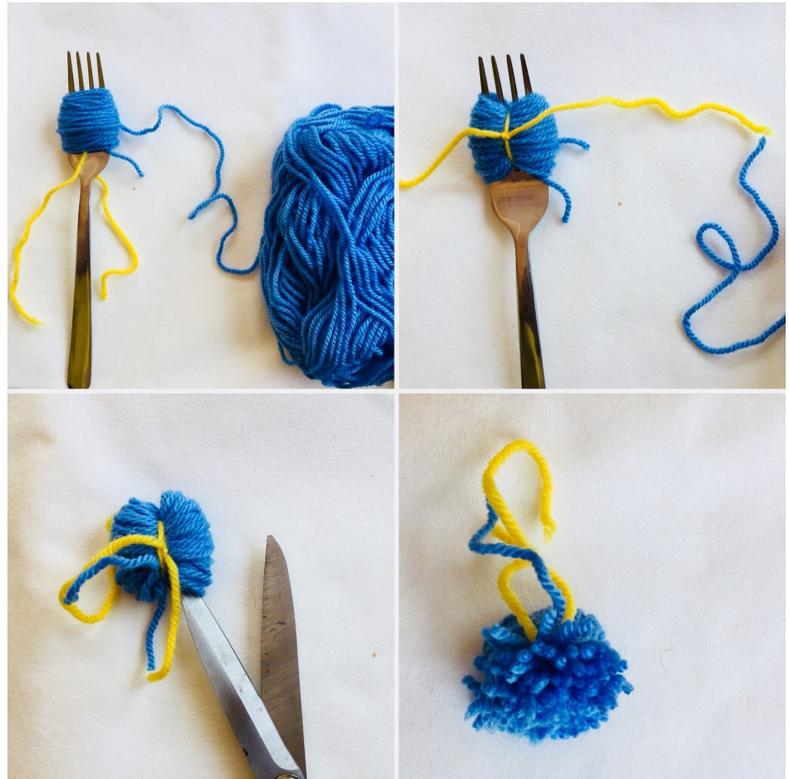
METHOD 1: Card template (you may remember this from school)

1. Cut 2 circles of card the same size, with identical circles cut out from the middle. The diameter of circle will govern the size of pompom. Example shown is 10cm diameter with a 2cm circle in the middle. Cut a wedge slice out of your disc.
2. Place a strand of wool 30cm long around the hole, between the two shapes.
3. Wind wool around shape about 150 times as evenly as possible until the hole will just allow your finger through. It will be quicker if you use 2 lengths at once.
4. Bring 2 ends of 30cm centre strands together and secure with a half knot.
5. Hold the pom-pom shape on a finger through centre as you cut through the wool at edge.
6. Tighten centre strand as tightly as you can and secure, remove card template, fluff up and trim



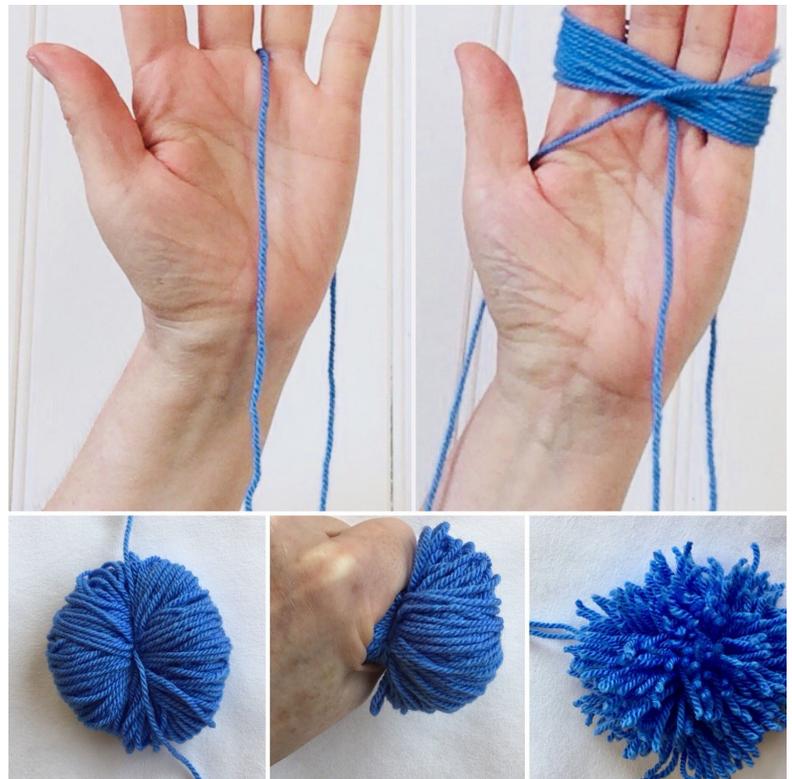
METHOD 2: Fork (use a straight, long-pronged design)

1. Take a stand of wool about 20cms long equally between the middle 2 prongs of the fork and hold with the handle.
2. Wrap your wool, around your fork evenly to a width of about 6 cm, keep layering at this width, building up the thickness and squeeze edges together. (You can try out different thicknesses to get desired effect).
3. When you have a plump ball cut your yarn. Bring the centre strand from the back, through the prongs to the front and tie off as tight as you can.
4. Remove from fork and snip all the way round the edge doing one half then the other. Use pointy, sharp scissors.
5. Fluff and trim.



METHOD 3: Fingers.

1. Cut a 30cm strand of wool and place between fingers.
2. Take the end of your wool and lay a long strand in front of your fingers hanging approx. 10cm below your hand.
3. Wind the wool round your 4 fingers between 100-200 times cut the wool 10cm below your hand.
4. Bring the 30cm strand up and secure in a half knot. Tie tightly. Carefully remove wound ball of wool from fingers and lay on table.
5. Make sure your 2 longer tail strands are hanging on the outside of the ball and cut the loops round the outside.
6. Keep the 2 tail strands separate, fluff and trim.
7. Use your tail strands to attach to objects whilst yarn bombing..



Tassles

SIMPLE TASSEL

1. Cut a piece of box card to the desired length of your tassel.
2. Cut 2 strands of wool 30cm long.
3. Wrap your wool around 40 times and cut.
4. Thread a 1x30cm strand of wool through the top loops, pull together and tie off (the strands can be used to attach).
5. Cut loops at the bottom. Wind second 30cm strand round tassel 10cm from top 4 times and tie off tightly.



Flowers and creatures

For the more experienced knitter or crocheter there are a number of excellent pattern books for all sorts of flowers, foliage and creatures.

You could use the crochet droplet as petals of a flower, or here's a some simple knitted petals in garter stitch, make 6 and join together with a pom-pom centre

Using double thickness wool and 6mm needles

Cast on 5 sts and knit 2 rows

Row 3: k1, kfb, k1, kfb, k1 (7 sts)

Row 4: Knit

Row 5: k1, kfb, k3, kfb, k1 (9 sts)

Row 6: Knit

Row 7: k1, kfb, k5, kfb, k1 (11 sts)

Row 8 : Knit

Row 9: k1, kfb, k7, kfb, k1 (13 sts)

Knit 7 rows

Row 17: k1, k2tog, k7, k2tog, k1 (11 sts)

Row 18: Knit

Row 19: k1, k2tog, k5, k2tog, k1 (9 sts)

Row 20: Knit

Row 21: k1, k2tog, k3, k2tog, k1 (7 sts)

Row 22: Knit

Row 23: k1, k2tog, k1, k2tog, k1 (5 sts)

Knit 3 rows

Row 27: k2tog, k1, k2tog (3 sts)

Row 28: Knit

Row 29: K3tog and finish



Knit Abbreviations:

k	knit
kfb	knit through front and back of loop
k2tog	knit 2 together
k3tog	knit 3 together

Cords

These are useful in yarn bombing to tie on to, peg up motifs, wrap around posts or to lace up bigger pieces around a shape or object. It can be made in many ways.

You can

Use a repeated single crochet stitch, this is more string like, but allows you to join your bunting onto the string. Just crochet into the top your bunting at equal intervals as you create the string.

Make French Knitting using a 'Nancy' or 'loom' where you weave yarn around pegs and use a bodkin to slip the yarn over the loops.

Knit some cord using double pointed needles see pattern below

1. 2 x 4mm double pointed needles
2. Cast on 3 stitches . (This is the thinnest lcord you can knit, more stitches makes a thicker cord)
3. Slide stitches to other end of needle
4. Bring working yard behind and Knit 1 row.
5. Repeat until you reach desired length and cast off



Crochet chain



French knitting 'Nancy'