

Yarn work is part of everyday life for me. My project is a lidded yarn bowl in the form of a big 'ol mushroom. I was inspired to create this form from looking at vintage kitsch ceramic mushroom jars online. This image specifically:



Ain't it just the cutest? I ran into the problem of how to make a mushroom-jar form that would allow yarn to run through an opening to function as a yarn bowl. So obviously, I made it into a little house with a chimney, steps, window, and door. I also included a small bird, as a treat.

Initially, I struggled with the prompt for this project: elevating my everyday life with craft. But, in considering that I use knitting and crocheting as a relaxing and decompressing activity, I figured that using art to make art would be pretty crafty of me. Now I get to look at a little mushroom house when I knit instead of a little lump of yarn.

I also struggled with the technicality of completing the jar. Ensuring that the lid would fit, that the bottom was even, and even glazing the product was a challenge. I'm pleasantly surprised with the project's turn-out! The glazes turned out to be exactly what I wanted on the first try, the jar doesn't wobble on flat surfaces, and the lid fits perfectly, with enough weight to hold down the ball of yarn.

This is definitely a personal object, rather than something to be shown in a gallery; this object serves a direct purpose. Although I made it cute and pretty to look at, it is a functional object, for me at least.





## Glazes Used:

- ❖ Pink:  $\frac{1}{2}$  Ripe Apple Red,  $\frac{1}{2}$  Perfect White
- ❖ Blue: Cobalt Blue, Celadon
- ❖ Yellow: Turmeric Matte
- ❖ Red: Paprika Matte
- ❖ White/Beige: Buckwheat