



Stripes and Blocks Double-Knit Baby Blanket

by Lisa R. Myers



SIZE

25" x 25"

MATERIALS

Manos del Uruguay ALEGRIA GRANDE (75% superwash merino wool, 25% polyamide; approx. 100g / 197 yds), 3 sk each colors A and B

Shown in AG9995 Agave (A) and AG2363 Tahiti (B).

US 6 / 4mm circular ndl, 24" or longer, or size to obtain gauge
Ring markers
Tapestry needle

GAUGE

16 sts and 28 rows = 4" over double-knit stockinette (see Notes below)

NOTES

— Double-knit fabrics often work up looser than single-color stockinette, which is why the recommended needle size is so small. Swatch around until you find a fabric that seems right to you.

— This blanket appears to be stockinette on both sides. It's as if you knit two blankets, with opposite color patterns, and sewed them together back-to-back — but both fabrics are produced at the same time and they're automatically joined at the points where the colors change.

— How it's done: Think of the stitches in pairs where a knit stitch in one color is always followed by a purl stitch in the other. All the knit stitches form the right side of the front layer of the fabric, and all the purls are the wrong side of the back layer of the fabric. So the entire blanket is worked as "k1, p1". The key is to move both yarns from the knit position to the purl position (or vice versa) between stitches, so that the floats (the short strand of yarn in the unused color that goes behind each stitch) stay on the inside of the blanket, between the two layers.



— Color changes: Working “k1A, p1B” across an entire row yields a horizontal stripe — all the stitches on the near side of the fabric are A, and all the stitches on the far side are B. When the colors change, the paired stitches reverse to “k1B, p1A”. This causes a spot with two adjacent “B” stitches: the “p1” of the last pair and the “k1” of the next. Don’t let it throw you. Just keep thinking in “k1, p1” pairs, and remember that each pair has to use opposite colors. Ring markers between color sections will help.

— Selvedges: To keep the edges tidy, make sure that the yarn for the first stitch of each row comes from underneath the other strand.

ABBREVIATIONS

CO: cast on

K: knit

M: marker

P: purl

Pm: place marker

Rep: repeat

Slm: slip marker

st(s): stitch(es)

INSTRUCTIONS

Using A, CO 40, (pm, CO 40) 4 times — 200 sts. Join B.

Row 1: (k1B, p1A) to m, *slm, (k1A, p1B) to m, slm, (k1B, p1A) to m; rep from * once to end of row.

Rows 2-7: Work sts as they appear.

Row 8: (k1A, p1B) across.

Rows 9-14: Work sts as they appear.

Rows 15-35: Rep rows 1-14, then rep rows 1-7 again.

Row 36: [(k1A, p1B) to m, slm, *(k1B, p1A) 4 times, (k1A, p1B) 4 times*, rep from * to * once, (k1B, p1A) 4 times, slm] twice, (k1A, p1B) to end.

Rows 37-70: Work sts as they appear.

Rows 71-175: Rep rows 1-70 once, then rep rows 1-35 again.

Using A, bind off in k1,p1 rib.

FINISHING

To weave in ends: For each new skein, knot end of old skein to beginning of new, leaving 6” tails on both. When knitting is complete, thread each pair through a tapestry needle, push needle through surface so that it’s between layers of the blanket, and then pass it back out again about 4” away at any random point on the surface. Pull slightly on the ends to rumple the fabric, snip ends close to surface, then spread fabric out again so ends disappear back below the surface.

Steam-block lightly if desired.

