



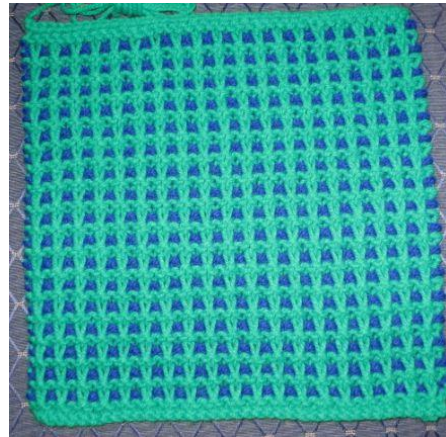
Block Stitch Square

Jan Burton

This pattern creates a great, double thickness square in two colours, without all the confusion that you get with normal fair-isle.

This stitch pattern is very useful when trying to use a soft, "unstable" yarn such as chenille or thick short eyelash, which can easily stretch out of shape used on its own.

Using the soft yarn as the background yarn, and a plain yarn for the foreground, this pattern will produce much more stable fabric suitable for blanket squares.



Materials and Equipment

- Light worsted weight yarn (US)/Double Knit (UK)/8 ply (Aust) in 2 colours
- One pair needles appropriate for the yarn being used

Abbreviations

RS: Right side of work facing

WS: Wrong side of work facing

sl1p: Slip one stitch purlways

Instructions

Note: Slip all stitches purlwise, keeping yarn on wrong side of work. i.e. on Row 3 yarn will be furthest away from you, on Row 4 yarn will be towards you.

At colour changes, don't break off yarn, but carry colour not in use up side of work.

Number of stitches: multiple of 4 + 3 (e.g. 39, 35, 31, 27) depending on yarn thickness and needle size

Using yarn A, cast on

Row 1: (RS) Using yarn A – Knit

Row 2: (WS) Using yarn A – Knit

Row 3: Using yarn B - K1, * sl1p, K1 rep from * to last 2 stitches, sl1p, K1

Row 4: Using yarn B - K1, * sl1p, K1 rep from * to last 2 stitches, sl1p, K1

Next Rows: repeat rows 1-4 until work measures 8 ins/20 cm ending with row 2

Cast off/Bind off

Leave a 50 cm/20" tail (for sewing the squares together). Butterfly* the tail to the square.

**How to 'butterfly the tail' is as easy as 1, 2, 3 . Use contrasting yarn and follow the directions:*



Sew/darn in any other ends of yarn along the side of the square

Variations(see photo below)

For more precise adjustment of number of stitches required, especially using very chunky yarn the following slight variation can be used (result will still look the same).

Number of stitches: multiple of 4 + 1 (e.g. 37, 33, 29, 25) depending on yarn thickness and needle size

Using yarn A, cast on

Row 1: (RS) Using yarn A – Knit

Row 2: (WS) Using yarn A – Knit

Row 3: Using yarn B - K2, *sl1p, K3, rep from * to last 3 stitches, sl1p, K2

Row 4: Using yarn B - K1, P1, *sl1p, P3, rep from * to last 3 stitches, sl1p, P1, K1

Next rows: Repeat rows 1-4 until work measures 8ins/20cm ending with row 2

Cast off/bind off leaving a 50cm/20ins tail of yarn (this is to sew the squares together)



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