

UnBaby Blanket

from **aknitica**

www.aknitica.wordpress.com

Designed by Steph Walker

Pattern written by Amanda Schwabe

The UnBaby Blanket is a simple, interesting knit designed with bold colours and infinite size possibilities in mind. Its right side and wrong side are different, yet equally beautiful.



Be sure to read the entire pattern through before starting, as it is more of a recipe than a step-by-step instructional.

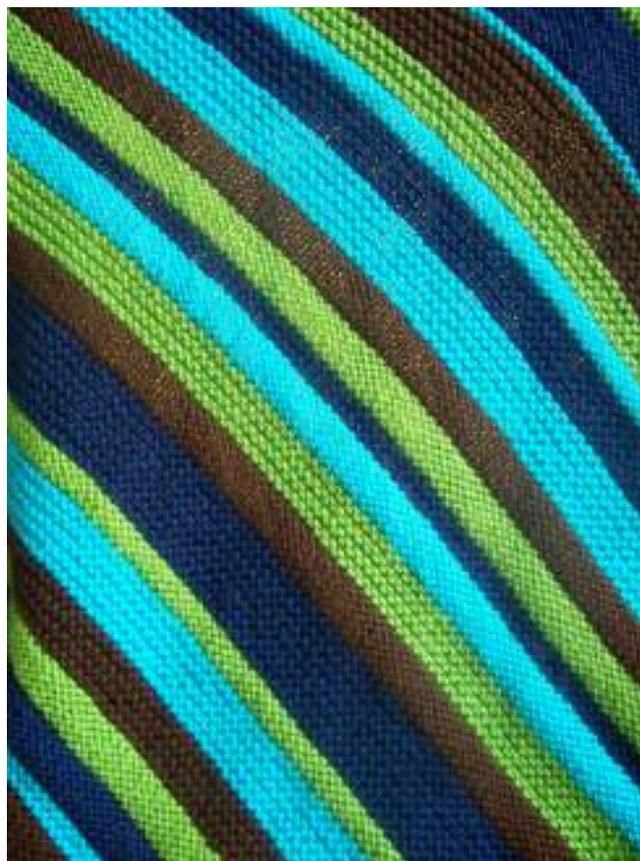
Sizes Shown in about 3' x 4'.

Yarn Medium Worsted weight, 5 oz/140 g balls, one in each of four colours, two dark, two bright. Shown in Red Heart Soft Touch in dark brown, navy blue, aqua blue, and green.

Needles Size 9 US (5.5 mm). Use either

long straight needles or a circular needle. You'll need whatever you choose to be long enough to hold up to 200 stitches (or more, if you make a huge version).

Notions Stitch marker, sharp yarn darning, scissors.



Notes

To get a clean edge, **work all edge stitches (es) as follows:** the first stitch of each row is slipped purlwise with yarn in front, and the last stitch of each row is knitted.

The blanket is worked in alternating bands of colour worked in garter stitch or reverse stockinette, distributed randomly. Each stripe can be as wide or as narrow as you like. The only rule is balance: have at least

as many garter stitch stripes as stockinette ones, if not more. Alternate patterns every other stripe, or try a combination of garter stitch stripes together before switching to the stockinette again. For the purposes of this pattern, never switch from garter stitch to reverse stockinette stitch (or vice versa) without changing colours.

In the blanket shown, the colour stripes are not in the same order, but they could be. The key to the pattern is simply to have a balance of colour and texture. Change colours and textures as you prefer.

To Change Colours, always do this on the Right side, as a **Row A**, even if it's the beginning of a Reverse Stockinette stripe. That will make all your colour-change ridges stay on the same side, showing on the “wrong” side only.

Cast On

3 sts using the long-tail method.

Row 1 (Wrong Side): es, kfb, es (4 sts)

R2: es, kfb, k1, es (5 sts)

R3: es, kfb, knit centre st, kfb, es

Note: Use a stitch marker to mark the beginning of your wrong-side (increase) rows so you don't get lost.

R4: es, knit across, es

R5: es, kfb, knit 3 centre sts, kfb, es

This establishes the beginning of your first stripe, which is in garter stitch.

Continue in pattern, increasing at each edge as established:

For a Garter stripe:

Row A (Right side): es, knit across, es

Row B: es, kfb, knit centre sts, kfb, es
Repeat rows A&B until stripe is desired width.

For a Reverse Stockinette stripe:

Row C (Right side): es, purl across, es

Row D: es, kfb, knit centre sts, kfb, es
Repeat rows C&D until stripe is desired width.

Continue as established, alternating colours and stitch patterns, until blanket is desired width. (If your stitches are all bunched up on your needle so you can't see the width clearly, take a minute to transfer them to a long piece of waste yarn so you can lay the blanket out flat and get a good look at it. Then put them all back on the needle and keep going.)

To make blanket a rectangle:

Continue in stripe pattern as established, but change all increase rows (Rows B&D) to this:

Row E: es, kfb, knit centre sts, k2tog, es
Continue until desired length, then work decreases as for square.



To make blanket a square:

Continue in stripe pattern as established, but change all increase rows to this decrease row:

Row F: es, ssk, knit centre sts, k2tog, es
When there are only 3 or 4 sts left, cast off.
Sew in ends.

Abbreviations, Definitions, Tips, and Explanations

kfb Knit front & back. Knit into the front loop and back loop of the stitch. It will look like a knit one, purl one, and one stitch is increased.

es Edge stitch. The first stitch of each row is slipped purlwise with yarn in front, and the last stitch of each row is knitted. Alternately, you can knit the first stitch and slip the last stitch purlwise with yarn in front. It's completely up to you.

k2tog Knit two together. (Knit the next 2 stitches together at the same time. One stitch has been decreased, and the decrease leans right.)

ssk Slip, slip, knit. (Slip the next stitch knitwise, then slip the *next* stitch knitwise. Then, insert the tip of your left needle into the fronts of those two stitches on your right hand needle and knit them together. One stitch has been decreased, and the decrease leans left.)

Garter stitch In flat knitting, every row is knit.

Reverse Stockinette In flat knitting, knit one row, purl one row. It is the purl side that is the "right" side.

To sew in the ends neatly, I found the best method for this pattern was to skim the yarn along the join between colours on the right side. The slight dimple made where the colours meet hid the strands especially well. Just make sure that as you pull each end, the edge stitch attached to it becomes the size that matches the others, not too tight or too loose. Also, keep your blue ends woven into blue yarn, etc, for extra camouflage.



For pattern support

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I'd love to hear from you!

