

Introduction

Making an afghan or knitted blanket can be a daunting project. Too many beginning knitters think, “I’ll do a blanket – no seams, no increases or decreases – that’s a good place to start.” And then reality sets in! You’ve got 200+ stitches on your needles, only 7 inches done and you’re thinking, “I’ll NEVER finish this.” Guess what ... lots of experienced knitters have the same reaction!

A Sampler Blanket is the perfect solution. It is also an excellent learning project for beginners. A Sampler Blanket involves knitting a number of 8” squares, then sewing them together. You get to learn some fun, interesting stitch patterns and you get some invaluable practice at stitching knit pieces together.

A Sampler Blanket relies on the stitch patterns to create to pattern and texture of the finished piece. Choosing the right yarn to showcase that is the key to a beautiful finished project.

Yarns **NOT** to choose include variegated or multi-coloured yarns and dark colours. The pattern stitches will not show up in either of these choices. A good yarn choice for the Sampler Blanket is medium-to-light solid colours. And one colour for the blanket is also best to best display your beautiful work.

Sampler Blanket

Materials



Worsted Weight yarn
US Size 9 Knitting Needles

Gauge

18 sts & 24 rows = 4"

Glossary

kfb – knit in front and back of the stitch

k2tog – knit 2 stitches together

M1 – make a stitch by knitting into the bar between 2
stitches

pssو – pass slipped stitch over knit stitch

RS – right side

WS – wrong side

BLOCK 1 - Broken Rib

Make 4

Cast on 37 sts.

Row 1: (RS) Knit

Row 2: *K1, P1*, repeat from * to * to last stitch, K1

Repeat these 2 rows until piece measure 8" long or is square (approx. 48 rows)

BLOCK 2 - Seersucker

Make 4

Cast on 37 sts.

Row 1: (RS) *K1, P1*, repeat from * to * to last stitch, K1.

Row 2: Work stitches as presented. (i.e. knit the knit stitches and purl the purl stitches)

Row 3: *P1, K3*, repeat from * to * to last stitch, K1.

Row 4: Work stitches as presented.

Row 5: *K1, P1*, repeat from * to * across row.

Row 6: Work stitches as presented.

Row 7: *K2, P1, K1*, repeat from * to * to last stitch, K1.

Row 8: Work stitches as presented.

Repeat rows 1-8 until piece measures 8" long or is square.

BLOCK 3 - Grid Stitch

Make 4

Cast on 37 sts.

Row 1: (RS) *K1, P1*, repeat from * to * to last stitch, K1.

Row 2: Work stitches as presented.

Row 3: Knit.

Row 4: Knit.

Repeat rows 1-4 until piece measures 8" long is square.
(Approx. 12 times)

BLOCK 4 - Andalusian Stitch

Make 4

Cast on 37 sts.

Row 1: (RS) Knit.

Row 2: Purl.

Row 3: Knit.

Row 4: *K1, P1*, repeat from * to * to last stitch, K1..

Repeat rows 1-4 until piece measures 8" long is square.
(Approx. 12 times)

BLOCK 5 - Woven Stitch I

Make 4

Cast on 37 sts.

Row 1: (RS) K1, *K1, slip 1 purl-wise with yarn in front*, repeat from * to * to end of row

Row 2: Purl.

Row 3: *K1, slip 1 purl-wise with yarn in front*, repeat from * to * to last stitch, K1

Row 4: Purl

Repeat rows 1-4 until piece measures 8" long is square.
(Approx. 12 times)

BLOCK 6 - Woven Stitch II

Make 4

Cast on 37 sts. Note: work this pattern stitch somewhat loosely.

Row 1: (RS) K1, *Slip 1, K1, YO, pass slipped stitch over knit stitch and YO*, repeat from * to * to last 2 stitches, K2.

Row 2: Purl.

Repeat rows 1-24 until piece measures 8" long is square. (Approx. 24 times)

BLOCK 7 - Ridge Stitch

Make 4

Cast on 38 sts.

Row 1: (RS) Knit.

Row 2: *K1, k2tog*, repeat from * to * to last stitch, K1.

Row 3: K1, *kfb*, repeat to last stitch, K1.

Row 4: Purl.

Repeat rows 1-4 until piece measures 8" long is square.
(Approx. 12 times)

BLOCK 8 - Bamboo Stitch

Make 4

Cast on 38 sts.

Row 1: (RS) K1, *YO, K2, pass YO over both knitted stitches*, repeat from

* to * to last stitch, K1

Row 2: Purl.

Repeat rows 1-4 until piece measures 8" long is square.
(Approx. 12 times)

BLOCK 9 - Mock Cable Stitch

Make 4

Cast on 38 sts.

Row 1: (WS) K2, *P2, K2*, repeat from * to * to end of row.

Row 2: P2, *K1, YO, K1, P2*, repeat from * to * to end of row.

Row 3: K2, *P3, K2*, repeat from * to * across row.

Row 4: P2, *Slip 1, K2, pass slipped stitch over both knit stitches, P2*, repeat from * to * to end of row.

Repeat rows 1-4 until piece measures 8" long is square.
(Approx. 12 times)

BLOCK 10 – Diagonal Columns

Make 4

Cast on 36 sts.

Row 1: (RS) *K1, P6*, repeat from * to * to end of row.

Row 2: P1, *RT three times, P1*, repeat from * to * to end of row.

Row 3: *K1, P6*, repeat from * to * to end of row.

Row 4: P1, *K1, RT twice, K1, P1*, repeat from * to * to end of row.

Repeat rows 1-4 until piece measures 8" long is square.
(Approx. 12 times)

RT: Skip 1 stitch; insert right needles in to 2nd stitch on left needle, knit this stitch but do not slip it off of needle; knit the skipped stitch through front loop; slip both stitches fro left needle.

Finishing and Layout:

Block 8	Block 6	Block 4	Block 2	Block 10
Block 7	Block 5	Block 3	Block 10	Block 9
Block 6	Block 4	Block 2	Block 10	Block 8
Block 5	Block 3	Block 10	Block 9	Block 7
Block 4	Block 2	Block 10	Block 8	Block 6
Block 3	Block 1	Block 9	Block 7	Block 5
Block 2	Block 10	Block 8	Block 6	Block 4
Block 1	Block 9	Block 7	Block 5	Block 3

Begin assembling the blanket by first stitching together the 5 columns that make up the finished piece. Starting in the lower left corner stitch blocks 1-8 together to form column 1; next stitch blocks 9,10, and 1-6 together for column 2; etc... When you have assembled all 5 columns, stitch them together in the order shown.

Optional: Crochet an edging evenly around the entire blanket.