



Garter Stitch Baby Blanket

(This pattern was provided to Knitting4Peace by Arna Caplan.)



Since many of us knit with stash or donated yarn, you have a choice of needle size and finished size.

Materials:

Machine washable worsted weight yarn - approximately 300 grams or 11 ounces
Size 7, 8 or 9 circular needles - 32 inch would work best

NOTE: The smaller the needle, the denser the blanket will be. The larger the needle, the more quickly the blanket will be finished.

Gauge: Depending on the size of the needle, 3.5 to 4 stitches per inch

Directions (note the frequent inclusion of an element of '3.' If you don't know the dual importance of this, visit our website and see our Mission Statement - www.knitting4peace.org):

Cast on 3 sts.

Row 1: Knit across row

Row 2: Increase in the first and last stitches. (5 stitches)

Row 3: Knit across row.

Row 4: K3, yo, k2. (6 stitches)

Row 5: K3, yo, k3 .

Row 6: K3, yo, k to end of row.

Continue to do this until each side measures one of the following:

24 inches for a car seat or carriage blanket

27 inches for a crib blanket

30 inches for a crib or floor blanket

Now you are ready to decrease back to 5 stitches.
Decrease rows: K2, k2 tog, yo, k2 tog, k to end of row.
Repeat decrease row until 5 stitches remain.
K2 together, K1, K2 together . (3 stitches remain).
Bind off last remaining stitches.

FINISHING: Weave in ends.

OPTIONAL ADDITIONS

- Measure the distance around the blanket edges and cut a contrasting color ribbon a few inches longer than the measurement. Weave it through the border eyelets.
 - Measure the distance around the blanket edge. Make a single crochet chain in a contrasting color and weave it through the eyelet border.
 - Make each half of the blanket in a different color.
 - Use two colors of yarn and change colors every 3, 6 or 9 rows (or any multiple of 3) for a striped blanket.
 - Once you have 18 stitches on the needle, do a 24-row eyelet pattern as follows:
 - On increase rows: K3, yo, *k2 tog, yo*, repeat to last 5 stitches, K5. Knit 23 rows, increasing at the beginning of each row.
 - On decrease rows: K2, k2 tog, yo, k2 tog, *k2 tog, yo*, repeat to last 6 stitches, K6. Knit 23 rows, decreasing at the beginning of each row.
- NOTE: The eyelet row always begins when there are an even number of stitches on the needle.

As you prepare your Baby Blanket for shipment to us, please take a moment and offer your thoughts or prayers for the well-being of the mother and baby who will receive it. Offer an intention that your blanket will provide hope and healing in their lives. *Your compassion & love are as important as the work of your hands in “knitting together” the Beloved Community.*

Send your completed blanket (along with your name & e-mail address so we can acknowledge receipt) to:

Knitting4Peace

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