

REVERSE PINWHEEL BLANKET

a free knitting pattern designed by Kelly Brooker

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CONSTRUCTION

The Reverse Pinwheel Blanket is a seamless, circular baby blanket, knit from the outside in. Knitting is started with a 120cm circular needle, and finished by working magic loop on the same needle

Within the pattern are two variations – a plain blanket or alternatively, with decorative eyelets.

You will also find a guide to customise the size of the finished blanket (warning, it involves a bit of math!), and assistance to convert your RPB into a Pinwheel Cardigan

GAUGE/TENSION

(in stocking stitch, unblocked)
22sts/10cm on 4.0mm needles

NOTE: unless you absolutely require the exact finished wingspan, achieving gauge is not essential. Ensure you work your yarn on needles you would use as standard for that particular yarn

From using specified yarn at this gauge, the pattern yields a blanket approximately 80cm in diameter

MATERIALS

8ply/dk weight yarn (100g/220m)

(suitable for plant and animal fibres)

Blanket: 3 skeins

Cardy: 4 skeins

EQUIPMENT

120cm 4.0mm circular needle
10 stitch markers
darning needle (for sewing in ends)

30cm 4.0mm circular needle
(if knitting cardy – for the sleeves)

ABBREVIATIONS:

k.....knit

k2tog.....knit 2 stitches together
(a decrease)

p.....purl

SM.....Slip Marker

sts.....stitches

yo.....yarn over

THE PATTERN

PLAIN BLANKET

Using long tail, cast on 450sts. Place a marker after every 45th stitch.

(divides the blanket into 10 segments, each containing 45sts)

Join for knitting in the round

Round 1: (k2tog, k to next marker, sm) repeat across round (decreasing by 10sts)

Round 2: (p to marker, sm) repeat across round

Repeat **Rounds 1&2** five more times to give a 12round garter stitch border

Round 13: (k2tog, k to next marker, sm) repeat across round (decreasing by 10sts)

Round 14: (k to marker, sm) repeat across round

Repeat **Rounds 13&14** until only 10sts remain, then k2tog across round (5sts remain)

NOTE: You will need to change to magic loop, or an alternative form of small diameter circular needle when required

Drawstring remaining stitches and secure

EYELET BLANKET

Using long tail, cast on 450sts. Place a marker after every 45th stitch

(divides the blanket into 10 segments, each containing 45sts)

Join for knitting in the round.

Round 1: (k2tog, k to next marker, sm) repeat across round (decreasing by 10sts)

Round 2: (p to marker, sm) repeat across round

Repeat **Rounds 1&2** five more times to give a 12round garter stitch border

Round 13: (k2tog, yo, k2tog, k to next marker, sm) repeat across round (decreasing by 10sts)

Round 14: (k to marker, sm) repeat across round

Repeat **Rounds 13&14** until only 10sts remain, then k2tog across round (5sts remain)

NOTE: You will need to change to magic loop, or an alternative form of small diameter circular needle when required

Drawstring remaining stitches and secure

CUSTOM SIZE/GAUGE BLANKET

To create a custom blanket, work out your gauge, know how big you want the finished product, and from those two steps calculate the number of stitches to cast on

What gauge do you knit at?

Please don't do a gauge swatch! Just a general gauge (If you have been knitting a while you will know roughly what your gauge is. Otherwise, I suggest going with whatever is on your yarn ball band).

Personally I knit at 22sts/10cm using DK and 4.0mm needles (2.2sts/1cm)

How big do you want the blanket; What diameter?

If you would like a finished diameter of 0.6m, then the radius will be 0.3m. Use the radius (r) and the formula $2\pi r$ to calculate the circumference of the blanket. To make it more simple, just call π 3 instead of 3.14.....then you don't need a calculator!

In this case the circumference will be 1.8m/180cm ($2 \times 3 \times 0.3$)

How many stitches to Cast On:

Multiply gauge by circumference. Using above example, 2.2sts/cm x 180cm = CO 396stitches. BUT You need your CO number to be a multiple of 10, so round up to 400stitches

Now you have your CO number, get knitting on your border, and then decide upon the plain blanket, or decorative eyelet blanket

CONVERTING YOUR BLANKET TO A CARDY

To create a pinwheel cardy, you knit as per normal for the blanket pattern until you reach the point where there are 19 or 25sts between markers (dependent upon which size you are knitting). From here two 'contrast yarn segments' are knit. This involves knitting two of the ten segments with contrast yarn (effectively a 'provisional cast on', or 'afterthought heel') to create a place you can return to once the blanket is complete and release live stitches to knit the sleeves

6m to 2y(2y to 4y)

CO 450(550)sts using long-tail CO. Place a marker after every 45(55)th stitch.

Join for knitting in the round

CONVERTING YOUR BLANKET TO A CARDY CONTINUED

Round 1: (k2tog, k to next marker, sm) repeat across round (decreasing by 10sts)

Round 2: (p to marker, sm) repeat across round

Repeat **Rounds 1&2** five more times to give a 12round garter stitch border

Round 13: (k2tog, yo, k2tog, k to next marker, sm) repeat across round (decreasing by 10sts)

Round 14: (k to marker, sm) repeat across round

Repeat **Rounds 13&14** until there are 19(25) stitches between each marker

Sleeve insertion round: Segment 1 - k2tog, yo, k2tog, k to next marker, sm. Segment 2 - Using a small length of contrast yarn k all sts to the next marker, turn your work and purl back to marker. Change back to main yarn, and work this section as normal - k2tog, yo, k2tog, k to next marker, sm. Segments 3 and 4 - knit as for Segment 1, Segment 5 - knit as for Segment 2. Segments 6-10 - Work as for Segment 1

Repeat **Rounds 13&14** until only 10sts remain, then k2tog across round (5sts remain)

NOTE: You will need to change to magic loop, or an alternative form of small diameter circular needle when required

Drawstring remaining stitches and secure

Return to sleeve insertion segment.

Release contrast yarn and place resulting live stitches onto a 30cm 4mm circular needle.

Knit all stitches until sleeve measures approximately 30 (40) cm in length.

Knit 5cm cuff of your choice (garter stitch or rib works best here).

Cast off stitches

Repeat for second sleeve

FINISHING:

Sew in all ends

Wash in a gentle wool wash, then lay flat and in shape, opening all eyelets up, to dry



a knitting pattern by Kelly Brooker, of Pekapeka Design Studio

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