Basket Weave Baby Blanket

This blanket has a textured pattern that looks like strips of woven latticework, with garter stitch on the four edges.

Finished size: 36" wide x about 40" long

Gauge: 18 sts and 30 rows = 4" or 10 cm in basket pattern

Materials

Circular needle 29" or longer (70 or 80 cm) in size 6 Canadian (5.0 mm), or size to achieve gauge About 300 grams of double knitting weight acrylic yarn (about 175 yds./160 m per 50-gram ball). Please use only new, soft, washable yarn.

Directions

Cast on 163 sts. and knit 7 rows of garter stitch.

The pattern will begin with the wrong side of work facing you. (Note that all odd-numbered rows are on the wrong side, and on the even-numbered ones you will have the right side facing you.)

(start of repeating pattern)

Row 1: k.4, (*p.3, k.5), rep. from * to last 7 sts., p.3, k.4

Row 2: k.4, (*k.3, p.5), rep. from * to last 7 sts., k.7

Row 3: same as row 1

Row 4: knit across row

Row 5: k.8, (*p.3, k.5), rep. from * to last 11 sts., p.3, k.8

Row 6: k.4, p.4, (*k.3, p.5), rep. from * to last 11 sts., k.3, p.4, k.4

Row 7: same as row 5

Row 8: knit across row

(end of repeating pattern)

Repeat these 8 rows until blanket is about 39 inches long, ending with Row 4. Then knit 5 rows of garter stitch. Cast off loosely. Weave in the cast-on and cast-off ends and any joins. Press lightly to keep the three-dimensional effect.

This is an easy pattern, but you can never stop counting!

Tip: When you cast on and off, be sure that your work is not too tight, so you'll have a nice stretchy edge on top and bottom. Here is an easy way to do that: When you cast on, use a circular needle that is one size larger than you'll use for the blanket (size 5 Canadian or 5.5 mm), and then switch to the proper-sized one when you knit your first row. When you cast off, you can use a single needle of that larger size, or your larger circular needle again.