

Pinwheel Baby Afghan

by Deborah V. Gardner

This is an easy afghan for a baby. Work more rounds for an adult-size afghan.

Finished size: Approximately 34" diameter.

Materials:

Plymouth Encore Colorspln, 75% acrylic and 25% wool,
100 g/200 yds, Sample in Drifting, #7333
US 8, 5mm double pointed needles
US 8, 5mm 16" and/or 24" circular needle
Yarn needle
10 markers, one a different color than the rest

Gauge: 20 sts = 4"

Note: The star pillow was knitted with leftovers.

Abbreviations:

K Knit.
Kfb Knit front and back.
Y/O Yarn over.

Directions:

Cast on 5 stitches using Emily Ocher's circular cast on. Directions at the end of the pattern.

Rnd 1: Place the different color marker to indicate the beginning of the round. K.

Rnd 2: Kfb in each st (10 sts).

Rnd 3 and all odd rounds: K.

Rnd 4: *K1, yo, place marker* around (20 sts).

Rnd 6: *K2, yo to each marker* (30 sts).

Rnd 8: *K3, yo to each marker* (40 sts).

Continue in this manner, knitting every odd round and increasing 10 sts every even round until there are 53 sts between each marker.

Sideways bindoff:

Cast on 5 sts.

Row 1: K1, p1, k1, p1, K the next st together with the first st of the afghan *in the back loops*. TURN.

Row 2: K1 p1, k1, p1, k1. TURN.

Repeat rows 1 and 2 until all sts are worked. Bind off the remaining 5 sts.

Seam the cast on and bound off sts.

Weave in all ends.

Block.



Emily Ocher's Circular Cast on

1. Make a ring. Do not pull it tight; keep it loose. Grasp the loop where the strands meet with your left thumb and index finger. You can make the loop with the tail going up. You will then have to weave in the tail.
2. Insert the hook into the loop from front to back. Grab the yarn with the hook (yo) and bring through the loop. You now have one loop on the hoop.
3. Insert the hook into the loop again; you will be going under the yarn tail as well. Hook the yarn (yo) and bring through the loop. Hook the yarn again and bring through the loop on the hook as if you were making a chain. You now have two loops on the hook. Repeat this step until you have the required number of loops.
4. Carefully replace the hook with your needles and begin knitting in the round. After you have finished a few rounds, pull the tail to close up the circle. You now have a nice, tight circle with no hole in the middle.

