

Project Linus/Bear Hugs EVELYNMCNABB

This cuddly, colourful children's blanket is knitted as a 2-colour fairisle, single motif in easy care, 100% acrylic yarns. The heart and fairisle scarf are knitted separately in DK yarns for added texture and then sewn on. Facial features are made prominent by adding duplicate stitch. Add a bit more around the neck to complete the scarf, finish off with an easy worm trim to close the edges and this bear is ready for a child's hugs!!

MACHINE

4.5mm electronic, no ribber required. We used Brother 970. Level - Intermediate.

SIZE

69 x 100cm/27 X 39 in.

YARN

Bramwell Fine 4-ply 100% acrylic, MC, warm white, 330g. C1, red, 30g. C2, mink, 35g. Small amounts of peat brown, double stranded for facial features in duplicate stitch, and Christmas green for scarf fairisle and fringe. Bramwell Roselan 100% acrylic, royal blue for scarf and worm trim, 40g. Small amount of red for appliqué heart. Finished weight, 440g

GAUGE

Stockinette, T7, 30 sts and 42 rows to 10cm/4 in.

PATTERN NOTES

Download <bearhug.pat>. This blanket is knit as a single motif. Wrap background edge stitches next to motif to avoid holes. To do this, use extra strands of MC and beginning on RC015, wrap the last background needle next to the motif on carriage side only, every row. Throughout the blanket, there are a few areas where the single motif becomes smaller and the contrast colour has to travel farther to the centre before being knitted in. If you find you are getting 'yarn snags' where the CC is catching on the background needles before reaching the motif, try holding the contrast colour below the carriage sinker plate as the carriage is moved toward the centre of the piece. When you are close to the CC needles, let go of the CC and then pull up on the yarn from above the sinker plate to correct the tension. This will help avoid yarn snags. Remember to move edge weights up approximately every 25 rows to ensure edge stitches knit off correctly. While knitting the front and lining, mark end stitches with waste yarn, every 50 rows to aid in joining sides later. If you are too busy knitting the front and forget to mark the rows, then just mark the lining. When you are ready to add the worm trim, lay the blanket out

right side up and beginning in the centre of each side, line up the marks on the lining with the front and pin together.

FRONT

99-0-100 n's. RC000. MC, chain cast on. T7, K14R. Set up pattern as a single motif fairisle, change knob to KCII (no end needle selection), K1R. (Brother 970 owners adjust row counter to read RC015). Set to fairisle, MC/C1, knit to RC032. MC only, K2R. Fairisle, MC/C1, knit to RC064. MC only, K8R to RC072. MC/C2, knit to RC240. MC only, K13R to RC253. MC/C1, knit to RC332. At this point, wrap the next 8 rows of the heart pattern in two extra places on either side of the falling heart to avoid holes. This will be on needles L30 and L8. Continue knitting to RC339.

MC only, K6R to RC345. MC/C1, knit to RC362.

MC only, K6R to RC368. MC/C1, knit to RC385.

MC only, knit 15 rows. RC400. Front is completed.

T8, C2, knit one row to mark end for trim later. Do not bind off. Continue on and knit lining.

RC000, T7, MC, knit 400 rows. Don't forget to mark edge needles every 50 rows with waste yarn.

Pick up the cast-on edge of the front and hang on needles.

T8, K1R. Bind off loosely.

NOTE: All duplicate stitches are done with two strands of yarn regardless of yarn type. This will give a nice contrasting chunky look. Duplicate stitch over 2 stitches at once wherever possible (one stitch above the other, NOT side by side). Turn blanket to wrong side and tie off all threads inside.

Using peat brown, add duplicate stitch accents to bear's eyes, nose and eyebrows. With royal blue, duplicate stitch around bear's neck.

SCARF

RC000, T9, royal blue, chain cast on 6-0-6 n's. K9R. Fairisle, use <bhscarf.pat> KCI, K1R. T10, 2 strands of Christmas green in 2nd feeder, K11R. Stockinette, blue only, T9, K77R. RC098. Repeat the fairisle pattern to RC110. Stockinette, blue only, T9, K10R. RC120, Cast off loosely.

Cut 20 – 6 inch pieces of each scarf colour. Using two strands of each, make 5 tassels on each end of the scarf. Trim even. Tie a knot in the middle of the scarf and arrange by placing the knot next to the bear's neck and pin down as desired. Tack the knot securely to the blanket. Using a running stitch, sew the scarf edges securely.



APPLIQUE HEART

No weights required to knit this, just hold the knitting down with your hand. Bring the needles out for first 8 rows to help the stitches knit off correctly.

RC000, T10, red, (leave a long tail for sewing on later).

Chain cast on n's 1-0-1. K2R. (2 sts)

At carriage side, inc 1 st by moving 1 st out and filling in empty n with heel st. K1R. (3 sts). Repeat inc. (4 sts), K2R.

All increases and decreases from this point will be fully fashioned using a 2-prong transfer tool. At each side, inc 1 st, K1R (6 sts). At each side, inc 1 st, K2R, 5X; 1 st, K1R, 5X to 26 sts. Knit 7 rows even. Set to hold. Put n's 1-13 opposite side of 0 to HP. At each side of n's in work, dec 1 st as follows: move 3rd st to 2nd n, then move 2 sts in one space, put empty n's out of work, K1R, 4X to 5 sts remain.

At each side, dec 1 st as usual, then move remaining 2 inside sts over one space to 3 sts on centre n. 3 n's in work. Manually knit large sts and chain cast off. Repeat for other side of heart.

Wrong side up, lightly block heart to shape. Using tail, sew heart to blanket positioning it between the paws and tilting slightly to the left.

Add worm trim to all four sides of blanket as follows:

Wrong side facing, and beginning on upper right corner of cast on edge, hang last 3 sts on 3 n's. T9, royal blue, K8R.

Hang next 3 sts on same n's, K8R. Repeat to left corner.

On last 3 sts of that side, knit 2 extra rows (10 rows total) to aid in turning the corner. Turn corner, hang 3 sts from front and lining together on 3 n's, K8R.

Continue around to the first 3 sts. Hang these on the same 3 n's.

Bind off. Weave in yarn ends and block.

