

Blanket with Hearts & Flowers

By: Lainy Haule

Yarn: 5 skeins of Sirdar Breeze (cotton & acrylic blend)
100 g. (about 288 yds/skein)

Patterns: Heart was 11 sts & 12 rows
Flower was 9 sts & 14 rows

With #5 needle, cas on 111 sts invisibly. Begin working in stockinette st and set up blocks with markers. Knit 2 sts (left side border), PM (place marker), knit 15 sts, PM. Continue putting a marker every 15 sts across until there are 3 sts left, PM knit 3 sts (right side border).

There will be 7 sections of 15 sts. Work a total of 6 rows of stockinette for bottom border while setting up your markers. Begin with the heart pattern. Center the 11 sts of the heart in the first, third, fifth and seventh blocks. Work the 12 rows of the heart patterns. Then knit 1 row and purl 1 row.

On the next row begin the flower pattern. Center the 9 sts of the flower in the second, fourth, and sixth blocks. Work the 14 rows of the flower pattern. Then knit 1 row, purl 1 row. Continue in this way until you have 5 repeats of the hearts and flowers. Work 1 final heart pattern. Finish the center with a total of 6 rows of stockinette st.

For the border: knit 1 row across top, the last st will become the "corner st". Pick up 121 sts along the left side of the blanket. Put the invisibly cast on sts onto a needle. The first st you knit on the bottom will be a corner st. Knit 109 sts; the last st you knit will be a corner st. Then pick up 121 sts along the right side of blanket. As you begin the border, place markers on either side of the corner st. Make the 1st marker a different color.

Work 3 rounds of stock, then 2 ridges of garter st. Place a yarn over after the last st of each side and before the first st of each side on every other row. This will make a triangle at each corner. Work another 3 rounds of stock st continuing the yarn overs at the corners every other round.

You will have an additional 10 sts on each side of the blanket.

For the top and bottom, Knit 2 sts, work the repeat 14 times and the final 3 sts of the pattern, knit 2 sts. Continue with the remaining rows as shown on the graph .

For the sides: Knit 4 sts, work the repeat 15 times and the final 3 sts of the pattern, knit 4 sts. Continue with the remaining rows as shown on the graph.

For the corners: When there are 13 sts in each corner (not including the yarnovers of that row), begin the heart pattern in the center of the 13 sts. At the end of the corner heart pattern, continue in stock st.

For the sides & tops: After the last round of pattern, work 3 rounds of stock st, then 2 ridges of garter st. Continue the yarnovers every other round.

To bind off using the purl method: Just after the 1st marker, purl 2 sts together. Move the sts you have on the right needle back to the left needle. Purl the next 2 sts together. Continue in this fashion around the blanket.

Optional: sc around for 1 round.

