



October Nursing Shawl

I knit this shawl for a friend who is pregnant. Her due date is in October 2008. A nursing shawl is the best gift for a mom because she needs some warmth and privacy when friends and family are visiting. And she can wrap her baby in it, too.

I chose very soft, hardwearing and easy care yarn in DK weight from my stash and played with the colors.

I added a ruffle because a mom is still a girl too, and I bound off in contrasting color. (I love that!)

You need:

6-8 skeins of DK/worsted yarn in two (or more) colors. I guess you can adapt this pattern to any weight of yarn.

Needles: 4, 5 and 5 mm (adapt to the yarn)

Gauge: not critical; measure your shawl as you go. But knit a swatch to test the colors you plan to use.

I used 3 different yarns:

- Cashmerino baby (Debbie Bliss) purple/ 2 skeins
- Pure Laine 3.5 (Phildar) pink/ 2 skeins
- Soft Shetland (Lang) green/ 3 skeins

October stripes

Worked with one (or more) strand(s) of yarn A and one (or more) strand(s) of yarn B.

With yarn A: 2 rows stockinette, then with yarn B: 2 rows garter.

You change color every other row.

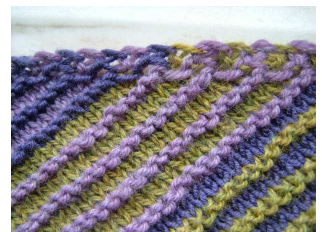
Notes

Nice edge: RS always slip yarn A under yarn B and yarn B under yarn A;

WS: swyf

If you add a new yarn on the beginning of the row: RS knit the 1st st with both yarns

Center st.: RS: K; WS: P



Casting on

With smaller needles, CO 2 st. using backward loop.

K 6 rows.

K 1 row and pick up 1 st. in every garter ridge (3) and in the 2 cast on st.

You have 7 st.

Shawl

Row 1: RS (*yarn A*) **K2**, YO, K1, YO, **K1**, YO, K1, YO, **K 2**

(In bold: the 2 border st. and the center st. You will always add a YO after the 2 first st and before the 2 last st. You will also add a YO before and after the center st. → 4 st increased on every RS row.)



Row 2: WS (*yarn A*) slip 1 st wyf (as if to purl), K1, P to last 2 st., K2.

Row 3: RS (*yarn B*) repeat row 1

Row 4: WS (*yarn B*) slip 1 st wyf (as if to purl), K1, K to center st., P center st., K to the end of the row.

Repeat rows 1-4.

When shawl is big enough work the border.

Border with a ruffle

This garter ruffle is from Knitting on the Edge, by Nicky Epstein

Rows 1 - 3: K

Row 4: *K1, YO* repeat to the end of the row

Row 5: K

Row 6: change to one size larger needles

K 9 rows (or as many as you like)

Bind off loosely.

Block very gently (steam).



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Try the pattern:

- with only one color to create a solid center and after 30 rows add an other color
- keeping the same color for the stockinette and changing the garter ridge color (or inversely: changing only the background)
- with a solid yarn and a self striping one.
- With a solid yarn and a variegated one.
- with handspun yarn
- using only one solid color

