

Block of the Month – January 2011

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Materials:

- ➔ 4 Balls Worsted – scraps okay – In my example, they are
 - ✓ Blue (**A**)
 - ✓ Yellow (**B**)
 - ✓ Brown (**C**)
 - ✓ Purple (**D**)
 - ✓ Your colors may be different, so just follow my letter designations to keep them separate.
- ➔ Needles – Size 5.0mm (US-size 8), straights or circular 16” or greater.
- ➔ Stitch markers (optional)
- ➔ Large-eye tapestry needle (for weaving ends)



Abbreviations:

K Knit

P Purl

K2tog Knit 2 together

SSK Slip-Slip-Knit (slip 1 as if to knit, slip 1 as if to purl, insert left needle through backs of both stitches, knit together)

pssso Pass slipped stitch over

W&T Wrap and Turn (slip stitch as if to purl, yarn forward, return stitch to left needle, turn work)

K1wW - Knit 1 with Wrap(s) = Lift the wrap(s) from the base of the next stitch onto the right needle, and arrange them onto the left needle so they are now behind the stitch that was wrapped. Knit all loops together, including the live stitch plus the wrap(s).

Start the Corner Panel

In the image at right, the BLUE is my cast on yarn, and the cast-on edge is at the top of the “L” shape

With **A**, using long tail cast-on, cast on 22. *This section is 20 stitches wide, PLUS a slipped stitched border at both sides.*

The cast-on row counts as Row 1. *If you do not use long-tail cast on, then with yarn in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, move yarn to back, knit 21*

Row 2: With yarn in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, move yarn to back, knit 21. Leave **A** hanging.

Row 3: With **B**, held in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, move yarn to back, knit 21.

Row 4: With yarn in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, move yarn to back, knit 21. Leave **B** hanging.



Continue in like manner, changing yarns at the start of odd (right side) rows until you have 40 garter ridges (20 ridges of each color, alternating each ridge). To achieve an even right-side border at the color changed, leave ending yarn hanging, and bring new color up under ending yarn to front, hold in front while slipping first stitch, and move new color to back and knit across. This will create a consistent edge from which you will pick up border stitches to finish.

Starting the corner

Row 81: With **A** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 20, slip next stitch to right needle, bring yarn to front, return last stitch to left needle. This is a “wrap-and-turn”. (W&T) (see explanation above)

Row 82: Knit 21.

Row 83: With **B** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 19, W&T.

Row 84: Knit 20.

Row 85: With **A** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 18, W&T.

Row 86: Knit 19.

Row 87: With **B** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 17, W&T.

Row 88: Knit 18.

Row 89: With **A** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 16, W&T.

Row 90: Knit 17.

Row 91: With **B** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 15, W&T.

Row 92: Knit 16.

Row 93: With **A** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 14, W&T.

Row 94: Knit 15.

Row 95: With **B** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 13, W&T.

Row 96: Knit 14.

Row 97: With **A** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 12, W&T.

Row 98: Knit 13.

Row 99: With **B** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 11, W&T.

Row 100: Knit 12.

Row 101: With **A** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 10, W&T.

Row 102: Knit 11.

Row 103: With **B** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 9, W&T.

Row 104: Knit 10.

Row 105: With **A** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 8, W&T.

Row 106: Knit 9.

Row 107: With **B** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 7, W&T.

Row 108: Knit 8.

Row 109: With **A** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 6, W&T.

Row 100: Knit 7.

Row 111: With **B** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 5, W&T.

Row 112: Knit 6.

Row 113: With **A** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 4, W&T.

Row 114: Knit 5.

Row 115: With **B** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 3, W&T.

Row 116 Knit 4.

Row 117: With **A** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 2, W&T.

Row 118: Knit 3.

Row 119: With **B** in front, slip 1 stitch as if to purl, knit 1, W&T.

Row 120: Knit 2.

Finishing the Corner

At this point you will have 60 garter stitch ridges (40 full-width ridges and 20 short row ridges into the corner). Now you will turn the corner and start picking up those wrapped stitches, and you will be using C and D. Leave the tails of A and B hanging for now, to be woven in later. You will be completing the mitered corner on each right side row by knitting the stitch with the wrap(s) (K1wW), wrapping the next stitch, and then turning the work.

Row 121 With **C**, Slip 1, Knit 1, K1wW, W&T

Row 122 Knit

Row 123 With **D**, Slip 1, Knit 2, K1wW, W&T

Row 124 Knit

Row 125 With **C**, Slip 1, Knit 3, K1wW, W&T

Row 126 Knit

Row 127 With **D**, Slip 1, Knit 4, K1wW, W&T

Row 128 Knit

Row 129 With **C**, Slip 1, Knit 5, K1wW, W&T

Row 130 Knit

Row 131 With **D**, Slip 1, Knit 6, K1wW, W&T

Row 132 Knit

Row 133 With **C**, Slip 1, Knit 7, K1wW, W&T

Row 134 Knit

Row 135 With **D**, Slip 1, Knit 8, K1wW, W&T

Row 136 Knit

Row 137 With **C**, Slip 1, Knit 9, K1wW, W&T

Row 138 Knit

Row 139 With **D**, Slip 1, Knit 10, K1wW, W&T

Row 140 Knit

Row 141 With **C**, Slip 1, Knit 11, K1wW, W&T

Row 142 Knit

Row 143 With **D**, Slip 1, Knit 12, K1wW, W&T

Row 144 Knit

Row 145 With **C**, Slip 1, Knit 13, K1wW, W&T

Row 146 Knit

Row 147 With **D**, Slip 1, Knit 14, K1wW, W&T
Row 148 Knit
Row 149 With **C**, Slip 1, Knit 15, K1wW, W&T
Row 150 Knit
Row 151 With **D**, Slip 1, Knit 16, K1wW, W&T
Row 152 Knit
Row 153 With **C**, Slip 1, Knit 17, K1wW, W&T
Row 154 Knit
Row 155 With **D**, Slip 1, Knit 18, K1wW, W&T
Row 156 Knit
Row 157 With **C**, Slip 1, Knit 19, K1wW, W&T
Row 158 Knit
Row 159 With **D**, Slip 1, Knit 20, K1wW.
Row 160 Slip 1, Knit to end.

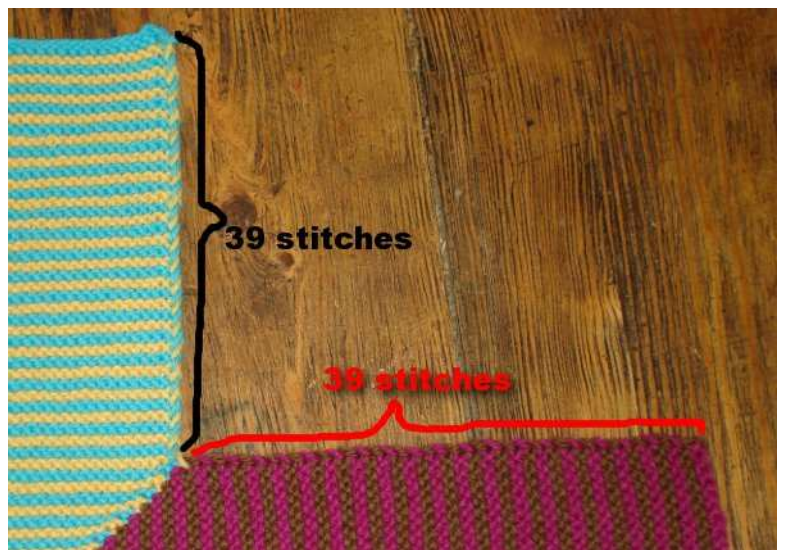
You have now completed the turning of a mitered corner.

End the panel

Rows 160 – 240 Complete the 2nd part of the shape by alternating garter stitch ridges in **C** and **D** until you have 60 ridges total. Bind off in **D** at Row 240.

Insert the Mitered Square

You now have a right-angle, with 39 slipped edge stitches on each side of the INSIDE angle. (there are 59 slipped edge stitches along each side of the outer angle.)



This next section continues the pattern of changing colors at each right side row, and slipping the first stitch of each row, while decreasing at the center to make a mitered square. I won't write each row, as the start- and end-of-row techniques are the same as used previously.

With right side facing, and using color **A**, starting at right edge (in the picture it's the far right purple edge) pick up 39 stitches, place marker, pick up 39 more stitches. Turn, slip first stitch, knit back.

With Color **D**, slip first stitch, knit to 2 stitches before marker, K2together, pass marker, SSK, knit to end. Turn. Slip 1, knit back.

Continue in like manner, changing colors while carrying idle color up the right margin, decreasing at the marker on right side rows. Continue until there are 2 remaining stitches; Break yarn, with **B** K2tog and hold that final loop of **B** to begin the next section.

You now have a nearly completed square consisting of

- a left mitered band of colors **A** and **B**.
- a right mitered band of colors **C** and **D**. and
- a mitered square of colors **A** and **D**.

Now, you will use colors **B** and **C** to create the final border.

Starting from the corner of the inner square just completed, using **B**, with right side facing, and counting the lone loop of **B** already on the needle, pick up 61 stitches along first edge, place marker, pick up 61 stitches on second side, place marker, pick up 61 stitches on third side, place marker, pick up 61 stitches on fourth side, place marker, and place a special end of round marker. Continue with **B**, purl all four sides of the second round.

Change to **C**, K1, yo, knit to 1 stitch before marker, YO, KI. Repeat on three remaining sides, creating a YO 1 stitch away from marker on each side of marker. Purl next round, and be sure to purl into the back loop of the previous YO's to close any holes. You now have 63 stitches on each side.

Change to **B**, and repeat the increase round as previously; purl next round. You now have 65 stitches on each side.

Change to **C**, repeat the increase round in knit, then purl the final round. You now have 67 stitches on each side.

At this point you may bind off loosely, OR you may thread a firm nylon cord or contrasting yarn through all four sides of stitches to facilitate joining with other squares later on.. If you choose to hold those stitches, you may wish to also hold the markers as well, to very clearly indicate where the block corners are. Also, if you do thread your stitches and markers onto a cord for holding, be sure your cord is long enough the block will lie flat, with enough excess to tie a firm knot in the cord.