



# FLYING FOXTAIL BLANKET

BY STEPHEN WEST

Select two colors of DK weight yarn to knit this beautiful brioche blanket. Exaggerated increases along with sloping decreases shape the wavy Flying Foxtail motif. This elegant rectangular blanket is completely reversible thanks to the squishy two-color brioche technique. Choose between a small baby blanket size, a medium lap blanket, or large blanket for your bed. I used West Wool Tandem, a super soft non-superwash merino wool that makes the plush brioche ribbing pop. Enjoy knitting this gorgeous blanket that will last for years to come.



# FLYING FOXTAIL BLANKET

BY STEPHEN WEST

**Sizes:** Small [Medium, Large]

The Small Size is ideal for a baby blanket.

The Medium Size is a cozy lap blanket for the couch.

The Large Size is great for sharing while watching movies and knitting on the couch or as a decorative bedspread.

Shown in Medium Size.

**Finished Measurements:** 32 [52, 72]" / 81 [132, 183]cm wide, 44 [72, 100]" / 112 [183, 254]cm long. Measurements taken after blocking.

**Yarn:** DK weight

**Yardage:** MC - 500 [1400, 2700]yds / 457 [1280, 2469]m  
CC - 450 [1250, 2500] yds / 411 [1143, 2286]m

**Shown in:** West Wool Tandem (100% South American Merino Wool; 252yds / 230m per 100g skein)

MC - Enchanted  
CC - Pebble

**Needles:** US 6 / 4mm circular in 40" / 100cm length or size needed to obtain gauge.

**Notions:** 2 stitch markers, tapestry needle

**Gauge:** 14 sts & 20 rows = 4" / 10cm in two-color brioche after blocking

**Pattern Notes:** In two-color brioche stitch, two rows are worked for each counted row that appears on the face of the fabric. The first color is worked across the row and then the row is worked again using the second color. The next row is worked the same way, once across with the first color and worked again with the second color. When counting rows, count only the stitches going up on a knit column. For example, when you work 4 rows, count 4 knit column stitches, even though you will have worked 8 rows back and forth. 2 worked rows = 1 counted row.

When you put down your knitting and forget which color you just used and which color to use next, look at the color of the yo in the row just worked. That is the last color you used.

This blanket is written using a main color (MC) and contrast color (CC) in the instructions. The RS features the MC as the foreground color and the WS features the CC as the background color.



## Westknits Workshops

Venture into the world of Westknits with my series of online workshops. Westknits Workshops can be watched as many times as you like and at your own pace as you learn new knitting skills. My Brioche Basics workshop teaches you how to knit two-color brioche stitch with step-by-step video tutorials. Sign up here!

<https://www.westknits.com/collections/workshops>

## Westknits Kits

We have dozens of colorful kits to knit my patterns at Stephen & Penelope. We ship worldwide!

<https://www.stephenandpenelope.com/pages/westknits-kits>



## Abbreviations

**BO:** bind off

**brk:** brioche knit also known as bark, knit the stitch (that was slipped in the previous row) together with its yarn over.

**brkyo8brk:** (brk1, yo) 8 times into the same stitch, brk1 again into the same stitch. There should be 17 sts coming from the knit stitch before the marker. 16 sts increased.

**brp:** brioche purl also known as burp, purl the stitch (that was slipped in the previous row) together with its yarn over.

**brLslddec:** (2-stitch decrease that slants to the left, involving 3 sts) Slip the first stitch knit-wise, brk the following two stitches together, pass the slipped stitch over.

**brRslddec:** (a 2-stitch decrease that slants to the right, involving 3 sts) Slip the first stitch knit-wise, knit the next stitch, pass the slipped stitch over, place stitch on left hand needle and pass the following stitch over. Place st on right hand needle.

**CC:** contrast color

**CO:** cast on

**k:** knit

**k2tog:** knit 2 sts together

**k3tog:** knit 3 sts together

**m:** marker

**MC:** main color

**p:** purl

**pm:** place marker

**RS:** right side

**sl:** (slip) slipped stitches are slipped purl-wise

**slm:** slip marker

**sl1yo following a k or brk st:** (slip 1 yarn over) bring the working yarn under the needle to the front of the work, slip the next stitch purl-wise, then bring the yarn over the needle (and over the slipped stitch) to the back, in position to work the following stitch.

**sl1yo following a p or brp st:** (slip 1 yarn over) working yarn is already in front, slip the next stitch purl-wise, then bring the yarn over the needle (and over the slipped stitch), then to the front under the needle, into position to work the following stitch.

**st/s:** stitch/es

**tbl:** through back loop

**WS:** wrong side

**wyif:** with yarn in front

**wyib:** with yarn in back

## INSTRUCTIONS

The Small size features 3 vertical motifs of the Flying Foxtail pattern.

The Medium size features 5 vertical motifs of the Flying Foxtail pattern.

The Large size features 7 vertical motifs of the Flying Foxtail pattern.

Watch this Westknits video to assist with the I-cord cast on.

<https://youtu.be/PKIZHybk1Co>

Using MC, CO 3 sts. \*K3, sl3 sts onto left needle; repeat from \* 192 [312, 432] more times resulting in 193 [313, 433] total I-cord rows. K3tog, pick up and k193 [313, 433] sts along I-cord edge, pick up and k1 final stitch along the CO edge. 195 [315, 475] sts. Do not turn, slide sts to work the same side with CC.

**Set Up Row 1 (RS):** Using CC, sl1, (p1, sl1yo) 3 times, p1, pm, sl1yo, (p1, sl1yo) to last 8 sts, pm, (p1, sl1yo) 3 times, p1, sl1 wyif. Turn to work WS.

Slip the stitch markers onto the right needle when you reach them during the next rows.

**Set Up Row 2 (WS):** Using MC, k1, sl1yo, (brp1, sl1yo) to last st, sl1 wyif. Do not turn, slide sts to work the same side with CC.

**Set Up Row 2 (WS):** Using CC, sl1, (brk1, sl1yo) to last 2 sts, brk1, sl1 wyib. Turn to work RS.



### Pattern Repeat

**Row 1 (RS):** Using MC, k1, sl1yo, (brk1, sl1yo) 3 times, \*(brk1, sl1yo) 7 times, brRsldec, sl1yo, (brk1, sl1yo) 16 times, brLsldec, (sl1yo, brk1) 3 times, sl1yo; repeat from \* 2 [4, 6] more times, (brk1, sl1yo) 3 times, sl1 wyif. Do not turn, slide sts to work the same side with CC. 183 [295, 447] sts.

**Row 1 (RS):** Using CC, sl1, (brp1, sl1yo) to last 2 sts, brp1, sl1 wyif. Turn to work WS.

**Row 2 (WS):** Using MC, k1, sl1yo, (brp1, sl1yo) to last st, sl1 wyif. Do not turn, slide sts to work the same side with CC.

**Row 2 (WS):** Using CC, sl1, (brk1, sl1yo) to last 2 sts, brk1, sl1 wyib. Turn to work RS.

**Row 3 (RS):** Using MC, k1, sl1yo, (brk1, sl1yo) 3 times, \*(brk1, sl1yo) 6 times, brRsldec, sl1yo, (brk1, sl1yo) 16 times, brLsldec, (sl1yo, brk1) 2 times, sl1yo; repeat from \* 2 [4, 6] more times, (brk1, sl1yo) 3 times, sl1 wyif. Do not turn, slide sts to work the same side with CC. 171 [275, 419] sts.

**Row 3 (RS):** Using CC, sl1, (brp1, sl1yo) to last 2 sts, brp1, sl1 wyif. Turn to work WS.

**Row 4 (WS):** Using MC, k1, sl1yo, (brp1, sl1yo) to last st, sl1 wyif. Do not turn, slide sts to work the same side with CC.

**Row 4 (WS):** Using CC, sl1, (brk1, sl1yo) to last 2 sts, brk1, sl1 wyib. Turn to work RS.

**Row 5 (RS):** Using MC, k1, sl1yo, (brk1, sl1yo) 3 times, \*(brk1, sl1yo) 5 times, brRsldec, sl1yo, (brk1, sl1yo) 16 times, brLsldec, sl1yo, brk1, sl1yo; repeat from \* 2 [4, 6] more times, (brk1, sl1yo) 3 times, sl1 wyif. Do not turn, slide sts to work the same side with CC. 159 [255, 391] sts.

**Row 5 (RS):** Using CC, sl1, (brp1, sl1yo) to last 2 sts, brp1, sl1 wyif. Turn to work WS.

**Row 6 (WS):** Using MC, k1, sl1yo, (brp1, sl1yo) to last st, sl1 wyif. Do not turn, slide sts to work the same side with CC.

**Row 6 (WS):** Using CC, sl1, (brk1, sl1yo) to last 2 sts, brk1, sl1 wyib. Turn to work RS.

**Row 7 (RS):** Using MC, k1, sl1yo, (brk1, sl1yo) 3 times, \*(brk1, sl1yo) 4 times, brRsldec, sl1yo, (brk1, sl1yo) 8 times, brkyo8brk, sl1yo, (brk1, sl1yo) 7 times, brLsldec, sl1yo; repeat from \* 2 [4, 6] more times, (brk1, sl1yo) 3 times, sl1 wyif. Do not turn, slide sts to work the same side with CC. 195 [315, 475] sts.

**Row 7 (RS):** Using CC, sl1, (brp1, sl1yo) 3 times, brp1, \*(sl1yo, brp1) 13 times, (sl1yo, p1) 8 times, sl1yo, (brp1, sl1yo) 8 times, brp1; repeat from \* 2 [4, 6] more times, (sl1yo, brp1) 3 times, sl1 wyif. Turn to work WS.

**Row 8 (WS):** Using MC, k1, sl1yo, (brp1, sl1yo) to last st, sl1 wyif. Do not turn, slide sts to work the same side with CC.

**Row 8 (WS):** Using CC, sl1, (brk1, sl1yo) to last 2 sts, brk1, sl1 wyib. Turn to work RS.

**Row 9 (RS):** Using MC, k1, sl1yo, (brk1, sl1yo) 3 times, \*(brk1, sl1yo) 3 times, brRsldec, sl1yo, (brk1, sl1yo) 16 times, brLsldec, (sl1yo, brk1) 7 times\*, sl1yo; repeat from \* 2 [4, 6] more times, (brk1, sl1yo) 3 times, sl1 wyif. Do not turn, slide sts to work the same side with CC. 183 [295, 447] sts.

**Row 9 (RS):** Using CC, sl1, (brp1, sl1yo) to last 2 sts, brp1, sl1 wyif. Turn to work WS.

**Row 10 (WS):** Using MC, k1, sl1yo, (brp1, sl1yo) to last st, sl1 wyif. Do not turn, slide sts to work the same side with CC.

**Row 10 (WS):** Using CC, sl1, (brk1, sl1yo) to last 2 sts, brk1, sl1 wyib. Turn to work RS.

**Row 11 (RS):** Using MC, k1, sl1yo, (brk1, sl1yo) 3 times, \*(brk1, sl1yo) 2 times, brRsldec, sl1yo, (brk1, sl1yo) 16 times, brLsldec, (sl1yo, brk1) 6 times, sl1yo; repeat from \* 2 [4, 6] more times, (brk1, sl1yo) 3 times, sl1 wyif. Do not turn, slide sts to work the same side with CC. 171 [275, 419] sts.

**Row 11 (RS):** Using CC, sl1, (brp1, sl1yo) to last 2 sts, brp1, sl1 wyif. Turn to work WS.

**Row 12 (WS):** Using MC, k1, sl1yo, (brp1, sl1yo) to last st, sl1 wyif. Do not turn, slide sts to work the same side with CC.

**Row 12 (WS):** Using CC, sl1, (brk1, sl1yo) to last 2 sts, brk1, sl1 wyib. Turn to work RS.

**Row 13 (RS):** Using MC, k1, sl1yo, (brk1, sl1yo) 3 times, \*brk1, sl1yo, brRsldec, sl1yo, (brk1, sl1yo) 16 times, brLsldec, (sl1yo, brk1) 5 times, sl1yo, repeat from \* 2 [4, 6] more times, (brk1, sl1yo) 3 times, sl1 wyif. Do not turn, slide sts to work the same side with CC. 159 [255, 391] sts.

**Row 13 (RS):** Using CC, sl1, (brp1, sl1yo) to last 2 sts, brp1, sl1 wyif. Turn to work WS.



**Row 14 (WS):** Using MC, k1, sl1yo, (brp1, sl1yo) to last st, sl1 wyif. Do not turn, slide sts to work the same side with CC.

**Row 14 (WS):** Using CC, sl1, (brk1, sl1yo) to last 2 sts, brk1, sl1 wyib. Turn to work RS.

**Row 15 (RS):** Using MC, k1, sl1yo, (brk1, sl1yo) 3 times, \*brRsldec, sl1yo, (brk1, sl1yo) 7 times, brkyo8brk, sl1yo, (brk1, sl1yo) 8 times, brLsldec, (sl1yo, brk1) 4 times, sl1yo; repeat from \* 2 [4, 6] more times, (brk1, sl1yo) 3 times, sl1 wyif. Do not turn, slide sts to work the same side with CC. 195 [315, 475] sts.

**Row 15 (RS):** Using CC, sl1, (brp1, sl1yo) 3 times, brp1, \*(sl1yo, brp1) 8 times, (sl1yo, p1) 8 times, sl1yo, (brp1, sl1yo) 13 times, brp1; repeat from \* 2 [4, 6] more times, (sl1yo, brp1) 3 times, sl1 wyif. Turn to work WS.

**Row 16 (WS):** Using MC, k1, sl1yo, (brp1, sl1yo) to last st, sl1 wyif. Do not turn, slide sts to work the same side with CC.

**Row 16 (WS):** Using CC, sl1, (brk1, sl1yo) to last 2 sts, brk1, sl1 wyib. Turn to work RS.

## FINISHING

Using MC, BO all sts using an I-cord BO on the WS. Watch this Westknits video to assist with the I-cord Bind Off.

<https://youtu.be/uuGAc-6RetY>

**I-cord BO:** CO 3 sts using the cable cast on method. \*K2, k2tog tbl, sl3 sts onto left needle; repeat from \* to end of row.

Break yarn and pull it through the remaining 3 sts.

Weave in ends and wet block the finished blanket to smooth the fabric.

Watch this Westknits video to assist with weaving in ends for two-color brioche.

<https://youtu.be/KFulQrqAivY>

Repeat Rows 1 – 16 of Pattern Repeat 9 [16, 23] more times or until the blanket reaches your desired size, then repeat Rows 1 – 14 once more. 159 [255, 391] sts. Break CC.

**Next Row (RS):** Using MC, k2, (brk1, k1) to last st, k1. Turn work to BO on the WS.

