

Color Mosaic

A brilliant collection of colors come together to form a mosaic of shapes. A simple blanket to knit – all garter stitch – which results in a complex geometric design. A great project to use with scrap yarns.

Inspiration for this design comes from a crochet pattern by Rachele Carmona – [Color Story Motif](#). This post on her [Cypress Textiles](#) site has a wonderful description of her own inspiration and color selections.



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Yarn

I used aran weight yarns, both Paintbox Simply Aran and Stylecraft Special Aran. Any yarn can be used for this project; just adjust for the desired size and gauge.

Yarn amounts used:

- Shapes 1 & 4: 4g
- Shapes 2 & 3: 11g
- Shape 5: 16g
- Shape 6: 6g

I am not very fussy about selecting colors.

I aim for:

- Don't place similar colors next to each other.
- Balance light and dark colors distributed throughout the blanket.

Needles/Notions

US 9 (5.50mm) knitting needles.

Tapestry needle to weave in ends.

Gauge

16 stitches, 32 rows to 4" (10cm) using garter stitch.

Finished Size

47" (120cm) square.

Techniques Required

- Weave in ends for garter stitch <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p05xKbQ0-R0>
- Pick up stitches along straight garter edge (used for Shape 5) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TBWeX0JA-iM>
- Sewing blocks together https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h_FcDoxWHYM
- Pick up stitches along diagonal garter edge (used for border) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NTF7sd8E1Dk>

Abbreviations

BO Bind off
k Knit
k2tog Knit two stitches together (increase)
kfb Knit front and back (decrease)
RS Right side
sts Stitches
WS Wrong side

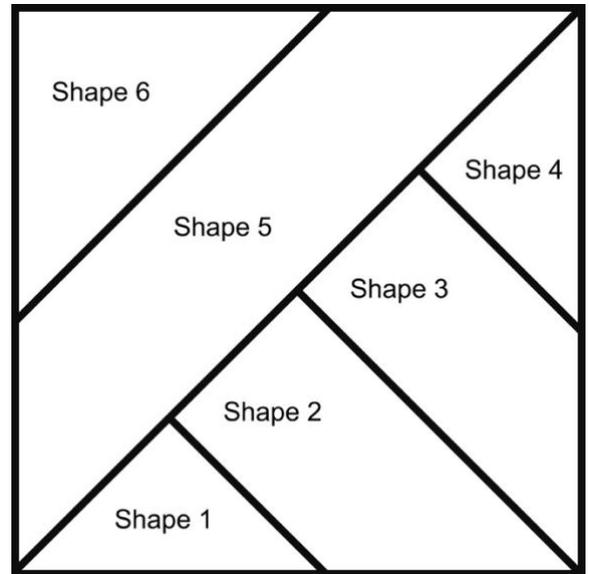


Figure 1: Block shapes

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Instructions

Note: Each shape (stripe of color) has 16 garter ridges.

Shape 1

Row 1: (RS) Using **color 1**, cast on 1 sts.

Row 2: (WS) K1.

Row 3: Kfb, k to end of row.

Row 4: K to end of row.

Rows 5-32: Repeat rows 3 and 4 a total of 14 times. (16 sts)

Shape 2

Rows 33-64: Switch to **color 2**. Continue repeating rows 3 and 4 a total of 16 times. (32 sts)

*Note: Before switching to color 3, refer to **Notes for Sewing Blocks Together** about seaming and leaving long tails.*

Shape 3

Row 65: Switch to **color 3**. K to end of row. *Note: No decrease in this row.* (32 sts)

Row 66: K to end of row.

Row 67: K2tog, k to end of row.

Row 68: K to end of row.

Rows 69-96: Repeat rows 67 and 68 a total of 14 times. (17 sts)

Shape 4

Rows 97-128: Switch to **color 4**. Continue repeating rows 67 and 68 a total of 16 times. (1 sts)

Pull yarn through to bind off.



Figure 2: Finished block - right side



Figure 3: Finished block - wrong side

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*Note: I recommend weaving in ends before knitting Shapes 5 and 6. This will make for easier knitting. Refer to **Notes for Sewing Blocks Together** about yarn needed for seams.*

Shape 5

Row 1: (RS) Using **color 5**, pick up and knit 64 sts on diagonal edge. *Note: The first and last stitch can be difficult to find. Make certain to pick up 16 sts per color shape. (64 sts)*

Row 2: (WS) K2tog, k to end of row.

Rows 3-32: Repeat row 2 a total of 30 times. (33 sts)

Shape 6

Rows 33-64: Switch to **color 6**. Continue repeating row 2 a total of 32 times. (1 sts)

Pull yarn through to bind off.

Weave in ends, being mindful of **Notes for Sewing Blocks Together** about yarn needed for seams.

Make a total of 16 blocks.



Figure 4: For shape 5, pick up and knit stitches along diagonal edge

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Notes for Sewing Blocks Together

Don't worry about matching the seaming yarn color with the shapes. The seam will be hidden in the garter ridges.

I suggest a couple approaches for assembling the blanket.

One method is to sew the blocks together individually.

- Leave a tail of about 24" at the beginning of colors 3 and 5 in each block.
- This method allows for immediate seaming but will result in weaving the seaming yarn into a different colored shape.

A second approach is to first join the four blocks in each corner. Then sew these sections together along the long center seams.

- Leave a 30" tail at the beginning of **color 5** in eight blocks – yellow, blue, pink, and green lines in the image below. These are the four corners to be seamed first.
- Leave a 60" tail when beginning **color 3** for the one block in the bottom center and one block in the middle right of the blanket – red lines in the image below.
 - Use the same color yarn for shape 3 in one of the center blocks on both the top and bottom of the blanket. Do the same for shape 3 in one of the middle blocks on both the left and right sides. In my project, these are the light brown colored shapes.
 - This allows the seam yarn to be woven into a same color shape.
- This method takes more planning but seam yarns will be woven into same colored shapes.

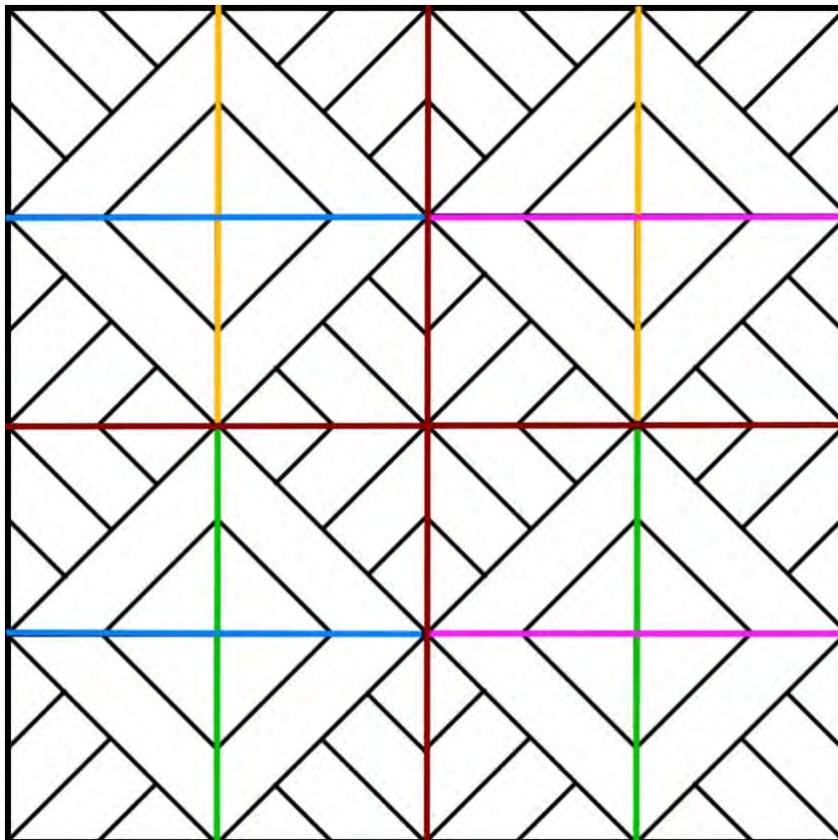


Figure 5: Blanket seams

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Border

When picking up stitches along diagonal rows of garter stitch, use this convention: pick up a stitch in two consecutive ridge edges, then pick up a stitch in the space between two ridges. Refer to instructional video for picking up stitches along diagonal garter edge in **Techniques** section above.

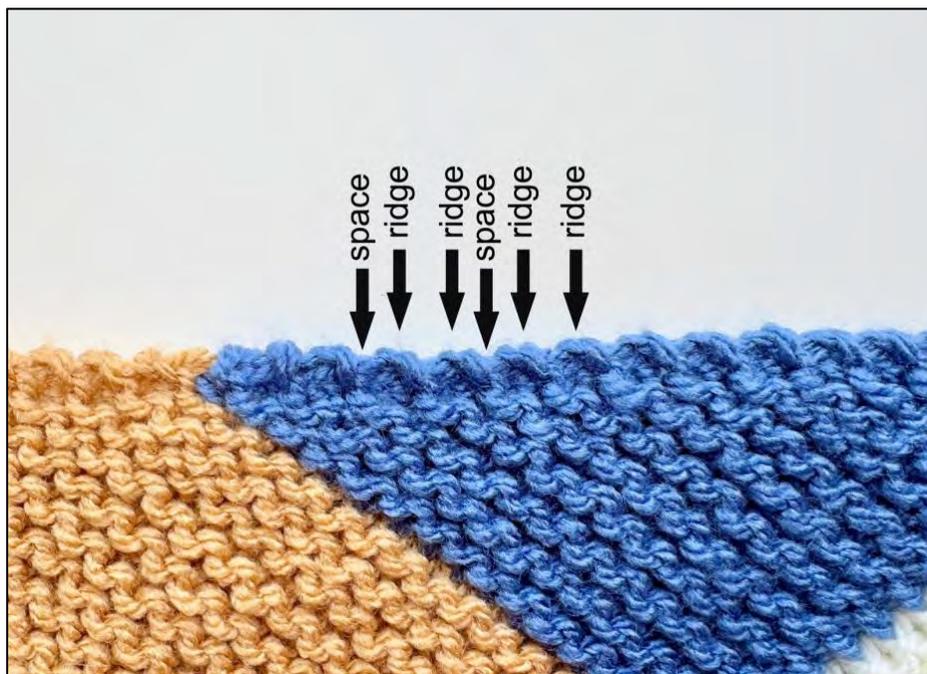


Figure 6: Picking up stitches for border

Right Border

Using **color 5**, starting at the lower right corner of blanket, pick up and knit 188 sts (47 sts for each block). Knit 11 rows. BO, leaving last sts on needle.

Top Border

Pick up and knit 6 sts on top edge of Right Border, and 188 sts on top edge of blanket (195 sts). Knit 11 rows. BO, leaving last sts on needle.

Left Border

Pick up and knit 6 sts on left edge of Top Border, 188 sts on the left edge of the blanket (195 sts). Knit 11 rows. BO, leaving last sts on needle.

Bottom Border

Pick up and knit 6 sts on bottom edge of Left Border, 188 sts on bottom edge of blanket, and 7 sts on the bottom edge of the Right Border (202 sts). Knit 11 rows. BO.

Weave in ends.

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