

it takes balls to knit ...

... Rastah



A message from Barrington (aka Mr. Hugzzz) ...

Thank you for choosing to knit Rastah. Yes, that is the name of the yarn, but it's also the word that came forth from the lips of the model Dianne, who didn't know the yarn. She said, and I quote "This is so Rastah!" Inspiration comes from many places. I wanted to do something fairly simple with this yarn, as it is so complex and subtle at the same time. It's also a super bulky yarn and trying to add any complex texture to it would only take away from it. So I decided on a moebius neck warmer done in seed stitch. The trick to this one is to use the moebius cast on - after you have the stitches on the needle it's rather simple and knits up very quickly. I hope you have fun knitting this and even more fun lavishing in the compliments you'll get from it. Choose colors that suit you - go by your skin tone and eyes and you'll want to wear this all the time. I hope you enjoy it!

Hugzzz 8-)

Materials:

2 skeins Malabrigio Rasta in different colors (150 g, 90yds each)

10mm 47" circular needles or size needed to obtain gauge

Stitch marker

finishing materials (blocking tools, darning needle, etc.)

Gauge:

10 stitches = 2" in stocking stitch using 10mm needles

This pattern allows for a little leeway with the gauge. this yarn can be knit with a 12 mm or even a 15mm needle if you like. I am a loose knitter and used a 10mm, so you should definitely be able to use a 12mm. If you go much bigger than this though, be careful of yarn usage as you might need more than the 2 I used.

***Tip** - You won't often hear me saying this, but a swatch is not really necessary with this pattern. The price of the yarn is such that I would go with what you normally knit at. If you're an average or loose knitter, stick with the 10mm and if you knit tight, go to a 12mm. If you have more yarn or want to make it bigger, you can even go with the 15mm and/or cast on more stitches.

Glossary:

Stocking Stitch: On the right side row, knit all stitches. On the wrong side row, purl all stitches.

Seed Stitch: Alternate by K1, P1 stitches across the row. On the next row, Knit on the purl stitches and Purl on the knit stitches.

Note: Since you're knitting in the round, your next row starts when you reach your stitch marker.



Instructions:

With the color you want in the middle of the neck warmer, and using the Moebius Cast On, cast on 110 stitches. If you're unfamiliar with the cast on technique used, do a search for Cat Bordhi Moebius cast on on You Tube. Practice the technique shown with a different yarn until you are comfortable with this technique. It is important to use this cast on for this piece as it allows for the symmetrical radiating bands of color from the middle out.

Place your stitch marker on the needle to mark the beginning of the row.

Knit 1 row until you are 2 stitches away from the marker.

Decrease 1 stitch by knitting the next 2 stitches together.

Slide the marker to the right needle tip and begin the first row of your seed stitch pattern.

Work 4 rows of seed stitch in this first color.

Change to your second color and continue to work 4 rows of seed stitch in this color. When you reach the marker, carry the first color along by wrapping it over the color being used - this will prevent having to break the yarn and reduce the number of ends to darn in later.

Change to the first color and continue in seed stitch until it runs out or 3 rows.

Change to the second color and work 3 rows of seed stitch.

Cast off loosely in pattern.

Darn in ends and enjoy!

Hugzzz 8-)

