

lap of luxury

A rich tapestry of navy, wine and teal adds drama to a thick and cuddly afghan. Easy enough for a beginner, it offers a lesson on how to crochet using multiple colors.

DESIGN BY MARSHA HINKSON

Skill level: Beginner

Finished project size: 40" x 58" excluding fringe

MATERIALS

Lion Brand Wool-Ease Thick & Quick, Article #640, 80% acrylic/20% wool yarn (6 ounces/108 yards per ball): 7 balls of Navy (110) for MC; 5 balls each of Claret (143) for color A and Pine (182) for color B

Size N/15 (9.00mm) aluminum crochet hook or size needed to obtain gauge

GAUGE

In Tapestry Crochet, 9 sts and 8 rows = 4" (10.2cm).

Take time to check your gauge.

NOTES

Work the afghan with each row as a right side row. Do not turn at the end of rows.

When working over the unused strand, carry it loosely along top of previous row.

The afghan will stretch along the bias when worked in all RS rows; follow instructions for blocking (see Finishing, below).

STITCH PATTERN

This afghan hides the unused strand of color inside the other single crochet stitches in the row, making color changes quick and neat. The only yarn ends are at the ends of each row, and become fringe. To review the hidden color and tapestry crochet techniques, turn to pages 72 and 73.

INSTRUCTIONS

Foundation: Leaving a 10" tail at beginning, with MC, ch 91. Sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across — 90 sts. Leaving a 10" tail, fasten off. **Do not turn.**

Row 1 (RS): Leaving a 10" tail of MC and A, with the RS facing, join MC with sl st in first sc at right edge, ch 1. Working over color A strand, with MC, sc in same sc as joining and in each of next 9 sc, changing to color A. * With A, sc in next 10 sc and work over the MC strand; with MC, sc in next 10 sc and work over the color A strand. Rep from * across; at end, leaving a 10" strand of each color, fasten off.

Rows 2–10: Rep Row 1.

Row 11 (RS): Leaving a 10" tail of B and MC, with RS facing, join B with sl st in first sc at right edge, ch 1. Working over color MC strand, with B, sc in same sc as joining and in each of next 9 sc, changing to MC. * With MC, sc in next 10 sc and work over the color B strand; with color B, sc in next 10 sc and work over the MC strand. Rep from * across; at end, leaving a 10" strand of each color, fasten off.

Rows 12–20: Rep Row 11.

Row 21: Leaving a 10" tail of A and B, with the RS facing, join A with sl st in first sc at right edge, ch 1. Working over B strand, with A, sc in same sc as joining and in each of next 9 sc, changing to B. * With B, sc in next 10 sc and

work over the color A strand; with A, sc in next 10 sc and work over the B strand. Rep from * across; at end, leaving a 10" strand of each color, fasten off.

Rows 22–30: Rep Row 21.

Rows 31–40: Rep Rows 1–10.

Rows 41–50: Rep Rows 11–20.

Rows 51–60: Rep Rows 1–10.

Rows 61–70: Rep Rows 11–20.

Rows 71–80: Rep Rows 1–10.

Rows 81–90: Rep Rows 21–30.

Rows 91–100: Rep Rows 11–20.

Rows 101–110: Rep Rows 1–10.

FINISHING

JOINING: With the RS facing, join MC with sl st in first sc at right edge of Row 110. Ch 1, sc in same sc as joining and in each sc across. Fasten off.

BLOCKING: Place afghan onto a flat, padded surface, pinning to measurements. Cover with damp towels and leave until dry.

FRINGE: Beginning at corner, take 2 tails through st, leaving a small lp; take tails through the lp and pull up to form a knot. Rep for each set of 2 tails across each end. 🧶

Marsha Hinkson has been a member of the Kooler Design Studio for the past eleven years as an expert on counted-thread work and embroidery. Her needlework interests and talents include designing easy-to-crochet afghans.