sweet baby of mine

Beginners can easily master the simple stitches used to create this soft snugly blanket. This project is a pleasure to knit and, just like peanuts, you won't be able to stop with only one.

DESIGN BY MARSHA HINKSON

Skill level: Beginner Finished project size: 32" (81.5 cm) square, 36" (91.5 cm) diagonally

MATERIALS

Lily Sugar 'n Cream, Article 930H, 4-ply 100% Cotton Yarn

(2½ ounces/70.9 grams, 125 yards/114.5 meters per skein): 6 skeins of Cream (#3)

Size 5 (3.75 mm) circular needle or size needed to obtain gauge

GAUGE

18 sts and 36 rows = 4" (10 cm)

Take time to check your gauge.

STITCH PATTERN

This baby blanket is worked on a diagonal alternating knit and purl rows creating a textured stripe. These stripes are also referred to as welts. The yarn over at the end of each row creates a border as you knit.

INSTRUCTIONS

FIRST HALF (INCREASE)

Cast on 3 sts.

Row 1: Knit across.

Rows 2-4: K2, yo, knit across.

Row 5: K2, yo, knit across.

Row 6: K2, yo, purl across to last 2 sts, k2.

Rows 7–12: K2, yo, knit across.

Repeat rows 5–12 until piece measures approximately 36" (91.5 cm) across, ending by working Row 12.

SECOND HALF (DECREASE)

Row 1: K1, k2 tog, yo, k2 tog, knit across.

Row 2: K1, k2 tog, yo, k2 tog, purl across to last 2 sts, k2.

Rows 3–8: K1, k2 tog, yo, k2 tog, knit across.

Continue pattern and decrease each row until you have 3 sts remaining. Bind off last 3 sts.

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