

# A Day Out Blanket

Designed By Sarah Hatton

WEEK 1 - Wigshaw Lane



## Hints and Tips

Say hello to Week One - Wigshaw Lane. Home to one of our favourite bakeries and the British Legion Club!

This is a lovely square to start us off. Simple slip stitches and twisting creates a beautiful pattern to ease us in to the knit along. You make four of these squares and you will soon find your rhythm with the pattern.

1. To cast on I did a cable cast on (two needles and go in-between the stitches).
2. Don't cast on too tightly. The pattern is quite stretchy and you will need to block it to size so you need to be able to stretch the cast on edge a bit.
3. You may want to write down the number of rows for the block and tick them off. I did this for my first square and then made sure that the subsequent squares all matched this one.
4. Row 9 may seem a bit scary. Take it slowly. The stitches you leave at the front of the work are quite long and (if you take your time and are careful) they will be fine. If you are really worried about losing them you could pop a locking stitch marker in it.
5. Keep an eye on your tension. Merino yarn is very springy and it can be quite easy to knit it too tightly. The squares need to be 20cm x 20cm after blocking. After knitting my squares came out 20cm long and 17cm across. I know that I can block these to 20cms across.

After You Have Made Your Squares

1. I know this may seem like I'm teaching you to suck eggs but .... Label your squares and put them somewhere safe! I once finished a CAL and had to make more of the first weeks square because I couldn't find them. I now put all my finished squares in labelled freezer bags!
2. Blocking. I use a foam mat and pins. Pin your square out to 20cm square (you could mark this on your blocking board to make life easier). If using Stylecraft Aran steam your squares with an iron but be careful not to get too close. If using Rico Merino Aran spray your square and leave it to dry.

**Sara xx**

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