

# KNIT--MATIC

## Random Stripe Pillow

Pattern by Haley Waxberg

### Size

16" x 16" with pillow form

### Gauge

15.5 sts & 26.5 rows = 4"/10cm

### Materials

- ° MC: 2 skeins Noro Silk Garden, colour 245
- ° CC: 1 Brown Sheep Company Lamb's Pride Worsted in M07 Sable
- ° 4mm-29" circular needles
- ° Pillow Form: 15 inches
- ° Buttons & sewing thread that matches buttons (ours are 28cm or just over 1")
- ° Snaps (black) and matching thread
- ° 2 Stitch Markers (the locking type are best)
- ° Sewing Needle

### Notions

- ° Dice or random number generator smartphone app
- ° Scrap Yarn
- ° 4mm crochet hook
- ° Ruler or measuring tape
- ° Darning/Tapestry Needle
- ° Scissors
- ° Eucalan or Soak Wash



### Notes

This pillow cover is designed with knitterly pleasure in mind - there are no seams and there is no sewing involved. All of the techniques used (which aren't all that special) are listed below and have links to good explanations/tutorials, some of which are pictorial, and some have videos.

When fitting a pillow, keep in mind that the case should have a couple of inches of negative ease (2 inches smaller in circumference than the pillow) so it will fit snugly.

Additionally, different types of fibres and yarns behave in different ways, some stretch more than others. If you are substituting yarns you should consider knitting a swatch and washing it to see how much it stretches and how much your gauge changes.

In general, wool tends to be the most stable and consistent fibre. Cotton is known to stretch, silk, linen, and alpaca grow quite a bit, and mohair can spread out too. Cashmere keeps its shape initially, but then loses its memory. Synthetics can stretch quite a bit, especially after washing. Blended yarns will still retain the properties of their constituent fibres, but to a lesser degree. For example, a 70% wool-30% silk blend will still grow, but not in the unchecked manner that a 100% silk yarn would.

## Abbreviations

K	Knit
K2tog	Knit 2 sts together at the same time
K2tog tbl	Knit 2 sts together through the back loop (see Techniques)
M1L	Make 1 Left (left slanting increase, see Techniques)
M1R	Make 1 Right (right slanting increase, see Techniques)
PM	Place marker on the needle
R	Row or Round
St/s	Stitch/es

## Techniques

Figure-8 Cast On

<http://www.knitty.com/ISSUESpring06/FEATmagiccaston.html>

Carry Yarn Up Side of Work

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0tZ3Ale48vg&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0tZ3Ale48vg&feature=player_embedded)

M1L & M1R

<http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/increases>

Crochet Provisional Cast On

<http://www.stitchdiva.com/custom.aspx?id=48>

K2tog Tbl

<http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/decreases>

Kitchener Stitch/Grafting

<http://www.knittingdaily.com/glossary/kitchener-stitch.aspx>

## Directions

### Top Half of Pillow

Using *Figure-8 Cast-on* technique (see Techniques), cast on 112 sts. Place a marker at each end.

**R1:** Knit. After this row, start changing colours randomly (see above), carrying the colours up the side. When you change colours, bring the new colour up from under the old colour and in front of it (see Techniques, *Carry Yarn Up Side of Work*). In this manner, twist yarns around each other at the end of every row.

**R2:** \*K1, M1L (see Techniques), k to 1 st bef last st before marker, M1R (see Techniques), k1; rep from \* one more time. (116 sts)

**R3:** \*K2, M1L, k to 2 sts bef marker, M1R, k2; rep from \* one more time. (120 sts)

**R4:** Repeat R2. (124 sts)

K until piece measures 7.75" from cast on.

**Next Row:** Bind Off 62 sts in ribbing until marker, k to end of round.

**Next Row:** With scrap yarn, provisionally cast on 62 sts (see Techniques, *Crochet Provisional Cast On*). K these sts, pm, then k to end of round, pm.

### Bottom Half of Pillow

K until this second section measures 6.75" (not including the scrap yarn from the provisional cast on).

**Next Round:** (K1, K2tog tbl, k until 1 st before marker, k2tog, k1), sl marker, repeat instructions in brackets once. (120 sts)

Repeat the last round two more times. (112 sts).

Knit 1 round.

## How to Randomly Alternate Colours

Use one of the dice to decide how many rounds to use of each colour. For the main colour (MC) I used a maximum of 4 rounds per colour. Follow the following values on the die/dice accordingly:

1 = 1 round

2 = 2 rounds

3 = 3 rounds

4 = 4 rounds

5 = 2 rounds

6 = 3 rounds

For the contrast colour (CC) I predominantly used sections of 1 to 3 rounds, using 4-round sections sparingly, and preferring 2 and 3-round sections.

Unfortunately, there are no hard and fast rules to making art, but I try to keep the contrasting colours in balance. Squinting or unfocusing your eyes often helps to evaluate.

When you change colours, bring the new colour up from under the old colour and in front of it (see Techniques above). In this manner, twist yarns around each other at the end of every row.

Break yarn, leaving a 20 inch tail. With darning needle, use the tail to graft both sides together (see Techniques, *Kitchener Stitch*).

Turn work inside out, so the purl side is facing you. One stitch at a time, take out the provisional cast on you made with the scrap yarn and place sts on the needle. Orient the work so the opening is facing away from you when you lay it flat on a table.

**R1:** Pick up 1 st to the right, slip it on left needle, p2tog, p until 1 st is left, sl st to right needle, pick up 1 st to left, sl st from right to left needle, p2tog.

**R2:** Pick up 1 st to the right, slip it on left needle, k2tog, k1, p2, \*k2, p2; repeat from \* until 2 sts remain, k1, sl st to right needle, pick up 1 st to left, sl st from right to left needle, k2tog.

**R3:** Pick up 1 st to the right, slip it on left needle, P2tog, p1, k2, \*p2, k2; repeat from \* until 2 sts remain, p1, sl st to right needle, pick up 1 st to left, sl st from right to left needle, p2tog.

Repeat R 2 & 3 until 1.25" has been worked, end with a R3.

Cast off in ribbing, continuing to pick up a st at start and end of row.

### Finishing

Weave in ends. Wash in *Eucalan* or *Soak Wash*.

Lay flat to dry, stretching to dimensions if desired.

Sew snaps in place on ribbed bands.

Sew buttons in place on ribbed band above snaps.