

Solstice

Table doily
Free Pattern # 2

Designed by:

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For the Weave In Day 2015



GENERAL INFORMATION

Monk's Cloth is commonly used, displaying a 4 x 4 basket weave made from 100% cotton. Translated, this means there are 4 threads side by side in each direction (warp & weft) in a plain weave construction. To date, Monk's Cloth comes in approximately 20+ colours.

The most important rule is to wash the fabric before starting. On a sewing machine, Zigzag the raw edges of the fabric and the selvages (the finished edge of the fabric that runs the length of the fabric) before washing the fabric. Wash with like colours and then dry in a medium/hot clothes dryer. The fabric can shrink up to 15%.

The next important item is to find the middle (starting point) of the fabric. To do this, fold the fabric in half (selvage to selvage) and baste the center line by hand with regular sewing thread. Then fold the fabric in the other direction and mark the center of the basted line with a pin. Check the pattern (chart) to see where to start. You might have to move your pin up or down a row to match the starting point on the pattern (chart). Replace the pin with a piece of contrasting yarn and make a loose knot. By starting in the middle of the fabric and weaving toward the edge, it will prevent the fabric from distorting and keep the design centered as well as reducing wear on the yarns.

The yarn measurements for the rows are indicated on the chart page. The rows are also marked on the sides of the patterns for right and left handed individuals. The yarns are measured by using the width of the prepared fabric. Lay the yarn across the fabric selvage to selvage (project width) and straighten it but do not stretch it (relaxed) that is one width. For example, if the row requires 2 1/2 widths, measure the width of the fabric two and a half times before cutting the yarn.

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Thread the bodkin (needle) by pulling the yarn through until the bodkin is in the middle of the yarn. Weave the bodkin through the first float (stitch) just a few inches then pull one-half of the yarn through the float. Recheck to make sure half the yarn is on each side of the float (stitch). The first row is the most important row, be especially careful in the counting. Weave the first row. Make sure to glide the needle under the vertical float and over the horizontal float making sure not to pierce the fabric. After finishing a row, pull the extra yarns to the back of the fabric. Weaving a section and then turning it around and finishing the other side of the section (most common method) or weave half a row and then turn it around and finish the row.

To correct mistakes weave backward, carefully undo the weaving until reaching the mistake, make the corrections then continue weaving. That is the easiest way to fix any errors.

The correct yarn tension is when the yarn lays flat on the fabric and the vertical floats are not being pulled in any direction. If you can lift the yarn with your fingernail it's loose, pulled vertical floats signifies it is too tight. Keep checking the tension every few stitches when starting out. The tension is at your discretion.

Sewn and fringed edge

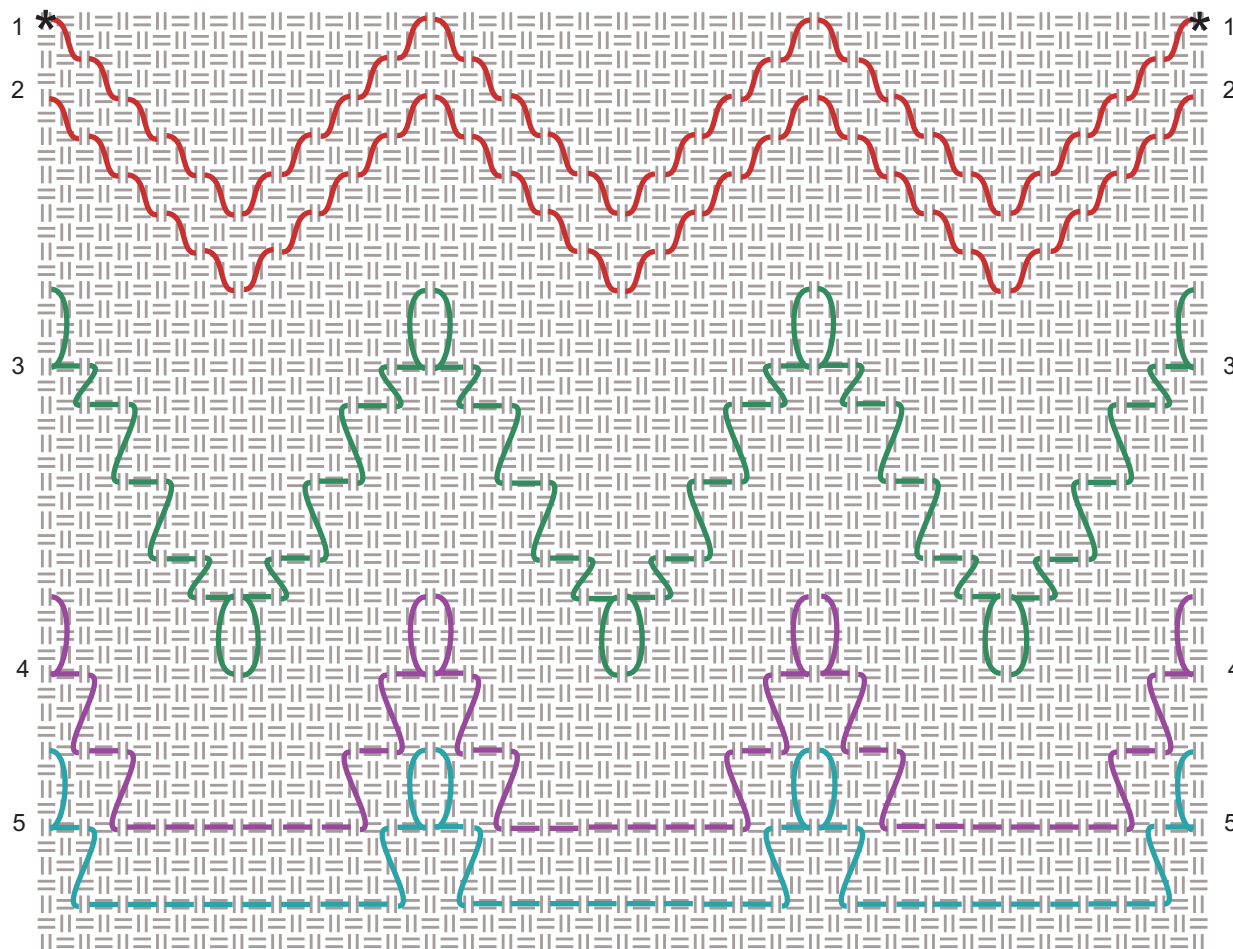
This is easy and the most common finish for afghans and runners.

Count down a few rows at each end of your piece, this will be the starting point for the fringe. Pull out a horizontal row (4 threads) from selvage to selvage. Then sew a zigzag line just above the pulled thread from selvage to selvage making sure to re-enforce the ends. Count down the length of fringe then pull out another row (4 threads) and cut on that line. Pull away the horizontal threads creating the fringe. Sew a straight line along the inside edge of the selvages making sure to catch all the yarns locking them in place. Trim the yarns to just shorter than the selvages. Turn under the selvage and sew it into place.



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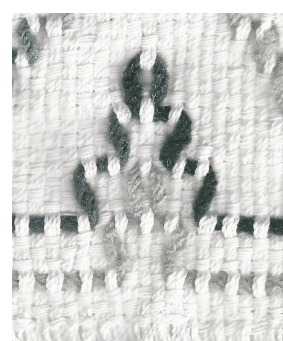
Yarn measurements

Row 1 & 2 Cut 2.50 widths of yarn

Row 3 cut 4 widths of yarn

Row 4 cut 3 widths of yarn

Row 5 cut 2.50 widths of yarn



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