



Zig-zag squared scarf

This striking scarf is based on a traditional quilting patchwork design and is much simpler to knit than it looks. Large, soft and snuggly its ideal for colder weather. It also lends itself well to many different colourways – what will you create?

Difficulty: easy intermediate

Techniques: picking up stitches, centre double decrease, short rows

Measurements

Scarf measures approximately 170cm (67in) long and 25cm (10in) wide.

Materials

Yarn: Aran yarn:

- approximately 2g (4m) for each mitred square (total of 25 squares: 50g, 100m)
- approximately 13g (25m) for each double stripe (total of 16 stripes: 210g, 400m)
- approximately 60g (115m) for the border.

I used Paintbox Yarns Simply Aran in stormy grey, light caramel, soft fudge, pistachio green, vintage pink and peach orange.

Needles: 5mm needles

Other: darning needle for sewing ends, lockable stitch markers

Tension: 18sts and 24 rows to 10cm (4in), worked in stocking stitch with 5mm needles.

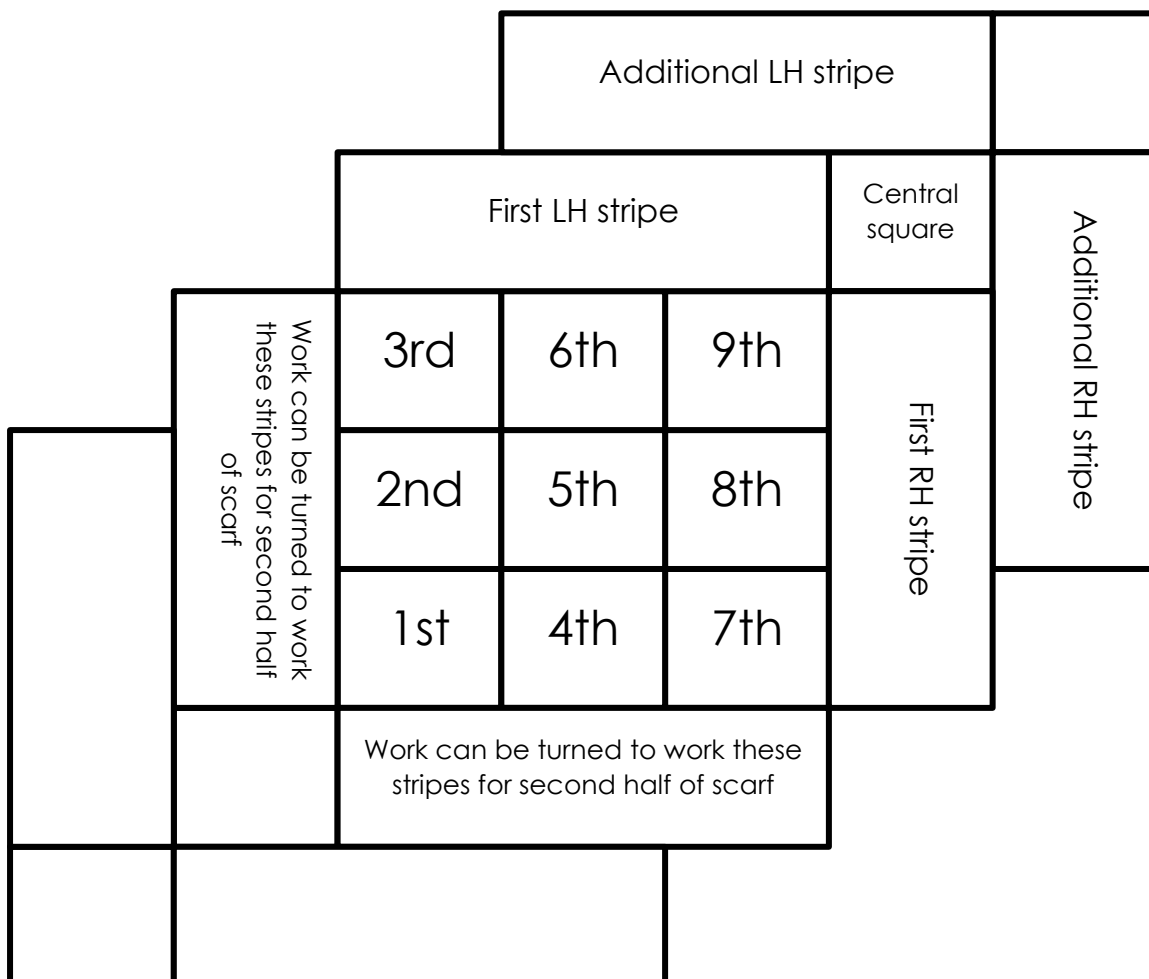
Abbreviations

cm centimetres, **cdd** central double decrease (slip 1 st as if to knit, slip next st as if to knit, k1, then pass slipped sts over), **in** inches, **k2tog** knit 2 together, **mm** millimetres, **RH** right hand, **RS** right side, **s** slip st purlwise, **st(s)** stitch(es), **st-st** stocking stitch.

Pattern Starts

Construction diagram

The scarf is constructed from the centre out. The nine mitred squares in the centre of the scarf are completed first, then the stripes moving out from one side. Finally, the scarf is turned to complete the second half stripes before an edging is knitted all the way around.



Instructions are given for the component parts of the scarf first (mitred square and stripes). The instructions for knitting the scarf are given afterwards and refer back to the instructions for the components.

Components

Mitred square

Cast on or pick up 17 sts as directed by pattern.

1st row: purl.

2nd row: s1, k6, CDD, k7

3rd and every alternative row: s1, p to end

4th row: s1, k5, CDD, k6

6th row: s1, k4, CDD, k5

8th row: s1, k3, CDD, k4

10th row: s1, k2, CDD, k3

12th row: s1, k1, CDD, k2

14th row: s1, CDD, k1

16th row: CDD

Do not do purl row. Place remaining st on st marker

Stripe:

Pick up 26 sts as directed by pattern.

1st row: s1, purl

2nd row: s1, knit

Repeat rows 1 and 2 a further 7 times.

Cast off.

Central nine squares

1st square: Cast on 17 sts. work one mitred square.

2nd and 3rd square: Working with square just completed: With RS facing and central raised sts running to top right, pick up 8 sts along top edge then cast on 9 st. Work one mitred square.

4th square: Cast on 9 st, with RS facing, pick up 8 sts from right edge of 1st square. Work square.

5th and 6th square: Pick up 8 st along top side of 4th (5th) square. Take live st from st marker from 1st (2nd) square. Pick up 8 sts from 2nd (3rd) square. Work square as before.

7th square. Work as 4th square, picking up sts from 4th square.

8th and 9th square: work as 5th and 6th squares, picking up sts from 5th and 6th square.

The first stripes:

First RH stripe: With RS facing and all central raised sts on mitred squares to top right working on right edge of central nine squares, Pick up 8 sts from first square, place live st on needle, 8 sts from next square, place live st on needle, 8 sts from next square (26 sts). Work stripe.

First LH stripe: With RS facing, and all central raised sts on mitred squares to top right, working on top edge of central nine squares, Pick up 8 sts from first square, place live st on needle, 8 sts from next square, place live st on needle, 8 sts from next square (26 sts). Work stripe.

Central square: With RS facing, pick up 8 sts from end of RH stripe, take live st from previous square, pick up 8 sts from LH stripe. Work square.

Additional stripes

RH stripe: Working on stripe to the right of the central squares.

Miss 8 sts. Pick up 1 st in each of next 18 sts of stripe. Pick up 8 sts from central square (26sts)

Work stripe.

LH stripe: Working on stripe to the left of the central square

Pick up 8 sts from the central square, pick up 1 st in next 18 sts of previous stripe. (26 sts)

Work stripe.

Work central square as given in first stripes.

Keep adding additional strands until the scarf is half the desired length.

Starting the second half

First RH stripe: With RS facing and all central raised sts on mitred squares to bottom left, working on right edge of 9 square block. Pick up 8 sts from first square, 1 st from junction between squares, 8 sts from next square, 1 st from junction between squares, 8 sts from next square (26 sts). Work stripe.

First LH stripe: With RS facing, and all central raised sts on mitred squares to bottom left, working on top edge of 9 square block, Pick up 8 sts from first square, 1 st from junction between squares, 8 sts from next square, 1 st from junction between squares, 8 sts from next square (26 sts). Work stripe.

Central square: With RS facing, pick up 8 sts from end of RH stripe, 1 st from base of previous square, pick up 8 sts from LH stripe. Work square.

2nd and every following stripe:

Now work as given for additional stripes to desired length.

Edging

Provisionally cast on 4 sts (for a seamless finish, alternatively cast on 4 sts in your preferred method).

Orientate your work so that you can pick up sts along the last stripe, working away from the mitred square at the tip of the scarf.

1st row: k4, with RS of scarf facing pick up a st at junction between last stripe and mitred square.

2nd row: k2tog (the picked up st and next st on needle), k3

Repeat rows 1 and 2 picking up the next st along the edge each time.

Turning an outside corner

Work along the side until you reach the corner.

1st row: k4, pick up corner st

2nd row: k2tog, k3

3rd row: k3, turn

4th row and every alternative row: k

5th row: k2, turn

7th row: k1, turn

9th row: k2, turn

11th row: k3, turn

13th row: k4, pick up next st

14th row: k2tog k3

Repeat rows 13 and 14 until the next corner.

Turning an inside corner

3 edge sts before the corner:

1st row and every alternative row: k to end and pick up next st

2nd row: k2tog, k2

4th row: k2tog, k1

6th row: k2 tog

You should have now reached the corner. You will start picking up sts along the next edge

7th row and every alternative row: k to end and pick up st

8th row: k2tog, k1

9th row: k2tog, k2

11th row: k2tog, k3

Continue along edge using all 4 sts until you reach the next corner.

Turning the corner on the short edges (the tips of the scarf)

These corners are worked the same as an outside corner. Instead of picking up the corner st, use the live st from the end of the mitred square.

Work along the side until you reach the corner.

1st row: k4, place live st on needle

2nd row: k2tog (the live st and next st), k3

Now work as for the outside corner, from row 3 onwards.

Continue working around the edge until you meet the original cast on. Either graft the edges together with kitchener st if using a provisional cast on, or cast off and seam edges.

Weave in ends. There is unfortunately rather a lot of them.