



## DIAGONAL STRIPED GARTER STITCH LOOP

*Why do stripes seem so much stripier on the diagonal?*

- Finished Size:** Approx. 46"/117cm around x 8"/20cm, after blocking.
- Yarn:** 2 skeins Berroco *Ultra Alpaca Chunky* (131 yds/120m each), one each in two colors. Designate colors A and B (our sample used Color A = Color 72170, Color B = Color 7289).
- Needles & Notions:** US 10½ (6.5mm) needles, or size to obtain gauge. US H/8 or I/9 (5 or 5.5mm) crochet hook and smooth waste yarn for provisional cast-on. Spare needle gauge size or smaller. 2 locking stitch markers. Blunt darning needle to finish.
- Gauge:** Approx. 13 sts = 4" in garter stitch.
- Glossary:** **Ch** = chain; **K** = knit; **K2Tog** = knit 2 sts together; **KFB** = increase by knitting into front then into back of same stitch; **RS** = right side; **St(s)** = stitch(es); **WS** = wrong side.
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- This loop begins with a provisional cast-on and is knitted flat from end to end. The ends are then grafted together for a seamless join.*
- Provisional cast-on:** Cast on 42 sts using provisional crochet cast-on method, as follows:  
Make a slip knot with waste yarn and place loop onto crochet hook. Hold knitting needle and yarn in left hand and crochet hook in right; form an 'X' with left-pointing hook on top of right-pointing needle, and yarn behind hook (you've made a sandwich with your knitting needle between the hook and the yarn). \*Using crochet hook, Ch1, pulling yarn through loop on hook and catching needle under chain. Bring yarn behind needle\*.  
Repeat between \* \* until 42 sts are on needle. With waste yarn and hook only, Ch3, cut waste yarn and place locking marker in last chain to fasten off.
- Begin pattern:** Set-up rows: With Color A, knit 2 rows, working first row into waste yarn sts.  
Row 1: With Color B, KFB, knit to last 2 sts, K2Tog. *Note: When changing color, bring new color up in front of old color.* Clip locking marker into fabric to mark this as right side.  
Row 2 (WS): With Color B, knit one row.  
Row 3 (RS): With Color A, KFB, knit to last two sts, K2Tog.  
Row 4 (WS): With Color A, knit one row.  
Row 5 (RS): With Color B, KFB, knit to last two sts, K2Tog.  
Row 6 (WS): With Color B, knit one row.  
Rows 7 & 8: Repeat Rows 5 and 6. [2 ridges in Color B] *Note: When not changing color on RS row, twist color not in use once around working yarn to keep edge tidy.*  
Rows 9–14: With Color A, repeat Rows 3–8. [3 ridges in Color A]

*Continued on reverse...*

Continuing in this way, increasing (KFB) at the beginning and decreasing (K2Tog) at the end of every RS row, work the following color sequences alternately:

**SEQUENCE 1:**

Rows 1–2: Color B (1 ridge).  
Rows 3–4: Color A (1 ridge).  
Rows 5–6: Color B (1 ridge).  
Rows 7–10: Color A (2 ridges).  
Rows 11–16: Color B (3 ridges).

**SEQUENCE 2:**

Rows 1–2: Color A (1 ridge).  
Rows 3–4: Color B (1 ridge).  
Rows 5–6: Color A (1 ridge).  
Rows 7–10: Color B (2 ridges).  
Rows 11–16: Color A (3 ridges).

Repeat Sequences 1 and 2 four more times, then repeat Sequence 1, ending with Row 15 of Sequence 1 (Color B) (piece should measure approx. 46"/117cm long). Leaving a 2 yd/m tail for grafting, cut Color B.

**Finishing:**

Remove locking marker from waste yarn and carefully unravel provisional cast-on, slipping spare needle into live stitches as you go, including small twisted loop at end. [42 sts]

Lay piece out flat with wrong side up, final knitted row on gauge needle at right, stitches from provisional cast-on on spare needle at left. Fold ends in so that diagonal edges meet. Holding edges so that needles are parallel and 2 yd/m tail of Color B is coming from back needle, graft edges together following instructions below. Weave in ends.

**Blocking:**

Soak 15–20 minutes in tepid water with a little no-rinse wool soak. Gently squeeze out as much water as possible. Roll in towels and gently squeeze out more moisture, or run through spin-only cycle in washing machine in lingerie bag. Lay flat to dry, pulling to desired dimensions.

**GRAFTING IN GARTER STITCH**

*Thread grafting tail onto darning needle. Hold two knitting needles parallel in left hand, with left index finger inserted down between needles to keep grafted sts slack as you work (it is important that grafted sts are easy to identify so you don't pull on the wrong strand when you go back to tighten them up later). Tail should be coming from first st on back needle.*

*Note: In garter stitch grafting, darning needle is inserted into first stitch on each needle knitwise every time.*

**SET UP STEPS**

Insert darning needle into first st on front needle as if to knit, leave st on needle and pull yarn through. Insert darning needle into first st on back needle as if to knit, leave st on needle and pull yarn through.

**STEP 1**

Insert darning needle into first st on front needle as if to knit, and lift st off needle (do not pull yarn through st yet).

**STEP 2**

Insert darning needle into next st on front needle as if to purl, but leave st on needle; pull yarn through, but don't pull up tightly.

**STEP 3**

Insert darning needle into first st on back needle as if to knit, and lift st off needle (do not pull yarn through st yet).

**STEP 4**

Insert darning needle into next st on back needle as if to purl, but leave st on needle; pull yarn through, but don't pull up tightly.

Repeat Steps 1–4 until all sts have been lifted off needles, ending with Steps 1 and 3. Every 10–12 sts, check is correct, then use tip of darning to adjust tension of grafted sts until their tension matches that of knitted sts.