GRAPHIC STRIPED PILLOW

This pillow is an easy-to-knit one-row stripe that looks just as good on the 'inside' as the 'outside'.
If it's too hard to decide which side you like best, make one of each!

Finished Size: 17 x 17"/43 x 43cm square; to fit 18"/46cm square pillow form.

Yarn: 4 skeins Berroco *Ultra Alpaca Chunky* (131 yds/120m each), 2 skeins each of 2 colors. Designate Colors A and B. Our shop sample used A = Color 7245 (black); B= Color 7201 (cream).

Or approx. 262 yds/240m each of 2 different colors of an equivalent chunky-weight yarn.

Needles & Notions: US 10 (6mm) 24"/60cm circular needle, or size to get gauge.
18"/46cm square pillow form.
Darning needle for seaming.

Gauge: Approx. 15 sts = 4"/10cm in stockinette st.

Cast on: *This pillow is knitted in the round and then seamed at the top and bottom.*

With Color A, using long-tail cast on method, cast on 128 stitches.

Join Color B and join in round, being careful not to twist. Knit one round with Color B.

Begin working in stripe sequence as follows:

<u>Round 1</u>: With Color A, knit 1 round.
<u>Round 2</u>: With Color B, knit 1 round.

Repeat Rounds 1 and 2, alternating Colors A and B (see below), until work measures 17"/43cm and you have completed a round in Color B. Break off Color B and cast off in Color A. Break yarn leaving 24"/60cm tail for seaming.

<u>Knitting one-round stripes</u>:
When knitting in the round, the end of each round is one row higher than the beginning of the round. In stripes, this can create a stair-step 'jog'. To make one-round stripes spiral up with no 'jog,' always bring the new color <u>ahead</u> of the old color without crossing, twisting or 'trapping' the old color.

<u>To keep stitch tension even at color changes</u>:
Before you work the last two stitches of the round, tighten the last two stitches of the <u>old</u> color (before you knit into them) by gently pulling on the strand of the old color.

Finishing: Decide which side you want on the outside. Flatten 'tube' making sure knitting is straight along sides. Line up beginning and ending tails at one side and seam one edge using mattress stitch. Insert pillow form and seam second edge.

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