

Siri



This is a brioche stitch iPhone/device cover, knit from the top down. When we moved to America, part of piecing together our new American identities was getting hold of new phone numbers and new phones. Dan stated that the previous improvised phone cover I made him several years ago was peerless in its ability to cushion the device through life's tumbles. Being a belligerent sort of person and hoping I'd learnt a few knitting-ninja skills in the intervening years, I set out to prove him wrong. I was stash-less in a new country, so after indulging in a yarn binge at my new local I set about designing a dense, cushy envelope of wool. The first element I wanted to use was stranded colour-work, as it offers extra insulating powers thanks to the layering of the yarns. The second element was some sort of rib to add another dimension of cushioning depth. Taken together, these two requirements naturally invoke the brioche stitch. By knitting the cover up on smaller than recommended needles for a tight gauge, you get a super dense, cozy home for your modern-life essential.

yarn

Shelter by Brooklyn Tweed - a 100% wool worsted weight / 10 ply yarn. The blue/orange combo uses 'Embers' as the main colour and 'Almanac' as the contrast colour, whilst the purple/green number is 'Thistle' paired with 'Sap'. Whatever colours you go for, you'll need about 25 yards (or 9-10 grams) of each colour.

needles

One set of 3.75mm needles (UK size 9, US size 5) for working in the round (double pointed needles or a long flexible circular needle for using the 'magic loop' method)

gauge

17-18 stitches and 28 rows per 10 cm/4" in the brioche pattern

size

The finished cover will be a rectangle around 13cm by 8cm.

abbreviations

brk, the Brioche Knit - knit the stitch that was slipped in the previous row together with its yarnover (see yos, below)

brp, the Brioche Purl - purl the stitch that was slipped in the previous row together with its yarnover (see yos, below)

CC, contrast colour

k, knit

k2tog, knit two stitches together

MC, main colour

yo, yarn over

yos, the Yarn Over Slip - bring the working yarn between the needles to the front of the work, slip one as if to purl then take the yarn back over the needle to perform the next stitch. This paired slipped stitch and yarnover are counted as 1 stitch.

pattern

Cast on 28 stitches in the MC and join for your preferred method of working in the round (DPNs or magic loop), being careful not to twist the stitches.

Knit five rounds in the MC. [optional, include a button hole in the third round if you want to use a smaller button: k6, k2tog, yo, k to the end of the round]

brioche stitch set up row

in the MC - *yos, p1, repeat from * for 1 round

for the next rounds

After working a round with MC, leave yarn hanging at front of work. After working a round with CC, leave yarn hanging at the back of work.

round 1: in CC - *brk, yos, repeat from * around

round 2: in MC - *yos, brp, repeat from * around

Repeat these two rounds until work measures 12cm, finishing on a CC row.

with MC - *k1, brk, repeat from * for 1 round (there should no longer be any 'yos' yarn overs after this round, just 28 knit stitches)

knit 3 more rounds then break yarn and graft the stitches using kitchener stitch.

kitchener stitch

Arrange your stitches over two needles - the first 14 on the front needle and the second 14 on the back needle. The yarn tail hanging from the last stitch should be on the right hand end of the back needle. Thread the tail onto an embroidery needle. To set up for kitchener, first take the yarn purlwise through the first stitch on the front



needle, then knit wise through the first stitch on the back needle, leaving both stitches on the needles in the process. Now repeat the following four steps until all the stitches are grafted:

step 1 - take the yarn knitwise into the first stitch on the front needle and slip that stitch off the needle.

step 2 - take the yarn purlwise through the next stitch on the front needle, leaving the stitch in place.

step 3 - take the yarn purlwise through the first stitch on the back needle and slip that stitch off the needle.

step 4 - take the yarn knitwise through the next stitch on the back needle, leaving the stitch in place.

finishing

Weave in the loose ends and trim. If you want to use a big button or other clasp like mine, knot three strands of yarn together and plait (braid) until you have a string long enough to make your loop. Tie a knot in the other end too, then poke these through the middle cast on stitch on the back edge of your cozy. Sew your button on the front and your done. I also included instructions for a more traditional buttonhole at the top of the cosy, if you prefer that route.

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