

Beginners Brioche

watch the magic of brioche create a beautiful reversible fabric



TOOLS

Needles - You will need at least a 24" circular needle that is one or two sizes under the recommendation on the ball band for your chosen yarn. You have to use a circular because the stitches will be slid from side to side on the needle.

Yarn - You will need two different skeins of either a worsted or DK yarn. Brioche uses up a lot of yarn. For a short scarf 200 yards of each will suffice. For a longer scarf use closer to 400 yards of each yarn.

Misc - three stitch markers (optional), a yarn needle

ABBREVIATIONS

brk or bark stitch (brioche knit) is made by knitting the stitch that was slipped on the previous row together with its YO pair

brp or burp stitch (brioche purl) is made by purling the stitch that was slipped on the previous row together with its YO pair

CC - contrasting color

K - knit - when you knit the yarn is in the back

MC - main color

P - purl - when you purl the yarn is in the front

RS - right side

sl1yo – purl (burp) row - yarn will already be in front - slip one stitch purlwise - bring yarn to the back as if to knit and around again to the front so you can burp the next pair of stitches. If you were to purl without wrapping the yarn around, then you would lose the yo.

yfs1yo - knit (bark) row - bring yarn to the front - slip one stitch purlwise, then bring the yarn over the needle (and over the slipped stitch) to the back, into position to work the next stitch

WS - wrong side

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This pattern is set up in a tutorial fashion, so that you can follow the progression of learning the steps of one color brioche then two color brioche, and back to one color brioche. This allows you to learn the building blocks and terminology of each section before proceeding to the next.

You can also choose to create a one color scarf or a two color scarf. For a one color scarf, use the following sections :

- Cast On - page 2
- Set Up Row for One-Color Brioche - page 2
- One Color Brioche Starting Section - page 3 - repeat Row 1 WS & Row 2 RS until desired length
- Binding Off in Brioche - page 6
- Elizabeth Zimmerman's Sewn Bind Off - page 7

There is a section included after the pattern in Appendix 2 that has the set up and formula needed for a two color brioche scarf. There is also a "cheat sheet" for two color brioche that you can use when you become comfortable with the stitch pattern in Appendix 1.

CAST ON

CO 27 stitches in your **MC**, using the long-tail cast on over two needles. You will remove the second needle before you start knitting. Brioche manipulates stitches in such a way that you will need the extra room for your first row. If you want to increase the size, use odd multiples.

Also, adding a stitch maker before and after the border can be helpful.

SET UP ROW FOR ONE COLOR BRIOCHE

Note: There is so much information on each row that I put the pattern line in a **contrasting color** so it stands out. All this information is helpful before you get the pattern down and will become second nature as you progress. The broken-down information will be in **green**.

RS: K3 *yfs1yo, K1* rep ** to last 4 stitches, yfs1yo, K3

- **MC yarn should start in the back**
- **(yfs1yo) - knit (bark) row - bring yarn to the front - slip one stitch purlwise, then bring the yarn over the needle (and over the slipped stitch) to the back, into position to work the next stitch.**

Place a locking stitch marker or a weave a piece of yarn through the RS so that you will always know what side you are on.

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ONE-COLOR BRIOCHE STARTING SECTION

Row 1 WS: K3, *brk1, yfs1yo* rep ** to last 4 stitches, brk1, K3

- *MC yarn should start in the back*
- *(brk) Knit the slipped stitch from the previous row together with its yarn over pair*
- *(yfs1yo) - knit (bark) row - bring yarn to the front - slip one stitch purlwise, then bring the yarn over the needle (and over the slipped stitch) to the back, into position to work the next stitch.*

Row 2 RS: K3, *yfs1yo, brk1* rep ** to last 4 stitches, yfs1yo, K3

- *MC yarn should start in the back*
- *(yfs1yo) - knit (bark) row - bring yarn to the front - slip one stitch purlwise, then bring the yarn over the needle (and over the slipped stitch) to the back, into position to work the next stitch.*

Knit 10 repeats of Rows 1 and 2 (20 rows).

If you would like to continue with one-color brioche, keep repeating these rows, otherwise move onto **two color brioche middle section** on page 4.



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TWO-COLOR BRIOCHE MIDDLE SECTION

In two-colored brioche you will be working two rows in each color before turning. You will slide the needles back to the right side of the circular to knit the second color. If you are watching your knitting you will notice the way the yarn is wrapped allows each of your color bands to progress. If you make a mistake you will notice it right away because the color won't flow.

There will be a shift in the columns as you move from one-color to two-color brioche. Do not panic; this is what happens when you shift modalities. You can use this technique to create designs that change back and forth in the columns.

You will add the new color on Row 1 WS CC BARK - KNIT. Leave a 6" tail when you add in the new color to weave in later.

On all Row WS rows but the very first one, hold CC in back as you work with the MC for the first few stitches. For the very first one, just start purling with the new color.

Row 1 WS MC - BURP - PURL - this row forms purl columns in the MC

P3, brp1, *sl1yof, brp1* rep ** to last 3 stitches, P3

- **MC** yarn should start in the front
- **(brp)** Purl the slipped stitch from the previous row together with its yarn over pair
- **(sl1yof)** – purl (burp) row - yarn will already be in front - slip one stitch purlwise - bring yarn to the back as if to knit and around again to the front so you can burp the next pair of stitches. If you were to purl without wrapping the yarn around, then you would lose the yo.

Do not turn work, slide stitches to right side of the needle.

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Row 1 WS CC - BARK - KNIT - this row forms knit columns in the CC

K3, yfsl1yo, *brk1, yfsl1yo, * repeat ** to last 3 stitches, K3

- **CC** yarn should start in the back
- **(yfsl1yo)** - knit (bark) row - bring yarn to the front - slip one stitch purlwise, then bring the yarn over the needle (and over the slipped stitch) to the back, into position to work the next stitch.

Turn work

Row 2 RS MC – BARK - KNIT - this row forms knit columns in the MC

CC will be in front, take it around to the right of MC towards the back and hold onto CC as you knit the first stitch.

K3, brk1, *yfsl1yo, brk1*; rep ** to last 3 stitches, K3

- **MC** yarn should start in the back
- **(brk)** Knit the slipped stitch from the previous row together with its yarn over pair
- **(yfsl1yo)** - knit (bark) row - bring yarn to the front - slip one stitch purlwise, then bring the yarn over the needle (and over the slipped stitch) to the back, into position to work the next stitch.

Do not turn work, slide stitches to the right side of the needle.

Row 2 RS CC - BURP - PURL - this row forms purl columns in the CC

P3, sl1yof, *brp1, sl1yof* rep ** to last 3 stitches, P3

- **CC** yarn should start in the front.
- **(sl1yof)** – purl (burp) row - yarn will already be in front - slip one stitch purlwise - bring yarn to the back as if to knit and around again to the front so you can burp the next pair of stitches. If you were to purl without wrapping the yarn around, then you would lose the yo.
- **(brp)** Purl the slipped stitch from the previous row together with its yarn over pair

Turn work

Repeat Rows 1 (WS MC) through 2 (RS CC) until you have the length you desire.

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ONE-COLOR BRIOCHE ENDING ROWS

You will go back to one-color brioche knitting in the CC to end the scarf. Cut the MC yarn, leaving a 6" tail to be woven in later.

Row 1 WS: K3, brk1, *yfs1yo, brk1* rep ** to last 3 stitches, K3, turn your work

- **CC** yarn should start in the back
- **(brk)** Knit the slipped stitch from the previous row together with its yarn over pair
- **(yfs1yo)** - knit (bark) row - bring yarn to the front - slip one stitch purlwise, then bring the yarn over the needle (and over the slipped stitch) to the back, into position to work the next stitch.

Row 1 RS: K3, yfs1yo, *brk1, yfs1yo* rep ** to last 3 stitches, K3, turn your work

- **CC** yarn should start in the back
- **(yfs1yo)** - knit (bark) row - bring yarn to the front - slip one stitch purlwise, then bring the yarn over the needle (and over the slipped stitch) to the back, into position to work the next stitch.
- **(brk)** Knit the slipped stitch from the previous row together with its yarn over pair

Knit 10 repeats of Rows 1 and 2 (20 rows)

Binding off in Brioche

To prepare for bind off, you need to work a row of 1 X 1 ribbing. When you bind off you will not be working any yarn overs.

K3, *brk1, P1* to last 4 stitches, brk1, K3

(brk) Knit the slipped stitch from the previous row together with its yarn over pair

You want a nice loose bind off to keep the brioche from puckering. Elizabeth Zimmerman's sewn bind off is perfect for brioche. You can use this bind off anytime you want to ensure a loose edge and/or an edge that mirrors the long tail cast on.

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ELIZABETH ZIMMERMAN'S SEWN BIND OFF

In the CC measure out a length of yarn that is three times as long as the width of your knitting and break the yarn.

(I used a contrasting color yarn so you could see it, but you will use your CC yarn)



STEP #1



STEP #2

Step 1: Insert the seaming needle into the first two stitches on the knitting needle as if to purl and draw the yarn through.

Step 2: Reinsert the seaming needle into the first stitch on the knitting needle as if to knit and draw the yarn through and slip that stitch off of the knitting needle.

Keep repeating these two steps until all the stitches are bound off.

Keep your stitches relaxed. You can always tighten up any slack later before securing the last stitch. Go through the last stitch purlwise and then knot the yarn before weaving in the ends.



WEAVING IN ENDS

You can easily hide and secure the ends in the garter edging by following the path of the yarn. I used blue yarn here to show the path of the yarn, but when you are weaving in the same color as your work, this method is almost invisible and cannot be seen on the other side.

Give everything a little tug and trim all woven ends.

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Should you have any questions or comments; please feel free to e-mail me at: ruinwen@yahoo.com



Two Color Cheat Sheet – Appendix 1

- On all rows but the very first one, take the yarn you are not working with and bring it around and to the right of the working yarn.
- Hold onto this yarn as you make your first few stitches with the working yarn to avoid loose stitches.
- All stitches are slipped purlwise.

Row 1 WS MC - BURP - PURL:

P3, brp1, *sl1yof, brp1* rep ** to last 3 stitches, P3

This row forms purl columns in the MC

Do *not* turn work, slide stitches to the right of the needle.

Row 1 WS CC - BARK - KNIT:

K3, yfsl1yo, *brk1, yfsl1yo, * repeat ** to last 3 stitches, K3

This row forms knit columns in the CC

Turn work

Row 2 RS MC – BARK - KNIT:

K3, brk1, *yfsl1yo, brk1*; rep ** to last 3 stitches, K3

This row forms knit columns in the MC

Do *not* turn work, slide stitches to the right of the needle.

Row 2 RS CC - BURP - PURL:

P3, sl1yof, *brp1, sl1yof* rep ** to last 3 stitches, P3

This row forms purl columns in the CC

Turn work

Repeat Rows 1 (WS MC) and Rows 2 (RS CC) until you have the length you desire

Brioche Two Color – Appendix 2

This section is **only** to be used if you would like to create a two-color brioche scarf without the one-color beginning and end sections. This is the required set up row that you will need, plus instructions on how to finish a two-color brioche scarf.

CAST ON

CO 27 stitches in your **MC**, using the long-tail cast on over two needles. You will remove the second needle before you start knitting. Brioche manipulates stitches in such a way that you will need the extra room for your first row. If you want to increase the size, use odd multiples.

Side work to right side of needle

SET UP ROW (ATTACH NEW COLOR)

SETUP ROW CC: this row forms purl columns in the CC

P3, sl1yof, *P1, sl1yof* rep ** to last 3 stitches, P3

- CC yarn should start in the front
- **(sl1yof)** – purl (burp) row - yarn will already be in front - slip one stitch purlwise - bring yarn to the back as if to knit and around again to the front so you can burp the next pair of stitches. If you were to purl without wrapping the yarn around, then you would lose the yo.

Turn Work

Continue with **2 Color Brioche ROW 1 WS MC - BURP - PURL** on page 4 and 5, and repeat the four two-color pattern rows for the desired length.

BIND OFF PREP

MC: P3, *brp, K1* rep ** to last 4 stitches, brp, P3

- **(brp)** Purl the slipped stitch from the previous row together with its yarn over pair

(note: there are no slip stitches or yarn overs on this row.)

BIND OFF

Use Elizabeth Zimmerman's Sewn Bind Off on page 7