Woolly Thoughts

Liberty Banner

An illusion knitting banner
designed by

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Liberty Banner

When you look straight at the knitting you see only stripes; when you look from the side you see the word *Liberty* inside a 'frame'.

Yarn
85 metres (90 yards) Light DK and 135 metres (150 yards) Dark DK. I used Stylecraft Special DK in Silver and Claret.

This includes requirements for the border shown but does not include any extra required for mounting.

Any thickness of yarn can be used but this could change the overall size of the panel.

Needles
The effect works best if the work is fairly tight. Try size 3.25 mm but adjust if necessary. A cushion, sweater or afghan needs to be softer than a wall-hanging or bag.

Size and tension
Approximately 16 cm x 65 cm (6.5" x 25.5") , working at a tension of approximately 5 stitches to 2.5 cm (1") using garter stitch

Using the chart
You may never have seen charts like this before. Make sure you understand it before you begin.

There are 127 ridges (not rows!). Ridges and stitches are marked, with red lines, in groups of ten so that you can keep your place on the chart. Use markers on your needle to correspond.

There are three colours on the chart but you are only using two colours of yarn.

<u>White on the chart always represents purl stitches.</u> You could be using either colour of yarn to work these stitches. The working colour is determined by the colour of the current ridge. All other coloured stitches are knit stitches. Use Light to knit the light grey stitches; use Dark to knit the dark grey stitches.

You always work two rows (one ridge) of Light followed by two rows (one ridge) of Dark

The sequence of working is:

- Using Light, knit
- Using Light, follow the chart
- Using Dark, knit
- Using Dark, follow the chart

Each time you complete this sequence of four rows you have added two ridges. The numbers on the chart denote these ridges.

Special note
The right side of the work is always knit. The chart is only needed for wrong-side rows. When you look at the chart you are seeing the right side and need to work from left to right for wrong side rows.

Temporary cast on
We recommend beginning with a temporary cast on. This is not essential but it does allow you to go back and finish the first side in the same way as the second side.

Liberty Banner - Method

Every stripe on the chart represents two rows of knitting. Every right side row is knit. You only need the chart for the wrong side rows.

Using waste yarn make a temporary cast-on of 32 stitches.

Ridge 1 (Light):   Row 1:   Knit.

Row 2:   Follow the chart. (The chart shows all knit.)

Ridge 2 (Dark):   Row 1:   Knit.

Row 2:   Follow the chart. (The chart shows all purl.)

Ridges 3, 4 & 5   Repeat ridges 1, 2, & 1

Ridge 6 (Dark):   Row 1:   Knit.

Row 2:   Follow the chart. Knit the coloured stitches and purl the white stitches. (The chart shows p2, k28, p2)

Ridge 7 (Light):   Row 1:   Knit.

Row 2:   Follow the chart. Knit the coloured stitches and purl the white stitches. (The chart shows k2, p28, k2)

Ridge 8 (Dark):   Work as for Ridge 6.

Ridge 9 (Light):   Row 1   Knit.

Row 2   Follow the chart. Knit the coloured stitches and purl the white stitches. (The chart shows k2, p2, k24, p2, k2)

Ridge 10 (Dark):   Row 1   Knit.

Row 2   Follow the chart. Knit the coloured stitches and purl the white stitches. (The chart shows p2, k2, p24, k2, p2)

Ridges 11 - 14   Repeat Ridges 9 and 10 twice more.

Ridge 15 (Light):   Row 1   Knit.

Row 2   Follow the chart. Knit the coloured stitches and purl the white stitches. (The chart shows k2, p2, k17, p3, k4, p2, k2)

Ridge 16 (Dark):   Row 1   Knit.

Row 2   Follow the chart. Knit the coloured stitches and purl the white stitches. (The chart shows p2, k2, p17, k3, p4, k2, p2)

Continue in this way to the end of the chart then follow the instructions overleaf for finishing.

Finishing the banner
Use Dark for all edges.
1. After completing the chart, knit 7 rows garter stitch. Cast off loosely.
2. Unfasten the temporary cast-on and knit 7 rows garter stitch. Cast off loosely.
3. Turn the work sideways and pick up one stitch from each ridge end all along. Complete to match ends.
4. Repeat for the other long edge.

Temporary hanging
If you want to hang your banner and still be able to move it easily, attach a length of Velcro to a strip of wood of the same length as the banner and press the knitting gently onto it.

Alternatively, you could knit a few extra garter ridges on the long top edge and fold over the extra piece to make a channel for a hanging rod.

This is what you see when you look straight at the knitting.

THE WORLD OF

ILLUSION KNITTING

where nothing is quite what it seems

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