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Easy Aran Kitten Blanket

by Linda

I've never knitted an Aran anything in my life, and thought yet another kitten blanket (for **Peanut**) would be of reasonable size to try this out. I also decided to stick with only two stitch patterns for simplicity.



What I came up with is basically vertical strips of seed stitch alternating with a 4 stitch wide cable, each column separated by a single column of knit stitches. The result is quite pleasing to the eye, and to the kittie!

You'll need:

- chunky yarn in a light colour, about 200 grams altogether (8 oz), it should be machine washable (Check out the selection of yarns at joann.com.)
 - double pointed or circular knitting needle of appropriate size, I used 5.00 mm
 - a cable needle or spare dpn
 - gauge is not crucial, whatever shows off the stitches best
 - finished size is about 21 by 22 inches (x cm) square
1. Cast on 82 sts in knit.
 2. First row (wrong side): *p1, k1, p1, k1, p1, k1, p4, k1*, repeat across, ending k1, p1, k1, p1, k1, p1, turn.
 3. Second row (right side): *K2, p1, k2, p1, place 2 sts on cable ndl, hold cable ndl in front while knitting next 2 sts, k2 from cable ndl, p1*, repeat across ending k2, p1, k2, p1, turn.
 4. Repeat first row.
 5. *K2, p1, k2, p1, k4, p1*, repeat across, ending k2, p1, k2, p1
 6. These four rows form the pattern. Repeat them until your fabric is approximately square (approx 27 pattern repeats), ending with row 3 then bind off in knit.
- There is no need to add an edging, but you could single crochet or crab crochet around all edges if you like.
 - A larger blanket requires more yarn, of course. You could also make it in a finer yarn, but it would take longer to work and you'd need to increase the number of stitches and rows worked to come up with the same sized blanket.
 - Please be sure to hide all ends securely, as well as keeping your knitting basket out of your little friend's reach. Swallowed yarn can quickly become a medical emergency for an animal.

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