

Blue Tit Cushion Knit Version

Tips & Tricks



DAWN CHORUS

Pick & Mix CKAL Experience

Blue Tit Cushion by Liz Barradough



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Blue Tit Cushion

Knit Version - Tips & Tricks



By Liz Barraclough

This document contains important information on techniques used in the knit version of the Blue Tit Cushion. Read carefully before beginning this project.

MATERIALS

Scheepjes Scrumptious (50% Recycled Polyester (Recycled Plastic Bottles), 50% Acrylic; 100g/300m)

Yarn A 343 French Blue Macaron x 3 balls

Scheepjes Cahlista (100% Natural Cotton; 15g/26m)

Yarn B 164 Light Navy x 1 ball

Yarn C 406 Soft Beige x 1 ball

Yarn D 512 Lime x 1 ball

Yarn E 280 Lemon x 1 ball

Yarn F 100 Lemon Chiffon x 1 ball

Yarn G 106 Snow White x 1 ball

Yarn H 244 Spruce x 1 ball

Yarn I 528 Silver Blue x 1 ball

Yarn J 124 Ultramarine x 1 ball

Yarn K 201 Electric Blue x 1 ball

Yarn L 511 Cornflower x 1 ball

45 x 45cm cushion pad

5mm knitting needles

Locking stitch marker

Size 14 tapestry needle

2.5mm crochet hook (for knotting ends at back of work)

MEASUREMENTS

45 x 45cm

GAUGE/TENSION

16 sts and 22 rows to measure 10 x 10cm over st st using Scrumptious yarn double stranded and 5mm needles, after blocking

Use this information to make a gauge swatch

TIPS & SPECIAL TECHNIQUES

Carefully check stitch counts

When knitting the Cushion Front, check for errors regularly, such as a dropped stitch or extra stitch due to accidental yarn over, and correct. It is important that the stitches lie directly above each other to create a base fabric with an even grid to stitch onto.

Working double stranded

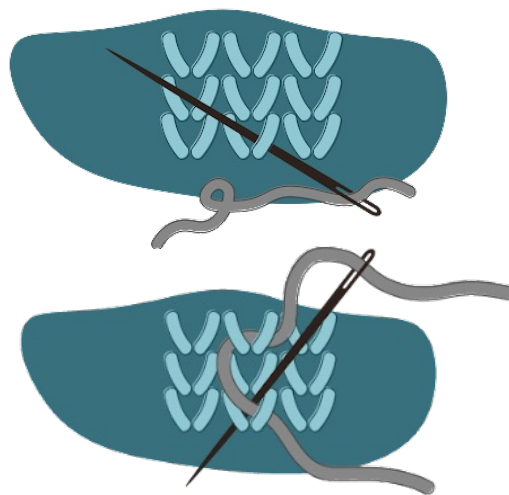
When working double stranded, simply treat two strands as one. Take care not to split them when you insert needle tip and make sure you wrap the needle using both strands. To minimise the risk of tangles, pull the yarn from outside of your ball of yarn and pay attention to the direction your work is turned at the end of each row. Do not pre-wind the two balls together but work from two separate balls in separate small project bags or baskets. If you are using a ball winder, you may find it easier to use yarn from the outside of the cake. To knit the Cushion Back, the third ball will need to be split and wound into two separate cakes or balls.

Working duplicate stitches

Follow the steps given in the pattern during Week 1, referring to

the illustrations below

You may find working the duplicate sts easier with the fabric supported, particularly when stitching the central area. A foam blocking board approx. 35 x 35cm enables you to pin the top of the knitting to it and rest it on a table as you stitch. An



embroidery hoop may also work, depending on the size and style of hoop; the Cushion pieces may be too thick to be clasped into some hoops.

Yarn ends

Cahlista yarn tails are not woven in. It is important to follow the method of knotting the strands together described in the pattern. As well as saving time, it uses the yarn efficiently and keeps everything tidy to avoid tangles. You won't be able to see or feel the knots when the cushion is made up.

Put any trimmed ends of Cahlista to the side to keep as shorter lengths to use when working small groups of duplicate stitches.

Correcting misplaced duplicate stitches

Should you need to correct a recent misplaced stitch or stitches, and are still using the working yarn, do not attempt to unstash back to the mistake. Instead, unthread the tapestry needle and use the blunt end to place under the strand of the last stitch worked at the front of the work. Gently lift the yarn until the tail emerges, taking care not to catch the strands of the base fabric. Repeat at the back of the work and continue working your way back until the misplaced stitch is removed. Re-thread the needle and continue if the yarn is in good condition. Otherwise cut a fresh strand.

Should you need to correct a misplaced stitch or stitches in an area already fastened off, use a small sharp pair of scissors to carefully snip the yarn at the knot and work your way back until the misplaced stitch is removed. Secure the ends, taking out further stitches if you need more length to knot around the strand. Cut a fresh strand of yarn to continue.

