

# The Island Embrace Blanket



## A pattern by Cat Bordhi

*This beautiful blanket was knitted to comfort a much loved member of the knitting community on an island far out in Puget Sound, where the waters of Canadian and American islands mingle. The blanket passed from hand to hand in the local yarn shop as neighbors and friends came in to knit a row or two and write a few lines in a book.*

*The knitting had to be simple so that anyone could stop in and participate, and it is, although it looks intricate because of the animated texture of the yarns. Two are bouclé - soft and loopy, one tender with baby alpaca and the other with silk. The third yarn is a thick and thin wool, which spontaneously forms large bouclé-like loops as you knit. The resulting fabric is lofty, loopy, and welcoming, settling around the wearer like downy wings.*

*Each stitch of the Island Embrace Blanket is filled with love. Knit it for a friend, knit it with friends, or knit it as a comfort for yourself, that you may move through the world with your own embers aglow.*

Needles: #17 (12 mm) circular needle, 29" length  
Yarn: Splendid Sofa Kit from Fleece Artist - Baby Alpaca Bouclé (50% alpaca, 50% wool, 250 g/ 330 m); Rapunzel (56% kid, 24% silk, 20% wool, 250 g/ 350 yards); Wool Slub (100% wool, 500 g, 250 m), 1 skein each  
Gauge: 7 sts = 4" (10 cm)  
Finished size: 48" x 60"



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## A summary in plain English . . .

The blanket is simple garter stitch - every row is knit, with the three yarns taking turns. Like magic, the right yarn presents itself as you reach the end of a row, so you don't have to find it. Here's how this works:

### Set up yarn sequence

*Knit a row with Wool Slub.*

*Knit the next row with Rapunzel.*

*Knit the next row with Baby Alpaca.*

### Now each yarn is in place

*At the end of the next row, the Wool Slub is waiting.*

*Knit across with it.*

*At the end of the next row, Rapunzel waits.*

*Knit across with it.*

*And at the end of the next row, Baby Alpaca waits.*

*Knit across with it.*

### In a nutshell

*At the end of any row, you'll find two yarns - one which just knit across, and the other one waiting its turn.*

Do be careful to knit the first stitch of each row with a little slack along the side, since the yarn will be coming up from two rows below.



### Cast on

With Baby Alpaca, cast on 85 sts.

### Begin with border

Row 1: Baby Alpaca: knit.

Rows 2-3: Rapunzel: knit.

Rows 4-5: Baby Alpaca: knit.

Rows 6-7: Rapunzel: knit.

Rows 8-9: Baby Alpaca: knit.

### Set up yarn sequence

Row 10: Wool Slub: knit.

Row 11: Rapunzel: knit.

Row 12: Baby Alpaca: knit.

Repeat Rows 10-12 until Wool Slub runs out.

### Finish

Repeat Rows 9-1 backwards, and bind off with Baby Alpaca. If you like, you may crochet around the four edges with leftover yarn.

*Fleece Artist Yarns are available on-line at [WWW.COLORSONGYARN.COM](http://WWW.COLORSONGYARN.COM)*

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