

Beginner Brioche



MATERIALS

Bulky weight yarn in 2 contrasting solids

Approximately 100 yards of each color

US #10/6mm circular needle

16 inches or shorter

Tapestry needle

Stitch marker

Removeable stitch marker (optional)

ABBREVIATIONS

brk = brioche knit = knit next stitch together with its yarnover

brp = brioche purl = purl next stitch together with its yarnover

DC = dark color

DS = dark side

LC = light color

LS = light side

sl = slip next stitch as if to purl

sl1yo = On a knit row, bring yarn to front between needles, slip next stitch as if to purl, then bring yarn over right needle to back again. On a purl row, yarn is already in front, so slip next stitch as if to purl, bring yarn over right needle to back, then between needles to front again.

wyib = with yarn in back

wyif = with yarn in front

BRIOCHE IN THE ROUND

Each round of brioche consists of two passes. Only half of the stitches are worked on each pass while the other half are slipped, which is why it takes two passes to complete a single round, and why each round number is duplicated in the instructions.

Two-color brioche is easiest to learn in the round because you will always be working a brioche knit round with one color, and you will always be working a brioche purl round with the other color. There is also no need for selvage stitches or a border when working in the round.

On each pass, every second stitch will be slipped as if to purl with the working yarn in front, while simultaneously wrapping the yarn around the right needle. This slipped stitch and its accompanying yarnover (sl1yo) are counted as a single stitch and will always be worked together on the subsequent pass or row.

INSTRUCTIONS

With DC, CO 50 sts using long-tail method.

Join to work in round, being careful not to twist.

Place marker for beginning of rounds.

Set-up Round 1 DC: K to end.

Join LC but do not cut DC.

Set-up Round 2 LC: [sl1yo, k1] to end.

Allow the LC to hang to the back of your work while you work the next pass with the DC.

Round 1 DC: [brp, sl1yo] to end.

Allow the DC to hang to the front of your work while you work the next pass with the LC.

Round 1 LC: [sl1yo, brk] to end.

Allow the LC to hang to the back of your work while you work the next pass with the DC.

Repeat Round 1 DC & LC for desired length.
Cut LC.

Final Round DC: [brp, k1] to end.

Loosely BO all sts on next round.

Weave in ends and block if desired.

BRIOCHE WORKED FLAT

When working two-color brioche flat, you will alternate two RS or LS passes – one in each color – with two WS or DS passes – one in each color. All four passes combined make two complete rows.

Because each row is worked twice, it is important to use either circular or double-pointed needles for two-color brioche, even when working flat. After each pass with the LC, rather than turn your work, you will slide your stitches to the other end of the needle to work a second pass with the DC. After both color passes, you will turn your work to begin the next row.

To keep a tidy edge, the first and last stitch of each row are not worked in the brioche pattern. They are instead either knitted or purled with the edge color, or they are slipped in the non-edge color.

INSTRUCTIONS

With DC, CO 10 sts using long-tail method.
Turn to work in opposite direction.

Join LC but do not cut DC.

Set-up Row 1 LS LC: K1, [sl1yo, k1] to last st, sl1 wyib, do not turn, instead slide sts to other end of circular needle to work across this row in the same direction again.

Allow the LC to hang to the DS of your work while you work the next pass with the DC.

Set-up Row 1 LS DC: Sl1 wyif, [brp, sl1yo] to last st, p1, turn.

Allow the DC to hang to the LS of your work while you work the next pass with the LC.

Row 2 DS LC: Sl1 wyif, [brp, sl1yo] to last st, p1, slide.

Allow the LC to hang to the DS of your work.

Row 2 DS DC: K1, [sl1yo, brk] to last st, sl1 wyib, turn.

Allow the DC to hang to the LS of your work.

Row 3 LS LC: K1, [sl1yo, brk] to last st, sl1 wyib, slide.

Allow the LC to hang to the DS of your work.

Row 3 LS DC: Sl1 wyif, [brp, sl1yo] to last st, p1, turn.

Allow the DC to hang to the LS of your work.

Repeat Rows 2 & 3 (all four passes) for desired length.

Final Row DS LC: Sl1 wyif, [brp, sl1yo] to last st, p1, slide.

Cut LC.

Stretchy Bind Off

With DC, k1, [p1, bring yarn to back of work, transfer 2 sts on right needle back to left needle and k2tog through back loop, brk, transfer 2 sts on right needle to left needle and k2tog through back loop] until only 1 st remains on left needle, p1, pass first st over second. Cut yarn and draw tail through remaining st. Weave in ends and block if desired.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Two-color brioche in the round:

<https://youtu.be/HDmIbcdLbPk>

Two-color brioche worked flat:

<https://youtu.be/5lCJWK2dlX8>