

Elegant Brioche



BY LESLEY ANNE ROBINSON

Increasing and decreasing to create beautiful two-color brioche fabric with twists and turns.

CLASS OVERVIEW:

Welcome, and thank you for signing up for my class!

In this class, you will learn the most commonly used two-color brioche increases and decreases needed to create gorgeous brioche fabric with twists and turns that will delight and inspire. We will briefly go over even two-color brioche for a refresher, as well as how to choose the right yarn for your project. We will cast on a swatch together in class to begin working on the brioche increases and decreases, which is actually a swatch for one of my most popular patterns, Sizzle Pop!

Let's get brioche-ing!!



SIZZLE POP TRIANGLE SHAWL

CLASS OUTLINE:

Introduction to Lesley - My own background and history of design work with brioche

Brief overview of brioche knitting: A slight refresher! Check out some brioche tips and tricks on Page 2!

Choosing the right yarn and colors for your project

Brioche increases and decreases - let's go over the most commonly used techniques so that you can go on to knit any brioche project your heart desires.

Abbreviations on Pages 3 & 4.

Swatch Instructions on Page 5.

Chart symbols and Chart on Page 6.

English VS. Continental knitting styles

Brief overview of swatch pattern: Let's cast on together!

MATERIALS:

» Yarn:

2 balls of yarn in high contrasting colors, whatever weight you are most comfortable with. I recommend DK or Worsted weight, around 200 yards / 183 m each.

» Needles:

24" / 61 cm or longer US 5 - 7 3.75 - 4.5 mm circular needles. Interchangeables are fine.

» Tools:

Tapestry needle for weaving in ends, row counter or preferred method for keeping track of where you are in pattern

» Gauge:

Gauge will vary depending on yarn weight and needle size. I will be going over how to measure gauge with brioche knitting

IMPORTANT BRIOCHE FACTS TO REMEMBER:

It may take a few rows to distinguish the stitch pattern.

All slipped stitches are slipped purl-wise, except when decreasing.

When knitting both Two-Color brioche flat, every TWO knit rows are equal to ONE completed brioche row. You will work the first row with the Main Color, and then drop the Main Color yarn, and slide back to the other end of your needle and work the row again with the Contrast Color. This means that brioche knitting uses extra yarn, up to twice as much as other stitch patterns.

Each slipped stitch with its yarn over is counted as ONE stitch.

When counting rows / rounds in brioche, just count the knit stitches (looks like a "V") on the Main Side of work.

Lifelines are a Lifesaver!!!

Brioche increases - Blooming out of one stitch, no slanting in any direction

Brioche decreases - slanting, and can create direction for your brioche to create those twists and turns.

BRIOCHE CHEATS:

If you can't remember which color you just worked, simply look at the yarn overs you created! That is the color you just worked.

Place a locking stitch marker on the Main Side of your work. This will help you remember which is the Main Side and which is the Contrast Side. This is especially helpful when you're working brioche flat (one or two-color).

CASTING ON & BINDING OFF:

My favorite Cast On and Bind Off techniques to stretch with brioche (methods used in pattern):

Twisted German / Old Norwegian Cast On. Link to video tutorial of cast on technique:
<http://bit.ly/TwistedGermanCO>

Elastic Bind Off Method. See a great video tutorial for this bind off method here:
<http://bit.ly/ElasticBO>



SIZZ WRAP

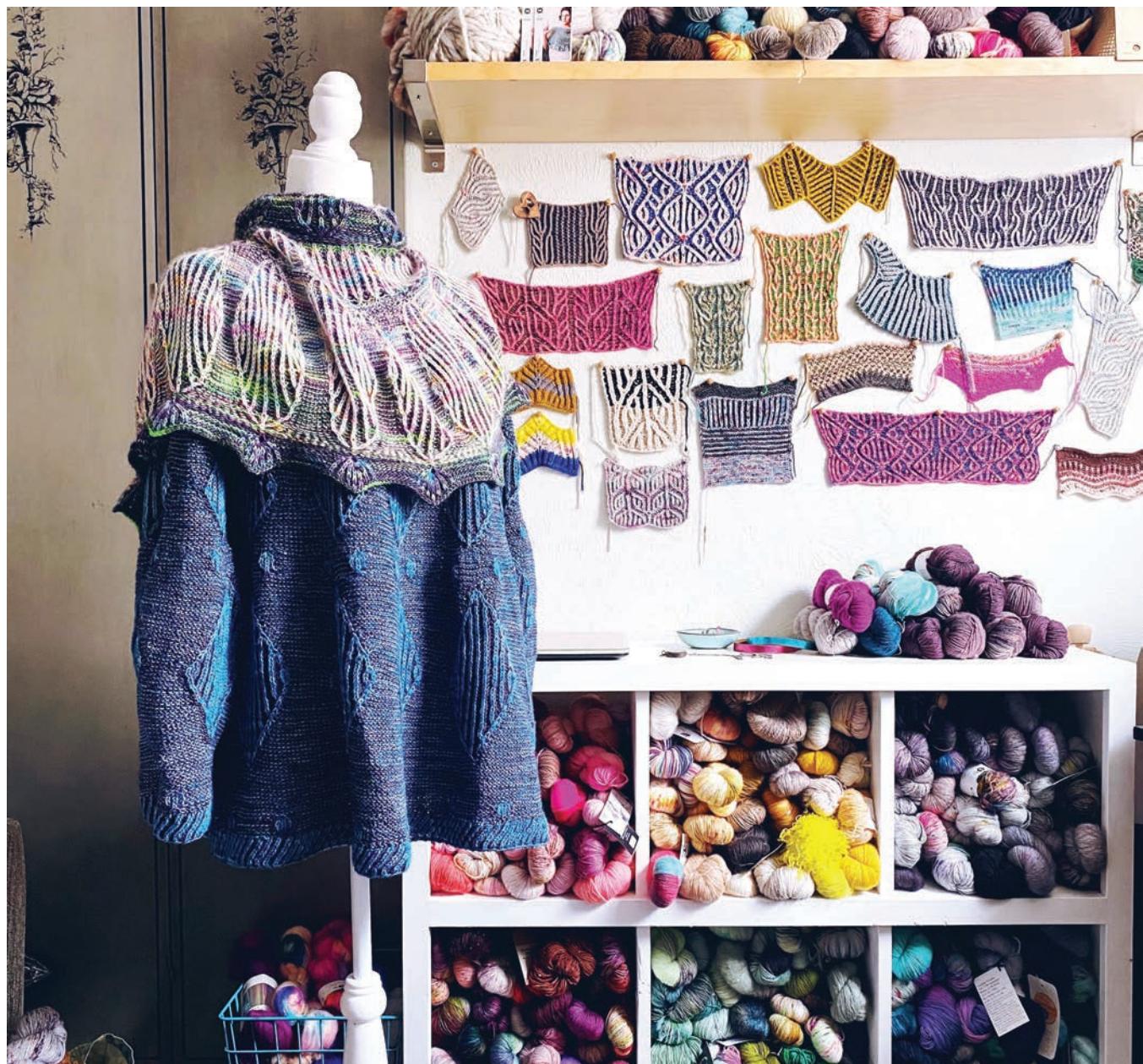


CONTRAST SIDE OF SIZZLE POP TRIANGLE SHAWL

KNIT ABBREVIATIONS:

BO : Bind off
CC : Contrast color
CO : Cast on
CS : Contrast Side
Dec : Decrease(s/d)
Inc : Increase(s/d)
K : Knit
LH : Left hand
MC : Main Color
MS : Main Side
P : Purl

Rep : Repeat
RH : Right hand
Sl : Slip st/s purl-wise [unless otherwise instructed]
Slide : Do not turn work, slide work to other end of needle
St/s : Stitch/es
Turn : Turn work
Wyib : With working yarn in back of work
Wyif : With working yarn in front of work
Yf : Yarn forward
Yo : Yarn forward and over needle to the back



BRIOCHE ABBREVIATIONS:

» Basic Brioche:

Brk : Brioche knit (bark); knit st together w/ its yarn over

Brp : Brioche purl (burp); purl st together w/ its yarn over

CC : Contrast color

CS : Contrast side

MC : Main color

MS : Main side

Sl1yof : (Used when brping stitches) Leaving the working yarn in front, slip stitch purl-wise, then bring yarn over and across the stitch, then back to the front (creating a little shawl), ready for next stitch or brp

Yf sl1yo : (Used when brking stitches) Bring yarn under right needle to front of work, slip next stitch purl-wise, then bring yarn over needle and across slipped stitch to back of needle, ready for next stitch or brk



BR4ST INC AFTER BEING WORKED WITH MC YARN



BR4ST DEC

» Brioche Increases and Decreases:

Brkyobrk : 2-st increase; brk1, leaving st on LH needle, yo, then brk1 into the same st.

Br4st inc : 4-st increase; into one st - (brk1, yo) twice, brk1

BrLsl dec : 2-st decrease slanting left, involving 3 sts (noted as A, B, & C);

Step by Step instructions:

1. Sl first st knit-wise with its yarn over (A)
2. Brk next 2 sts together (B & C)
3. Pass slipped st over (A)

BrRsl dec : 2-st decrease slanting right, involving 3 sts (noted as A, B, & C);

Step by Step instructions:

1. Sl first st knit-wise with its yarn over (A)
2. Knit next st (B)
3. Pass slipped st over (A)
4. Place worked st on LH needle and pass the following st over with its yarn over (C).
5. Place final worked st on RH needle.

Br4st dec : 4-stitch decrease, involving 5 sts (noted as A, B, C, D, & E);

Step by Step instructions:

1. Sl 2 sts separately knit-wise, (A & B)
2. Place following st on stitch marker or cable needle to front of work, (C)
3. Knit the next st, (D) (note about how far back yarn comes from)
4. Pass the second slipped st over, (B)
5. Place the worked st on the LH needle and pass following st over, (E)
6. Place worked st on RH needle and pass first slipped st over, (A)
7. Place st from stitch marker / cable needle to LH needle (be sure not to twist st), (C)
8. Place worked st on LH needle and pass st from stitch marker / cable needle over, (C)
9. Place finished decreased st on RH needle.

PATTERN FOR SWATCH:

» Cast on:

Using MC yarn and the Twisted German CO method, CO 37 sts. Turn to work CS row.

Video Tutorial: <http://bit.ly/TwistedGermanCO>

» Notes:

If you prefer charted instructions, see Chart on Page 6. Otherwise continue with written instructions below.

On all MS CC rows from this point forward where increases are made, process the yo stitches as a “p1” rather than a “brp1”. This is indicated in both charts and written instructions.

Setup Row CS MC: P1, (sl1yof, p1) rep to end of row. Slide.

Setup Row CS CC: Join CC yarn. Sl1 wyib, (brk1, yf sl1yo) rep to last 2 sts, brk1, sl1 wyib. Turn.

Row 1 MS MC: K1, yf sl1yo, (brk1, yf sl1yo) rep to last st, k1. Slide.

Row 1 MS CC: Sl1 wyif, (brp1, sl1yof) rep to last 2 sts, brp1, sl1 wyif. Turn.

Row 2 CS MC: P1, (sl1yof, brp1) rep to last 2 sts, sl1yof, p1. Slide.

Row 2 CS CC: Sl1 wyib, (brk1, yf sl1yo) rep to last 2 sts, brk1, sl1 wyib. Turn.

Row 3 MS MC: K1, yf sl1yo, brkyobrk, yf sl1yo, brLsl dec, yf sl1yo, (brk1, yf sl1yo) 3 times, brRsl dec, yf sl1yo, br4st inc, yf sl1yo, brLsl dec, yf sl1yo, (brk1, yf sl1yo) 3 times, brRsl dec, yf sl1yo, brkyobrk, yf sl1yo, k1. Slide.

Row 3 MS CC: Sl1 wyif, brp1, sl1yof, p1, sl1yof, (brp1, sl1yof) 6 times, (p1, sl1yof) twice, (brp1, sl1yof) 6 times, p1, sl1yof, brp1, sl1 wyif. Turn.

Rows 4: Work even rows as Rows 2 MC & CC.

Row 5 MS MC: K1, yf sl1yo, (brk1, yf sl1yo, brkyobrk, yf sl1yo, brLsl dec, yf sl1yo, brk1, yf sl1yo, brRsl dec, yf sl1yo, brkyobrk, yf sl1yo) rep twice, brk1, yf sl1yo, k1. Slide.

Row 5 MS CC: Sl1 wyif, ({brp1, sl1yof} twice, p1, sl1yof, {brp1, sl1yof} 4 times, p1, sl1yof, brp1, sl1yof) rep twice, brp1, sl1 wyif. Turn.

Rows 6: Work even rows as Rows 2 MC & CC.

Row 7 MS MC: K1, yf sl1yo, (brk1, yf sl1yo) twice, brkyobrk, yf sl1yo, br4st dec, yf sl1yo, brkyobrk, yf sl1yo, (brk1, yf sl1yo) 3 times, brkyobrk, yf sl1yo, br4st dec, yf sl1yo, brkyobrk, yf sl1yo, (brk1, yf sl1yo) twice, k1. Slide.

Row 7 MS CC: Sl1 wyif, (brp1, sl1yof) 3 times, p1, sl1yof, (brp1, sl1yof) twice, p1, sl1yof, (brp1, sl1yof) 4 times, p1, sl1yof, (brp1, sl1yof) twice, p1, sl1yof, (brp1, sl1yof) 2 times, brp1, sl1 wyif. Turn.

Rows 8: Work even rows as Rows 2 MC & CC.

Repeat [Rows 1 - 8 MC & CC] until you are satisfied with the size of your swatch.

» Bind off:

Break CC yarn. Using MC yarn, BO all sts using the Elastic Bind Off method as follows: Brk1, k1, (sl 2 sts purlwise back to LH needle, k2tog tbl, brk1, sl 2 sts purlwise back to LH needle, k2tog tbl, k1) rep until 3 sts remain, sl 2 sts purlwise back to LH needle, K2tog tbl, k1, sl 2 sts purlwise back to LH needle, K2tog tbl. Break yarn and pull end through last loop, pulling tight to close.

Video Tutorial: <http://bit.ly/ElasticBO>

CHART:

» Chart key:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | sl st purl-wise |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | k on MS / p on CS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | p on MS / k on CS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | brk on MS / brp on CS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | brp on MS / brk on CS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | yf sl1yo / sl1yof |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | brRsl dec |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | brLsl dec |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | br4st dec |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | brkyobrk |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | br4st inc |

BASIC BRIOCHE SYMBOLS

Brioche Inc / Dec Symbols

Notes for following Breeche charts:

Are you a chart knitter? I love following charts, they are much easier for me than written instructions. But I know that's not true for everyone. I would like to go over the chart symbols for brioche knitting as I think it's important to teach, but it is not required that you follow. Not only is Two-Color Brioche a different written language, the chart language is also something completely new.

A few things to think about:

Be sure to read through the written instructions thoroughly.

Read the charts as to work the swatch flat: all odd numbered rows (MS rows) will be read from right to left; all even numbered rows (CS rows) will be read from left to right. Arrows indicating direction of chart reading are provided.

The MC rows are white, and the CC rows are gray.

» Chart:

Swatch

FINISHING:

Weaving in ends in Brioche - it's so cool and one of my favorite parts about this stitch pattern!

Questions? Ask away! Please feel free to email me anytime with questions or concerns. I have included my email address on Page 8 of this handout.

» Note about blocking brioche:

Washing and blocking your finished object can tend to open up the brioche fabric quite a bit. Be careful not to tug on brioche stitches, just smooth out any inconsistencies. I highly recommend washing your finished object in cool water with a mild detergent (I love to use Eucalan) and gently pressing it into a towel to absorb most of the water. Lay flat on a blocking mat, or whatever you use for blocking. Pin out the border to accentuate the scalloped edge. Brioche also creates a double sided fabric, and may need extra time to dry after wet blocking. A light blocking may be all your new object needs.

» Resources:

Take my online course, [Mastering Brioche with Knit Graffiti!](#)

Link: <https://knitgraffiti.com/online-courses/>

Take my Craftsy class, [Modern Brioche Lace!](#)

Link: <https://www.craftsy.com/class/modern-brioche-lace/>

Check out my first book, *Brioche Knitting for Beginners and Beyond*:

Link: <https://knitgraffiti.com/books/>

Nancy Marchant: www.brioche stitch.com

Thank you so much for taking my class, and happy brioche-ing!



PATTERNS YOU MAY ENJOY:



Sizzle Pop (square & triangle shapes)



Rebel

CONNECT:



WEBSITE



RAVELRY



INSTAGRAM



FACEBOOK



YOUTUBE



NEWSLETTER

» Sharing is Caring!

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For pattern support or any questions, please email Lesley@knitgraffiti.com.