



'Plain Jane' Square

*I'm just a 'plain Jane' square.
Nothing fancy, nothing grand!
Just a 'plain Jane' square,
made by a loving hand.
You think I'm not important?
Well, think again, my friend!
'Cause many other 'plain Janes'
when they're joined end to end
will keep an orphan warm at night,
wrap 'round them on cold days,
and tell them that they're loved
in, oh, so many ways!*

- Anne Powell



Carol Playford

"Plain Jane" and striped squares are the most fundamental part of what Knit-A-Square does. It takes 35 of these squares to make a blanket for a child in need, and each square is treasured (even if they sometimes come out a bit wonky!)

Materials and Equipment

- Worsted yarn (U.S.)/Double Knit (UK)/8 ply (Aus), 100gm (3.5oz) in any combination of colours.
- One pair knitting needles(see below)
- A yarn sewing needle

Instructions

Cast on whatever feels most comfortable to you:

- 44/45 stitches on 4 mm(6 US) needles
- 40/42 stitches on 4.5mm(7 US) needles
- 35/36 stitches on 5 mm(8 US) needles

(Try to make your stitches neither too loose nor too tight to help ensure uniform squares. This may vary slightly depending on your tension.)

Row 1: Knit.

Row 2: Knit.

Rows 1 and 2 form the 'garter' stitch knitting pattern for your square. Continue knitting as per these two rows until your square is as long as it is wide.

To ensure your square is 20cm/8" either use a tape measure or form a triangle by folding one corner of your square over to meet the opposite corner as shown - if all sides are equal - then you have a square!



Cast off / bind off. Leave a 50 cm/20" tail (for sewing the squares together).
Butterfly* the tail to the square.

**How to 'butterfly the tail' is as easy as 1, 2, 3 . Use contrasting yarn and follow the directions:*



Sew/darn in any other yarn ends along the edge of the square.

Variations

To create stripes in the square, wait until the end of a row, then change to a different coloured yarn. You can do this as often as you like. Experiment with different colours to get interesting new looks. (Always weave in ends)



Maudie Bryan

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<http://knit-a-square.com/postal.html>

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