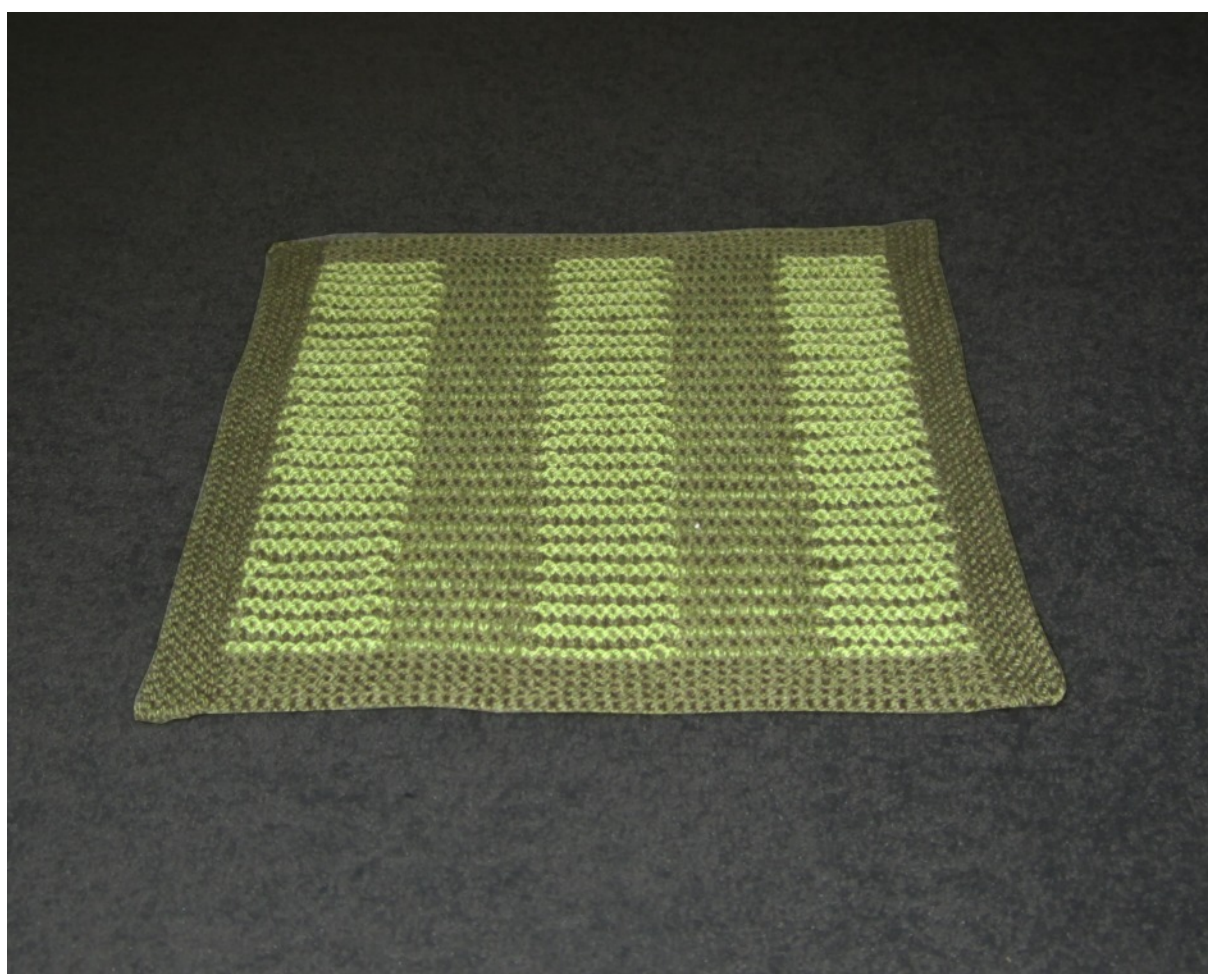


Woolly Thoughts

THE WORLD OF
ILLUSION KNITTING
where nothing is quite what it seems

Illusion Techniques & Samples



Illusion Stripes

*An illusion knitting sample for use as an afghan block or washcloth
designed by*

Steve Plummer & Pat Ashforth

Illusion Stripes

This simple striped design is intended as an introduction to Woolly Thoughts illusion patterns. When you look at the square from directly in front you see only narrow ridges of alternating colours. When you look from an angle you see broad stripes of the two colours. The square could be used for an afghan block or a washcloth.

The pattern includes instructions for a garter stitch border but you can omit the border, if you prefer.

Yarn

You can use any thickness of smooth(ish) yarn. The illusion will show up however thick or thin the yarn. It may not show if you use a textured, or variegated, yarn. The choice of yarn will affect the overall size of the square.

The square in the photos was made in DK yarn and used about 50 metres (55 yards) in each of the two colours.

Needles

The effect works best if the work is fairly tight. Try needles one size smaller than recommended for your chosen yarn.

Size and tension

These will vary according to the yarn you choose. Using DK yarn it will be approximately 25 cm (10") square.

Using the chart

There are 49 ridges (not rows!). Ridges and stitches are marked, with red lines, in groups of ten so that you can keep your place on the chart. Use markers on your needle to correspond.

There are three colours on the chart but you are only using two colours of yarn.

White on the chart always represents purl stitches. You could be using either colour of yarn to work these stitches. The working colour is determined by the colour of the current ridge. All other coloured stitches are knit stitches. Use Light to knit the light grey stitches; use Dark to knit the dark grey stitches.

You always work two rows (one ridge) of Dark followed by two rows (one ridge) of Light.

The sequence of working square 1 is:

- Using Light, knit
- Using Light, follow the chart
- Using Dark, knit
- Using Dark, follow the chart

Each time you complete a sequence of four rows you have added two ridges.

This is a simple design and you may not even need the chart once you have established the pattern.

Special note

The right side of the work is always knit. The chart is only needed for wrong-side rows. When you look at the chart you are seeing the right side and need to work from left to right for wrong side rows.

Note about other patterns

Our more complex patterns often have several pages of charts. They are given in various formats so you can choose which to use on paper, on your screen, or on a tablet or phone.

Illusion Stripes - Method

Every stripe on the chart represents two rows of knitting. Every right side row is knit. You only need the chart for the wrong side rows.

Using Dark cast on 50 stitches.

Work 5 ridges (10 rows) of garter stitch. (Garter stitch borders are not shown on the chart.)

Ridge 1 (Light): Row 1: Knit
Row 2: Follow the chart. Knit the coloured stitches and purl the white stitches.
(The chart shows k10, p10, k10, p10, k10)

Ridge 2 (Dark): Row 1: Knit.
Row 2: Follow the chart. Knit the coloured stitches and purl the white stitches.
(The chart shows p10, k10, p10, k10, p10)

Ridges 3 - 48: Repeat ridges 1 and 2 twenty-three times.

Ridge 49 (Dark): Row 1: Knit.
Row 2: As ridge 1.

Work 5 ridges (10 rows) of garter stitch. Cast off.

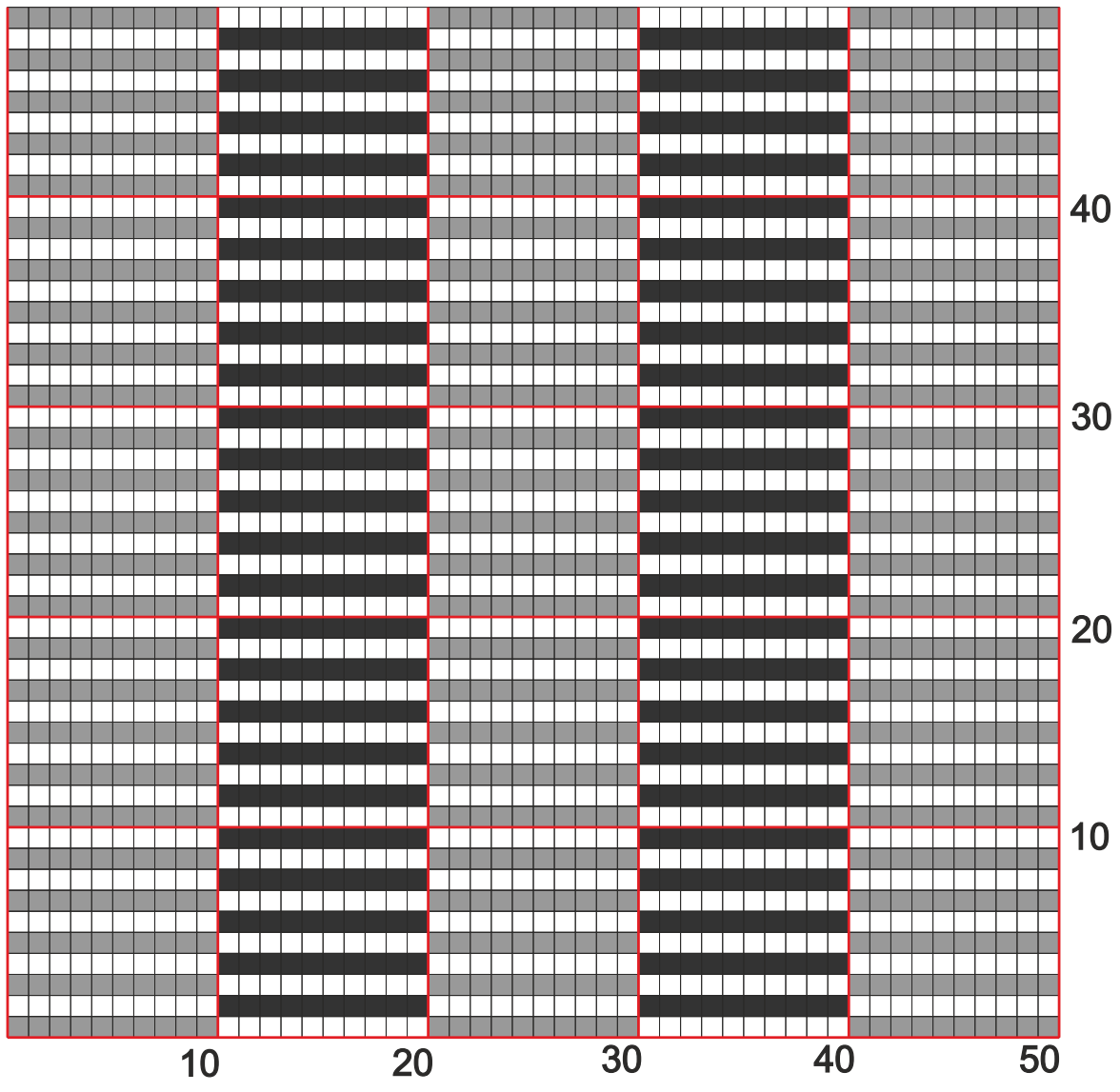
Turn work sideways and pick up one stitch from the end of each ridge (59 stitches).

Work 5 ridges (10 rows) of garter stitch. Cast off.

Complete the other edge in the same way.



This is what you see when you look straight at the knitting.



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