

# Western Hills – The Blanket

A License Free Pattern By Julia Stanfield



**Designed for fingering weight (4 ply), DK (8 ply) and  
worsted (10 ply)**

**4 sizes – dolly, baby, bassinet, throw/baby cot, single bed**

**With a moss or garter stitch border**

## Western Hills

This pattern was inspired by the fabulous series of hills on which I live and walk in Lower Hutt, New Zealand. As you make your way up the hills that the suburbs have developed in, you see the most glorious views of the Wellington Harbour and Lower Hutt laid out below. As you walk down into the valleys, you are surrounded by peaceful native bush and the sounds of the birds that fill their branches. Plus, who doesn't love a zig zag right?

Western Hills is the perfect way to use those lovely part skeins of yarn you have held onto but don't have enough for a whole project – stripe them!

The pattern is deceptively simple, being easy to memorise and knit, yet produces a striking blanket, written in 4 different sizes to suit a variety of purposes. This makes it ideal for gifting or making for you and your loved ones.

Designed in 3 yarn weights means it's able to be used for most yarns you might have already in stash.

## Materials

Dolly blanket - approx 450 m of fingering/300 metres of DK (approx 3 balls of 50gm balls)/ 275 m of worsted weight

Bassinet blanket - approx 1200 m of fingering/approx 800 metres of DK (approx 8 x 50gm balls)/ 750 m of worsted weight

Throw/Baby cot blanket – approx 2200 m of fingering/approx 1500 metres of DK (approx 15 x 50gm balls)/ 1300 m of worsted weight

Single bed blanket – approx 3000 m of fingering/approx 2200 metres of DK (approx 22 x 50 gm balls)/ 2000 m of worsted weight

## Needles

Needle sizes are suggested sizes – use the needle size necessary to achieve gauge. The length of the cable depends upon the size you are knitting - 60cm/23.5" for the smallest size – 150cm/60" length-inch for the larger ones.

Fingering & sport weight/4-5 ply version - US #4/3.5mm circular

DK/8 ply version - US #6/4mm circular needle

Worsted weight/10 ply version - 60 inch length-inch US #9/5.5mm circular needle

## Tension

Fingering & sport weight/4-5 ply version version - 24 sts/30 rows = 4" in pattern (after blocking)

DK/8 ply version - 22 sts/26 rows = 4"/10cm in pattern (after blocking)

Worsted weight/10 ply version - 19 sts/24 rows = 4"/10cm in pattern (after blocking)

## Sizes

Dolly blanket – 40 x 45 cm or 15" x 17 ¾" (after blocking)

Bassinet blanket – 65 x 88 cm or 23.5" x 34 ¾" (after blocking) – perfect for strollers/bassinets

Throw/Baby cot blanket – 100 x 120cm or 39 ½" x 47 ½" (after blocking)

Single bed blanket – 150 x 165 cm or 59" x 65" (after blocking)



### Pattern Notes

Western Hills is written with both a garter stitch or moss stitch edging. The moss stitch pattern follows the garter version.

Specific instructions have not been included for how to stripe your yarns – but it works effectively in 2 – 6 row stripes as well as in a solid or semi solid colourway.

The cast on numbers are written in the order of Fingering weight - dolly, [bassinnet, throw/baby cot and single] followed by the DK and then worsted.

### Abbreviations

k knit

p purl

kfb knit front and back

cdd – centered double decrease. Slip 2 together knitwise, knit 1, pass the slipped stitches over together. For a video see cdd here:

<http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/knitting-glossary>

### The Pattern

Using a **cable cast** on, cast on:

Fingering & sport weight/4-5 ply – 125 [177, 255, 359] stitches

DK/8 ply - 99[151, 229, 333] stitches

Worsted weight/10 ply - 73 [125, 203, 281] stitches

Use stitch markers if needed when casting on to help keep track of stitch counts

## **GARTER STITCH VERSION**

Rows 1-6 – Work in knit, removing any stitch markers in the first row

Change colour if doing stripes or a contrast edge

Row 7 – K4 \*kfb, k4, cdd, k4, kfb \*rep to last 4 sts, k4

Row 8 – K4, p to last 4 stitches, k4

Rep rows 7 & 8 until work measures 17 [34, 46.5, 64] inches/43 [86, 118, 163] cms or until desired striping is completed, making sure to end with a row 8

Rep rows 1-6 remembering to change colour if doing a contrast edge

Bind off loosely in knit

Wet block and sew in ends

## **MOSS STITCH VERSION**

Rows 1-6 – K1, p1 across, removing any stitch markers in the first row

Change colour if doing stripes or a contrast edge

Row 7 – K1, p1, k1, p1 \*kfb, k4, cdd, k4, kfb \*rep to last 4 sts, p1, k1, p1, k1

Row 8 – K1, p1, k1, p to last 3 stitches, k1, p1, k1

Rep rows 7 & 8 until work 17 [34, 46.5, 64] inches/43 [86, 118, 163] cms or until desired striping is completed, making sure to end with a row 8

Rep rows 1-6 remembering to change colour if doing a contrast edge

Bind off loosely in pattern

Wet block and sew in ends

## **To Wet Block**

It's important to finish your blanket by wet blocking it, though it can be difficult depending on the size knitted. Wet block your blanket by immersing it in lukewarm water with a little wool wash. Leave for at least an hour, overnight is ideal (unless there is a possibility your yarn colours might bleed). Rinse and then remove as much water as you can (I put mine on a spin cycle in the washing machine, others roll in a towel and apply pressure). Gently lay out, pinning out the points from both edges and leaving to dry out of the direct sunlight. If you can do this on a foam mat it works really well.

## Modifying to suit your own needs

If you wish to modify to suit a specific size (or a queen bed which isn't included in this pattern but which would be easy to knit also) you can easily upsize/downsize the pattern. The pattern is a multiple of 13 with a border of 4 stitches.



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Happy Knitting!

xx

Julia

## About The Designer



Julia lives in Wellington, New Zealand with her husband and 3 young children along with her two fox terriers and two moggies. The arrival of her first child saw her take a break from primary teaching and pick up her needles again. Julia aims to write patterns that are easy to read as well as simple to knit.

See more of her designs on her website

<http://www.justonewip.blogspot.co.nz> or she can be found on Ravelry here as j-j

<http://www.ravelry.com/designers/julia-stanfield>