fair & square

designed by Lisa Di Fruscia
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finished measurements
41” square – after blocking

yarn
Rowan Baby Merino Silk DK – 10 balls
(66% merino wool, 34% silk
135 m / 148 yds)
Color A – Snowdrop – 1 ball
Color B – Goldilocks – 1 ball
Color C – Leaf – 1 ball
Color D – Pebble – 1 ball
Color F – Sunshine – 1 ball
Color G – Grasshopper – 1 ball
Color H – Cantaloupe – 1 ball
Color I – Strawberry – 3 balls

needles
3.75 mm (US5) double pointed needles
3.75 mm (US5) 16”
3.75 mm (US 5) 24”
3.75 mm (US5) 40”
circular knitting needles –
or size needed to obtain gauge

gauge
22 sts in 4” / 10 cm (row gauge not essential)
Stockinette stitch – BEFORE BLOCKING
notes

Blanket is knit in the round. Due to the construction, it needs to be wet blocked and stretched after finishing, which changes the gauge to about 4.5sts/inch.
The first four colour stripes use up the whole ball of yarn. The following three have a bit left over. The border of the sample size used 3 balls of yarn.
The size of the blanket can be easily reduced by eliminating colors. For a blanket of about 32” square, you want to choose five colours for the stripes, 1 ball each, and 2 balls in a sixth colour for the border.

pattern

Set-Up
With Colour A and double pointed needles cast on 8 sts.
Distribute stitches evenly onto four needles – 2 sts each.

*With only four stitches, this is a bit tricky. It gets easier soon!!*

Close to knit in the round, being careful not to twist stitches. Kfb 8 times. Next round: knit.

Begin pattern:

Round 1: *Kfb, k to last st on needle, kfb; rep from * 3 times – 8 sts increased.

Round 2: knit

Repeat rows 1 and 2 until there are 28 sts on each needle, work row 1 once more – 30 sts on each needle

Switch to 40 cm/16” circular needle. Work round 2, placing marker for beginning of round and after each 30 sts – 4 markers total.

Circular Needle Section:

Round 1: *Kfb, knit to last stitch before next marker, kfb; rep from * 3 times

Round 2: knit

Continue working rounds 1 and 2 until there are 58 sts in each section, ending after round 1. Cut Color A.

Colour Change Round:

With Color B, k1, p1 to end of round.

Continue working rounds 1 and 2 until there are 82 sts in each section (24 rounds of Color B worked), ending after round 1. Cut Color B.
**Colour Change Round:**
With Color C, k1, p1 to end of round.
Continue working rounds 1 and 2 until there are 100 sts in each section (18 rounds of Color C worked), ending after round 1. Cut Color C.
Switch to 32” circular needle.

**Colour Change Round:**
With Color D, k1, p1 to end of round.
Continue working rounds 1 and 2 until there are 114 sts in each section (14 rounds of Color D worked), ending after round 1. Cut Color D.

**Colour Change Round:**
With Color E, k1, p1 to end of round.
Continue working rounds 1 and 2 until there are 126 sts in each section (12 rounds of Color E worked), ending after round 1. Cut Color E.
Switch to 40” circular needles – it will get crowded toward the end.

**Colour Change Round:**
With Color F, k1, p1 to end of round.
Continue working rounds 1 and 2 until there are 136 sts in each section (10 rounds of Color F worked), ending after round 1. Cut Color F.

**Colour Change Round:**
With Color G, k1, p1 to end of round.
Continue working rounds 1 and 2 until there are 144 sts in each section (8 rounds of Color G worked), ending after round 1. Cut Colour G.

**Colour Change Round:**
With Color H, knit 1 round.

**Border:**
**Round 1:** *Kfb, knit to last stitch before next marker, kfb; rep from* 3 times
**Round 2:** Purl.
Work until there are 176 sts in each section (33 rounds of color H worked).

Bind-off loosely with this knit two together through back loop bind off: k 2, slip them back on the left needle, k2togtbl, *k1, slip 2 stitches back on the left needle, k2togtbl; repeat from * until there are no stitches left. Wet block to square, let dry completely.
standard abbreviations

k: knit
p: purl
kfb: knit into the front and the back of the next stitch (increase)

Happy knitting!