



Domino Squares & Stripes Table Runner



Reminiscent of my Danish grandmother's Depression-era make-do rugs and all manner of things practical made from scraps of yarn, roving, muslin sacks, clothing and blankets, I knit this table runner for my mother. This pattern utilizes several left-over yarns in assorted yardages and Vivian Hoxbro's domino squares, edging and weaving in tails-as-you-knit techniques. Use as many or as few yarns as you wish. All that's needed is a little pre-planning and the willingness to improvise and even add yarns as you go along.

WHAT YOU NEED:

Whatever hodgepodge of yarns (and even fabric strips) of similar gauge range that you have in some quantity and would like to see worked together. Yardages depend on the finished size you want to make (or vice-versa, either of which inspires improvisation) a pair of double pointed needles and a 29" or longer Circular needle 2 sizes smaller than the garment gauge recommended for the yarn. You want the "drape" to be tight but not so tight as to be inflexible.

YARNS I USED (*these range from heavy DK weight to worsted weight*):

- #1: Crystal Palace SHIMMER ribbon yarn, white, 1 skein (90 yards/50 grams)
- #2: Ornaghi Filati ST. TROPEZ viscose blend cord yarn, bronze, 1 skein (105 yards/50 grams)
- #3: Di.vé ORIENTALÉ ribbon, white/silver, 1-2 skeins (60 yards/50 grams x 2 = 120 yards)
- #4: GGH BASTIA linen blend raffia yarn, natural, 1 skein (126 yards/50 grams)
- #5: GGH VERIKIRI, white/gold, 1 skein (113 yards/50 grams)
- #6: Berroco METALLIC FX, white/gold, 1 skein (85 yards/25 grams)
- #7: Crystal Palace MIKADO MULTI ribbon tape, color #7297 oyster/pastels, 3 skeins (112 yards/50 grams x 3 = 336 yards)
- #8: Marks & Kattens HIGGINS, color #1339 brown natural cotton blend, 2 skeins (99 yards/50 grams x 2 = 198 yards)

NOTE: *Use as many or as few yarns as you like; try to keep yarns in the same weight 'family;' the use of some heavier weight yarns or ribbons adds textural effect and a sometimes welcome density to the overall durability.*

GAUGE (with the above yarns): 23 sts and 21 ridges (42 rows) over 4" in garter stitch.

MEASUREMENTS: each domino square: 3"W x 3"L; overall finished measurement: approximately 17 ½"W x 38"L, laid flat; see schematic for details.

NEEDLES (with the above weight yarns): US#6 (4mm); two 6"DPNs and one 29" CN or size that gets a tight gauge for your yarn selection. For other weights of yarn, try needle size that is at least two sizes smaller than the recommended garment gauge.

OTHER: Tapestry needle to weave in tails.

INSTRUCTIONS: This piece is constructed by sequences: first, by knitting a vertical band of 10 squares; second by building a center panel across. Then, working from the center panel's bound off edge, build a 10-square vertical panel, square by square. The trim or edging is made by working sides, one panel at a time.

The FIRST STRIP OF SQUARES:

Square #1, 2-color stripe: With a dpn and Yarn #1, knit cast-on 29 sts.

Row 1 (WS): K to last st, P1.

Row 2 (RS): Change to Yarn #2, SL pwise, K to 1 st before the center st, SL1 pwise, K2tog, PSSO, K to last st, P1. = 27 sts rem.

Row 3 (WS): SL1 pwise, K to last st, P1.

Row 4 (RS): Change to Yarn #1, SL1 pwise, K to 1 st before center st, SL1 pwise, K2 tog, PSSO, K to last st, P1. = 25 sts rem.

Row 5 (WS): SL1 pwise, K to last st, P1.

Repeat Rows 2 – 5, alternating yarns and decreasing on the center 3 sts on the RS facing rows, until 1 st rem. If you are going to use the same yarn to begin the next square, leave this last st 'live;' if you're going to change yarns, cut the stitch's yarn and pull through the st, front to back.

Square #2-#10, 2-color stripe: With your next yarn, pick up and K 15 sts from the top edge of the previous square and knit cast-on 14 sts = 29 sts.

Row 1 (WS): K to last st, P1.

Row 2 (RS): Change to next yarn for this square. SL1 pwise, K to 1 st before the center st, SL1 pwise, K2tog, PSSO, K to last st, P1.

Row 3 (WS): SL 1 pwise, K to last st, P1.

Row 4 (RS): Change to first yarn in this square and work row as in Row 2.

Row 5 (WS): Work as in Row 3

Repeat Rows 2-5, alternating yarns and decreasing on the center 3 sts every RSF row until 1 st rem.

Begin each square in this strip as in Square #2, alternating 2 yarns in 2-row sequences in each square.

CENTER PANEL: Lay the squares strip RSF so that the end with Square #1 is on your right.

Row #1 (RSF): Beginning at the corner of Square #1's 'ridge' end, use Yarn #5 and pick up and knit 150 sts evenly across the entire long edge of the strip. K each row in the following sequence (or your desired sequence):

Rows 2-4: Yarn #5; Rows 5-6: Yarn #3; Rows 7 – 10: Yarn #5; Rows 11-12: Yarn #2; Rows 13-16: Yarn #7;

Rows 17-18: Yarn #2; Rows 19-22: Yarn #7; Rows 23-24: Yarn #2; Rows 25-28: Yarn #5;

Rows 29-30: Yarn #3; Rows 31-34: Yarn #5; Rows 35-36: Yarn #2; Rows 37-40: Yarn #7; Rows 41-

42: Yarn #2; Rows 43-46: Yarn #7; Rows 47-48: Yarn #2; Rows 49-52: Yarn #5; Rows 53-54: Yarn #3;

Rows 55-58: Yarn #5. Row 59: Bind off loosely with Yarn #5.

MAKE 2nd STRIP OF SQUARES: This strip is NOT made like the first strip. Instead, each square is made and attached to the bound off edge of the center panel while you create each square. You will be building the squares, left to right along the panel's bound off edge. Note that it is important to be sure to pick up stitches evenly as you go across, square by square. *If this description seems clear as mud, imagine a long line and you're standing at the end point; you back up a few paces and work a square on the line ahead of you from the line to the end point; then you back up a few more paces and work a square on the line to the beginning point of the previous square, and so on until you've made 10 squares with the 10th square beginning at the beginning point of the line.*

Square #11, 2-color stripe: RSF, with Yarn #1, pick up and K 15 sts along the bound off panel edge, working right to left, that is, from 15 sts in and to the corner opposite Square #10. Knit cast on 14 sts. Work this square as in Square #1, alternating between two yarns and making decreases every RS row. When 1 st remains, close off the st by running the tail yarn through, front to back.

Squares #12-#20, 2-color stripe: With your next yarn choice, pick up and K 15 sts along the panel edge including the 1st stitch of the previous square and pick up 14 sts along the intersecting edge of the previous square. Work as in previous square, alternating yarns and making the decreases every RS row until 1 st rem. Secure the last st as in previous square.

EDGE PANELS: Each panel is worked one at a time, not around the entire piece as one unit. The end panels are longer and wider than the side panels. And, the sequence of working the panels creates a kind of overlay effect that can be quite effective depending on your yarn choices.

NOTE: After the pick up row knit each row as follows: SL 1 purlwise, K to last stitch, P1

PANEL A:

Row 1: RSF at the end with Squares #1 and #20, with Yarn #7 and your CN, pick up and K 61 sts. K each row.

Rows 2-4: yarn #7;

Rows 5-6: Yarn #8;

Rows 7-10: Yarn #7;

Rows 11-12: Yarn #8. Repeat Rows 7-12 with yarn changes 5 more times (= seven 6-row repeats), ending with Yarn #8. Then K 4 rows with Yarn #7. End having worked a WSF row. Bind off the next row (RSF row) loosely. Leave the last bind off st live.

PANEL B:

Row 1: With Yarn #7 and the live st from Panel A, pick up and K 22 sts along the Panel A edge (= 23 sts for the Panel A edge) and 155 sts along the 2nd square strip edge = 201 sts on CN.

Rows 2-4: Yarn #7

Rows 5-6: Yarn #8.

Rows 7-10: Yarn #7

Rows 11-12: Yarn #8. Repeat Rows 7-12 with yarn changes 3 times more (= five 6-row repeats), ending with Yarn #8. Then K 4 rows with Yarn #7. End having worked a WSF row. Bind off the next row (RSF row) loosely. Leave last bind off st live.

PANEL C:

Row 1: With Yarn #7 and the live st from Panel B, pick up and K 17 sts along the Panel B edge (= 18 sts for the Panel B edge) and 61 sts across the 2nd panel, center panel and 1st panel ends = 79 sts. K these rows and do color repeats as in Panel A and leave the last st of the bind of row live.

PANEL D:

Row 1: With Yarn #7 and the live st from Panel C, pick up and K 22 sts along the Panel C edge (= 23 sts for the Panel C edge), pick up and K 155 sts along the 1st Square Strip edge, and pick up and K 23 sts along the Panel A edge = 224 sts. K these rows and do color repeats as for Panel B. Bind off all sts loosely.

FINISHING: WSF, weave in all tails.

REFERENCES:

Domino Knitting, Vivian Hoxbro, Interweave Press: "Basic Squares 2, 2-colors, striped" (pages 3-4); edging in "Potholder 2" (pages 9-12); weaving in tails as you knit (page 6).

The Knitting Experience: Book 1: The Knit Stitch, Sally Melville, XRX Publishing: *Picking up stitches (from the back of slip stitches, page 98; picking up stitches, pages 40-41).*

*** Both books are excellent technical and creative resources: a must for the knitter's reference library.**

Mystic Rivers Yarns makes every effort to insure this pattern is correct; however, we are not responsible for pattern errors, typographical errors, etc.

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FINISHED MEASUREMENTS, LAID FLAT: $17\frac{1}{2}"$ W \times $38"$ L.
 EACH DOMINO SQUARE = $3" \times 3"$ \times 10 SQUARES = $3" \text{ W} \times 30" \text{ L}$ STRIP
 CENTER PANEL: $5\frac{1}{2}"$ W \times $30"$ L.
 EDGE PANELS: A = $11\frac{1}{2}"$ W \times $4"$ L B = $34"$ W \times $3"$ L
 C = $14\frac{1}{2}"$ W \times $4"$ L D = $38"$ W \times $3"$ L.

