

## Around the Table Yarns Two-color Brioche Skills class

Recommended text: Knitting Fresh Brioche by Nancy Marchant, Sixth and Spring Books, 2014. *This text explores two-color brioche in great detail and includes direction for two-color cast on and bind off techniques that suit the stitch, as well as recommended methods for increasing and decreasing in a brioche pattern, an extensive stitch dictionary for designing, and 12 patterns.*

“Brioche knitting creates a cushy, reversible ribbed fabric that comes about by working one stitch and slipping the next. In brioche knitting, instead of carrying the working yarn in front or in back of the slipped stitch, you bring the yarn over the stitch, giving the stitch a little shawl over its shoulders. In the following row, this shawled stitch is either “barked” or “burped”.

Nancy Marchant

### Abbreviations

BRK (brioche knit or bark) - knit the stitch that was slipped in the previous row together with its yarn over.

BRP (brioche purl or burp) - purl the stitch that was slipped in the previous row together with its yarn over.

SL1YO - (slip 1, yarn over) the action that creates the ‘shawled’ stitch. To work, the working yarn must be in front before slipping the stitch. The ‘shawled’ stitches are counted as one even though there are two strands of yarn.

On a bar**K** row, the working yarn must be brought from the back to the front between the needle tips. Slip the next stitch Purl wise and then knit the following stitch, carrying the yarn over the needle to the back to create the ‘shawl’. For left hand (continental) yarn carriers, you can use the RH needle to bring the working yarn forward and slip the next stitch at the same time.

On a bur**P** row the yarn is already in front, so slip the next stitch Purl wise and take the yarn over the stitch (and needle) and back through the needle tips to the front ready to burp the next stitch.

BRKYOB**RK** (simple 2 stitch increase): BRK, leaving stitch on LH needle, yarn over by bringing yarn between needle tips, then over needle to the back, then BRK into the same stitch - 2 stitches increased.

brRsl dec (Right leaning decrease) Slip the next ‘shawled’ stitch (A) knit wise, knit the next stitch (B) (This stitch is a purl of the other color). Pass the slipped stitch A over the knitted stitch B. Slip B back to LH needle and pass the following shawled stitch (C) over. Replace B on RH needle. - 2 stitches decreased

### Instructions

Note: Needles must be double pointed or circular as piece is worked from both ends. Choose a main color (MC) and a contrast color (CC).

Cast on 11 stitches in the main color (MC). Place a locking marker on the last stitch you cast on.

Setup rows:

1. (MC and RS)

K1, \*SL1YO, K1\* repeat to end. Do not turn.

2. (CC and RS) - begin at the end with the marker

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Slip 1 st, with CC held in front \*BRP, SL1YO\* repeat to last 2 stitches: BRP, drop cc in front and slip last st.

Turn work

3. (MC and WS)

P1, \*SI1YO, BRP\* repeat to last 2 stitches: SL1YO, P1. Do not turn.

4.(CC and WS)

Slip 1 st, \*BRK, SL1YO\* repeat to last 2 stitches, BRK, drop cc in back and slip last st.

Turn work.

Main section:

1. (MC and RS)

K1, \*SI1YO, BRK\* repeat to end. Do not turn.

2. (CC and RS)

Slip 1 st, \*BRP, SL1YO\* repeat to last 2 stitches: BRP, drop CC in front and slip last st.

Turn work

3. (MC and WS)

P1, \*SI1YO, BRP\* repeat to last 2 stitches: SL1YO, P1. Do not turn.

4.(CC and WS)

Slip 1 st, \*BRK, SL1YO\* repeat to last 2 stitches, BRK, drop CC in back and slip last st.

Turn work.

Optional Shaping section:

1. (MC and RS)

K1, \*SI1YO, BRK, SI1YO, BRKYOBK, SI1YO, brRsl dec, SI1YO, K1. Do not turn.

2. (CC and RS)

Slip 1 st, (BRP, SL1YO) twice, P1, SI1YO, BRP, SL1YO, BRP, drop CC in front and slip last st.

Turn work

3. (MC and WS)

P1, \*SI1YO, BRP\* repeat to last 2 stitches: SL1YO, P1. Do not turn.

4.(CC and WS)

Slip 1 st, \*BRK, SL1YO\* repeat to last 2 stitches, BRK, drop CC in back and slip last st.

Turn work.

Repeat these 4 rows to desired length, cut CC after completing step 4.

Final row and bind-off:

(MC and RS)

K1, \*P1, BRK\* Repeat to last 2 stitches, P1, K1 (no slipped stitches, all stitches now worked in MC)

K2tog bind off:

K1,\*K1, slip tip of the left needle into the front of the two stitches on the right needle and knit them together through the back of the loop. Repeat from \* to one stitch on the right needle.

Cut working yarn and pull the end through the final stitch.

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