

# Loom Knit Simple E-Wrap Baby Afghan

By Ruth Volk 2/15/2013



The body of this blanket is knitted on the loom, and the border is crocheted around the outside of the knitted strip.

**Finished Size:** Approximately 22 inches wide by 35 inches long.

**Materials:** The largest (yellow) round loom with 41 pegs, yarn hook, 14 oz. of worsted weight yarn, size H crochet hook.

Always use two strands of yarn. This is very pretty with two coordinating colors, or combinations of plain and variegated yarn. In the above photos, the blanket on the left was worked with 1 blue and 1 pink skein. The middle photo was 1 pink strand and 1 strand of variegated eyelash yarn. Consider using up bits of yarn by using one strand that is a main color throughout, and the other strand that utilizes scraps of yarn. Change colors only at the end of a row, not in the middle. The yarn tails can more easily be worked in while crocheting the outer border. For the blanket in the right photo above I used up all my scraps of yarn with one strand, and the other strand was off-white.

**Cast On:** Start by forming a slip knot and passing this over the first peg to the right of the anchor peg. The anchor peg is the one small peg on the outside of the loom that sticks out perpendicular to the loom pegs. Use the e-wrap to wrap the yarn around each peg, moving toward the right. If you know how to do the e-wrap, skip to the next section. If not, follow the step by step below.

**E-Wrap Step by step:** From the first peg, hold the yarn and go behind the next peg to the right, wrap the yarn around the back of the peg, along the right side of that peg, around the front (the outside of the loom) and left side, and then to the back of the peg again (inside the loom), crossing the yarn and moving to the next peg to the right of the peg just worked. This stitch creates what looks like a small cursive letter e if you look down onto the loom from above, with the top of the e on the outside of the loom.

This piece is worked back and forth on the round loom. Once the initial cast-on is done on each peg around, you will be at the last peg to the left of the anchor peg. Rather than continuing around in a circle, you stop here and work back in the opposite direction. When working back and forth on the round looms, the first peg and the last peg are merely turning pegs; they do not end up being stitches in the blanket. They will form a neat edge along the sides of the work..

**1<sup>st</sup> row:** Push the prior row's stitches down on the pegs to make room for this row along the top of the pegs. Working back toward the left, e-wrap the next to the last peg. This will feel backwards from the cast-on row, because it is the opposite motion. Take the yarn first along the back of the peg, around the *left* side, then around the front and right side, and again to the back of the peg, then move on to the next peg toward the left. Notice that the last peg only has one yarn on it, while the other pegs will all have two yarns. This is expected. You will have two yarns on those turning pegs only every other row. Continue to e-wrap all pegs going left until you get to the first peg again (the peg to the right of the anchor peg). Make sure to keep these stitches above the stitches from the

previous row. Using the yarn hook, start slipping off the cast-on stitches over the current row stitches, starting with the first peg and working to the right and around until you get to the last peg, which will have only one yarn row and will not be slipped this time.

**2<sup>nd</sup> row:** Working toward the right now, pick up the yarn, which is wrapped around the 1st peg already, and e-wrap the 2nd peg and each peg around in the same manner as the cast-on row. Slip the row 1 stitches over the row 2 stitches.

Continue in this manner until the piece measures 30 inches long. End with a 1st row so that the yarn is at the last peg, not the first peg, and all prior row stitches have been slipped off.

**Cast off:** E-wrap the next to the last peg. \*Slip the lower stitch over the stitch just wrapped. Take the stitch off that peg and move it one peg to the right. Slip the lower stitch over the top stitch on this peg. Move this stitch one peg to the left. E-wrap the next peg to the left. Repeat from \* around until you have only one stitch left. Take this stitch off the loom and put your crochet hook into it.

#### **Border:**

**Round 1:** Ch 1. Work 3 sc into the corner. Work a round of sc evenly along all four edges of the knitted strip, working 3 sc into each corner. Join with a slip stitch into the initial sc of the round. Working evenly may mean you put 2 stitches in each stitch around, depending on your tension, but work enough so that the edges do not curl or wave. For me it works best to put two stitches into each stitch on the sides, but on each end work just one stitch into each stitch plus 4 or 5 extra spaced across (about 44 stitches across each end).

**Round 2:** Ch 1. Sc in next stitch. \*Ch 1, skip 1 stitch, sc in the next stitch. Repeat from \* around, but at corners do not skip a stitch between the 3 stitches at each corner. Join with a slip stitch in the initial sc of this round.

**Round 3:** Slip stitch into the next ch-1 space. Ch1, sc in same space. \*Ch 1, skip the next stitch, work 1 sc in the next ch-1 space. Repeat from \* around, but at the corners work an extra sc and ch1. Join with a slip stitch in the initial sc.

**Repeat round 3** until the blanket measures approximately 25 by 35, but on about every 3<sup>rd</sup> row add an additional sc and ch1 at each corner, enough to keep the corners from curling. You may keep adding rounds if you want a larger blanket.

**Last Round:** This is optional but creates a simple lace edge to the blanket.

Slip stitch into the next ch-1 space. Ch1, sc in same space. \*Ch 2, skip the next stitch, sc in next ch-1 space. Repeat from \* around. Join with a slip stitch in initial sc. Bind off and hide yarn tails.

**Variation:** The striped e-wrap afghan shown below is a variation on the above pattern.



I used 1 strand of off-white throughout, but I made stripes by switching the 2<sup>nd</sup> strand between blue yarn and pink yarn every 10 rows. For the edging, I used the off-white throughout, but switched the 2<sup>nd</sup> strand from blue to pink every other row.