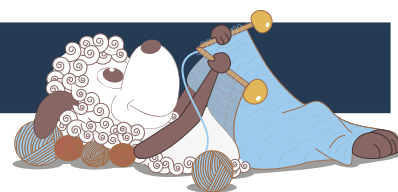


# Spectra - a knitted blanket in 36 colors



Design: Karen S. Lauger

*The yarns from Filcolana has long been some of my favorites, and one of the reasons for this is their many and beautiful colours. The idea for a colour circle afghan was born long ago, and now the Spectra afghan shows part of the wonderful spectrum of the Peruvian Highland Wool from Filcolana. The afghan is very simple to knit and there are many possibilities for adjustments. If you change the colours to only two or three, it will be easy to make it into a stunning modern afghan or a star blanket.*

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## Size

One size, but it is easy to make bigger (advice on how to make the afghan bigger is given at the end of the pattern).

## Measurements

110 cm along each of the six sides of the hexagon

## Materials

Peruvian Highland Wool by Filcolana

Approx. 600 g grå (color 957)

Approx. 40 g in the following colors for each of the 36 diamonds:

### Innermost round (primary colours)

Diamond no. 1= color 249 (Cobalt Blue)

Diamond no. 2= color 279 (Juicy Green)

Diamond no. 3= color 223 (Sunflower)

Diamond no. 4= color 215 (Carrot)

Diamond no. 5= color 225 (Christmas Red)

Diamond no. 6= color 217 (Purple)

### Second round (secondary colours)

Diamond no. 7= color 202 (Teal)

Diamond no. 8= color 801 (Sea Green (melange))

Diamond no. 9= color 221 (Thyme)

Diamond no. 10= color 190 (Pistachio)



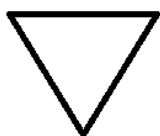
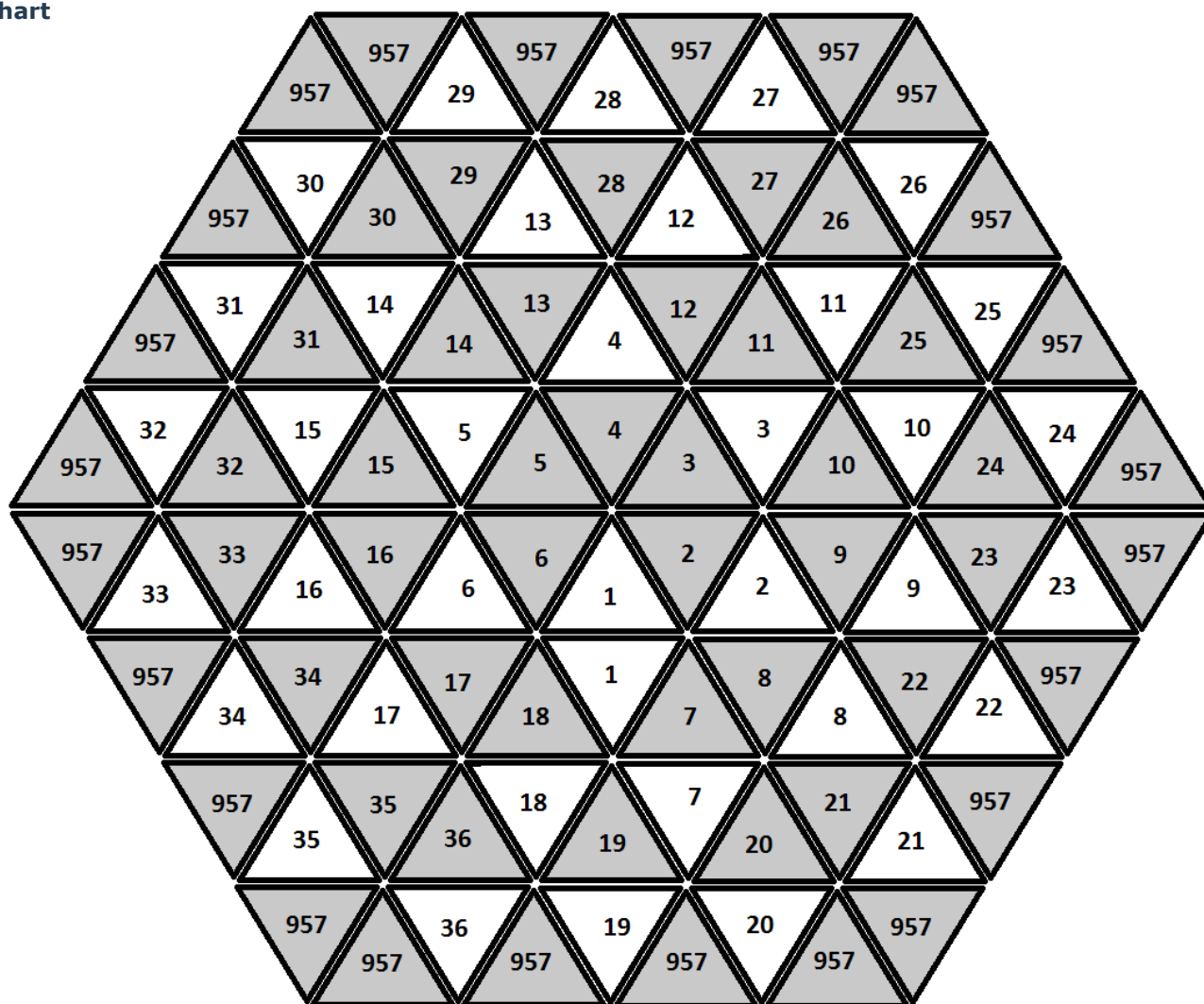
Diamond no. 11= color 255 (Lime Light)  
 Diamond no. 12= color 284 (Kumquat)  
 Diamond no. 13= color 803 (Rust (melange))  
 Diamond no. 14= color 218 (Chinese Red)  
 Diamond no. 15= color 804 (Merlot (melange))  
 Diamond no. 16= color 222 (Plum)  
 Diamond no. 17= color 806 (Aubergine (melange))  
 Diamond no. 18= color 270 (Midnight Blue)

### Third round

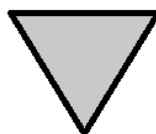
Diamond no. 19= color 224 (Hawaiian Sea)  
 Diamond no. 20= color 280 (Curacao)  
 Diamond no. 21= color 257 (Mint)  
 Diamond no. 22= color 802 (Moss (melange))  
 Diamond no. 23= color 220 (Spring Green (220))

Diamond no. 24= color 269 (Toxic)  
 Diamond no. 25= color 101 (Natural White)  
 Diamond no. 26= color 203 (Camel)  
 Diamond no. 27= color 136 (Mustard)  
 Diamond no. 28= color 254 (Coral)  
 Diamond no. 29= color 813 (Strawberry Pink)  
 Diamond no. 30= color 313 (Bubblegum)  
 Diamond no. 31= color 226 (Raspberry Pink)  
 Diamond no. 32= color 271 (Fuchsia)  
 Diamond no. 33= color 272 (Orchid)  
 Diamond no. 34= color 805 (Erica (melange))  
 Diamond no. 35= color 259 (Lavender)  
 Diamond no. 36= color 228 (Smoke Blue)

Chart



worked as a "top piece"



worked as a "bottom piece"



Needle size 5,5 mm, circular 60 cm and 2 double pointet needles  
 Crochet hook size 5 mm  
 Darning needle to weave in ends

### Gauge

16 sts and 32 rows in garter stitch (garther ridges) on size 5,5 mm needles = 10 x 10 cm. Using this gauge each triangle will measure 26 cm on a side.

### Special abbreviations

sl 1 wytf: Slip 1 stitch with the yarn to the front of the work

sl 1 wytb: Slip 1 stitch with the yarn to the back of the work

CE (centered decrease): Slip 2 sts (as if to k2tog), k1, pull the slipped sts over the knitted stitch

k2tog tbl: (twisted decrease) knit 2 sts together through the back loop

### About the pattern

The whole of the aghan is worked out of equilateral triangles (all three sides are of equal lenght), where two triangles make one diamond. The triangles are worked as two types. For the ones for the bottom of the diamond (i.e. the ones that point toward the centre of the afghan) stitches are picked up along the side of the neighboring triangles and the triangles are thus worked together. The triangles for the top or tip of the diamonds (i.e. pointing toward the edge of the

afghan) are worked as separate pieces and are joined to the "bottom pieces" by crocheting across the middle seam of the diamond.

The finishing edge is worked sideways onto the afghan.

### Placement of the colours

The following chart shows not only the placement of the colours in the afghan, but also which of the triangles that are worked as "bottom pieces" and which are worked as "top pieces". Note that the very first diamond (number 1) is made up of two "top pieces" (see illustration on previous page).

### Basic pattern for all the triangles

Each triangle begins with 85 sts.

**Row 1 (right side)**: k1 tbl, k40, CE, k40, sl 1 wytf.

**Row 2 (wrong side)**: k2tog tbl, k37, k2tog tbl, sl 1 wytf, k2tog, k38, sl 1 wytf.

**Row 3**: k2tog tbl, k37, CE, k37, sl 1 wytf.

**Row 4**: k2tog tbl, k36, sl 1 wytf, k37, sl 1 wytf.

**Row 5**: k2tog tbl, k35, CE, k35, sl 1 wytf.

**Row 6**: k2tog tbl, k32, k2tog tbl, sl 1 wytf, k2tog, k33, sl 1 wytf.

**Row 7**: k2tog tbl, k32, CE, k32, sl 1 wytf.

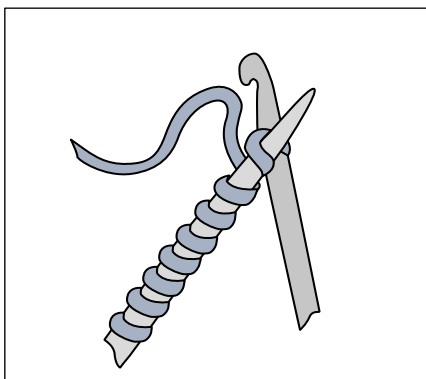
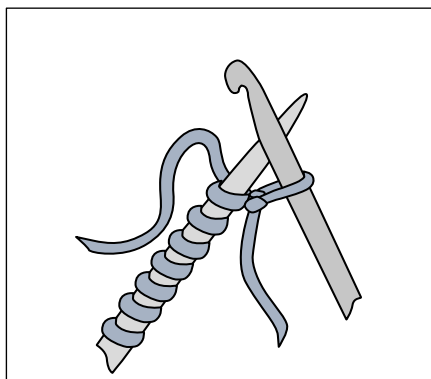
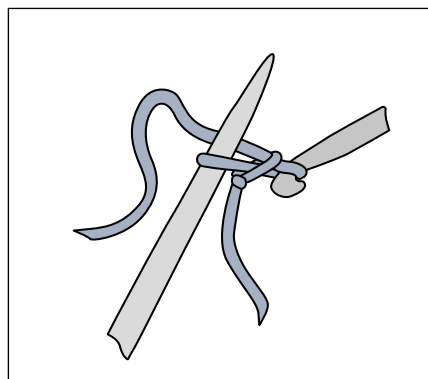
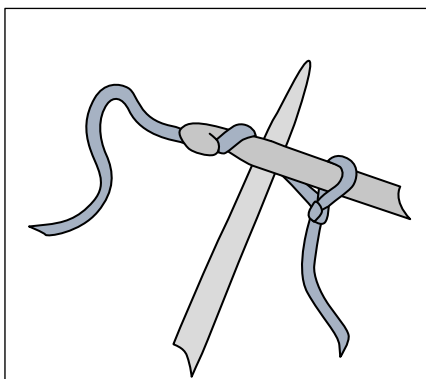
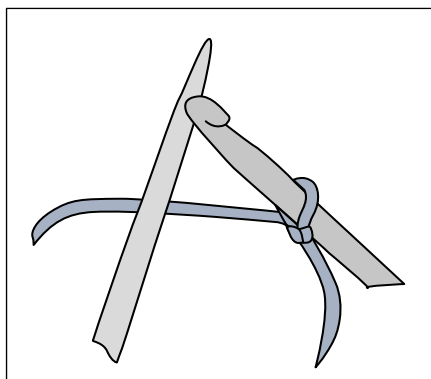
**Row 8**: k2tog tbl, k31, sl 1 wytf, k32, sl 1 wytf.

**Row 9**: k2tog tbl, k30, CE, k30, sl 1 wytf.

**Row 10**: k2tog tbl, k27, k2tog tbl, sl 1 wytf, k2tog, k28, sl 1 wytf.

**Row 11**: k2tog tbl, k27, CE, k27, sl 1 wytf.

### Technique: Crocheted cast-on



Start by crocheting 1 chain stitch, then continue by crocheting chain stitches around the knitting needle (note that the yarn goes behind the knitting needle, before you crochet each chain stitch). Continue until you have 1 stitch fewer than the number of stitches you need to cast on, then slip the stitch on the crochet hook onto the needle.

**Row 12:** k2tog tbl, k26, sl 1 wytf, k27, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 13:** k2tog tbl, k25, CE, k25, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 14:** k2tog tbl, k22, k2tog tbl, sl 1 wytf, k2tog, k23, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 15:** k2tog tbl, k22, CE, k22, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 16:** k2tog tbl, k21, sl 1 wytf, k22, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 17:** k2tog tbl, k20, CE, k20, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 18:** k2tog tbl, k17, k2tog tbl, sl 1 wytf, k2tog, k18, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 19:** k2tog tbl, k17, CE, k17, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 20:** k2tog tbl, k16, sl 1 wytf, k17, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 21:** k2tog tbl, k15, CE, k15, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 22:** k2tog tbl, k12, k2tog tbl, sl 1 wytf, k2tog, k13, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 23:** k2tog tbl, k12, CE, k12, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 24:** k2tog tbl, k11, sl 1 wytf, k12, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 25:** k2tog tbl, k10, CE, k10, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 26:** k2tog tbl, k7, k2tog tbl, sl 1 wytf, k2tog, k8, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 27:** k2tog tbl, k7, CE, k7, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 28:** k2tog tbl, k6, sl 1 wytf, k7, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 29:** k2tog tbl, k5, CE, k5, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 30:** k2tog tbl, k2, k2tog tbl, sl 1 wytf, k2tog, k3, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 31:** k2tog tbl, k2, CE, k2, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 32:** k2tog tbl, k1, sl 1 wytf, k2, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 33:** k2tog tbl, CE, sl 1 wytf.  
**Row 34:** k3tog tbl, break the yarn and pull the end through the last stitch

**"Top pieces" - i.e. triangles that make up the top of the diamonds (toward the edge) (white in the big chart)**

Cast on 85 sts on a circular 5,5 mm needle using a crochet cast on (use a crochet hook 5 mm). Make sure that you leave a good long end at the beginning of the cast on (the end should be around 120 cm). You will need this to crochet the top piece to the corresponding bottom piece.

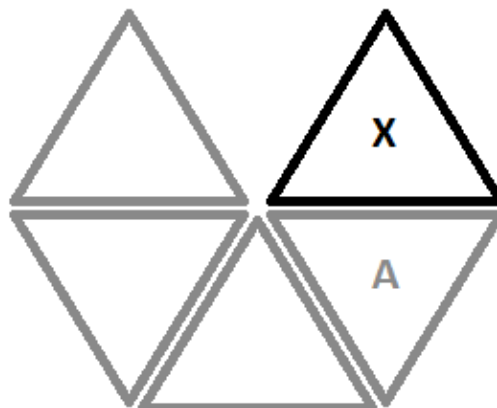
Work the triangle following the basic pattern.

**"Bottom pieces" - i.e. triangle that make up the bottom of the diamonds (toward the centre) (gray in the big chart)**

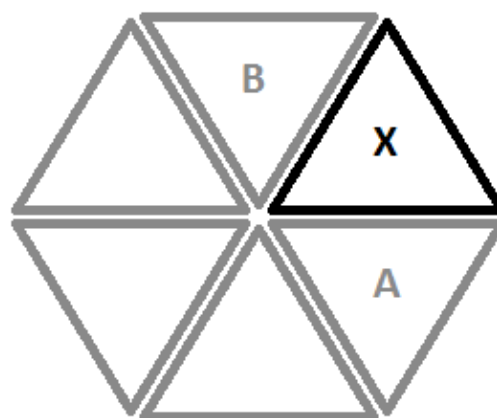
**Variation 1:** If the triangle only is worked together with one other triangle (X is the triangle you will be working now) (se illustration on the right side of page).

- Cast on 43 sts using a crochet cast on onto a circular 5,5 mm needle. Beginning at the bottom (i.e. nearest the centre of the afghan) pick up 42 sts from the back of the triangle to the left (this is the one you work the current triangle together with, i.e. triangle A in the illustration (the illustration shows the triangles from the front)). Pick up 1 stitch per cast on crochet stitch (pick up through both loops of the cast on stitch). You are picking up stitches along the left side of the triangle as seen from the right side. There are now 85 sts on the needle. Work the rest of the tri-

**Bottom piece - variation 1**



**Bottom piece - variation 2**



angle after the basic pattern.

**Variation 2:** If the triangle (X) is worked together with two other triangles (A and B) (se illustration above).

- Hold the work with the back toward you. Using a circular needle 5,5 mm pick up 42 sts along the cast on edge of the triangle to the right (= B in the illustration), work from the top to the bottom of the "gap" where you are going to knit your triangle (X). Pick up 1 stitch at the bottom of the gap at the transition between the triangles. Then pick up 42 sts along the cast on edge of the triangle to your left (seen from the back = A in the illustration). When picking up sts, pick up 1 stitch per cast on crochet stitch, through both loops. pslagning). There are now 85 sts on the needle. Work the rest of the triangle after the basic pattern.

**Pattern**

Begin by knitting a "top piece" in the colour of Diamond number 1. Then work "bottom pieces" using variation 1 with the colours of Diamond number 2, 3,

4 and 5. Then work a "bottom piece" using variation 2 with the colour of Diamond number 6. You have now knitted the innermost hexagon of the afghan. Now knit "top pieces" using the colours of Diamond number 1-6.

The "top pieces" are crocheted onto the corresponding "bottom pieces". Hold the pieces together wrong side to wrong side and crochet through the outermost loops of the slip-stitch edge using chain stitches.

Now work the "bottom pieces" for the diamonds number 7-18 using variation 1 and 2 as necessary.

Then work the "top pieces" for the diamonds number 7-18 and crochet these onto the corresponding "bottom pieces".

Now work the "bottom pieces" for the diamonds number 19-36 using variation 1 and 2 as necessary.

Then work the "top pieces" for the diamonds number 19-36 and crochet these onto the corresponding "bottom pieces".

Finally work the grey "bottom pieces" (using col. 957) using variation 1 and 2 as necessary.

### Now work the final edge

Cast on 6 sts onto a double pointed needle size 5,5 mm. The edge is worked by knitting back and forth over these 6 sts while knitting it onto the edge of the afghan. This is easiest by using two double pointed needles.

**Row 1:** k5, sl 1 wytb, k1 from the edge of the afghan (stick the tip of the right needle under both the loops of the slipped edge stitch of the afghan, wrap the working yarn over the needle and pull it through), pull the slipped stitch over the last stitch, turn the work

**Row 2:** sl 1 wytf, k5, turn the work

Repeat row 1 and 2 to the last stitch before a corner.

Now work a few short rows to turn the corner:

**Row 1:** k5, sl 1 wytb, k1 from the edge of the afghan, pull the slipped stitch over, turn work

**Row 2:** sl 1 wytf, k5, turn work

**Row 3:** k4, turn work

**Row 4:** yo, k4, turn work

**Row 5:** k3, turn work

**Row 6:** yo, k3, turn work

**Row 7:** k2, turn work

**Row 8:** yo, k2, turn work

**Row 9:** k2, [k2tog (the yo and the next stitch)] 3 times, sl 1 wytb, k1 from the edge of the afghan, pull the slipped stitch over, turn work

**Row 10:** sl 1 wytf, k5, turn work

Work now the edge straight as before until the next corner. Continue until you have worked all the way around the edge. Bind off the 6 sts.

### Finishing

Sew the edge together. Weave in all the (many) ends.

Wash the afghan and block it.

