

The TEMPESTRY Project

Original Tempestry Project™ Knitting Instructions

(Please note, this is not so much a pattern as it is a guide.)

Original Tempestrys are a visual embodiment of a year's worth of daily high temperatures, January at the bottom and December at the top. A finished Tempestry will measure about 8-12" wide and about 4-5' long. The size will vary depending on whether the piece is knitted in the linen stitch or the garter stitch, either of which are possible with this kit, as well as on the gauge of the knitter (though gauge is not critical).

A single Tempestry makes for a beautiful wall hanging, perfect for commemorating a particular year -- perhaps of a birth, a graduation, or a wedding. Multiple Tempestrys for one location create a striking historical display of shifting temperatures over time.

Basic kits include:

- Individually-wound balls of Tempestry yarn calculated to match the number of days in each temperature range for your selected year/location, with approximately 6" extra per row for weaving in ends
- One color card
- One info card
- One Tempestry Project pattern/guidelines
- One Tempestry worksheet (this includes the daily high temperature data for your year and location, the corresponding color for each day's temperature, and the primary weather station from which we retrieved your data)

Optional beading add-ons:

- 25 size-5 triangular copper-foil-lined glass beads to commemorate a specific day, to be placed on every other stitch of the day in question (with a few to spare just in case!)
- Precipitation beads to record daily precipitation
- Crochet hook for beading

Deluxe kits also include:

- Wood knitting needles, Size US 7 [4.5mm] (for garter stitch) or US 10 [6mm] (for linen stitch)
- Tapestry needles
- Needle Wrangler

We recommend using the linen stitch or garter stitch to create a sturdy fabric that works well for display. If you are not familiar with these, you may want to work up a swatch (not using kit yarn) before beginning your Tempestry.

Daily temperatures come from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, supplemented with data from www.wunderground.com (or in some cases from nearby weather stations) as needed. We have included the primary weather station name on the enclosed card.

If you are including beads, place them on every other stitch in the row you are marking. Commemorative beads will stretch across the whole row. Precipitation beads are placed at the beginning of RS rows and at the end of WS rows, creating a beaded bar graph coming from the right side of the piece. A note on beading for the linen stitch version: place beads on the knit or purl stitches, but then in the next row when you slip the stitch with the bead on it, slip with the yarn on the wrong side so it doesn't block the bead on the right side.

For a tutorial on Tempestry knitting, please see VeryPink's Tempestry video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=30nG81Fu7yg>

Linen Stitch Version:

Cast on 46 stitches in the appropriate color for January 1st, on size 10 circular needles. Circular needles are necessary, as opposed to straights, so that you can work from either side -- see notes about carrying multiple colors, below.

The first and last three stitches are a garter or seed stitch border. The 40 stitches inside the border are worked in the linen stitch. We recommend this video on how to knit the linen stitch:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6o0Y4Yu6wuA>

Begin with day one and work one row per day according to your Tempestry Worksheet using the corresponding yarn for each day's temperature. Bind off using the same color as for December 31st.

Notes: If you are carrying multiple colors, you sometimes will be working the right or wrong side twice in a row depending on which side the next day's color is on. Using circular needles allows you to do this. When this happens, be sure to pay attention to maintaining the garter stitch and linen stitch patterns. This will sometimes entail purling instead of knitting the garter stitch border, and will sometimes entail slipping the first stitch in the linen stitch central panel rather than knitting or purling. Don't worry, it will make sense as you work your piece -- but does require some attention!

We recommend not cutting the yarn every time you change color, but instead carry several colors up the sides if they will be used within a week or so. This cuts down on wasted yarn and on weaving in more ends than necessary.

Garter Stitch Version:

Cast on 40 stitches in the appropriate color for January 1st, on size 7 circular needles. Circular needles are necessary, as opposed to straights, so that you can work from either side -- see notes about carrying multiple colors, below.

Begin with day one and knit one row per day according to your Tempestry Worksheet using the corresponding yarn for each day's temperature. Bind off using the same color as for December 31st.

Notes: If you are carrying multiple colors, you sometimes will be working the right or wrong side twice in a row depending on which side the next day's color is on. Using circular needles allows you to do this. When this happens, be sure to pay attention to maintaining the garter stitch pattern. This will sometimes entail purling instead of knitting. Don't worry, it will make sense as you work your piece -- but does require some attention!

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