

Ready? Set the Finish Line

HERE'S WHAT YOU NEED.

How long will you need for this?

_____ minutes/hours

- Yarn
- Needles and supplies
- Pattern

HERE'S THE WARM UP.

How long will you need for this?

_____ minutes/hours/days

- Knit a gauge swatch (if you don't, plan ripping time if gauge doesn't work)
- Block and record gauge numbers
- Review pattern for size, other information

HERE'S THE STARTING LINE.

This is where you gather information for planning.

- Cast on for the chosen size
- Figure out how long it takes to do 2 rows/rounds

_____ minutes/hours

- Figure out how long it takes to do a pattern repeat in rows/rounds

_____ minutes/hours

- How many pattern row repeats do you need to do overall?

GETTING THE BLOCKS SET.

What is your deadline?

What is your best, most realistic estimate of how many hours of knitting this project will take? Think big!

- Write into your calendar (electronic or other) each day you plan to work on this project and for how long.

- The secret here is to make sure you actually have time.
- Make sure your calendar has all your other obligations accounted for.

- Print your calendar or a list or keep your calendar handy.
- Each day, note what you are supposed to be knitting, and stick to that.
- If you miss knitting as scheduled, you need to find that time elsewhere (usually in the future)
- If you do extra knitting, you can take a break!

RUNNING THE RACE.

This is where you stick to your plan.

- You have your plan.
- You are executing.
- Make adjustments as needed, but stick to the plan.
- Check your gauge, your measurements.
- Restrict your social media time during knitting time.
- Record your progress with photos or by making notes.
- Find a knitting buddy. It doesn't have to be another knitter, just someone who is can help by being interested.

APPROACHING THE FINISH LINE.

Are there things that can be done as you go?

- Block pieces as you finish them.
- Work in ends.
- Read ahead and consider the finishing steps.
- Schedule time for blocking and drying.
- Start planning your next project (but don't start yet!).
- Check that your pieces are going to fit together.
- Adjust your schedule.

THE FINISH LINE.

- Make a list of everything left to do.
- Give a time estimate to each item on the list.
- Set aside quiet time for seaming and detail work.
- Check your calendar and make adjustments.
- Go buy anything you need.
- Keep at it even if it seems daunting.
- Plan your reward!