



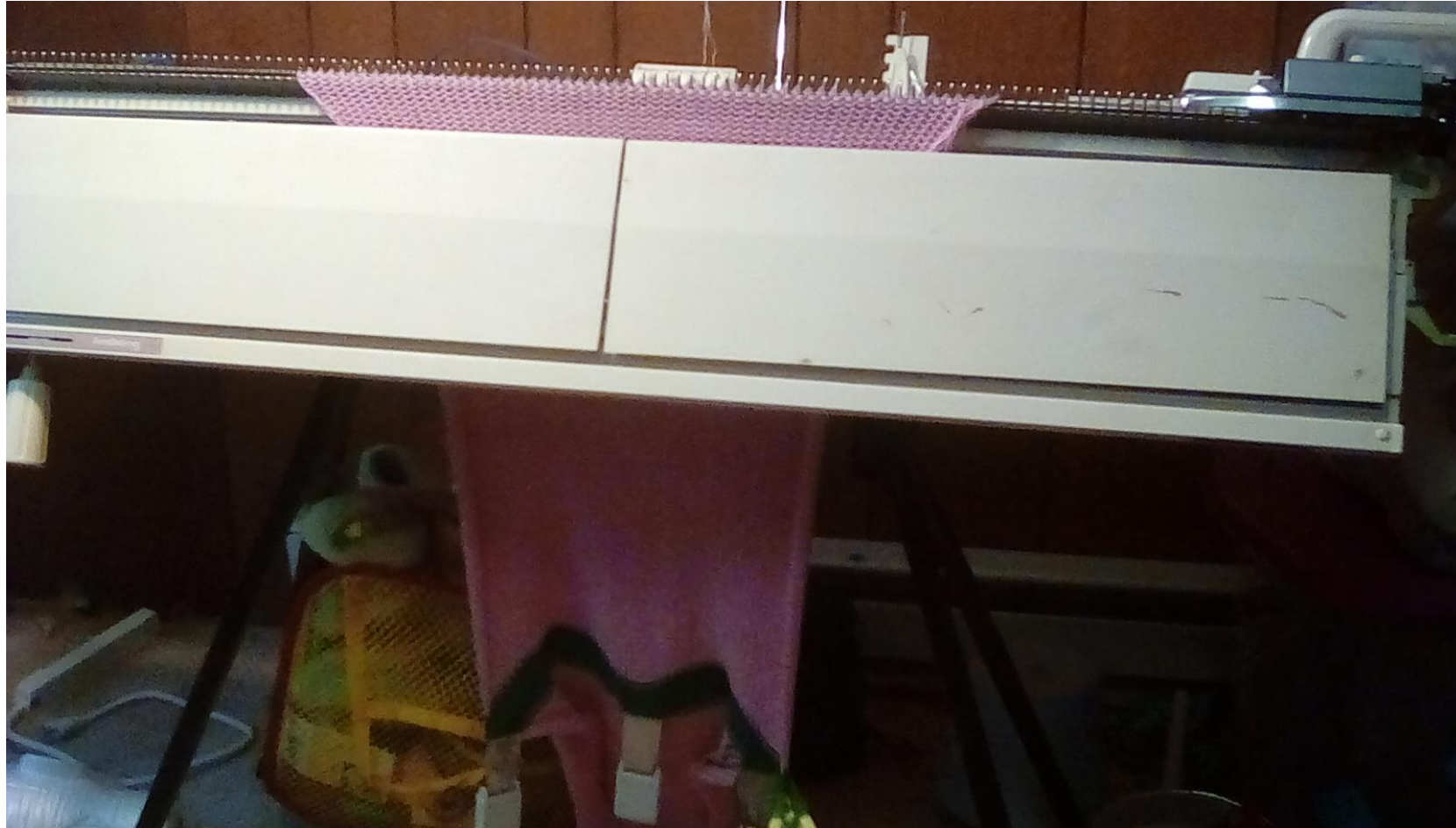
Rhonda Gladden

Sock Blank Dying and Knitting

Hi, I finally decided to show the journey I made with Knitting and Dying Sock Blanks. I had some Merino Super Wash yarn that I decided to use. I had nearly 400 oz so I knew I could knit 4 pairs of socks. This yarn came from Herrschners.



The first step was to knit the yarn doubled on my knitting machine. The reason I doubled the yarn was because I would have 2 strands of yarn dyed exactly the same for a pair of socks. This is a KnitKing 260 Bulky Knitting Machine





Once I finished knitting the sock blanks, it was time to take them out on my deck to dye them using Easter Egg dyes. You can see the division to make 4 designs for the 4 pairs of socks.



I cut those apart to have individual sock blanks to dye.



These were soaked for awhile in my kitchen sink in water and white vinegar prior to dying. The Easter Egg dyes were prepared pretty much like you would to dye eggs. I used water and vinegar in cups.



They were then dyed with Easter Egg Dye using a variety of techniques. This one was just painted with stripes.



This one was just painted with sponges dipped in the dye.



This one was also sort of painted with stripes.



This one was just freehanded with the dye. I used syringes to apply the dye for this one.



The next step was to roll them up in plastic and leave them outside for a few days to let the sun and heat set the dye. I think I left them for about 5 days but that was probably overkill.



Here they all are after being set in the sun.



I then washed them on the handwash setting in my washing machine to make sure all the dye was set. The water in this was pretty clear. The sun had done it's job.



The last step was to knit each sock blank into a pair of socks. These were pairs I knitted for my daughters and I made a pair for myself and my sister. They were all handknitted using the 2 at a time toe up magic loop method.

