

folly skirt.



by stephanie earp

What would you knit if you could knit anything? That's what I asked myself when I became a co-owner of Espace Tricot. One project to celebrate this milestone. I had always wanted to push myself to design stranded Fair Isle style colourwork with more colours than can be counted on one hand. Here was my chance. The Folly skirt is high-waisted, with a sewn-in elastic waistband to hold up the hundreds of grams of yarn securely. It flares gently to the hips, but delivers generous ease in all sizes, and then flares dramatically to the below-the-knee hem. Towards the end, the rounds are lengthy but this project doesn't drag, thanks to the ever-shifting colours and symmetrical charts.

The cohesive palette of La Bien Aimee's Corrie Worsted helped me enormously - it's hard to go wrong with these shades. I also consulted 200 Fair Isle Motifs by Mary Jane Mucklestone & Alice Starmore's Book of Fair Isle Knitting.

Choosing a Size: Select a size that is approx. 2" less than your natural waist, sizing down if you are between sizes. You can finesse the fit by cutting the elastic waistband to fit up to 2" smaller or larger than the knitted opening. Knitting is stretchy, and some negative ease is required for this garment to fit. Sample shown in Size 3, with 28" elastic waistband.

YARN

La Bien Aimee CORRIE WORSTED (75% Falkland Corriedale Wool, 25% Gotland Wool %); 250 y / 230 m; 100 g

10 colours, shown in Avoine, Caramel, Coquelicot, Eric Northman, Lise, Madeleine, Rust, The Shire, Winterfell & Yellow Brick Road.

For yardage requirements, see chart pg. 5.

NEEDLES & NOTIONS

4 mm (US 6) 24, 32 & 60" circular needles
3.5 mm (US 2.5) 24 or 32" circular needles for waistband
stitch marker
1-2 yards 1" wide sewing elastic
Tapestry needle

GAUGE

20 sts & 26 rounds over 4" square in stranded colourwork, after blocking

SIZES & MEASUREMENTS

Waist opening without elastic: 22 (24.25, 26.5, 28.5) (30.75, 33, 35.25, 37.5) (41.5, 44.25, 46.75, 49.5)" / 55 (60.5, 66, 71.5) (77, 82.5, 88, 93.5) (104, 110.5, 117, 123.5) cm

Hip circumference at 8.5" / 21 cm below waist: 42 (46.25, 50.5, 54.75) (58.75, 63, 67.25, 71.5) (73.5, 78.25, 82.75, 87.5)" / 105 (115.5, 126, 136.5) (147, 157.5, 168, 178.5) (184, 195.5, 207, 218.5) cm

Hem circumference: 86 (94.5, 103.25, 111.75, 120.5, 129, 137.5, 146.25) (144, 153, 162, 171)" / 215 (236.5, 258, 279.5) (301, 322.5, 344, 365.5) (360, 382.5, 405, 427.5) cm

Skirt length: 26" / 65 cm

ABBREVIATIONS

k: knit
m1: Sample uses the backwards loop method, but m1L/m1R can be substituted.
p: purl
st(s): stitch(es)

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PATTERN

Skirt is worked entirely from charts, which are broken into 4 sections for ease of layout and reading, but have no breaks between them. Move from one chart to the next without plain rounds between them.

Sizes 1-8 will work the Short Chart Repeat, which begins at 11 sts wide and ends at 43 sts wide. Sizes 9-12 will work the full chart repeat, which begins at 13 sts wide and ends at 45 sts wide.

Charts repeat 10 (11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17) (16, 17, 18, 19) times around.

With larger 24" needles and colour Madeleine, cast on 110 (121, 132, 143, 154, 165, 176, 187) (208, 221, 234, 247) sts. Place marker and join in the round.

Knit 1 round.

Note: Switch to longer needles as required.

Work Chart A.

190 (209, 228, 247, 266, 285, 304, 323) (336, 357, 378, 399) sts.

Work Chart B.

270 (297, 324, 351, 378, 405, 432, 459) (464, 493, 522, 551) sts.

Work Chart C.

390 (429, 468, 507, 546, 585, 624, 663) (656, 697, 738, 779) sts.

Work Chart D.

430 (473, 516, 559, 602, 645, 688, 731) (720, 765, 810, 855) sts.

Break all yarns except Madeleine.

Latvian Braid:

Note: In the two-colour Latvian Braid, yarns are twisted around each other. On smaller circumferences, tutorials for this technique encourage the knitter to leave this twist since it is reversed on the second braid round. Across so many stitches, this approach isn't feasible. Untwist your yarns as needed.

Dianna Walla has an excellent video tutorial here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DAMDr9UKrH0>

Join any two highly contrasting colours. Sample used Yellow Brick Road (MC) and Coquelicot (CC.)

Set Up Round: K1 MC, K1 CC, rep to end.

Braid Round 1: Bring both yarns to front. P1 MC, *bring CC up from under MC, P1 CC, bring MC up from under CC, P1 MC, rep from * to last st, bring CC up from under MC, P1 CC.

Braid Round 2: Bring MC up from under CC, P1 MC, *bring CC up over MC, P1 CC, bring MC up over CC, P1 MC, rep from * to last st, bring CC up over MC, P1 CC.

Break braid yarns.

With Madeleine, bind off all stitches.

Waistband:

With smaller needles, pick up and knit 108 (120, 130, 142, 152, 164, 174, 186) (206, 220, 232, 246) sts around waistband. Place marker and join to work in the round.

Work in stockinette until waistband measures 1" (or width of your elastic.)

Purl 1 round.

Work in stockinette until waistband measures approx. 2" or double the width of your elastic, plus one round.

Bind off all sts leaving a long tail to sew to inside of skirt.

Cut elastic to fit your waist comfortably. It may be up to 2" larger or smaller than circumference of knitted waistband. Hand or machine sew the elastic into a circle.

Place on wrong side of waistband and fold knitted work over it and to the inside. Sew fabric down to waistline, matching to the pick up, sandwiching sewing elastic inside.

Finishing:

Weave in ends. Use steam to block. Sample was lightly pressed with a steam iron to set stitches and eliminate curling at the hem. Avoid wet blocking and washing if possible, due to the possibility of stretching from the weight of the garment. Spot clean when needed, and dry clean if necessary.



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CHART B

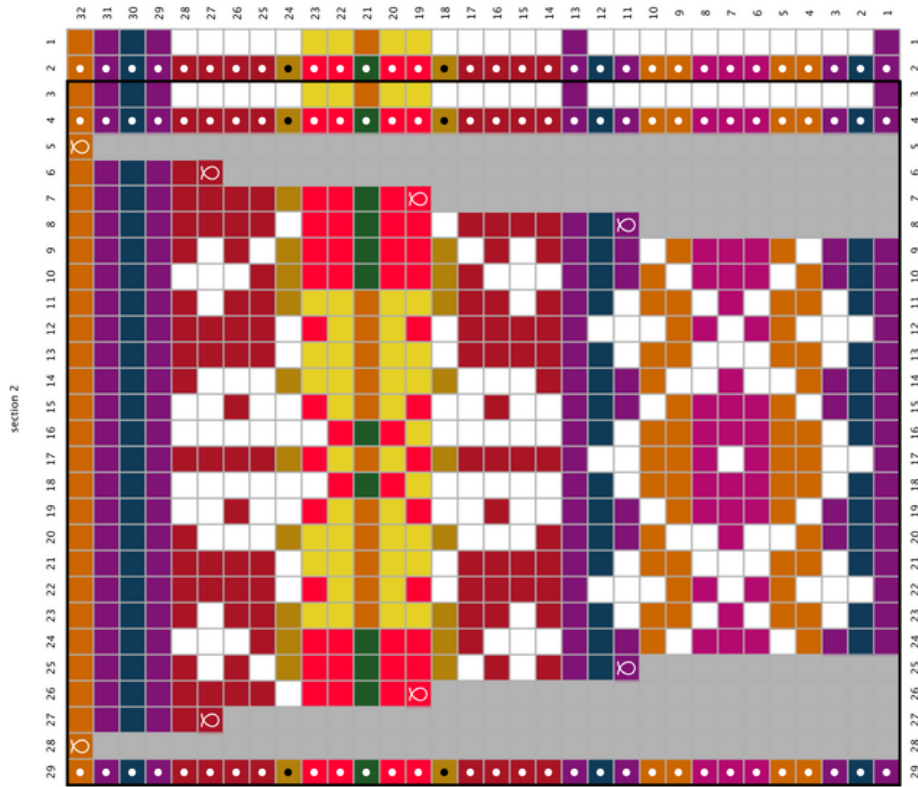
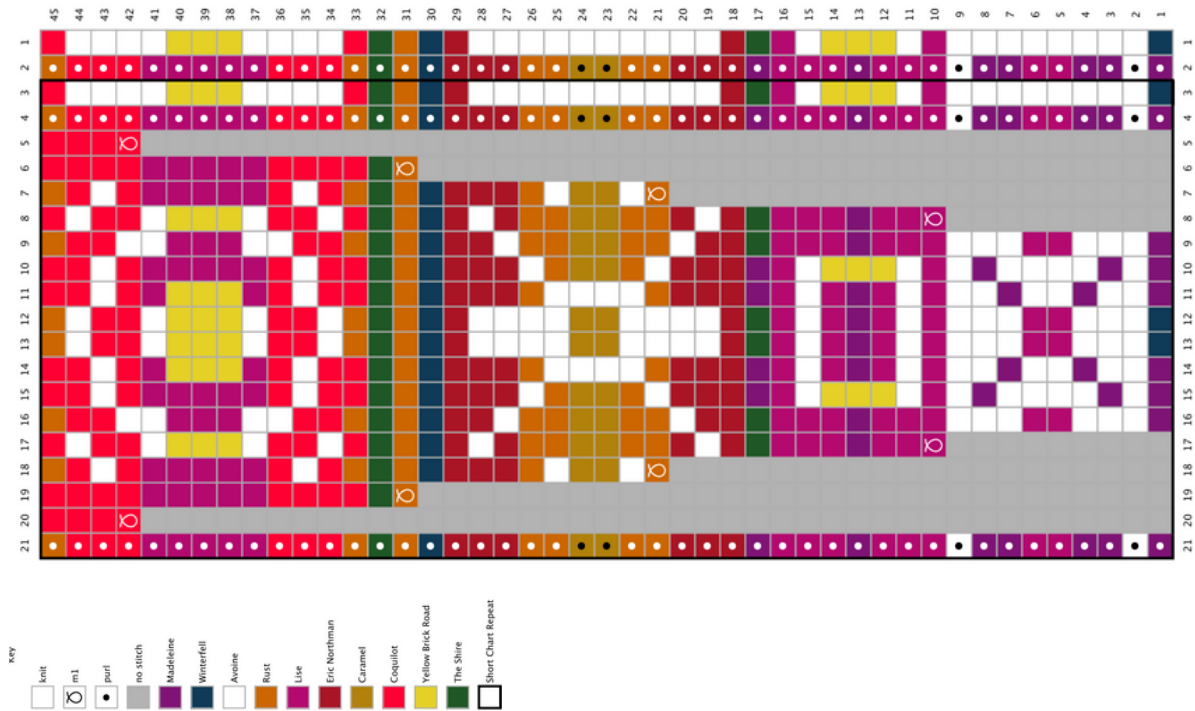


CHART A



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CHART C



CHART D



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YARDAGE REQUIREMENTS

Size:	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Caramel	50 y/46 m	50 y/46 m	75 y/69 m	75 y/69 m	75 y/69 m	75 y/69 m	75 y/69 m	75 y/69 m	75 y/69 m	100 y/91 m	100 y/91 m	100 y/91 m
Rust	75 y/69 m	75 y/69 m	100 y/91 m	100 y/91 m	100 y/91 m	100 y/91 m	125 y/114 m	125 y/114 m	125 y/114 m	125 y/114 m	125 y/114 m	150 y/137 m
Eric Northman	75 y/69 m	100 y/91 m	125 y/114 m	150 y/137 m	150 y/137 m	150 y/137 m	150 y/137 m	175 y/160 m	175 y/160 m	200 y/183 m	200 y/183 m	200 y/183 m
The Shire	100 y/91 m	100 y/91 m	100 y/91 m	125 y/114 m	125 y/114 m	125 y/114 m	150 y/137 m	150 y/137 m	200 y/183 m	200 y/183 m	200 y/183 m	175 y/160 m
Lise	100 y/91 m	125 y/114 m	125 y/114 m	125 y/114 m	150 y/137 m	150 y/137 m	150 y/137 m	175 y/160 m	175 y/160 m	175 y/160 m	175 y/160 m	200 y/183 m
Coquelicot	125 y/114 m	125 y/114 m	150 y/137 m	150 y/137 m	175 y/160 m	175 y/160 m	175 y/160 m	200 y/183 m	200 y/183 m	200 y/183 m	200 y/183 m	225 y/206 m
Yellow Brick Road	150 y/137 m	150 y/137 m	175 y/160 m	175 y/160 m	200 y/183 m	200 y/183 m	225 y/206 m	225 y/206 m	225 y/206 m	250 y/229 m	250 y/229 m	275 y/251 m
Winterfell	150 y/137 m	150 y/137 m	175 y/160 m	200 y/183 m	200 y/183 m	225 y/206 m	225 y/206 m	250 y/229 m	250 y/229 m	250 y/229 m	250 y/229 m	275 y/251 m
Madeleine	200 y/183 m	200 y/183 m	225 y/206 m	250 y/229 m	250 y/229 m	275 y/251 m	300 y/ 264 m	325 y/297 m	325 y/264 m	325 y/297 m	325 y/297 m	375 y/343 m
Avoine	200 y/183 m	275 y/251 m	275 y/251 m	300 y/ 264 m	325 y/297 m	350 y/320m	375 y/343 m	400 y/366 m	400 y/366 m	425 y/329 m	425 y/329 m	450 y/412 m