The knitter

New Year style!
13 MODERN DESIGNS
MUST-HAVE TOPS, CARDIGANS & SWEATERS FOR YOU



Colourwork cardigan by Mary Henderson

Beautiful
WINTER LUXURY
Elegant and cosy knits using Fair Isle, cables & textured patterns





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Issue 223

Our New Year collection brings you beautiful projects for winter using elegant stitches and special yarns! Cardigans are the star of the show, and include a lace & bobble design by Sanna Mård Castman, a long colourwork jacket, a modern lace cardigan, and a blue and white Fair Isle design. We have an acorn-patterned waistcoat from Lisa Richardson, while smaller projects include a Fair Isle headband, socks and a hot water bottle cosy.

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The Knitter

Issue 223













Patterns

8 SARAH HATTON
Aubazine
Textured raglan cardigan

26 MARY HENDERSON
Hjaltland
Fair Isle hot water bottle cosy

29 CAROLINE BIRKETT
Stay Cosy Socks
Chunky lace & cable socks

37 LISA RICHARDSON
Bowthorpe
Colourwork waistcoat

42 OUTI KATER
Chouette
Mock honeycomb cowl

45 LISA RICHARDSON
Gabor
Colourwork poncho

48 MARY HENDERSON
Torhild
Colourwork cardigan

55 ALISON RENDALL
Hevda Headband
Fair Isle headband

62 SANNA MÅRD CASTMAN
Wilma
Lace and bobble cardigan

73 SIRDAR
Diamond Cable Cardigan
Balloon-sleeve cardigan

77 DROPS DESIGN
Edge of the Woods
Sweaters for men & boys

PLUS CHLOÉ ELIZABETH BIRCH
Cottage Core
Long colourwork cardigan

Contents















Good reads

14 THE KNITTER LOVES
News, products, patterns and books to inspire you

58 ALISON RENDALL
We meet the Shetlander sharing Fair Isle traditions

68 WILD WOOLERS
Meet the team producing rare-breed handspun yarns

90 ADVENTURES IN FARMING
Graeme of Caithness Yarns brings us tales from his farm

Expertise

32 YARN REVIEWS
We test the latest yarns for your seasonal knitting

34 BOOK REVIEWS
Our favourite knitting books

70 MASTERCLASS
How to create a neater finish when picking up stitches

88 INFORMATION
Essential abbreviations, pattern corrections and stockist details

Plus...

24 SUBSCRIBE UK
Choose your KnitPro needle set when you subscribe!

84 DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTIONS
Save £££s and get instant access to *The Knitter* from anywhere in the world!

85 NEXT MONTH
What's inside Issue 224

86 BACK ISSUES
How to access the patterns in *The Knitter*'s archives



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Our featured designers

ISSUE 223



Sanna Mård Castman

Swedish designer Sanna has been working in knitwear design since leaving school, and she loves to explore cables and lace patterns and to incorporate beautiful details into her knits. Turn to **p62** for her elegantly textured cardigan design, 'Wilma'.



Mary Henderson

Mary is passionate about traditional Scottish knitting patterns, and is much admired for her intricate Fair Isle designs and delicate lace. This month, she has designed a colourwork cardigan inspired by classic 'willow pattern' plates, on **p48**.



Caroline Birkett

Caroline has a degree in textile design and a postgraduate diploma in knitwear design. Formerly head of design for a luxury knitwear brand, she now produces handknit patterns. Turn to **p29** to find her chunky socks with a lace and cable pattern.



Lisa Richardson

Yorkshire-based designer Lisa trained in pattern cutting and tailoring, and has been creating knitting patterns for Rowan for almost 20 years. Her latest design for us is a chic colourwork waistcoat knitted in Rowan's Felted Tweed. Find it on **p37**.

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SARAH HATTON

Aubazine

This neat raglan cardigan has interesting textured details

Aubazine



SARAH HATTON

Aubazine

SIZE

	1	2	3	4	5	6	
TO FIT BUST	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127	132-137	cm
	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50	52-54	in
ACTUAL BUST	111	122½	134	141½	153	160½	cm
	43¾	48¼	52¾	55¾	60¼	63¼	in
ACTUAL LENGTH	49	51½	53½	56	57½	59	cm
	19¼	20¼	21	22	22¾	23¼	in
SLEEVE SEAM	46	46	47	48	48	49	cm
	18	18	18½	19	19	19¼	in

YARN

West Yorkshire Spinners Morris DK (DK weight; 50% Bluefaced Leicester wool, 25% Bluefaced Kerry Hill wool, 25% Masham wool; 112m/122yds per 50g skein)

YEW (1282)	9	10	11	12	13	15	x50g SKEINS

THIS PRETTY cardigan has a deep textured panel around the lower body, with patterned bands around the cuffs and along the raglans. The sleeves are knitted first, followed by the body, then the pieces are joined to work the upper body. The garment is knitted in Morris DK, a beautiful blend of British wools from West Yorkshire Spinners. It comes in 20 shades inspired by the work of Arts & Crafts pioneer William Morris.

SLEEVES

(both alike)

Using 3.25mm DPNs and the long-tail method, cast on 51 (51:53:53:55:55) sts. Pm and join to work in the round, taking care not to twist sts.

Rnd 1: Knit.
Rnd 2: Purl.
Rnds 3 and 4: As rnds 1 and 2.

Change to 4mm needles.
Rnd 5: K1 (1:2:2:3:3), *K4, (K1, yo, K1) into next st, K3; rep from * to last 2 (2:3:3:4:4) sts, K to end.
Rnd 6: P1 (1:2:2:3:3), *K1, P3, K1, P1, K1, P3; rep from * to last 2 (2:3:3:4:4) sts, K1, P1 (1:2:2:3:3).
Rnd 7: P1 (1:2:2:3:3), *K1, P2, K2tog, yo, P1, yo, K2tog tbl, P2; rep from * to last 2 (2:3:3:4:4) sts, K1, P1 (1:2:2:3:3).
Rnd 8: P1 (1:2:2:3:3), *K1, P2, K1, P3, K1, P2; rep from * to last 2 (2:3:3:4:4) sts, K1, P1 (1:2:2:3:3).
Rnd 9: P1 (1:2:2:3:3), *K1, P1, K2tog, yo, P3tog, yo, K2tog tbl, P1; rep from * to last 2 (2:3:3:4:4) sts, K1, P1 (1:2:2:3:3).
Rnd 10: P1 (1:2:2:3:3), *K1, P1, K1, P3, K1, P1; rep from * to last 2 (2:3:3:4:4) sts, K1, P1 (1:2:2:3:3).
Rnds 11 to 14: Rep rnd 10 another 4 times.
Rnds 15 to 18: Rep rnds 1 and 2 twice.
Knit 2 rounds.

Next rnd: K2, M1L, knit to last 2 sts, M1R, K2. 2 sts inc'd.
This round sets stocking stitch and sleeve increases. Inc as set on 4 (1:12:4:7:16) foll 8th (6th:6th:4th:4th:4th) rnds to 61 (55:79:63:71:89) sts, then on every foll 10th (8th:8th:6th:6th:6th) rnd to 75 (79:87:93:97:103) sts.

Cont in st st without shaping until sleeve meas 46 (46:47:48:48:49) cm.

Next rnd: K6 (7:9:10:12:13) sts and leave on a holder for underarm, knit to last 6 (7:9:10:12:13) sts and leave these sts on a holder for underarm.
Leave rem 63 (65:69:73:73:77) sts on a separate holder to join to body.

BODY

Using 3.25mm circular needles, 80-120cm long and the long-tail method, cast on 227 (251:275:291:315:331) sts. Do not join.
Knit 4 rows.

Change to 4mm circular needles, 80-120cm long.

Row 1 (RS): K1, *K4, (K1, yo, K1) into next st, K3; rep from * to last 2 sts, K2.
Row 2: K1, P1, *K3, P1, K1, P1, K3, P1; rep from * last st, K1.
Row 3: P1, *K1, P2, K2tog, yo, P1, yo, K2tog tbl, P2; rep from * to last 2 sts, K1, P1.
Row 4: K1, P1, *K2, P1, K3, P1, K2, P1; rep from * to last st, K1.
Row 5: P1, *K1, P1, K2tog, yo, P3tog, yo, K2tog tbl, P1; rep from * to last 2 sts, K1, P1.
Row 6: K1, P1, *K1, P1, K3, P1, K1, P1; rep from * to last st, K1.
Row 7: P1, *K1, P1, K1, P3, K1, P1; rep from * to last 2 sts, K1, P1.
Rows 8 and 9: Rep rows 6 and 7.
Row 10: Rep row 6.
Rows 11 to 14: Knit.
These 14 rows set patt.
Rep these 14 rows 4 more times, ending with RS facing for next row.

Beg with a knit row, cont in st st until work meas 29 (29:29:30:31:32) cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

JOIN BODY AND SLEEVE

Next row (RS): K50 (55:59:62:66:69) of Body sts, leave next 12 (14:18:20:24:26) sts on a holder for underarm, knit across 63 (65:69:73:73:77) sts from Sleeve holder, K103 (113:121:127:135:141) from Body sts, leave next 12 (14:18:20:24:26) sts on a holder for underarm, knit across 63 (65:69:73:73:77) sts from Sleeve holder, K50 (55:59:62:66:69) of Body sts.

329 (353:377:397:413:433) sts.

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NEEDLES & ACCESSORIES

3.25mm (UK 10/US 3) circular needles, 80-120cm long
Set of 3.25mm (UK 10/US 3) double-pointed needles (DPNs)
4mm (UK 8/US 6) circular needles, 80-120cm long
Set of 4mm (UK 8/US 6) DPNs
Stitch holders
Stitch markers, 4 each in two distinct colours/types
6 (6:6:7:7:7) x 20mm buttons

TENSION

21 sts and 31 rows to 10cm over st st on 4mm needles

YARN STOCKISTS

West Yorkshire Spinners 01535 664500
www.wyspinners.com

For general abbreviations, see p88

BLOCKING DIAGRAM





sleeve raglan, P1, K5, P1, place red marker for body raglan, P47 (52:56:59:63:66).

SHAPE RAGLAN

Size 1 only

Row 1: *Knit to 2 sts before red mrk, K2tog, slm, K1, P2, (K1, yo, K1) into next st, P2, K1, slm, K2tog tbl, knit to 2 sts before blue mrk, K2tog, slm, K1, P2, (K1, yo, K1) into next st, P2, K1, slm, K2tog tbl; rep from * once more, K to end.
4 sts dec'd at both body and sleeve raglans.
Row 2: *Purl to 2 sts before red mrk, P2tog tbl, slm, P1, K2, P1, K1, P1, K2, P1, slm, purl to blue mrk, slm, P1, K2, P1, K1, P1, K2, P1, slm, P2tog; rep from * once more, P to end.
4 sts dec'd at body raglans.
Row 3: *Knit to 2 sts before red mrk, K2tog, slm, K1, P1, K2tog, yo, P1, yo, K2tog tbl, P1, K1, slm, knit to blue mrk, slm, K1, P1, K2tog, yo, P1, yo, K2tog tbl, P1, K1, slm, K2tog tbl; rep from * once more, K to end.
4 sts dec'd at both body and sleeve raglans.
Row 4: *Purl to 2 sts before red mrk, P2tog tbl, slm, P1, K1, P1, K3, P1, K1, P1, slm, purl to blue mrk, slm, P1, K1, P1, K3, P1, K1, P1, slm, P2tog; rep from * once more, P to end.
4 sts dec'd at body raglans.
Row 5: *Knit to 2 sts before red mrk, K2tog, slm, K1, P1, K1, P3tog, K1, P1, K1, slm, K2tog tbl, knit to 2 sts before blue mrk, K2tog, slm, K1, P1, K1, P3tog, K1, P1, K1, slm, K2tog tbl; rep from * once more, K to end.
4 sts dec'd at both body and sleeve raglans.
Row 6: *Purl to 2 sts before red mrk, P2tog tbl, slm, (P1, K1) 3 times, P1, slm, purl to blue mrk, slm, (P1, K1) 3 times, P1, slm, P2tog; rep from * once more, P to end.
4 sts dec'd at body raglans.
Row 7: *Knit to 2 sts before red mrk, K2tog, slm, K1, P5, K1, slm, K2tog tbl, knit to 2 sts before blue mrk, K2tog, slm, K1, P5, K1, slm, K2tog tbl; rep from * once more, K to end.
4 sts dec'd at body and sleeve raglans.
Row 8: *Purl to red mrk, slm, P1, K5, P1, slm, purl to blue mrk, slm, P1, K5, P1, slm; rep from * once more, P to end.
These 8 rows set pattern up centre of raglan and raglan decreases.
285 (-:-:-:-:-) sts.

Sizes 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 only

Row 1 (RS): *Knit to 2 sts before red mrk, K2tog, slm, K1, P2, (K1, yo, K1) into next st, P2, K1, slm, K2tog tbl, knit to 2 sts before blue mrk, K2tog, slm, K1, P2, (K1, yo, K1) into next st, P2, K1, slm, K2tog tbl; rep from * once more, K to end.
4 sts dec'd at both body and sleeve raglans.
Row 2: *Purl to 2 sts before red mrk, P2tog tbl, slm, P1, K2, P1, K1, P1, K2, P1, slm, purl to blue mrk, slm, P1, K2, P1, K1, P1, K2, P1, slm, P2tog; rep from * once more, P to end.
4 sts dec'd at body raglans.
Row 3: *Knit to 2 sts before red mrk, K2tog, slm, K1, P1, K2tog, yo, P1, yo, K2tog tbl, P1, K1, slm, knit to blue mrk, slm, K1, P1, K2tog, yo, P1, yo, K2tog tbl, P1, K1, slm, K2tog tbl; rep from * once more, K to end.
4 sts dec'd at both body and sleeve raglans.
Row 4: *Purl to 2 sts before red mrk, P2tog tbl, slm, P1, K1, P1, K3, P1, K1, P1, slm, purl to blue mrk, slm, P1, K1, P1, K3, P1, K1, P1, slm, P2tog; rep from * once more, P to end.
4 sts dec'd at body raglans.
Row 5: *Knit to 2 sts before red mrk, K2tog, slm, K1, P1, K1, P3tog, K1, P1, K1, slm, K2tog tbl; rep from * once more, K to end.

Next row (WS): P47 (52:56:59:63:66) sts, place red marker for body raglan, P1, K5, P1, place blue marker for sleeve raglan, P55 (57:61:65:65:69), place blue marker for sleeve raglan, P1, K5, P1, place red marker for body raglan, P97 (107:115:121:129:135), place red marker for body raglan, P1, K5, P1, place blue marker for sleeve raglan, P55 (57:61:65:65:69), place blue marker for

Aubazine

K2tog tbl, knit to 2 sts before blue mrk, K2tog, slm, K1, P1, K1, P3tog, K1, P1, K1, slm, K2tog tbl; rep from * once more, K to end.
4 sts dec'd at both body and sleeve raglans.
Row 6: *Purl to 2 sts before red mrk, P2tog tbl, slm, (P1, K1) 3 times, P1, slm, purl to blue mrk, slm, (P1, K1) 3 times, P1, slm, P2tog; rep from * once more, P to end.
4 sts dec'd at body raglans.
Row 7: *Knit to 2 sts before red mrk, K2tog, slm, K1, P5, K1, slm, knit to blue mrk, slm, K1, P5, K1, slm, K2tog tbl; rep from * once more, K to end.
4 sts dec'd at body raglans.
Row 8: *Purl to 2 sts before red mrk, P2tog tbl, slm, P1, K5, P1, slm, purl to blue mrk, slm, P1, K5, P1, slm, P2tog; rep from * once more, P to end.
4 sts dec'd at body raglans.
These 8 rows set pattern up centre of raglan and raglan decreases.
32 body and 8 sleeve sts dec'd.
- (313:337:357:373:393) sts.

Note: when counting sts below, assume raglan sts between markers are 7 sts throughout.
Work - (4:8:8:12:8) more rows as set, dec 1 st at body raglans of every row and at sleeve raglans of next row and - (0:1:1:2:1) foll 4th rows.
- (16:32:32:48:32) body sts and -(4:8:8:12:8) sleeve sts dec'd; - (293:297:317:313:353) sts.

Sizes 1, 2, 4 ,5 and 6 only
Work 4 (4:-:2:2:10) rows, dec 1 st at body raglans of every row and at sleeve raglans of next row and 1 (1:-:0:0:4) foll RS rows.
16 (16:-:8:8:40) body sts and 8 (8:-:4:4:20) sleeve sts dec'd; 261 (269:-:305:301:293) sts.

All sizes
Work 18 (20:26:26:24:22) rows, dec 1 st at body and sleeve raglans in next row and 8 (9:12:12:11:10) foll RS rows.
36 (40:52:52:48:44) body and sleeve sts dec'd; 189 (189:193:201:205:205) sts.

SHAPE FRONT NECK

Next row: Cast off 10 (9:10:9:10:10) sts, working decreases at body and sleeve raglans as set, patt to end.
171 (172:175:184:187:187) sts.
Next row: Cast off 10 (9:10:9:10:10) sts, patt to end.
161 (163:165:175:177:177) sts.

Work 4 rows, dec 1 st at neck edge of every row and AT THE SAME TIME dec 1 st at body and sleeve raglans on next row and foll RS row.
137 (139:141:151:153:153) sts.

Work 8 (8:8:10:10:10) rows, dec 1 st at neck edge of next row and 3 (3:3:4:4:4) foll RS rows and AT THE SAME TIME dec 1 st at body and sleeve raglans on next row and 3 (3:3:4:4:4) foll RS rows.
97 (99:101:101:103:103) sts.
Cast off rem sts.

MAKING UP

NECKBAND

Using 3.25mm circular needles, with RS facing, pick up and knit 19 (19:20:21:23:23) sts up right front neck edge, 93 (95:97:97:99:99) sts from cast-off edge and 19 (19:20:21:23:23) sts down left front neck edge.
131 (133:137:139:145:145) sts.

Knit 9 rows.
Cast off kwise on WS.

BUTTONHOLE BAND

Using 3.25mm needles, with RS facing, pick up and knit 93 (97:102:105:111:117) sts evenly up right front edge and neckband.
Knit 3 rows.
Next row: K4 (3:3:4:4:4), *cast off 2 sts (1 st rem on RH needle), K14 (15:16:13:14:15); rep from * 4 (4:4:5:5:5) more times, cast off 2 sts, K to end.
Next row: Knit to end, casting on 2 sts over each gap from previous row.
Knit 4 rows, ending with WS facing for next row.
Cast off kwise on WS.

BUTTON BAND

Using 3.25mm needles, with RS facing, pick up and knit 93 (97:102:105:111:117) sts evenly down left front edge and neckband.
Knit 9 rows, ending with WS facing for next row.
Cast off kwise on WS.

FINISHING

Using Kitchener stitch, graft together sts at underarm.

Weave in ends and block gently to measurements, following any yarn care instructions on the ball band.
Sew on buttons.

The textured pattern around the lower body is also used along the raglans

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...ideas, websites, patterns, events, inspiration and more!

NEW YEAR SHOWS

Kick-start a year of knitting adventure with a visit to one of the great yarn festivals taking place in January and February! First up is Waltham Abbey Wool Show on Sunday 18th January. This curated show has a fantastic line-up of indie dyers including Madrigal Yarns, An Caitín Beag, RiverKnits and Kettle Yarn Co. **walthamabbeywoolshow.co.uk**

Unravel is a must-visit festival for knitters in the south of England. Being held in Farnham on 13-15 February, the organisers have put together their biggest workshop programme to date, and you'll be able to meet an incredible array of artisan yarn brands, hand dyers and designers. **bit.ly/unravelfest**

Head to Blackpool on 14-15 February for the North West Winter Wool Festival, a cosy weekend of woolly fun with more than 50 exhibitors including Catlow Yarns, Kath Andrews, Bow Fiddle Yarns and many more. There'll also be inspiring workshops to enjoy. **northwestwinterwoolfestival.co.uk**

Knitters in the South-West can discover a wealth of beautiful yarns at Kernow YAFF. This brilliant show is being held on 22 February at the Royal Cornwall Showground in Wadebridge, and visitors will be able to explore special yarns and crafting treats from Cornwall, Devon, Somerset and beyond. **kernowyaff.com**





Paint with yarn *Six new hand-painted artisan shades have joined The Fibre Co.'s &Make Super Bulky range* **£15.20 per 100g from purlescence.com**

King Cole's newest pattern releases for its Merino Blend DK yarn combine Aran motifs with modern shapes. They include design 6433, a richly cabled cardigan and slipover, and design 6431, a beautiful V-neck Aran cardigan.
Find stockists at www.kingcole.com









UNDYED ELEGANCE

Along Avec Anna, the Exeter-based yarn brand run by French designer Anna Dervout, has launched a lovely new range of undyed alpaca-blend yarns. They include Light Softie, an aran-weight bouclé yarn spun from superfine alpaca and pima cotton which comes in natural light grey and a warm brown. The luxurious Alpaca/Silk/Cashmere is available in 4ply and DK weights and three delicate tones, and Alpaca/Cotton is a heavy DK weight. All the yarns are non superwash, cruelty-free and Oeko Tex 100 standard.
www.alongavecanna.com





The Art of the Sea

from Laine

To celebrate the 80th anniversary of the Moomins, Finnish publisher Laine has issued a spectacular collection of 23 knitting patterns inspired by these much-loved books and the life of their author, Tove Jansson. The projects evoke Moominvalley, with its seas and mountains, pine forests and rugged beaches.

There are pieces inspired by Tove herself, such as a collared pullover by Fiona Alice, and a painter's jacket with a sailor collar based on a garment Tove often wore. Colourwork designs include a sweater decorated with wildflowers, a floral yoked jumper, and a relaxed sweater embroidered with clouds.

'Moomellow' is a saddle-shoulder cable sweater, and 'Aalokko' is a V-neck jumper with delicate, wavy stripes. There's an airy blouse, a cosy poncho, a floral scarf, and a reversible gilet with a Moominmamma motif on the back that's worked in double knitting.

Digital book €36.99 from lainepublishing.com
Hardback stocked by selected UK yarn shops

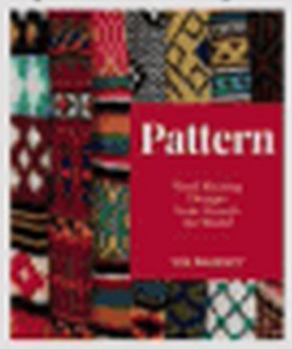


NEW BOOKS

Our pick of the best pattern collections and e-books

PATTERN

by Sue Bradley



Sue Bradley explores traditional motifs from 10 countries, including India, Tibet, Latvia, Peru and Indonesia, in this inspirational book. It is packed with colourwork charts that can be used to create your own colourful designs, along with simple garment and accessory patterns to use as templates for your creativity.

£25, The Crowood Press

SOLACE: STITCHES OF COMFORT

by Irina Anikeeva



With 22 knitting projects designed to soothe both hands and spirit, this book is filled with intricate stitch patterns and elegant shapes. There are sweaters, cardigans and tops with breathtaking lace and cable patterns, sophisticated shawl projects, contemporary colourwork tops, and two stylish hat designs. Garments are sized to fit busts of 28in-66in.

€34 for e-book from Ravelry.com

SAND & SEA MIST

by Anna Johanna



This sweet accessories collection from Finnish designer Anna Johanna comprises a pair of mittens, a hat and a long cowl, inspired by misty coastal mornings. All three pieces feature an attractive two-colour thorn stitch pattern; the cowl, which is knitted seamlessly, also incorporates striping.

€18.90; ravelry.com/patterns/sources/sand--sea-mist

The Knitter loves...

Soft Spectrum

by Sirdar

Cast on warm and fluffy knitwear to snuggle up in this winter with Sirdar's new Soft Down, a brushed yarn that gives a lightweight, downy fabric. The design team at Sirdar has put together a collection of patterns using Soft Down, called *Soft Spectrum*, with a focus on vibrant colour and subtle texture.

Among the designs is an oversized sweater with a delicate textured pattern on the body and thick rope cables on the sleeves. The 'Cosy Days' open cardigan has balloon sleeves and is knitted in a seed stitch rib, and 'Fluffy Little Cardigan' is a V-neck design worked in fishermen's rib with i-cord trims.

There's a classic high-neck raglan sweater and a versatile vest for winter layering, a roll-neck striped sweater, a drop-sleeve sweater with a bold diagonal intarsia stripe pattern, plus a striped hat and scarf set. Garments are sized to fit busts of 28-54in.

Soft Down is a DK-weight blend of brushed wool and acrylic which comes in 100g/343m balls and 16 modern shades.

£3.50 for PDF patterns or £4 for printed patterns from www.sirdar.com. Complete knitting kits are also available









VERSATILE VESTS *Three stylish new waistcoat designs*



CAROLINA GILET

by Georgia Farrell

Price £14.25 as part of the Rowan pattern collection *Magazine 78*.

www.knitrowan.com



BRACKEN

by TinCanKnits

Price $9 for a PDF pattern.

www.tincanknits.com



SPECKLEDY WAISTCOAT

by Tracy Birch

Price Available as a knitting kit costing from £27; single-colour or three-colour options available.

www.ukalpaca.com

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• Darning Needle Set

[339]

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Needle sizes:
No. 13, 17, 20



• Jumbo Darning Needle Set

[340]

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Needle size:
ø2.50 × 70.0 mm



• Darning Needle Set *(Bent tip)*

[3121]

A darning needle set in a cute knitting needle shaped case.

Needle sizes:
No. 15(2 pcs.), No. 17(1 pc.)



• Lace Darning Needle Set

[3168]

Easy and convenient carrying case with a screw on cap stores needles neatly.

Needle sizes:
No. 20, 22 (Bent tip) / No. 24



• Darning Needles with Latch Hook Eye

[3160]

Hook allows for easy threading ofmulti-ply and bulky yarns.



— Our Products —

Artistic delights from Marina Skua

Marina Skua is known for her elegant handknits designs and hand-dyed British wool yarns. She is also a talented artist, and has produced a range of beautiful pen and ink illustrations inspired by wool and nature, which are available as A5 art prints or as greetings cards – perfect for posting to your best knitting friends! They cost £3.50 per card or £9 for a pack of three, with the art prints costing £6 each.

Marina has also launched a limited-edition yarn, spun from Zwartbles wool that is sourced locally from a single flock in Wiltshire and spun in Dorset. Zwartbles DK is available in an undyed rich chocolate shade, and costs £24 per 100g/195m skein.

marinaskua.com







Sock joy! Create sumptuously soft handknits for your feet with Rico's new Luxury Alpaca Socks yarn

£15.99 per 100g/380m ball from www.blacksheepwools.com

Find sweet **baby knits** in our online pattern store, gatheredshop.com. Designs include an heirloom bonnet, a sailor-themed romper, cuddly toys, blankets, bunting, and a set of knitted baby blocks decorated with colourwork and textured patterns.

Patterns from £3; gatheredshop.com





OMBRE TRENDS

Create stunning, dip-dyed effects with Stylecraft's new Horizon yarn. Each 200g 'cake' features a single colour gradient that evolves from rich, deep tones to the lightest tints of the same colour. Horizon is a chunky blend of wool and acrylic and costs £11.60 per 360m cake. Accompanying the new yarn is a choice of contemporary patterns for winter layering, including raglan sweaters, tops, hats and scarves, and a side-buttoned tabard.

www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk

Stitches on screen

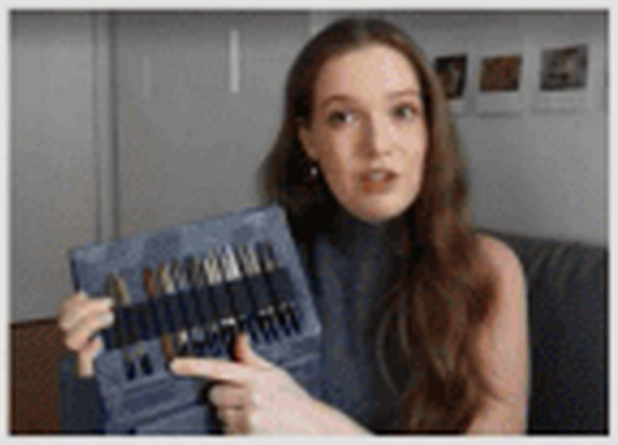
The best online knitting videos



STEEK WITH SUSAN

Susan Crawford demonstrates how to steek the armhole of a Fair Isle project

bit.ly/susansteek



BOOST YOUR KNITTING

Orsa Makes reveals the ten tools that helped to make her a better knitter

bit.ly/orsatools



MAKING YARNS

Jonna Helin shares the story behind the new Laine x Novita yarn collection

bit.ly/lainewys



KNITTING PODCASTS

KnitCheek picks out her favourite new knitting channels to watch and enjoy

bit.ly/lovelydaypods

Yarn Pile

International Yarns... Locally

King Cole Cherish/Cherished

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www.yarnpile.co.uk

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COSY WINTER KNITS





Felted Tweed Soft Collection

by Rowan

This lovely collection of patterns introduces Felted Tweed Soft, Rowan's newest yarn. It has the same fibre mix as Felted Tweed, but is airblown to give an incredibly lofty feel.

The pattern book has 12 designs by Martin Storey, Lisa Richardson, Georgia Farrell and Chloe Thurlow. Gorgeous winter colourwork knits include a playful yoked sweater and bobble hat, a cardigan inspired by traditional Welsh blankets, a striped raglan sweater and a short-sleeved colourblocked cardigan.

There's a long scarf with a twill-like pattern worked in four colours, and the 'Corduroy' scarf knitted in moss stitch stripes.

Wear-with-everything pieces include a classic stocking stitch jumper which can be knitted with a round or V neck, a plain yoked sweater, a cabled tank top and coordinating V-neck cardigan, and a gilet that has blanket stitch embroidery around the edges.

To order a copy for £10.50 or to find stockist details, visit www.knitrowan.com



Q&A

Helen Spedding suggests an easy way to swatch in the round

Q Is there a simple way to swatch in the round? Knitting a small tube to check my gauge is rather fiddly!

A You should always swatch in the round if your project is worked in the round, because your knit stitches and your purl stitches are likely to be slightly different sizes – resulting in tension inconsistencies.

We like the loop method, which is a bit like working an i-cord – you knit across the row, then slide your stitches to the other end of your needle and knit across again, leaving long loops of yarn at the back of the work.

Using circular needles or DPNs, cast on enough stitches to make a generous-sized swatch – at least one and a half times your desired gauge over 10cm.

Knit to the end of the first row, but do not turn the work. Slide the stitches back to the other end of the needle.

❶ Bring the working yarn across the back of the work, leaving a long, loose strand. Knit to the end of the next row, making sure the yarn strand at the back of the work remains loose. Repeat until your swatch is the size you want, then cast off.

❷ You'll be left with a flat stocking stitch swatch that has lots of loose ends across the WS.





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www.tirglas.co.uk

The Knitter loves...

EVENTS GUIDE

Workshops, yarn shows & holidays to inspire your knitting



WORKSHOPS

12 JANUARY
Carlisle
Kaffe Fassett Lecture: An Eye for Colour
tullie.org.uk/events/kaffe-fassett-an-eye-for-colour/

12 JANUARY – 9 FEBRUARY
London
Knitting of the British Isles at the V&A Academy
vam.ac.uk

12 JANUARY – 9 MARCH
Online
Tempting Textures and Reversible Stitch Patterns Knitalong with Emma Vining
theloomshed.com

17 JANUARY
Loughborough
Fair Isle Knitting
beingknitterly.co.uk

21 JANUARY
Chesterblade, Somerset
Colourwork Wristwarmers
allabouttheyarn.co.uk
01749 880440

25 JANUARY
London
Stranded Colourwork Knitting
wildandwoollyshop.co.uk
020 8985 5231

1 FEBRUARY
London
Assigned Pooling
wildandwoollyshop.co.uk
020 8985 5231



7 FEBRUARY
Loughborough
Modular Knitting with Nicki Merrall
beingknitterly.co.uk

14 FEBRUARY
Warrington
Fair Isle and Continental Knitting with Juliet Bernard
blacksheepwools.com
01925 764231

21 FEBRUARY
Warrington
Steeking with Debbie Tomkies
blacksheepwools.com

22 FEBRUARY
Renishaw, Derbyshire
Yarn Spa with Jo. Knit. Sew
nibblesneedlesandhooks.co.uk

7 MARCH
Betchworth, Surrey
Learn to Spin
gilliangladrag.co.uk
01306 898144

13 MARCH
Warrington
Beaded Lace Knitting with Anniken Allis
blacksheepwools.com

15 MARCH
London
Intarsia Knitting
wildandwoollyshop.co.uk

21 MARCH
Compton Martin, Somerset
Fernhill Fibre Experience
fernhillfibre.co.uk

31 MARCH
Renishaw, Derbyshire
Yarn Spa with Truly Hooked
nibblesneedlesandhooks.co.uk

FESTIVALS

18 JANUARY
Waltham Abbey
Waltham Abbey Wool Show
walthamabbeywoolshow.co.uk

13-15 FEBRUARY
Farnham
Unravel
bit.ly/unravelfest

14-15 FEBRUARY
Blackpool
North West Winter Wool Festival
northwestwinterwoolfestival.co.uk

22 FEBRUARY
Wadebridge
Kernow Yarn And Fibre Festival
kernowyaff.com



14-15 MARCH
Manchester
TexStyle
texstyle.uk

21 MARCH
Perth
Scottish Wool Producers Showcase
thescottishyarnfestival.com

11-12 APRIL
Leeds
Spring Into Wool
springintowool.co.uk

25-26 APRIL
Builth Wells
Wonderwool Wales
wonderwoolwales.co.uk
07980 913972

16-17 MAY
Bristol
The Big Flock
thebigflock.com

16-17 MAY
Buxton
Buxton Wool Gathering
buxtonwool.co.uk

29-30 MAY
Galashiels
Tangled Galashiels
tangledgalashiels.com

13-14 JUNE
Rotherham
The Wool Monty
thewoolmonty.co.uk

KNITTING HOLIDAYS

15-20 APRIL
Shetland
Spirit of Shetland Holiday
stitchtopia.co.uk
01858 459 050

27 APRIL – 1 MAY
Grasmere
April in the Lake District Knitting Retreat with Susan Crawford
susancrawfordvintage.com

27 JUNE – 4 JULY
Tuscany, Italy
Knitting 'Bohus' with Marci Richardson
watermill.net

7-13 JULY
Finland
Yarn Traditions of Finland
stitchtopia.co.uk

24 JULY – 3 AUGUST
Scotland
Scottish Islands Yarn Cruise
stitchtopia.co.uk

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CoopKnits
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Stolen Stitches Nua
SweetGeorgia Yarns
Indigodragonfly
Lily Kate Makes
West Yorkshire Spinners
Jamieson and Smith
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MARY HENDERSON

Hjaltland

Snuggle up with this bright and cheerful Fair Isle hot water bottle cosy

Hjaltland

SIZE

Circumference: 40cm (15¾in)
Depth: 28cm (11in)

YARN

Yarnsmiths Merino DK Superwash (DK weight; 100% superwash Merino wool; 110m/120yds per 50g ball)
1 x 50g ball of each:
A Teal (3230)
B Lemon Yellow (3170)
C Mojito Green (3183)
D Carrot (3126)

NEEDLES & ACCESSORIES

1 pair 3.25mm (UK 10/US 3) knitting needles
4mm (UK 8/US 6) circular needles, 40cm long
Set of 4mm (UK 8/US 6) double-pointed needles (DPNs) or circular needles, 80–100cm long, for the Magic Loop method (for funnel)
Stitch markers
Stitch holder
3 x 15mm buttons

TENSION

24 sts and 26 rounds to 10cm over stocking st on 4mm needles

YARN STOCKISTS

Yarnsmiths c/o Wool Warehouse
01926 88 28 18
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

For general abbreviations, see p88

The cosy is knitted in a DK-weight superwash wool

THIS COLOURFUL hot water bottle cover, designed by Mary Henderson, is knitted in a soft, practical superwash wool from Yarnsmiths, which comes in an amazing choice of 120 shades. "The inspiration for this design came from my garden, looking at the flowers and translating these into traditional small Fair Isle motifs," explains Mary. "The colour play alternates the background and motif colours, giving the four colours a vibrancy. Yarnsmiths Merino DK is a lovely soft yarn, so this hot water bottle can be snuggled in bed or on the sofa watching a really scary film..."

This cosy is worked from the bottom up, beginning with a garter stitch eyelet button flap and button band worked separately in rows, then joined to work in the round.

HOT WATER BOTTLE COSY

BUTTON BAND

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn A, and the long-tail method, cast on 45 sts.

Knit 9 rows, ending after a RS row.

Next row (WS): K2, M1, K20, M1, K21, M1, K2. 48 sts.

Leave to one side on a stitch holder.

BUTTONHOLE BAND

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn A, and the long-tail method, cast on 45 sts.

Knit 4 rows, ending after a RS row.

Eyelet row (WS): K2, *P2tog, yo; rep from * to last 3 sts, K3.
Knit 3 rows.
Next row (WS): K2, M1, K20, M1, K21, M1, K2.
48 sts.

BODY

Using 4mm circular needles and yarn A, knit across buttonhole band, pm, knit across button band.



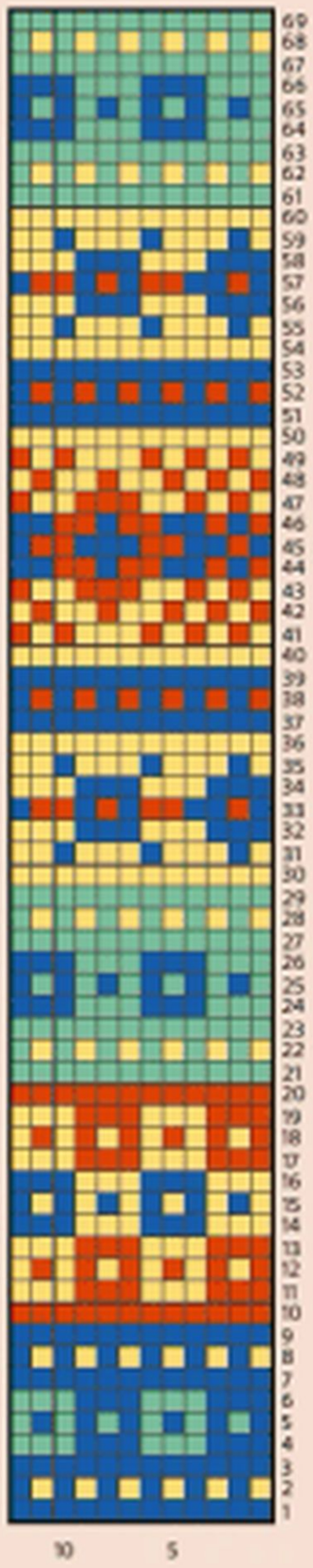
Hjaltland



KEY

- Knit
- Yarn A
- Yarn B
- Yarn C
- Yarn D

CHART



Pm for beginning of round and join to work in the round. 96 sts.

Begin Chart, working rounds 1–69 once through.

NECK AND FUNNEL

Turn work inside out with stitches divided in half for front and back, RS facing each other. Using a spare needle and using yarn C, work a three-needle cast-off over 17 sts from front and back (34 sts total), break yarn and pull through loop.

Slip the centre 14 sts for each side (28 sts total) onto a holder.
Work a three-needle cast-off over the remaining 17 sts from front and back (34 sts total).

Turn right side out.
Slip centre stitches onto DPNs or your preferred needles for knitting small circumferences.

Using yarn C, pick up and knit 3 sts either side of the join, knit across front sts, pick up and knit 3 sts either side of the join then knit across remaining sts and join to work in the round. 34 sts.

Rib round: *K1tbl, P1; rep from * to end of round.
Work another 15 rib rounds.

Cast off: *K2tog, slip st back onto left-hand needle; rep from * to last st. Cut yarn and pull through loop.

FINISHING

Secure loose ends at funnel neck by tying together and weaving in ends.
Neaten any loose ends by weaving into floats.

Fold the button band underneath the buttonhole band and slip stitch in place.
Sew the buttons onto the button band evenly spaced.

Block by pressing lightly, following any yarn care instructions on the ball band.

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CAROLINE BIRKETT

Stay Cosy Socks

These pretty lace and cable socks are knitted in a gorgeous, chunky blend of alpaca, wool and silk



CAROLINE BIRKETT

Stay Cosy Socks

BEAUTIFULLY SOFT and snuggly, these chunky socks will be a treat for your feet on chilly winter days and nights! They're knitted in The Fibre Co. Tundra, a blend of baby alpaca, silk and Merino that comes in a range of rich, shimmering colours. Caroline Birkett's design has a lace and cable panel down the front, a column of garter stitch down the back leg, and a slip stitch heel.

SIZE

TO FIT FOOT CIRCUMFERENCE (UP TO)	1	2	
	25½	27	cm
	10	10½	in
ACTUAL FOOT CIRCUMFERENCE	25½	27	cm
	10	10½	in
ACTUAL LEG CIRCUMFERENCE	23	25½	cm
	9	10	in

YARN

The Fibre Co. Tundra (Chunky weight; 60% baby alpaca, 30% Merino wool, 10% silk; 109m/120yds per 100g skein)
Allium; 2 x 100g skeins

NEEDLES & ACCESSORIES

Set of 5.5mm (UK 5/US 9) double-pointed needles (DPNs)
Set of 6mm (UK 4/US 10) DPNs
2 x 5mm (UK 6/US 8) DPNs for picking up sts
Cable needle
Stitch markers

TENSION

14 sts and 20 rnds to 10cm over stocking stitch using 6mm needles

YARN STOCKISTS

The Fibre Co. www.thefibreco.com
Available in the UK from Purlescence www.purlescence.com

For general abbreviations, see p88

CHART PATTERN

(written instructions)
Rnd 1: P1, K2tbl, yo, SSK, K2tog, yo, K2tbl, P1.
Rnd 2: P1, K2tbl, P4, K2tbl, P1.
Rnds 3-6: Repeat rounds 1-2.
Rnd 7: P1, C4F, C4B, P1.
Rnd 8: P1, K8, P1.
Rnd 9: P1, C4B, C4F, P1.
Rnds 10-12: P1, K8, P1.
Rnd 13: Repeat round 7.
Rnd 14: P1, K8, P1.
Rnd 15: Repeat round 9.
Rnd 16: P1, K8, P1.
Rnd 17: P1, K2tbl, yo, SSK, K2tog, yo, K1tbl, P1.
Rnd 18: P1, K2tbl, P4, K2tbl, P1.
Rnds 19-20: Repeat rounds 17-18.



A slip stitch pattern is worked over the heel flap

SOCKS

CUFF

Using 5.5mm needles, cast on 32 (36) sts. Pm and join to work in the round, taking care not to twist sts.

Rnd 1: *K1, P1; rep from * to end.
This rnd sets rib. Work in rib for 4cm.

Next rnd: K23 (26), P2, K to end.

LEG

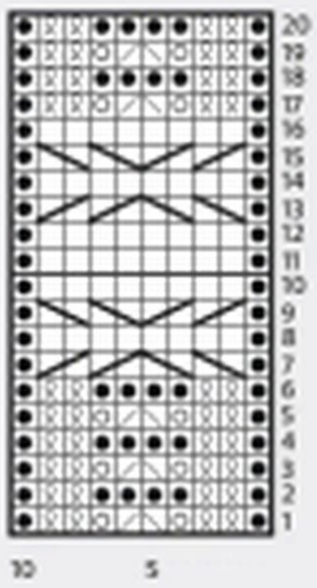
Change to 6mm needles.

Work in patt as follows:

Rnd 1: K3 (4), work row 1 of Chart, K8 (10), P1, K1tbl, K2, K1tbl, P1, K to end.
Rnd 2: K3 (4), work row 2 of Chart, K8 (10), P1, K1tbl, P2, K1tbl, P1, K to end.
Continue as set by last 2 rows, working through rows 2-20 of Chart once, then

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CHART



KEY

- Knit
- Purl
- Ktbl
- Yo
- K2tog
- SSK
- C4B
- C4F

repeating rows 1-20 until work measures 18cm or desired length.

HEEL FLAP

Turn work so WS is facing. Work back and forth over 16 (18) sts:
Row 1 (WS): Sl 1 wyif, *Sl 1 wyib, K1; rep from * to last st, P1.
Row 2 and 4 (RS): Sl 1, K to end.
Row 3: Sl 1 wyif, *K1, Sl 1 wyib; rep from * to last st, P1.
Repeat rows 1-4 a further 4 times.
The heel flap should have 20 rows and should be roughly square.

TURN THE HEEL

Row 1 (WS): Sl 1, P8 (10), P2tog, P1, turn.
Row 2 (RS): Sl 1, K3 (5), SSK, K1, turn.
Row 3 (WS): Sl 1, P to 1 st before gap, P2tog, P1, turn.
Row 4 (RS): Sl 1, K to 1 st before gap, SSK, K1, turn.
Continue as est until all sts of the heel are worked.
There should be 10 (12) heel sts left on the needles.

GUSSET

Set-up rnd: Pick up and knit 10 sts along side of heel flap, pm, work next 16 (18) sts cont of instep patt, pm, pick up and knit 10 sts along side of heel flap, K5 (6), pm for new beg of rnd in centre of heel.
46 (50) sts.

Next rnd: K to mrk, slm, work instep patt to mrk, slm, K to end.
Next rnd: K to 3 sts before mrk, K2tog, K1, slm, work instep patt to mrk, slm, K1, SSK, K to end. 2 sts dec'd.
Rep these 2 rounds until 32 (36) sts remain.

Work as established until sock measures 19 (20)cm from heel turn, or 4 (4½) cm less than desired foot length.

TOE

There are 16 (18) instep sts and 16 (18) sole sts. 32 (36) sts total.

Rnd 1: *K to 3 sts before mrk, K2tog, K1, slm, K1, SSK, rep from * once more, K to end. 4 sts dec'd.
Rnd 2: Knit.
Rep these two rounds once more. 24 (28) sts.
Rep Rnd 1 a further 3 (4) times. 12 sts.

Using Kitchener stitch, graft toe sts together.

MAKING UP

Weave in ends and block carefully with a light steam, following any yarn care instructions on the ball band.

Work second sock the same.



Yarn choice

Create beautiful sweaters and cosy accessories for winter with these exciting new blends of wool, alpaca, silk and mohair



GARTHENOR ORGANIC

Fallow

Shade pictured **Interval**
Skein weight/length **50g/170m**
Needle size **3–3.5mm (UK 11–10/US 3–4)**
Tension **20–24 sts to 10cm**
Fibre content **100% organic reclaimed wool**
Care **Hand wash** RRP **£14**
Contact **www.garthenor.com**

This limited-edition yarn is spun at Garthenor's west Wales mill from reclaimed organic wool fibres saved during the spinning process. There are three undyed options, including this elegant marl, and the breed blend varies by batch. Fallow is impressively soft with a wonderful handle, and will bring a rustic, appealing look to lightweight jumpers and shawls.



COPENHAGEN FIBERS

Natural Wool

Shade pictured **Saunagus (05)**
Ball weight/length **50g/91m**
Needle size **3.5–4mm (UK 9–8/US 4–6)**
Tension **22 sts and 29 rows to 10cm**
Fibre content **100% wool**
Care **Hand wash** RRP **£3.95**
Contact **www.hobbii.co.uk/pages/copenhagen-fibers**

This is a classic, versatile DK-weight pure wool which provides a fine blend of softness, warmth, strength and durability. Stitch definition is excellent, meaning your cables and textured patterns will really shine, while the palette of 34 appealing, contemporary shades inspired by Copenhagen make this new yarn a fine choice for colourwork projects.

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LUCA-S
Cloud

Shade pictured **Lavander (24)**
Ball weight/length **50g/150m**
Needle size **5mm (UK 6/US 8)**
Tension **17 sts and 22 rows to 10cm**
Fibre content **65% alpaca, 28% nylon, 7% wool**
Care **Hand wash** RRP **£6.88**
Contact **https://lucasyarns.com/**

This yarn really is as soft and fluffy as a cloud! Knitting to an aran-weight, the yarn is an air-spun blend of alpaca, nylon and wool which gives an incredibly lightweight, airy texture. It feels deliciously soft against the skin, and would be a nice choice for modern sweaters and cosy accessories. The nine subtly marled shades include black, greys, off-white, and sweet pastels.



LAUGHING HENS
Halo Kid Silk

Shade pictured **Mulberry (599)**
Ball weight/length **25g/210m**
Needle size **2.5mm (UK 13-12/US 1-2)**
Tension **32 sts and 48 rows to 10cm**
Fibre content **70% super kid mohair, 30% silk**
Care **Hand wash** RRP **£8.20**
Contact **www.laughinghens.com**

This new yarn from Laughing Hens is a luxurious laceweight spun in Italy, and has a higher silk content than some similar mohair-silk blends. It offers an indulgently fluffy softness, an elegant sheen and a beautiful drape, with an attractive halo. There are 20 shades in the palette, which range from subtle neutrals to glamorous jewel tones.



NOVITA
Helene

Shade pictured **Brush (6031)**
Ball weight/length **50g/195m**
Needle size **3.5mm (UK 10-9/US 4)**
Tension **25 sts and 34 rows to 10cm**
Fibre content **60% wool, 30% silk, 10% mohair**
Care **Hand wash** RRP **£12.50**
Contact **www.novita.com**
Available from www.laughinghens.com

Part of Novita's new Signature Collection, this beautiful 4ply is a mix of extrafine Merino, silk and superkid mohair. Helene is a delight to knit with, offering a buttery-soft feel, an exquisite drape and well defined stitches. The knitted fabric is warm, light and airy. There are 20 vintage-inspired shades, and the yarn is distributed in the UK by West Yorkshire Spinners.



KING COLE
Homespun Prism Aran

Shade pictured **Damson (6251)**
Ball weight/length **50g/110m**
Needle size **5mm (UK 6/US 8)**
Tension **18 sts and 25 rows to 10cm**
Fibre content **22.5% superwash fine Merino wool, 22.5% alpaca, 22.5% polyamide, 30% acrylic, 2.5% viscose**
Care **Machine wash 30°C** RRP **£3.95**
Contact **www.kingcole.com**

This is the new big sister to King Cole's popular Homespun Prism DK, and comes in eight variegated colourways inspired by nature, such as heathlands, hedgerows and stormy skies. It combines fine Merino wool, alpaca, acrylic and polyamide with a touch of viscose, and the result is a comfortable, draping fabric for family sweaters and next-to-skin accessories.

Great reads

Explore the knitting heritage of the Faroe Islands with this collection of timeless patterns for all the family

TRADITIONAL KNITS FROM THE FAROE ISLANDS

by Navia

THIS BEAUTIFUL hardback book has been produced to celebrate the 20th anniversary of Faroese yarn brand Navia. The book brings together 28 of Navia's most iconic patterns, alongside stories and stunning photos reflecting the heritage of wool and knitting on the Faroe Islands. There's lots to read and enjoy here, such as a history of the Faroe Islands and its ancient native sheep breed, a look at modern Faroese knitting culture and sheep farming, and personal stories from this family-run yarn company.

The 28 patterns all have a heritage look, but will work perfectly in a contemporary wardrobe. Stranded colourwork plays a big part, and designs include a yoked sweater with colourblocking and diamond motifs, and a traditional roll-neck sweater with all-over colourwork in undyed, natural fleece shades.

Many of the projects are unisex, such as a classic Nordic yoked sweater, a neat raglan design with subtle diamond patterning around the yoke, and a cosy colourwork cardigan. The 'White Unisex Sweater' has cables on the body, paired with slip stitch rib sleeves, and is knitted in undyed wool.

Beautiful pieces for women include a short-sleeved jumper with a star pattern worked in green and white, and a chic monochrome tank top. The 'Daisy Sweater' is decorated with large embroidered flowers, and the 'Geometric Sweater' is a stunning two-colour brioche design.

A chunky mohair-wool yarn is used for an oversized lace sweater with a modern shape. There's also a delicate leaf-patterned lace cardigan, sized for adults and children, along with a traditional Faroese lace shawl with anchor motifs and fringing.

The line-up of patterns for children is impressive, and includes everyday sweaters with bands of retro colourwork, and a sweater with a cute bubble-like colourwork pattern. For babies, there's a simple raglan sweater and leggings, a bodysuit adorned with a traditional Faroese star motif, a bonnet and booties, and a blanket worked in a textured star pattern.

Pattern instructions are generally concise and will be more suitable for confident knitters. Each pattern is presented in a limited range of sizes, typically to fit up to 40in chests/busts.



Traditional Knits from the Faroe Islands is published by Search Press, priced £25.
www.searchpress.com



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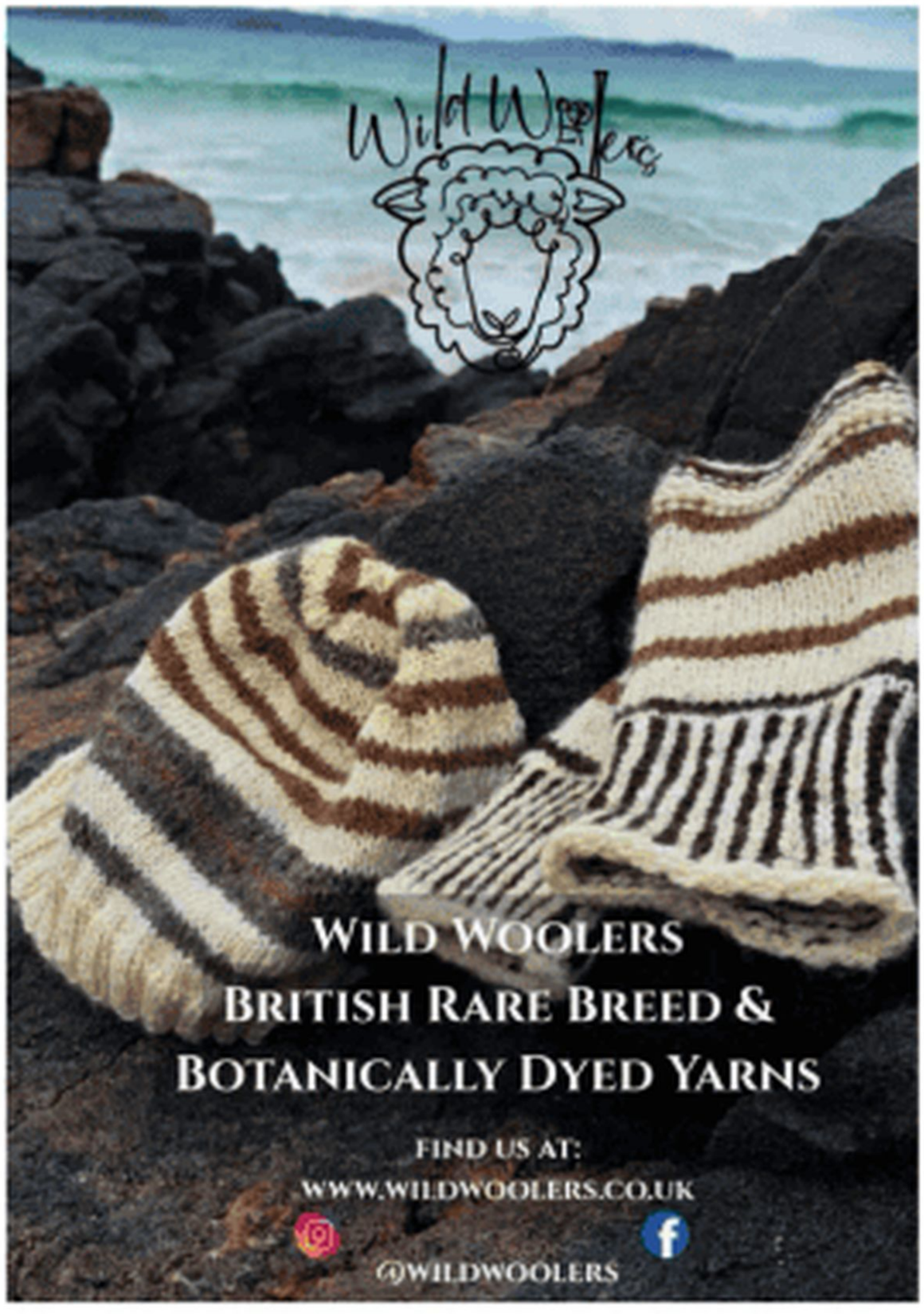
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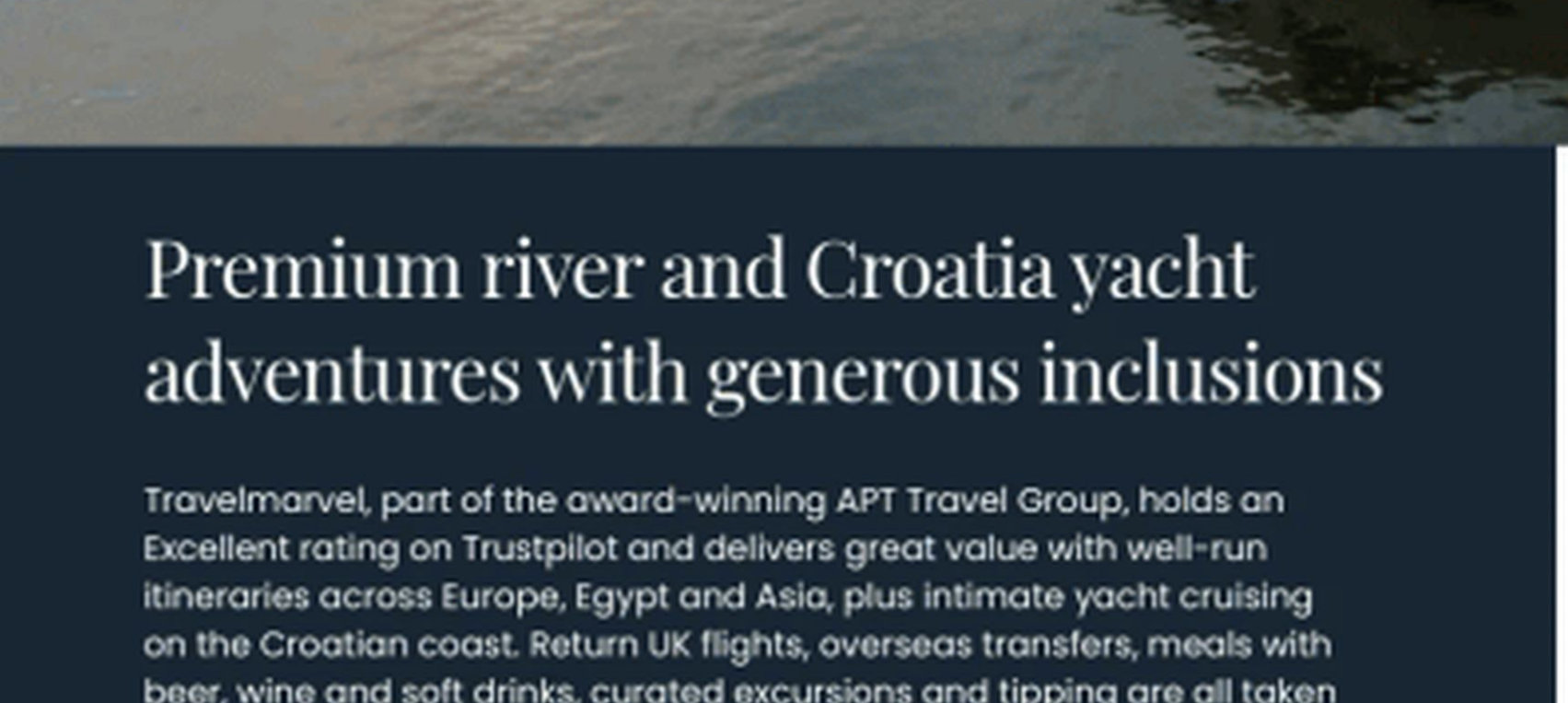
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LISA RICHARDSON

Bowthorpe

This waistcoat is decorated with a colour-changing stranded pattern inspired by acorns



LISA RICHARDSON

Bowthorpe

THIS WAISTCOAT design from Lisa Richardson uses a stranded colourwork pattern with acorn-like motifs. A solid green shade of Rowan's Felted Tweed is used for the background colour, and is paired with the gradient-effect Felted Tweed Colour. The waistcoat has a corrugated rib hem, while the armhole borders and button bands are knitted in garter stitch stripes. The garment is knitted flat in pieces, then seamed.



SIZE

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
TO FIT BUST	**71-76**	81-86	**91-97**	102-107	**112-117**	122-127	**132-137**	142-147	**152-157**	cm
	28-30	32-34	**36-38**	40-42	**44-46**	48-50	**52-54**	56-58	**60-62**	in
ACTUAL BUST	**83½**	94	**104½**	113½	**123½**	134	**144½**	153½	**166½**	cm
	32¾	37	**41¼**	44¾	**48½**	52¾	**57**	60½	**65½**	in
ACTUAL LENGTH	**44**	46½	**48½**	49	**52½**	54	**55**	57½	**58**	cm
	17¼	18¼	**19**	19¼	**20¾**	21¼	**21¾**	22¾	**22¾**	in

YARN

Rowan Felted Tweed (DK weight; 50% wool, 25% viscose, 25% alpaca; 175m/191yds per 50g ball)										
A AVOCADO (161)	**3**	3	**3**	4	**4**	5	**5**	6	**6**	x50g BALLS
Rowan Felted Tweed Colour (DK weight; 50% wool, 25% viscose, 25% alpaca; 175m/191yds per 50g ball)										
B CHESTNUT (024)	**2**	3	**3**	3	**4**	4	**4**	5	**5**	x50g BALLS

BACK

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn A, cast on 114 (126:142:154:166:182:194:206:226) sts.
Join in yarn B.
Keeping yarn not in use at WS of work, cont as folls:
Row 1 (RS): Using yarn A K2, *using yarn B P2, using yarn A K2; rep from * to end.
Row 2: Using yarn A P2, *using yarn B K2, using yarn A P2; rep from * to end.
These 2 rows form 2-colour rib.
Cont in 2-colour rib until work meas 7cm, dec (inc:dec:dec:inc:dec:inc:inc:dec) 1 st at end of last row and ending with RS facing for next row.
113 (127:141:153:167:181:195:207:225) sts.

Change to 3.75mm needles.
Beginning and ending rows as indicated, using the Fair Isle technique (stranding colour not in use loosely across back of work), repeating the 10-st patt repeat 11 (11:13:15:15:17:19:19:21) times across each row, working chart rows 1 to 6 once only and then repeating chart row 7 to 28 throughout, cont in patt from chart, which is worked entirely in st st beg with a K row, as folls:
Cont straight until Back measures 23 (24:24½:25:25½:26:26:27:27) cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE ARMHOLES

Keeping patt correct, cast off 5 (7:8:9:10:11:12:14:16) sts at beg of next 2 rows.
103 (113:125:135:147:159:171:179:193) sts.
Dec 1 st at each end of next 5 (7:9:9:9:11:13:13:17) rows, then on foll 6 (6:8:9:10:10:12:14:15) alt rows.
81 (87:91:99:109:117:121:125:129) sts.
Work 39 (41:39:37:43:45:41:41:37) rows, ending with RS facing for next row.
[Armhole should measure approx. 21 (22½:24:24:27:28:29:30½:31) cm.]

SHAPE SHOULDERS AND BACK NECK

Next row (RS): Cast off 5 (5:6:7:8:9:9:10:10) sts, patt until there are 20 (22:23:25:29:31:33:34:36) sts on right needle and turn, leaving rem sts on a holder.
Work each side of neck separately.
Keeping patt correct, dec 1 st at neck edge of next 4 rows and AT THE SAME TIME cast off 5 (6:6:7:8:9:9:10:10) sts at beg of 2nd row, then 5 (6:6:7:8:9:10:10:11) sts at beg of foll alt row.
Work 1 row.
Cast off rem 6 (6:7:7:9:9:10:10:11) sts.

With RS facing, slip centre 31 (33:33:35:35:37:37:37:37) sts onto a holder (for front band), rejoin yarns and patt to end.
Complete to match first side, reversing shapings.

LEFT FRONT

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn A, cast on 55 (63:71:75:83:91:95:103:111) sts.
Join in yarn B.
Keeping yarn not in use at WS of work, cont as folls:

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Bowthorpe

NEEDLES & ACCESSORIES

1 pair 3.25mm (UK 10/US 3) knitting needles
1 pair 3.75mm (UK 9/US 5) knitting needles
3.25mm (UK 10/US 3) circular needles, at least 110cm long
5 x 10mm buttons
Stitch holders

TENSION

27 sts and 28 rows to 10cm over patterned st st on 3.75mm needles

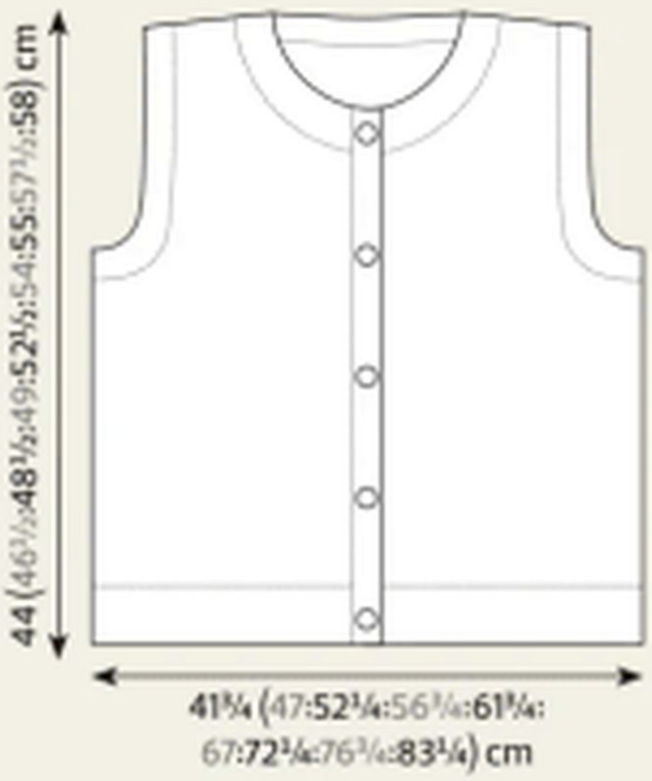
YARN STOCKISTS

Rowan 01924 371501
www.knitrowan.com

For general abbreviations, see p88



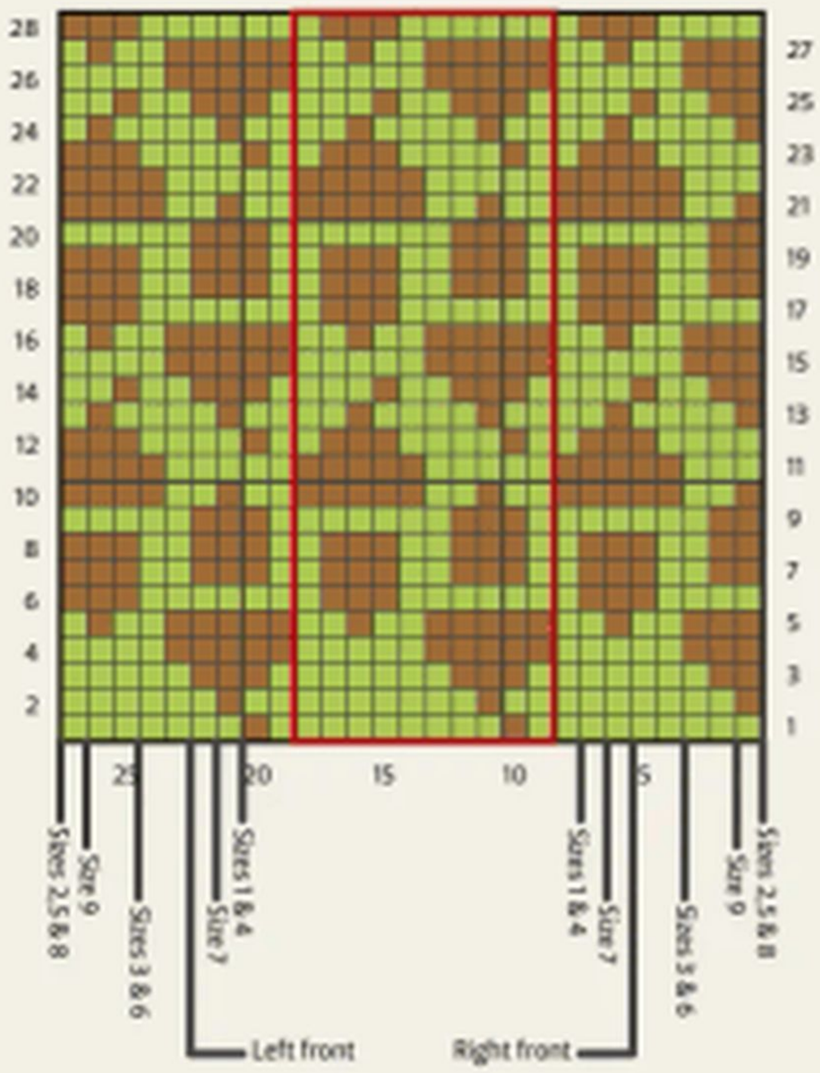
BLOCKING DIAGRAM



KEY

- K on RS; P on WS
- Yarn A
- Yarn B
- Repeat

CHART



These 2 rows form 2-colour rib.

Cont in 2-colour rib until work meas 7cm, - (dec: dec: -: dec: dec: inc: dec: -) - (1:2: -: 1:2:1:1: -) sts evenly across last row and ending with RS facing for next row. 55 (62:69:75:82:89:96:102:111) sts.

Change to 3.75mm needles.
Beg rows at size marker and end rows at left front marker, using the Fair Isle technique, repeating the 10-st patt repeat 5 (5:6:7:7:8:9:9:10) times across each row, working chart rows 1 to 6 once only and then repeating chart rows 7 to 28 throughout, cont in patt from chart, which is worked entirely in st st beg with a K row, as folls:
Cont straight until Left Front matches Back to beg of armhole shaping, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE ARMHOLE

Keeping patt correct, cast off 5 (7:8:9:10:11:12:14:16) sts at beg of next row.
50 (55:61:66:72:78:84:88:95) sts.
Work 1 row.

Dec 1 st at armhole edge of next 5 (7:9:9:9:11:13:13:17) rows, then on foll 6 (6:8:9:10:10:12:14:13) alt rows.
39 (42:44:48:53:57:59:61:65) sts.

Work 7 (9:5:3:5:7:3:3:1) rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE FRONT SLOPE

Dec 1 st at end (front slope edge) of next row and at the same edge on foll 12 (14:12:14:10:12:12:12:10) rows, then on foll 4 (3:5:4:8:7:7:7:9) alt rows, then on foll 4th row and AT THE SAME TIME dec 0 (0:0:0:0:0:0:0:1) st at armhole edge of next and foll alt row.
21 (23:25:28:33:36:38:40:42) sts.

Cont straight until Left Front matches Back to beg of shoulder shaping, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE SHOULDER

Keeping patt correct, cast off 5 (5:6:7:8:9:9:10:10) sts at beg of next and foll 2 (0:2:2:2:2:1:2:1) alt rows, then - (6: -: -: -: -:10: -:11) sts at beg of foll - (2: -: -: -: -: 1: -:1) alt rows.
Work 1 row.

Cast off rem 6 (6:7:7:9:9:10:10:11) sts.

RIGHT FRONT

Using 3.25mm needles and yarn A, cast on 55 (63:71:75:83:91:95:103:111) sts.
Join in yarn B.
Keeping yarn not in use at WS of work, cont as folls: ▶

Row 1 (RS): Using yarn A K2, *using yarn B P2, using yarn A K2; rep from * to last st, using yarn A K1.
Row 2: Using yarn A K1, P2, *using yarn B K2, using yarn A P2; rep from * to end.

Bowthorpe



Row 1 (RS): Using yarn A K3, *using yarn B P2, using yarn A K2; rep from * to end.
Row 2: Using yarn A P2, *using yarn B K2, using yarn A P2; rep from * to last st, using yarn A K1.
These 2 rows form 2-colour rib.

Complete to match Left Front, reversing shapings.

When working the chart, beg rows at right front marker and end rows at size marker.

MAKING UP

Block pieces gently, following any yarn care instructions on the ball band.

Join both shoulder seams using mattress stitch, or back stitch if preferred.

FRONT BAND

With RS facing, using 3.25mm circular needles and yarn A, beg and ending at front cast-on edges, pick up and knit 84 (88:92:96:100:104:108:112:112) sts up right front opening edge to beg of front slope shaping, 32 (32:34:34:38:38:38:38:40) sts up right front slope, and 5 sts down right back neck, K across 31 (33:33:35:35:37:37:37:37) sts on back holder, pick up and knit 5 sts up left side of back neck, 32 (32:34:34:38:38:38:38:40) sts down left front slope to beg of front slope shaping, and 84 (88:92:96:100:104:108:112:112) sts down left front opening edge.
273 (283:295:305:321:331:339:347:351) sts.

Row 1 (WS): Knit.
Join in yarn B and now work in garter st in stripes as folls:
Rows 2 and 3: Using yarn B, knit.
Rows 4 and 5: Using yarn A, knit.
These 4 rows form striped garter st.
Cont in striped garter st as folls:
Work 2 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.
Row 8 (RS): K7, *cast off 3 sts (to make a buttonhole – cast on 3 sts over these cast-off sts on next row), K until there are 15 (16:17:18:19:20:21:22:22) sts on right needle after cast-off; rep from * 3 times more, cast off 3 sts (to make 5th buttonhole – cast on 3 sts over these cast-off sts on next row), K to end.

Work in striped garter st for a further 8 rows, ending after 1 row using yarn A and with WS facing for next row.
Using yarn A, cast off knitwise (on WS).

ARMHOLE BORDERS

(both alike)
With RS facing, using 3.25mm needles and yarn A, pick up and knit 120 (130:138:148:156:166:172:182:190) sts evenly around armhole edge.

Row 1 (WS): Knit.
Join in yarn B and now work in garter st in stripes as folls:
Rows 2 and 3: Using yarn B, knit.
Rows 4 and 5: Using yarn A, knit.
These 4 rows form striped garter st.
Cont in striped garter st for a further 11 rows, ending after 1 row using yarn A and with WS facing for next row.
Using yarn A, cast off knitwise (on WS).

Join side seams. Sew on buttons to match buttonholes. Weave in ends.

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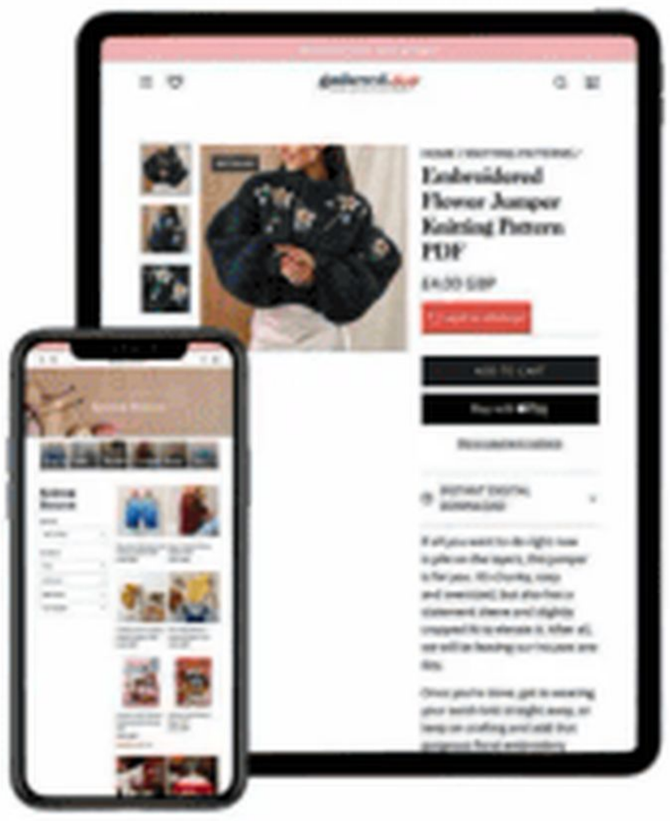
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OUTI KATER

Chouette

This sculptural cowl features a mock honeycomb fabric and dramatic, feather-like points

Subscribe now at www.gathered.how/theknitter

Chouette

SIZE

Neck circumference: 50cm (19¾in)
Length from cast-on to end of points: 18cm (7in)

YARN

Shilasdair Coara Worsted
(Worsted weight; 70% Bluefaced Leicester wool, 30% Shetland wool; 185m/202yds per 100g skein)
Heather Gold; 1 x 100g skein

NEEDLES & ACCESSORIES

3.5mm (UK 10-9/US 4) circular needles, 40-60cm long
4.5mm (UK 7/US 7) circular needles, 40-60cm long
Stitch markers

TENSION

27 sts and 33 rounds to 10cm over mock honeycomb patt on 3.5mm needles

YARN STOCKISTS

Shilasdair Yarns
07730 160852
www.shilasdair-yarns.com

For general abbreviations, see p88

"THIS LITTLE neckwarmer is both theatrical and practical," says designer Outi Kater. "It is knitted in the round from the top down using Shiladair's plant-dyed Coara yarn from the Isle of Skye. The mock honeycomb stitch pattern in the main part of the cowl is followed by eight pointed 'feathers' knitted with stocking stitch and decreased using K2tog and SSK decreases. *Chouette*, which means 'owl' in French, also means 'cool', or 'dandy' in French slang."

COWL

Using 3.5mm circular needles, cast on 136 sts.
Pm and join to work in the round, taking care not to twist sts.

Rnds 1-3: P1, *K2, P2; rep from * to 3 sts before mrk, K2, P1.

Rnd 4: P1, *insert RH needle from front between 6th and 7th sts on LH needle and draw through a loop, slip this loop onto LH needle and knit it together with the first st on LH needle, K1, P2, K2, P2; rep from * to 7 sts before mrk, insert RH needle from front between 6th and 7th sts on LH needle and draw through a loop, slip this loop onto LH needle and knit it together with the first st on LH needle, K1, P2, K2, P1.

Rnds 5-7: Work as Rnds 1-3.

Rnd 8: P1, K2, P2, *draw a loop between the 6th and the 7th sts as before and knit it together with the first st on LH needle, K1, P2, K2, P2; rep from * to 3 sts before mrk, remove the mrk, draw a loop between the 6th and the 7th sts on LH needle and knit it together with the first st on LH needle, K1, P2, K2, P1, pm for new beginning of round.

Rnds 9 and 10: Work as Rnds 1 and 2.
Rnd 11: Work as Rnd 3 to 4 sts before mrk, pm for new beginning of round, removing the old mrk.
Rnd 12: Work as Rnd 4.
Rnds 13-15: Work as Rnds 1-3.
Rnd 16: Work as Rnd 8.

Work Rnds 9-16 twice more.

Next rnd: Knit.

Change to 4.5mm circular needles.
Next rnd: Knit.
Next rnd (inc): *M1, K17; rep from * to end. 144 sts.

FEATHERS

Next rnd: Knit to 9 sts before mrk.

You now continue working back and forth in st st, one 'feather' at a time.
Row 1 (RS): Cast off 1 stitch kwise, K16, turn work. 17 sts.
Row 2 (WS): Cast off 1 stitch pwise, P15, turn work. 16 sts.
Row 3 (RS): K5, SSK, K2, K2tog, K5. 14 sts.
Row 4 and all other even rows (WS): Purl to end.
Row 5 (RS): K4, SSK, K2, K2tog, K4. 12 sts.
Row 7 (RS): K3, SSK, K2, K2tog, K3. 10 sts.
Row 9 (RS): K2, SSK, K2, K2tog, K2. 8 sts.
Row 11 (RS): K1, SSK, K2, K2tog, K1. 6 sts.
Row 13 (RS): SSK, K2, K2tog. 4 sts.
Row 15 (RS): SSK, K2tog. 2 sts.
Row 17 (RS): K2tog. 1 st.
Break yarn and pull through the last st.

Rejoin yarn to remaining sts and rep Rows 1-17 for seven more 'feathers'.

FINISHING

Weave in ends. Press the 'feathers' lightly with cool iron through a damp cloth, following any yarn care instructions on the ball band. The top part of the cowl doesn't require blocking.



Eight neatly shaped points are worked around the bottom of the cowl

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WE ARE
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LISA RICHARDSON

Gabor

This colourwork poncho with long cuffs is knitted in a sparkling, sequinned yarn



LISA RICHARDSON

Gabor

SIZE

TO FIT BUST	1	2	3	4	5	
	71-86	91-107	112-127	132-147	152-157	cm
	28-34	36-42	44-50	52-58	60-62	in
ACTUAL HEM CIRCUM-FERENCE	202½	221½	221½	240	258½	cm
	79¾	87¼	87¼	94½	101¾	in
ACTUAL LENGTH	63½	63½	63½	63½	70	cm
	25	25	25	25	27½	in

YARN

Rowan Alpaca Sparkle (Chunky weight; 23% alpaca, 23% wool, 32% polyester, 22% cotton; 94m/103yds per 50g ball)

A SILVER (10024)	6	6	6	7	8	x50g BALLS
B ONYX (10025)	2	3	3	3	3	x50g BALLS

NEEDLES & ACCESSORIES

6mm (UK 4/US 10) circular needles of varying lengths - see note below
7mm (UK 2/US 10½) circular needles of varying lengths
Set of 6mm (UK 4/US 10) double-pointed needles (DPNs)
Set of 7mm (UK 2/US 10½) DPNs
Stitch holders
Needle lengths: Start at neck edge using 40cm circulars (or DPNs if you prefer). As the number of sts increases, change to longer circulars, ending with circular needles at least 160cm long.

THIS PONCHO is guaranteed to bring both warmth and glamour to your outfit! Lisa Richardson's design has long ribbed cuffs for extra practicality and cosiness. The garment is knitted top down in the round, and the colourwork is created using a slip stitch pattern in two shades of grey. It uses Rowan's new yarn, Alpaca Sparkle, which is spun with a metallic thread and tiny sequins that catch the light.



PATTERN NOTE

All slipped stitches should be worked with the yarn held at the back (WS) of the work.

PONCHO

(worked from neckband downwards)
Using 6mm circular needles, 40cm long (or DPNs if preferred), and yarn A, cast on 64 (68:72:76:80) sts.
Join to work in the round, taking care not to twist sts.

Rnd 1 (RS): *K1, P1; rep from * to end.
This rnd forms rib.
Place marker after last st of rnd just worked (to denote beg and end of rnds).
Work in rib for a further 4 rnds.

Change to 7mm circular needles, 40cm long. Changing to longer needles when needed and joining in and breaking off yarns as required, now work patt as folls:
Rnds 1 and 2: Using yarn A, knit.
Rnd 3: Using yarn B, *K1, Sl 1; rep from * to end.
Rnd 4: Using yarn A, *Sl 1, K1; rep from * to end.
Rnd 5: Using yarn B, K1, *Sl 1, K3; rep from * to last 3 sts, Sl 1, K2.
Rnd 6: Using yarn A, *K3, Sl 1; rep from * to end.
Rnd 7: Using yarn B, *Sl 1, K1; rep from * to end.
Rnd 8: Using yarn A, K1, *Sl 1, K3; rep from * to last 3 sts, Sl 1, K2.
Rnd 9: Using yarn B, *K3, Sl 1; rep from * to end.
Rnd 10: As rnd 4.
Rnd 11: As rnd 3.
Rnd 12: Using yarn A, knit.
Rnd 13: As rnd 7.
Rnd 14: Using yarn A, knit.

These 14 rnds form the patt band.

First inc rnd: Using yarn A, K5 (3:5:7:9), M1, (K2, M1) 27 (31:31:31:31) times, K5 (3:5:7:9).
92 (100:104:108:112) sts.
Now work patt band rnds 1 to 14 once more.

2nd inc rnd: Using yarn A, K5 (3:5:1:9), M1, (K3, M1) 27 (31:31:35:31) times, K6 (4:6:2:10).
120 (132:136:144:144) sts.
Now work patt band rnds 1 to 14 once more.

3rd inc rnd: Using yarn A, K6 (4:6:2:10), M1, (K4, M1) 27 (31:31:35:31) times, K6 (4:6:2:10).
148 (164:168:180:176) sts.
Now work patt band rnds 1 to 14 once more.

4th inc rnd: Using yarn A, K6 (4:6:2:10), M1, (K5, M1) 27 (31:31:35:31) times, K7 (5:7:3:11).
176 (196:200:216:208) sts.
Now work patt band rnds 1 to 14 once more.

5th inc rnd: Using yarn A, K10 (5:7:3:16), M1, [K5 (6:6:6:5), M1] 31 (31:31:35:35) times, K11 (5:7:3:17).
208 (228:232:252:244) sts.
Now work patt band rnds 1 to 14 once more.

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TENSION

15 sts and 23 rows to 10cm over patt on 7mm needles

YARN STOCKISTS

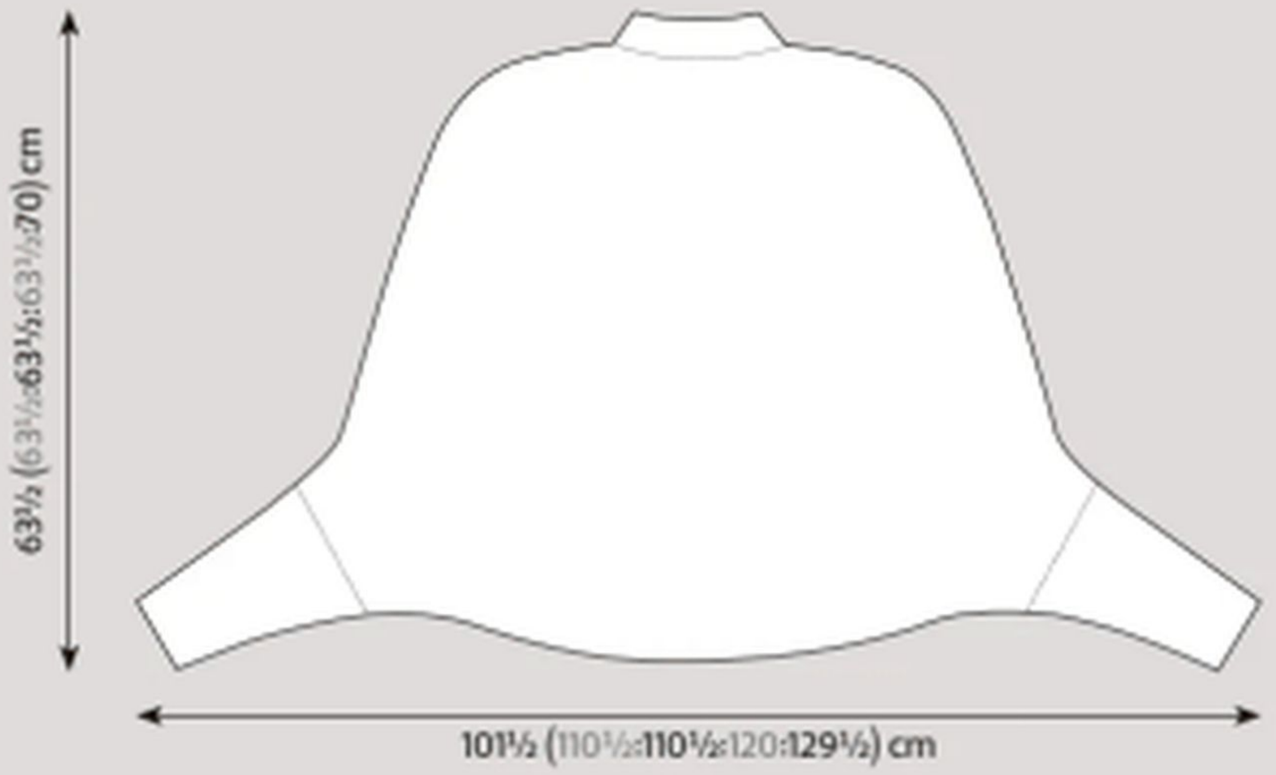
Rowan 01924 371501 www.knitrowan.com

For general abbreviations, see p88



This pattern is taken from the Rowan design collection, *Alpaca Sparkle*, which has 12 designs by Lisa Richardson. To buy a copy for £10.50 or to find stockist details, visit **www.knitrowan.com**

BLOCKING DIAGRAM





6th inc rnd: Using yarn A, K11 (9:7:3:17), M1, [K6 (6:7:7:6), M1] 31 (35:31:35:35) times, K11 (9:8:4:17).
240 (264:264:288:280) sts.
Now work patt band rnds 1 to 14 once more.

7th inc rnd: Using yarn A, K11 (9:8:4:17), M1, [K7 (7:8:8:7), M1] 31 (35:31:35:35) times, K12 (10:8:4:18).
272 (300:296:324:316) sts.
Now work patt band rnds 1 to 14 once more.

8th inc rnd: Using yarn A, K12 (10:8:4:18), M1, [K8 (9:8:9:8), M1] 31 (31:35:35:35) times, K12 (11:8:5:18).
304 (332:332:360:352) sts.
Now work patt band rnds 1 to 14 once more.

Size 5 only

9th inc rnd: Using yarn A, K1, M1, (K10, M1) 35 times, K1.
- (-:-:-:388) sts.
Now work patt band rnds 1 to 14 once more.

All sizes

Change to 6mm circular needles, 160cm long.
Break off yarn B and complete work using yarn A only.
Work in rib as given for neckband for 5 rnds.

DIVIDE FOR CUFFS

Working all cast-off sts loosely in rib, cont as folls:
Next rnd: Cast off 58 (63:63:69:76) sts (for right back hem edge), rib until there are 36 (40:40:42:42) sts on right needle and slip these sts onto a holder (for right cuff), cast off next 116 (126:126:138:152) sts (for front hem edge), rib until there are 36 (40:40:42:42) sts on right needle and slip these sts onto another holder (for left cuff), cast off rem 58 (63:63:69:76) sts (for left back hem edge).

Slip one set of 36 (40:40:42:42) sts onto 6mm DPNs. Distribute sts evenly over 3 of the 4 needles and, using 4th needle, now work in rnds as folls:
Placing marker between first and last st of next rnd (to denote cuff 'seam'), cont in rnds of rib as set for 7 rnds.
Keeping rib correct, dec 1 st at each end of rnds on next and 3 foll 6th rnds.
28 (32:32:34:34) sts.
Cont straight until cuff meas 16 (16:17:17:17) cm from dividing rnd.
Cast off in rib.

Work second cuff in same way.

MAKING UP

Weave in ends. Block gently, following any yarn care instructions on the ball band.

MARY HENDERSON

Torhild

This cardigan feels extra special, thanks to its beautiful blue and white colourwork knitted in a yak-blend yarn

Torhild



MARY HENDERSON

Torhild

SIZE

TO FIT BUST	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
	66-71	76-81	86-91	96-102	107-112	117-122	127-132	137-142	147-152	cm
	26-28	30-32	34-36	38-40	42-44	46-48	50-52	54-56	58-60	in
ACTUAL BUST	78½	88½	98½	108½	118½	128½	138½	148½	158½	cm
	31	34¾	38¾	42¾	46¾	50½	54½	58½	62½	in
ACTUAL LENGTH	57½	57½	60	60	61	61	63	64½	64½	cm
	22¾	22¾	23½	23½	24	24	24¾	25½	25½	in
SLEEVE SEAM	42	42	43	43	44	44	45	45	46	cm
	16½	16½	17	17	17¼	17¼	17¾	17¾	18	in

YARN

King Cole Luxury Yak DK (DK weight; 85% Merino wool, 15% yak; 100m/110yds per 50g ball)

A CERULEAN (5130)	6	7	8	9	10	10	11	12	13	x50g BALLS
B LINEN (5120)	5	5	6	6	7	7	8	9	9	x50g BALLS

"THIS STRANDED colourwork cardigan was inspired by blue china plates – the classic willow pattern design is a favourite of mine," says Mary Henderson. The body of her cardigan is knitted flat in rows; the sleeves are worked in the round, then joined to the body to work the yoke, which is knitted flat. The neckband, button bands and cuffs are knitted in moss stitch.

PATTERN NOTES

The body of the cardigan is knitted in one piece in rows on circular needles, which are used due to the larger number of stitches. Only two colours are used throughout, and rows can be worked from either end – you can work one row in yarn A, and then, without turning the work, work the next row in yarn B. Then the ends of both colours will be at the same end to allow you to work the following row with both colours.

The cardigan is worked in one piece to the yoke and then set aside. The sleeves are worked in the round, then joined to the yoke. The yoke is then worked, with decreases, and a small amount of short-row shaping at the back of the neck. The armholes are grafted together. The lower border, neck and button bands are worked in moss stitch. The buttonhole band is worked in moss stitch with centre eyelet rows worked so that buttons can be placed to suit your preference.

CHART NOTES

On the body of the cardigan, work RS (odd) rows from right to left, and WS (even) rows from left to right.

On the sleeves, work in the round, working all rows from right to left. The 12-st repeat is worked on the body with one final stitch at the end of the row to balance the pattern. On the sleeves you work the pattern in whole repeats only.

BODY

Using 3.25mm circular needles, 80cm long, yarn A and the knitted cast-on method, cast on 181 (205:229:253:277:301:325:349:373) sts.

MOSS ST

Row 1: *K1, P1; rep from * to last st, K1.
Rep this row another 11 times.

Change to 4mm needles.
Place markers as follows for side 'seams': after the first 46 (52:58:64:70:76:82:88:94) sts for Right Front, next 89 (101:113:125:137:149:161:173:185) sts for Back, leaving 46 (52:58:64:70:76:82:88:94) sts for Left Front.
If preferred, you can also place markers every 12 sts to mark out the patt reps.

BEGIN CHART A

Note: you may find it easier when working single-colour rows to work them with RS facing so that you end with both colours at the same end of the row for the next two-colour row.

For example, Row 1 can be worked in yarn A from right to left (a RS row), Row 2 can be worked with yarn A and B from left to right (a WS row), then Row 3 can be worked from the RS using yarn A, and Row 4 can be worked from the RS using yarn B, so that when you begin Row 5, both colours are at the same end to work that row. Look ahead on the chart to determine where you can take advantage of this method, as it will reduce the number of times you need to break yarn and rejoin it. There may be some knock-on effect if you use this method regularly, so whether you end the body on a RS or WS row, the yoke join row should always be worked as a RS row.

Row 1 (RS): K across Row 1 of Chart A, working sts 1-12 a total of 15 (17:19:21:23:25:27:29:31) times, work last st of chart once.
Row 2 (WS): P across Row 2 of chart, working last st once, then work sts 12-1 a total of 15 (17:19:21:23:25:27:29:31) times.
Work rows 3-94 of Chart A as set.
Body should meas approx 37.5cm from cast-on edge.

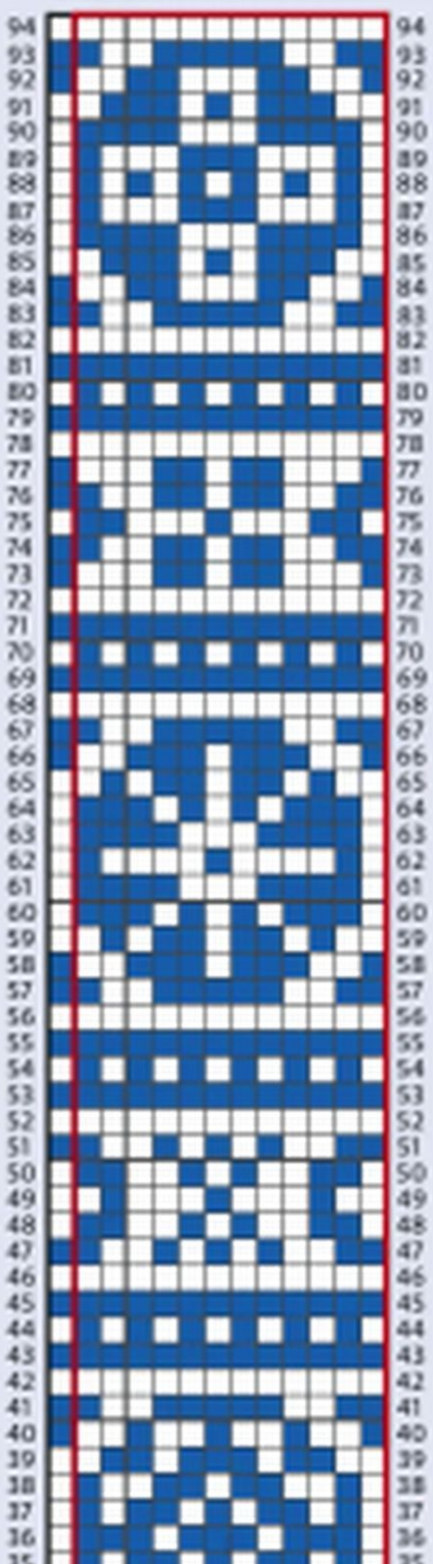
DIVIDE FOR ARMHOLES

Next row: Slip sts pwise until you are 5 (5:5:5:6:6:7:7:7) sts before side marker, place next 10 (10:10:10:12:12:14:14:14) sts on a holder/smooth waste yarn; rep from * once more, slip sts pwise to end.
41 (47:53:59:64:70:75:81:87) sts for each Front and 79 (91:103:115:125:137:147:159:171) sts for Back. Set aside. ▶

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CHARTS

Chart A



NEEDLES & ACCESSORIES

3.25mm (UK 10/US 3) circular needles, 80cm and 100cm long
Set of 3.25mm (UK 10/US 3) double-pointed needles (DPNs), or your preferred needles for working small circumferences
4mm (UK 8/US 6) circular needles, 80cm long
Set of 4mm (UK 8/US 6) DPNs, or your preferred needles for working small circumferences
Stitch markers
Lockable stitch markers
Stitch holders or smooth waste yarn
Tapestry needle or small crochet hook for weaving in ends
7 x 15cm buttons

TENSION

24 sts and 28 rows to 10cm over st st in colourwork pattern on 4mm needles.
24 sts and 32 rounds to 10cm over st st in single colour on 4mm needles for sleeves.

YARN STOCKISTS

King Cole 01756 703670
www.kingcole.com

For general abbreviations, see p88

KEY

- K on RS; P on WS
- Yarn A
- Yarn B
- Repeat

Chart B

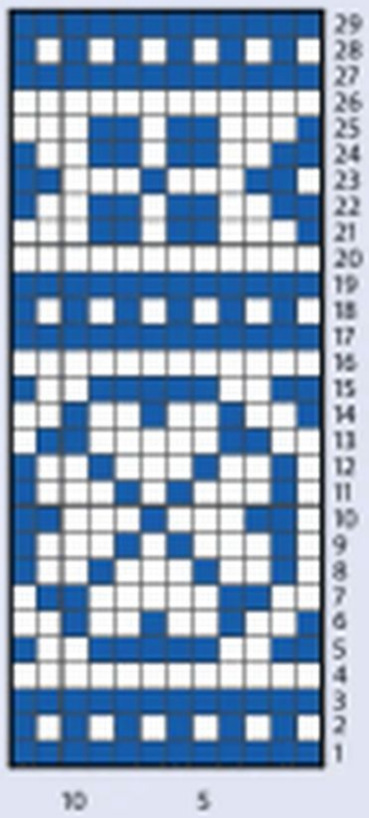


Chart C - Size 7

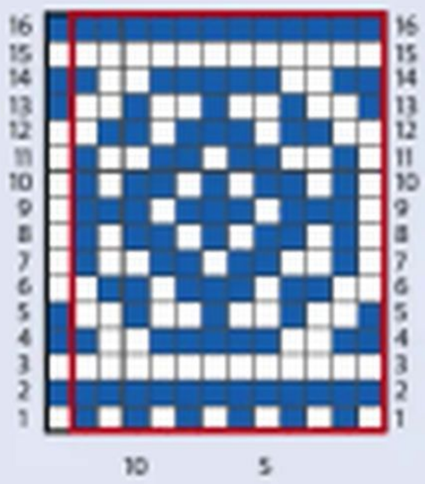


Chart D

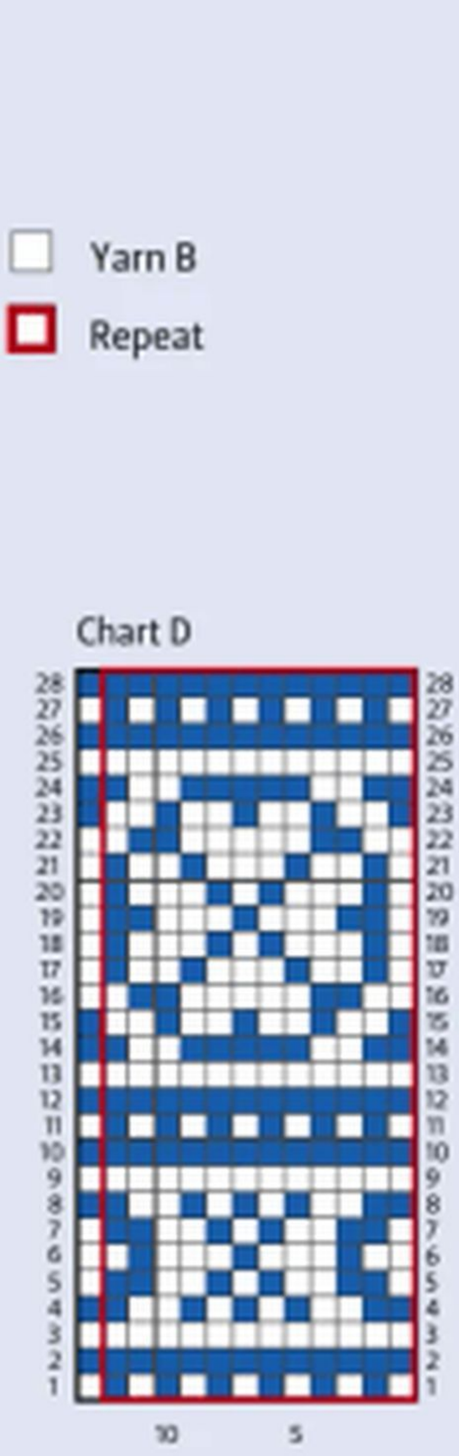


Chart C - Sizes 3&4

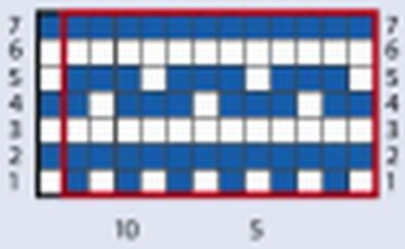


Chart C - Sizes 8&9

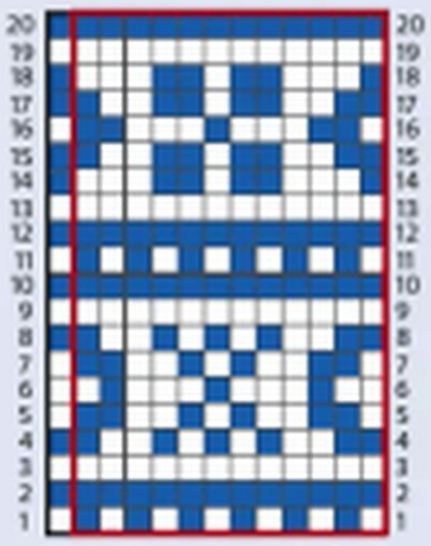


Chart E

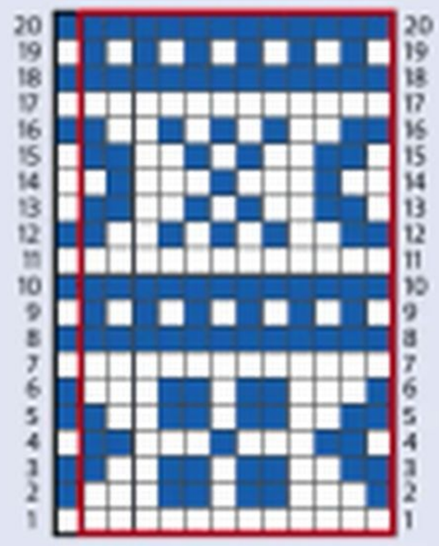
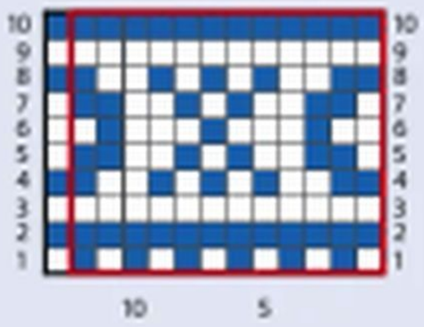


Chart C - Sizes 5&6



Torhild

BLOCKING DIAGRAM



SLEEVES

(make 2)

Using 3.25mm DPNs and yarn A, cast on 48 (48:48:48:60:60:60:60:72) sts. Pm and join to work in the round, taking care not to twist sts.

MOSS ST

Rnd 1: *K1, P1; rep from * to end.
Rnd 2: *P1, K1; rep from * to end.
Rep last 2 rnds another 5 times.

Change to 4mm DPNs.

BEGIN CHART B

Work Rnds 1 and 2 of Chart B.

You will now increase at regular intervals. Take new sts into patt or background colour according to your preference.
Rnd 3 (inc): K1, M1, patt to last st M1, K1. 2 sts inc'd.
Work Rnds 4–16 of Chart B straight.
Rnd 17 (inc): As Rnd 3. 2 sts inc'd.
Work Rnds 18 – 26 of Chart B straight.
Rnd 27 (inc): As Rnd 3. 2 sts inc'd.
Work Rnds 28 and 29 of Chart B straight.

Cont in st st and yarn A only.
Work 1 rnd straight.

Next rnd (inc): K1, M1, K to last st, M1, K1. 2 sts inc'd.

Work 15 (9:6:3:4:3:2:2:3) rnds straight.
Rep inc rnd. 2 sts inc'd.
Rep last 16 (10:7:4:5:4:3:3:4) rnds another 2 (5:8:14:10:16:21:24:24) times.
62 (68:74:86:90:102:112:118:130) sts.

Cont straight in st st and yarn A only until sleeve meas 42 (42:43:43:44:44:45:45:46) cm from cast-on edge, stopping 5 (5:5:5:6:6:7:7:7) sts before end on final rnd.
Place 5 (5:5:5:6:6:7:7:7) sts either side of mrk on a holder or waste yarn.
10 (10:10:10:12:12:14:14:14) sts on hold with 52 (58:64:76:78:90:98:104:116) sts rem for each sleeve. Set aside.

YOKE

Rejoin yarn A with RS facing to Right Front sts and join for yoke as follows:
Set-up row: K41 (47:53:59:64:70:75:81:87) sts of Right Front, K52 (58:64:76:78:90:98:104:116) sts of Right Sleeve, K79 (91:103:115:125:137:147:159:171) sts of Back, K52 (58:64:76:78:90:98:104:116) sts of Left Sleeve, K41 (47:53:59:64:70:75:81:87) sts of Left Front.
265 (301:337:385:409:457:493:529:577) sts.

Sizes 3 to 9 only
Work Rows 1 to – (–:7:7:10:10:16:20:20) of Chart C for your size.

All sizes
Work Rows 1– 9 of Chart D.

Row 10 (RS dec) : Using yarn A throughout, dec as given below for your size:

Size 1 only: K5, (K2tog, K9) 11 times, K2tog, K10, (K2tog, K9) 11 times, K2tog, K4.
Size 2 only: K5, (K2tog, K10) 5 times, (K2tog, K11) 13 times, (K2tog, K10) 5 times K2tog, K5.
Size 3 only: K7, (K2tog, K12) 23 times, K2tog, K6.
Size 4 only: K5, (K2tog, K8) 5 times, (K2tog, K9) 24 times, (K2tog, K8) 6 times, K2tog, K4.
Size 5 only: K4, (K2tog, K6) 11 times, (K2tog, K7) 24 times, (K2tog, K6) 12 times, K2tog, K3.
Size 6 only: K4, (K2tog, K8) 12 times, (K2tog, K7) 22 times, (K2tog, K8) 13 times, K2tog, K3.
Size 7 only: K5, (K2tog, K8) 17 times, (K2tog, K9) 12 times, (K2tog, K8) 18 times, K2tog, K4.
Size 8 only: K5, (K2tog, K9) 46 times, K2tog, K10, K2tog, K4.
Size 9 only: K6, (K2tog, K10) 47 times, K2tog, K5.

All sizes
24 (24:24:36:48:48:48:48:48) sts dec'd.
241 (277:313:349:361:409:445:481:529) sts.

Work Rows 11–25 of Chart D.

Row 26 (dec): Using yarn A throughout, dec as given below for your size:

Size 1 only: K2, (K2tog, K3) 46 times, K2tog, K4, K2tog, K1.
Size 2 only: K2, (K2tog, K2) 11 times, (K2tog, K3) 36 times, (K2tog, K2) 12 times, K2tog, K1.
Size 3 only: K1, (K2tog, K2) 30 times, (K2tog, K1) 22 times, (K2tog, K2) 31 times, K2tog.
Size 4 only: K1, (K2tog, K2) 30 times, (K2tog, K1) 34 times, (K2tog, K2) 31 times, K2tog.
Size 5 only: K2, (K2tog, K2) 29 times, (K2tog, K3) 24 times, (K2tog, K2) 30 times, K2tog, K1.
Size 6 only: K2, (K2tog, K2) 35 times, (K2tog, K3) 24 times, (K2tog, K2) 36 times, K2tog, K1.



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Size 7 only: K2, (K2tog, K2) 17 times, (K2tog, K3) 60 times, (K2tog, K2) 18 times, K2tog, K1.
Size 8 only: K2, (K2tog, K2) 119 times, K2tog, K1.
Size 9 only: K2, (K2tog, K2) 38 times, (K2tog, K3) 44 times, (K2tog, K2) 38 times, K2tog, K1.

All sizes
48 (60:84:96:84:96:96:120:120) sts dec'd.
193 (217:229:253:277:313:349:361:409) sts.

Work Rows 27–28 of Chart D.
Work Rows 1–7 of Chart E.

Row 8 (dec): With RS facing and using yarn A throughout, dec as given below for your size:

Size 1 only: K2, (K2tog, K2) 47 times, K2tog, K1.
Size 2 only: K1, (K2tog, K2) 18 times, (K2tog, K1) 22 times, (K2tog, K2) 19 times, K2tog.
Size 3 only: K1, (K2tog, K2) 24 times, (K2tog, K1) 10 times, (K2tog, K2) 25 times, K2tog.
Size 4 only: K1, (K2tog, K2) 18 times, (K2tog, K1) 34 times, (K2tog, K2) 19 times, K2tog.
Size 5 only: K1, (K2tog, K2) 12 times, (K2tog, K1) 58 times, (K2tog, K2) 13 times, K2tog.
Size 6 only: K1, (K2tog, K2) 12 times, (K2tog, K1) 70 times, (K2tog, K2) 13 times, K2tog.
Size 7 only: K1, (K2tog, K2) 12 times, (K2tog, K1) 82 times, (K2tog, K2) 13 times, K2tog.
Size 8 only: K1, (K2tog, K2) 18 times, (K2tog, K1) 70 times, (K2tog, K2) 19 times, K2tog.
Size 9 only: K1, (K2tog, K2) 24 times, (K2tog, K1) 70 times, (K2tog, K2) 25 times, K2tog.

All sizes
48 (60:60:72:84:96:108:108:120) sts dec'd.
145 (157:169:181:193:217:241:253:289) sts.

Work Rows 9–20 of Chart E.

You will now continue in yarn A only.

Next row (dec): With RS facing, dec as given below for your size:

Size 1 only: K2, (K2tog, K2) 35 times, K2tog, K1.
Size 2 only: K1, (K2tog, K2) 15 times, (K2tog, K1) 10 times, (K2tog, K2) 16 times, K2tog.
Size 3 only: K1, (K2tog, K2) 12 times, (K2tog, K1) 22 times, (K2tog, K2) 13 times, K2tog.
Size 4 only: K1, (K2tog, K2) 9 times, (K2tog, K1) 34 times, (K2tog, K2) 10 times, K2tog.
Size 5 only: K1, (K2tog, K2) 6 times, (K2tog, K1) 46 times, (K2tog, K2) 7 times, K2tog.
Size 6 only: K1, (K2tog) 9 times, (K2tog, K1) 60 times, (K2tog) 9 times.
Size 7 only: K1, (K2tog) 24 times (K2tog, K1) 48 times, (K2tog) 24 times.
Size 8 only: K1, (K2tog) 23 times, (K2tog, K1) 54 times, (K2tog) 22 times.
Size 9 only: K1, (K2tog) 46 times, (K2tog, K1) 34 times (K2tog) 47 times.

All sizes
36 (42:48:54:60:78:96:99:127) sts dec'd.
109 (115:121:127:133:139:145:154:162) sts.

SHORT-ROW SHAPING AT BACK NECK

Place a marker 27 (28:30:31:33:34:36:38:40) sts in from each end of the row.
Next 2 rows: K to second mrk, w&t, P to first mrk, w&t.
Next row (RS): K to end, working wraps together with wrapped sts.

Purl 1 row.

Dec row (RS) : *K1, K2tog; rep from * to last 1 (1:1:1:1:1:1:1:0) sts, K1 (1:1:1:1:1:1:1:0).
36 (38:40:42:44:46:48:51:54) sts dec'd.
73 (77:81:85:89:93:97:103:108) sts.

Change to 3.25mm needles.
Work 5 rows of moss st, ending after a RS row.
Knit 1 row.

Cast off using the i-cord method as follows: cast on 2 sts using the knitted cast-on method.
Next row: *K1, K2tog tbl, slip these 2 sts back purlwise onto LH needle; rep from * to last 2 sts, cast off rem sts.
Cut yarn, leaving a short tail, and fasten off.

TO MAKE UP

Joining underarm body to sleeve: to close the gap pick up 1 st either side of held sts on body and on sleeve.

Using Kitchener stitch, graft sts at underarms of both sleeves.



BUTTON BAND

With RS facing, using 3.25mm circular needles, 100cm long and yarn A, pick up and knit 118 (118:124:124:126:126:132:134:134) sts down Left Front.

Row 1 (WS): *K1, P1; rep from * to end.
Row 2 (RS): *P1, K1; rep from * to end.
These two rows set moss st.
Work another 5 rows in moss st as set.
Cast off in moss st.

BUTTONHOLE BAND

With RS facing, using 3.25mm circular needles, 100cm long and yarn A, pick up and knit 118 (118:124:124:126:126:132:134:134) sts up Right Front.

Work 2 rows of moss st, ending after a RS row.
Knit 2 rows.

Next row (WS): P1, *P2tog, yo; rep to last 3 sts, P2tog, yo, P1.
Knit 2 rows.
Work 3 rows of moss st, ending after a RS row.
Cast off in moss st.

FINISHING

Weave in ends.
Block gently to measurements, following any yarn care instructions on the ball band.
Sew buttons in place to match buttonholes with Fair Isle pattern.

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ALISON RENDALL

Hevda Headband

This traditional Fair Isle design is a great way to use up odds and ends of Shetland wool



ALISON RENDALL

Hevda Headband

"**ALTHOUGH SHETLAND** measures a mere 50 miles long and 20 miles wide, it has a vast coastline of nearly 1,700 miles due to the vast number of *voes* (bays), *geos* (gullies), inlets and headlands," explains Alison Rendall. "The word *hevda* features in a few place names in Shetland, stemming from the Norse word for a high and steep promontory of land, as seen throughout Shetland's landscape." Alison's design uses Shetland jumperweight wool, and she has provided colourways using the two most popular ranges from Jamieson & Smith and Jamieson's of Shetland.

SIZE

Circumference (at brim): 51cm (20¼in)
Length (from bottom to top): 10cm (4in)

YARN

Jamieson & Smith 2ply Jumper Weight (4ply weight; 100% Shetland wool; 105m/114yds per 25g ball)
1 x 25g ball of each:
A 2005 (Shetland Black); **B** 9113 (Dark Red); **C** 1402 (Red); **D** 27 (Mid Grey); **E** 1A (Natural White); **F** 96 (Pale Lemon)
or
Jamieson's of Shetland Spindrift (4ply weight; 100% Shetland wool; 105m/114yds per 25g ball)
1 x 25g ball of each:
A 101 (Shetland Black); **B** 587 (Madder); **C** 525 (Crimson); **D** 320 (Steel); **E** 104 (Natural White); **F** 179 (Buttermilk)

CHARTS

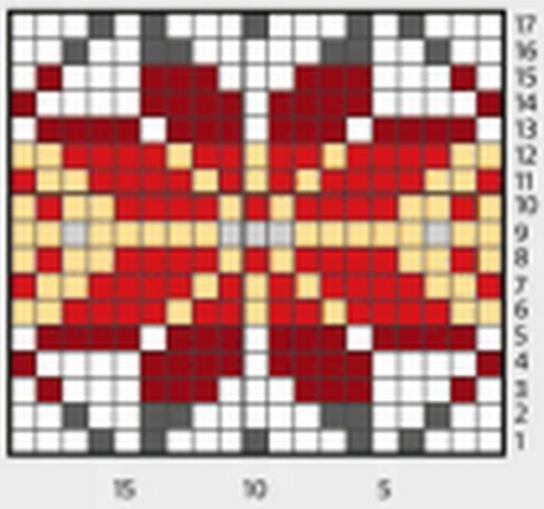
Chart A



Chart C



Chart B



KEY

Knit
Yarn A
Yarn B
Yarn C
Yarn D
Yarn E
Yarn F

NEEDLES & ACCESSORIES

Set of 3mm (UK 11/US 2.5) double-pointed needles (DPNs), or your preferred needles for working in the round
Stitch markers

TENSION

30 sts and 38 rounds to 10cm over stranded colourwork, after blocking on 3mm needles

YARN STOCKISTS

Jamieson & Smith 01595 693579
www.shetlandwoolbrokers.co.uk

Jamieson's of Shetland 01595 693114
www.jamiesonsofshetland.co.uk

SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

K2A/P2B etc: K2 in yarn A, P2 in yarn B etc.
For general abbreviations, see p88



This pattern is taken from the book *Fair Isle Knitting Tradition* by Alison Rendall (£19.99, Landauer Publishing), which contains 14 knitting projects inspired by Shetland's heritage. The book is available from **uk.bookshop.org/shop/FoxChapel**

HEADBAND

Using 3mm DPNs and yarn A, cast on 152 sts.
Pm and join to work in the rnd, being careful not to twist sts.

CORRUGATED RIBBING

Rnd 1: *K2A, K2B; repeat from * to end of rnd.
Rnds 2–5: *K2A, P2B; repeat from * to end of rnd.
Break off yarn B.
Rnd 6: Continuing in yarn A, knit to end of rnd.
Inc rnd 1: K4, *K8, KFB; repeat from * to last 4 sts, K4. 168 sts.

BODY

Work rnds 1–2 of Chart A, repeating the four-stitch repeat 42 times around.
At the end of Chart A, break off yarn D.

Next rnd: Continuing in yarn E, knit to end of rnd.
Inc rnd 2: *K55, KFB; repeat from * to end of rnd. 171 sts.

Begin working from rnd 1 of Chart B, working the 19-stitch repeat nine times around. Continue working from Chart B as set, changing colours where indicated, until all 17 rnds are complete.
Next rnd: Using yarn E, knit to end of rnd.
Dec rnd 1: *K55, K2tog; repeat from * to end of rnd. 168 sts.

Work rnds 1–2 of Chart C, repeating the four-stitch repeat 42 times around. At the end of Chart C, break off yarn D.
Next rnd: Continuing with yarn A, knit to end of rnd.

Dec rnd 2: K4, *K8, K2tog; repeat from * to last 4 sts, K4. 152 sts.

CORRUGATED RIBBING

Rnd 1: *K2A, K2B; repeat from * to end of rnd.
Rnds 2–5: *K2A, P2B; repeat from * to end of rnd. Break off yarn B.
Using yarn A, cast off neatly in K2, P2 rib pattern.

FINISHING

Weave in ends. Hand wash in mild, soapy water and rinse, following any yarn care instructions on the ball band. Wrap in a towel to remove excess water or use a very light spin in a washing machine. Stretch over a pudding bowl of a suitable size and leave until dry. If the ribbing becomes too stretched, this can be pulled in again using steam if necessary.

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Hevda Headband


Alison's 'Buggiflooer Beanie' was the official hat pattern for Shetland Wool Week 2023


1


This Fair Isle glove design is called 'Klivsi Glivs'

The Knitter FEATURE

Meet Alison Rendall

We chat with the Shetland designer who has published her first book exploring the techniques and traditions of Fair Isle knitting



A SHETLANDER born and bred, Alison Rendall has been knitting since she was very young, and she has shared a lifetime of knitting experience in her new book, *Fair Isle Knitting Tradition* (Landauer Publishing), which is a fascinating guide to the knitting heritage of the Shetland Isles.

Alongside a beautiful collection of stranded colourwork designs, Alison's book explores the history of Fair Isle knitting and its traditional motifs, and offers expert advice and technique walkthroughs. The book is delightfully sprinkled with Shetland dialect words, giving it a real sense of place – as do the stunning images of Shetland landscapes and photos from Alison's family album.

The 14 knitting patterns in the book include accessories that will be perfect for Fair Isle novices, such a phone case, a pair of mittens, and the 'Hevda Headband' which you can find on page 55 of this issue. There's a selection of Fair Isle hats, a pair of traditional slippers or 'smucks', long colourwork socks, gloves and an exquisite child's bonnet, along with two garments – the 'Virdik Vest', and the 'Umsket Gansey' with its alternating bands of large and 'peerie' motifs.

Alison loves to share her passion for Shetland's heritage and Fair Isle knitting with crafters around the world, and this led to her being named as Patron of Shetland Wool Week in 2023. She is full of fascinating stories and insights, as we learnt when we chatted with her for this interview.

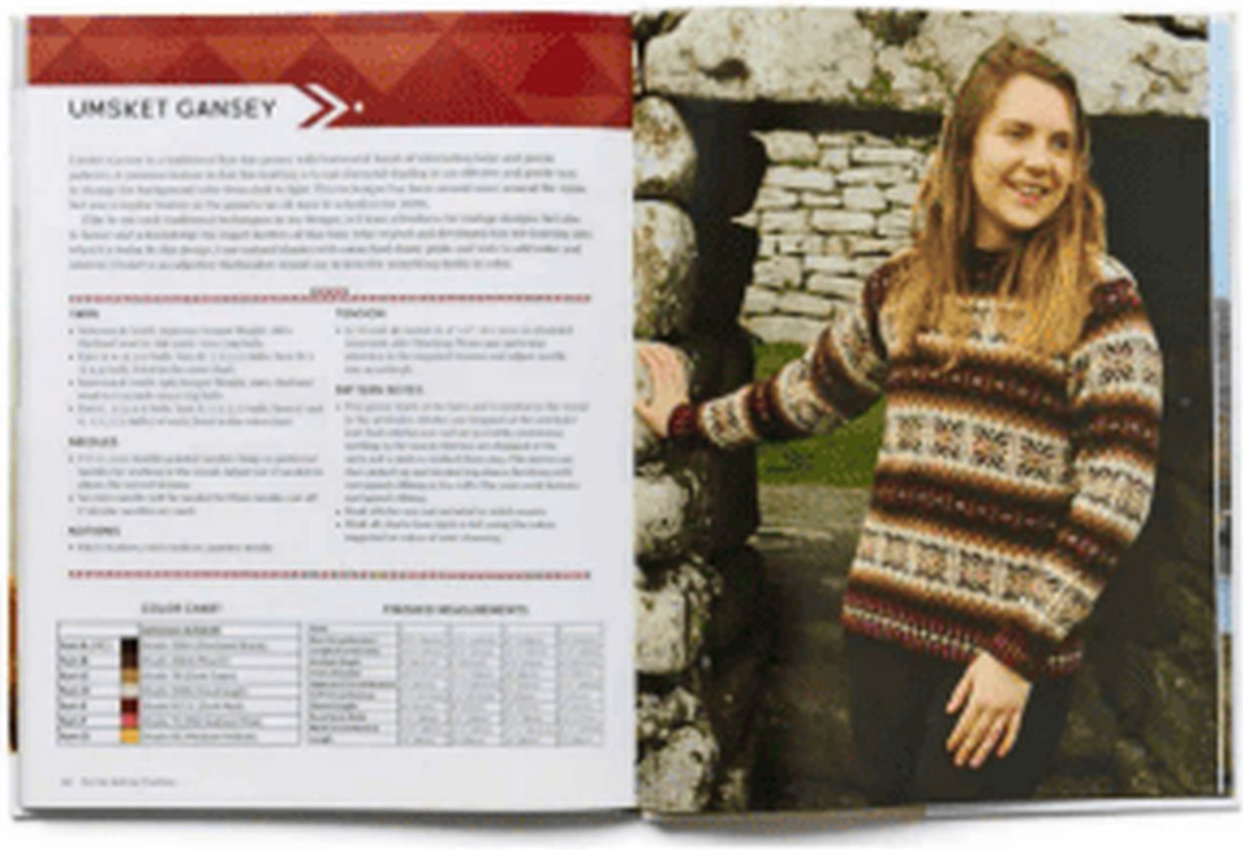
What was it like growing up in Shetland?

"I grew up in the 1960s and '70s, in a pre-oil industry era where Shetland remained largely untouched by progress and external influence. Most women knitted either to supplement the family income or just to prevent idle hands! My mother and grandmothers knitted every evening, and any visitors to the house would bring out their *sok* (knitting). Likewise, if you were visiting someone else you would take your knitting with you.

"I was surrounded by expert knitters who were constantly designing, and this was the accepted way to knit. Back then, knitters would never have considered themselves as designers. *Bairns* (children) wore bespoke, hand-knitted ganseys to school and adults wore them to work, whether that be to the office or out

SHETLAND WOOL WEEK

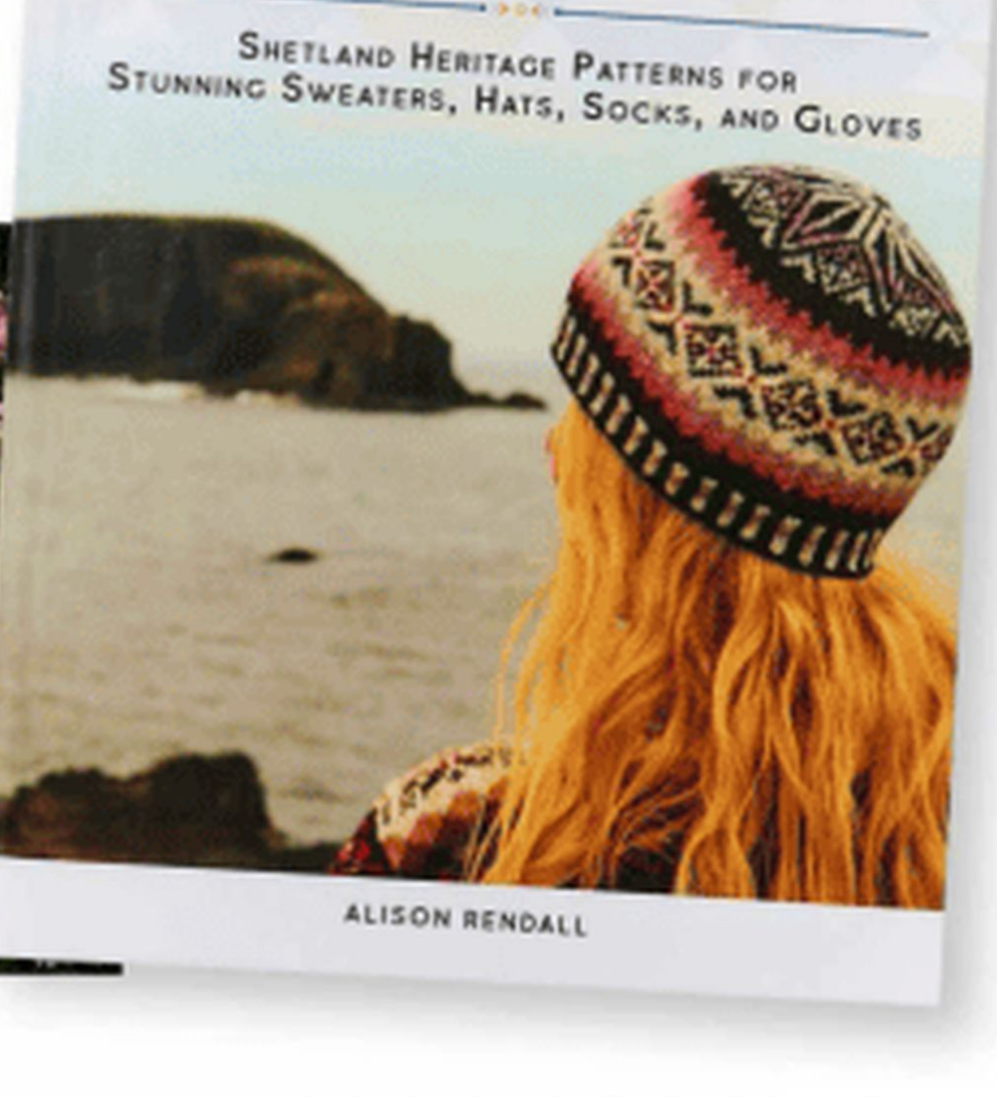
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❶ Alison Rendall is a native Shetlander ❷ 'Stoorbra Socks' were designed by Alison for the Shetland Wool Week Annual 2020 ❸ The 'Oormel Mittens' have Auld Shale lace cuffs



working in a fishing boat, without much thought about the work and artistry that had gone into creating the garment.

"I was first taught to knit by my grandmother when I was five years old. I then learnt the art of Fair Isle knitting when I was about eight years old. We had weekly knitting lessons at school as part of the curriculum. At that time, knitting was still considered a valuable skill with good job prospects for the future. I loved the weekly lessons and became fascinated with both pattern and colour. Seeing the design emerge gave me the incentive to increase production and finish pieces as quickly as I could."

Can you remember the first piece of Fair Isle knitting you ever made?

"I made lots of small items when I was younger; however, the design that sticks out in my mind was my first Fair Isle gansey, which I tackled when I was 17. It had lots of things that could have been improved on, including baggy sleeves, but this was how I learned for the next one! Working from a written pattern is not the way knitting is done in Shetland so, like most Shetlanders, I had never used one – hence, I was proud of my first ever design.

"As time progressed, I became more confident in designing my own pieces. My husband, a keen photographer, photographed my finished Fair Isle garments and posted them on social media. This led to lots of people asking for patterns, and so the seeds were sown. I published my first hat pattern in 2019, but it all stemmed from that very first, slightly baggy gansey."

Are there certain colours or colour combinations that you particularly enjoy working with?

"We are spoilt for choice in Shetland and are lucky enough to have several producers of pure Shetland wool. The number of beautiful shades available is truly inspirational, and the combinations of colour lend themselves to endless blending options, allowing you to paint with wool – the part of designing I enjoy most.

"I love all the blues and the pinks. I found that I use these shades most frequently, so I went on to produce my own range of Shetland wool from native breed Shetland sheep in my favourite colours. My product is called Murrister Wirset and is a collaboration between myself and our friend, Hubert Moar. Hubert is a crofter who looks after the Shetland sheep that provide our wool. I have enjoyed choosing and knitting with my own shades, and have recently started selling the wool online which is proving to be popular.

"Shetland is a beautiful place with a unique landscape of its own. I'm continually inspired by Shetland and the contrast of the seasons. I find myself unintentionally knitting with blues and yellows in the summer, sometimes purples in the heather season, and occasionally white if there's snow on the ground!"

Are there other knitters or designers who have inspired your work?

"Above all I am inspired by the long line of knitters in my family. This includes my grandmother, Jemima Bain (called Mena). She was born in Cunningsburgh with her family roots in Fladdabister. Through her I learned to knit the Cunningsburgh way. Techniques seen there are gloves with thumb gussets and double Fair Isle cuffs.

"More so I am continually inspired by the many, talented Shetland *makkers* (knitters) of the past. These were the real experts, many of whom remain faceless and nameless but not forgotten. Knitting was borne out of necessity, and the ▶



'Lund Socks' are among the 14 patterns in Alison's book



Alison produces her own Murrister Wirset yarn using fleece from a local crofter



1



2

❶ The 'Lyra Mitts' have folded cuffs, a traditional design feature from Cunningsburgh ❷ The 'Umsket Gansey' uses diamond shading for the background fabric

pieces these knitters crafted were scrutinised and devalued by merchants who wanted to pay the knitter the lowest price. It is these talented but often unappreciated women who drive me to share my skills, keeping Shetland at the heart of Fair Isle knitting.

"Nowadays it's rewarding to see more value being placed on Shetland knitting. Shetland *makkers* now have the chance to share their skills, artistry and knowledge with the rest of the world thanks to the global platform of social media."

How did you find the process of putting together your book?

"Writing *Fair Isle Knitting Tradition* was largely straightforward as I had a long period of 18 months to complete it (with one or two deadlines to meet along the way). Once I had decided on the headings for the 'how to' section, it was a case of writing down everything I knew about the Shetland way of doing things. The book is very much about what I have learned over the years, so I didn't get bogged down with masses of research. Working on the 14 patterns was a pleasurable experience as I find the design work the most enjoyable. The hardest part was constant proof reading, searching for mistakes – this was not so fun!"

Your book is filled with Shetland dialect words and their meanings. Which words or phrases are particularly special to you?

"All Shetland words are important as they are part of our history and culture. It saddens me that so many words and phrases have become less used, to the point of extinction. I hope that the practice of integrating these words into my book and designs will help keep a few of them alive both in usage and understanding, bringing them back into the forefront of people's minds.

"I love it when I hear a word that I've not heard in a while, usually from someone in the older generation. In my opinion, Shetland words and expressions are the best way to capture and describe a situation, sometimes to the point that there is no easy translation into English!

"My first example is of course a knitting word! Shetland knitting is taught from one generation to the next, therefore, the Shetland knitting words to describe techniques are incidentally preserved at the same time. For instance, a child is taught to *spret*, the Shetland word for pulling back your knitting. This word also seems to encompass the feeling of despair at having to redo your work!

"Shetlanders are generally known for their kindness, generosity and hospitality to others. We have a few phrases that sum this up, including '*Come dee wis*'. This would literally mean 'come you to us'. It would be said to someone as a warm welcome inviting them in.

"Also, '*Da giean hand is aye gittin*' which translate to 'The giving hand is always getting'. In other words, be generous. Shetland advice to live by.

"Lastly, Shetland is notorious for its changeable and unpredictable weather, and sometimes we see all four seasons in one day. This has given rise to sayings such as '*Nivir cast a cloot till May is oot*'. Literally meaning, don't remove any layers of clothing until May is finished. Basically, never trust the Shetland weather and always bring an extra layer with you. This saying never ages!"

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❸ Alison wearing her 'Toosik Toorie' from the book; she has also designed a version for babies
❹ Her new book has 14 garment and accessory patterns, including this beautiful 'Virdik Vest'



Many Shetland knitters use a knitting belt – is this a tool you use yourself?
"I was taught to knit with a knitting belt so am unable to knit without one! A belt provides stability to my work, keeping the stitches even and machine-like. It also does some of the work of the right hand and provides support to the wrists, elbows and shoulders by keeping movement of these joints to a minimum."

Can you tell us about your involvement with Shetland Wool Week?
"I have been a tutor at Shetland Wool Week for several years. I started off teaching at Jamieson & Smith, one of our local wool shops, and have progressed from there. In 2023, I was honoured to be asked to be Patron of Shetland Wool Week. I decided early on to use my time as Patron to promote Shetland's unique culture and heritage, focusing on language as well as knitting. I designed the 'Buggiflooer Beanie' in five colourways using shades from different Shetland yarn producers. It was rewarding to see the design being knitted all over the world. Best of all, I loved hearing from knitters new to Fair Isle knitting who had successfully completed the project.

"I also like to get involved in online content as it is important for me to share my knowledge with people interested in Shetland life. Shetland is hard to get to and is an expensive place to visit; therefore, online platforms give those who are unlikely to make the trip an opportunity to participate in the Shetland experience."

Do you have much time to knit for yourself?
"I always have something on the 'wires'. Hats are probably my favourite thing to make as you have the satisfaction of a finished piece quite quickly. As soon as the season begins to change and the curtains are drawn, I get the urge to knit bigger pieces so will usually make one or two ganseys before Christmas time, with smaller projects in between. Knitting in a Shetland winter is a very traditional thing to do and it really helps to get through the long dark nights and perpetual wind!

"After the Agricultural Show season is finished in September, I begin to plan for next year's show. Knitting for the show is always at the back of my mind over wintertime. Not only are the shows a great place to exhibit your work, but they are also a vital part of island life and socialisation. The competition is always fierce but friendly!

"Currently, I have a new gansey on the wires. If it goes well, I will likely publish the pattern at some point and of course enter it in the show next year!"

Do you have any upcoming plans that you can share with us?
"I'm doing a collaboration with Foula Wool. The island of Foula has its own indigenous native population of Shetland sheep, producing a unique range of undyed yarns called Foula Wool. The design I have created for the collaboration is called the 'Hametoun Hat'; one hat is made with Foula Wool's natural shades with a splash of colour from my own yarn Murrister Wirset. The same design is also made in Murrister Wirset with a touch of Foula natural fawn. The purpose of the collab is to promote native breed Shetland sheep and the properties of their incredible wool.

"I have also sent away my second batch of Murrister Wirset for processing. The twelve existing shades will be topped up and three new colours are being added. This will enable me to expand on my designs in my own *wirset* (yarn). My head is usually teeming with design ideas, and I often wake up in the night thinking about a new colourway. I'm sure I'll get some of these down on paper one day!"

– www.alisonrendall.com
– *Fair Isle Knitting Tradition* is published by Landauer Publishing, priced £19.99

SANNA MÅRD CASTMAN

Wilma

This cropped cardigan with wide sleeves has a wealth of textural details

Wilma



SANNA MÅRD CASTMAN

Wilma

SIZE

TO FIT BUST	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	71-76	81-86	**91-97**	102-107	**112-117**	122-127	cm
	32-34	36-38	**40-42**	44-46	**48-50**	52-54	in
ACTUAL BUST	**100**	110	**122**	132	**142**	152	cm
	39¼	43¼	**48**	52	**56**	59¾	in
ACTUAL LENGTH	**49**	51	**53**	55	**57**	59	cm
	19¼	20	**20¾**	21¾	**22½**	23¼	in
SLEEVE SEAM	**43**	44	**45**	45	**44**	44	cm
	17	17¼	**17¾**	17¾	**17¼**	17¼	in

YARN

World of Wool Marble DK (DK weight; 80% Merino wool, 20% Tussah silk; 110m/120yds per 50g ball)

WILDFIRE	**11**	12	**14**	15	**16**	17	x50g BALLS

THIS DESIGN by Sanna Mård Castman has dropped shoulders, a cropped body and balloon sleeves. A subtle lace pattern is used on the body and sleeves; deep bands of decorative ribbing around the hems and cuffs are separated from the main fabric by lines of bobbles. Sanna's cardigan is knitted in Marble DK, a delicious blend of Merino wool and tussah silk from World of Wool which comes in a palette of saturated, vintage-inspired colours.

CHART PATTERN

(written instructions)

Row 1: (K3, K2tog, K1, yo, K6) to last 6 sts, K3, K2tog, K1, yo.
Row 2 and all WS rows: Purl.
Row 3: (K2, K2tog, K1, yo, K7) to last 6 sts, K2, K2tog, K1, yo, K1.
Row 5: (K1, K2tog, K1, yo, K8) to last 6 sts, K1, K2tog, K1, yo, K2.
Row 7: (K2tog, K1, yo, K9) to last 6 sts, K2tog, K1, yo, K3.
Row 9: (K6, yo, K1, skpo, K3) to last 6 sts, K6.
Row 11: (K7, yo, K1, skpo, K2) to last 6 sts, K6.
Row 13: (K8, yo, K1, skpo, K1) to last 6 sts, K6.
Row 15: (K9, yo, K1, skpo) to last 6 sts, K6.
Row 16: Purl.

BODY

Using 3.5mm circular needles, 80–100cm long, cast on 218 (236:260:284:302:320) sts.

ESTABLISH RIB

Row 1 (RS): K1, *K1, P2; rep from * to last st, K1.
Row 2 (WS): K1, *K2, P1; rep from * to last st, K1.
Rep row 1 and 2 until work meas 6.5cm, ending after a WS row.

Next row (RS): K1, *K1, P5; rep from * to last st, K1.
Next row: K1, *K5, P1; rep from * to last st, K1.
Rep last 2 rows until work meas 11.5cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row.

Change to 4mm circular needles.

Size 1 only
Dec row (RS): K4, (K2tog, K7) 6 times, (K2tog, K8) 10 times, (K2tog, K7) 6 times, K2tog, K4. 195 sts.

Sizes 2 and 4 only
Dec row (RS): K5, (K2tog, K9) 8 times, (K2tog, K10) –(4:–:8:–:–) times, (K2tog, K9) 8 times, K2tog, K5.
–(215:–:259:–:–) sts.

Size 3 only
Dec row (RS): K5, (K2tog, K11) 4 times, (K2tog, K10) 12 times, (K2tog, K11) 4 times, K2tog, K5. 239 sts.

Size 5 only
Dec row (RS): K6, (K2tog, K11) 10 times, (K2tog, K12) 2 times, (K2tog, K11) 10 times, K2tog, K6. 279 sts.

Size 6 only
Dec row (RS): K7, (K2tog, K13) 8 times, (K2tog, K14) 4 times, (K2tog, K13) 8 times, K2tog, K7. 299 sts.

All sizes

BORDER

Row 1 (WS): Knit.
Row 2 (RS): K1, purl to last st, K1.
Rows 3–4: As Row 1.
Row 5: As Row 2.
Row 6: As Row 1.
Row 7: As Row 2.
Row 8: K1 (2:2:3:1:2) *MB, K5; rep from * to last 2 (3:3:4:2:3) sts, MB, K1 (2:2:3:1:2).
Row 9: As Row 2.

Continue as follows:
Next row (RS): Knit.
Next row (WS): K1, purl to last st, K1.
Rep these 2 rows until work meas 18cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row, and inc 1 st in centre of the last row.
196 (216:240:260:280:300) sts.

ESTABLISH PATTERN

Row 1 (RS): K5 (3:3:1:5:3), work Row 1 of Chart patt until last 5 (3:3:1:5:3) sts, knit to end. If working from Chart you will finish after working 6 sts in patt.
Row 2 (WS): K1, purl to last st, P1.

Cont working in patt as set, working 16-row rep until work meas 31 (32:33:34:35:36) cm, ending after a WS row and noting the last patt row you worked to

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NEEDLES & ACCESSORIES

3.5mm (UK 10-9/US 4) circular needles, 60cm long
3.5mm (UK 10-9/US 4) circular needles, 80–100cm long
4mm (UK 8/US 6) circular needles, 60cm long
4mm (UK 8/US 6) circular needles, 80–100cm long
Stitch holders or waste yarn
Tapestry needle
6 x 15mm buttons

TENSION

20 sts and 28 rows to 10cm over patt on 4mm needles

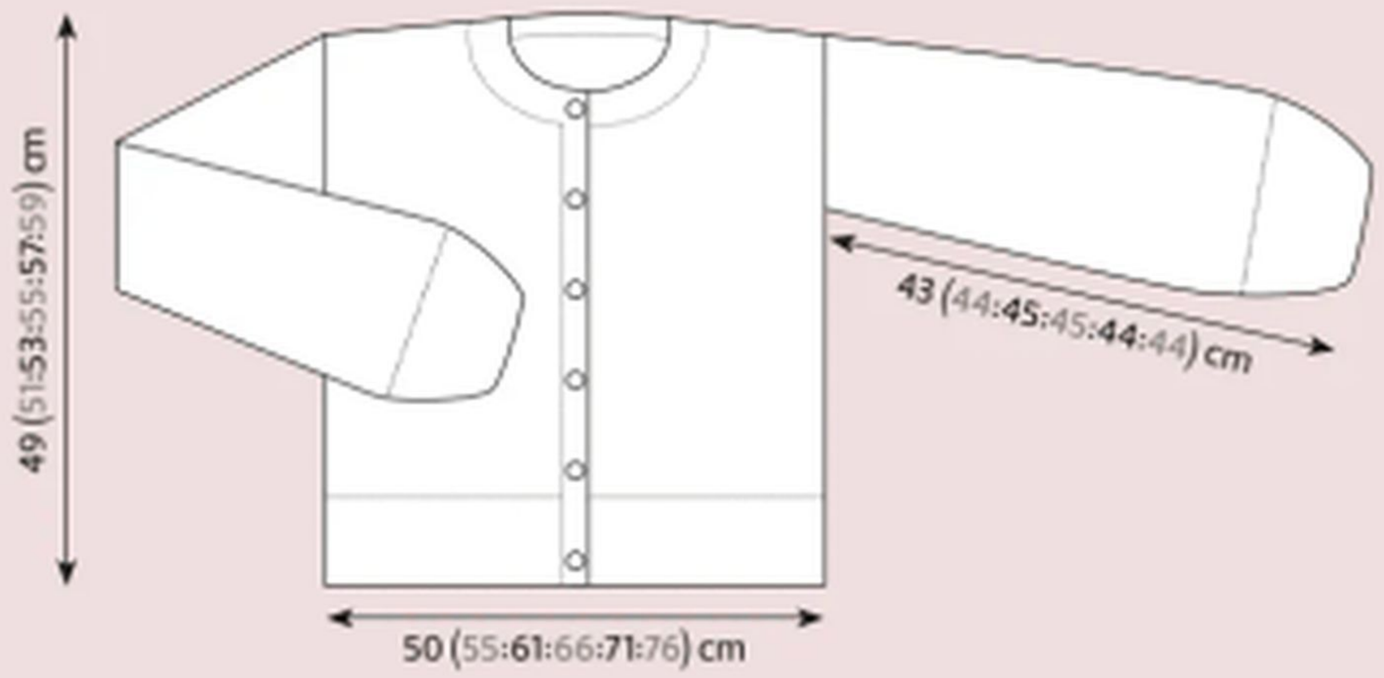
YARN STOCKISTS

World of Wool 03300 56488
www.worldofwool.co.uk

SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

MB: Make bobble – Kfbfbf (4 sts inc'd), turn, P4, turn, K4, turn, P4, turn, K2tog twice, turn, P2tog, turn, return st on left needle to right needle, pull first st on right needle over second.
For general abbreviations, see p88

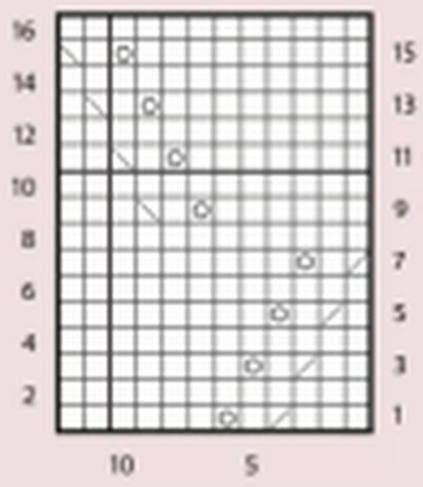
BLOCKING DIAGRAM



KEY

- K on RS; P on WS
- K2tog
- Skpo
- Yo

CHART





here, to ensure you begin correct row on Fronts later.
Divide work as follows:
With RS facing, transfer first 48 (53:59:65:70:75) sts to a holder for Right Front. Keep the next 100 (110:122:130:140:150) sts on needle for the Back. Transfer rem 48 (53:59:65:70:75) sts to a holder for Left Front.

BACK

Cont in chart patt and keep track of how many rows you work over next section so that you end with the correct row on Fronts later.

Row 1 (RS): Rejoin yarn to Back sts, cast on 1 st, patt to end of row, cast on 1 st.
102 (112:124:132:142:152) sts

Row 2 (WS): K1, patt to last st, K1.
Row 3 (RS): K1, patt to last st, K1.
Rep Rows 2 and 3 until work meas 47 (49:51:53:55:57) cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row.

SHAPE BACK NECK AND SHOULDERS

Row 1 (RS): K1, patt 34 (38:44:47:52:56) sts, cast off 32 (34:34:36:36:38) sts for neck, patt to last st, K1.

LEFT BACK SHOULDER

Row 1 (WS): K1, purl to last st, K1.
Row 2 (RS): Cast off 2 sts for neck, patt to last st, K1.
33 (37:43:46:51:55) sts.
Row 3 (WS): Cast off 11 (12:14:15:17:18) sts for shoulder, purl to last st, K1.
22 (25:29:31:34:37) sts.
Row 4 (RS): Cast off 1 st for neck, patt to last st, K1. 1 st dec'd.
Row 5 (WS): Cast off 10 (12:14:15:16:18) sts for shoulder, purl to last st, K1.
11 (12:14:15:17:18) sts.
Row 6 (RS): As Row 4. 1 st dec'd.
10 (11:13:14:16:17) sts.
Cast off rem sts.

RIGHT BACK SHOULDER

Rejoin yarn to held Right Back Shoulder sts, with WS facing.
Row 1 (WS): Cast off 2 sts for neck, purl to last st, K1.
33 (37:43:46:51:55) sts.
Row 2 (RS): Cast off 11 (12:14:15:17:18) sts for shoulder, patt to last st, K1.
22 (25:29:31:34:37) sts.
Row 3 (WS): Cast off 1 st for neck, purl to last st, K1.
21 (24:28:30:33:36) sts.
Row 4 (RS): Cast off 10 (12:14:15:16:18) sts for shoulder, patt to last st, K1.
11 (12:14:15:17:18) sts.
Row 5 (WS): Cast off 1 st for neck, purl to last st, K1.
10 (11:13:14:16:17) sts.
Cast off rem sts.

LEFT FRONT

Transfer sts to 4mm circular needles, 60cm long. Keep patt correct throughout.
Row 1 (RS): K1, patt to end of row, cast on 1 st.
49 (54:60:66:71:76) sts.

Row 2 (WS): K1, patt to last st, K1.
Row 3 (RS): K1, patt to last st, K1.
Repeat rows 2 and 3 until work meas 37 (39:41:43:45:47) cm, ending after a WS row. ▶

Wilma



RIGHT FRONT

Transfer sts to 4mm circular needles, 60cm long.
Row 1 (RS): Cast on 1 st, patt to end of row, K1.
49 (54:60:66:71:76) sts.
Row 2 (WS): K1, purl to last st, K1.
Row 3 (RS): K1, patt to last st, K1.
Repeat Rows 2 and 3 until work meas 37 (39:41:43:45:47) cm, ending after a WS row.

SHAPE NECK

Row 1 (RS): K1, patt to last st, K1.
Row 2 (WS): Cast off 6 (7:7:8:8:9) sts for neck, purl to last st, K1.
43 (47:53:58:63:67) sts.
Row 3: As Row 1.
Row 4: Cast off 2 (2:2:2:3:3) sts for neck, purl to last st, K1.
41 (45:51:56:60:64) sts.
Row 5: As Row 1.
Row 6: Cast off 2 (2:2:2:2:2) sts for neck, purl to last st, K1.
39 (43:49:54:58:62) sts.
Row 7: As Row 1.
Row 8: Cast off 1 st for neck, purl to last st, K1. 1 st dec'd.
Rep Rows 7 and 8 another 4 (4:4:8:6:6) times.
34 (38:44:45:51:55) sts.

Next row (RS): K1, patt to last st, K1.
Next row (WS): Cast off 1 st for neck, purl to last st, K1. 1 st dec'd.
Work 2 rows straight in patt.
Rep these last 4 rows another 2 (2:2:0:1:1) times.
31 (35:41:44:49:53) sts.
Front should measure same as Back to start of Shoulder Shaping.

SHAPE SHOULDER

Row 1 (RS): K1, patt to last st, K1.
Row 2 (WS): Cast off 11 (12:14:15:17:18) sts, patt to end.
20 (23:27:29:32:35) sts.
Row 3: As Row 1.
Row 4: Cast off 10 (12:14:15:16:18) sts, patt to end.
10 (11:13:14:16:17) sts.
Row 5: As Row 1.
Cast off rem sts.

SLEEVES

(make 2 alike)
Using 3.5mm circular needles, 60cm long, cast on 42 (46:46:46:48:50) sts.
Knit 2 rows.

SHAPE NECK

Row 1 (RS): K1, patt to last st, K1.
Row 2: Cast off 6 (7:7:8:8:9) sts for neck, patt to last st, K1.
43 (47:53:58:63:67) sts.
Row 3: As Row 1.
Row 4: Cast off 2 (2:2:2:3:3) sts for neck, patt to last st, K1.
41 (45:51:56:60:64) sts.
Row 5: As Row 1.
Row 6: Cast off 2 (2:2:2:2:2) sts for neck, patt to last st, K1.
39 (43:49:54:58:62) sts.
Row 7: As Row 1.
Row 8: Cast off 1 st for neck, purl to last st, K1. 1 st dec'd.
Rep Rows 7 and 8 another 4 (4:4:8:6:6) times.
34 (38:44:45:51:55) sts.

Next row (RS): K1, patt to last st, K1.
Next row (WS): Cast off 1 st for neck, purl to last st, K1. 1 st dec'd.
Work 2 rows straight in patt.
Rep last 4 rows another 2 (2:2:0:1:1) times.
31 (35:41:44:49:53) sts.

Work 1 row straight, thus ending after a RS row. Front should measure same as Back to start of Shoulder Shaping.

SHAPE SHOULDER

Row 1 (WS): K1, purl to last st, K1.
Row 2 (RS): Cast off 11 (12:14:15:17:18) sts, patt to end.
20 (23:27:29:32:35) sts.
Row 3 (WS): As Row 1.
Row 4: Cast off 10 (12:14:15:16:18) sts, patt to end.
10 (11:13:14:16:17) sts.
Row 5: As Row 1.
Cast off rem sts.

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Next row (RS): K1, *M1, K1; rep from * to last st, K1.
82 (90:90:90:94:98) sts.
Next row (WS): K1, purl to last st, K1.

Size 1 only
Inc row: K3, (M1, K7) 2 times, (M1, K6) 8 times, (M1, K7) 2 times, M1, K3.
95 sts.

Sizes 2, 3 and 4 only
Inc row: K5, (M1, K10) 8 times, M1, K5.
99 sts.

Size 5 only
Inc row: K7, (M1, K13) 2 times, (M1, K14) 2 times, (M1, K13) 2 times, M1, K7.
101 sts.

Size 6 only
Inc row: K7, (M1, K14) 6 times, M1, K7.
105 sts.

All sizes
Next row (WS): K1, purl to last st, K1.

Change to 4mm circular needles, 60cm long.

ESTABLISH RIB

Row 1 (RS): K1, *K1, P2; rep from * to last 1 (2:2:2:1:2) sts, K1 (2:2:2:1:2).
Row 2 (WS): K1, P0 (1:1:1:0:1) sts, *K2, P1; rep from * to last st, K1.
Rep Rows 1 and 2 until work meas 6.5cm, ending after a WS row.

Next row (RS): K1, *K1, P5; rep from * to last 4 (2:2:2:4:2) sts, K1 (1:1:1:1:1), P2 (0:0:0:2:0), K1.
Next row (WS): K3 (1:1:1:3:1), P1, *K5, P1; rep from * to last st, K1.
Rep last 2 rows until work meas 10cm from cast-on edge, ending after a RS row.

Knit 3 rows.
Beg with a RS knit row, work 4 rows in st st.

Next row (RS): K1, *MB, K5; rep from * to last 4 (2:2:2:4:2) sts, MB, K to end.

Next row (WS): K1, purl to last st, K1.
Next row: Knit.
Rep last 2 rows until work meas 17 (18:19:19:18:18) cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row and dec 1 st at end of last row.
94 (98:98:98:100:104) sts.

ESTABLISH PATTERN

Row 1 (RS): K2 (4:4:4:5:1) sts, work Row 1 of Chart patt until last 2 (4:4:4:5:1) sts, K to end. If working from Chart you will finish after working 6 sts in patt.
Row 2 (WS): K1, purl to last st, K1.

Rep Rows 1 and 2 throughout, working Chart patt rows 3–16, then Chart patt rows 1–16 throughout AND AT THE SAME TIME, shape sleeves as foll:

SHAPE SLEEVE

Note: Continue working patt as set. When working a shaping row, ensure that decs and incs in patt are still balanced, so that you dec 1 st at each end of row. If you can't work a corresponding inc and dec from the Chart patt, work these sts in st st.

Dec row (RS): K1, SSK, patt to last 3 sts, K2tog, K1. 2 sts dec'd.
Dec 1 st at each end of row on every foll 6th row another 9 (9:6:1:1:1) times, then dec 1 st at each end of every foll 8th row another 0 (0:2:5:4:4) times.
74 (78:80:84:88:92) sts.

Cont in patt without shaping until work meas 43 (44:45:45:44:44) cm, ending after a WS row.
Cast off all sts.

MAKING UP

Block pieces to measurements, following any yarn care instructions on the ball band.
Join shoulder seams.

NECKBAND

Beginning at front neck, with RS facing and using 3.5mm circular needles, 60cm long, pick up and knit 86 (89:89:95:95:98) sts around neckline.

Next row (WS): K1, *P1, K2; rep from * to last st, K1.
Next row (RS): K1, *K1, P2; rep from * to last st, K1.
Rep these 2 rows until rib meas 2.5cm, ending after a WS row.
Cast off in rib.

LEFT BUTTONBAND

With RS facing and using 3.5mm circular needles, 60cm long, pick up and knit 74 (77:80:86:89:92) sts along front edge.

Next row (WS): K1, *P1, K2; rep from * to last st, K1.
Next row (RS): K1, *K1, P2; rep from * to last st, K1.
Rep these last 2 rows until buttonband meas 2.5cm, ending after a WS row.
Cast off in rib.

Mark button band to show placement of 6 buttons, the first 1.5cm from cast-on edge, the last one in line with the neckband, and spacing the remaining buttonholes evenly between them.

RIGHT BUTTONHOLE BAND

Work as for Left Buttonband for 3 rows.
On next 2 rows, make 6 buttonholes corresponding with marked button placement on button band, by casting off 2 sts, then casting on 2 sts over cast-off sts on the following row.

Sew in buttons on left buttonband.
Sew in sleeves.
Sew sleeve seams.



Rare-breed yarns



Wild Woolers yarns are hand-spun by Helen



1



Lancashire Wildlife Trust flocks include Norfolk Horn sheep



2

1 + 2 Beth and Helen regularly exhibit their yarns and knitted items at shows and festivals 3 Their range of knit and crochet patterns includes wraps, hats, mitts and socks 4 These beautiful colours are created with botanical dyes 5 The Toyota Yaris, packed to the brim with Hebridean fleeces! 6 Yarns are hand-dyed by Beth



3



4



The mini skein sets comprise five different single-breed yarns



6



5

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Focus on...

WILD WOOLERS

This artisan company specialises in hand-spun, rare-breed British yarns that help to support local conservation efforts



WHEN FRIENDS Helen James and Beth McCorrie were offered a bundle of rare-breed fleeces that was destined for landfill, they knew they couldn't pass up the opportunity – and this decision was to become the starting point for a brand-new business. Both passionate crafters, Helen and Beth began to produce handknitting yarns from the fleeces they obtained – spun by Helen, and botanically dyed by Beth – for their new endeavour, Wild Woolers.

Today, Wild Woolers has become a regular exhibitor at festivals. Much of Helen's and Beth's yarn is sourced from the Wildlife Trusts in Lancashire and Lincolnshire, and a portion of each sale supports the important conservation work carried out by the Trusts. Their handspun offerings include a beautiful blend of rare-breed Hebridean wool and alpaca, and single-breed yarns including Soay, South Down, North Ronaldsay and Kent Romney.

Their Wild Woolers adventure began in 2022, when Helen set up a knitting group in her village. "I was one of the first people to arrive, and we quickly realised that we were both professional stitchers," Beth explains. Beth already had her own online crochet business, and Helen had also set up a small business, had published two books on lace knitting with The Crowood Press, and had completed her City and Guilds in knitwear design & technology.

"My son-in-law's brother was working as a ranger for the Lancashire Wildlife Trust, and had been shearing their flock of rare-breed Hebrideans," says Helen. "One evening in the pub, he told his brother about how they were going to have to take all the fleece to the tip. My son-in-law suggested (as a joke) that the Trust should ask me if I wanted it. Much to their surprise, Beth and I decided that yes, we would have it. We just couldn't let it go to waste!

"We hired the biggest car we could find, drove the breadth of the country and loaded up the car to the rafters. On our way home, we were discussing what we should actually do with all this fleece. We decided to officially combine our two businesses – and somewhere along the M62 motorway, Wild Woolers was born!

"We started with our Heb and alpaca blend in partnership with the Wildlife Trust – which has become our signature range – and then continued to increase our stock of rare breeds, and our contacts with farmers and shepherds," says Helen. Today, the pair source their wool from a range of local farmers, along with Wildlife Trust partners in Lancashire and Lincolnshire.

"We now sell Norfolk, Black Welsh Mountain, Lincoln Longwool, Bluefaced Leicester, Manx Loaghton, Portland, and any British breed we can get hold of," says Beth. "Our rare-breed mini kits contain a considerable range of yarns, from North Ronaldsay to Galway! These enable knitters and crocheters to sample some of Britain's iconic and at-risk sheep breeds."

Homespun delights

"Our yarns are mostly spun in my conservatory – under the close supervision of my dog!" says Helen. "We are, however, planning to introduce some mill-spun yarns from Shire Mill, a mini mill that we work with in Loughborough."

Beth is the botanical dyer for Wild Woolers. "As we forage and grow as many of our own dye stuffs as we can, it is often a voyage of discovery and experimentation," she says. "We like to use plants that are in season for dyes, so there is a huge range of dyestuffs used at different times of the year. Three core dyes we use a lot are woad, onion skin, and madder. Helen will make requests for potentially impossible colourways because she has just had a good idea. My personal favourite colourway is 'Berry Crush', a combination of variegated pinks and purples created using fresh snow for ice-dyeing. We plan on restocking it for next year once there is enough snow to do it again! Our inspiration comes from nature and the things we see around us, both for our colours and our designs."

The business has evolved rapidly from its modest beginnings. "We have progressed from selling in a cold, leaky marquee on the village playing field, to driving all over the country to exhibit at large stitching shows and at some of our Wildlife Trust partnership events," Helen says. "As well as our yarns, we sell roving, patterns, kits, and our zero-waste products. Once a year, we go to an enormous Christmas fair where we sell handmade items, including socks, hats, mitts and scarves." All the patterns are their own designs – Helen creates the knitwear, and Beth the crochet patterns.

Helen and Beth have been helped along the way with lots of advice from other members of the yarn community. "Graeme Bethune from Caithness Yarns has encouraged us from the beginning and has helped us to properly value our yarn and our work," Helen reports. "And Jenn Monahan from the Fibreworkshop told us to focus on one main thing, rather than spreading ourselves too thinly. Pick a thing and do it well – that's valuable advice for two people who have such a vast range of interests with a tendency to fall down every crafting rabbit hole they come across!"

Wild Woolers yarns are available via their website, and also at the many shows the pair exhibit at every year. "Attending stitching shows, where our yarns receive such a good reception, is always a highlight for us," says Helen. "We love meeting our fellow yarnies and sharing ideas with both crafters and vendors. One of our biggest challenges is packing an entire show into the back of the Toyota Yaris, though!" Another big highlight for the pair was receiving the Lancashire Wildlife Trust's 'Business Nature Champion of the Year' award for 2024.

"In 2026, along with a plethora of talks, we will be at East Anglia Yarn Festival on 21-22 March, Buxton Wool Gathering in May, and hope to be at several other shows during the year," says Helen.

– www.wildwoolers.co.uk

PICKING UP STITCHES

Helen Spedding offers a few tips and tricks for achieving neater results on your picked-up edges

MOST GARMENT projects involve picking up stitches at some point in the process, to add necklines, borders around the armholes, button bands and so on. It's a relatively straightforward part of the knitting process which most of us are very familiar with – yet if we fail to pick up stitches neatly, the resulting borders will look untidy and be very noticeable, so it's important to get it right! Here, I'd like to offer a few tips on how to pick up stitches neatly along stocking stitch and garter stitch edges.

Before we begin, we should say that when a pattern tells you to "pick up" stitches, it usually means to pass the needle tip through the edge of the fabric to pick up loops. You don't use any yarn for this; you simply pick up one strand or leg of the stitch at the edge of the fabric. When a pattern instructs you to "pick up and knit", however, it means you will be using yarn to knit up stitches along the edge. You'll be passing the knitting needle through a stitch or strand at the edge of the work, wrapping your working yarn around it, and pulling the yarn through, completing it like a normal stitch. It's also possible to pick up and purl, of course – for this, you'd pass the needle tip through the edge from back to front, wrap the working yarn around it and complete the stitch as you would for a purl.

PICKING UP RATES

Your knitting pattern is likely to tell you how many stitches you should pick up along a certain edge, or suggest a pick-up rate. However, it might be more vague, recommending that you be left with, say, an even number of picked-up stitches, or a multiple of 4 to complete a rib pattern.

There are some common pick-up ratios that you can use if you're not sure how many stitches to pick up:

Along a vertical stocking stitch edge: pick up 3 stitches for every 4 rows

Along a sloped/diagonal stocking stitch edge: pick up 3 stitches for every 4 rows

Along a cast-off or cast-on edge: pick up 1 stitch in every stitch along the edge

Along a garter stitch edge: pick up 1 stitch for every 2 rows (i.e. 1 stitch for every garter ridge)

PICKING UP IN STOCKING STITCH

To pick up and knit along a stocking stitch edge, you insert your knitting needle behind a stitch from front to back (❶). Check you're working through the actual edge stitch, and make sure your needle is under the whole stitch – you should have two strands on your needle. (Picking up through just one strand of the edge stitch gives you a looser, messier edge.)

Now wrap the yarn around the needle as if to knit, and pull it through to the front (❷). Reinsert your needle into the next stitch along – there should be one vertical bar in between (❸) – and repeat.

If you're following a pick-up rate of 3 sts for every 4 rows, you should pick up 3 sts in 3 adjacent rows, then skip a row, then pick up another 3 sts in the next 3 rows. Do not skip 2 adjacent stitches.

Many projects require us to pick up and knit stitches along edges where there have been decreases or stepped cast-offs, such







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as at necklines or around armholes. Here, use the pick-up ratio for side edges along the straight vertical lengths (❹) and diagonal edges (❺), and the pick-up rate for cast-off edges (❻) whenever you're picking up along cast-off sections. Along a top cast-off edge, you would pick up one stitch in every stitch (❼).

When you have a set number of stitches you want to pick up along an edge, it can be helpful to divide the edge into smaller sections, especially if a lot of stitches are involved. Fold the edge in half and place a locking stitch marker at the halfway point, to divide the edge into two sections. Now fold each of these two sections in half and place another marker. You can divide the total number of stitches you want to pick up by four, and pick up this resulting number in each of the four sections.

If you're finding it tricky to pull the yarn through when picking up because the edge is tight, you can use a needle that's one size smaller than your project needles for picking up, then change to the needle size stated in the pattern to continue knitting. You could also use the two-needle method – insert your left-hand needle into the edge stitch, then use your right-hand needle to knit it. Some people like to use a crochet hook for this, instead of a needle, to scoop the yarn through and place it on the knitting needle.

It's important to make sure you start picking up directly into the cast-on or cast-off row for a smooth finish. This will be particularly noticeable if you've picked up to add on a ribbed border, and you haven't begun at exactly the right place, as the bottom of the ribbing will pull up and look messy (❽). It's easy to get it wrong, because a piece of stocking stitch will often have a slightly rounded edge, making it hard to see where to start your pick-up – what might look like the first row is actually too high (❾). Pull down firmly on the edge and you should see an even lower space, directly adjacent to the cast-on (❿) – start your pick-up here, and the lower edge of your border will look neater (⓫).

If your picked-up edge stitches look a little untidy, or there seem to be lots of gaps as you're picking up, you should find that once you start knitting the stitches will widen out to fill up the spaces – and blocking can always help to tidy things up further once you've finished!

Curved edges

Picking up stitches around a curved edge ▶

















requires a slightly different approach, to avoid puckering. It's also a situation where a bit of forward planning will help you: when working a shaped piece of knitting where you'll be picking up stitches later, it's a good idea to work any decreases or increases one or two stitches away from the edge stitch. This will make it easier to maintain a neat finish when you come to pick up later.

My preferred method for picking up around a curved edge is to place a locking stitch marker at the corner (⓬), and work an extra stitch at either side of the marker. To do this, you pick up stitches to the marker, work a yarnover, remove the marker, pick up a stitch at the corner (where the marker was), work a second yarnover, and continue your pick-up to the end. On the next row, when you get to the yarnovers, either knit or purl them through the back loops.

PICKING UP IN GARTER STITCH

When picking up along a garter stitch edge, the usual pick-up rate is 1 stitch for every 2 rows (i.e. 1 stitch for every garter ridge). There are two options here: to pick up a whole stitch (under the stitch between the ridges), or a half stitch (through the bump at the top of each garter stitch ridge).

Picking up a whole stitch involves passing the needle under both strands of the stitch between each garter ridge and pulling the yarn through (⓭). Picking up a half stitch involves passing the needle through the purl bump or 'frown' at the top of the garter ridge (⓮), and pulling the yarn through (⓯).

The two methods produce similar results on the right side of the fabric – I personally think picking up a whole stitch looks a bit nicer on the RS (⓰) than when a half stitch is picked up (⓱). However, this method is very noticeable on the WS as it pushes the purl bumps to the back of the fabric (⓲), whereas the other version is much neater on the WS and lies flat (⓳). So it all depends on your preference, or whether the wrong side will be visible. ⊞



About our expert
Helen Spedding is the operations editor of *The Knitter*. She loves exploring the possibilities of the knitted stitch and swatching unusual or unfamiliar stitch patterns.

















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SIRDAR

Diamond Cable Cardigan

This balloon-sleeve V-neck design has a lattice pattern across the upper body and sleeves



SIRDAR

Diamond Cable Cardigan

INSPIRED BY vintage styles, this V-neck cardigan from the Sirdar design team is knitted in stocking stitch up to the bust, then features an interlocking lattice stitch across the top of the bodice and balloon sleeves. It is knitted in Sirdar's Loveful 100% Recycled Tweed Blend, a soft, DK-weight yarn spun from GRS-certified recycled fibres.

SIZE

TO FIT BUST	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
	71-76	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127	132-137	cm
	28-30	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50	52-54	in
ACTUAL BUST	87	97	107	117	127	137	147	cm
	34¼	38	42	46	50	54	58	in
ACTUAL LENGTH	54	56	58	60	62	64	66	cm
	21¼	22	22¾	23¾	24½	25¼	26	in
SLEEVE SEAM	38	39	39	40	41	41	41	cm
	15	15½	15½	15¾	16	16	16	in

YARN

Sirdar Loveful Recycled Tweed DK (DK weight; 40% recycled wool, 40% recycled polyester, 20% recycled acrylic; 300m/328yds per 100g ball)

FERN 204	3	4	4	5	5	6	6	x100g BALLS

BACK

Using 3.25mm needles and the thumb method, cast on 113 (125:139:153:165:179:191) sts.

Row 1: *K1, P1; rep from * to last st, K1.
Row 2: P1, *K1, P1; rep from * to end.
Rows 1 and 2 set 1x1 rib.
Work in 1x1 rib for 7 (7:7:7:8:8:8) cm, ending with a RS row.

Next row: P7 (7:8:3:9:4:10), P2tog, (P4, P2tog) 16 (18:20:24:24:28:28) times, P8 (8:9:4:10:5:11).
96 (106:118:128:140:150:162) sts.

Change to 4mm needles.
Row 1: Knit.
Row 2: Purl.
Rows 1 and 2 set st st.
Working in st st, cont until Back meas 23½ (24½:24½:24½:25½:26½:27½) cm, ending with a RS row.
Next row: P2 (3:5:3:4:3:3), M1p, [P13 (11:12:11:12:11:12), M1p] 7 (9:9:11:11:13:13) times, P3 (4:5:4:4:4:3).
104 (116:128:140:152:164:176) sts.

Row 1: P3, C2B, *P4, C2B; rep from * to last 3 sts, P3.
Row 2: K3, *P2, K4; rep from * to last 5 sts, P2, K3.
Row 3: P2, *T2B, T2F, P2; rep from * to end.
Row 4: K2, *P1, K2; rep from * to end.
Row 5: K1, T2B, P2, *T2F, T2B, P2; rep from * to last 3 sts, T2F, K1.
Row 6: P2, *K4, P2; rep from * to end.
Row 7: C2F, *P4, C2F; rep from * to end.
Row 8: As row 6.
Row 9: P1, T2F, P2, *T2B, T2F, P2; rep from * to last 3 sts, T2B, P1.
Row 10: As row 4.
Row 11: As row 5.
Row 12: As row 6.
Row 13: As row 7.
Row 14: As row 6.
Row 15: As row 9.
Row 16: As row 4.
Row 17: P2, *T2F, T2B, P2; rep from * to end.
Row 18: As row 2.
Row 19: As row 1.
Row 20: As row 2.
Row 21: As row 3.
Row 22: As row 4.
Row 23: As row 17.
Row 24: K3, *P2, K4; rep from * to last 5 sts, P2, K3.

Rows 1 to 24 set Cross Cable Patt.
Working in patt as set (throughout), proceed as follows:-

SHAPE ARMHOLES

Cast off 5 (5:6:6:7:8:8) sts in patt at beg of next 2 rows.
94 (106:116:128:138:148:160) sts.
Work 2 (4:6:10:12:14:16) rows dec 1 st at each end of every row.
90 (98:104:108:114:120:128) sts.
Work 3 (5:7:7:7:9:11) rows dec 1 st at each end of next and every foll alt row.
86 (92:96:100:106:110:116) sts.
Cont without shaping until armholes measure 20 (21:23:25:26:27:28) cm, ending with a WS row.

SHAPE SHOULDERS

Cast off 5 (6:6:7:7:8:8) sts in patt at beg of next 2 (4:4:4:4:4:2) rows.
76 (68:72:72:78:78:100) sts.
Cast off 6 (7:7:7:8:8:9) sts in patt at beg of next 6 (4:4:4:4:4:6) rows.
40 (40:44:44:46:46:46) sts.
Cast off rem 40 (40:44:44:46:46:46) sts in patt.

LEFT FRONT

Using 3.25mm needles and the thumb method, cast on 54 (60:68:74:80:88:94) sts.

Row 1: *K1, P1; rep from * to end.
Row 1 sets 1x1 rib.
Work in 1x1 rib for 7 (7:7:7:8:8:8) cm, ending with a RS row.

Next row: P5 (5:3:3:6:1:4), P2tog, (P4, P2tog) 7 (8:10:11:11:14:14) times, P5 (5:3:3:6:1:4).
46 (51:57:62:68:73:79) sts.

Change to 4mm needles.
Working in st st, cont until Left Front meas 23½ (24½:24½:24½:25½:26½:27½) cm, ending with a RS row.

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Diamond Cable Cardigan

NEEDLES & ACCESSORIES

1 pair 4mm (UK 8/US 6) knitting needles
1 pair 3.25mm (UK 10/US 3) knitting needles
5 (5:5:5:6:6:6) x 15mm buttons

TENSION

24 sts and 30 rows to 10cm over Cross Cable Patt on 4mm needles.
22 sts and 28 rows to 10cm over st st on 4mm needles.

YARN STOCKISTS

Sirdar www.sirdar.com

SPECIAL ABBREVIATIONS

C2B: Knit into front of second st on LH needle then front of first st, slipping both sts off needle together.
C2F: Knit into back of second st on LH needle then front of first st, slipping both sts off needle together.
T2B: Knit into front of second st on LH needle then purl into front of first st, slipping both sts off needle together.
T2F: Purl into back of second st on LH needle then knit into front of first st, slipping both sts off needle together.
M1p: Pick up loop between last and next stitch and purl into the back of this loop.
For general abbreviations, see p88

BLOCKING DIAGRAM



Next row: P3 (3:4:3:4:3:3), M1p, [P13 (11:12:11:12:11:12), M1p] 3 (4:4:5:5:6:6) times, P4 (4:5:4:4:4:4).
50 (56:62:68:74:80:86) sts.

Work from rows 1 to 24 as given for Back Cross Cable Patt.
Working in patt as set (throughout), proceed as follows:-

SHAPE ARMHOLE AND NECK

Next row: Cast off 5 (5:6:6:7:8:8) sts in patt, patt to last 2 sts, patt2tog (neck edge).
44 (50:55:61:66:71:77) sts.
Next row: Patt.

Work 2 (4:6:10:12:14:16) rows dec 1 st at armhole edge in every row AT THE SAME TIME dec 1 st at neck edge in next and every foll 0 (2nd:2nd:2nd:2nd:2nd:2nd) row.
41 (44:46:46:48:50:53) sts.
Work 3 (5:7:7:7:9:11) rows dec 1 st at each end of next and every foll alt row.
37 (38:38:38:40:40:41) sts.
Work 17 (13:11:5:3:3:1) rows dec 1 st at neck edge only in 2nd (2nd:2nd:2nd:2nd:2nd:0) and every foll 2nd (2nd:2nd:2nd:0:0:0) row.
29 (32:33:36:39:39:41) sts.
Work 21 (21:25:20:33:8:8) rows dec 1 st at neck edge only in next and every foll 4th row.
23 (26:26:31:30:37:39) sts.

Sizes 4, 6 and 7 only
Work -(-:-:13:-:25:19) rows dec 1 st at neck edge only in next and every foll 6th row.
-(-:-:28:32:-:35) sts.

All sizes
Cont without shaping until armhole meas 20 (21:23:25:26:27:28) cm, ending with a WS row.

SHAPE SHOULDER

Work 2 (4:4:4:4:4:2) rows casting off 5 (6:6:7:7:8:8) sts in patt at beg of next and foll 0 (2nd:2nd:2nd:2nd:2nd:0) row.
18 (14:14:14:16:16:27) sts.
Work 4 (2:2:2:2:2:4) rows casting off 6 (7:7:7:8:8:9) sts in patt at beg of next and foll 2nd (0:0:0:0:0:2nd) row.
6 (7:7:7:8:8:9) sts.
Cast off rem 6 (7:7:7:8:8:9) sts in patt.

RIGHT FRONT

Using 3.25mm needles and the thumb method, cast on 54 (60:68:74:80:88:94) sts.

Row 1: *P1, K1; rep from * to end.
Row 1 sets 1x1 rib.
Work in 1x1 rib for 7 (7:7:7:8:8:8) cm, ending with a RS row.

Next row: P5 (5:3:3:6:1:4), P2tog, (P4, P2tog) 7 (8:10:11:11:14:14) times, P5 (5:3:3:6:1:4).
46 (51:57:62:68:73:79) sts.

Change to 4mm needles.
Working in st st cont until Right Front meas 23½ (24½:24½:24½:25½:26½:27½) cm, ending with a RS row.

Next row: P4 (4:5:4:4:4:4), M1p, [P13 (11:12:11:12:11:12), M1p] 3 (4:4:5:5:6:6) times, P3 (3:4:3:4:3:3).
50 (56:62:68:74:80:86) sts.

Work from rows 1 to 24 as given for Back Cross Cable Patt.
Working in patt as set (throughout), proceed as follows:

SHAPE NECK AND ARMHOLE

Next row: Patt2tog (neck edge), patt to end.
49 (55:61:67:73:79:85) sts.
Next row: Cast off 5 (5:6:6:7:8:8) sts in patt, patt to end.
44 (50:55:61:66:71:77) sts.

Work 2 (4:6:10:12:14:16) rows dec 1 st at neck edge in next and every foll 0 (2nd:2nd:2nd:2nd:2nd:2nd) row AT THE SAME TIME dec 1 st at armhole edge in every row.
41 (44:46:46:48:50:53) sts.

Work 3 (5:7:7:7:9:11) rows dec 1 st at each end of next and every foll alt row.
37 (38:38:38:40:40:41) sts.
Work 17 (13:11:5:3:3:1) rows dec 1 st at neck edge only in 2nd (2nd:2nd:2nd:2nd:2nd:0) and every foll 2nd (2nd:2nd:2nd:0:0:0) row.
29 (32:33:36:39:39:41) sts.
Work 21 (21:25:20:33:8:8) rows dec 1 st at neck edge only in next and every foll 4th row.
23 (26:26:31:30:37:39) sts.

Sizes 4, 6 and 7 only
Work -(-:-:13:-:25:19) rows dec 1 st at neck edge only in next and every foll 6th row.
-(-:-:28:32:-:35) sts.

All sizes
Cont without shaping until armhole meas 20 (21:23:25:26:27:28) cm, ending with a RS row. ▶

Diamond Cable Cardigan



SHAPE SHOULDER

Work 2 (4:4:4:4:4:2) rows casting off 5 (6:6:7:7:8:8) sts in patt at beg of next and foll 0 (2nd:2nd:2nd:2nd:2nd:0) row.
18 (14:14:14:16:16:27) sts.
Work 4 (2:2:2:2:2:4) rows casting off 6 (7:7:7:8:8:9) sts in patt at beg of next and foll 2nd (0:0:0:0:0:2nd) row.
6 (7:7:7:8:8:9) sts.
Cast off rem 6 (7:7:7:8:8:9) sts in patt.

SLEEVES

(both alike)
Using 3.25mm needles and the thumb method, cast on 45 (47:49:53:55:57:61) sts.

Work in 1x1 rib for 10cm, ending with a RS row.

Next row: P3 (3:3:5:4:4:6), *P1, M1p; rep from * to last 3 (3:3:5:4:4:6) sts, P3 (3:3:5:4:4:6).
84 (88:92:96:102:106:110) sts.

Change to 4mm needles.
Working in st st (throughout) dec 1 st at each end of 23rd (23rd:23rd:25th:15th:25th:25th) and every foll 22nd (24th:24th:24th:18th:26th:26th) row to 80 (84:88:92:96:102:106) sts.

Cont without shaping until Sleeve meas 30 (31:31:32:33:33:33) cm, ending with a RS row.

Next row: P2 (3:2:4:3:2:3), M1p, [P15 (11:12:12:10:14:11), M1p] 5 (7:7:7:9:7:9) times, P3 (4:2:4:3:2:4).
86 (92:96:100:106:110:116) sts.

Row 1: P3 (3:2:4:4:3:3), C2B, *P4, C2B; rep from * to last 3 (3:2:4:4:3:3) sts, P3 (3:2:4:4:3:3).
Row 2: K3 (3:2:4:4:3:3), *P2, K4; rep from * to last 5 (5:4:6:6:5:5) sts, P2, K3 (3:2:4:4:3:3).
Row 3: P2 (2:1:3:3:2:2), T2B, T2F, *P2, T2B, T2F; rep from * to last 2 (2:1:3:3:2:2) sts, P2 (2:1:3:3:2:2).
Row 4: K2 (2:1:3:3:2:2), P1, *K2, P1; rep from * last 2 (2:1:3:3:2:2) sts, K2 (2:1:3:3:2:2).
Row 5: K1 (1:0:2:2:1:1), T2B, P2, *T2F, T2B, P2; rep from * to last 3 (3:2:4:4:3:3) sts, T2F, K1 (1:0:2:2:1:1).
Row 6: K0 (0:0:1:1:0:0), P2 (2:1:2:2:2:2), K4, *P2, K4; rep from * to last 2 (2:1:3:3:2:2) sts, P2 (2:1:2:2:2:2), K0 (0:0:1:1:0:0).
Row 7: K0 (0:1:0:0:0:0), P0 (0:4:4:4:0:0), C2F, *P4, C2F; rep from * to last 0 (0:5:4:4:0:0) sts, P0 (0:4:4:4:0:0), K0 (0:1:0:0:0:0).
Row 8: As row 6.
Row 9: P1 (1:0:0:0:1:1), (T2F, P2) 1 (1:1:0:0:1:1) times, *T2B, T2F, P2; rep from * to last 3 (3:2:4:4:3:3) sts, T2B, (T2F) 0 (0:0:1:1:0:0) times, P1 (1:0:0:0:1:1).
Row 10: As row 4.
Row 11: As row 5.
Row 12: As row 6.
Row 13: As row 7.
Row 14: As row 6.
Row 15: As row 9.
Row 16: As row 4.
Row 17: P2 (2:1:3:3:2:2), T2F, T2B, *P2, T2F, T2B; rep from * to last 2 (2:1:3:3:2:2) sts, P2 (2:1:3:3:2:2).
Row 18: As row 2.
Row 19: As row 1.
Row 20: As row 2.
Row 21: As row 3.
Row 22: As row 4.
Row 23: As row 17.
Row 24: K3 (3:2:4:4:3:3), *P2, K4; rep from * to last 5 (5:4:6:6:5:5) sts, P2, K3 (3:2:4:4:3:3).
Rows 1 to 24 set Cross Cable Patt.

Working in patt as set (throughout), proceed as follows:-

SHAPE SLEEVE TOP

Cast off 5 (5:6:6:7:8:8) sts in patt at beg of next 2 rows.
76 (82:84:88:92:94:100) sts.
Work 8 (8:8:10:10:8:12) rows dec 1 st at each end of every row.
60 (66:68:68:72:78:76) sts.
Work 20 (26:28:34:36:42:40) rows dec 1 st at each end of next and every foll alt row.
40 (40:40:34:36:36:36) sts.
Work 8 (8:8:4:4:4:4) rows dec 1 st at each end of every row.
24 (24:24:26:28:28:28) sts.
Cast off 6 (6:6:6:7:7:7) sts in patt at beg of next 2 rows.
12 (12:12:14:14:14:14) sts.
Cast off rem 12 (12:12:14:14:14:14) sts in patt.

RIGHT FRONT BORDER

Join shoulder seams.
With RS facing, using 3.25mm needles, starting at lower edge of right front, pick up and knit 20 (20:20:20:24:24:24) sts evenly along rib, 82 (84:84:84:88:90:92) sts evenly along straight edge, 59 (61:67:71:74:76:80) sts evenly along shaped edge and 22 (22:24:24:25:25:25) sts evenly to centre back of neck.
183 (187:195:199:211:215:221) sts.

Starting with row 2 of 1x1 rib, work 2 rows.
Next row: Rib 85 (88:96:100:104:104:109), cast off 2 sts, [rib 20 (20:20:20:17:18:18), cast off 2 sts] 4 (4:4:4:5:5:5) times, rib 3 (4:4:4:4:3:4).
Next row: Rib 4 (5:5:5:5:4:5), cast on 2 sts, [rib 21 (21:21:21:18:19:19), cast on 2 sts] 4 (4:4:4:5:5:5) times, rib to end.
Work 3 rows more in rib.
Cast off in rib.

LEFT FRONT BORDER

With RS facing, using 3.25mm needles, starting at centre back of neck, pick up and knit 22 (22:24:24:25:25:25) sts evenly along back of neck, 59 (61:67:71:74:76:80) sts evenly along shaped edge, 82 (84:84:84:88:90:92) sts evenly along straight edge and 20 (20:20:20:24:24:24) sts evenly along rib.
183 (187:195:199:211:215:221) sts.

Starting with row 2 of 1x1 rib, work 7 rows.
Cast off in rib.

TO MAKE UP

Join seam at centre back of neck.
Fold sleeves in half lengthways. Placing folds to shoulder seams, sew sleeves in position.
Join side and sleeve seams.
Sew on buttons.
Pin out garment to measurements given in blocking diagram. Cover with damp cloths and leave until dry, following any yarn care instructions on the ball band.



For more pattern inspiration using Sirdar's Loveful 100% Recycled Tweed Blend, visit **www.sirdar.com**

DROPS DESIGN

Edge of the Woods

These yoked sweaters for men and kids feature Nordic-style colourwork motifs



DROPS DESIGN

Edge of the Woods

THIS DESIGN comprises a yoked sweater for men, and a matching sweater and cardigan for children, all using the same Nordic-inspired stranded colourwork patterning. The projects are knitted in DROPS Merino Extra Fine, a superwash DK wool which comes in a wide choice of classic colours.

SIZE – MEN'S SWEATER

TO FIT CHEST	1	2	3	4	5	6	
	86	97	102	112	122	132	cm
	34	38	40	44	48	52	in
ACTUAL CHEST	92½	99	106½	116	129½	141	cm
	36½	39	42	45¾	51	55½	in
ACTUAL LENGTH	64	66	68	70	72	74	cm
	25¼	26	26¾	27½	28¼	29¼	in
SLEEVE SEAM	43	42	41	40	38	37	cm
	17	16½	16¼	15¾	15	14½	in

YARN – MEN'S SWEATER

DROPS Merino Extra Fine (DK weight; 100% superwash Merino wool; 105m/115yds per 50g ball)

A LIGHT SEA GREEN (15)	11	12	13	14	15	16	x50g BALLS
B TAUPE (06)	3	3	3	4	4	4	x50g BALLS
C OLIVE (41)	1	1	1	1	1	1	x50g BALLS
D MISTY FOREST (37)	1	1	1	1	1	1	x50g BALLS
E LIGHT TAUPE (07)	1	1	1	1	1	1	x50g BALLS
F OFF WHITE (01)	1	1	1	1	1	1	x50g BALLS

NEEDLES & ACCESSORIES

4mm (UK 8/US 6) circular needles, 40cm and 60-100cm long
3mm (UK 11/US 2.5) circular needles, 40cm and 60-100cm long
Set of 4mm (UK 8/US 6) double-pointed needles (DPNs)
Set 3mm (UK 11/US 2.5) DPNs
Stitch markers
Stitch holders

TENSION

21 sts and 28 rows to 10cm over st st on 4mm needles

YARN STOCKISTS

DROPS Design
www.garnstudio.com
Available from Wool Warehouse
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

For general abbreviations, see p88

PATTERN NOTES

MEN'S & CHILD'S SWEATER

The neck and yoke are worked in the round with circular needles, from mid back and top down. The yoke is divided for body and sleeves and the body is continued in the round. The sleeves are worked top-down in the round with DPNs.

EVENLY SPACED INCREASES/DECREASES

To work out how to increase/decrease evenly, count the total number of stitches on the needle (e.g. 120 stitches), and divide by the number of increases/decreases to be made (e.g. 20) - 6. In this example, increase by making 1 yarnover after each 6th stitch. On the next round, work the yarnovers twisted to avoid holes. When decreasing, knit each 5th and 6th stitch together.

MEN'S JUMPER

NECKBAND

Using 3mm circular needles, 40cm long and yarn B, cast on 120 (124:128:132:136:140) sts.
Pm and join to work in the rnd, taking care not to twist sts.
Knit 1 rnd.

Rib rnd: (K2, P2) to end.
Rep rib rnd until work meas 11cm from cast-on edge.

Knit 1 rnd, dec 20 sts evenly spaced across the rnd (see Pattern Notes).
100 (104:108:112:116:120) sts.
Place a lockable marker at beg of rnd (mid-back). The yoke is measured from this point.

YOKE

Change to 4mm circular needles, changing length when needed.
Work in st st for 2cm.

Knit 1 rnd, inc 20 (20:24:24:28:32) sts evenly spaced across the rnd.
120 (124:132:136:144:152) sts.
Knit 1 rnd.

Begin working from the colourwork chart, working the 4-st rep 30 (31:33:34:36:38) times across the rnd, AT THE SAME TIME work increases as follows:
Chart rnd 8: Inc 42 (50:54:62:66:70) sts evenly spaced across the rnd.
162 (174:186:198:210:222) sts.

Chart rnd 16: Inc 46 (50:46:58:62:74) sts evenly spaced across the rnd.
208 (224:232:256:272:296) sts.

Chart rnd 30: Inc 52 (48:52:64:68:72) sts evenly spaced across the rnd.
260 (272:284:320:340:368) sts.

Chart rnd 38: Inc 48 (56:68:72:76:80) sts evenly spaced across the rnd.
308 (328:352:392:416:448) sts.

Once the chart has been worked through, continue in st st in yarn A only until yoke meas 26 (28:29:31:33:35) cm from marker.

Divide for body and sleeves as follows:
Work 45 (49:52:57:63:69) sts (half back piece), place next 63 (66:72:82:82:86) sts on a holder for sleeve, cast on 6 (6:8:8:10:10) sts for underarm, work 92 (98:104:114:126:138) sts (front piece), place next 63 (66:72:82:82:86) sts on a holder for sleeve, cast on 6 (6:8:8:10:10) sts for underarm, work the remaining 45 (49:52:57:63:69) sts (half back piece).
194 (208:224:244:272:296) sts.

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BLOCKING DIAGRAM – MEN'S SWEATER

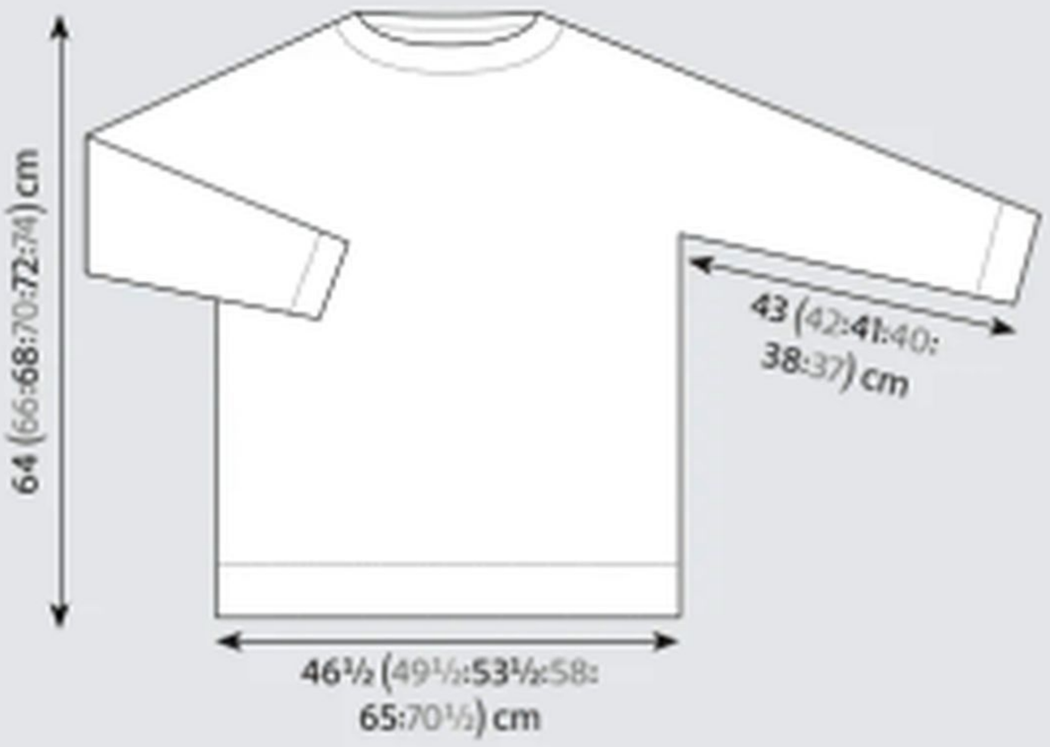
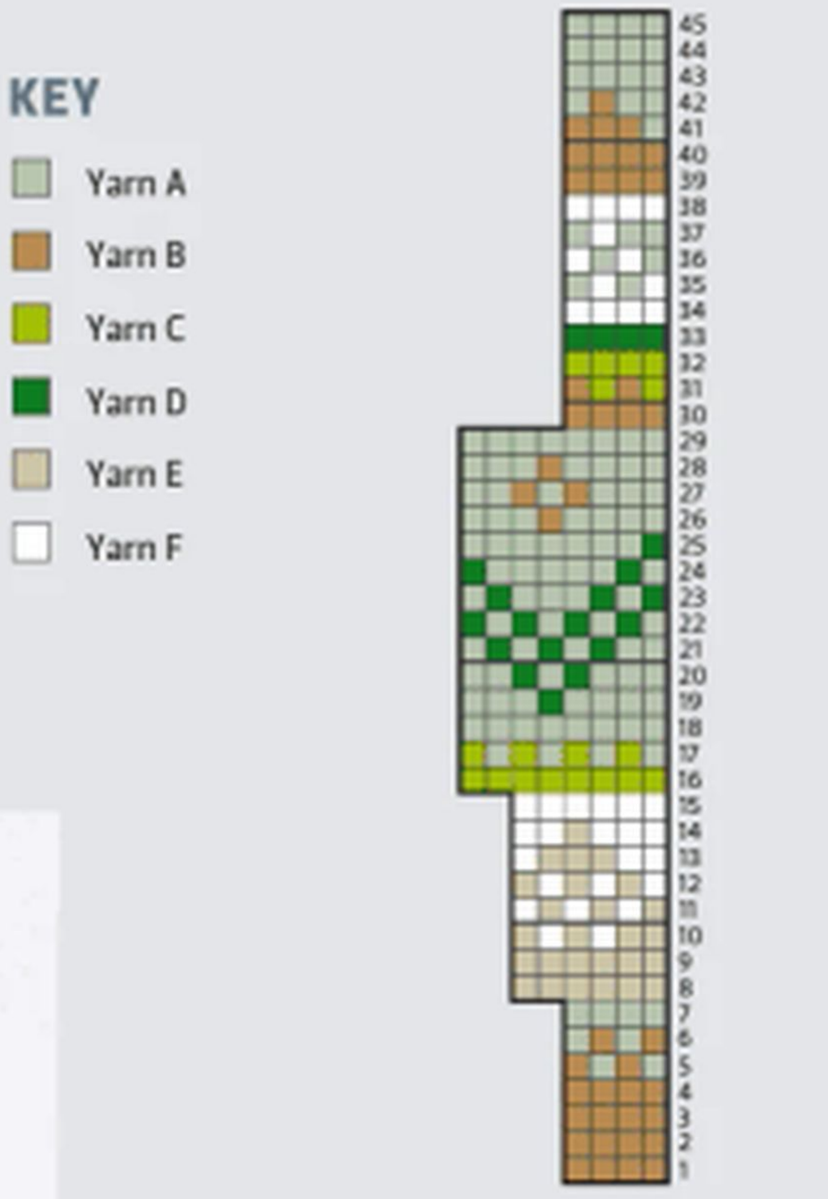


CHART – MEN'S & CHILD'S JUMPER





Body and sleeves are finished separately and the piece is measured from here.

BODY

Continue working st st in yarn A until body meas 32 (32:33:33:33:33) cm from the underarm cast-on.

Knit 1 rnd, inc 38 (44:44:48:56:60) sts evenly spaced across the rnd.
232 (252:268:292:328:356) sts.

Change to 3mm circular needles.
Work rib as for neckband for 6cm.
Break yarn A, change to yarn B.
Work 1 more rib rnd.
Cast off in pattern.

SLEEVES

Place the 63 (66:72:82:82:86) sts on hold for one of the sleeves onto 4mm DPNs or circular needles, 40cm long, join yarn A and pick up and knit 6 (6:8:8:10:10) sts from the underarm cast-on.
Pm and join to work in the rnd.
69 (72:80:90:92:96) sts.

Work in st st for 3cm.

Dec rnd: K1, skpo, K to last 3 sts, K2tog, K1.
2 sts dec'd.
Rep dec rnd every 3½ (3:2:1½:1½:1½) cm a total of 9 (10:13:17:18:18) times.
51 (52:54:56:56:60) sts.

Continue in st st without shaping until sleeve meas 37 (36:35:34:32:31) cm from the underarm.

Knit 1 rnd, inc 9 (8:10:8:8:8) sts evenly spaced across the rnd.
60 (60:64:64:64:68) sts.

Change to 3mm DPNs.
Work rib as for the neckband for 6cm.
Cast off in pattern.

Work the second sleeve in the same way.

MAKING UP

Fold the neckband in half to the inside and sew down.
Weave in ends and block gently to measurements, following any yarn care instructions on the ball band.



CHILD'S SWEATER & CARDIGAN

PATTERN NOTES

JUMPER

See Pattern Notes for Men's Sweater.

CARDIGAN

The neck is worked back and forth on circular needles, from the mid front and top down. The band stitches are cast off and the yoke is continued back and forth. The yoke is divided for body and sleeves and the body is continued back and forth in the round. The sleeves are worked top-down in the round.

EVENLY SPACED INCREASES

See Pattern Notes for Men's Sweater.

CHILD'S JUMPER

NECKBAND

Using 3mm circular needles, 40cm long and yarn B, cast on 72 (72:76:76:80:80) sts. Pm and join to work in the rnd, taking care not to twist sts.

Knit 1 rnd.
Rib rnd: (K2, P2) to end.
Rep rib rnd until work meas 3cm from cast-on edge.

Knit 1 rnd , inc 24 (28:28:32:32:36) sts evenly spaced across the rnd.
96 (100:104:108:112:116) sts.
Place a lockable marker at the beg of rnd (mid-back). Yoke is measured from this point.

YOKE

Change to 4mm circular needles, changing length when needed.
Begin working from the colourwork chart working the 4-st rep 24 (25:26:27:28:29) times across the rnd, AT THE SAME TIME work increases as follows:
Chart rnd 8: Inc 30 (32:34:36:38:40) sts evenly spaced across the rnd.
126 (132:138:144:150:156) sts.

Chart rnd 16: Inc 42(36:46:40:50:44) sts evenly spaced across the rnd.
168 (168:184:184:200:200) sts.

Chart rnd 30: Inc 28 (36:32:36:32:40) sts evenly spaced across the rnd.
196 (204:216:220:232:240) sts.

Chart rnd 38: Inc 16 (20:20:20:20:24) sts evenly spaced across the rnd.
212 (224:236:240:252:264) sts.

Once the chart has been worked through, continue in st st in yarn A only until yoke meas 16 (16:16:17:18:19) cm from the marker.

Divide for body and sleeves as follows:
Work 31 (33:35:36:38:40) sts (half back piece), place next 44 (46:48:48:50:52) sts on a holder for sleeve, cast on 6 (6:6:8:8:8) sts for underarm, work 62 (66:70:72:76:80) sts (front piece), place next 44 (46:48:48:50:52) sts on a holder for sleeve, cast on 6 (6:6:8:8:8) sts for underarm, work remaining 31 (33:35:36:38:40) sts (half back piece).
136 (144:152:160:168:176) sts.

The body and sleeves are finished separately and the piece is meas from here.

BODY

Continue working st st in yarn A until body meas 15 (19:23:25:26:27) cm from the underarm cast-on.

Knit 1 rnd, inc 36 (36:36:40:40:40) sts evenly spaced across the rnd.
172 (180:188:200:208:216) sts.

Change to 3mm circular needles.
Work rib as for the neckband for 3 (3:3:4:4:4) cm.

Break yarn A, change to yarn B.
Work 1 more rib round.
Cast off in pattern.

SLEEVES

Place the 44 (46:48:48:50:52) sts on hold for on of the sleeves onto 4mm DPNs , join yarn A and pick up and knit 6 (6:6:8:8:8) sts from the underarm cast-on.

Join to work in the rnd, pm in centre of underarm sts for beg of rnd.
50 (52:54:56:58:60) sts.

Work in st st for 3cm.

Dec rnd: K1, skpo, K to last 3 sts, K2tog, K1.
2 sts dec'd.
Rep dec rnd every 1½ (2:2½:3:4:4) cm a total of 6 (7:7:7:7:8) times.
38 (38:40:42:44:44) sts.

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Edge of the Woods

SIZE – CHILD'S SWEATER & CARDIGAN

TO FIT CHEST	**2 yrs**	3-4 yrs	**5-6 yrs**	7-8 yrs	**9-10 yrs**	11-12 yrs	
	53	58½	**63½**	67	**71**	76	cm
	21	23	**25**	26½	**28**	30	in
ACTUAL CHEST	**64½**	68½	**72½**	76	**80**	84	cm
	25½	27	**28½**	30	**31½**	33	in
ACTUAL LENGTH	**34**	38	**42**	46	**48**	50	cm
	13½	15	**16½**	18	**19**	19¾	in
SLEEVE SEAM	**17**	23	**27**	31	**35**	39	cm
	6¾	9	**10¾**	12¼	**13¾**	15¼	in

YARN

DROPS Merino Extra Fine (DK weight; 100% superwash Merino wool; 105m/115yds per 50g ball)

A LIGHT SEA GREEN (15)	**5**	5	**6**	7	**7**	8	x50g BALLS
B TAUPE (06)	**2**	2	**2**	2	**2**	2	x50g BALLS
C OLIVE (41)	**1**	1	**1**	1	**1**	1	x50g BALLS
D MISTY FOREST (37)	**1**	1	**1**	1	**1**	1	x50g BALLS
E LIGHT TAUPE (07)	**1**	1	**1**	1	**1**	1	x50g BALLS
F OFF WHITE (01)	**1**	1	**1**	1	**1**	1	x50g BALLS

NEEDLES & ACCESSORIES

4mm (UK 8/US 6) circular needles, 40cm and 60cm long
3mm (UK 11/US 2-3) circular needles, 40cm and 60cm long
Set of 4mm (UK 8/US 6) double-pointed needles (DPNs)
Set of 3mm (UK 11/US 2-3) DPNs
Stitch markers
Stitch holders
For cardigan only:
5 (5:5:6:6:6) buttons

TENSION

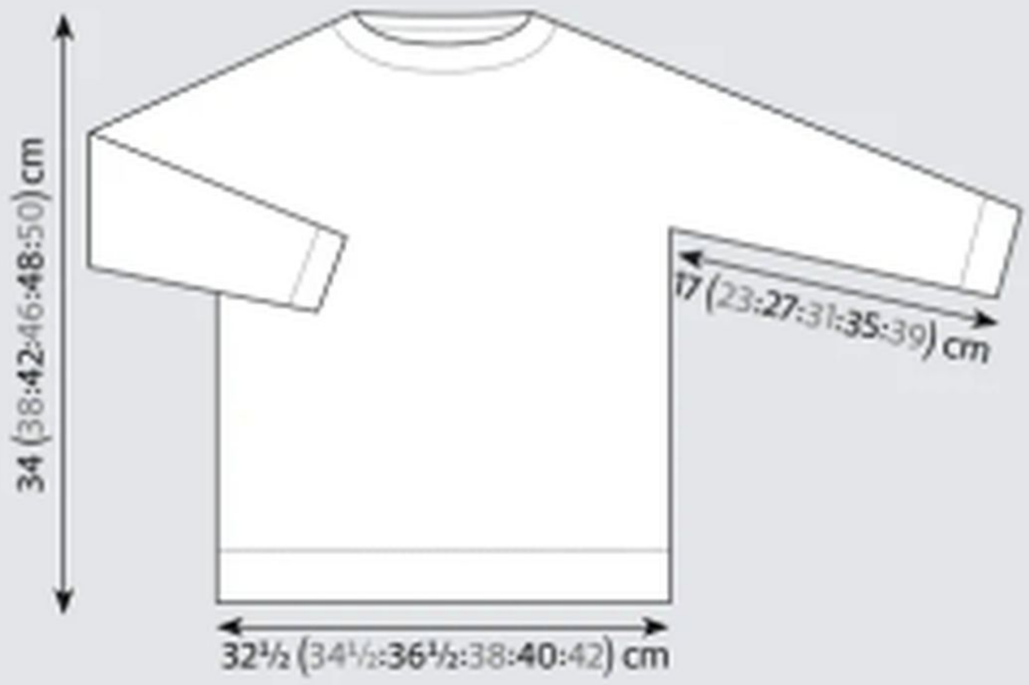
21 sts and 28 rows to 10cm over st st on 4mm needles

YARN STOCKISTS

DROPS Design
www.garnstudio.com
c/o Wool Warehouse
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

For general abbreviations, see p88

BLOCKING DIAGRAM – CHILD'S SWEATER & CARDIGAN

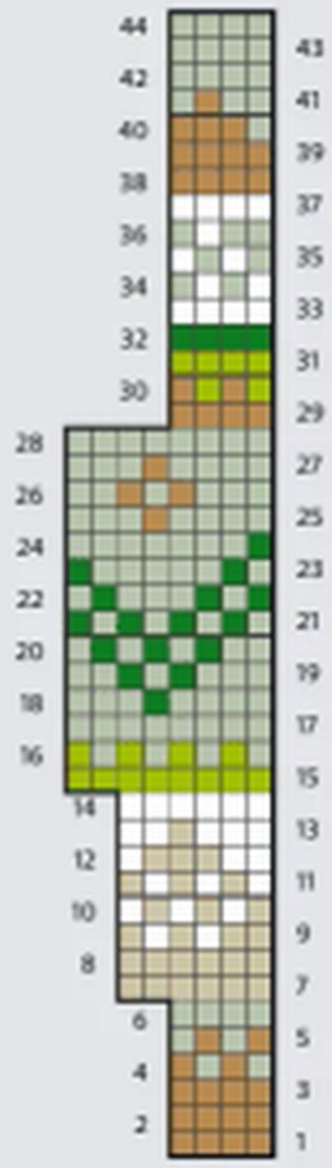




For more pattern inspiration for men and children using DROPS yarns, visit **www.garnstudio.com**

KEY

- Yarn A
- Yarn B
- Yarn C
- Yarn D
- Yarn E
- Yarn F



Continue in st st without shaping until sleeve meas 14 (20:24:27:31:35) cm from the underarm.

Knit 1 rnd, inc 6 (6:8:6:8:8) sts evenly spaced across the rnd.
44 (44:48:48:52:52) sts.

Change to 3mm DPNs.
Work rib as for the neckband for 3 (3:3:4:4:4) cm.
Cast off in pattern.
Work the second sleeve in the same way.

MAKING UP

Fold the neckband in half to the inside and sew down.
Weave in ends and block gently to measurements, following any yarn care instructions on the ball band.

CHILD'S CARDIGAN

NECKBAND

Using 3mm circular needles, 40cm long and yarn B, cast on 84 (84:88:88:92:92) sts.
Purl 1 row (WS).
Rib row 1 (RS): K1, (K2, P2) to last 3 sts, K3.
Rib row 2 (WS): K1, (P2, K2) to last 3 sts, P2, K1.
Rep rib rows 1 and 2 until work meas 1.5cm from cast-on edge ending after a WS row

Buttonhole row (RS): K1, (K2, P2) to last 5 sts, yo, P2tog, K3.
Cont to rep rib rows 1 and 2 until work ▶



meas 3cm, ending after a WS row.

Next row (RS): Cast off 5 sts for the button band, K74 (74:78:78:82:82) sts, inc 25 (29:29:33:33:37) sts evenly spaced over these sts, P2, K3.

Change to 4mm circular needles.
Next row (WS): Cast off 5 sts, purl to last st, K1.
99 (103:107:111:115:119) sts.

Place a lockable marker at beg of this row. The yoke is measured from this point.

YOKE

Begin working from the colourwork chart AT THE SAME TIME work increases as follows:
Chart set-up row: K1, work the 4-st chart rep 24 (25:26:27:28:29) times, work the first stitch of the chart (so the pattern is symmetrical), K1.
The edge garter sts are worked in the same colour as the first/last stitch in the pattern.

Chart row 7: Inc 30 (32:34:36:38:40) sts evenly spaced across the row.
129 (135:141:147:153:159) sts.

Chart row 15: Inc 42 (36:46:40:50:44) sts evenly spaced across the row.
171 (171:187:187:203:203) sts.

Chart row 29: Inc 28 (36:32:36:32:40) sts evenly spaced across the row.
199 (207:219:223:235:243) sts.

Chart row 37: Inc 16 (20:20:20:20:24) sts evenly spaced across the row.
215 (227:239:243:255:267) sts.

Once the chart has been worked through, continue in st st in yarn A only until yoke meas 16 (16:16:17:18:19) cm from the marker.

Divide for body and sleeves as follows:
Work 32 (34:36:37:39:41) sts (front piece), place next 44 (46:48:48:50:52) sts on a holder for the sleeve, cast on 6 (6:6:8:8:8) sts for underarm, work 63 (67:71:73:77:81) sts (back piece), place next 44 (46:48:48:50:52) sts on a holder for the sleeve, cast on 6 (6:6:8:8:8) sts for underarm, work the rem 32 (34:36:37:39:41) sts (front piece).
139 (147:155:163:171:179) sts.

The body and sleeves are finished separately and the piece is meas from here.

BODY

Continue working st st using yarn A, with 1 st in garter st at each end, until body meas 15 (19:23:25:26:27) cm from the underarm cast-on.

Knit 1 row, inc 33 (33:33:37:37:37) sts evenly spaced across the row.
172 (180:188:200:208:216) sts.

Change to 3mm circular needles.
Work rib as for neckband for 3 (3:3:4:4:4) cm.
Break yarn A, change to yarn B.
Work 1 more Rib Round.
Cast off in pattern.

SLEEVES

Work Sleeves the same way as in the Child's Jumper pattern.

LEFT BAND

Using 3mm circular needles and yarn B, with RS facing, working inside the edge stitch, pick up and knit 80 (92:100:112:120:132) sts along the Left Front piece.

Rib row 1 (WS): K1, (P2, K2) to last 3 sts, P2, K1.
Rib row 2 (RS): K1, (K2, P2) to last 3 sts, K3.
Rep rib rows until the band meas 2.5-3cm (adjust as needed so the band is the same width as the cast-off sts at the neckband).
Cast off in pattern.

RIGHT BAND

Work the same as the Left Band but after 1-1.5cm work 5 (5:5:6:6:6) buttonholes, evenly spaced. The bottom buttonhole should be 2-3cm from the bottom edge.
The neatest buttonholes are worked in purled sections: yo, P2tog.

MAKING UP

Sew the neckband cast-offs neatly to the bands with the seam on the WS.
Sew the buttons onto the Left Band.

Weave in ends and block gently to measurements, following any yarn care instructions on the ball band.

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Issue 221

Nordic cardigan ⊕ Christmas wreath ⊕ Longline cabled sweater ⊕ Fair Isle tank ⊕ Textured jumper ⊖ Fair Isle scarf ⊕ Men's sweater ⊖ Lace shawl ⊖ Children's cardigan ⊕ Balloon-sleeve ribbed jumper



Issue 220

Fair Isle hat & mitts ⊖ Gansey ⊕ Cabled cardigan ⊕ Brioche scarf ⊖ Socks for men & women ⊖ Poncho ⊕ Cabled dickie ⊕ Tank top ⊕ Lace jumper ⊖ Children's toadstool sweater ⊕ Modular scarf & hat



Issue 219

Lace jumper ⊖ Colourwork sweater ⊕ Fair Isle yoked jumper ⊕ Mosaic top ⊕ Men's tank top ⊕ Colourwork top ⊕ Laceweight tunic ⊕ Lace wrap ⊕ Bag ⊕ Cable jumper ⊕ Child's ladybird sweater

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Issue 218



Issue 217



Issue 216



Issue 215



Issue 214



Issue 213



Issue 212



Issue 211



Issue 210



Issue 209



Issue 208



Issue 207



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The Knitter INFORMATION

Abbreviations

alt alternate
approx approximately
beg beginning
ch chain
cn cable needle
cont continue
dc double crochet (US single crochet)
dec decrease (work two stitches together)
DK double knitting
DPN double-pointed needle
dtr double treble (US treble crochet)
est established
foll following
inc increase
K knit
KFB knit into front and back of stitch
K2tog knit the next two stitches together
kwise knitwise
meas measures
M1 make one (see M1L)
M1pw make 1 st purlwise: with LH needle lift the strand between next and last st from front to back and purl through the back loop
M1L left leaning increase: with left needle tip, lift strand between needles from front to back. Knit lifted loop through back of loop
M1R right leaning increase: with left needle tip, lift strand between needles from back to front. Knit lifted loop through front of loop
MB make a bobble
mrk marker
P purl
patt pattern(s)
PB place bead
PFB purl into front and back of stitch
pm place marker
prev previous
psso pass slipped stitch over
P2tog purl 2 stitches together
P3tog purl 3 stitches together
pwise purlwise
rem remain(ing)
rep(s) repeat(s)
rev st st reverse stocking stitch
RH right hand
RS right side
skpo slip 1, knit 1, pass slipped stitch over
sk2po slip 1, knit 2 tog, pass slipped stitch over
s2kpo slip 2 tog kwise, knit 1, pass slipped sts over
Sl slip
sl st slip stitch
ss slip stitch (crochet)
slm slip marker
SSK slip 2 stitches one at a time, return to LH needle, knit 2 slipped stitches together tbl
SSP slip 2 stitches one at a time, return to LH needle, purl 2 slipped stitches together tbl
st(s) stitch(es)
st st stocking stitch
tbl through back of loop
tog together
tr treble crochet (US double crochet)
w&t wrap and turn
WS wrong side
wyib with yarn in back
wyif with yarn in front
yb take yarn back (no inc)
yf bring yarn to front (no inc)
yfwd yarn forward
yo yarn over
yrn yarn round needle

Needle sizes

UK	METRIC	US
14	2mm	0
13	2.25mm	1
-	2.5mm	-
12	2.75mm	2
11	3mm	-
10	3.25mm	3
-	3.5mm	4
9	3.75mm	5
8	4mm	6
7	4.5mm	7
6	5mm	8
5	5.5mm	9
4	6mm	10
3	6.5mm	10½
2	7mm	-
1	7.5mm	-
0	8mm	11
00	9mm	13
000	10mm	15
-	12mm	17
-	15mm	19
-	20mm	36
-	25mm	50

Hook sizes

UK	METRIC	US
14	2mm	B/1
13	2.25mm	-
12	2.5mm	C/2
11	3mm	-
10	3.25mm	D/3
9	3.5mm	E/4
8	4mm	G/6
7	4.5mm	7
6	5mm	H/8
5	5.5mm	I/9
4	6mm	J/10
3	6.5mm	K/10½
2	7mm	-
0	8mm	-
00	9mm	-
000	10mm	-

Yarn weights

UK NAME	1ply	2ply	4ply	Baby	DK	-	Aran	Chunky	Super Chunky
US NAME	Cobweb	Lace	Fingering	Sport	Light worsted	Worsted	Heavy worsted	Bulky	Super Bulky
ALSO KNOWN AS	-	-	Sock, Superfine or Baby	Heavy 4ply, Fine, 5ply	Light or 8ply	Heavy DK, 10ply or Afghan	10ply	12ply or Craft	Roving
TENSION IN ST ST to 10cm (sts)	-	32-34	28 is UK standard (27-32)	23-26	22 is UK standard (21-24)	20	16 is UK standard (16-18)	12-15	6-11
USUAL NEEDLE SIZE	-	1.25-3mm	2.25-3.25mm	3.25-3.75mm	3.25-4.5mm	3.75-4.5mm	5-6.5mm	5.5-8mm	9mm+

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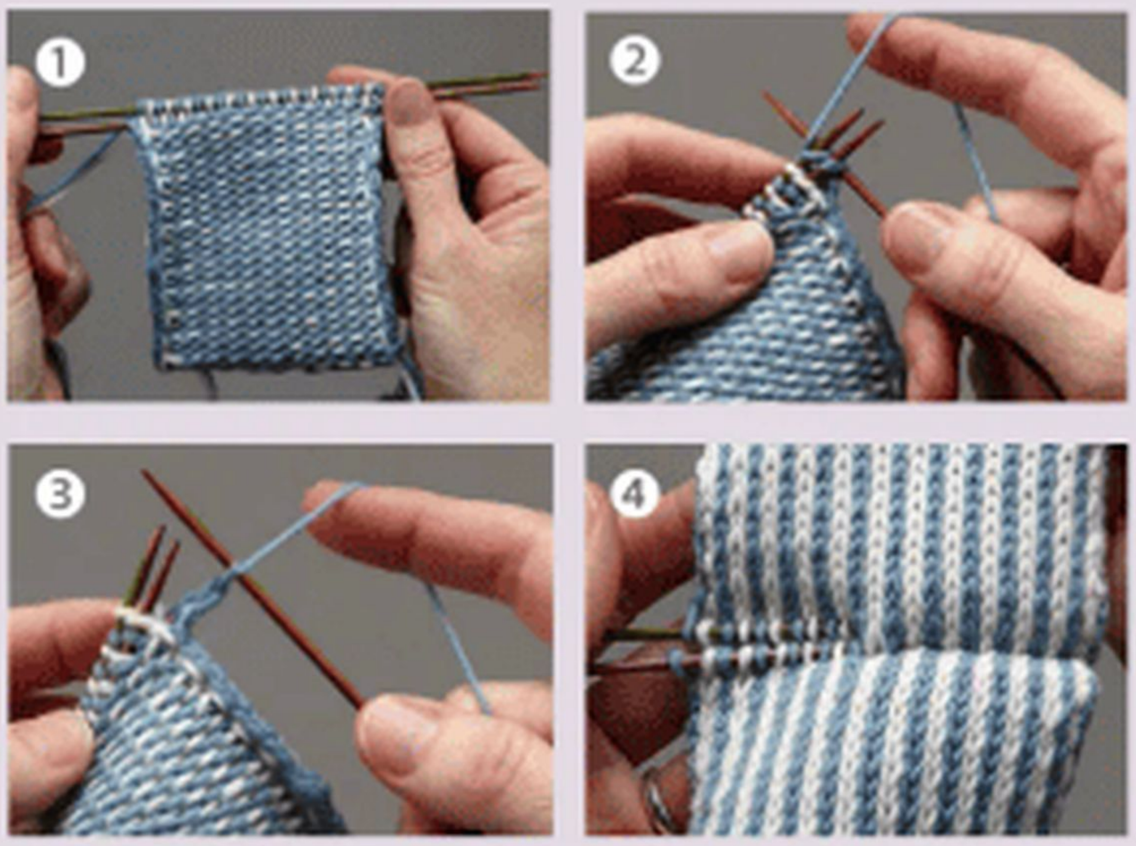
Essential techniques

MATTRESS STITCH



Place your knitted pieces RS up side by side. Thread your yarn on to a needle, anchor the end and weave along an edge to your start point. Working from back to front, push your needle up between the first and second stitches of the left piece's edge, then insert the needle down between the first two stitches of the right piece's edge (on the equivalent row). Moving upwards, bring the needle back up on the right piece, scooping up the bar that lies at the back of the stitch. Return to the opposite piece and repeat.

THREE-NEEDLE CAST-OFF



This is an ideal way to join garment pieces at the shoulder, leaving a neat, seam-free finish. You'll be working with 'live' stitches for both pieces.

❶ With each set of stitches held on a separate knitting needle, hold both pieces with RS together, needle tips aligned and facing to the right.

❷+ ❸ With a third needle, knit together the first stitches from the front and back needle. Knit together the second stitches. Bring the first stitch on the right-hand needle over the second stitch to cast off in the usual way.

❹ Continue until all stitches have been cast off.

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Contacts

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Pattern corrections

Our archive of updates can be found at:
www.gathered.how/knitting-and-crochet/knitting/the-knitter-pattern-corrections

ISSUE 218
Lorelai
Needle size should be 3.5mm as listed in Needles & Accessories, not 4.5mm as mentioned in the pattern instructions.

ISSUE 203
Tumi
BODY
216 (234:252:270:306) sts.

Size 1 only
(K2, P1, K13, P1, K1) twice, K2, P1, K13, pm, P1, K3, P1, pm, K13, P1, K1, (K2, P1, K13, P1, K1) twice, pm for side, (K2, P1, K13, P1, K1) 6 times.

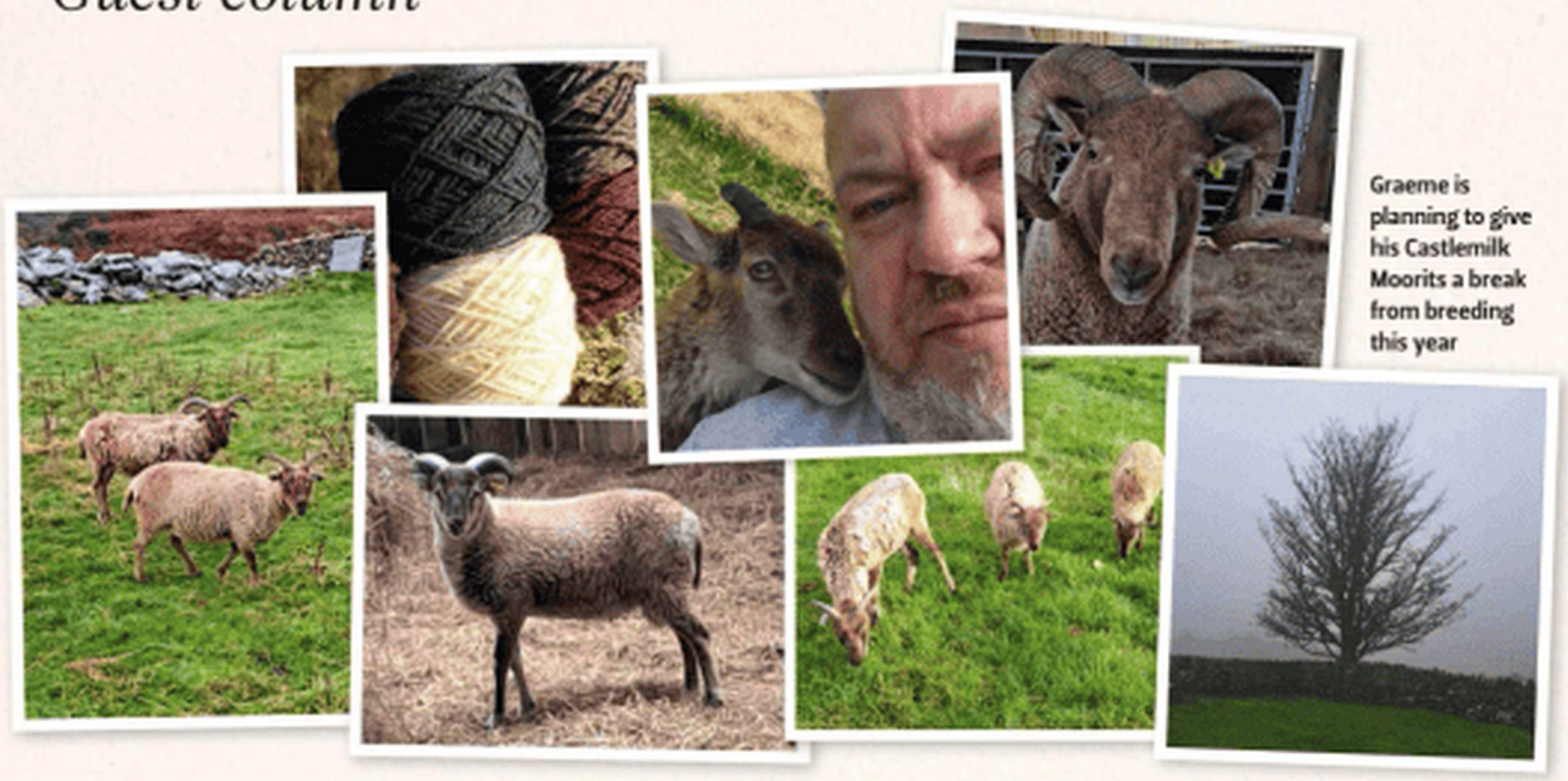
Sizes 2, 3, 4 and 5 only
Remove beg of rnd mrk, (K2, P1, K13, P1, K1) - (2:2:2:3) times, K2, P1, K13, pm, P1, K3, P1, pm, K13, P1, K1, (K2, P1, K13, P1, K1) - (2:2:2:3) times, K2, P1, K- (2:6:11:2), pm for side, K-(11:7:2:11), P1, K1, (K2, P1, K13, P1, K1) - (5:6:7:7) times, pm for new beg of rnd.

SLEEVES
You will shape the sleeves as foll,

AT THE SAME TIME working Rnds **16**–42 of the chart...

There are corrections for 'Tumi' from Issue 203





Graeme is planning to give his Castlemilk Moorits a break from breeding this year

More Castlemilk tales

Weather-related issues have meant that **Graeme Bethune** is short of fleece from his prized Castlemilk Moorit sheep



TUPPING HAS begun here, and the Ballachly white sheeps are busy making our next season's lambs. It's hot and heavy in that field! Think nightclub, 3am, "Hello my darling!", a quick knee trembler round the corner, and then it's over. There's nothing romantic about it. Boy sheep chases girl sheep cos she smells nice, he maybe gives her a wee nibble or a jostle, and if she is fertile, bish bang bosh. And that's it. Tupping is frankly hilarious.

Back to my Castlemilk Moorits, which I began talking to you about last month. They are being excused the indignity of breeding this year. Three reasons: first, I think the mature ewes need a break. They have bred three years on the trot, and some are looking tired. I think many of them should retire from lambing permanently and live nice lives just being gorgeous and making me happy. Oh, and continuing to give me good fleece for your lovely yarns.

Which takes me onto reason two: I want a better fleece crop next year. The CM wool crop is always light in a breeding year, as the ewes spend most of their strength on their lambs and their wool; while it's still good, it's just not as wonderful as it could be. The last reason is several of the ewes are still nursing their lambs from this spring; breeding would bring this to an end, and I believe the lambs are still benefiting from their mam's milk. Breeding would dry the ewes' milk and turn their attention away from the lambs.

I had bred my Castlemilks three years in a row for the first time. Normally I only breed these sheep every other year, but I have broken with this recently. The 2023 lamb crop was decimated by Coccidiosis, a deadly parasite, so the normal rhythm here of raising new ewes for breeding was disrupted. There are almost no 2023 Castlemilks to replace the older sheeps.

I bred the CMs in 2024 with a home-bred ecru sheep in an effort to try new things (I will talk about this in depth another time). This was a huge success – great sheep were made. And the most recent 2025 lambs are wonderful, so I got a nice-sized crop of really good new CM ewe lambs to refresh the flock. But the ewes who possibly could breed this year are mostly mature girls, even very mature. I think a rest, even retirement, is the right call. I'll pick up the breeding cycle with the young ewes and the new ewes next year.

This year's wool from the Castlemilks was clipped off at the end of May, which was very, very early. I did so for welfare reasons – it was necessary for their safety and health. We were having a serious drought here. Like so many places, 2025 saw a totally dry start, and we had no real rain from New Year until the middle of June! So we were having problems with early and huge numbers of flies. Quick explanation: rain helps clean the fields of big mounds of poo; the flies eat and breed on the poo, so lots of poo means lots of flies. Flies also like biting sheep – so suffice to say, the wool had to be shorn.

The early clipping meant very greasy fleece, and my shearer Helga the Bold had trouble getting the wool off in a condition for turning into yarns. The weight of the crop was low but not too bad; however, the clipping difficulty meant lots of chopped-up fleece. Helga had to prioritise the cleaning off of the wool over the condition of the fleece for processing into yarn. But the health of the sheepies comes first. Always.

I am going to be short of CM fleece for making new things this year. I have enough for a new decent batch of Gansey Gold, a 50-50 blend of the CM and my ecru sheeps top grade, but I am afraid no new 'other' yarns. Sorry. At least, not made from the Castlemilks. I have been given some truly amazing coloured fleeces which will turn into new things, so there will be unusual and unique yarns for you to squish and buy next year. I just need to sort, examine, analyse and decide what these interesting fleeces will be best at making.

Which will lead me into the next article coming your way – unless something comes up and distracts me. I want to take you through my part in making yarns, from being handed a rolled fleece by Helga, through to mailing it away to the mill with instructions on what to make with it.

– www.caithnessyarns.com

PHOTOGRAPHY BY GRAEME BETHUNE

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CHLOÉ ELIZABETH BIRCH

Cottage Core

This long open cardigan mixes colours and motifs for a playful effect



Cottage Core

THE RIGHT front and right back pieces of this cardigan feature a colourwork grid pattern, while the left front and back are decorated with daisy motifs – the same patterns are worked on the sleeves, but in different colour pairings. Different shades are used for the front bands, hems and cuffs, too. Chloé Elizabeth Birch's design is knitted in Debbie Bliss's gorgeously soft Baby Cashmerino yarn.

SIZE

	1	2	3	4	5	
TO FIT BUST	71-81	86-97	102-112	117-127	132-142	cm
	28-32	34-38	40-44	46-50	52-56	in
ACTUAL BACK WIDTH	57½	62½	67	72	77	cm
	22¾	24½	26½	28¼	30¼	in
ACTUAL LENGTH	70	72	74	76	79	cm
	27½	28¼	29¼	30	31	in
SLEEVE SEAM	42	42	42	40	40	cm
	16½	16½	16½	15¾	15¾	in

LEFT BODY

Using 3mm circular needles and yarn A, cast on 121 (133:145:157:169) sts.
Do not join.

Rib row 1 (RS): K1, (P1, K1) to end.
Rib row 2 (WS): P1, (K1, P1) to end.
These 2 rows set rib.
Cont in rib until Body meas 4cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row.
Next row (RS): K2tog, knit to end.
120 (132:144:156:168) sts.

Change to 3.25mm circular needles.
Next row (WS): Using yarn D, purl to end.

Working from Chart A, set chart as follows, using yarn D as colour 1 and yarn B as colour 2.
Row 1 (RS): Working from row 1 of Chart A, work 24-st repeat to last 0 (12:0:12:0) sts, patt 0 (12:0:12:0) sts after rep.
Row 2 (WS): Working from row 2 of Chart A, patt 0 (12:0:12:0) sts before rep, work 24-st repeat to end.
These 2 rows set chart.
Cont in chart patt until Body meas 48cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row.

SEPARATE FOR ARMHOLES

Next row (RS): Using 3.25mm needles, patt 72 (78:84:90:96), turn and leave rem 48 (54:60:66:72) sts on hold on circular needles.
72 (78:84:90:96) sts.

HALF BACK

Cont straight in patt until Half Back meas 22 (24:26:28:31) cm from beg of separation for armholes, ending after a RS row.

SHAPE SHOULDER

Next row (WS): Using yarn D, cast off 48 (54:60:66:72) sts, patt to end. 24 sts.
Next row: Patt to end.
Slip rem 24 sts onto a holder.

LEFT FRONT

With RS facing, using 3.25mm straight needles and working on rem 48 (54:60:66:72) sts being held on circular needles, patt to end.
Work straight in patt until Left Front meas same as Back to beg of shoulder shaping, ending after a WS row.

SHAPE SHOULDER

Using yarn D, cast off.

RIGHT BODY

Using 3mm circular needles and yarn B, cast on 121 (133:145:157:169) sts.

Rib row 1 (RS): K1, (P1, K1) to end.
Rib row 2 (WS): P1, (K1, P1) to end.
These 2 rows set rib.
Cont in rib until Body meas 4cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row.
Next row (RS): Knit to last 2 sts, K2tog.
120 (132:144:156:168) sts.

Change to 3.25mm circular needles.
Next row: Using yarn C, purl to end.

Working from Chart B, set chart as follows, using yarn B as colour 1 and yarn C as colour 2.
Row 1 (RS): Working from row 1 of Chart B, work 24-st repeat to last 0 (12:0:12:0) sts, patt 0 (12:0:12:0) sts after rep.
Row 2 (WS): Working from row 2 of Chart B, patt 0 (12:0:12:0) sts before rep, work 24-st repeat to end.
These 2 rows set chart.
Cont in chart patt until Body meas 48cm from cast-on edge ending after a WS row.

SEPARATE FOR ARMHOLES

Next row (RS): Using 3.25mm straight needles, patt 48 (54:60:66:728), turn and leave rem 72 (78:84:90:96) sts on hold on circular needles.
48 (54:60:66:72) sts.

RIGHT FRONT

Cont straight in patt until Right Front meas 22 (24:26:28:31) cm from beg of separation for armholes, ending after a RS row.



Cottage Core

YARN

Debbie Bliss Baby Cashmerino (Light DK weight; 55% Merino wool, 33% acrylic, 12% cashmere; 125m/137yds per 50g ball)

A MUSTARD (316)	5	5	6	6	7	x50g BALLS
B SIENNA (67)	5	6	6	7	8	x50g BALLS
C CYCLAMEN (95)	5	6	6	7	8	x50g BALLS
D MALLARD (59)	6	6	7	8	9	x50g BALLS

NEEDLES & ACCESSORIES

1 pair 3mm (UK 11/US 2-3) knitting needles
1 pair 3.25mm (UK 10/US 3) knitting needles
3mm (UK 11/US 2-3) circular needles, 100cm long
3.25mm (UK 10/US 3) circular needles, 100cm long
2 stitch holders
Note: Long circular needles are recommended due to the large number of sts.

TENSION

25 sts and 34 rows to 10cm over st st and stranded colourwork using 3.25mm needles.

YARN STOCKISTS

Debbie Bliss c/o LoveCrafts
www.lovecrafts.com

For general abbreviations, see p88 of the main magazine

SHAPE SHOULDER

Using yarn C, cast off.

HALF BACK

With RS facing, using 3.25mm needles and working on rem 72 (78:84:90:96) sts being held on circular needles, patt to end.
72 (78:84:90:96) sts.

Work straight in patt until Back meas same as Right Front to beg of shoulder shaping, ending after a WS row.

SHAPE SHOULDER

Next row: Using C, cast off 48 (54:60:66:72) sts, patt to end. 24 sts.
Slip rem 24 sts onto a holder.

RIGHT SLEEVE

Using 3mm needles and yarn D, cast on 109 (121:133:145:157) sts.

Rib row 1 (RS): K1, (P1, K1) to end.
Rib row 2 (WS): P1, (K1, P1) to end.
These 2 rows set rib.
Cont in rib until Body meas 4cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row.

Next row (RS): K2tog, knit to end.
108 (120:132:144:156) sts. **

Change to 3.25mm needles.
Next row: Using yarn A, purl to end.

Working from Chart A, set chart as follows, using yarn A as colour 1 and yarn C as colour 2.
Row 1 (RS): Working from row 1 of Chart A, work 24-st repeat to last 12 (0:12:0:12) sts, patt 12 (0:12:0:12) sts after rep.
Row 2 (WS): Working from row 2 of Chart A, patt 12 (0:12:0:12) sts before rep, work 24-st repeat to end.
These 2 rows set chart.
Cont in chart patt (throughout) until Sleeve meas 42 (42:42:40:40) cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row.
Cast off.

LEFT SLEEVE

Work as for Right Sleeve to **.

Change 3.25mm needles.
Next row: Using yarn C, purl to end.

Working from Chart B, set chart as follows using yarn A as colour 1 and yarn C as colour 2.
Row 1 (RS): Working from row 1 of Chart B, work 24-st repeat to last 12 (0:12:0:12) sts, patt 12 (0:12:0:12) sts after rep.
Row 2 (WS): Working from row 2 of Chart B, patt 12 (0:12:0:12) sts before rep, work 24-st repeat to end.
These 2 rows set chart.
Cont in chart patt (throughout), until Sleeve meas 42 (42:42:40:40) cm from cast-on edge, ending after a WS row.
Cast off.

LEFT BORDER

Join left shoulder seam.

With RS facing, using 3mm circular needles and yarn C, knit across 24 sts left on holder for back neck, pick up and knit 201 (207:213:219:227) sts evenly down left front side edge to cast-on edge (approx 17 sts for every 20 rows).
225 (231:237:243:251) sts.

Rib row 1 (WS): P1, (K1, P1) to end.

Rib row 2 (RS): K1, (P1, K1) to end.
These 2 rows set rib.
Work another 7 rows in rib.

Cast off loosely in rib.

RIGHT BORDER

Join right shoulder seam.

With RS facing, using 3mm circular needles and yarn A, starting at cast-on of right front side edge pick up and knit



Each of the two front and half back sections are worked as one piece

CHARTS

Chart A

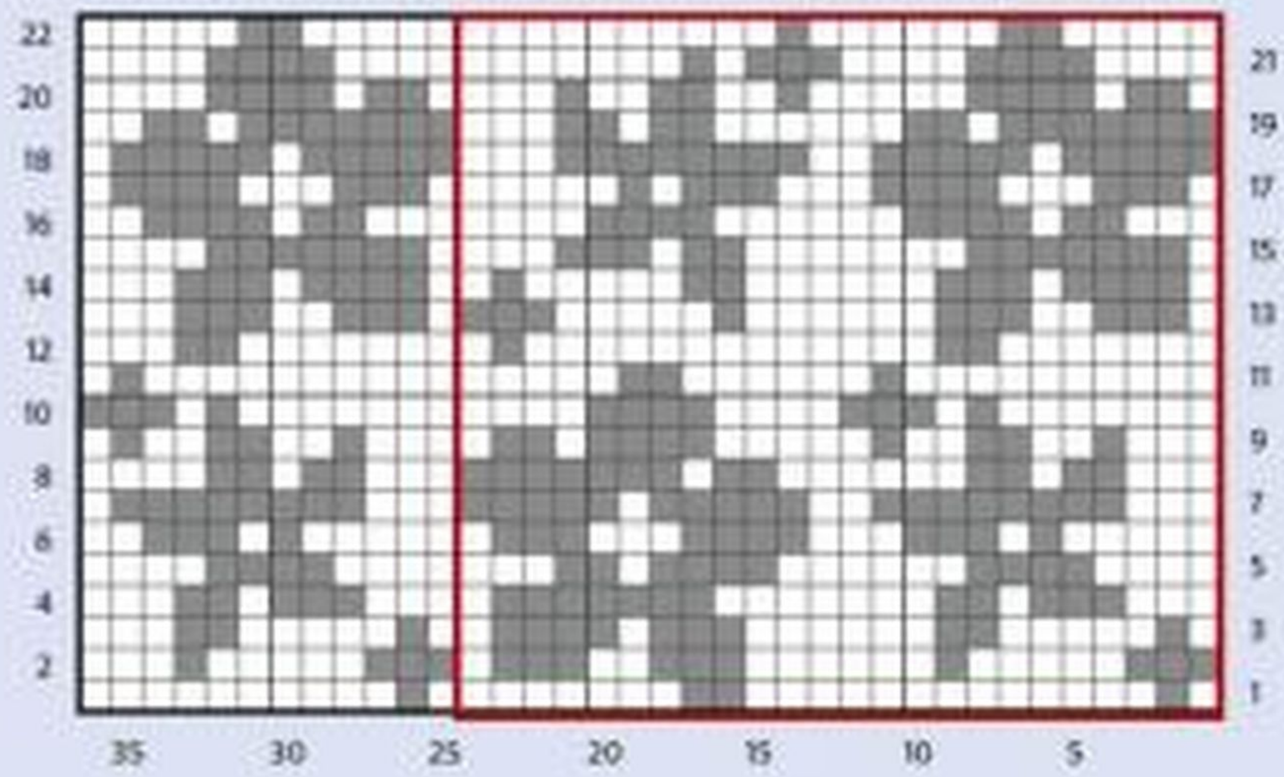
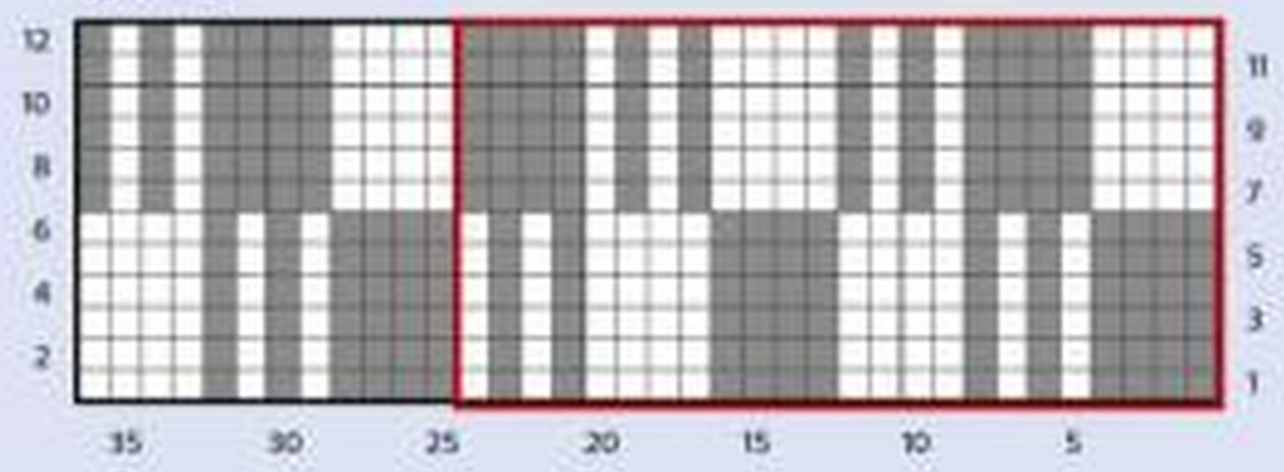


Chart B

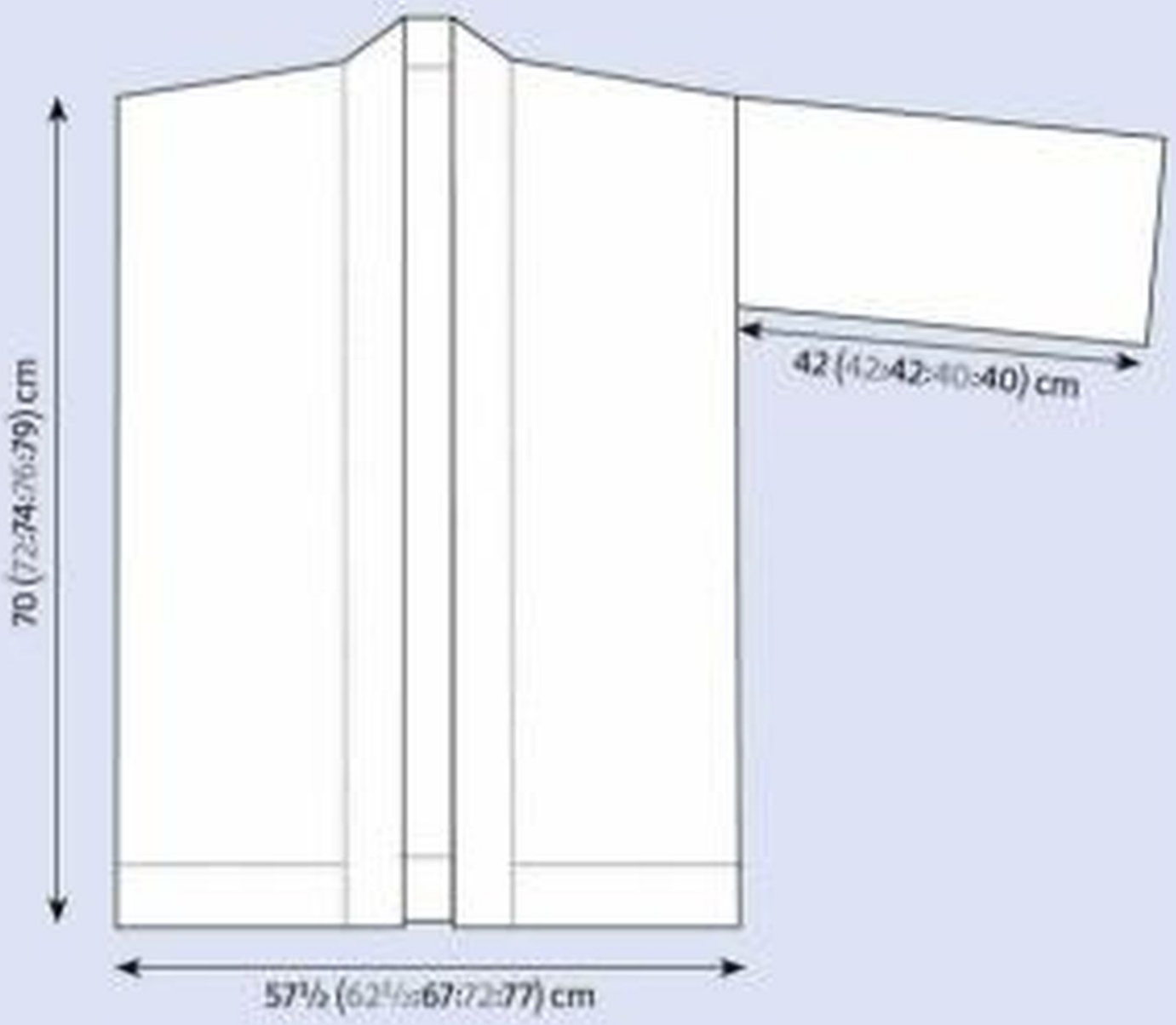


KEY

- Colour 1
- Colour 2
- K on RS; P on WS
- Repeat



BLOCKING DIAGRAM



201 (207:213:219:227) sts evenly up right front side edge to shoulder seam (approx 17 sts for every 20 rows), knit across 24 sts left on holder for back neck.
225 (231:237:243:251) sts.

Rib row 1 (WS): P1, (K1, P1) to end.
Rib row 2 (RS): K1, (P1, K1) to end.
These 2 rows set rib.
Work another 7 rows in rib.
Cast off loosely in rib.

TO MAKE UP

Join left and right body together along centre back seam.
Sew sleeves in position by folding sleeve in half and matching fold to shoulder seam and sleeve edges to beg of armhole separation.
Sew sleeve seams.
Weave in all ends. Block to measurements, following any yarn care instructions on the ball band.

SPOTLIGHT

Chloé Elizabeth Birch

8-PAGE PULLOUT

The Knitter

The two patterns are worked in different colour combinations on the body pieces and sleeves







This dramatic crochet jumper appeared in *Simply Crochet* issue 155



'Mini & Me' was designed by Chloé for the Dutch yarn brand Scheepjes



'Springtime Blanket' is a design for West Yorkshire Spinners

The Knitter FEATURE

CREATE WITH CHLOÉ

Chloé Elizabeth Birch is a talented young designer whose portfolio is filled with imaginative, joyful knit and crochet pieces. Here, we look back at some of our favourite patterns created by Chloé for knitting magazines and yarn companies

Design inspiration




'Simone' is a design from *The Knitter* 180







❶ + ❺ 'Arcadia' and 'Grafton', from the West Yorkshire Spinners book *Impressions* ❷ + ❸ Chloé has been publishing her patterns since 2019
❶ 'Flight of Fancy' from *Simply Knitting* issue 261
❹ This yoked sweater is a design for Yarnsmiths
❼ 'Monochrome Rhythm' from *The Knitter* issue 202
❻ This is 'Floral Whisper' from issue 147 of *Simply Crochet* magazine


'Free Spirit' appeared in *The Knitter* issue 205




'Myrna' is an intarsia design from *The Knitter* 209

Pattern sources

The Knitter back issues:
www.ourmediashop.com/knitter-back-issues
West Yorkshire Spinners:
www.wyspinners.com
Scheepjes: **www.scheepjes.com**
Yarnsmiths:
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk
Simply Knitting magazine:
www.ourmediashop.com/knitting-back-issues
Simply Crochet magazine:
www.ourmediashop.com/crochet-back-issues

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