

# Fairisle Friends

a knitting pattern by Esther Braithwaite Designs

## Construction

Fairisle Friends are knit in one piece from the bottom-up. Simple sewing techniques are used to define the arms and legs after knitting. Fast and fun to knit, these dolls are designed to be sturdy, safe, and perfect for even the littlest hands to hold.

## Gauge

Exact gauge is not important; the chart below shows approximate gauge, needles, and finished sizes for the yarns I commonly use. Choose a needle 2 or 3 sizes smaller than recommended on the ball band to create a dense fabric that will keep the stuffing hidden. \* Use a larger needle for stranded knitting if needed to maintain gauge.

Fingering	DK/Sport	Worsted
US1 2.25 mm	US 3 3.0mm	US 5 3.5mm
8 sts and 11 rows/inch	6.5 sts and 9 rows/inch	5 sts and 7 rows/inch
4 ¾ inches tall x 2 ¼ " wide	5 ¼ inches tall x 2 ¾ " wide	6 inches tall x 3" wide



## Yarn

Models are knit from a variety of DK oddments.

## Abbreviations

CO = cast on;; K = knit; K2tog = Knit 2 stitches together; P = purl; RS = right side; St(s) = stitch(es); WS = wrong side

## Skills Required

I designed these dolls as practice projects to improve my own stranded knitting skills. There are many excellent tutorials on stranded knitting and knitting from a chart available online. I found the tutorials from [www.tincanknits.com](http://www.tincanknits.com) particularly helpful.



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## *Circular Knitting Instructions*

Loosely cast on 32 stitches in black leaving a long tail for seaming.

Arrange stitches evenly on 4 needles (8,8,8,8).

**Refer to chart, or knit from pattern as follows:**

### SHOES

Rounds 1 - 4 Knit

### LEGS

Rounds 5-18 (Join denim blue) Knit

### SWEATER

Rounds 19-30 Refer to chart for fairisle design.

### FACE

Row 31-38 (Join medium brown) Knit

### HAIR

Row 39-42 (Join dark brown) Knit

Row 43 (begin decreases) K5. K2tog, \*K4, K2tog repeat from \* across to last stitch. K1.

Row 44 (and all even rows) Knit

Row 45 K4, K2tog, \*K3, K2tog, repeat from \* across to last stitch. K1.

Row 47 K3, K2tog, \*K2, K2tog, repeat from \* across to last stitch. K1.

Row 49 K2, K2tog, \*K1, K2tog, repeat from \* across to last stitch. K1.

Row 50 K1, \* K2tog repeat from \* across to last stitch. K1.

Cut yarn, thread yarn through remaining stitches and draw up tightly.

## *Finishing Instructions*

Refer to Page 4



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## *Straight Knitting Variation*

Loosely cast on 34 stitches in black leaving a long tail for seaming.

**Doll is knit in stockinette stitch; knitting on the right side and purling on the wrong side. Knit from pattern as follows:**

### SHOES

Row 1-4 Knit in stockinette stitch, knitting on the RS and purling on the WS

### LEGS

Row 5-18 (Join denim blue) Continue in stockinette stitch, knitting on the RS (odd) rows and purling on the WS (even) rows.

### SWEATER

Rows 19-30 Refer to chart for fairisle design.

**NOTE: You have added two selvedge stitches to account for seaming which do not appear on the chart. I recommend knitting the selvedge stitches in the main colour of the fairisle pattern.**

Continue in stockinette stitch, knitting on the RS (odd) rows and purling on the WS (even) rows.

### FACE

Rows 31-38 (Join medium brown). Continue in stockinette stitch, knitting on the RS (odd) rows and purling on the WS (even) rows.

### HAIR

Row 39-42 (Join dark brown) Continue in stockinette stitch for 4 rows knitting on

the RS (odd) rows and purling on the WS (even) rows.

Row 43 (begin decreases) K6. K2tog, \*K4, K2tog repeat from \* to last 2 stitches, K2.

Row 44 (and all even rows) Purl

Row 45 K4, K2tog, \*K3, K2tog, repeat from \* across to last stitch. K1.

Row 47 K3, K2tog, \*K2, K2tog, repeat from \* across to last stitch. K1.

Row 49 K2, K2tog, \*K1, K2tog, repeat from \* across to last stitch. K1.

Row 51 K1, \* K2tog repeat from \* across to last stitch. K1.

Cut yarn, thread yarn through remaining stitches and draw up tightly.

### SEAM BODY

Using tail from top of head, sew the sides of the doll together with an invisible seam. Insert the yarn needle under the horizontal bar between the first and second stitches, then insert the needle into the corresponding bar on the other side. Continue alternating from side to side. Your seam will stay hidden even when stitching with a contrasting colour. (Vogue Knitting has a good online tutorial for invisible seams.)

## *Finishing Instructions*

Refer to Page 4



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## *Finishing Instructions*

### Stuff head.

Sew a running stitch of matching yarn across the first face row, then stuff the head firmly.

Draw up to form neck and knot securely. Do not cut ends, as you will use these to define arms as noted below.

### Stuff body.

Sew a running stitch of matching yarn across cast-on edge, then stuff the body loosely.

Draw up to close bottom of doll and knot securely. Do not cut ends as you will use this to define the legs.

### Define legs.

Begin at the back middle seam, and pull yarn through to the front middle. Using the chart as a guide, count 16 stitches from the back middle seam to the front. Keeping the first few stitches loose can also help guide a straight seam.

Pull snugly to create leg definition as you continue to a few rows below the sweater. Fasten yarn securely, then pull through the doll to embroider eyes.

### Embroider Eyes

Embroider eyes in black. Pull a strand of black yarn under both legs of a stitch. Knit 3 horizontal stitches in the same stitch, then pull the needle through the doll and bring up at the opposite side for the second eye.

Make 3 horizontal stitches, then pull the needle through the doll and bring up at top of head. Fasten yarn securely, then pull through body of doll to hide ends.

### Define arms.

Using ends from neck seam, define arms with tiny backstitches through all layers. Begin your arms 3 rows down from neck and 4 stitches from back seam. Arms are 8 stitches wide. Secure yarn and pull through body to hide ends. Repeat on opposite side for second arm.

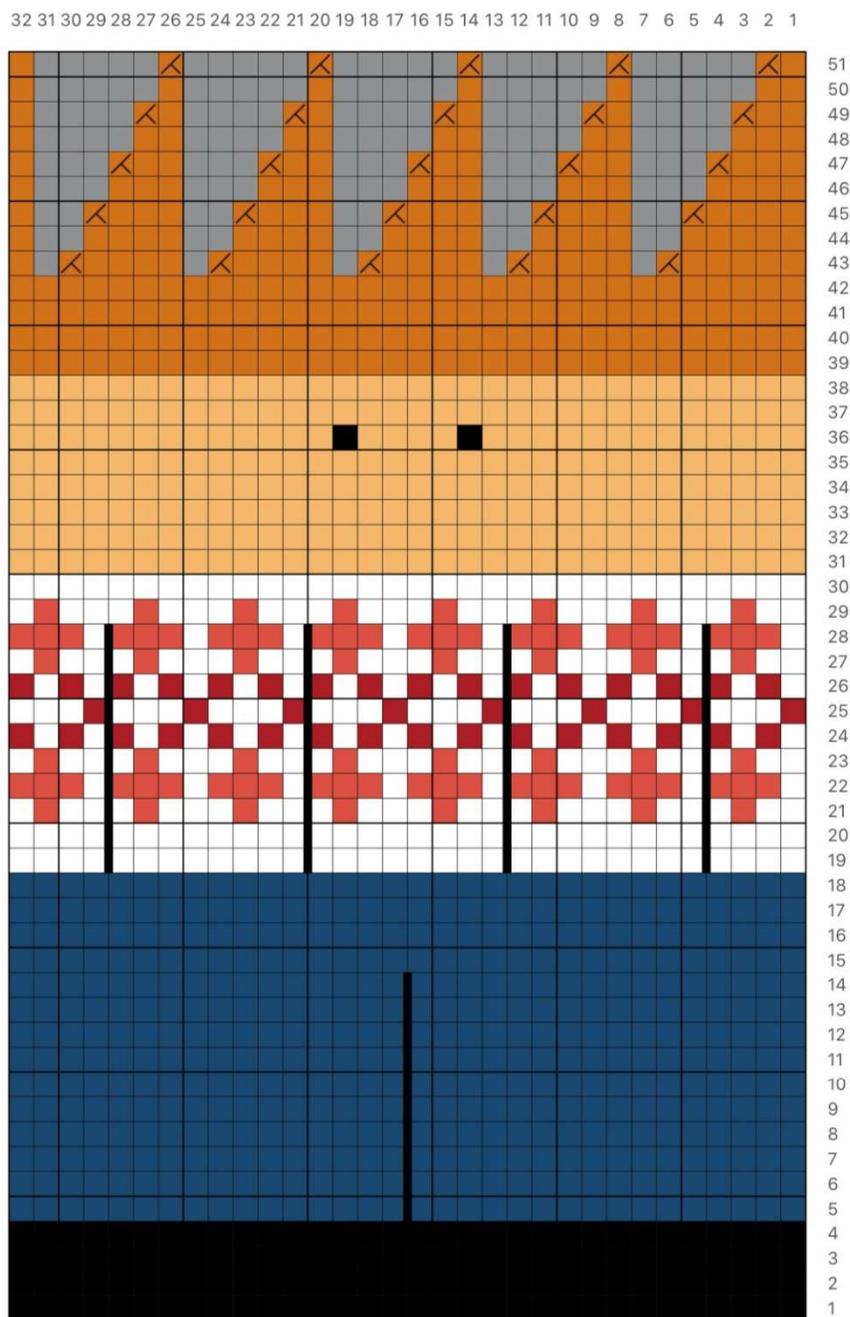
### Embroider Bangs

Using a strand of yarn that matches your hair colour, make several long stitches. Refer to the photos for placement.



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**\*NOTE: Chart reflects stitch count (32 stitches) for CIRCULAR KNITTING only. \***

When knitting the pattern on straight needles you must add 1 stitch to either side of the pattern for seaming (34 stitches required)\*

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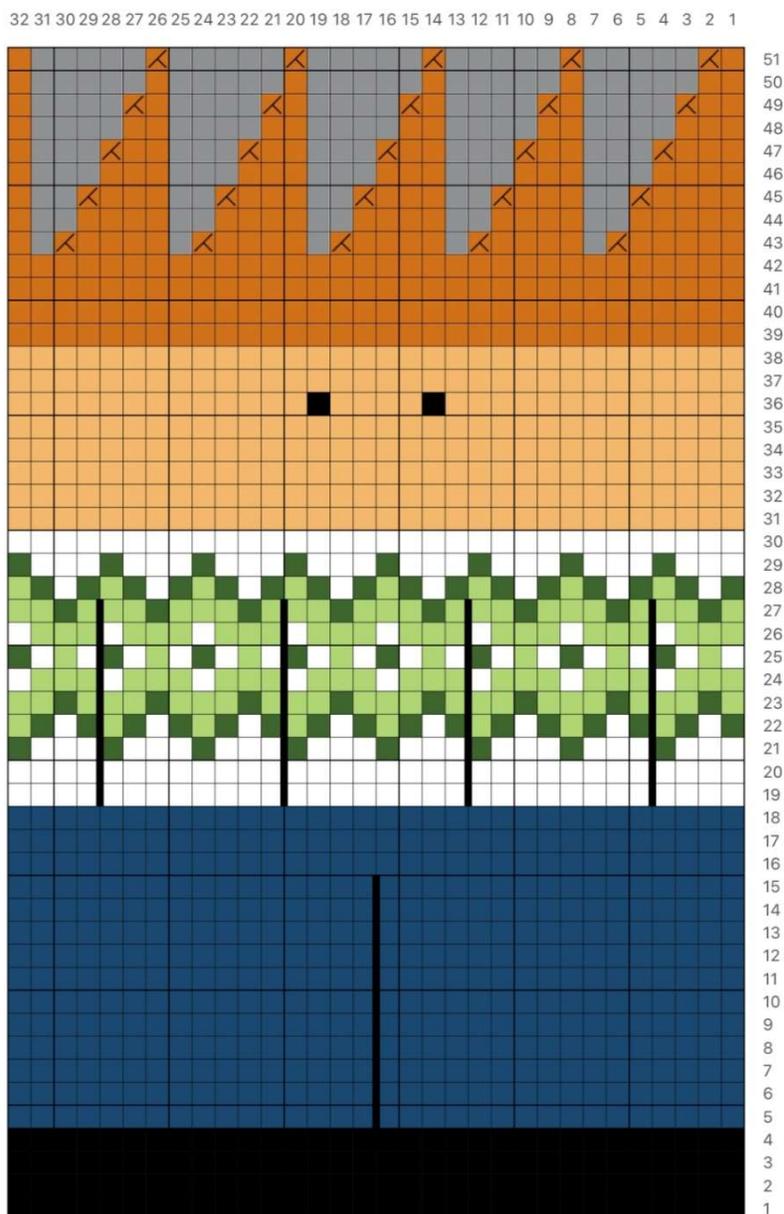


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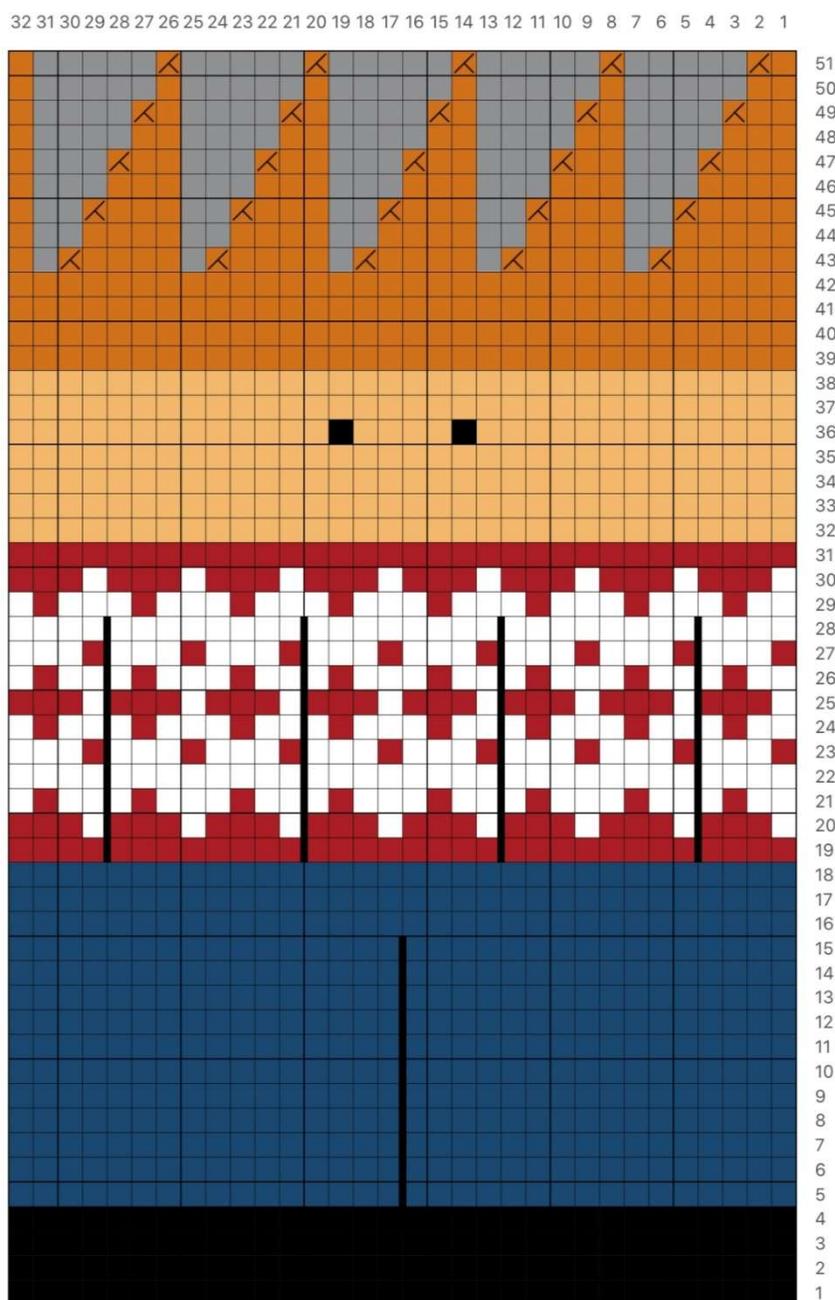
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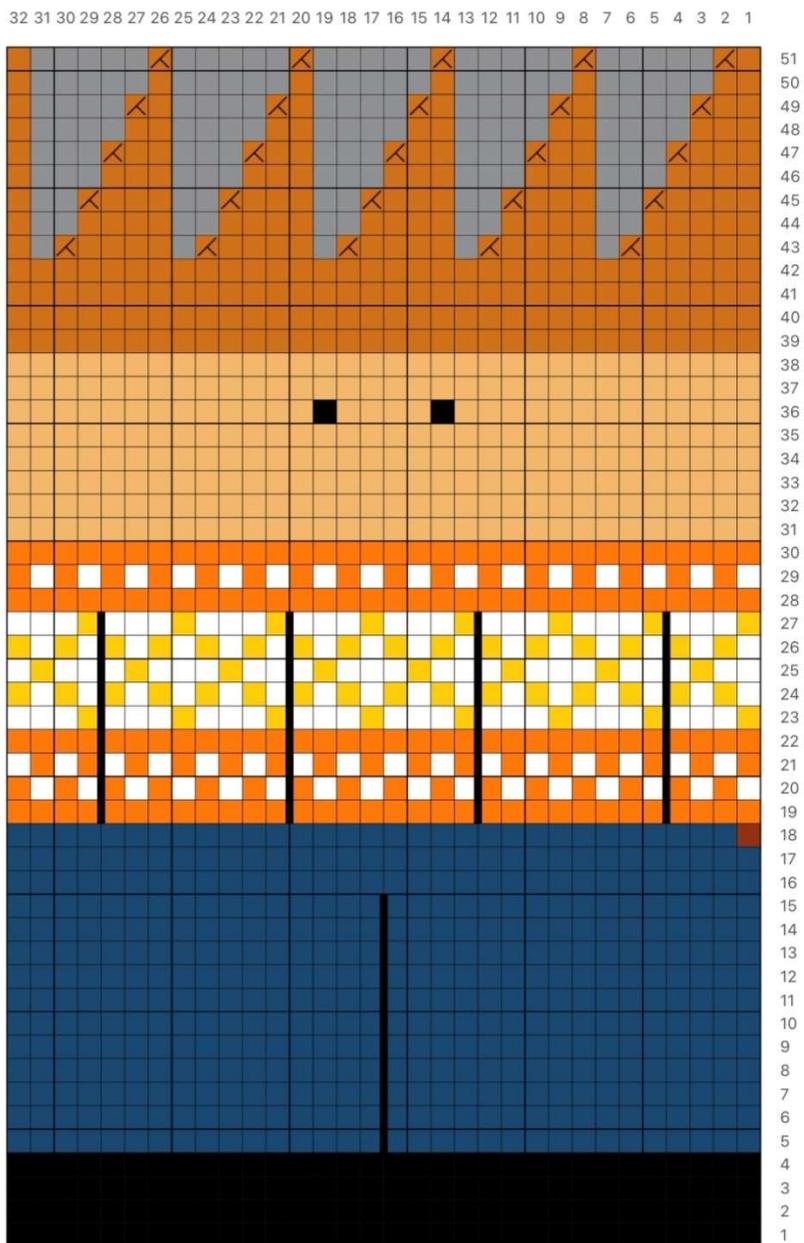
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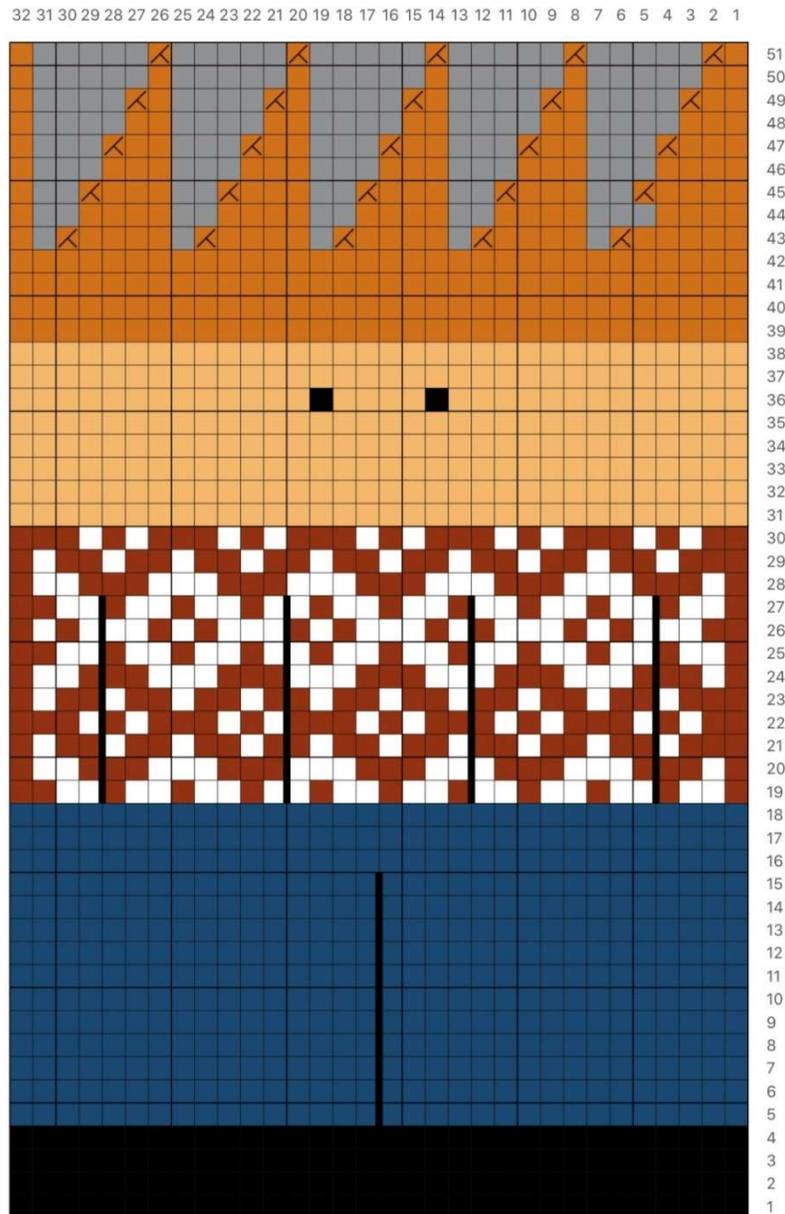
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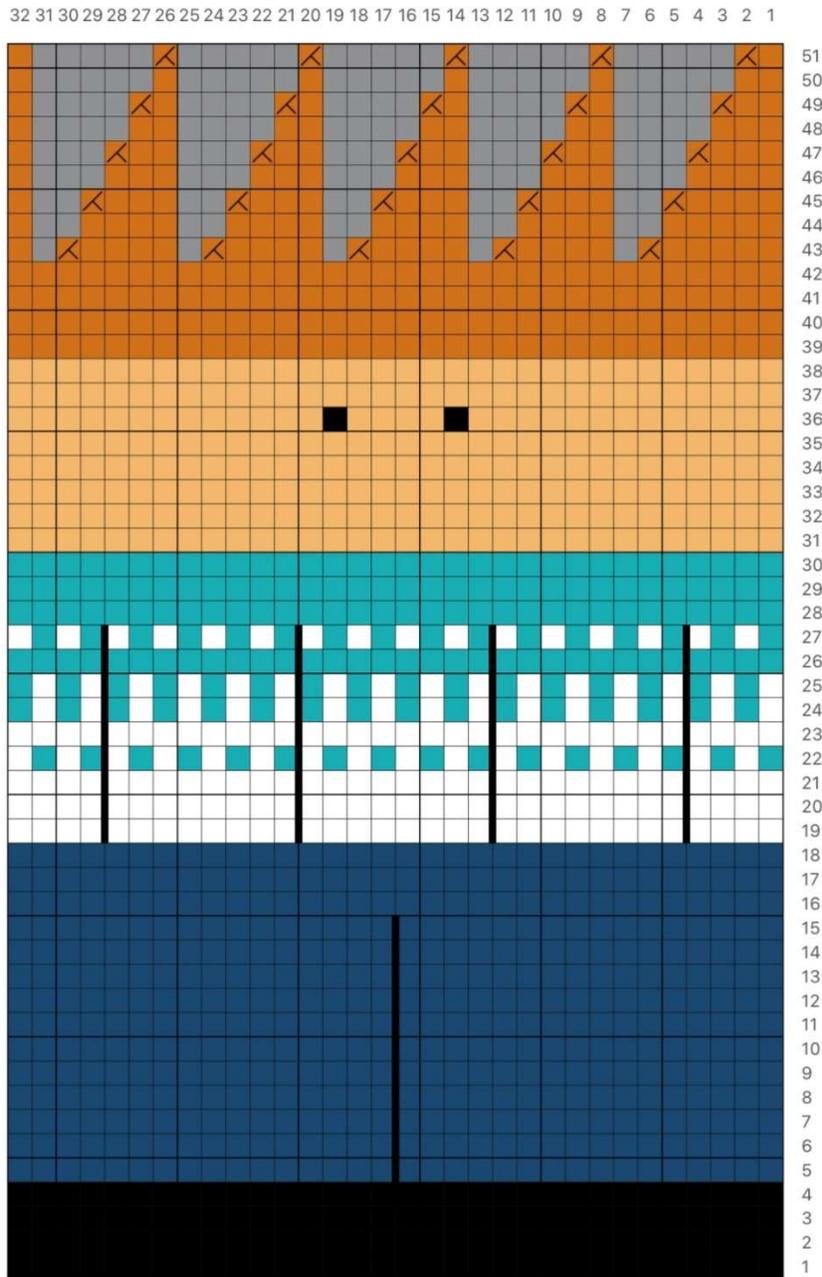
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