



Stella Quilt Blanket

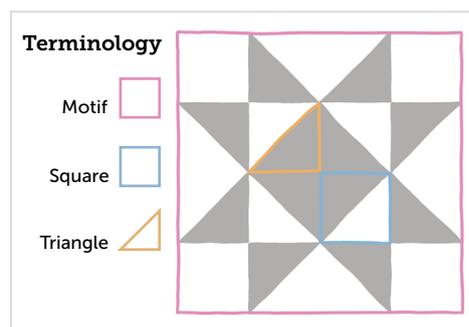
By Laura Penrose

For Anna,
without whom this pattern would still be just an idea.





- Gauge:** 21 sts x 42 rows = 10 x 10cm / 4 x 4"
- Yarn:** Garter Stitch worked flat, blocked
DK or Fingering/4ply held double
Amounts depend on configuration,
see 'Planning' section
- Needles:** 4 mm straight or circular needle,
or needle required to meet gauge
- Accessories:** Embroidery needle, scissors



Modular Construction

Starting at the bottom right corner, the first motif is worked. The next motif is then added to one side of the previously worked motif using joining methods described. Continue adding motifs in your chosen order until blanket is complete. This method is great if you don't like seaming however your project will be a lot less portable and turning the work can become difficult and a strain on the wrists.

Seamed Construction

Each motif is worked separately and then seamed together using knitting needle or crochet hook, no hand sewing here! This method is great if you're not sure which order you'd like to place your motifs and you'd like a more portable project.

Gauge and yarn

It is important to make sure you have the correct gauge, otherwise you may run out of yarn, fortunately you can use your base square as a gauge swatch. Ultimately, you can work this blanket at any gauge, however if you intend to use your yarns in the way described, you will need to match the given gauge or modify the stitch counts accordingly (guidance given throughout).



When choosing a MC, make sure it is something readily available with consistent dye lots, in case you need extra. The sample uses Filcolana Arewtta (held double) in the shade 101. Yarn from a cone is also a great option.

Planning

To differentiate between small (S) and large (L) motifs throughout this pattern, you will see two sets of numbers, the first referring to the small motifs, the second in parenthesis referring to the larger motifs, eg. 10 (16)g, 33 (41) sts. You will need to follow the amounts for the small motifs if you would like to make a baby size blanket. The sample is made using the large motifs and is Throw Rectangle size.

The small size motifs have been designed to make the most of 10-20g mini skeins and small scraps. The large motifs have been designed to make the most of your single 100g fingering or DK weight skeins, along with scrap and advent yarns. The order in which you place your motifs is completely up to you and will make a truly unique heirloom blanket for you to enjoy and pass on. Use the sheets at the end of the pattern to plan your blanket, or live life on the edge and make it up as you go along!

You can also watch the FAQ video on YouTube which covers building your blanket and answers any questions you might have. The video can be found **HERE** (<https://youtu.be/miNAhAis7ao>)

Yarn amounts

Each triangle should use **no more** than 5 (8)g of either DK held single and fingering weight held double. For border amounts, see 'Borders' section on page 9.

Make sure to weigh your base square after working it, it should be no more than 10 (16)g. If you are using more yarn than this for each triangle or square, try going down a needle size or reduce your stitch count using the 'modify' sections. If you can access one, I recommend using a small digital scale that measures to the nearest 0.01g, these are quite affordable and available online and in good cooking shops.

To calculate how much total yarn you will need, you will need to decide how big you'd like your blanket to be and how many of each motif you will use. Multiply each amount by the number of times you intend to use the motif.

Motif	1S	2S	1L	2L
MC total	100g	80g	160g	128g
MC per triangle	5g	5g	8g	8g
CC total	60g	80g	96g	128g
CC per triangle	5g	5g	8g	8g
No. of CC triangles	12	16*	12	16*

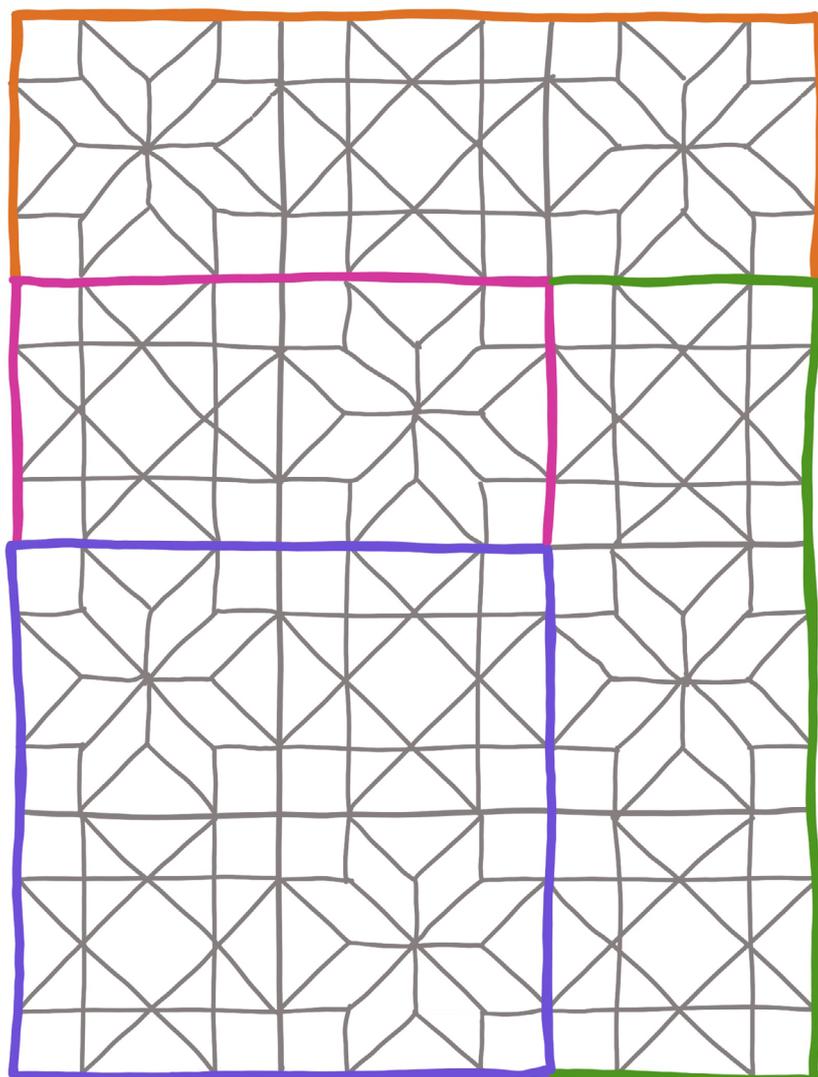
	No. of motifs
Lap Square	4
Lap Rectangle	6
Throw Square	9
Throw Rectangle	12

*motif 2 has 16 individual CC triangles, however the sample uses 8 different CC colours, 10 (16)g of each



Sizes - not including a border

Each complete motif should measure approx 38 x 38 (53.5 X 53.5)cm / 15 x 15 (21 X 21)". If you would like to change the size of your motifs or are using a different yarn weight, use the modify sections throughout the pattern. Use small motifs and Lap sizes for a baby blanket.



-  Lap Square
2 X 2 motifs
S - 76 X 76cm / 30 X 30"
L - 107 X 107cm / 42 X 42"
-  Lap Rectangle
2 X 3 motifs
S - 76 X 114cm / 30 X 45"
L - 107 X 160.5cm / 42 X 63"
-  Throw Square
3 X 3 motifs
S - 114 x 114cm / 45 X 45"
L - 160.5 X 160.5cm / 63 X 63"
-  Throw Rectangle
3 X 4 motifs
S - 152 X 114cm / 60 X 45"
L - 160.5 X 214cm / 63 X 84"

Blocking

It is not always necessary to block a blanket, however it will even out stitches, remove any dirt or oil from your hands and will help your blanket grow a little if you'd like it a bit bigger. Be careful not to stretch it however as it will lose its squish. If working the seamed method, block your individual motifs before seaming, and again if you add a border. Steam blocking is also a great option.

Don't worry, be happy

This project is an opportunity to really have fun with your knitting so don't sweat the small stuff if it goes a little bit wrong. If a point doesn't quite meet or your stitch count is off by 1, it will not matter in the grand scheme of your blanket. If you're worried your corner squares look bigger than the rest, this is because they haven't been joined yet!

Hungry for more? Don't forget the Expansion pattern (free if you own both Cushion and Blanket Patterns) which includes 5 more motifs and how to design your own Stella Quilt Motif. Ravelry only.



Instructions

Make sure you have read all the information before starting. Both construction methods start in the same way, follow the motif appropriate for you. Use your base square as your swatch and check your gauge/weight.

All methods and techniques are demonstrated in the accompanying tutorial video which can be found **HERE** (<https://youtu.be/Jf2Sa0-demc>)

Base Square

This first square of each motif will be a corner square from which the motif will grow. You will work this square only once per motif and it uses only your MC.

Using MC, CO 3 sts using the long tail method.

Increases

R1 (WS) - K to end

R2 (RS) - (K1FB) twice, SL1WYF 2 sts inc

R3 (WS) - K til 1 st rem, SL1WYF

R4 (RS) - K1FB, K til 2 sts rem, K1FB, SL1WYF 2 sts inc

Rep rows 3 and 4 until you have 31 (41) sts, ending on row 3.

Modify: increase to your desired size, make note of stitch count, this is your 'width stitch count'. Refer to this whenever increasing. Cont as described.

Decreases

R1, 2 & 3 - K til 1 st rem, SL1WYF

R4 (WS) - K1, K2tog, K til 3 sts rem, SSK, SL1WYF 2 sts dec

R5 (RS) - K til 1 st rem, SL1WYF

Rep rows 4 & 5 until 5 sts rem.

R6 (WS) - K1, CDD, SL1WYF 2 sts dec

R7 (RS) - CDD 2 sts dec

Break yarn, pull yarn through the last stitch. It is a good idea to weave in the ends after you complete each square so you are not left with hours of weaving at the end of the project.

From this point on you will continue adding squares using the following 4 methods (A, B, C & D). Using the schematics and/or tables on pages 7 and 8, add your squares in the order shown using the method indicated. Make sure you are picking up along the correct edge, starting at the correct point and using the correct colour. It can seem a little daunting at first but once you have worked a few squares the construction will begin to make much more sense.

Short Rows

Short rows are used to attach your new squares to the previous ones. Don't be intimidated if this is your first time working short rows, it's quite simple and is a great project to practise. This pattern uses the German short row method, however you can swap this for any short row method you prefer. Purl Soho or Very Pink Knits have great tutorials for German short rows on YouTube.

Picking up stitches

When picking up stitches to attach a new square you will always be picking up from the right (forward facing) side of the work. To do so, insert your right needle into both legs of the slipped edge stitch and pull yarn through.



Method A

Starting at the point indicated, with the tail of your working yarn pick up and knit 16 (21) sts along the edge indicated. This may take a few attempts to get the right tail length at first, you may find it useful to measure your tail before you pick up sts to reference next time.

Slide sts back to the other end of the needle (or onto the left needle if using straights) so you are ready to knit with the working yarn coming from the ball.

Modify: to work out how many sts to pick up, take your width stitch count, add 1 then divide by 2, eg: $(41+1)/2=21$. Use this calculation for methods A, B and D.

CO 1 sts using cable CO method. Continue working from the RS.

R1 (RS) - K3, turn

R2 (WS) - DS, K1, SL1WYF

R3 (RS) - K1FB, K to 1 st after DS, turn

R4 (WS) - DS, K til 1st rem, SL1WYF

Rep R3 & 4 til you have incorporated all the picked up sts. You should have 31 (41) sts.

Break yarn and change to the opposite colour (if appropriate) for decreases.

R1 (RS) - K to DS, SL both leg of the DS WYF (pull on the tail if your DS is loose)

R2 & 3 - K til 1 st rem, SL1WYF (resolve final DS at the beginning of R2)

R4 (WS) - K1, K2tog, K til 3 sts rem, SSK, SL1WYF

R5 (RS) - K til 1 st rem, SL1WYF

Rep rows 4 & 5 until 5 sts rem.

R6 (WS) - K1, CDD, SL1WYF

R7 (RS) - CDD

Break yarn, pull yarn through the last stitch.

Method B

Starting at point indicated, with working yarn pick up and knit 16 (21) sts along the edge indicated.

Note: If you don't intend to add a border, when working Method B for a square that will be on the edge of the blanket pay attention to where you pick up your final stitch. Rather than picking up from the point of the previous square, it may be neater to pick up from the slipped edge stitch after the point.

Turn to work the WS. CO 1 st using the cable CO method.

R1 (WS) - K3, turn

R2 (RS) - DS, K1FB, SLWYF

R3 (WS) - K til 1 st after DS, turn

R4 (RS) - DS, K til 2 sts rem, K1FB, SL1WYF

Rep R3 & 4 til you have incorporated all the picked up sts, ending on a WS row (your final st will be the final short row). You should have 31 (41) sts.

Break yarn and change to opposite colour for decreases.

R1-3 - K til 1 st rem, SL1WYF

R4 (WS) - K1, K2tog, K til 3 sts rem, SSK, SL1WYF



R5 (RS) - K til 1 st rem, SL1WYF

Rep rows 4 & 5 until 5 sts rem.

R6 (WS) - K1, CDD, SL1WYF

R7 (RS) - CDD

Break yarn, pull yarn through the last stitch.

Method C

For this square you will be picking up sts along the edges of 2 previously worked squares and using short rows to form the first half. No increases are needed.

Starting at the point indicated, pick up and knit 15 (20) sts from the edge indicated. Now pick up and knit 1 st from in-between the two edges you are picking up from. This should be the very top of a previously worked square, then continue by picking up another 15 (20) sts along the edge slip stitch of the left side triangle. You should have 31 (41) sts.

Modify: to work out how many stitches to pick up along each edge, take your width stitch count, minus 1 then divide by 2, eg: $(41-1)/2=20$

Break yarn and slide stitches back to the other end of the needle if using a circular needle then slip the first 15 (20) sts from left to right needle, rejoin yarn ready to start working at the central stitch picked up in-between edges.

If using straight needles, slide 16 (21) sts from right to left needle and rejoin yarn ready to start working at the central stitch picked up in-between edges.

R1 (RS) - K2, turn

R2 (WS) - DS, K2, turn

R3 & 4 - DS, K to 1 st past DS, turn

Repeat rows 3 & 4 until all picked up sts have been consumed and you have 31 (41) live sts.

Break yarn and change to the opposite colour for decreases.

R1 (RS) - K to DS, SL both legs of the DS WYF (pull on the tail if you DS is loose)

R2 & 3 - K til 1 st rem, SL1WYF (resolve final DS at the beginning of R2)

R4 (WS) - K1, K2tog, K til 3 sts rem, SSK, SL1WYF

R5 (RS) - K til 1 st rem, SL1WYF

Rep rows 4 & 5 until 5 sts rem.

R6 (WS) - K1, CDD, SL1WYF

R7 (RS) - CDD

Break yarn, pull yarn through the last stitch.

Method D

This is the only method where decreases are used to attach one edge of the new square to a previously worked square. The first half of the square is worked in the same way as method A.

Note: if you need to rip back whilst decreasing, do so very carefully as it can be very easy for the stitches attaching the square to the one below to ladder down and become disconnected.

Starting at the point indicated, with the tail of your working yarn pick up and knit 16 (21) sts (or modified amount) along the edge indicated.



Slide sts back to the other end of the needle (or onto the left needle if using straights) so you are ready to knit with the working yarn coming from the ball.

CO 1 st using cable CO method.

R1 (RS) - K3, turn

R2 (WS) - DS, K1, SL1WYF

R3 (RS) - K1FB, K to 1 st after DS, turn

R4 (WS) - DS, K til 1 st rem, SL1WYF

Rep R3 & 4 til you have incorporated all the picked up sts. You should have 31 (41) sts.

Break yarn and change to opposite colour for decreases.

R1 (RS) - K to DS, work DS.

With yarn forward and right needle, pick up st from the gap between edges inserting the needle from back to front without knitting it, turn work.

R2 (WS) - K2tog, K til 1 st rem, SL1WYF

R3 (RS) - K til 1 st rem, SL1WYF.

With yarn forward and right needle, pick up both legs of the next slipped edge stitch inserting the needle from back to front without knitting it. It will look like two sts on the needle however you should treat it as one. Turn work.

R4 (WS) - K2tog twice, K til 3 sts rem, SSK, SL1WYF

Rep R3 & 4 until 5 sts rem, ending on R3.

R5 (WS) - K2tog, CDD, SL1WYF

R6 (RS) - K2, SL1WYF, pick up final edge slipped st

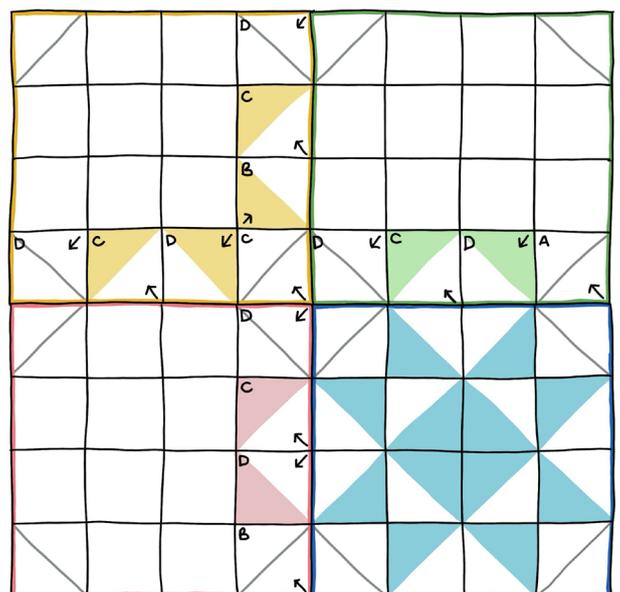
R7 (WS) - K2tog, SSK, pass first st over the second to bind off

Break yarn, pull yarn through the last stitch.

Modular Construction Joining

If you wish to add new motifs to previously worked motifs to create a completely seamless blanket you will need to substitute some of the joining methods used. Using the schematic to the right, replace the joining methods used for creating a single motif with those shown. The schematic applies to both motifs. The other joining methods remain the same.

The new joining method will depend on whether you are adding your new motif to the left or the top side of **one** previously worked motif, or to the left **and** top side of **two** previously worked motifs. This is referred to as a 'corner join'.



Corner
Join



Top
Join



Left
Join



Previous
Motif



Seaming

Seaming together your motifs is very easy and simple, you can use a crochet hook or a knitting needle, the technique remains the same. It is recommended to use a hook or needle slightly bigger than the needle size used for the blanket to ensure your seams are not too tight and making sure to work with a neutral tension. You can best see this demonstrated in the tutorial video **HERE** (<https://youtu.be/Jf2Sa0-demc>). The order in which you seam your motifs together is up to you as you may wish to do it everytime you finish a motif, or once all motifs have been worked if you're unsure of your order.

Starting with the right sides of the motifs you are seaming facing each other, choose a corner in which to start, you will be seaming from right to left. Before you start, make sure to line up your slipped edge sts so that the points of the stars are together and make sure you are starting at the same edge stitch on both motifs.

Insert your needle or hook under both legs of the very first slipped edge stitch of the motif closest to you and then under both legs of the first slipped edge stitch of the motif furthest from you, pull through a stitch. Now do the same on the next pair of edge stitches, then immediately bind off this stitch if using a needle, or pull this stitch through the previous stitch if using a hook. You should have one stitch on the needle/hook. Continue joining each pair of stitches then immediately binding off the previous stitch all the way along the edge of the motifs, making sure your star points line up. If you find you have one extra stitch on one motif than the other, don't panic, either pull back to the previous star point and try again making you haven't missed a stitch, or skip over it. Regularly check the right side of your work to make sure everything is lined up and neat.

Border

The border is optional, the slipped edge stitch leaves a lovely finish and it means you can extend your blanket in the future. You can also add an applied icord edging, however it is recommended to work an extra row of icord every 3-4 picked up sts to avoid the icord being too tight and distorting your blanket. You may also wish to go up a needle size.

The border shown in the sample is worked as follows. First the top and bottom sections are added, then the left and right sides are added in the same way you added your method C squares. You can also work the left and right in the same way as the top and bottom, then seam the corners together.

To estimate how much yarn you will need, as this will differ for each knitter, work the top section of your border and then divide the amount of yarn used by the number of motifs that make up the width of your blanket. Now multiply this by the number of motif edges around the perimeter of your blanket and add 10% contingency.

For example the 3x4 motif sample has a perimeter of 14 motif edges and used 83g for the top edge border.

$83g / 3$ (width) = 28g. $28g \times 14$ (perimetre) = 392g. $392g / 10$ = 39g (contingency) . $392g + 39g$ = 431g (total yarn estimate).

For an approximation of border yarn amounts for each size based on the sample amounts, see page 11. Please note these amounts may vary between knitters and depend upon matching pattern gauge. It is recommended to use the equation above to work out your own amounts.



Top/Bottom Edge

Starting at the top right corner of your blanket for the top edge and bottom left corner for the bottom edge, with RS facing and working from right to left, pick up and knit 3 sts from the slipped edge sts of the blanket. Now pick up an extra st from between the edge sts. This may take a little trial and error and you may find it helpful to watch the tutorial video where this is shown in detail. Continue picking up sts along the top/bottom edge of your blanket at a rate of 4 sts for every 3 slipped edge sts. The exact number of sts isn't important, but try to match the amount on the top and bottom as closely as you can.

R1 (WS) - K til 1 st rem, SL1WYF

R2 (RS) - K1FB, K til 2 sts rem, K1FB, SL1WYF

Work R1 & 2 until the border measures approx half the depth of one if the individual squares within a motif, or desired depth. Sample border has 24 rows. Your next row is a WS row.

Bind off

The bind off is technically a 2 stitch icord, which gives clean and crisp edging without it looking like an icord. If you could prefer a more rounded edge, work 3 sts instead of 2.

CO 2 sts using the cable CO method.

R1 - K1, SSK, SL 2 sts from right needle, back to left needle.

Work R1 until all sts have been bound off and 2 sts rem on the right needle, break yarn and place sts on hold.

Left/Right Edge

The left and right sides of the border are worked in the same way Method C, using short rows. Starting at the left tip of the top edge border for the left side edge, and the right tip of the bottom edge border for the right side edge, pick up and knit a st for every slipped edge st of the previous worked border until you reach your blanket edge. Your st count should be half the number of rows worked for the border, so in the sample 24 rows were worked, so 12 sts are picked up along the edge. Now continue picking up sts along the blanket edge at a rate of 4 sts for every 3 slipped edge sts, as you did before until you meet the next border edge. Pick up and knit a st for every border edge st, making sure you have the same number of sts as the opposite end. You may want to place markers separating the border sts from the blanket sts. Break yarn and turn to work the wrong side.

Slip all the border edge sts from the left needle to the right needle and rejoin yarn ready to start work the sts picked up from the blanket edge.

R1 (WS) - K to first border edge st, K1, turn

R2 (RS) - DS, K to first border edge st, K1, turn

R3 (WS) - K to 1 st past DS, turn

R4 (RS) - K to 1 st past DS, turn

Cont working R3 & 4 until all border edge sts have been worked. You should end in the top right corner of your blanket for the right side, and the bottom left corner for left side.



Bind off

Before turning to work the bind off on the wrong side, move yarn to the front of the work. turn the work, then instead of casting on 2 new sts, transfer the two held sts from the top or bottom edge borders onto your left needle and bind off your edge in the same way as the top and bottom. Your final st will be a DS so make sure to work the two legs together as before. When you reach the end either bind off the final sts traditionally then joining the very tip of the corner as you weave in your end, or pick up 2 sts from the top/bottom border edge and graft the corners together.

Approx. border yarn amounts

Size	Lap/Baby Square	Lap/Baby Rectangle	Throw Square	Throw Rectangle
Small motifs	176g	220g	264g	308g
Large motifs	246g	308g	370g	431g

Abbreviations

CC	contrast colour	RS	right side
DS	double stitch	rep	repeat
cm	centimetres	rem	remain(s)(ing)
CO	cast on	RS	right side
g	grams	Sl1	slip 1 st purlwise
K	knit	st(s)	stitch(es)
MC	main colour	WS	wrong side
mm	millimetres	"	inches
R	row	WYF	with yarn forward

Techniques

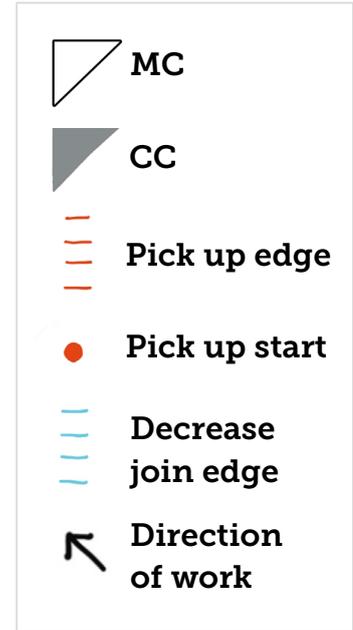
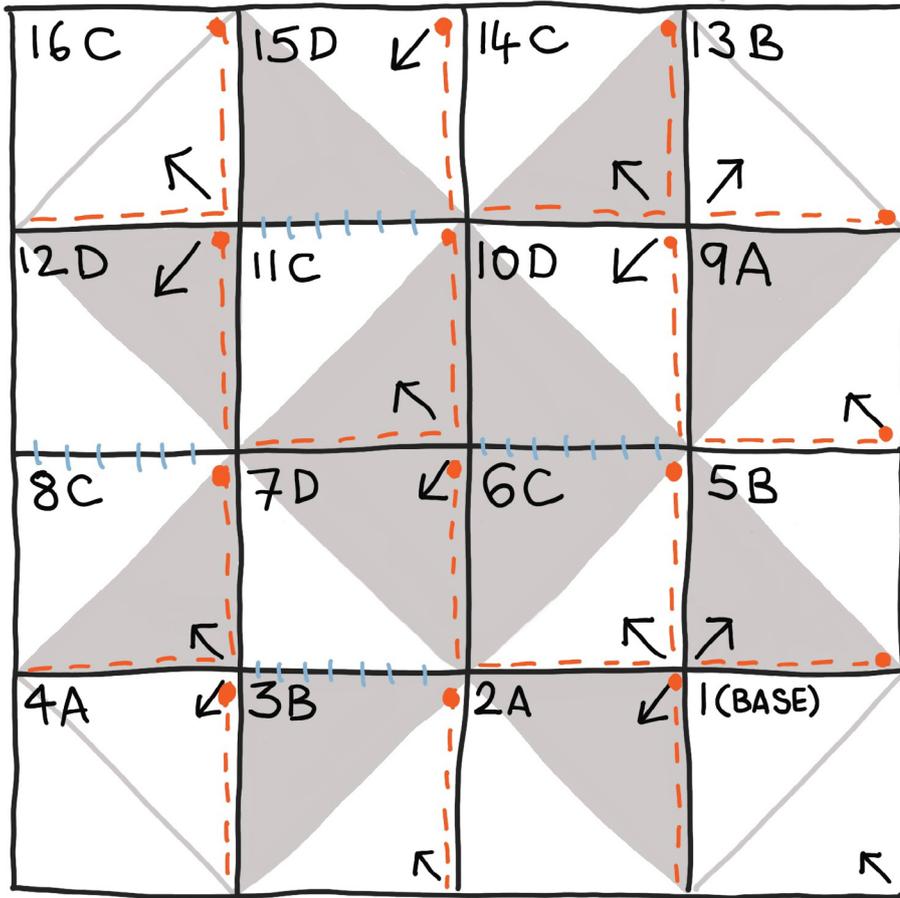
K2tog	knit the first 2 stitches on the left needle together as if they were 1 stitch. 1 stitch decreased.
SSK	slip one stitch knitwise, slip one stitch purlwise, place stitches back onto the left needle, K together through the back loop. 1 stitch decreased
CDD	Centre double decrease - slip 2 sts at the same time as if to knit, K1, pass 2 slipped stitches over the stitch just knit. 2 stitches decreased.
K1FB	Knit into the front loop of the stitch leaving it on the needle, then immediately knit into the back of the loop of the stitch then drop off the needle. 1 stitch increased.
DS	Slide the first stitch on the left needle to the right needle purlwise with yarn forward. Now lift your working yarn up and over your needle to the back of the work, pulling on the stitch. Continue working. When you reach the DS on the next row, work the 2 legs together as if they were one (just like a K2tog).

If you think you may have found an error, please contact me at laurapenroseknits@gmail.com. This pattern including all words and images is intended for personal use only and must not be redistributed or used for any commercial gains including the sale of a blanket made using this pattern.

#stellaquiltblanket @_laurapenrose_



Motif 1



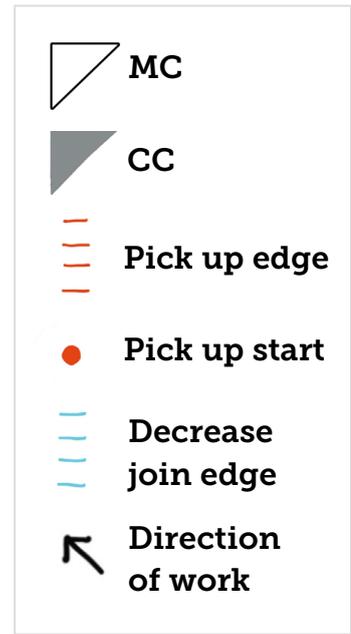
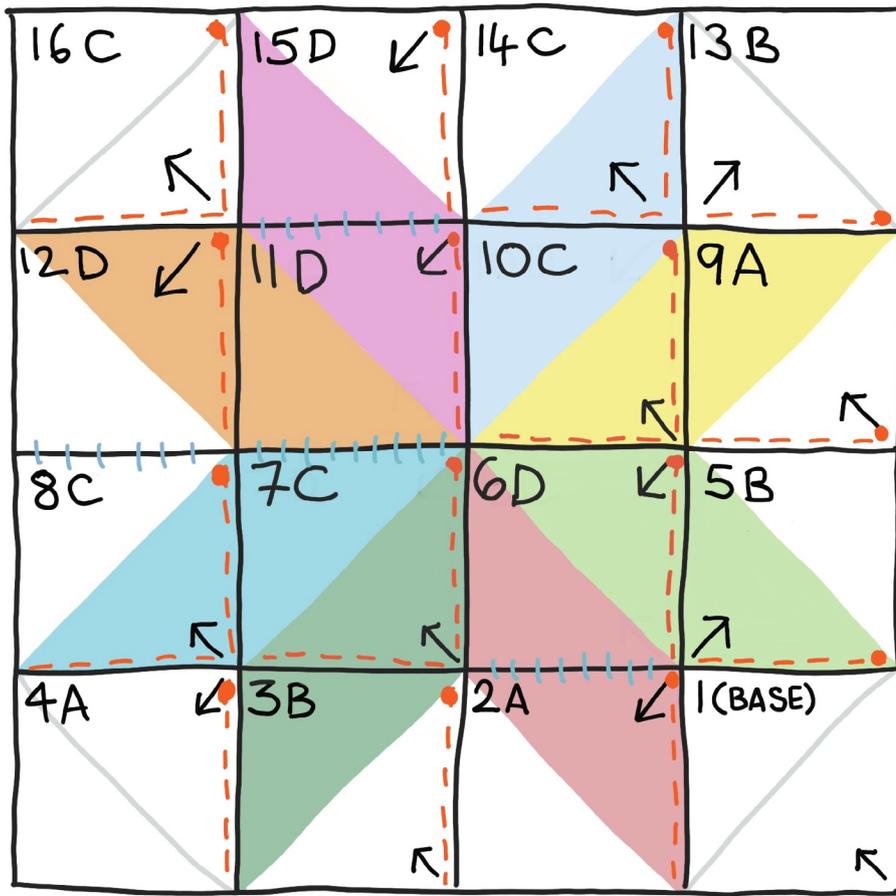
Tip: reverse the MC and CC in square 6, 7, 10 and 11 for an alternative motif.

Square	Method	Colour order	Pick up start	Pick up edge	Square	Method	Colour order	Pick up start	Pick up edge
1	Base	MC, MC	-	-	9	A	MC, CC	TR S5	T S5
2	A	CC, MC	TL S1	L S1	10	D	MC, CC	TL S9	L S9
3	B	MC, CC	TL S2	L S2	11	C	CC, MC	TL S10	L S10, T S7
4	A	MC, MC	TL S3	L S3	12	D	CC, MC	TL S11	L S11
5	B	CC, MC	TR S1	T S1	13	B	MC, MC	TR S9	T S9
6	C	MC, CC	TL S5	L S5, T S2	14	C	CC, MC	TL S13	L S13, T S10
7	D	CC, MC	TL S6	L S6	15	D	MC, CC	TL S14	L S14
8	C	CC, MC	TL S7	L S7, T S4	16	C	MC, MC	TL S15	L S15, T S12

L - left R - right T - top S - square TL/R - top left/right



Motif 2



Tip: choose high contrast colours for this motif to avoid losing definition

Square	Method	Colour order	Pick up start	Pick up edge	Square	Method	Colour order	Pick up start	Pick up edge
1	Base	MC, MC	-	-	9	A	MC, CC5	TR S5	T S5
2	A	CC1, MC	TL S1	L S1	10	C	CC5, CC6	TL S9	L S9, T S6
3	B	MC, CC2	TL S2	L S2	11	D	CC7, CC8	TL S10	L S10
4	A	MC, MC	TL S3	L S3	12	D	CC8, MC	TL S11	L S11
5	B	CC3, MC	TR S1	T S1	13	B	MC, MC	TR S9	T S9
6	D	CC3, CC1	TL S5	L S5	14	C	CC6, MC	TL S13	L S13, T S10
7	C	CC2, CC4	TL S6	L S6, T S3	15	D	MC, CC7	TL S14	L S14
8	C	CC4, MC	TL S7	L S7, T S4	16	C	MC, MC	TL S15	L S15, T S12

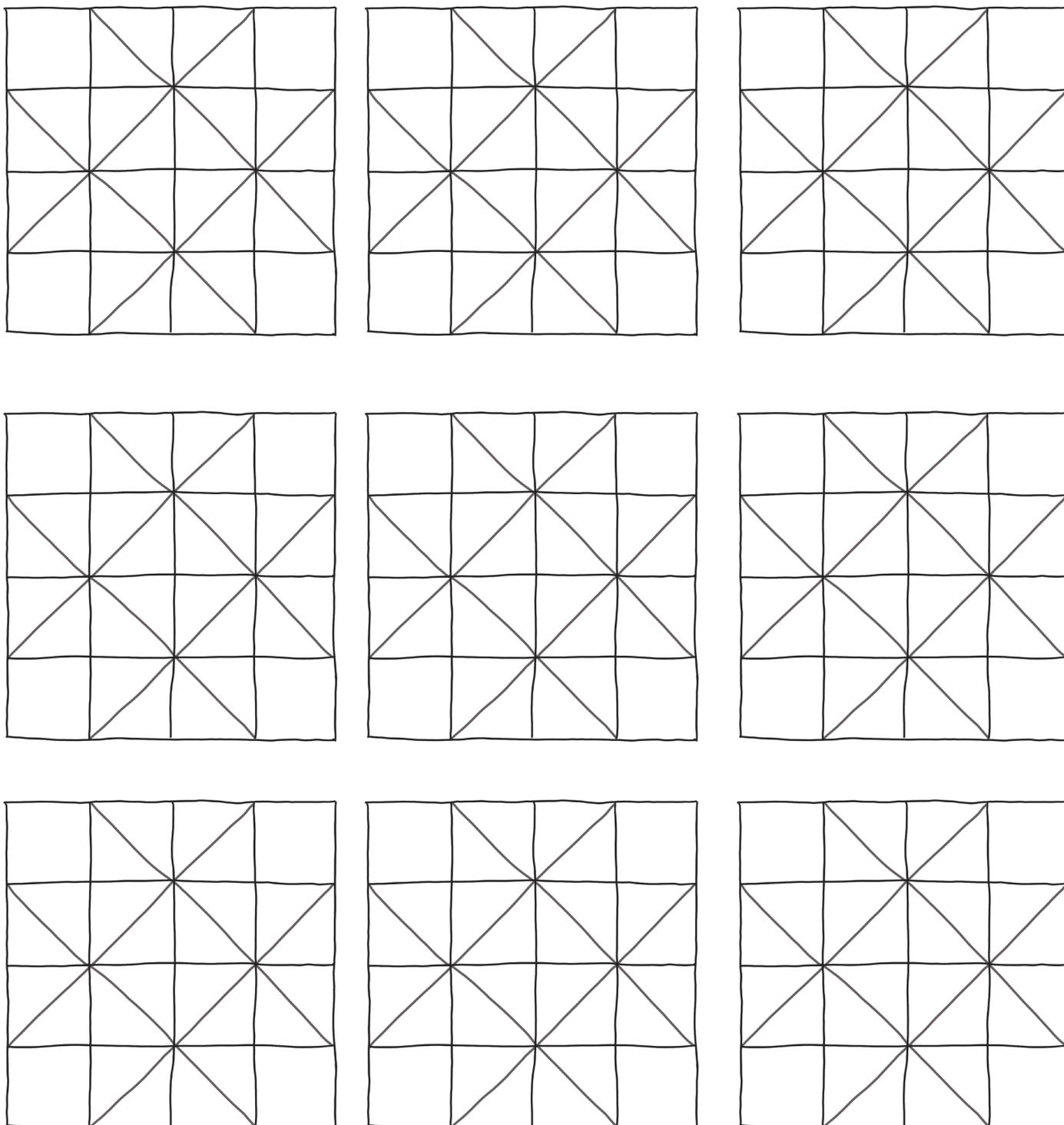
L - left R - right T - top S - square TL/R - top left/right



Use this sheet to plan your motifs

Why not try cutting them out and sticking them in your journal to plan the layout of your blanket?!

Motif 1



Use this sheet to plan your motifs

Why not try cutting them out and sticking them in your journal to plan the layout of your blanket?!

Motif 2

