Thunderbolt

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Before You Begin

Thunderbolt is designed for Mini Mochi, but it is equally perfect for any fingering yarn with a color gradient. For the cowl I needed one ball, but I had only two yards to spare. I recommend you swatch thoroughly and save a second ball just in case when you knit the first project. It is fun to knit and makes a perfect gift. If you find that you make do with just the one ball you can easily swap it, knit the wristlets with the second ball, or knit a present for a friend. For the wristlets I needed 1.6oz / 44g, so even if you need a little over 1.76oz / 50g for the cowl, you can still knit the set with two balls.

Thunderbolt is a modular knit, but there is no seaming involved because the modules are joined together as you go. You will find photo tutorials together with instructions on how to do this at the end of the pattern.

Since you will have to cast-on stitches for the next module during the whole knitting process, I recommend a cast-on method that is usually used for a provisional cast-on, as it can be ripped out easily. This method comes in handy because it provides you with an edge that is identical to the bind-off edge and also to the selvedge stitches on the side. I found this looks much smoother than any other cast-on method I tried with this pattern. You will find a photo tutorial on page 6. For the selvedge stitches, ensure that all slip stitches are slipped as they appear. Thus all purl stitches are slipped as if to purl with yarn in front, all knit stitches as if to knit with yarn in back.

Materials

Crystal Palace Yarns: Mini Mochi, #346 Periwinkle Shadows, 195 yds/178 m; 1.76 oz/50 g. 1 ball plus a little extra for the cowl. Mini Mochi, #110 Jungle, 195 yds/178 m; 1.76 oz/50 g. 1 ball minus a little extra for the wristlets. Any other yarn with a decent color gradient will be suitable.
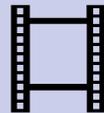
US 2 - 3 / 3 mm

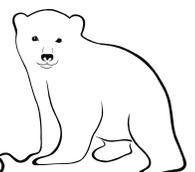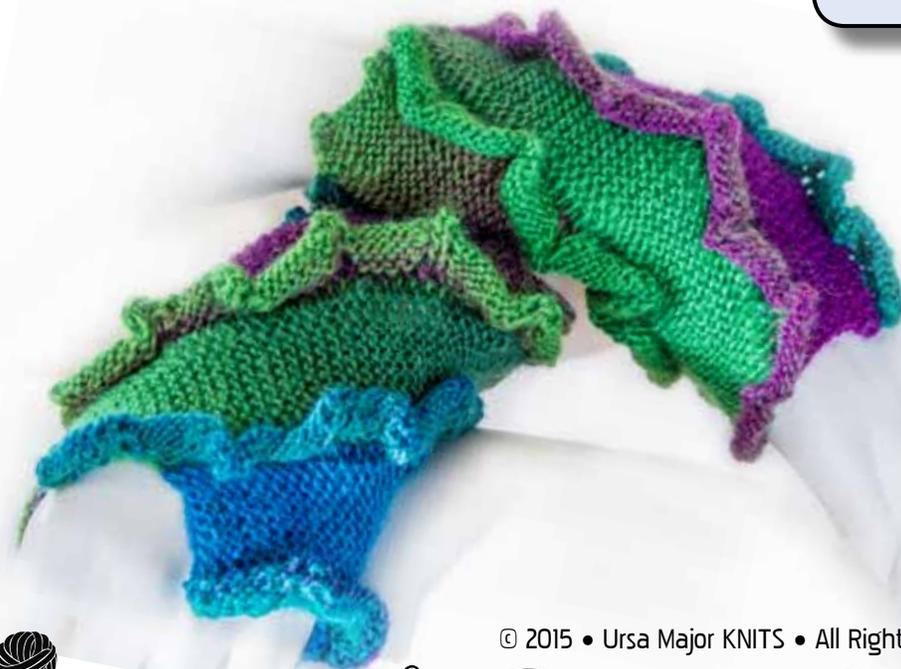Swatch: 14 st x 30 rows = 5 cm / 2" garter

Crochet hook, used for casting-on

At the end of this pattern you will find photo tutorials on how to do the cast-on, how to pick up stitches out of the selvedge stitches purlwise, and how to join your work into a cowl or a wristlet.

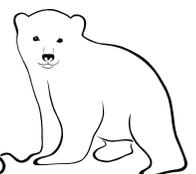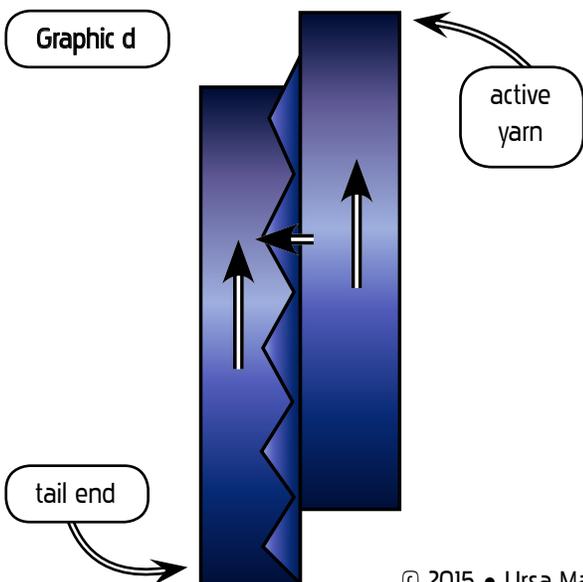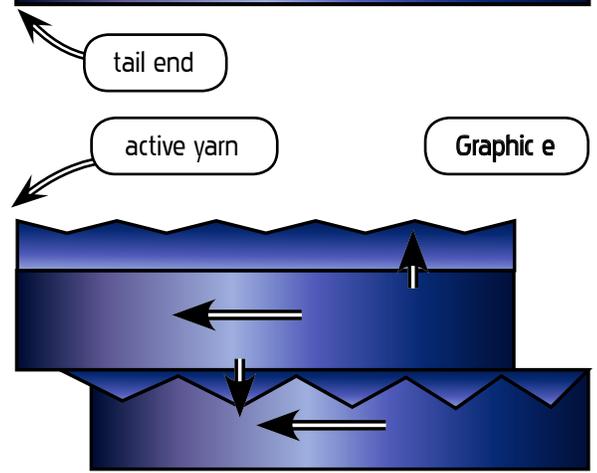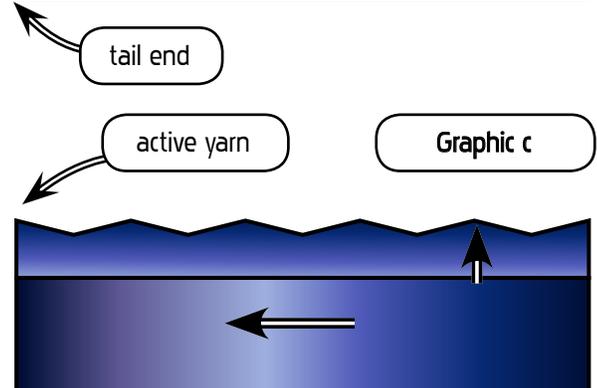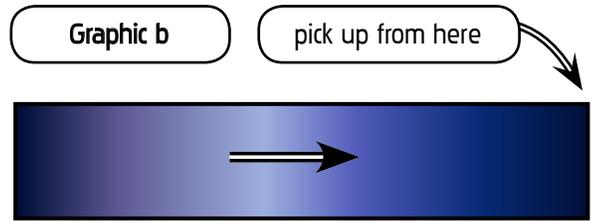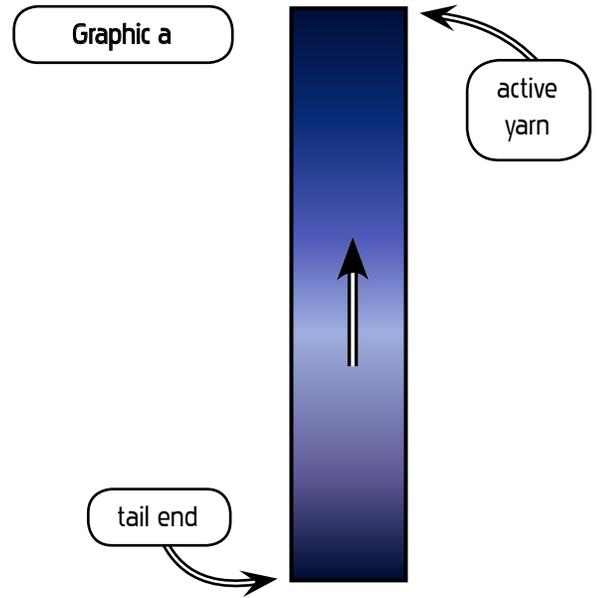|		
▢ = k	= knit on right side / purl on wrong side	
▬ = p	= purl on right side / knit on wrong side	
⌒ = sl	= slip knit stitches as if to knit with yarn in back and purl stitches as if to purl with yarn in front	
◣ = p2tog	= purl two together, the second stitch is the hibernating stitch	
◯ = YO	= yarn over	
■	= no stitch, only appears in chart	

The Basic Principle

Start with a long stripe knitted in garter over 16 stitches and 120 rows (60 ridges, see graphic a). After you have finished a stripe and bound-off with the last row rotate your work and turn it to the wrong side. Then pick up one stitch out of each selvedge stitch purlwise from the side of the stripe for the **Thunderbold** zigzag (see graphic b and photo tutorial on page 6). Skip the first selvedge stitch, as you will need a total of 60 stitches and you already have one stitch on the needle from the bind-off.

Follow the instructions for the zigzag (see graphic c). Bind-off with the last row. Then turn your work to the wrong side and fold the zigzag so it lies under the stripe. Pick up one stitch out of each selvedge stitch purlwise of the edge of the zigzag. 4 stitches in total – 1 from the bind-off and 3 picked up from the zig zag selvedge stitches. Continue by picking up 48 stitches purlwise out of the selvedge stitches of the stripe (see photo tutorial on page 6). You have now 52 stitches in total. These stitches will be purled together successively with the next stripe in every odd row in a p2tog fashion.

Cast-on the 16 stitches for your next stripe (see photo tutorial page 6) and join this stripe with the first two modules in a p2tog fashion at the end of every odd row (see graphic d). There are 52 hinernating stitches, so you will have to knit 104 rows. After you have used all hibernating stitches, knit another 16 rows (8 ridges) to complete the necessary 120 rows (60 ridges). Then continue with the next zigzag (see graphic e).

When you have completed 5 stripes and 5 zigzags you will close the cowl as shown in photo tutorial on page 7. For the wristlets you need only 4 stripes which are shorter. Follow the alternating instructions for the wristlets starting on page 5.

Graphic a

active yarn

tail end

Graphic b — pick up from here

tail end

active yarn — Graphic c

tail end

active yarn — Graphic e

active yarn

Graphic d

tail end
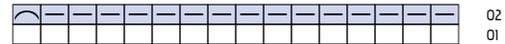
tail end

Thunderbolt Cowl

First Stripe

Cast-on 16 stitches (see photo tutorial on page 6).

01. K16

02. Sl, k15

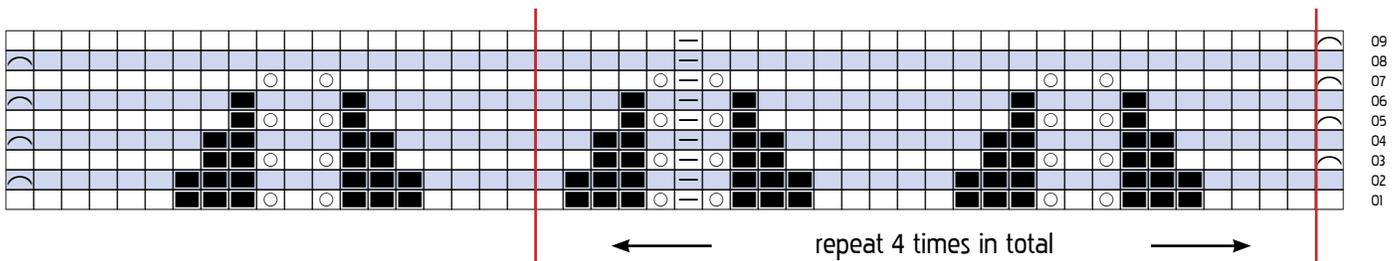Repeat row #2 118 times = 120 rows in total, yet bind-off with row #120.

Cast-on 16 stitches (see photo tutorial on page 6).

Repeat row #2 118 times = 120 rows in total, yet bind-off with row #120.

Zigzag

Pick up 59 stitches purlwise out of the selvedge stitches of the stripe. Skip the first sevedge stitch = 60 in total (1 bind-off stitch, 59 pick up stitches). Then follow the written or charted instructions below and bind-off with row #9.

repeat 4 times in total

01. *K5, YO, k, YO, k5, YO, p, YO**, repeat from * to ** 3 times, K5, YO, k, YO, k6

02. Sl, p14, *k, p15**, repeat from * to **, k, p14

03. Sl, k5, *YO, k, YO, k7, YO, p, YO, k7**, repeat from * to ** 3 times, YO, k, YO, k7

04. Sl, p17, *k, p19**, repeat from * to **, k, p17

05. Sl, k6, *YO, k, YO, k9, YO, p, YO, k9**, repeat from * to ** 3 times, YO, k, YO, k8

06. Sl, p20, *k, p23**, repeat from * to **, k, p20

07. Sl, k7, *YO, k, YO, k11, YO, p, YO, k11**, repeat from * to ** 3 times, YO, k, YO, k9

08. Sl, p23, *k, p27**, repeat from * to ** 2 times, k, p23

09. Sl, k22, *p, k27**, repeat from * to ** 2 times, p, k24 – bind-off with this row

Turn your work to the wrong side and fold the zigzag so it lies under the stripe. Pick up one stitch out of each selvedge stitch purlwise of the edge of the zigzag. 4 stitches in total – 1 from the bind-off and 3 picked up from the zigzag selvedge stitches. Continue by picking up 48 stitches purlwise out of the selvedge stitches of the stripe. You have now 52 stitches in total. These stitches will be purled together successively with the next stripe in every odd row in a p2tog fashion.

Cast-on the 16 stitches for your next stripe (see photo tutorial page 6) and join this stripe with the first two modules in a p2tog fashion at the end of every odd row (the second purl stitch is the next hibernating stitch on your left nedle). There are 52 stitches, so you will have to knit 104 rows. After you have used all hibernating stitches, knit another 16 rows (8 ridges) to complete the necessary 120 rows (60 ridges).

Following Stripe

Cast-on 16 stitches (see photo tutorial on page 6).

01. K15, p2tog
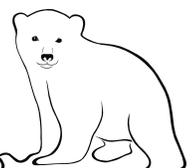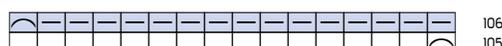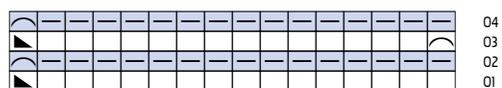
02. Sl, k15

03. Sl, k14, p2tog

04. Sl, k15

Repeat rows #3 +#4 50 times = 104 rows in total. Continue with row #105.

105. Sl, k15

106. Sl, k15

Repeat rows #105 + #106 7 times = 120 rows in total, yet bind-off with row #120.
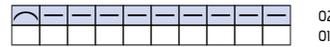
Thunderbolt Wristlets

First Stripe

Cast-on 10 stitches (see photo tutorial on page 6).

01. K10

02. Sl, k9

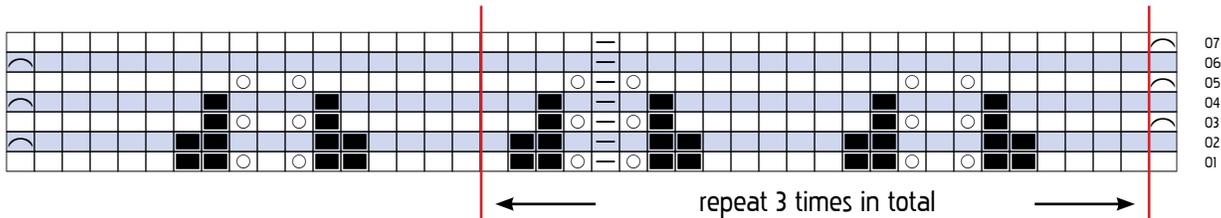Repeat row #2 94 times = 96 rows in total, yet bind-off with row #96.

Cast-on 10 stitches (see photo tutorial on page 6).

Repeat row #2 94 times = 96 rows in total, yet bind-off with row #96.

Zigzag

Pick up 47 stitches purlwise out of the selvedge stitches of the stripe. Skip the first sevedge stitch = 48 in total (1 bind-off stitch, 47 pick up stitches). Then follow the written or charted instructions below and bind-off with row #9.

repeat 3 times in total

01. *K5, YO, k, YO, k5, YO, p, YO**, repeat from * to ** 2 times, K5, YO, k, YO, k6

02. Sl, p14, *k, p15**, repeat from * to **, k, p14

03. Sl, k5, *YO, k, YO, k7, YO, p, YO, k7**, repeat from * to ** 2 times, YO, k, YO, k7

04. Sl, p17, *k, p19**, repeat from * to **, k, p17

05. Sl, k6, *YO, k, YO, k9, YO, p, YO, k9**, repeat from * to ** 2 times, YO, k, YO, k8

06. Sl, p20, *k, p23**, repeat from * to **, k, p20

07. Sl, k19, *p, k23**, repeat from * to **, p, k21 – bind-off with this row

Turn your work to the wrong side and fold the zigzag so it lies under the stripe. Pick up one stitch out of each selvedge stitch purlwise of the edge of the zigzag. 3 stitches in total – 1 from the bind-off and 2 picked up from the zig zag selvedge stitches. Continue by picking up 42 stitches purlwise out of the selvedge stitches of the stripe. You have now 45 stitches in total. These stitches will be purled together successively with the next stripe in every odd row in a p2tog fashion.

Cast-on the 10 stitches for your next stripe (see photo tutorial page6) and join this stripe with the first two modules in a p2tog fashion at the end of every odd row (the second purl stitch is the next hibernating stitch on your left nedle). There are 45 stitches, so you will have to knit 90 rows. After you have used all hibernating stitches, knit another 6 rows (3 ridges) to complete the necessary 96 rows (48 ridges).

Following Stripe

Cast-on 10 stitches (see photo tutorial on page 6).

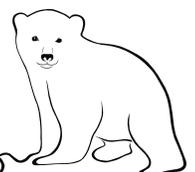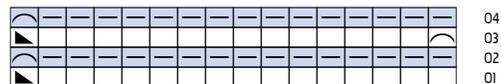01. K9, p2tog

02. Sl, k9

03. Sl, k8, p2tog

04. Sl, k9

Repeat rows #3 +#4 43 times = 90 rows in total. Continue with row #91.

91. Sl, k9

92. Sl, k9

Repeat rows #91 + #92 2 times = 120 rows in total, yet bind-off with row #96.

Tutorials

Cast-on

1   Make a loop with the crochet hook or slip the last stitch onto your crochet hook and place your knitting needle in front of the active yarn.

2   Grab the active yarn with your crochet hook from the front of your knitting needle.

3   Pull the yarn through the loop on your crochet needle. This is your first cast-on.

4   Slip the active yarn to the back of your knitting needle and continue with the next cast-on.
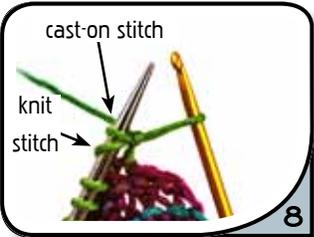

5   For the last cast-on, slip the loop that's on your crochet hook onto the knitting needle.

6   If you already have stitches on your knitting needle and want to add more, slip the crochet hook through the first stitch and make a loop as if to knit a stitch.
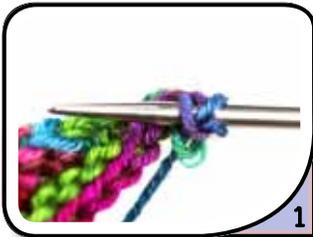

7   This loop equals the loop of step # 1. Continue with casting-on the first stitch.

cast-on stitch

knit stitch

8   When counting your cast-on stitches, don't confuse the first cast-on with the first knit stitch.
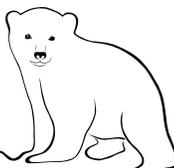
Picking-Up Stitches Purlwise

1   Slip your right needle through both threads of the first selvedge stitch as if to purl.

2   Pull the thread through as if to purl.

3   Continue until you have picked up one purl stitch out of each selvedge stitch.

Crochet Together

1 Fold your knitting with the wrong side on the outside to a cowl or wristlet. Slip your crochet hook through the bind-off loop.
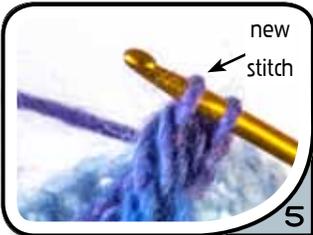
2 Slip your crochet hook through the 2nd selvedge stitch of your last zigzag.

3 Slip your crochet hook through the 9th stitch (4th stitch when completing the wristlets) of your first stripe.

4 Pull your active yarn through both selvedge stitches.

new stitch

5 You will have to pull your newly created stitch through the first stitch.

6 Repeat from step #3 with the next two selvedge stitches.

7 When you have used all selvedge stitches of your first stripe cut your thread and weave in the ends.

For pattern support feel free to send an email to ursamajorknits@gmail.com.