

WINTERSWEET

Welcome to the Boo Knits MKAL 2014!

Wintersweet is a delicate, lacy and beaded, top-down, crescent shaped shawl. The original shawl has been knit using Dye for Yarn Tussah Silk Lace (700m/100g) and includes just less than 1100 Miyuki size 5 triangular beads giving it an air of elegance and sophistication, a timeless feel making it suitable for any age. Of course, a different feel would result from a change in yarn to a silk, linen or silk/merino (though remember that yardage requirements and finished size will differ depending on chosen yarn and one 400m skein will not be enough to knit this shawl).

PLEASE NOTE - *A solid or semi solid yarn will suit this pattern much better than a variegated.*

This pattern will be released in four clues. There will be a whole week to work the first and second clues and half a week each for the others as shown below. Each new clue will be added to the previous clue(s) so you have a complete and up to date pattern to replace your previous issue. You might like to check the update as you may not need to print out the entire pattern on each release.

RELEASE DATES

- First Clue - November 28
- Second Clue – December 5
- Third Clue – December 12 and
- Final Clue – December 15

You will need to use long circular needles, a 1mm crochet hook or crotat hook to apply your beads, a darning needle to weave your ends in and blocking mats and pins. You will also find it useful to print your pattern on a colour printer.

The pattern is both written and fully charted with bead placement indicated throughout

Always make sure you read through all of the instructions before knitting this pattern

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REQUIREMENTS

Size Options: The size as written using Dye for Yarn Tussah Silk Lace – 19 inches (49 cm) deep and 83 inches (211 cm).

Yarn: Dye for Yarn Tussah Silk Lace (700m/100g) or Solstice Yarns Banshee (700m/100g) **Needles:** 3.75mm (US5), 4mm (US6) and 4.5mm (US7) or needles to create a pleasing fabric – your fabric should not be too dense and should have good drape

You will also need: Stitch Markers (one that is different to mark the centre stitch), Needle (for weaving in ends), Blocking Pins and Mats, just under 1100 size 5 Miyuki triangular beads and a 1mm crochet hook to apply your beads.

PLEASE NOTE – All beads are applied prior to working the stitch except on the very last row of the shawl when they are applied after the stitch is worked.

Gauge - Gauge is not overly important as this is a shawl. It is better to knit a swatch to ensure that you are happy with your tension and the drape of your fabric. However the gauge achieved on this shawl is 14 sts to 4 ins using 3.75mm (US5) needles on the body pattern after blocking. (I confess to being a slightly loose knitter and thuggish blocker).

ABBREVIATIONS

k – knit

p – purl

kfb – knit forward and back into the same stitch to create two stitches from one

k5b – knit into the stitch in the previous row (in this case the centre stitch of the three 'bumps') this is not an increase stitch just a decorative one

<http://techknitting.blogspot.nl/2008/12/knitting-into-stitch-below.html?m=1>

3ksb – kyok into the stitch in the previous row - you are making three stitches from one - this IS both an increase and a decorative stitch

7ksb – kyokyokyok into the stitch in the previous row - you are making seven stitches from one - this IS both an increase and a decorative stitch

ktb – knit through the back of the stitch

k2tog – knit two stitches together

ml – make one stitch by picking up the bar between the two stitches from the front using the left hand needle and knitting into the back of it

mr – make one stitch by picking up the bar between the two stitches from the back using the left hand needle and knitting into the front of it

mlp – make one stitch by picking up the bar between the two stitches from the front using the left hand needle and purling into the back of it

mrp – make one stitch by picking up the bar between the two stitches from the back using the left hand needle and purling into the front of it

pfb – purl forward and back into the same stitch

p2tog – purl two stitches together

ssk – slip one stitch knitwise, slip another stitch knitwise and then slip both stitches back onto your left hand needle and knit through the back

s2kpsso – slip next 2 stitches together as to knit, k1, pass 2 slipped stitches over (centred 2 stitch decreased)

ssp – slip a stitch knitwise with your yarn to the front, slip another knitwise with your yarn to the front, transfer to left hand needle in their new orientation and purl together through the back

ssp3 – double centred decrease purlwise – keeping your yarn in front slip one stitch knitwise, slip the second stitch knitwise and then slip both stitches back onto your left hand needle by inserting the needle from the right hand side (this swaps their place on the needle), purl three together

yo – yarn over

	knit on rs/purl on ws
■	purl on rs/knit on ws
O	yarn over
/	k2tog
\	ssk
//	p2tog
\ \	ssp
ktb	knit through the back
I	knit into the stitch below
3SB	kyok into the stitch below
7SB	kyokyokyok (create 7 stitches from one into the stitch below)
Λ	s2kpsso
V	kfb
⌠	ssp3
ml	make one left knitwise
mr	make one right knitwise
mlp	make one left purlwise
mrp	make one right purlwise
pfb	purl forwards and back into one st
	place bead prior to working stitch
	place bead after working that stitch
	pattern repeat
	no stitch

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CLUE ONE

CHART ONE - SET UP SECTION – 3.75mm (US5) – WORK ONCE ONLY

Start with a garter stitch tab - cast on three stitches, knit eleven rows, at the end of the last row do not turn work but rotate 90 degrees, pick up and knit one stitch in each of the five garter ridges, turn and knit three stitches in the cast on edge. (11 sts) Here is a good YouTube video if you struggle with this. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TaQHMmElvgU>

HELPFUL HINT - It is really important to keep those edge stitches nice and loose to ensure the top edge of your shawl does not pucker. If you are struggling to keep them loose try working a yarn over between the ktb and k at the beginning and end of each right side row and then dropping the yarn over on the wrong side rows to give you a little more give at the edges.

Row 1 : (Wrong Side Row) ktb, k1, p2, k3, p2, k1, ktb (11 sts)

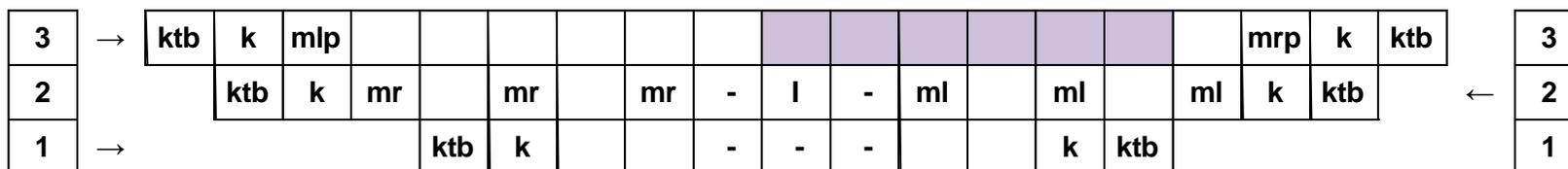
You will be placing your first stitch marker on the following row. I always use different markers for the centre stitch or centre block, usually just to know it is the centre and when I am half way through a long row or bind off but on this shawl you will find it very useful to know your centre block.

Row 2 : ktb, (k1, ml)x3, p1, ksb, place your centre marker, p1, (mr, k1)x3, ktb (17 sts)

You will be able to insert your next set of markers on the following row giving you six stitches between your markers

Row 3 : ktb, k1, mlp, place marker, purl to last three stitches (slipping your centre marker as you go), place marker, p1, mrp, k1, ktb (19 sts)

Remember – all right side rows are read right to left whereas all wrong side rows are read left to right



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Row 7 : ktb, k1, ml, k1, ml, k2, k2tog, yo, k2tog, yo, k1, k3 [k2, k1, yo, ssk, yo, ssk, k3, k2tog, yo, k2tog, yo, k1, k3] repeat to last twelve stitches, k2, k1, yo, ssk, yo, ssk, k2, mr, k1, mr, k1, ktb

Row 8 : ktb, k1, mlp, purl to last two stitches, mrp, k1, ktb

Row 9 : ktb, k1, ml, k1, ml, k1, yo, ssk, k1, k2tog, yo, k2tog, yo, ssk, yo, k1, k2 [k1, k1, yo, k2tog, yo, ssk, yo, ssk, k1, k2tog, yo, k2tog, yo, ssk, yo, k1, k2] repeat to last fourteen stitches, k1, k1, yo, k2tog, yo, ssk, yo, ssk, k1, k2tog, yo, k1, mr, k1, mr, k1, ktb

Row 10 : ktb, k1, mlp, p15 [p1, p17] repeat to last eighteen stitches, p1, p15, mrp, k1, ktb

The stitch markers will move on the following row as the double centred decrease straddles the pattern repeat.

Row 11 : ktb, k1, ml, k1, ml, k4, k2tog, yo, k1, yo, ssk, k2, yo, ssk, yo, k1, s2kpss0 [k1, yo, k2tog, yo, k2, k2tog, yo, k1, yo, ssk, k2, yo, ssk, yo, k1, s2kpss0] repeat to last seventeen stitches k1, yo, k2tog, yo, k2, k2tog, yo, k1, yo, ssk, k4, mr, k1, mr, k1, ktb

Row 12 : : ktb, k1, mlp, p8, k3, p7 [p8, k3, p7] repeat to last twenty-one stitches, p8, k3, p8, mrp, k1, ktb

The stitch markers will move on Rows 5, 8 and 11 as the double centred decrease straddles the pattern repeat. These Rows have been highlighted to remind you.

Row 5 : ktb, k1, ml, k1, ml, k1, yo, k1, ssk, k1, yo, s2kpsso [yo, k1, k2tog, k1, yo, k1, k1, k3, k1, k1, yo, k1, ssk, k1, yo, s2kpsso] repeat to last eight stitches, yo, k1, k2tog, k1, yo, k1, mr, k1, mr, k1, ktb

Row 6 : ktb, k1, mlp, p1, ssp, yo, p2, yo, p1, p2tog, p1 [p2, ssp, p1, yo, p2, yo, p2tog, p1, ssp, yo, p2, yo, p1, p2tog, p1] repeat to last twelve stitches, p2, ssp, p1, yo, p2, yo, p2tog, p1, mrp, k1, ktb

Row 7 : ktb, k1, ml, k1, ml, k2tog, k1, yo, k3, yo, k1, ssk, k1 [k2tog, k1, yo, k3, yo, k1, s2kpsso, k1, yo, k3, yo, k1, ssk, k1] repeat to last twelve stitches, k2tog, k1, yo, k3, yo, k1, ssk, mr, k1, mr, k1, ktb

Watch out for those tricky ssp3 stitches – they have a habit of avoiding your needle – make sure you have captured all three stitches!

Row 8 : ktb, k1, mlp, yo, p1, p2tog, p1, ssp, p1, yo, p3, yo, p1 [ssp3, p1, yo, p3, yo, p1, p2tog, p1, ssp, p1, yo, p3, yo, p1] repeat to last sixteen stitches, ssp3, p1, yo, p3, yo, p1, p2tog, p1, ssp, p1, yo, mrp, k1, ktb

Watch out for the increases at each end of the following row – they are a little different on this row only and use a knit forward/back as the third increase of the row

Row 9 : ktb, k1, ml, yo, kfb, k2, s2kpsso, k3, yo, k5 [k4, yo, k3, s2kpsso, k3, yo, k5] repeat to last fifteen stitches, k4, yo, k3, s2kpsso, k2, kfb, yo, mr, k1, ktb

Row 10 : ktb, k1, mlp, p1, yo, p3, p2tog, p1, ssp, p3, yo, p3 [p4, yo, p3, p2tog, p1, ssp, p3, yo, p3] repeat to last eighteen stitches, p4, yo, p3, p2tog, p1, ssp, p3, yo, p1, mrp, k1, ktb

Row 11 : ktb, k1, ml, k1, ml, k5, yo, s2kpsso, yo, k4, yo, k2, s2kpsso [k2, yo, k4, yo, s2kpsso, yo, k4, yo, k2, s2kpsso] repeat to last seventeen stitches, k2, yo, k4, yo, s2kpsso, yo, k5, mr, k1, mr, k1, ktb

Row 12 : ktb, k1, mlp, p1, p2tog, yo, p4, yo, ssp, p1, p2tog, yo, p4, yo, ssp [p1, p2tog, yo, p4, yo, ssp, p1, p2tog, yo, p4, yo, ssp] repeat to last twenty-one stitches, p1, p2tog, yo, p4, yo, ssp, p1, p2tog, yo, p4, yo, ssp, p1, mrp, k1, ktb

Remember – all right side rows are read right to left whereas all wrong side rows are read left to right.

Row 8 : ktb, k1, mlp, p4, k3, p6 [p7, k3, p6] repeat to last sixteen stitches, p7, k3, p4, mrp, k1, ktb

Row 9 : ktb, k1, ml, k1, ml, k1, k2tog, yo, **k1**, p1, kyok into the stitch below (making three stitches from one), p1, **k1**, (yo, ssk)x2, **k1**, k1 [**k1**, (k2tog, yo)x2, **k1**, p1, kyok into the stitch below (making three stitches from one), p1, **k1**, (yo, ssk)x2, **k1**, k1] repeat to last sixteen stitches, **k1**, (k2tog, yo)x2, **k1**, p1, kyok into the stitch below (making three stitches from one), p1, **k1**, yo, ssk, k1, mr, k1, mr, k1, ktb – you will now have eighteen stitches between your markers

Row 10 : ktb, k1, mlp, purl to last two stitches, mrp, k1, ktb

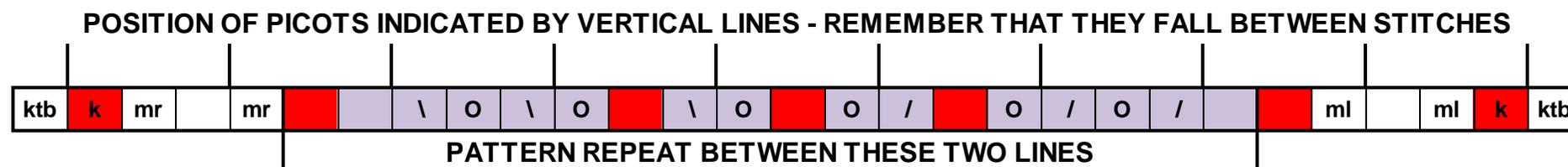
Row 11 : ktb, **k1**, ml, k1, ml, **k1**, [k1, (k2tog, yo)x2, **k1**, k2tog, yo, **k1**, yo, ssk, **k1**, (yo, ssk)x2, k1, **k1**] repeat to last three stitches, mr, k1, mr, **k1**, ktb

BIND OFF – this is a wrong side row but you will be binding off knitwise - **CHANGE TO 4mm (US6) NEEDLES NOW**

Using **4mm needles (US6) PICOT BIND OFF** – Place a bead on your first stitch and working from this stitch cast on three stitches twisting them onto the left hand needle, bind off six stitches returning the stitch to the left hand needle, [cast on three bind off six], repeat across your entire row. I find I get a neater bind off if I cast on quite firmly using only the tips of the needles, bind off three quite firmly, again using just the tips of the needles and the next three stitches (which are between the picots) bind off nice and loosely but not too loose to get a baggy edge though you do them much looser than a regular bind off. When you get to your last stitch, place a bead onto the stitch, cast it off and pull your yarn through, pulling firmly to secure your end before blocking and weaving your ends in.

Here is a copy of your last row with the positions of the picots indicated as uprights. You will notice that the picots form between two stitches, not in line with them. When blocking your shawl you should smooth these picots out but there is no need to pin them all out, just pin the very tips of the points where the centre bead is.

DO NOT KNIT THIS ROW, IT IS THE FINAL ROW OF THE ABOVE CHART TO SHOW THE POSITION OF THE PICOTS



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BLOCKING YOUR SHAWL

PLEASE NOTE – this is Out Of Darkness being blocked, not Wintersweet but the process is the same.

Here are a series of notes on blocking shawls. This is not the only way but it is the way I do mine and it works for me.

You will need:- Blocking Mats (I got interlocking play mats from a Baby Store and some from Amazon), blocking pins (stainless steel, rustproof), blocking wires (for triangular shawls and stoles but not always necessary for crescent shaped shawls), an undisturbed, large, flat surface.

It is important to marry the right yarn to your project. If you want to create a very dramatic and thuggishly blocked shawl you need to select a yarn that will tolerate and accommodate that treatment. Silk is excellent for dramatic blocking whereas cashmere demands more gentle treatment. Choose your yarn carefully.

1. Once your shawl is complete and bound off you will need to soak it. I soak mine in a solution of white vinegar and luke warm water (or alternatively salt and luke warm water), this helps to fix any loose dye. Soak for about an hour then rinse and soak again in 'Soak'. Gently squeeze out excess water and lay your shawl onto a dry, fresh towel. Roll the towel up into a sausage/roll and you can then squeeze the towel to absorb as much moisture as possible.



2. Lay your shawl out onto your blocking mats, ensuring you have plenty of space. Coax the shawl into the correct shape – it usually lets you know what shape it wants to be.

3. Insert a blocking wire (one of the firm ones) along your top edge. The centre third of the shawl should be straight and the ends can curve around. You may need two wires. Pin the wires in the centre top into position and stretch out your shawl. Take care to only pin to restrain the wires and do not pin through the fabric.



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4. Thread another blocking wire through the bottom points of your shawl or pin individual points with your blocking pins. Pin your wire into place along the bottom of your shawl, stretching the points down as you go. The bottom points will move further and further down your mats as you stretch your shawl. Move your points along the wire to ensure that they are even or adjust your pins as necessary.



5. Gently pull your shawl to the sides, easing the top and the bottom until you have a lovely even curve at the top sides and the bottom points are pulled into nice even points.

6. Check to see that your beads and stitches are lined up as you stretch.

7. Move from the centre out to the sides, a little each side, as you go.

8. The ends usually curl around – let them do their own thing and pin them into place, easing out any points you go.

9. Once you are happy you have a lovely even shawl, starting with the centre points, pull your points a little more to be a little pointier if you wish for drama, don't pull too much if you want a gentler effect and you can pin out each individual picot at this point if you wish.

It is worth remembering, at this point, that some yarns are more fragile than others. You can be more thuggish with silk than cashmere – always treat and choose your yarn accordingly.

10. Leave to dry, unpin, wear and love!

