

Little Cotton Rabbits a selection of seasonal dress patterns



This pattern contains a basic template for a dress with sleeves, two different sleeve options and fourteen seasonal dress designs, ranging from easy to more challenging knits. All stranded/Fair Isle designs have both charted and written instructions. The instructions for the lace dress are written. Each design also has suggestions for a number of different colourways.

*More knitting patterns are available at
www.littlecottonrabbits.typepad.co.uk*

One of my favourite things about making knitted toys is coming up with new designs for their clothing. Over the years I've worked on lots of different ideas and now I come to look at them I realise that they fit quite well into seasonal categories, so included here are designs that are fitting for Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter.

There are a couple of different options for the style of the dress, including capped sleeves or a slightly flared sleeve alternative and there are instructions for a dress hemmed with lace-work. All of the colour work designs are charted

but also have written instructions. Most are simple enough as they use just two colours, although a few are more complex and involve working with three separate colours in the same row.

With this dress design the armholes are worked without cutting and re-joining the yarn so there are no ends to sew in. This does involve a little tricky knitting however, but hopefully the finished neatness is worth the hassle.

I hope you enjoy using these patterns to create a wardrobe of different dresses for your knitted animals.



Materials:

- Yarns: you will need a selection of colours in 4py/fingering weight yarn. Some designs use just two colours, some use three and a few use four or more.
- A tiny button

Notions:

- A pair of 2.75mm (US 2) Knitting needles
- Tapestry needle

Finished size:

approx 9.5 cm (3 ¾ inches) from neck to hem

Gauge:



Gauge for dress: 7 stitches x 10 rows to 1 inch

Yarn suggestions:

I knit most of the clothes for the animals that I make from Rowan 4ply cotton which has unfortunately been discontinued. I'd recommend it if you can track some down (it often crops up on Ebay or Ravelry) but failing that Rowan Siena 4ply or Rowan wool cotton 4ply both knit up nicely and have a good range of colours. Patons 4ply cotton also comes in a wide range of colours but is a little thinner, so you may need to check your gauge if the dress is to fit. It is worth checking out other projects made from these patterns on ravelry too as you will get an idea of what yarns others are using.

A note about working in the round:

I knit all of my dresses flat on two needles because that's the way that I like to work but there is no reason why the skirt part cannot be worked in the round if you prefer. I like to leave a gap in the back seam of the dress so that the animals tail can poke out so you would need to work this part back and forth to accommodate the hole for the tail if you do choose to convert the pattern to be knitted in the round.

.....
© Copyright agreement: These patterns and the designs they refer to are copyrighted and are the property of Julie Williams. They are supplied for personal and non-profit use only. You may not reproduce or distribute these patterns (including on the internet). Merchants may not download or print these patterns for sale, distribution, or class use unless they are operating under the Ravelry in-store sales agreement. These patterns may not be translated, reproduced or circulated in another language. Purchasing, downloading or printing these patterns constitutes agreement to these terms.

Abbreviations:

These increase methods are described in detail in the excellent knitting help website:

<http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/increases>

M1A: MAKE 1 STITCH AWAY. I use the thumb method (see link above) to make a backwards loop in the working yarn and place this loop onto the right needle, so the working yarn is pointing away from you.

These decrease methods are described in detail in the excellent knitting help website:

<http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/decreases>

SSK (SLIP, SLIP, KNIT) : Slip a stitch (as if to knit it) to the right-hand needle, slip a second stitch in the same way, slip both stitches together back to the left-hand needle and knit together through the back loops.

K2TOG : Knit 2 stitches together

P2TOG : Purl 2 stitches together

P2TOG TBL: Purl 2 stitches together through the back loops

Basic dress with cap sleeves:

These instructions will work with any of the designs featured from [pages 6 to 19](#). Simply follow the row by row pattern below and insert the instructions for the design you have chosen between **rows 3–26**.

Starting at the bottom of the skirt use 2.75mm needles and your chosen main colour (Yarn A)* to cast on 66 stitches, leaving a tail of 6 inches for seaming with later (I use a cable cast on).

**If you prefer you can use a different colour to cast on and work the first two rows which gives a contrasting hemline.*

row 1: (right side) Knit

row 2: Knit

rows 3 - 26: beginning with a knit row and ending with a purl work from your chosen pattern chart see pages 6 -19

*If you prefer you can change colour for **rows 27 – 28** to give a contrasting band at the waist, swapping back to the main colour from **row 29** onwards*

row 27: *This row forms the waist:*
K3, (K2tog) 30 times, K3 (36 stitches)

row 28: P8, cast off 3 stitches purl-wise, P24
With the right side of the work facing you, you should now have 8 stitches, a gap of cast-off stitches (which form the bottom of the left armhole) and 25 stitches.

row 29:

This is a complex row which involves both casting off and casting on again (in the manner of a single row button hole). I've separated each step to hopefully make it as simple as possible:

K8, slip the next stitch purl-wise from the left needle to the right and then slip a second stitch in the same way. Pass the first slipped stitch over the second to cast off a stitch, slip another stitch and pass over in the same way and then slip one more stitch and pass over again (3 stitches cast off). This will create an armhole to mirror the one already worked on the previous row.

Slip the stitch just worked from the right needle back to the left needle.

** Cast on 10 stitches. I do this by simply wrapping the yarn 10 times tightly clockwise around the needle, K14, cast on another 10 stitches in the same way, K8

*** If you find these yarn wraps on too fiddly you could substitute a different cast-on method for the start of the sleeve. It's worth pointing out that I tried cable casting on but found it looked too messy. You could use the **M1A** (Make 1 Away) method of increasing 10 times to make the new stitches, this will give a more flared sleeve.*

See next page for illustrations...



cap sleeves worked by wrapping yarn 10 times on row 29



flared sleeves worked by using M1A 10 times on row 29



row 30: P8, Purl into the front loops of each of the 10 yarn wraps (see picture opposite), P14, Purl into the front loops of the second group of 10 yarn wraps, P8 (50 stitches)

if you used **M1A** to cast on the 10 sleeve stitches then purl **row 30** as any normal row

row 31: This row involves two sections of short row shaping across the bottom of the sleeves:
K18, turn so that wrong side is facing slip 1 and P9, turn so that right side is facing slip 1 and K33, turn so that wrong side is facing slip 1 and P9, turn so that right side is facing slip 1 and K17 (50 stitches)

row 32: P7, P2tog, P8, P2tog tbl, P12, P2tog, P8, P2tog tbl, P7 (46 stitches)

row 33: K7, SSK, K6, K2tog, K12, SSK, K6, K2tog, K7 (42 stitches)

row 34: P7, P2tog, P4, P2tog tbl, P12, P2tog, P4, P2tog tbl, P7 (38 stitches)



row 35: K7, SSK, K2, K2tog, K12, SSK, K2, K2tog, K7 (34 stitches)

row 36: P7, P2tog, P2tog tbl, P12, P2tog, P2tog tbl, P7 (30 stitches)

row 37: Cast off in knit

Leaving a tail of around 8 inches cut the work from the ball and use a fine crochet hook (around 2mm) to make a chain of 6 stitches (or long enough to accommodate the size of button that you have). Join it back to the start point with a slip stitch to make a small loop and weave in the end, working downwards to the waist.

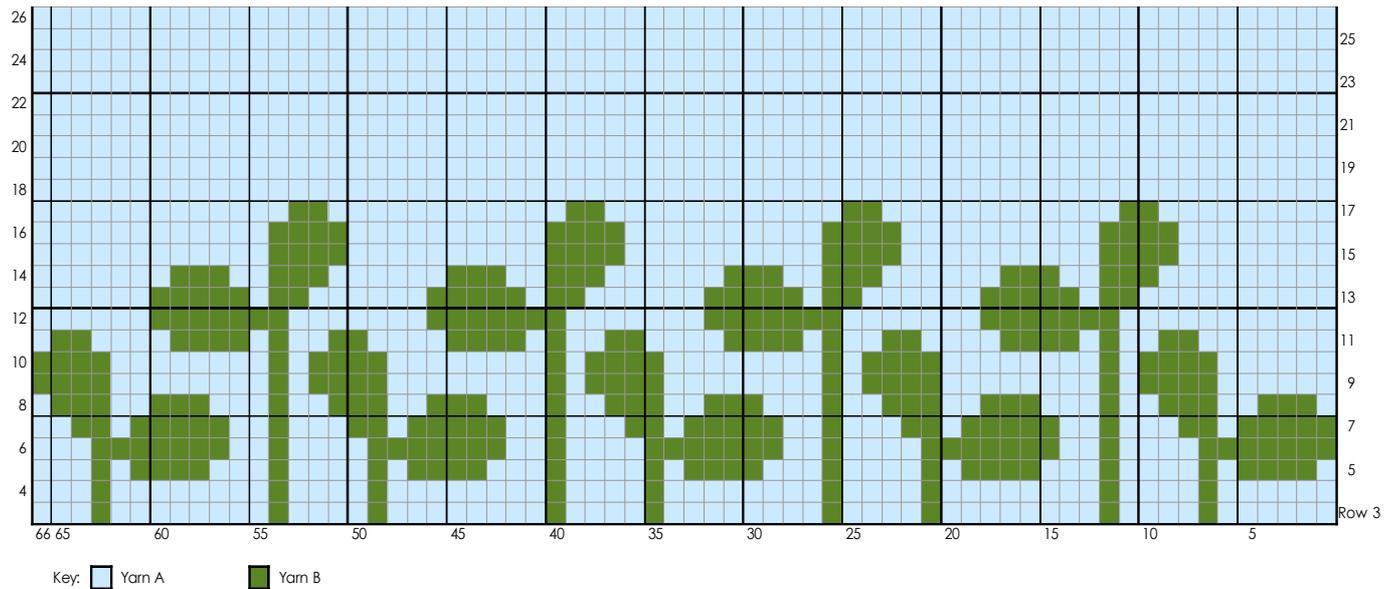
Sew a tiny button on the opposite side as a fastening for the dress. Before I sew up the back seam I like to block the dress to make it neat. I usually do this by carefully steam blocking but if you prefer wet blocking that is fine too. After blocking thread the tapestry needle with the cast-on tail and join the seam up the middle of the back using mattress stitch (if your animal has a tail leave a gap in the seam for it to poke through). Finish the seam at the waist (**row 27**) and tie the ends together before weaving them in along the inside seam and trimming excess. Weave in any additional yarn ends along the inside seam and trim excess. Pop the dress on your animal and you are done.

The pattern charts:

<i>Season</i>	<i>pattern name</i>	<i>level of difficulty</i>	<i>page</i>
<i>Spring:</i>	seedlings	moderate	<u>page 6</u>
	little sprouts	moderate / difficult	<u>page 7</u>
	pretty maids all in a row	difficult	<u>page 8</u>
<i>Summer:</i>	seashore	easy	<u>page 9</u>
	little waves	easy	<u>page 10</u>
	fields of flowers	moderate	<u>page 11</u>
<i>Autumn:</i>	falling leaves	moderate	<u>page 12</u>
	hedgerow berries	difficult	<u>page 13</u>
	red berries	difficult	<u>page 14</u>
<i>Winter:</i>	hopping robins	easy / difficult	<u>page 15</u>
	running reindeer	moderate	<u>page 16</u>
	snowflakes	easy	<u>page 17</u>
	hearts and crosses	easy	<u>page 18</u>
<i>Party time:</i>	dress with lace hem	easy	<u>page 19</u>

Spring ~ seedlings:

This pattern is inspired by the first seedlings of spring and is worked in two colours. It is a moderately easy pattern to work



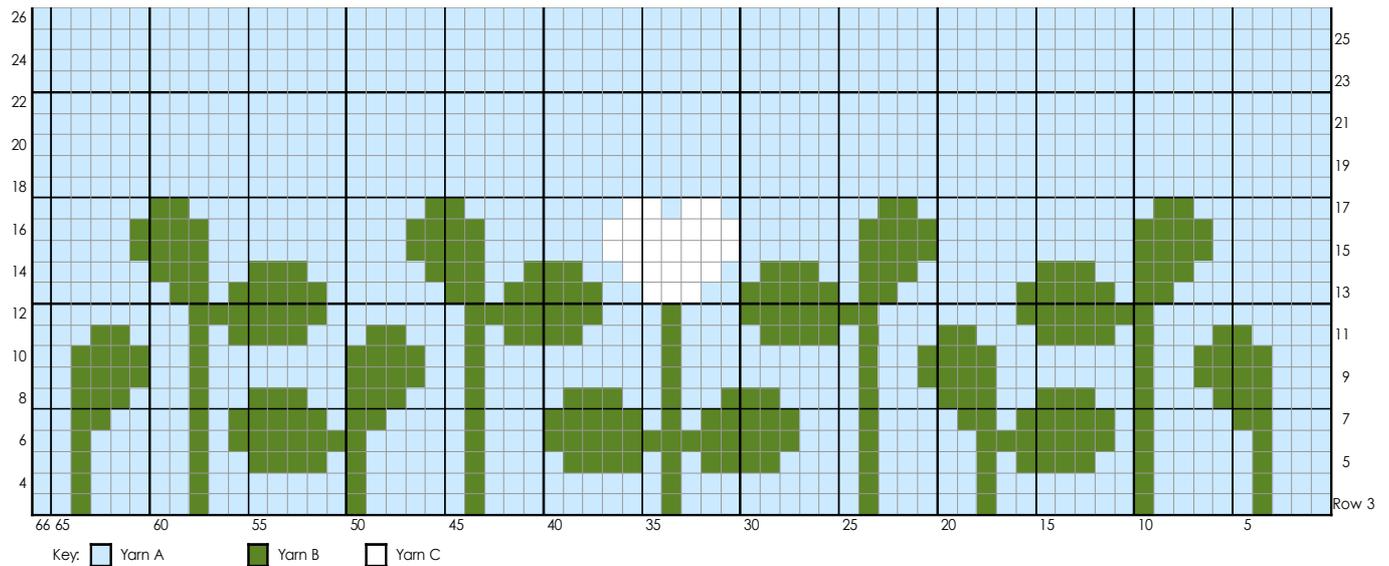
Written instructions for pattern:

- row 3: K6, K1, (K4, K1, K8, K1) four times, K3
- row 4: P3, P1, (P8, P1, P4, P1) four times, P6
- row 5: K1, (K4, K1, K1, K4, K1, K3) four times, K4, K1, K1, K3
- row 6: P3, P7, (P2, P1, P4, P7) four times
- row 7: (K5, K1, K2, K3, K1, K2) four times, K5, K1, K2, K2
- row 8: P1, (P3, P2, P3, P3, P1, P2) four times, P3, P2, P3, P1
- row 9: K6, K4, (K1, K1, K8, K4) four times
- row 10: (P4, P8, P1, P1) 4 times, P4, P6
- row 11: K7, K2, (K2, K1, K1, K4, K4, K2) four times, K1
- row 12: P6, P7, (P7, P7) 3 times, P11
- row 13: K10, (K2, K1, K5, K6) four times
- row 14: P7, P3, P2, P3, (P6, P3, P2, P3) three times, P9
- row 15: K8, K4, (K10, K4) three times, K12
- row 16: P12, P4, (P10, P4) three times, P8
- row 17: K9, K2, (K12, K2) three times, K13
- rows 18 - 26: beginning and ending with a purl row work in stocking stitch
(purl on wrong side knit on right side) in Yarn A only



Spring ~ little sprouts:

This design is a difficult knit as it is worked in three colours, although to make it easier you could choose to use just the blue and the green and work the Yarn C section in [Yarn A](#) and then use Yarn C and duplicate stitch to pick out the flower design later.



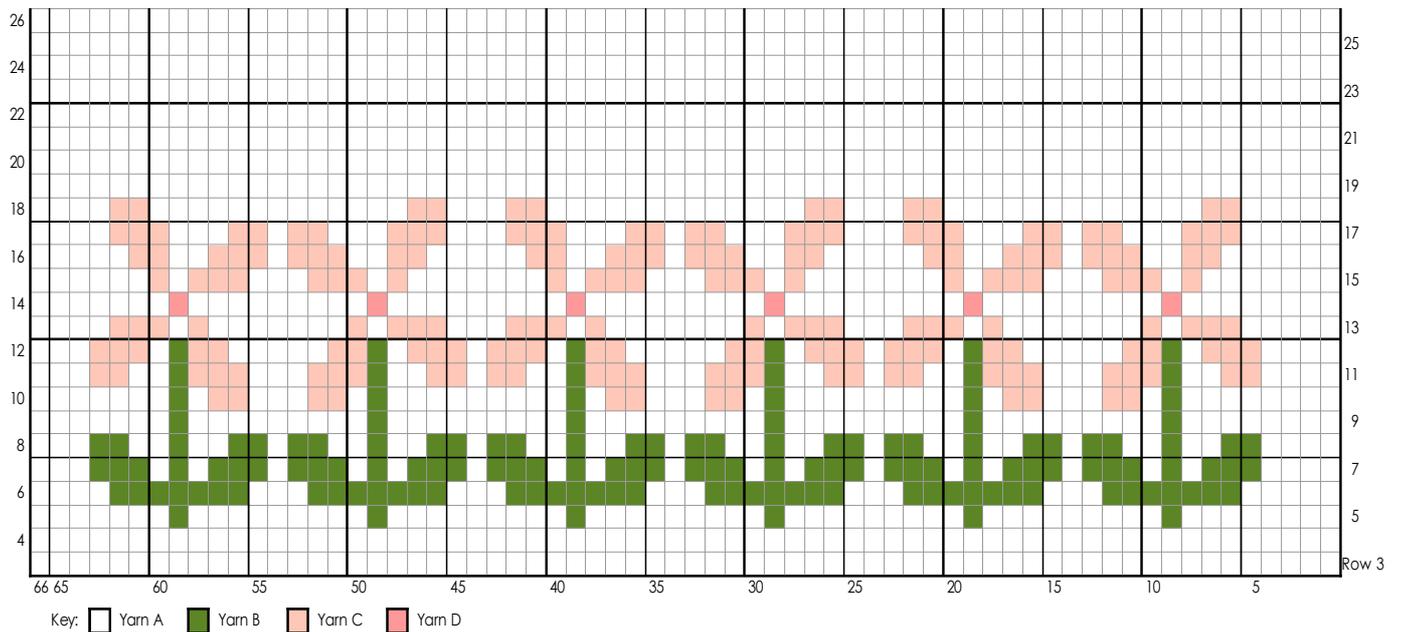
Written instructions for pattern:

- row 3: K3, K1, K5, K1, K7, K1, K5, K1, K9, K1, K9, K1, P2, P4, P7, P1, P2, P4, P3
K5, K1, K7, K1, K5, K1, K2
- row 4: P2, P1, P5, P1, P7, P1, P5, P1, P9, P1, P9, P1, P5, P1, P7, P1, P5, P1, P3
- row 5: K3, K1, K5, K1, K2, K4, K1, K1, K5, K1, K4, K4, K1, K1, K1, K4, K4, K1, K5, K1, K1, K4, K2, K1, K5, K1, K2
- row 6: P2, P1, P5, P1, P1, P7, P5, P1, P3, P13, P3, P1, P5, P7, P1, P1, P5, P1, P3
- row 7: K3, K2, K4, K1, K1, K5, K1, K2, K4, K1, K3, K5, K1, K1, K1, K5, K3, K1, K4, K2, K1, K5, K1, K1, K4, K2, K2
- row 8: P2, P3, P3, P1, P2, P3, P2, P3, P3, P1, P4, P3, P2, P1, P2, P3, P4, P1, P3, P3, P2, P3, P2, P1, P3, P3, P3
- row 9: K3, K4, K2, K1, K7, K4, K2, K1, K9, K1, K9, K1, K2, K4, K7, K1, K2, K4, K2
- row 10: P2, P4, P2, P1, P7, P4, P2, P1, P9, P1, P9, P1,
- row 11: K4, K2, K3, K1, K1, K4, K3, K2, K3, K1, K1, K4, K4, K1, K4, K4, K1, K1, K3, K2, K3, K4, K1, K1, K3, K2, K3
- row 12: P8, P7, P7, P7, P3, P1, P3, P7, P7, P7, P9
- row 13: K8, K2, K1, K5, K6, K2, K1, K5, K2, K3 Yarn C, K2, K5, K1, K2, K6, K5, K1, K2, K7
- row 14: P6, P3, P2, P3, P6, P3, P2, P3, P2, P5 Yarn C, P2, P3, P2, P3, P6, P3, P2, P3, P7
- row 15: K6, K4, K10, K4, K6, K7 Yarn C, K6, K4, K10, K4, K5
- row 16: P5, P4, P10, P4, P6, P7 Yarn C, P6, P4, P10, P4, P6
- row 17: K7, K2, K12, K2, K8, K2 Yarn C, K1, K2 Yarn C, K8, K2, K12, K2, K6
- rows 18-26: beginning and ending with a purl row work in stocking stitch (purl on wrong side knit on right side) in [Yarn A](#) only



Spring ~ pretty maids all in a row

This design is based on spring flowers and is a more difficult knit as rows 10 - 13 are worked in 3 colours. There's a total of 4 colours used in the design, although you can choose to work it in just three colours and add the flower centres in duplicate stitch afterwards.



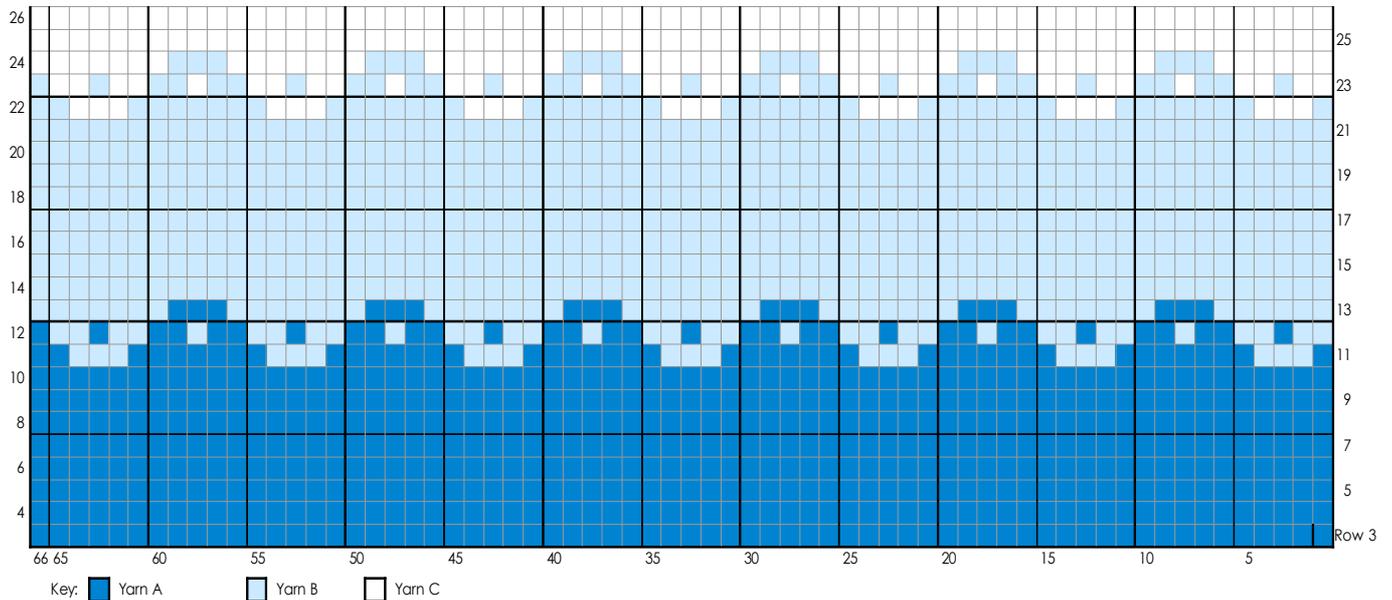
Written instructions for pattern:

- row 3:** Knit in Yarn A only
- row 4:** Purl in Yarn A only
- row 5:** K8, K1, (K9, K1) five times, K7
- row 6:** P4, P7, (P3, P7) five times, P5
- row 7:** K4, (K3, K1, K1, K3, K1) six times, K2
- row 8:** P3, (P2, P2, P1, P2, P2, P1) six times, P3
- row 9:** same as row 5
- row 10:** P7, P1, P1, P2, P3, P2, P1, P1, (P9, P1, P1, P2, P3, P2, P1, P1) twice, P8
- row 11:** K4, (K2, K2, K1, K3, K3, K3, K1, K2, K2, K1) three times, K2
- row 12:** P3, (P3, P1, P1, P2, P5, P2, P1, P1, P3, P1) three times, P3
- row 13:** K5, (K3, K1, K1, K7, K1, K1, K3, K3) three times, K1, cut Yarn B from the work
- row 14:** P7, P1, (P9, P1) five times, P8
- row 15:** (K7, K1, K1, K3, K3, K3, K1, K1) three times, K6
- row 16:** (P5, P2, P2, P3, P1, P3, P2, P2) three times, P6
- row 17:** K5, (K3, K3, K2, K1, K2, K3, K3, K3) three times, K1
- row 18:** P4, (P2, P13, P2, P3) P2
- row 19-26:** beginning with a knit row and ending with a purl work in stocking stitch in Yarn A only



Summer ~ seashore:

This pattern is inspired by the waves lapping on to the seashore, though it also looks good in all sorts of combinations of three colours, especially Neapolitan ice-cream colours of chocolate, strawberry and vanilla. It is an easy knit because there are only 6 rows that actually include stranded knitting.



Written instructions for pattern:

rows 3-10: beginning with a knit row and ending with a purl work in stocking stitch (knit on right side and purl on reverse) in **Yarn A** only

row 11: **K1, K3, (K7, K3)** six times, **K2**

row 12: **P1, (P2, P1, P2, P2, P1, P2)** six times, **P2, P1, P2**

row 13: **K6, (K3, K7)** six times, cut **Yarn A** from the work as it is no longer needed

rows 14-21: beginning with a purl row and ending with a knit row work in stocking stitch (knit on right side and purl on reverse) in **Yarn B** only

row 22: **P2, (P3, P7)** six times, **P3, P1**

row 23: **(K2, K1, K2, K2, K1, K2)** six times, **K2, K1, K2, K1**

row 24: **(P7, P3)** six times, **P6**, cut **Yarn B** from the work as it is no longer needed

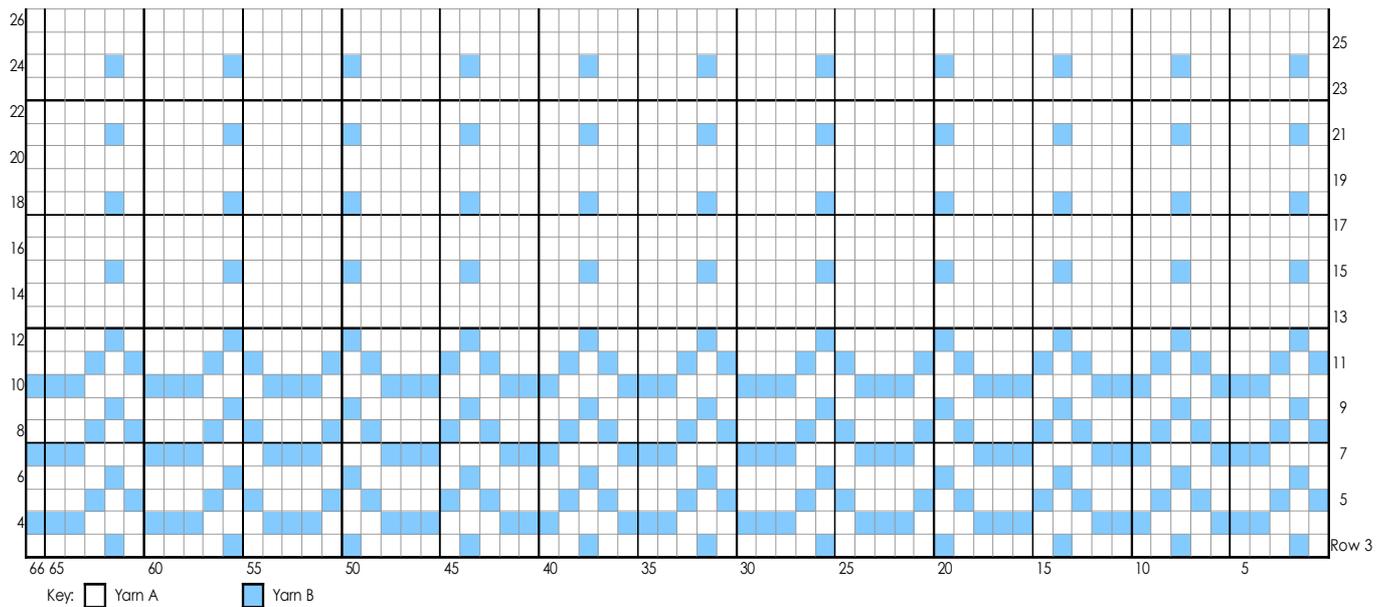
row 25: Knit in **Yarn C** only

row 26: Purl in **Yarn C** only



Summer ~ little waves:

This easy stranded pattern is inspired by lapping waves but it also looks good in any two contrasting colours either with Yarn A as the lighter colour or the darker.



Written instructions for pattern:

row 3: K1, K1, (K5, K1) ten times, K4
 row 4: (P3, P3) eleven times
 row 5: (K1, K1, K1, K3) eleven times
 row 6: P4, P1, (P5, P1) ten times, P1
 row 7: (K3, K3) eleven times
 row 8: (P3, P1, P1, P1) eleven times
 row 9: same as row 3
 row 10: same as row 4
 row 11: same as row 5
 row 12: same as row 6
 row 13: Knit in Yarn A only
 row 14: Purl in Yarn A only

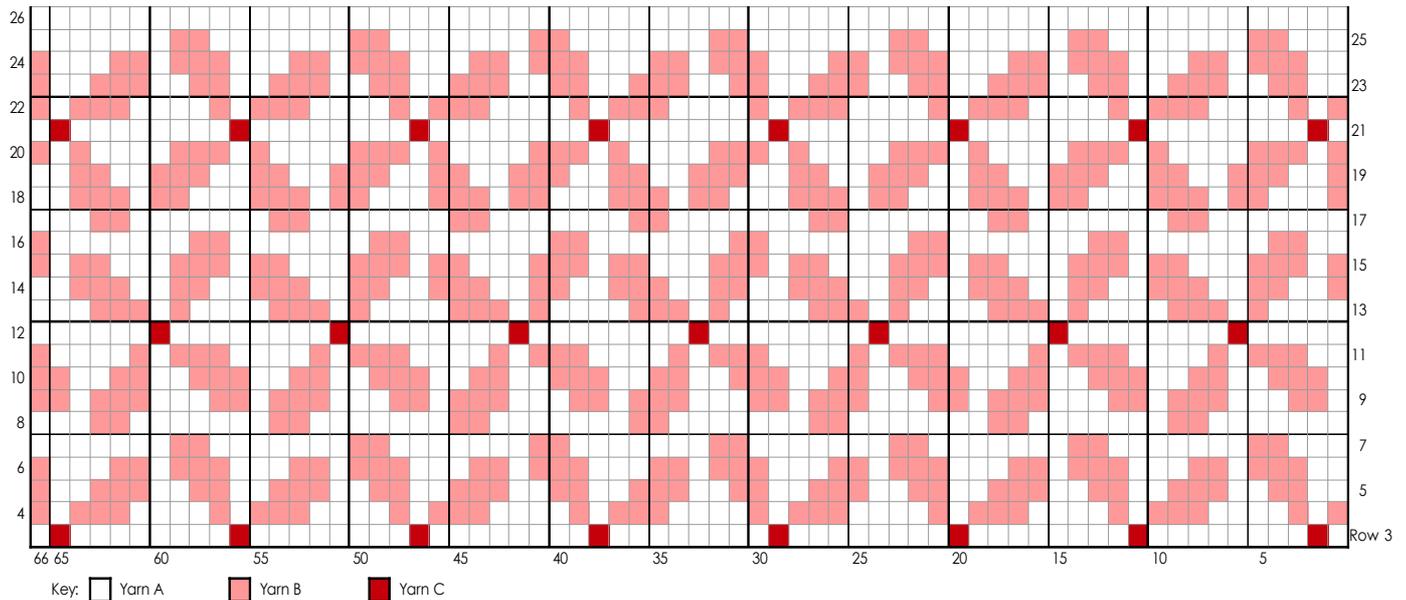
row 15: same as row 3
 row 16: Purl in Yarn A only
 row 17: Knit in Yarn A only
 row 18: same as row 6
 row 19: Knit in Yarn A only
 row 20: Purl in Yarn A only
 row 21: same as row 3
 row 22: Purl in Yarn A only
 row 23: Knit in Yarn A only
 row 24: same as row 6
 row 25: K in Yarn A only
 row 26: P in Yarn A only



* the rainbow dress on the little rabbit fourth in line was made by using multicoloured sock yarn as Yarn B

Summer ~ fields of flowers:

This design is inspired by fields of wild flowers nodding in the summer breeze. It looks complicated but is a moderately easy knit worked in 3 colours although you can choose to work it in just 2 colours and add the flower centres in duplicate stitch afterwards.



Written instructions for pattern:

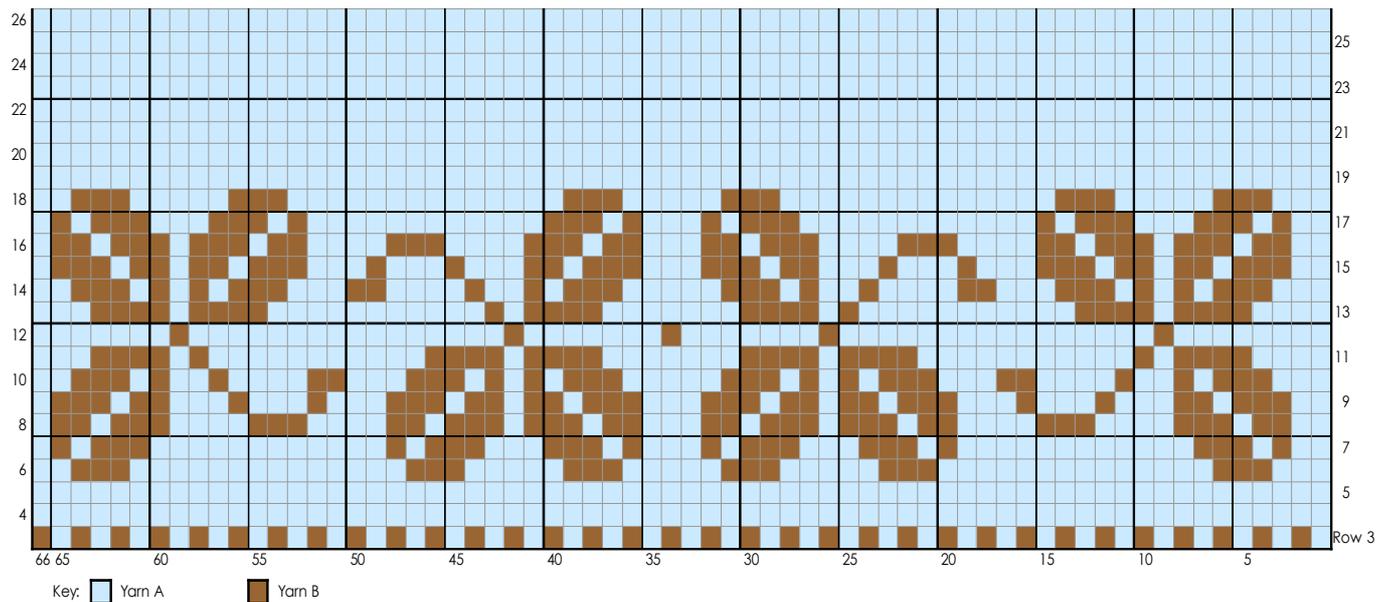
row 3: K1, (K1, K8) seven times, K1, K1
 row 4: (P1, P1, P3, P4) seven times, P1, P1, P1
 row 5: (K2, K2, K2, K3) seven times, K2, K1
 row 6: P1, (P3, P2, P1, P3) seven times, P2
 row 7: K3, (K2, K7) seven times
 row 8: P3, (P2, P7) seven times
 row 9: (K1, K2, K3, K3) seven times, K1, K2
 row 10: P2, (P2, P2, P2, P3) seven times, P1
 row 11: K2, (K3, K1, K1, K4) seven times, K1
 Cut Yarn B from the ball and rejoin on row 13
 row 12: P6, P1, (P8, P1) six times, P5
 row 13: (K4, K1, K1, K3) seven times, K3
 row 14: (P2, P3, P2, P2) seven times, P2, P1

row 15: K1, (K1, K3, K3, K2) seven times, K1, K1
 row 16: P1, (P7, P2) seven times, P2
 row 17: (K7, K2) seven times, K3
 row 18: P2, (P3, P1, P2, P3) seven times, P1
 row 19: K1, (K2, K3, K2, K2) seven times, K2
 row 20: P1, (P1, P1, P4, P3) seven times, P1, P1
 Cut Yarn B from the ball and rejoin on row 22
 row 21: same as row 3
 row 22: same as row 4
 row 23: same as row 5
 row 24: same as row 6
 row 25: same as row 7
 row 26: Purl in Yarn A only



Autumn ~ falling leaves:

This moderately easy pattern is inspired by the falling leaves of autumn and is adapted from a traditional Scandinavian design.



Written instructions for pattern:

Row 3: (K1, K1) repeat to the end of the row

row 4: P in Yarn A only

row 5: K in Yarn A only

row 6: P2, P3, P14, P3, P5, P3, P5, P3, P5, P3, P14, P3, P3

row 7: K2, K1, K1, K3, K12, K1, K1, K3, K3, K3, K1, K1, K3, K1, K1, K3, K3, K3, K1, K1, K12, K3, K1, K1, K1

row 8: P1, P2, P1, P3, P4, P3, P4, P2, P1, P3, P1, P3, P1, P2, P3, P2, P1, P3, P1, P3, P1, P2, P4, P3, P4, P3, P1, P2, P2

row 9: K2, K3, K1, K2, K3, K1, K3, K1, K3, K3, K1, K2, K1, K2, K1, K3, K3, K3, K1, K2, K1, K2, K1, K3, K3, K1, K3, K1, K3, K2, K1, K3, K1

row 10: P2, P3, P1, P1, P2, P1, P4, P2, P3, P3, P1, P1, P1, P1, P1, P3, P5, P3, P1, P1, P1, P1, P1, P3, P3, P2, P4, P1, P2, P1, P1, P3, P3

row 11: K4, K4, K1, K1, K11, K4, K1, K4, K7, K4, K1, K4, K11, K1, K1, K4, K3

row 12: P7, P1, P16, P1, P7, P1, P7, P1, P16, P1, P8

row 13: K4, K4, K1, K4, K11, K1, K1, K4, K7, K4, K1, K1, K11, K4, K1, K4, K3

row 14: P2, P3, P1, P1, P1, P1, P1, P3, P3, P2, P4, P1, P2, P1, P1, P3, P5, P3, P1, P1, P2, P1, P4, P2, P3, P3, P1, P1, P1, P1, P1, P3, P3

row 15: K2, K3, K1, K2, K1, K2, K1, K3, K3, K1, K3, K1, K3, K2, K1, K3, K3, K3, K1, K2, K3, K1, K3, K1, K3, K3, K1, K2, K1, K2, K1, K3, K1

row 16: P1, P2, P1, P3, P1, P3, P1, P2, P4, P3, P4, P3, P1, P2, P3, P2, P1, P3, P4, P3, P4, P2, P1, P3, P1, P3, P1, P2, P2

row 17: K2, K1, K1, K3, K3, K3, K1, K1, K12, K3, K1, K1, K3, K1, K1, K3, K12, K1, K1, K3, K3, K3, K1, K1, K1

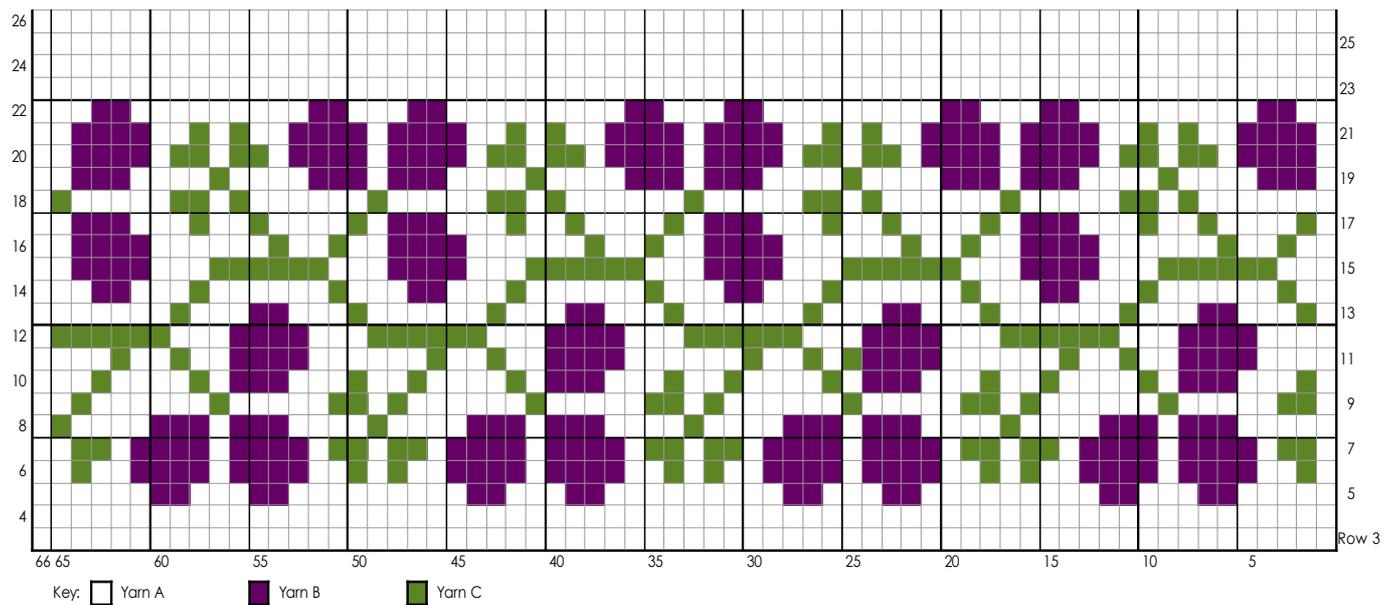
row 18: P2, P3, P5, P3, (P14, P3, P5, P3) twice, P3

row 19 – 26: beginning with a knit row and ending with a purl work in stocking stitch (knit on right side and purl on wrong side) in Yarn A only



Autumn ~ hedgerow berries:

This design is inspired by berries growing in hedgerows and incorporates elements of traditional designs. It is an difficult knit because it uses all three colours on most rows.



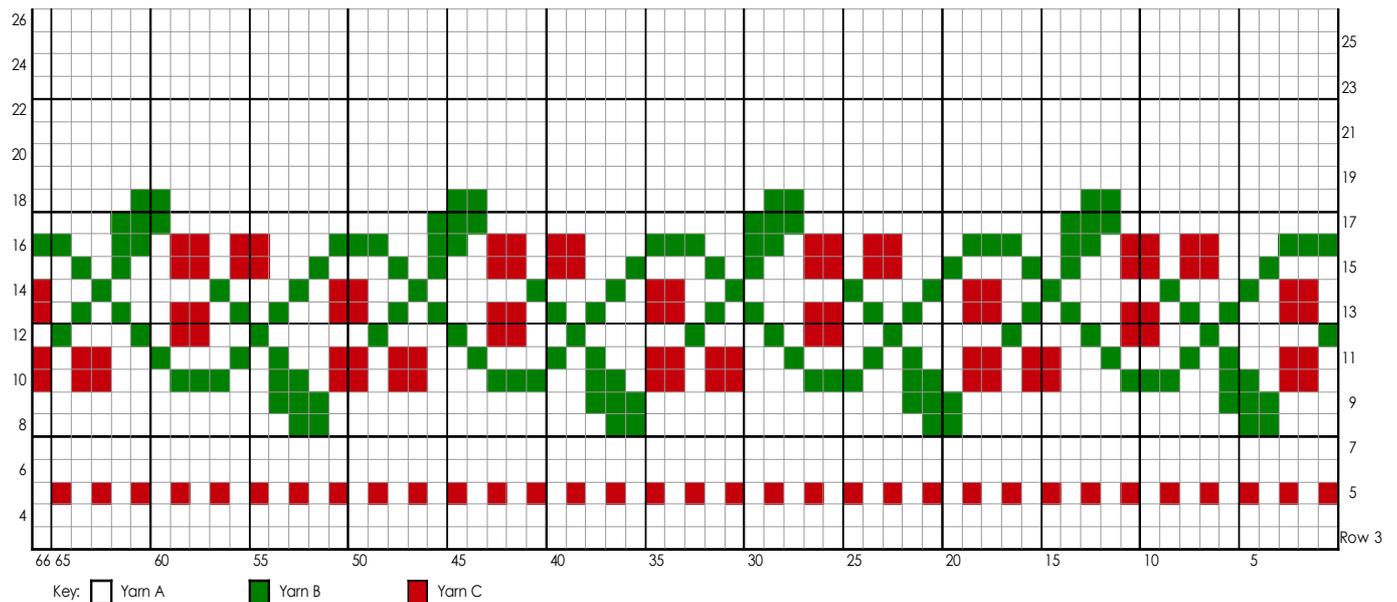
Written instructions for pattern:

- row 3: Knit in Yarn A only
row 4: Purl in Yarn A only
row 5: K5, (K2, K3, K2, K9) three times, K2, K3, K2, K6
row 6: P2, (P1, P2, P4, P1, P4, P2, P1, P1) four times
row 7: (K1, K2, K1, K4, K1, K4, K1, K2) four times, K2
row 8: P1, (P1, P4, P3, P1, P3, P4) four times, P1
 Cut Yarn B from the ball.
row 9: (K1, K2, K5, K1, K6, K1) four times, K2
row 10: P1, (P2, P1, P4, P1, P1, P3, P3, P1) four times, P1
row 11: K4, (K4, K2, K1, K2, K1, K6) three times, K4, K2, K1, K2, K1, K4
row 12: P1, (P6, P3, P4, P3) four times, P1
row 13: K1, (K1, K3, K2, K3, K1, K6) four times, K1
row 14: (P3, P2, P3, P1, P6, P1) four times, P2
row 15: (K3, K6, K3, K4) four times, K2
row 16: (P2, P4, P6, P1, P2, P1) four times, P2
row 17: (K1, K1, K4, K1, K2, K1, K3, K3) four times, K2
 Cut Yarn B from the ball.
row 18: P1, (P1, P5, P2, P1, P1, P6) four times, P1
row 19: (K1, K3, K4, K1, K4, K3) four times, K2
row 20: P1, (P1, P4, P1, P2, P1, P2, P1, P4) four times, P1
row 21: (K1, K4, K2, K1, K1, K2, K4) four times, K2
row 22: (P3, P2, P9, P2) four times, P2
rows 23-26: beginning with a knit row and ending with a purl row work in stocking stitch (alternate knit and purl rows) in Yarn A only



Autumn ~ red berries:

This design is inspired by berries in autumn and incorporates elements of traditional designs. It is a difficult knit because it uses all three colours on seven rows



Written instructions for pattern:

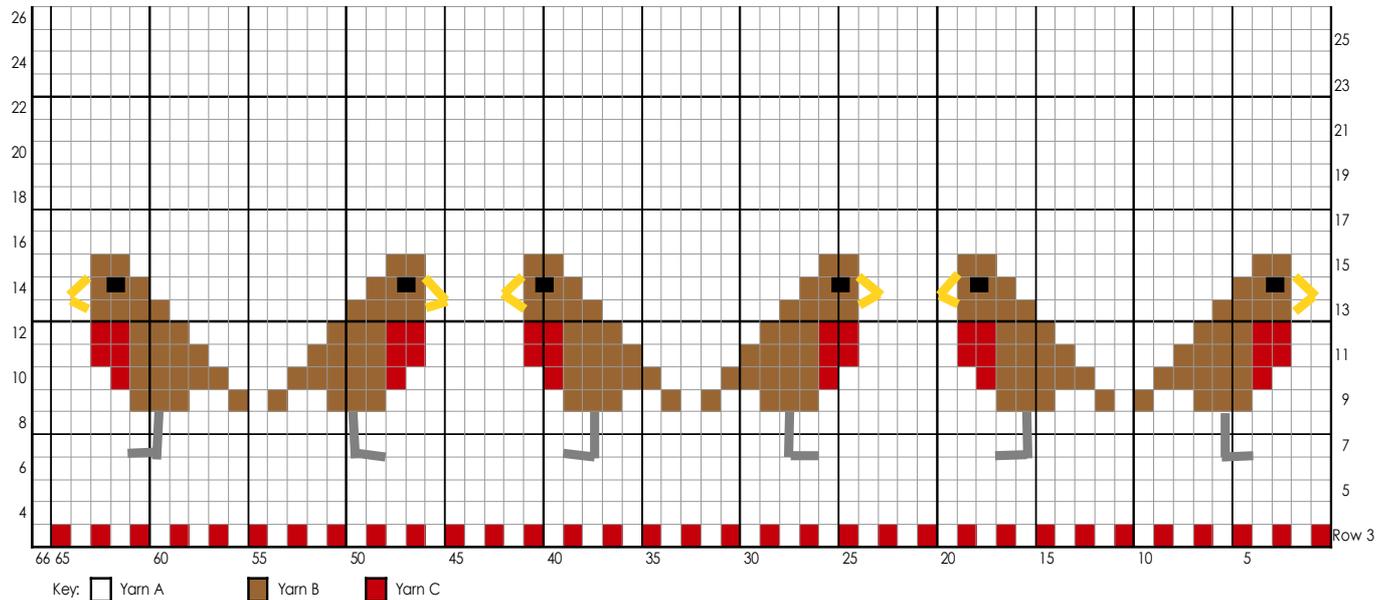
- row 3: Knit in Yarn A only
row 4: Purl in Yarn A only
row 5: (K1, K1) repeat to the end of the row
row 6: Purl in Yarn A only
row 7: Knit in Yarn A only
row 8: P13, (P2, P14) three times, P2, P3
row 9: K3, K3, (K13, K3) three times, K12
row 10: P1, (P1, P2, P3, P3, P2, P2, P1, P2) four times, P1
row 11: (K1, K2, K2, K1, K1, K1, K3, K1, K2, K2) four times, K1, K1
row 12: P1, (P1, P3, P1, P1, P2, P2, P1, P5) four times, P1
row 13: (K1, K2, K2, K1, K1, K1) eight times, K1, K1
row 14: P1, (P2, P1, P5, P1, P3, P1, P1, P2) four times, P1
row 15: (K3, K1, K2, K2, K1, K2, K2, K1, K1, K1) four times, K2
row 16: P2, (P2, P2, P1, P2, P1, P2, P3, P3) four times
row 17: K11, K3, (K13, K3) three times, K4
row 18: P5, P2, (P14, P2) three times, P11
row 19 – 26: beginning with a knit row and ending with a purl row in stocking stitch (alternate knit and purl rows) in Yarn A only



Winter ~ hopping robins:

This design features a row of little robins hopping on the snow. It can be difficult if worked in 3 colours but to make it an easy knit you can choose to work it in just 2 colours – the background and the brown, adding the red breast in duplicate stitch afterwards.

After you have knitted up the dress embroider the eyes in black, the beaks in yellow/orange and the legs in grey.



Written instructions for pattern:

row 3: (K1, K1) repeat to the end of the row

rows 4-8: Beginning and ending with purl rows work in stocking stitch (alternate purl and knit rows) in Yarn A only

row 9: (K4, K3, K2, K1, K1, K1, K2, K3, K5) three times

row 10: (P4, P1, P5, P3, P5, P1, P3) three times

row 11: (K2, K2, K4, K5, K4, K2, K3) three times

row 12: (P3, P2, P3, P7, P3, P2, P2) three times

row 13: (K2, K4, K9, K4, K3) three times

row 14: (P3, P3, P11, P3, P2) three times

row 15: (K2, K2, K13, K2, K3) three times

rows 16-26: beginning and ending with purl rows work in stocking stitch (alternate purl and knit rows), in Yarn A only

Thread the tapestry needle with a length of grey yarn and use it to embroider a leg on each robin – I use on stitch downwards for the leg and 1 stitch across for the foot.

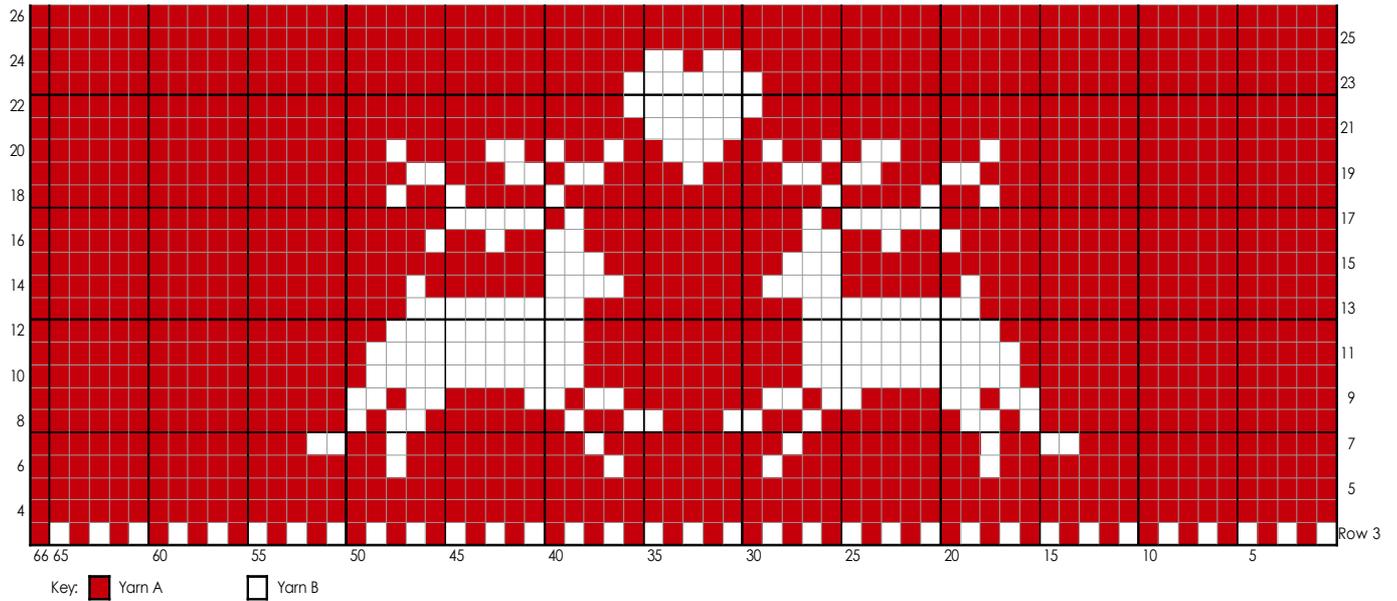
Thread the tapestry needle with a length of yellow yarn and use it to embroider a beak on each robin – I use two slanting stitches which meet at a point.

Thread the tapestry needle with a length of black yarn and use it to embroider an eye on each robin – I use a tiny stitch level with the top of the beak.



Winter ~ running reindeer:

This pattern is inspired by traditional Scandinavian designs and is a moderately easy knit.



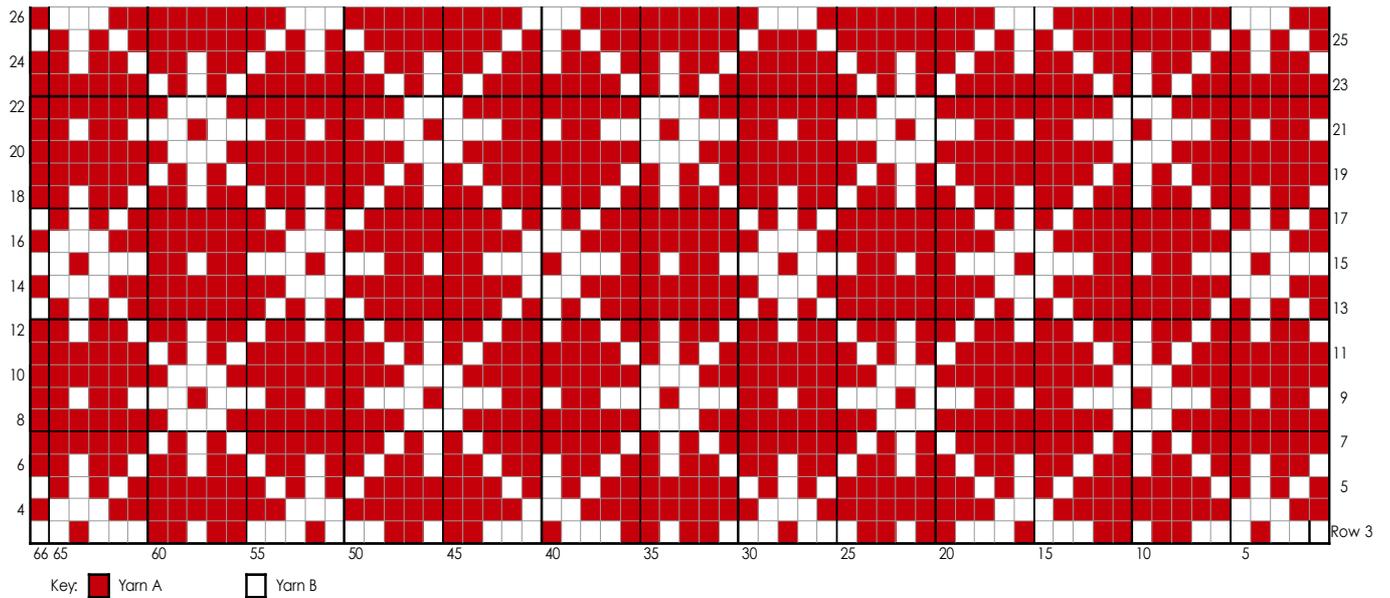
Written instructions for pattern:

- | | |
|---|--|
| row 3: (K1, K1) repeat to end of the row | row 16: P20, P1, P2, P1, P2, P2, P11, P2, P2, P1, P2, P1, P19 |
| row 4: P in Yarn A only | row 17: K20, K5, K1, K1, K11, K1, K1, K5, K21 |
| row 5: K in Yarn A only | row 18: P18, P1, P2, P1, P4, P1, P13, P1, P4, P1, P2, P1, P17 |
| row 6: P18, P1, P10, P1, P7, P1, P10, P1, P17 | row 19: K18, K2, K3, K2, K1, K2, K4, K1, K4, K2, K1, K2, K3, K2, K19 |
| row 7: K13, K2, K2, K1, K9, K1, K9, K1, K9, K1, K2, K2, K14 | row 20: P18, P1, P4, P2, P1, P1, P2, P1, P2, P3, P2, P1, P2, P1, P1, P2, P4, P1, P17 |
| row 8: P16, P1, P1, P2, P7, P1, P2, P2, P3, P2, P2, P1, P7, P2, P1, P1, P15 | row 21: K30, K5, K31 |
| row 9: K15, K2, K1, K2, K4, K2, K1, K2, K7, K2, K1, K2, K4, K2, K1, K2, K16 | row 22: P30, P7, P29 |
| row 10: P17, P11, P11, P11, P16 | row 23: K29, K7, K30 |
| row 11: K16, K11, K11, K11, K17 | row 24: P31, P2, P1, P2, P30 |
| row 12: P18, P10, P11, P10, P17 | row 25: K in Yarn A only |
| row 13: K18, K9, K11, K9, K19 | row 26: P in Yarn A only |
| row 14: P19, P1, P6, P4, P7, P4, P6, P1, P18 | |
| row 15: K25, K3, K9, K3, K26 | |



Winter ~ falling snowflakes:

This easy pattern is inspired by the drifting snowflakes of winter and is adapted from a traditional Scandinavian design.



Written instructions for pattern:

row 3: (K3, K1, K3, K2, K1, K2) five times, K3, K1, K2

row 4: P1, (P3, P9) five times, P3, P2

row 5: K1, (K1, K1, K1, K1, K7) five times, K1, K1, K1, K1, K1

row 6: (P2, P1) 22 times

row 7: (K7, K1, K1, K1, K1, K1) five times, K6

row 8: P7, (P3, P9) four times, P3, P8

row 9: K1, (K2, K1, K2, K3, K1, K3) five times, K2, K1, K2

row 10: same as row 8

row 11: same as row 7

row 12: same as row 6

row 13: same as row 5

row 14: same as row 4

row 15: same as row 3

row 16: same as row 4

row 17: same as row 5

row 18: same as row 6

row 19: same as row 7

row 20: same as row 8

row 21: same as row 9

row 22: same as row 8

row 23: same as row 7

row 24: same as row 6

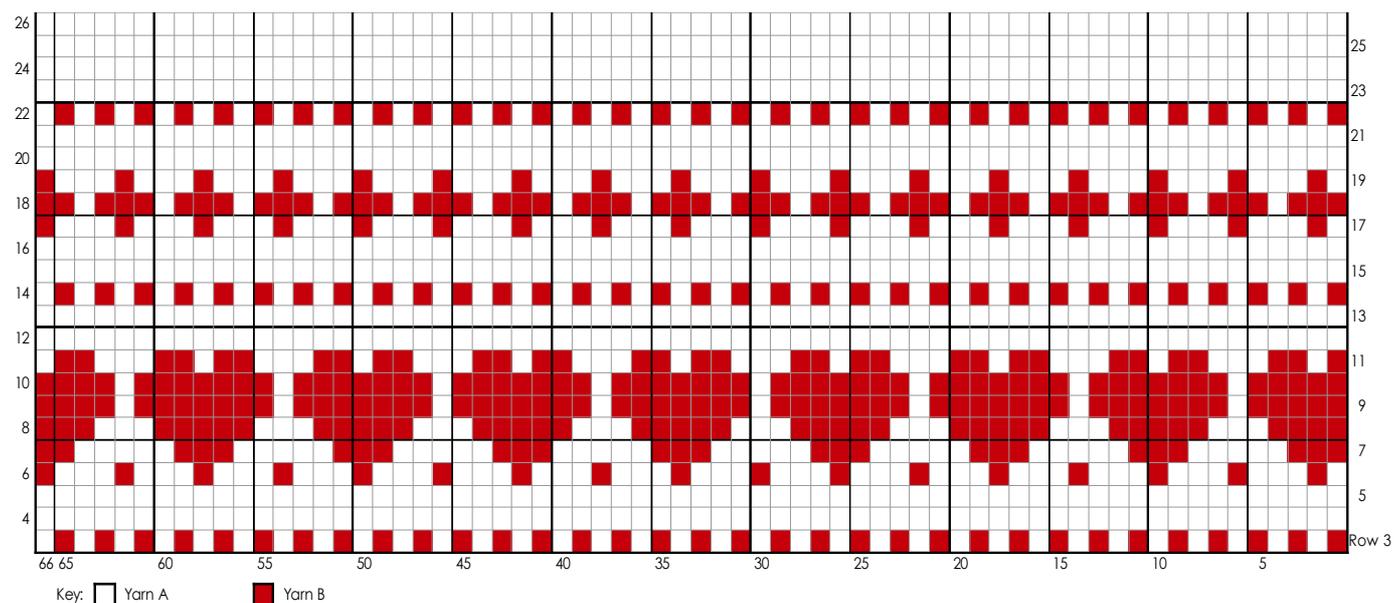
row 25: same as row 5

row 26: same as row 4



Winter ~ hearts & crosses:

This easy pattern is inspired by traditional Scandinavian designs and looks just as good with Yarn A as the lighter of the two colours.



Written instructions for pattern:

row 3: (K1, K1) 33 times

row 4: P in Yarn A only

row 5: K in Yarn A only

row 6: (P1, P3) sixteen times, P1, P1

row 7: (K3, K5) eight times, K2

row 8: P3, (P3, P5) seven times, P3, P4

row 9: K5, (K1, K7) seven times, K1, K4

row 10: P4, (P1, P7) seven times, P1, P5

row 11: K1, (K1, K2, K3, K2) K1, K2) eight times, K1

row 12: P in Yarn A only

row 13: K in Yarn A only

row 14: (P1, P1) 33 times

row 15: Knit in Yarn A only

row 16: Purl in Yarn A only

row 17: K1, (K1, K3) sixteen times, K1

row 18: P2, (P1, P3) sixteen times

row 19: K1, (K1, K3) sixteen times, K1

row 20: Purl in Yarn A only

row 21: Knit in Yarn A only

row 22: (P1, P1) 33 times

row 23: Knit in Yarn A only

row 24: Purl in Yarn A only

row 25: Knit in Yarn A only

row 26: Purl in Yarn A only



Dress with a lace hem:

Special abbreviations:

SL1P WYF: SLIP 1 PURL-WISE WYF (with yarn forward): hold the working yarn to the front of the work as though to purl the next stitch, slip the stitch purl-wise then take the working yarn to the back of the work ready to knit the next stitch.

YO: Yarn over: creates a loop which will leave an eyelet in the work. Video here:

<http://www.knittinghelp.com/videos/increases>

Start with the band of lace for the hem edge of the skirt which is worked as a long panel. Stitches are picked up from the top side of the panel to create the skirt.

Use 2.5mm (US 1.5) needles and your chosen main colour (Yarn A) to cast on 9 stitches, leaving a tail of 6 inches for seaming with later (I use a cable cast on)

row 1: (right side) Knit

row 2: SL1P WYF, K2, (K2tog, YO) 2 times, K1, YO, K1
(10 stitches)

row 3: Knit

row 4: SL1P WYF, K1, (K2tog, YO) 2 times, K3, YO, K1
(11 stitches)

row 5: Knit

row 6: SL1P WYF, (K2tog, YO) 2 times, K5, YO, K1
(12 stitches)

row 7: Knit

row 8: SL1P WYF, K2, (YO, K2tog) 2 times, K1, K2tog, YO, K2tog (11 stitches)

row 9: Knit

row 10: SL1P WYF, K3, YO, K2tog, YO, K3tog, YO, K2tog
(10 stitches)

row 11: Knit

row 12: SL1P WYF, K4, YO, K3tog, YO, K2tog (9 stitches)

repeat these 12 rows a total of eleven times (132 rows)

final row: cast off in Knit

Materials:

- I like to work this lace dress in Quince and Co Sparrow yarn (100% linen). It is a stiff yarn but nice to work with and is beautifully soft after washing.
- A tiny button

Needles:

- A pair each of 2.5mm (US 1.5) and 2.75mm (US 2)

After casting off do not cut the work from the ball, instead pick up and knit each slipped stitch from the top edge of the lace band by pushing the tip of the needle through both loops of a slipped stitch from the front of the work to the back, wrapping the yarn, drawing it through to the front and leaving it on the needle to create a knit stitch.

Repeat until you have picked up all 66 slipped stitches.



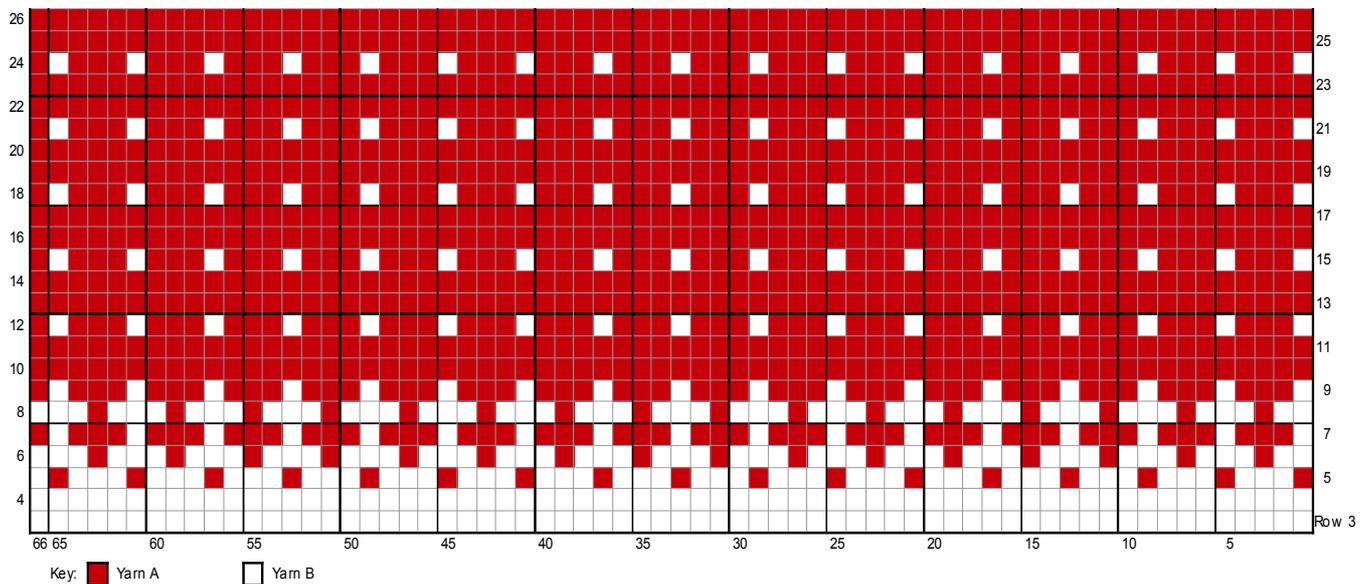
Change to 2.75mm needles. Work **11 rows** in stocking stitch, beginning and ending with a purl row.

Continue to work the bodice and finish the dress by following the instructions from **row 27** onwards on [Page 3](#) of the *basic dress with cap sleeves*.



Winter ~ falling snowflakes

This is a free design supplement to my '[Seasonal Dresses](#)' pattern and all of the cast on and bodice instructions are included there. You can cast on and work the first 2 rows in either **Yarn A** or Yarn B depending on your preference (I've used **Yarn A** for the example below). This design features stylised falling snow. It is an easy stranded design as there are no long floats. Just remember to be consistent with your yarn order in order to get a nice neat finish. See my blog for [tips on stranded knitting](#)



Written instructions for pattern:

- | | |
|--|---|
| row 3: Knit in Yarn B only | row 11: Knit in Yarn A only |
| row 4: Purl in Yarn B only | row 12: P1, (P1, P3) sixteen times, P1 |
| row 5: (K1, K3) sixteen times, K1, K1 | row 13: Knit in Yarn A only |
| row 6: (P3, P1) sixteen times, P2 | row 14: Purl in Yarn A only |
| row 7: (K1, K3) sixteen times, K1, K1 | row 15: (K1, K3) sixteen times, K1, K1 |
| row 8: same as row 6 | rows 16-21: repeat rows 10-15 |
| row 9: same as row 7 | rows 22-26: repeat rows 10-14 |
| row 10: Purl in Yarn A only | |

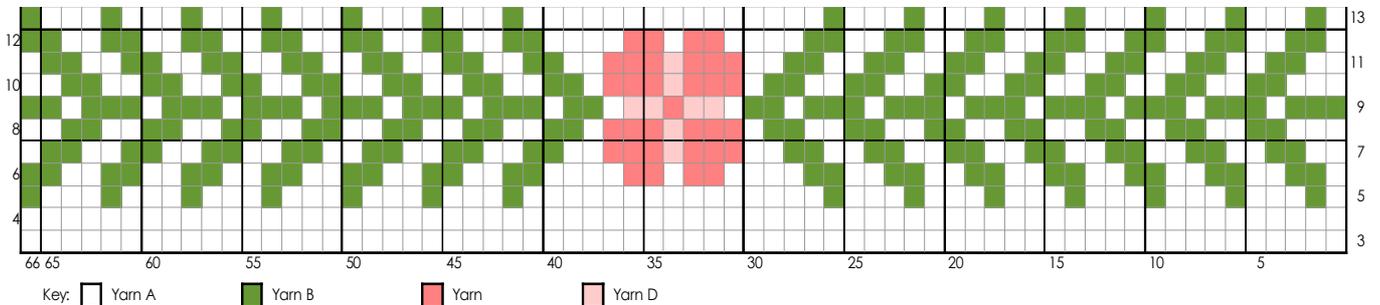
Continue by following instructions for bodice on page 3 of the 'Seasonal Dresses' pattern. (The pattern for the little collar is available separately – see my ravelry page for details <http://www.ravelry.com/stores/little-cotton-rabbits>)



❄️ Happy Holidays ❄️

Spring Flower Dress:

This is a free supplementary design which is intended to be used with my '[seasonal dresses pattern](#)' or the dress pattern instructions in any of my girl animal patterns. You will need to use a stranded colour-work/Fair Isle technique to carry the floats of the un-worked colour/s across the back of the design. However, if you would rather not knit with 4 colours at once you can just work the leaf part of the design using stranded/Fair Isle technique with Yarns A & B and then add the flower afterwards using duplicate stitch/Swiss darning (there is a tutorial [here](#)). This makes a pretty dress which is perfect for celebrating Spring and Easter.



Written instructions for pattern:

Begin the dress by following the instructions for the cast on and rows 1&2 found in any one of my girl animal patterns or my 'seasonal dresses' pattern, and substitute the skirt instructions below:

- row 3:** Knit in Yarn A only
row 4: Purl in Yarn A only
row 5: K1, (K1, K3) 6 times, K1, K15,
 (K1, K3) 6 times, K1
row 6: (P2, P2) 6 times, P2, P4, P2, P1, P2, P4,
 (P2, P2) 6 times, P2, P1
row 7: (K2, K2) 7 times, K2, K3, K1, K3, K2
 (K2, K2) 6 times, K2, K1
row 8: (P2, P2) 7 times, P1, P3, P1, P3, P1,
 (P2, P2) 6 times, P2, P3
row 9: (K3, K1) 7 times, K2, K1, K2, K1, K2, K1, K2,
 (K1, K3) 6 times, K1, K2

- row 10:** work as row 8
row 11: work as row 7
row 12: work as row 6
row 13: work as row 5

Cut all yarns apart from Yarn A from the work as they are no longer needed.

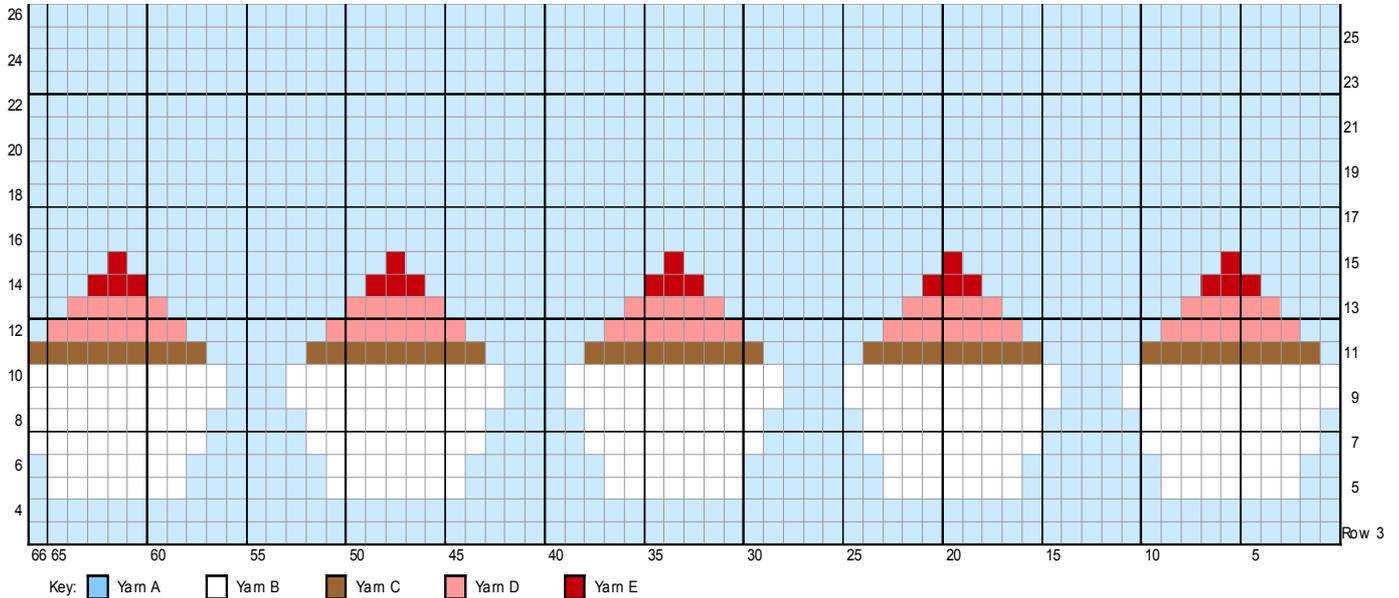
rows 14-26: Beginning and ending with Purl rows, work in 13 rows stocking stitch (alternate Purl and Knit rows) in Yarn A only

Continue with the waist and bodice of the dress by following the instructions found in one of my girl animal patterns or the '[seasonal dresses](#)' pattern.



Cupcake Party Dress:

This is a free supplementary design which is intended to be used with my 'seasonal dresses pattern' or the dress pattern instructions in any of my girl animal patterns. You will need to use a stranded colour-work / Fair Isle technique to carry the floats of the un-worked colour across the back of the design. There are 5 colours used in total but as there are only ever 2 colours worked on any row it is a simple to work pattern which is perfect for birthdays and anniversary celebrations.



Written instructions for pattern:

row 3: Knit in **Yarn A** only
 row 4: Purl in **Yarn A** only
 row 5: **K2**, (K7 **Yarn B**, **K7**) four times, K7 **Yarn B**, **K1**
 row 6: **P1**, (P7 **Yarn B**, **P7**) four times, P7 **Yarn B**, **P2**
 row 7: **K1**, (K9 **Yarn B**, **K5**) four times, K9 **Yarn B**
 row 8: (P9 **Yarn B**, **P5**) four times, P9 **Yarn B**, **P1**
 row 9: (K11 **Yarn B**, **K3**) four times, K10 **Yarn B**
 row 10: P10 **Yarn B**, (**P3**, P11 **Yarn B**) four times

row 11: **K1**, (**K9**, **K5**) four times, **K9**
 row 12: **P1**, (**P7**, **P7**) four times, **P7**, **P2**
 row 13: **K3**, (**K5**, **K9**) four times, **K5**, **K2**
 row 14: **P3**, (**P3**, **P11**) four times, **P3**, **P4**
 row 15: **K5**, (**K1**, **K13**) four times, **K1**, **K4**
 row 16 - 26: beginning and ending with a purl row, work in stocking stitch (alternate purl and knit rows) in **Yarn A** only



