

Little Cotton Rabbits textured dresses pattern



This pattern contains a basic template for a dress with capped sleeves and a choice of nineteen textured skirt designs, ranging from easy to more challenging knits. Also included are 2 options for a collar; one knitted and one in crochet. Most designs have both charted and written instructions.

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

Materials:

- Yarns: you will need a selection of colours in 4py/fingering weight yarn. Most designs use a single colour but some can be worked in more than one if you prefer.
- A tiny button

Finished size:

approx 10cm (4 inches) from neck to hem

Notions:

- A pair of 2.75mm (US 2) Knitting needles
- Tapestry needle
- Cable needle (for some designs)
- Crochet hook for button loop/collar

Gauge:



Gauge for dress: 7 stitches x 10 rows to 1 inch (based on stocking stitch. Note that gauge for the different designs will vary slightly)

One of my favourite things about making knitted toys is coming up with new designs for their clothing and there are endless possibilities for colour and texture. I already have a dresses pattern collection which incorporates different surface designs worked in two or more colours and so in response to many requests for designs which don't involve colour-work I've put together this selection of textured patterns.

The designs have full written instructions and most also are charted. Most are very simple as they just use combinations of Knit and Purl stitches, although a few are more complex and involve cabling and/or eyelets. There are also a couple of different options for the style of the dress, including capped sleeves or a slightly flared sleeve alternative and a knitted and crocheted option for adding a full collar. There's also a free pattern for a smaller collar: [All Little Cotton Rabbits Patterns](#)

With this dress design the armholes are worked without cutting and re-joining the yarn so there are less 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.

Yarn suggestions:

I prefer to knit the dresses in 4ply cotton/cotton mix yarns. Cotton yarns are crisp and show off colour-work patterns nicely. Also cotton yarns will not roll at the dress hem as a wool based yarn will, and they block well - you can even iron cotton knits to smooth out any wrinkles.. I particularly like BCGarn Alba, MillaMia Naturally Soft Cotton, Phildar Phil Coton 3, Drops Safran and DMC Natura Just Cotton, as all knit up nicely and have a good range of colours. Patons 4ply cotton and Sirdar 4ply cotton also come in a wide range of colours but are thinner, and Cascade Ultra Pima Fine has a wonderful range of colours but is a little thicker, so if using any of these you will need to check your gauge if the clothes are to fit. It also may be worth looking on [Ravelry](#) to see what yarns others are using and recommending.

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

There are also special abbreviations noted at the top of the particular patterns that they are relevant to. Please note that the recommended cast on is a CABLE CAST ON.

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Dress bodice with cap sleeves:

To begin a dress you first need to choose one of the designs from [pages 8 to 26](#). Follow the cast on and row by row instructions for the skirt of your chosen design, (all are knitted from the bottom hem up and end at the waist), then continue the bodice by following the instructions below, (the bodice instructions are the same for all of the dress designs featured). You'll then find 3 options for the neckline; one a simple straight cast-off edge; one for a knitted on collar and one for a crochet collar.

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 - simply cast on 2 stitches less (these are allowance for the selvedge) and ignore the instructions for the first and last stitch of each row. I like to leave a gap in the back seam of the dress for the tail to poke through, 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.

Bodice pattern instructions:

After working the last row of your chosen dress design, you will have 38 stitches on the needle. Now you can start working on the bodice of the dress. (Please note that for the skirt some designs have 29 rows and some have more - this is to compensate for the variances in pattern, all skirt lengths should be approx 7cms/2.75 inches.

row 1: (wrong side) Purl

row 2: Knit

row 3: P8, cast off 3 stitches purl-wise, P26

With the wrong side of the work still facing, you should now have 8 stitches, a gap of cast-off stitches (which is the bottom of the left-hand armhole) and 27 stitches (*fig. 1*)

row 4: *This is a complex row which involves both casting off for the bottom of the right-hand arm hole, then casting on the stitches for the top of both arm holes. I've separated each step to hopefully make it as simple as possible:*

- K8, then leaving the working yarn where it is slip the next stitch purl-wise from the left needle to the right. 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 a right-hand armhole to mirror the left-hand one already worked on the previous row (*fig. 2*);
- 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 tightly 10 times in a clockwise direction around the needle ******) (*fig. 3*);
- SSK, K12, K2tog, cast on another 10 stitches in the same way, K8 (*fig. 4*);

****** To create a more flared sleeve shape use the **M1A** (Make 1 Away) method of increasing 10 times to make the new stitches. (*fig. 9*)

row 5: P8, Purl into the front loops of each of the 10 yarn wraps (*fig. 5*),
P14, Purl into the front loops of the second group of 10 yarn wraps, P8 (*50 stitches*)

*Note: if you have used **M1A** to cast on the 10 sleeve stitches then purl **row 5** as you would any normal row (*fig. 10*)*

row 6: *This row has two sections of short row shaping across the bottom of the sleeves (*figs. 6 & 7*):*
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 7: P7, P2tog, P8, P2tog tbl, P12, P2tog, P8, P2tog tbl, P7 (*46 stitches*)

row 8: K7, SSK, K6, K2tog, K12, SSK, K6, K2tog, K7 (*42 stitches*)

row 9: P7, P2tog, P4, P2tog tbl, P12, P2tog, P4, P2tog tbl, P7 (*38 stitches*)

row 10: K7, SSK, K2, K2tog, K12, SSK, K2, K2tog, K7 (*34 stitches*)

row 11: P7, P2tog, P2tog tbl, P12, P2tog, P2tog tbl, P7 (*30 stitches*)

Now it's time to choose whether you would like to work a collar (if so continue with instructions on pages 5 - 6) or whether you'd like a simple cast off neckline:

row 12: If you would like a simple neck line, cast off in Knit, but don't cut the work from the ball, as you will need this to work the button loop. Follow instructions for finishing on page 6.



fig. 1

fig. 2

fig. 3

fig. 4



fig. 5

fig. 6

fig. 7

fig. 8



fig. 9

fig. 10

fig. 11

fig. 8 above shows the sleeve worked with the wrapped stitches, and fig. 11 shows the M1A sleeves.

Collar options:

Please see instructions for these two collar options on pages 5 & 6



*Dress with a knitted collar
and sleeves using the wrapped yarn method on row 4*



*Dress with a crochet collar
and flared sleeves using M1A ten times on row 4*

Knitted collar:

The knitted collar is worked in two separate halves. If you would like the collar to be in a contrasting colour then change yarn now, but don't cut the dress colour from the work as you will need this to work the button loop later.

Dress row 12: Cast off the top of the dress knit-wise but don't cut the work from the ball. Instead enlarge the last stitch and pass the ball through it to secure the cast off edge (*fig. 12*)

Now with the right side of the work facing you and the dress facing away from you pick up and knit into the bottom loops of the stitches from the cast off edge (*figs. 13 & 14*) like so:

row 13: (Pick up and Knit 2, M1A) 6 times, pick up and Knit 3 (*21 stitches*)

Turn and leave the remaining 15 stitches unworked as these will form the second side of the collar (*fig. 15*)

row 14: Slip 1, P20

row 15: Cast off loosely in Purl (*fig. 16*)

Cut the work from the ball, leaving a tail for weaving in later. Re-join the yarn at the start of the remaining 15 stitches and work the second half of the collar:

row 13 (b): Pick up and Knit 3, (M1A, Pick up and Knit 2) 6 times (*21 stitches*)

row 14 (b): P21

row 15 (b): Slip the first stitch instead of working it and cast off loosely in Purl (*fig. 17*)

If you have worked the collar in a contrast colour then cut the work from this ball, leaving a tail for weaving in later. If you've worked the collar in the same colour as the dress then don't cut the work from the ball but instead enlarge the last stitch and pass the ball through it to secure the cast off and follow the finishing instructions on page 6.



fig. 12



fig. 13



fig. 14



fig. 15



fig. 16



fig. 17

Continue by following the finishing instructions on page 6.

Crochet collar:

The crochet collar is worked across the whole row in one go. If you'd like the collar to be in a contrasting colour then change yarn now, but don't cut the dress colour from the work as you will need this to work the button loop later.

Dress row 12: Cast off the top of the dress knit-wise but don't cut the work from the ball. Instead enlarge the last stitch and pass the ball through it to secure the cast off edge. With the right side of the work facing you and the dress facing away from you work into the stitches from the cast off edge (*fig. 18*) like so:

Crochet collar (continued from page 5):

Please note that UK crochet terms are used here, 1TR (Treble) = 1DC (Double Crochet) in US terms

- Using a 2.25mm (US 1) crochet hook work into the first stitch to make a loop and then chain 2 stitches to start (this forms the first TR), TR into same stitch,
- (2 x TR into next stitch, 1 x TR into next stitch) 6 times,
- TR into the next stitch, chain 1, slip stitch into the same stitch,
- Slip stitch into the next stitch (this is the centre of the collar), (*fig. 19*)
- Slip stitch into the next stitch, chain 1, TR into the same stitch,
- (1 x TR into next stitch, 2 x TR into next stitch) 6 times,
- TR into the next stitch, chain 2 and slip stitch into the same stitch.

If you have worked the collar in a contrast colour then cut the work from this ball, leaving a tail for weaving in later. If you have worked the collar in the same colour as the dress then don't cut the work from the ball but instead enlarge the last stitch and pass the ball through it to secure the cast off edge. Continue by following the finishing instructions below.



fig. 18



fig. 19



fig. 20

Finishing the dress:

With the cast off tail from the top of the dress use a fine crochet hook to make a chain of 6 stitches (or long enough to accommodate the size of button that you have) (*fig. 21*). Join it back to the start point with a slip stitch to make a small loop (*fig. 22*) and cut the work from the ball leaving a tail and weave this in, working downwards to the waist.

Sew a tiny button on the opposite side as a fastening for the dress, (*fig. 23*). 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 (the decrease row) and tie the ends together before weaving them in along the inside seam and trimming excess.

Weave in all ends from the collar on the back of the work. Any additional yarn ends from the dress can be sewn in along the inside seam before trimming excess. Pop the dress on your animal and you are done.



fig. 21



fig. 22



fig. 23

The pattern designs:

stitch type *pattern name* *level of difficulty* *page*

Knit & Purl Stitch Designs:

Little Dots	easy	<u>page 8</u>
Little Dashes	easy	<u>page 9</u>
Polperro Laughing Boy	easy	<u>page 10</u>
Dots & Daisies	easy	<u>page 11</u>
Diamond Brocade	moderate	<u>page 12</u>
Little Chevron Pattern	moderate	<u>page 13</u>

Cabling/Crossed Stitch Designs:

Criss Cross	moderate	<u>page 14</u>
Honeycomb Cables	moderate	<u>page 15</u>
Little Cables	easy	<u>page 16</u>
Little Birds	moderate	<u>page 17</u>
Bubble Hem	moderate	<u>page 18</u>

Lace/Eyelet Designs:

Paired Eyelets	easy	<u>page 19</u>
Smocked Eyelets	easy	<u>page 20</u>
Little Shells	moderate	<u>page 21</u>
Double Eyelet Rib	moderate	<u>page 22</u>
Deep Lace Border	moderate	<u>page 23</u>
Ridged Eyelet Border	easy	<u>page 24</u>
Lace Flowers Border	moderate	<u>page 25</u>

Slipped Stitch Design:

Ribbons	easy	<u>page 26</u>
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If you'd like to see what others have made from these patterns you can view projects on Ravelry:
www.ravelry.com/groups/little-cotton-rabbits

I also publish occasional free supplements with extra dress designs and additional accessories. You can download free copies of these from Ravelry:

<http://www.ravelry.com/stores/little-cotton-rabbits>

Little Dots:

This pattern is a very easy one to work, with a pattern of small raised dots created by offset Purl stitches worked on the right side of the work against a background of Knit stitches. The dress below is knitted in BC Garn Alba in 35 'vintage pink'.

Written pattern instructions:

Starting at the bottom of the skirt use 2.75mm needles and 4ply yarn to cable cast on 70 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

row 1: (right side) Knit

row 2: Knit

row 3: K1, (P1, K3) 17 times, P1

row 4: Purl

row 5: (K3, P1) 17 times, K2

row 6: Purl

rows 7-26: Repeat rows 3-6 five more times

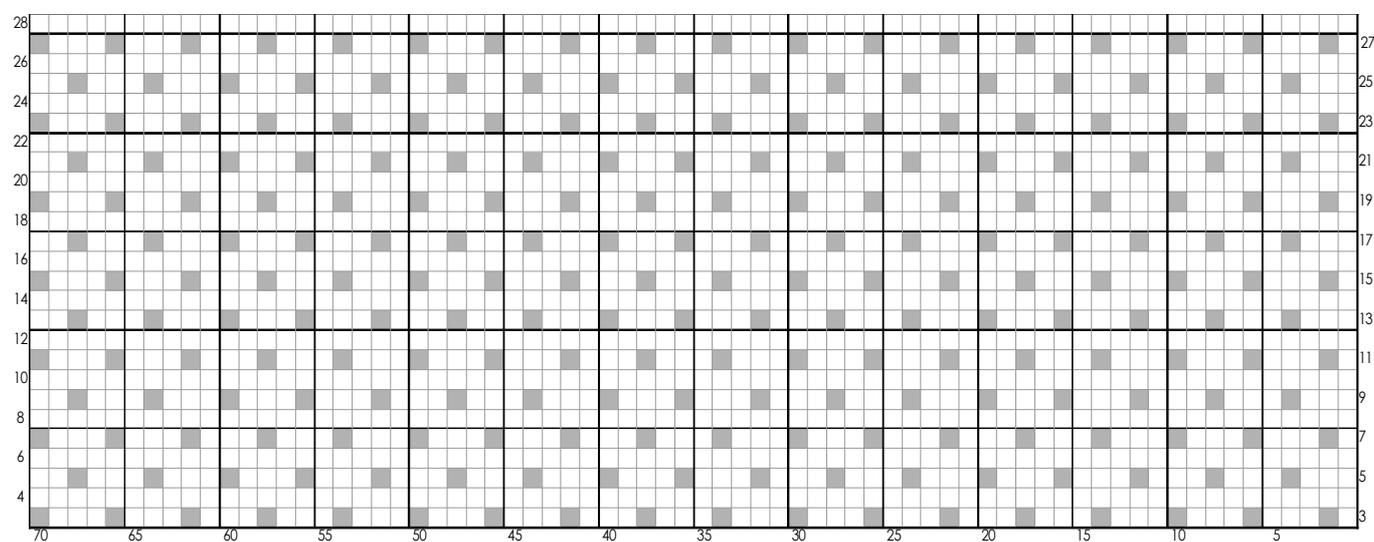
row 27: K1, (P1, K3) 17 times, P1

row 28: Purl

row 29: K3, (K2tog) 32 times, K3 (38 stitches)

Continue working the bodice by using the instructions from page 3.

Pattern chart (rows 3-28):



Key: Knit on the right side of work, Purl on the wrong side Purl a stitch on the right side of work



Little Dashes:

This pattern is a very easy one to work, with a pattern of small raised dashes created by a pair of Purl stitches worked on the right side of the work against a background of Knit stitches. The dress below is knitted in KPC Gossyp in 'African Violet' with the crochet collar.

Written pattern instructions:

Starting at the bottom of the skirt use 2.75mm needles and 4ply yarn to cable cast on 74 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

row 1: (right side) Knit

row 2: Knit

row 3: Knit

row 4: Purl

row 5: Knit

row 6: (K2, P1) 24 times, K2

rows 7-26: Repeat rows 3-6 five more times

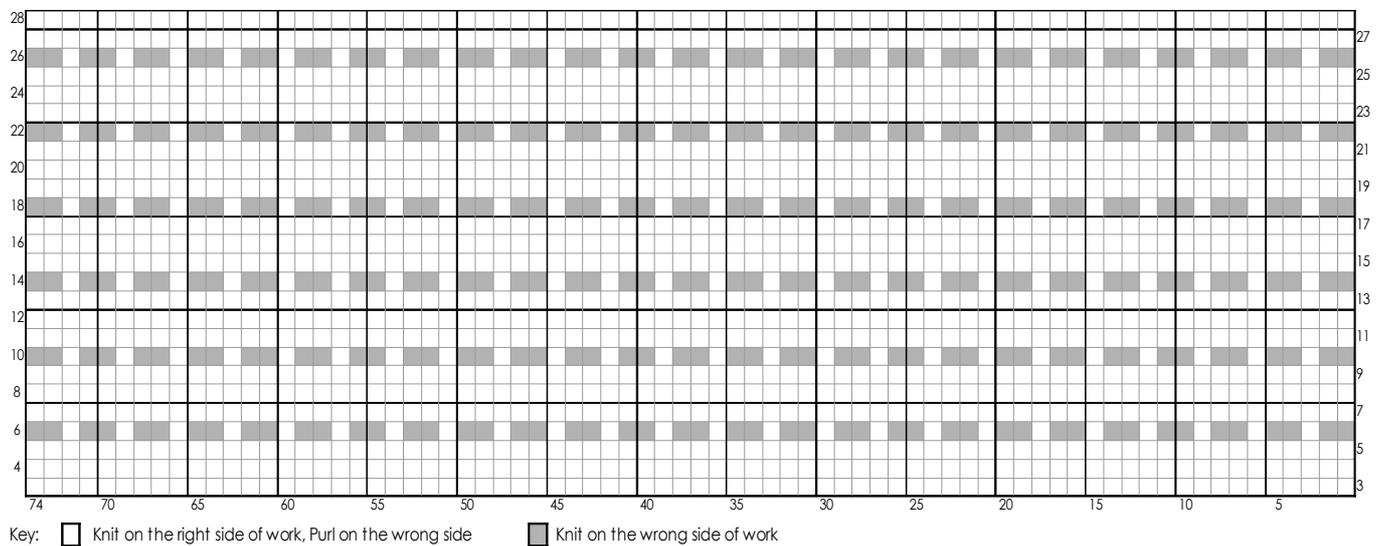
row 27: Knit

row 28: Purl

row 29: K1, (K2tog) 36 times, K1 (38 stitches)

Continue working the bodice by using the instructions from page 3.

Pattern chart (rows 3-28):



Polperro Laughing Boy:

This is a very easy design used in traditional gansey sweaters. It's a simple motif of regularly spaced Purl stitch dashes against a background of Knit stitches. Knitted in MillaMia Naturally Soft Cotton 322 'bluebell'

Written pattern instructions:

Starting at the bottom of the skirt use 2.75mm needles and 4ply yarn to cable cast on 74 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

row 1: (right side) Knit

row 2: Knit

row 3: Knit

row 4: Purl

row 5: Knit

row 6: P3, (K2, P4) 11 times, K2, P3

row 7: Knit

row 8: P3, (K2, P4) 11 times, K2, P3

row 9: Knit

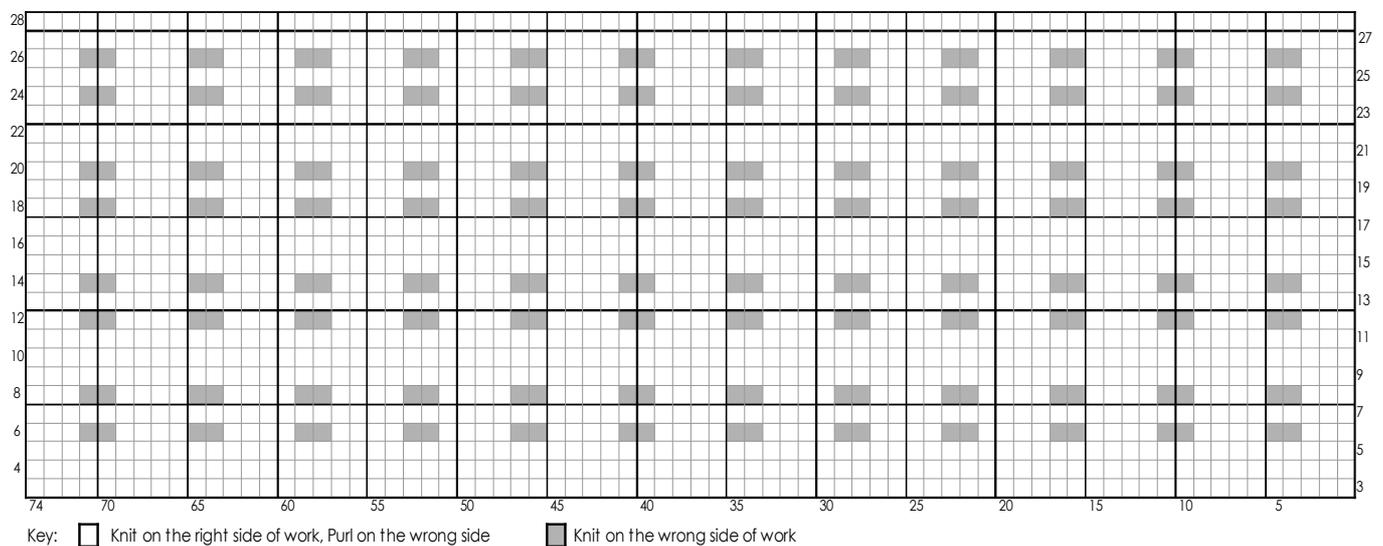
row 10: Purl

rows 11-28: Repeat rows 5- 10 three more times

row 29: K1, (K2tog) 36 times, K1 (38 stitches)

Continue working the bodice by using the instructions from page 3.

Pattern chart (rows 3-28):



Dots & Daisies:

This pattern is an easy one to work, with a pattern created by a working reverse stocking stitches (Purled on the right side and Knitted on the reverse) against a background of regular stocking stitch (Knitted on the right side and Purled on the reverse). This pattern also works with a contrast colour instead of Purl stitches. The dress below is knitted in MillaMia Naturally Soft Cotton 302 'baby elephant' and has a simple cast off neck.

Written pattern instructions:

Starting at the bottom of the skirt use 2.75mm needles and 4ply yarn to cable cast on 72 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

row 1: (right side) Knit

row 2: Knit

row 3: Knit

row 4: P6, (K1, P9) 6 times, K1, P5

row 5: P1, (K3, P1, K1, P1, K3, P1) 7 times, K1

row 6: As row 4

row 7: Knit

row 8: Purl

row 9: (P1, K9) 7 times, P1, K1

row 10 (K1, P1, K1, P3, K1, P3) 7 times, K1, P1

row 11: As row 9

row 12: Purl

row 13: Knit

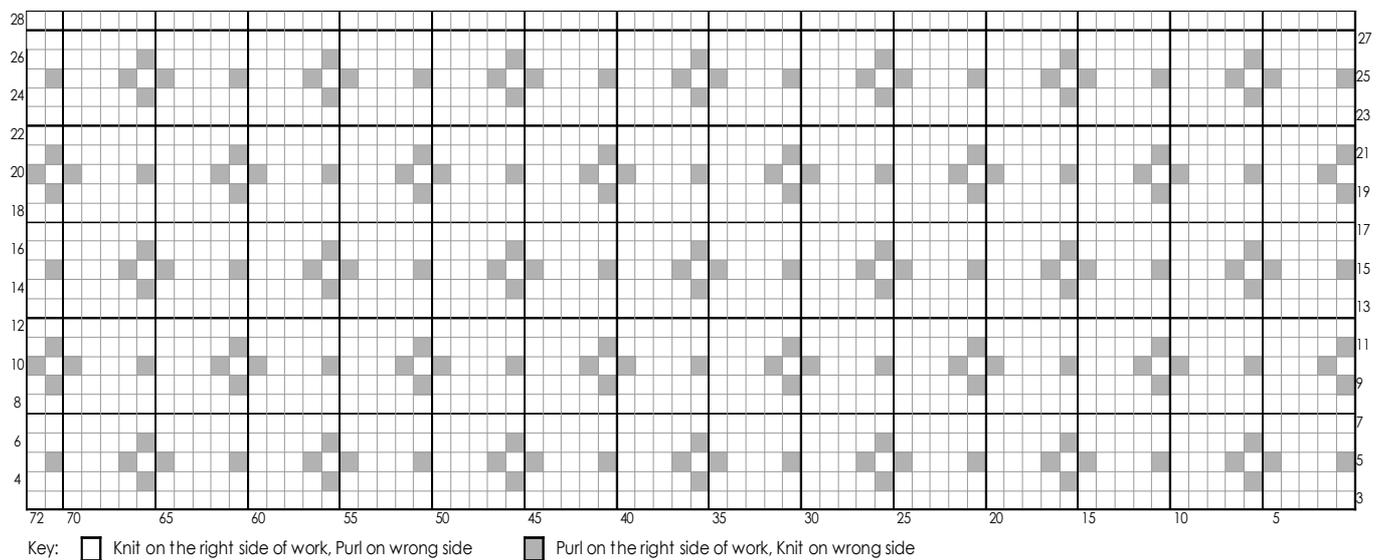
rows 14-23: repeat rows 4-13

rows 24-28: repeat rows 4-8

row 29: K2, (K2tog) 34 times, K2 (38 stitches)

Continue working the bodice by using the instructions from page 3.

Pattern chart (rows 3-28):



Diamond Brocade:

This pattern is a moderately easy one to work, with a diamond lattice pattern created by working reverse stocking stitches (Purled on the right side and Knitted on the reverse) against a background of regular stocking stitch (Knitted on the right side and Purled on the reverse). The dress below is knitted in MillaMia Naturally Soft Cotton 301 'mid grey' and has the crochet collar in 'cream'.

Written pattern instructions:

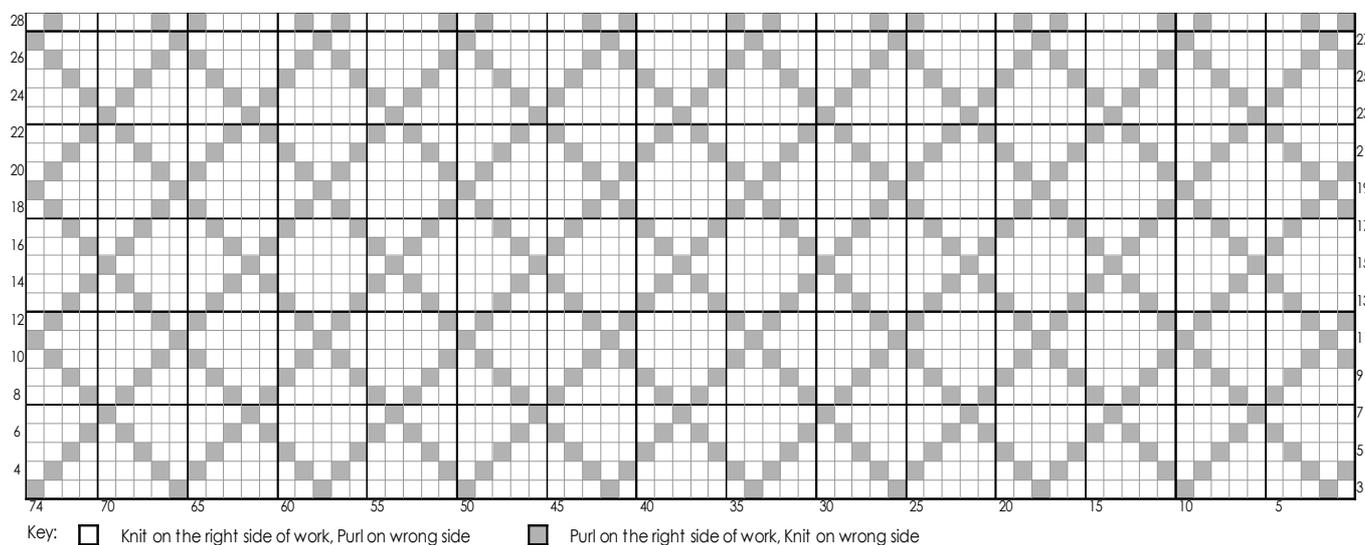
Starting at the bottom of the skirt use 2.75mm needles and 4ply yarn to cable cast on 74 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

row 1: (right side) Knit
row 2: Knit
row 3: K1, (P1, K7) 9 times, P1
row 4: P1, K1, (P5, K1, P1, K1) 9 times
row 5: (K3, P1) 18 times, K2
row 6: P3, (K1, P1, K1, P5) 8 times, K1, P1, K1, P4
row 7: K5, (P1, K7) 8 times, P1, K4
row 8: as row 6

row 9: as row 5
row 10: as row 4
rows 11-26: repeat rows 3-10 twice more
row 27: K1, (P1, K7) 9 times, P1
row 28: P1, K1, (P5, K1, P1, K1) 9 times
row 29: K1, (K2tog) 36 times, K1 (38 stitches)

Continue working the bodice by using the instructions from page 3.

Pattern chart (rows 3-28):



Little Chevron Pattern:

This pattern is a moderately easy one to work, with a ribbed chevron pattern created by working reverse stocking stitches (Purled on the right side and Knitted on the reverse) against a background of regular stocking stitch (Knitted on the right side and Purled on the reverse). The dress below is knitted in BC Garn Alba 02 'lilac' and has the knitted collar and sleeves made with the M1A method.

Written pattern instructions:

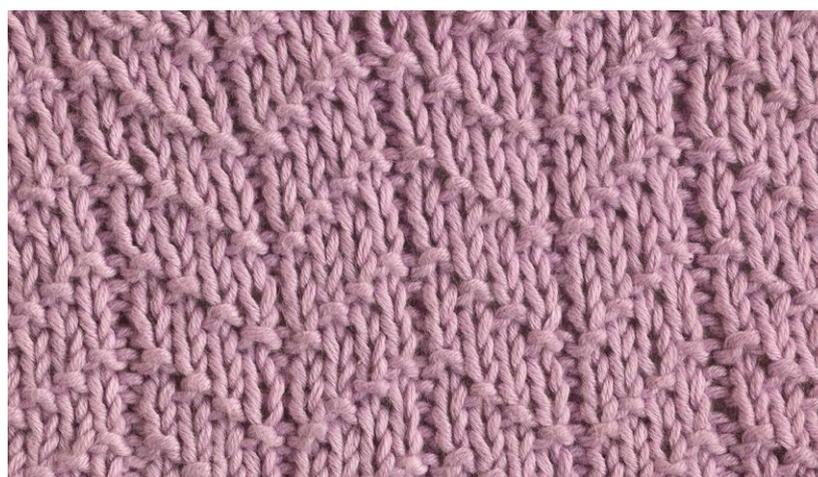
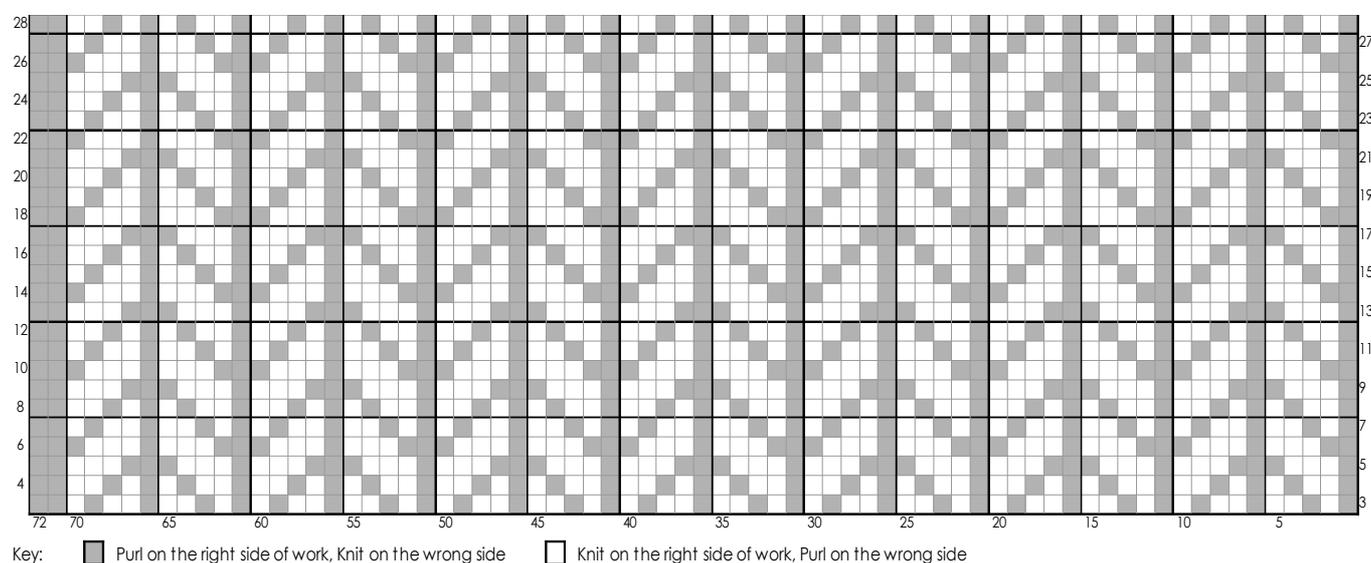
Starting at the bottom of the skirt use 2.75mm needles and 4ply yarn to cable cast on 72 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

row 1: (right side) Knit
row 2: Knit
row 3: (P1, K1, P1, K2, P1, K2, P1, K1) 7 times, P2
row 4: K2, (P2, K1, P1, K1, P1, K1, P2, K1) 7 times
row 5: (P1, K3, P3, K3) 7 times, P2
row 6: (K3, P3, K1, P3) 7 times, K2

rows 7-26: Repeat rows 3-6 five more times
row 27: (P1, K1, P1, K2, P1, K2, P1, K1) 7 times, P2
row 28: K2, (P2, K1, P1, K1, P1, K1, P2, K1) 7 times
row 29: K2, (K2tog) 34 times, K2 (38 stitches)

Continue working the bodice by using the instructions from page 3.

Pattern chart (rows 3-28):



Criss Cross:

This pattern is a moderate one to work, with a raised diamond pattern created by twisting stitches so that they travel over a background of stocking stitch. The dress below is knitted in KPC Gossyp in 'ballerina' with a simple neckline.

Special Abbreviations:

C2R: CROSS 2 RIGHT. Slip the next stitch onto a cable needle and hold at the back of the work, knit the next stitch from the left-hand needle and then knit the stitch from the cable needle.
Also known as 1/1 RC (1/1 RIGHT CROSS)

If you prefer not to use a cable needle you can substitute C2F: Cross 2 front – knit into the front of the 2nd stitch on the left-hand needle, then knit into the first stitch and then slip both stitches from the needle together – thus crossing the second stitch over the front of the first.

C2L: CROSS 2 LEFT : Slip the next stitch onto a cable needle and hold at the front of the work, knit the next stitch from the left-hand needle and then knit the stitch from the cable needle.
Also known as 1/1 LC (1/1 LEFT CROSS)

If you prefer not to use a cable needles you can substitute C2B: Cross 2 back - knit into the back of the 2nd stitch on the left-hand needle, then knit into the first stitch and then slip both stitches from the needle together – thus crossing the first stitch over the front of the second.

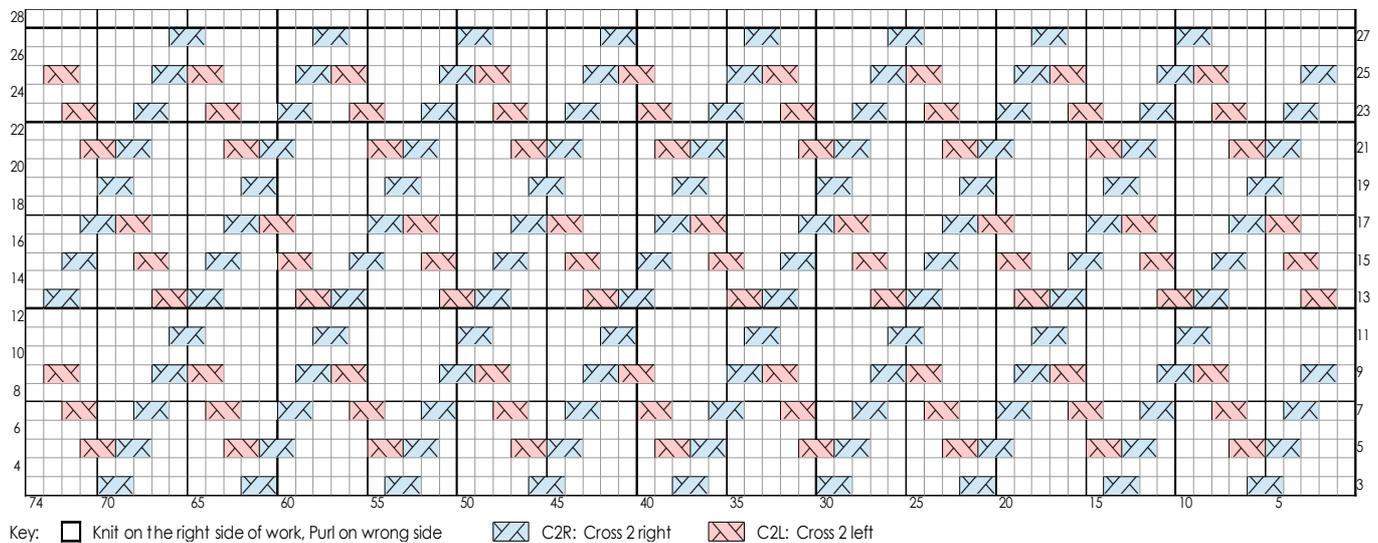
Written pattern instructions:

Starting at the bottom of the skirt use 2.75mm needles and 4ply yarn to cable cast on 74 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

- row 1:** (right side) Knit
- row 2:** Knit
- row 3:** K4, (C2R, K6) 8 times, C2R, K4
- row 4 & every subsequent even-numbered row:** Purl
- row 5:** K3, (C2R, C2L, K4) 8 times, C2R, C2L, K3
- row 7:** K2, (C2R, K2, C2L, K2) 9 times
- row 9:** K1, (C2R, K4, C2L) 9 times, K1

- row 11:** K8, (C2R, K6) 7 times, C2R, K8
 - row 13:** K1, (C2L, K4, C2R) 9 times, K1
 - row 15:** (K2, C2L, K2, C2R) 9 times, K2
 - row 17:** K3, (C2L C2R, K4) 8 times, C2L, C2R, K3
 - rows 19-28:** Repeat rows 3-12
 - row 29:** K1, (K2tog) 36 times, K1 (38 stitches)
- Continue working the bodice by using the instructions from page 3.

Pattern chart (for rows 3-28):



Honeycomb Cables:

This pattern is a moderately easy one to work, with a textured pattern formed from garter stitch and crossing stitches. Please note that this dress really benefits from firm blocking to open out the design. The dress below is knitted in MillaMia Naturally Soft Cotton 322 'bluebell' and has the knitted collar in 'cream'.

Special Abbreviations:

C2F: CROSS 2 FRONT: Knit into the front of the 2nd stitch on the left-hand needle, then knit into the first stitch and then slip both stitches from the needle together – thus crossing the second stitch over the front of the first.
Also known as 1/1 RC (1/1 RIGHT CROSS)

C2B: CROSS 2 BACK: Knit into the back of the 2nd stitch on the left-hand needle, then knit into the first stitch and then slip both stitches from the needle together – thus crossing the first stitch over the front of the second.
Also known as 1/1 LC (1/1 LEFT CROSS)

Written pattern instructions:

Starting at the bottom of the skirt use 2.75mm needles and 4ply yarn to cable cast on 70 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

row 1: (right side) Knit

row 2: Knit

row 3: Knit

row 4: K2, (P2, K2) 17 times

row 5: Knit

row 6: K2, (P2, K2) 17 times

row 7: K1, (C2F, C2B) 17 times, K1

row 8: P2, (K2, P2) 17 times

row 9: Knit

row 10: P2, (K2, P2) 17 times

row 11: Knit

row 12: P2, (K2, P2) 17 times

row 13: K1, (C2B, C2F) 17 times, K1

row 14: K2, (P2, K2) 17 times

rows 15-26: Repeat rows 3-14

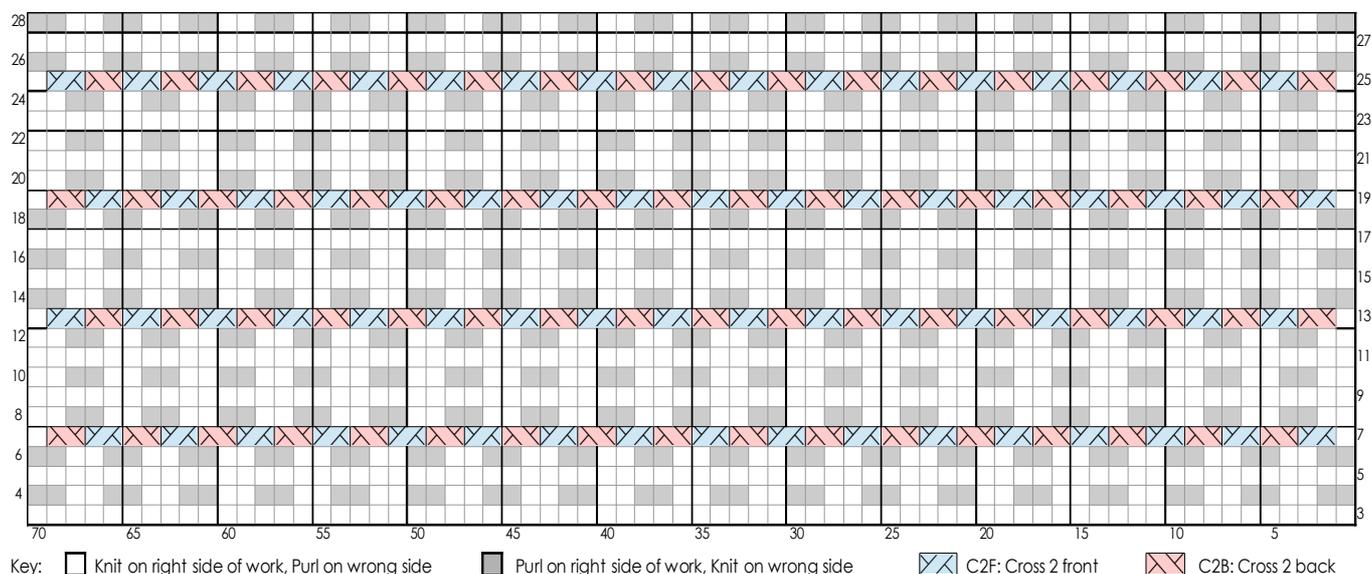
row 27: Knit

row 28: K2, (P2, K2) 17 times

row 29: K3, (K2tog) 32 times, K3 (38 stitches)

Continue working the bodice by using the instructions from page 3.

Pattern chart (for rows 3-28):



Little Cables:

This pattern is a moderately easy one to work, with a textured pattern created by cabling stitches interspersed with reverse stocking stitch dashes against a background of stocking stitch. The dress below is knitted in BC Garn Alba in 32 'Rose' and has the simple cast off neckline.

Special Abbreviations:

C2F: CROSS 2 FRONT: Knit into the front of the 2nd stitch on the left-hand needle, then knit into the first stitch and then slip both stitches from the needle together – thus crossing the second stitch over the front of the first.
Also known as 1/1 RC (1/1 RIGHT CROSS)

C2B: CROSS 2 BACK: Knit into the back of the 2nd stitch on the left-hand needle, then knit into the first stitch and then slip both stitches from the needle together – thus crossing the first stitch over the front of the second.
Also known as 1/1 LC (1/1 LEFT CROSS)

Written pattern instructions:

Starting at the bottom of the skirt use 2.75mm needles and 4ply yarn to cable cast on 74 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

row 1: (right side) Knit

row 2: Knit

rows 3-6: Beginning with a Knit row and ending with a Purl row, work 4 rows in stocking stitch

row 7: P2, (C2F, C2B, P2) 12 times

row 8: K2, (P4, K2) 12 times

rows 9-26: Repeat rows 3-8 three more times

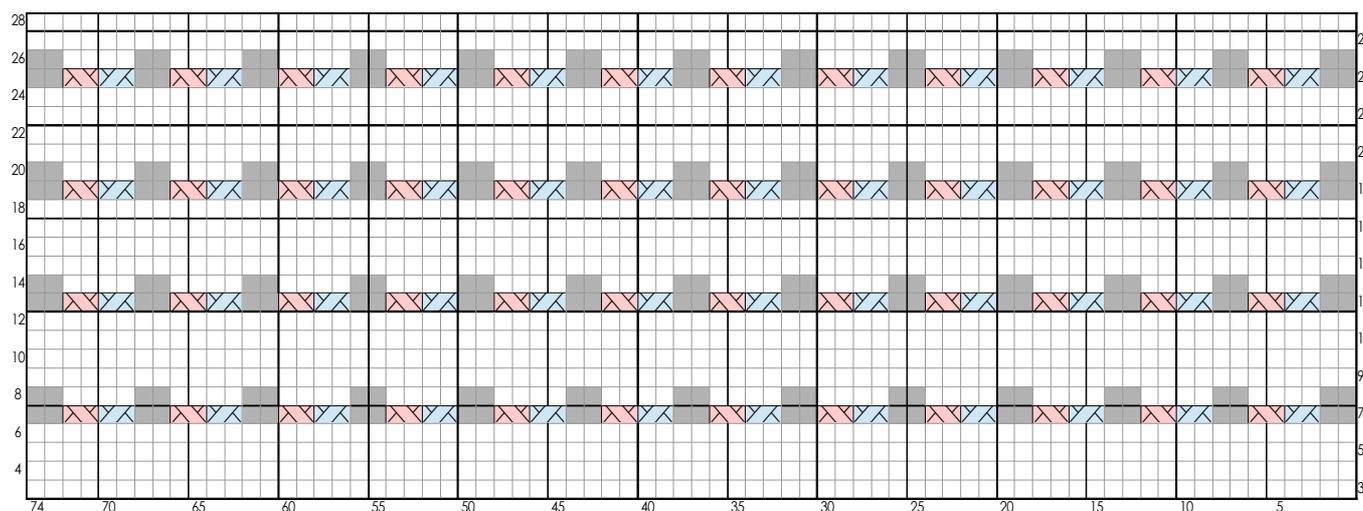
row 27: Knit

row 28: Purl

row 29: K1, (K2tog) 36 times, K1 (38 stitches)

Continue working the bodice by using the instructions from page 3.

Pattern chart (for rows 3-28):



Key: Knit on the right side of work, Purl on wrong side Purl on the right side of work, Knit on wrong side C2F: Cross 2 front C2B: Cross 2 back



Little Birds:

This pattern is a moderately easy one to work, with a pattern resembling little birds in flight created by mirrored cable stitches. The dress below is knitted in MillaMia Naturally Soft Cotton 323 'baby blue' and has the crochet collar.

Special Abbreviations:

C3R: CABLE 3 RIGHT. Slip the next 2 stitches onto a cable needle and hold at the back of the work, knit the next stitch from the left-hand needle and then knit the stitches from the cable needle. Also known as 1/2 RC (1/2 RIGHT CROSS)

C3L: CABLE 3 LEFT : Slip the next stitch onto a cable needle and hold at the front of the work, knit the next 2 stitches from the left-hand needle and then knit the stitch from the cable needle. Also known as 1/2 LC (1/2 LEFT CROSS)

Written pattern instructions:

Starting at the bottom of the skirt use 2.75mm needles and 4ply yarn to cable cast on 72 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later. *Note:* Slip all stitches Purl-wise.

row 1: (right side) Knit

row 2: Knit

rows 3-5: Beginning and ending with Knit rows, work 3 rows in stocking stitch

row 6: P1, slip 1 stitch, (P12, slip 2 stitches) 4 times, P12, slip 1 stitch, P1

row 7: K1, C3L, (K8, C3R, C3L) 4 times, K8, C3R, K1

rows 8-11: Beginning with a Purl row and ending with a Knit row, work 4 rows of stocking stitch

row 12: P7, (slip 2 stitches, P12) 4 times, slip 2 stitches, P7

row 13: K5, (C3R, C3L, K8) 4 times, C3R, C3L, K5

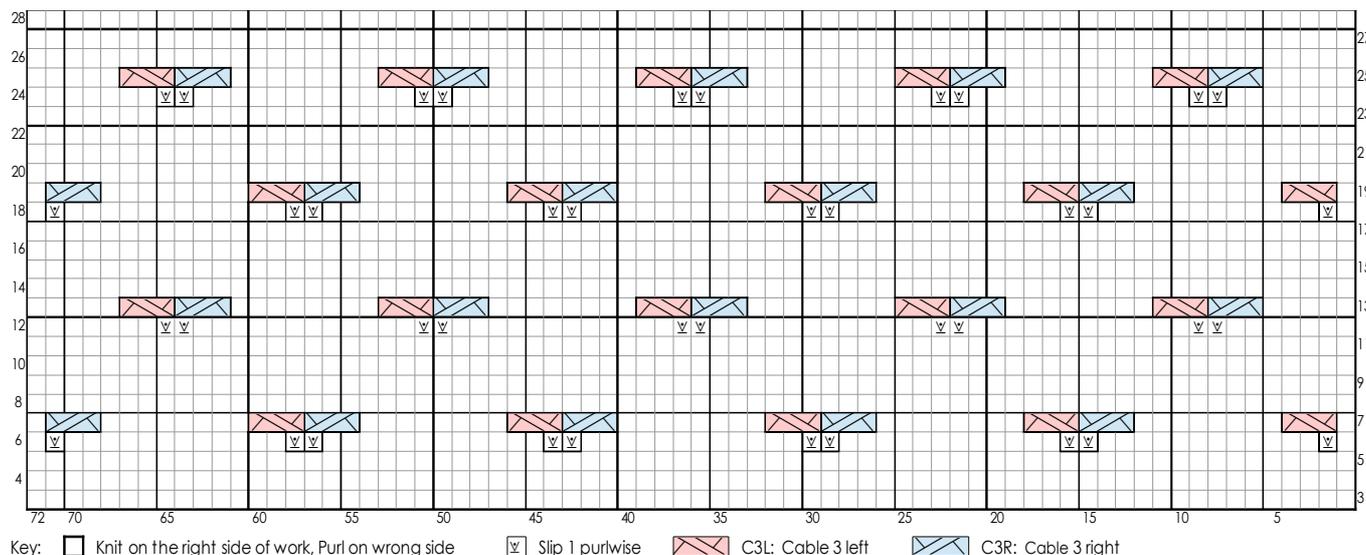
rows 14-17: Beginning with a Purl row and ending with a Knit row work 4 rows of stocking stitch

rows 18-28: Repeat rows 6-16

row 29: K2, (K2tog) 34 times, K2 (38 stitches)

Continue working the bodice by using the instructions from page 3.

Pattern chart (for rows 3-28):



Smocked Eyelets:

This pattern is an easy one to work, with a smock effect created by passing a stitch over the two which follow it and a simple eyelet in between each smocked stitch. The fiddliest bit is slipping the needle tip into the stitch in order to pass it over the others and this is much easier to do with a pointy needle tip, so if you have a choice pick the pointiest pair to work this pattern with. The dress below is knitted in MillaMia Naturally Soft Cotton 312 'pebble grey' and has the crochet collar.

special abbreviations:

YF: YARN FORWARD: Bring the yarn to the front of the work between the needles before working the next stitch – once you knit the next stitch this will create a loop over the top of the needle which when worked into on the next row will create an eyelet.

Written pattern instructions:

Starting at the bottom of the skirt use 2.75mm needles and 4ply yarn to cable cast on 73 stitches, leaving a tail of 8 inches for seaming with later.

row 1: (right side) Knit

row 2: Knit

row 3: Knit

row 4 & every subsequent even-numbered row, Purl

row 5: K2, (YF, K3, pass the 1st of the 3 stitches just worked over the other 2 and off the needle) 23 times, K2

row 7: Knit

row 9: K1, (YF, K3, pass the 1st of the 3 stitches just worked over the other 2 and off the needle) 23 times, K3

row 11: Knit

row 13: K3, (YF, K3, pass the 1st of the 3 stitches just worked over the other 2 and off the needle) 23 times, K1

rows 15-26: Repeat rows 3-14

row 27: Knit

row 28: Purl

row 29: K2, (K2tog) 35 times, K1 *(38 stitches)*

Continue working the bodice by using the instructions from page 3.



