

# birdwatcher

by Barbara Gregory



## finished measurements:

Cowl: Circumference: 20  $\frac{3}{4}$ " / 52.5 cm,  
height: 6  $\frac{1}{2}$ " / 16.5 cm  
Mitts: Hand circumference: 7" / 18 cm,  
length: 6  $\frac{1}{2}$ " / 16.5 cm

## suggested yarn:

Spud & Chloë Fine (248 yd / 227 m per  
2  $\frac{1}{4}$  oz / 65 g skein; 80% Wool, 20% Silk):  
1 skein each in #7822 Sidewalk (MC) and  
#7816 Dragonfly (CC)  
One skein of each color is enough to make  
both the cowl and mitts.

## needles:

Cowl: Size 1 US / 2.25 mm and Size 2 US /  
2.75 mm circular needles, 16" / 40 cm long  
Mitts: Size 1 US / 2.25 mm and Size 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  US /  
2.5 mm needles in preferred style for small  
circumference knitting in the round  
Adjust needle size if necessary to obtain  
correct gauge.

## notions:

Cowl: 7 stitch markers, one of which is  
distinct from the others, tapestry needle  
Mitts: Stitch marker, waste yarn, tapestry  
needle

## gauge:

Cowl: 35 sts and 38 rounds = 4" / 10 cm in  
Stockinette stitch over Chart, using Size 2  
US / 2.75 mm needles  
Mitts: 37 sts and 42 rounds = 4" / 10 cm in  
Stockinette stitch over Chart, using Size 1  $\frac{1}{2}$   
US / 2.5 mm needles  
To save time and to ensure accurate sizing,  
check gauge.

## NOTES

Cowl and mitts are worked in the round from the bottom up. The cowl is worked on circular needles. You can work the mitts on double-pointed needles, two circular needles, or one long circular needle for *Magic Loop*.

Work all chart rounds from right to left.

To maintain an even tension, keep the stitches on the right-hand needle spread apart while working. Stranded colorwork can pull in and become inelastic if there is not enough slack in the floats (strands on the back of the work). When in doubt, make the floats looser than you think they should be.

In order to avoid long floats on the inside of the cowl and mitts, catch the float with the working yarn when it extends farther than 5 stitches. Stagger these spots so that the unused color is not trapped in the same place on consecutive rounds.

## COWL

With smaller circ needle and MC, CO 182 sts.  
Pm using distinct marker to indicate end of  
rnd, and join to work in the rnd, being careful  
not to twist.

Rnd 1: \* K1, p1; rep from \* to end.

Rep last rnd 3 more times.

Next rnd: [K26, pm] 6 times, knit to end.

Change to larger circ needle, join CC and work  
Rnds 1–56 of Chart A. Chart is worked 7 times  
in each rnd.

Cut CC and continue in MC. Change to  
smaller circ needle and knit 1 rnd, removing  
first 6 markers.

Next rnd: \* K1, p1; rep from \* to end.

Rep last rnd 3 more times.

BO in pattern.

## COWL FINISHING

Weave in ends. Block to smooth out colorwork.

## MITTS

### RIGHT MITT

Cuff

Using smaller needles and MC, CO 58 sts. Pm  
to indicate end of rnd and join to work in the  
rnd, being careful not to twist.

Rnd 1: \* K1, p1; rep from \* to end.

Rep last rnd until cuff measures  $\frac{1}{2}$ " / 1.5 cm.

Next rnd: M1, knit to end. 59 sts.

Knit 1 rnd.

### Hand

Change to larger needles.

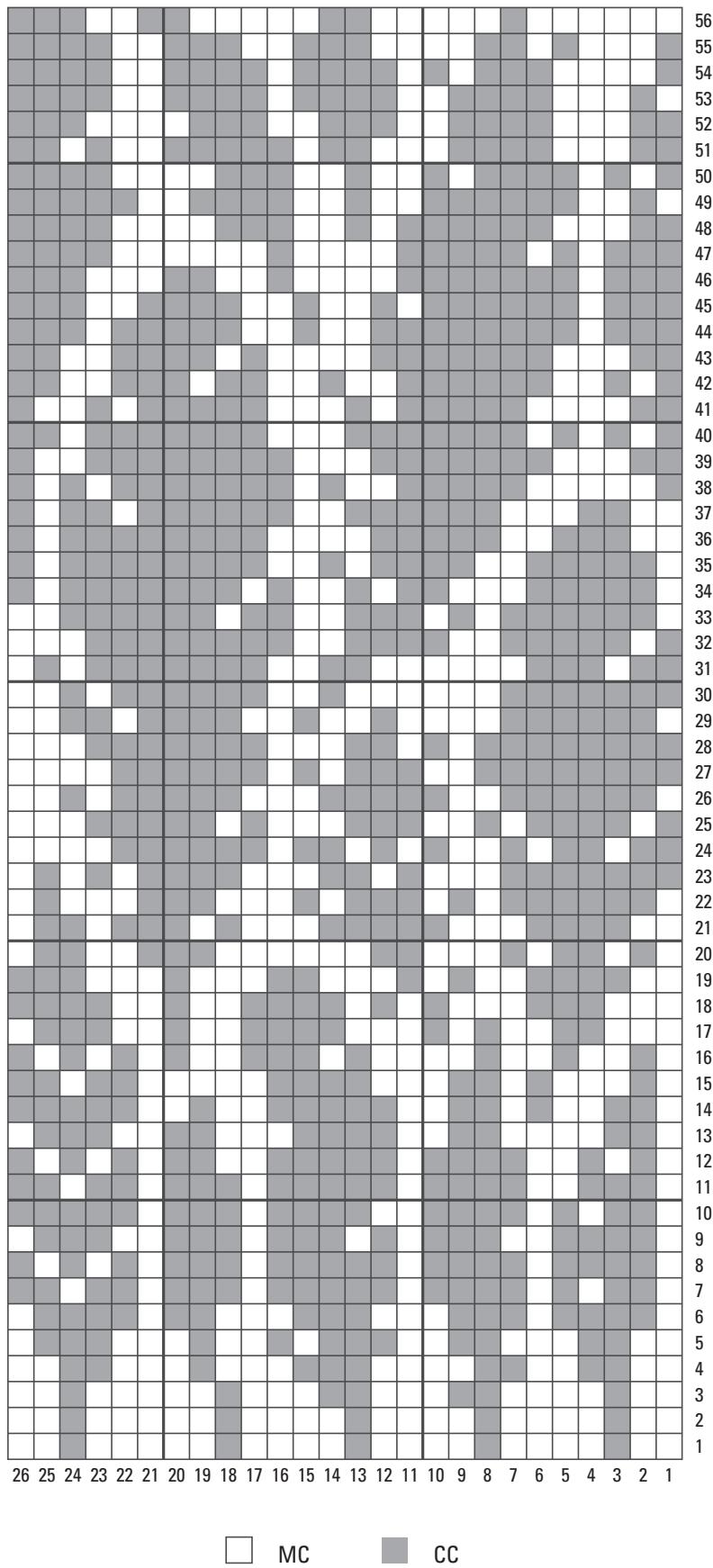
### Begin working from Chart

Join CC and work Rnds 1–38 of Chart B, inc  
as indicated for thumb gusset. 83 sts.

### Separate Thumb

Next rnd: Work first 32 sts according to Rnd  
39 of chart; move next 19 sts to waste yarn for  
thumb; with MC CO 2 sts to bridge gap; work  
remaining 32 sts according to chart. 66 sts.

## Chart A



MC    CC    k2tog    ssk    LL    RL    cast on 1 st (backward loop cast on)    M1

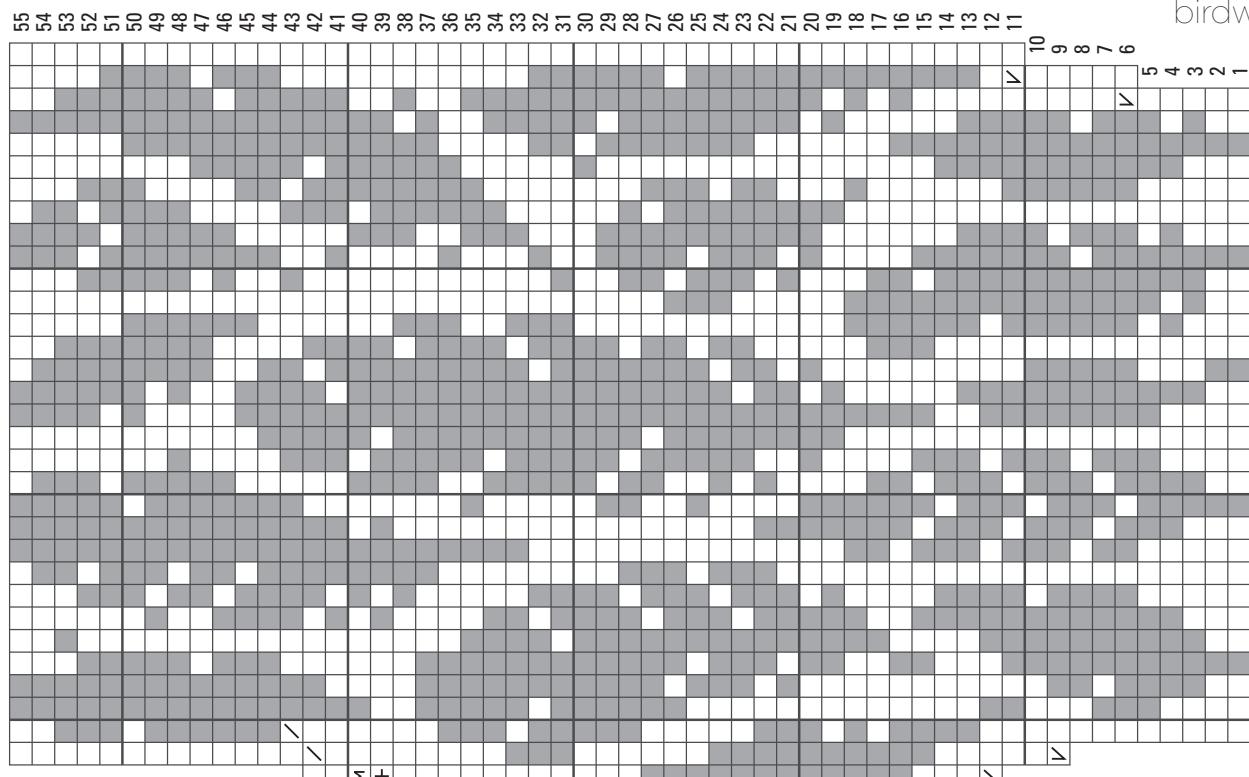
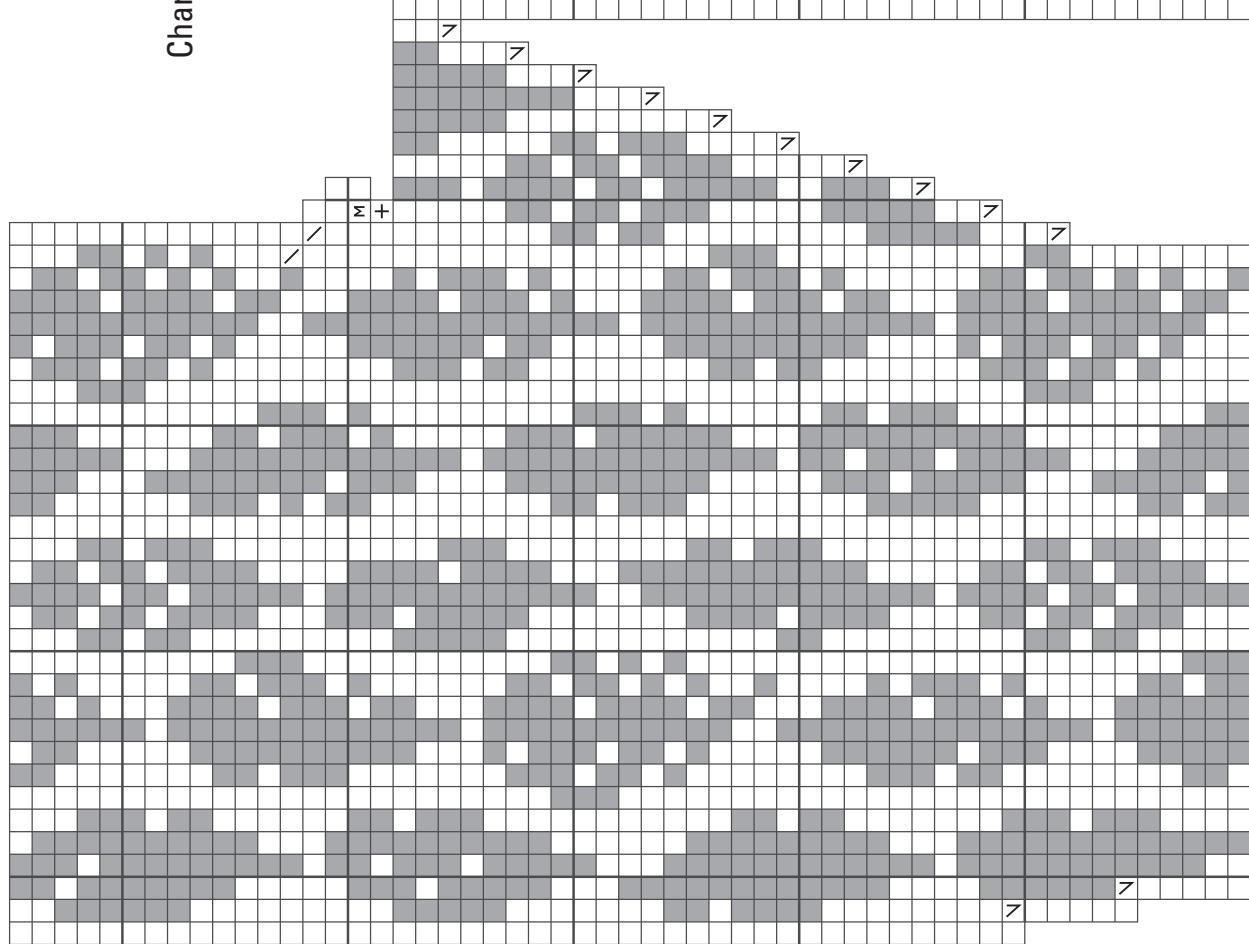


Chart B



M1

+ cast on 1 st (backward loop cast on)

RL

LI

ssk

k2tog

CC

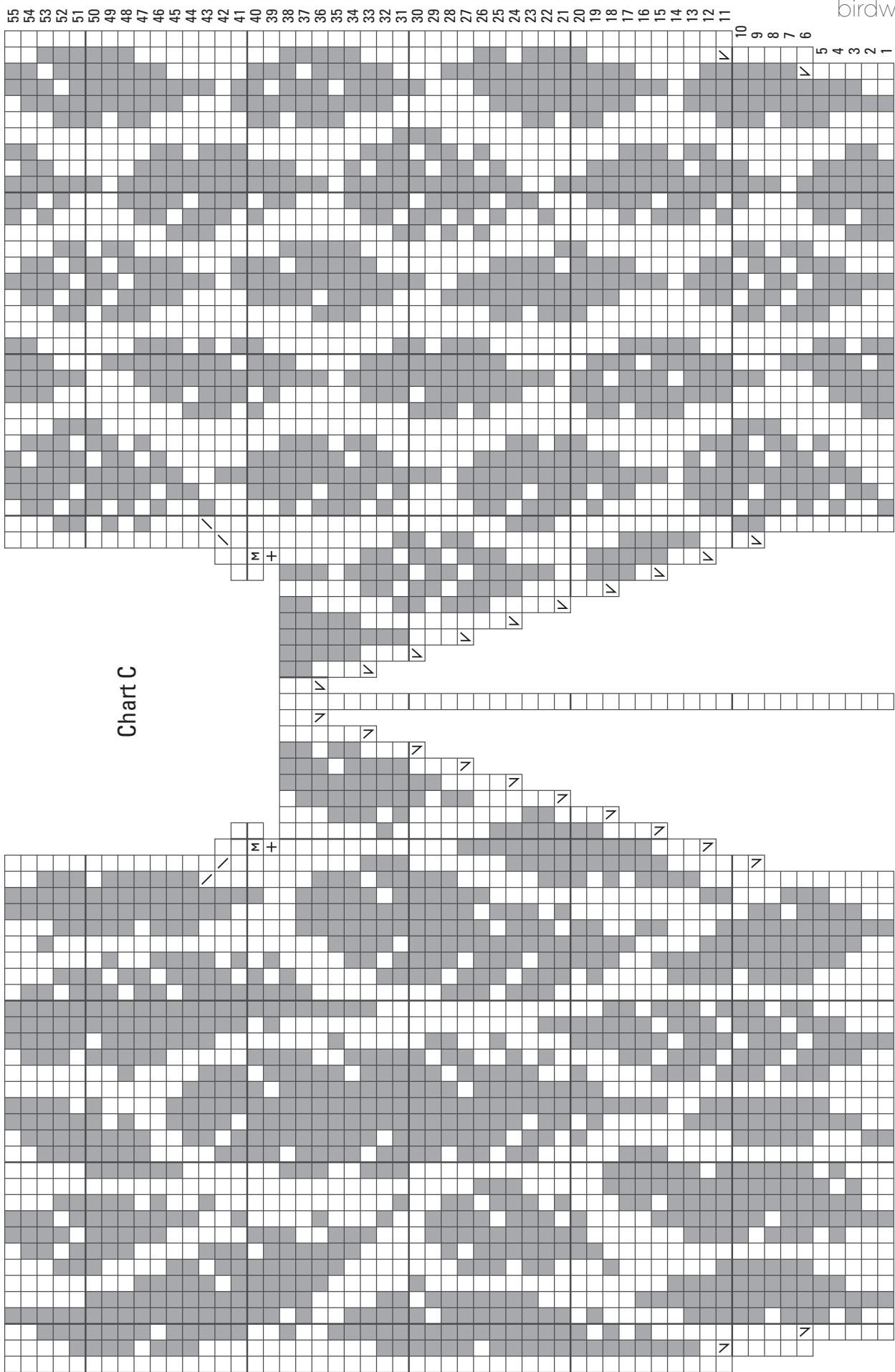
MC

MC

MC

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## Chart C





### Mitt Top

Work Rnds 40–55 of Chart. 64 sts rem.

Cut CC and continue in MC. Change to smaller needles and knit 1 rnd.

**Next rnd:** \* K1, p1; rep from \* to end.

Rep last rnd 3 more times.

BO in pattern.

### Thumb Edging

Move 19 held sts of thumb gusset from waste yarn to smaller needles.

With MC pick up and knit 5 st along CO edge of thumb opening. Pm to indicate end of rnd. 24 sts.

**Next rnd—Dec rnd:** K19, ssk, k1, k2tog. 22 sts rem.

**Next rnd:** \* K1, p1; rep from \* to end.

Rep last rnd 3 more times.

BO in pattern.

### LEFT MITT

Work same as for Right Mitt, following Chart C.

### MITTS FINISHING

Weave in ends, closing any holes at base of thumb. Block to smooth out colorwork.



Barbara Gregory is a knitter who loves combining colours and rarely knits a project with only one. She lives with her husband in Toronto, Canada, where she divides her time between knitting and not knitting. For more of her colourful designs, see her *Ravelry* page:

<http://www.ravelry.com/designers/barbara-gregory>

### abbreviations

BO	Bind Off
CC	Contrasting Color
circ	circular needle
CO	Cast On
dec	decrease(d)(ing)
inc	increase(d)(ing)
k	knit
k2tog	knit two together (right-slanting decrease)
LLI	Left Lifted Increase: Insert the tip of left needle from behind into stitch 2 rows below last stitch on right needle and knit into the back of this stitch. 1 stitch increased.
MC	Main Color
m1	make 1 stitch: Insert left needle, from front to back, under strand of yarn which runs between next stitch on left needle and last stitch on right needle; knit this stitch through back loop. 1 stitch increased.
p	purl
pm	place marker
RLI	Right Lifted Increase: Knit into the front loop of the stitch below the next stitch on left needle. 1 stitch increased.
rem	remain(s)(ing)
rep	repeat(s)(ed)(ing)
rnd(s)	round(s)
ssk	slip 2 stitches individually as if to knit, then knit those 2 stitches together through the back loops (left-slanting decrease)
st(s)	stitch(es)