



BEAT THE CHILLS

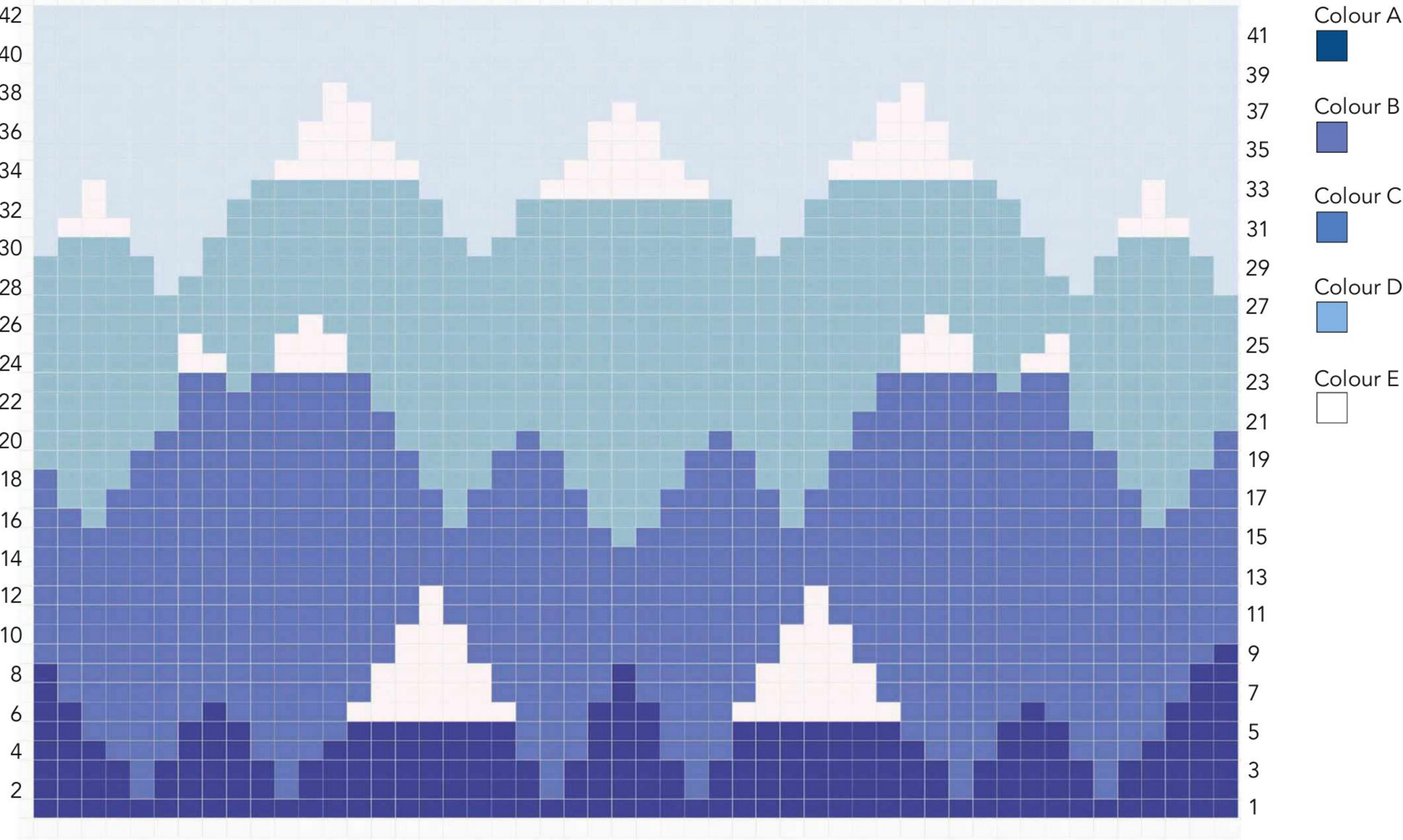
Cosy up in Anna Wilkinson's snowy peak mountain wristwarmers – preferably while holding something hot and mulled



HOW TO USE THE CHARTS

Start at the bottom right-hand corner. Read all rows from right to left. A row of squares represents a row of knitting

CHART



HOW TO MAKE... MOUNTAIN WRISTWARMERS

MATERIALS

- Jamieson's DK (100% Shetland wool, 25g/75m) 1 ball of each Bluebell (665) (Colour A), Lagoon (660) (Colour B) and China Blue (655) (Colour C)
- Rowan Pure Superwash Wool DK, (100% wool, 50g/130m) 1 in Snow (012) (Colour D)
- Rico Design Essentials Merino DK (100% Merino wool, 50g/120m) 1 ball in Silver Grey (98) (Colour E)
- Set of five 3.25mm double-pointed needles (DPNs)
- Set of five 3.75mm double-pointed needles (DPNs)

- Stitch marker
- Tapestry needle

TENSION

24 sts and 32 rows to 10x10cm (4x4in) measured over stocking stitch on 3.75mm needles

ABBREVIATIONS

st(s) stitch(es)
K knit
P purl
st st stocking st: if knitting on dpns or circular needles knit all rounds; if knitting on straight needles – knit one row, purl one row repeated

For a full list see page 53

FINISHED SIZE

Finished dimensions 10x19cm (4x7½in)

Designed by Anna Wilkinson

If we can't jet off to some snowy mountain peaks this winter, we can at least knit our own. There's something of the après ski feel to these fun wristwarmers – we're picturing ourselves wearing them while sat in a wooden alpine chalet, sipping on eggnog or mulled apple juice.

They're knitted in the round, so no sewing up at the end. Play around with colour and use up scraps of DK yarn to give a ramshackle patchwork feel, and add lurex to the peaks for a 'freshly fallen' look.

This pattern is written in the round using double-pointed sock needles with the working yarns carried around the inside of the work using Fair Isle or stranded technique (see box, above right, for more detail on how to do this.) This will add a little thickness and insulation to the knitting. However, you may choose instead to knit them on a pair of needles, working backwards and forwards rather than in the round. If you choose to knit them this way you could still use the fair isle technique, or you could use intarsia.

THE FAIR ISLE TECHNIQUE

The fair isle (or stranded knitting) technique is a way of working two or more colours of yarn in the same row. Normally the colour changes are close together and you can simply carry the yarn you aren't knitting with across the back (wrong side) of your work as you go. It's best and easiest to work this in the round, although it's possible to do it in straight rows.

When changing to a new colour, it's best to bring the new yarn from underneath the one you just finished working with. Also, try to maintain an even tension, and when changing yarn don't pull the new yarn too tight. When working Fair Isle or stranded knitting you must follow the chart (left). Each square shows the colour of yarn to use for a stitch. Charts read from right to left and from bottom upwards. As with anything new, a little practice helps.



LEFT-HAND WRISTWARMER

Using 3.25mm needles and Colour A, cast on 50 sts arranging evenly across 4 needles (12 on first, 13 on second, 12 on third, and 13 on fourth).

Round 1 Joining cast on row into the round (ensure that your knitting doesn't get twisted): *K1, P1; repeat from * to end of round. Mark the end of your round with a stitch marker. Repeat Round 1 (to form 1x1 rib at the bottom of your wristwarmers) until your work measures 5cm (2in) from cast-on edge.

Change to size 3.75mm needles and begin working from the pattern Chart (above left) now, working in stocking stitch, work from right to left on the Chart as you work each round and carry all working colour yarns around the back of the work using Fair Isle technique. Continue working through the Chart until you finish Round 20.**

Thumb hole shaping

Round 21 K21 in pattern, cast off the next 4 sts, work to end of round.

Round 22 Work in pattern to cast off sts, turn, cast on 4 sts, turn, work to end of round.

Continue working in chart pattern to end of chart. Cast off.

RIGHT HAND WRISTWARMER

Work as left-hand wristwarmer until **.

Thumb hole shaping

Round 21 K25 in pattern, cast off the next 4 sts, work to end of round.

Round 22 Work in pattern to cast off stitches, turn, cast on 4 sts, turn, work to end of round.

Continue working in chart pattern to end of chart. Cast off.

FINISHING

Weave in any ends to the inside of the wristwarmer. To neaten up the thumb holes, stitch around the outside with a simple embroidery stitch such as blanket stitch.

