

As this is a free pattern I don't offer pattern support

A Stranded Shawl by the name 'Mrs. Barista'

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by Ann Myhre



A stranded shawl knit in the round from bottom to top, with a steek.

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Suggested yarn: *Wollmeise* Pure 100% Merino, or any yarn of your liking. The shawl on the picture weights about 510 gram.

Needles: 2.5 mm (0 US) or any needles that will fit your yarn. Use Magic Loop or DPN's at the start to accommodate the quick start for the chart, change to longer circular needles as the shawl grows.

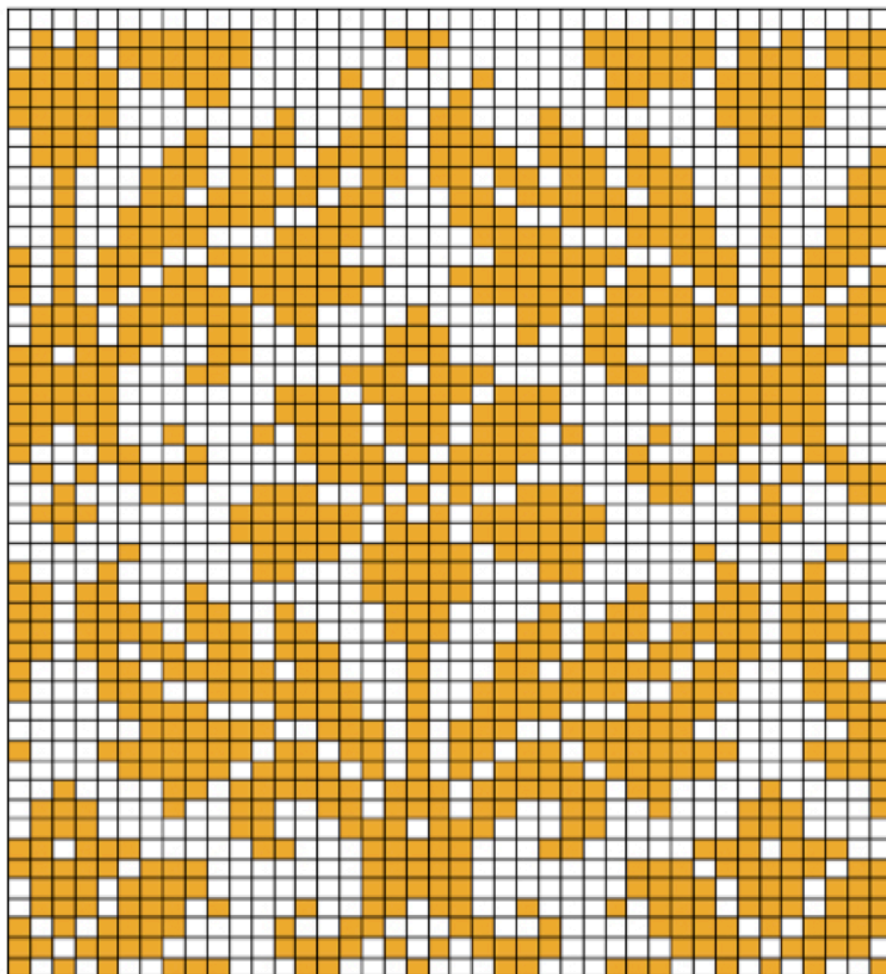
Gauge: Gauge is of minor importance as this is a shawl, but if you aim for 22 to 26 stitches per 4 inches / 10 cm it will end up as a rather large shawl.

Notions: 2 stitch markers for the steek, a sewing machine.

Cast on 21 stitches on needles 2.5 mm.

- row 1 (RS): Knit (k)
- row 2 (WS): Purl (p)
- row 3 (RS): P4, k13, p4
- row 4 (WS): K4, p13, k4
- row 5 (RS): P4, k2, increase 1 stitch, knit until 2 sts are left, increase 1 stitch, k2, p4.
- row 6 (WS): K4, p15, k4.
- row 7 (RS): Now is a good point to start knitting in the round. Continue to p8 over the 4+4 purls (the steek). Increase 2 stitches on as on row 5, after the first 2 stitches and before the last 2 stitches. Start the pattern at any point; let's say on row 10?

Here is the chart of the flower. I can't promise full perfection, please bear that in mind.



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The Main Part and Placing the Pattern

Change from DPN's to a circular needle when needed, change to a longer circular needle when needed. Continue to increase 2 stitches on every row until the top of the last row of the last repeat: 1 st after the 2 first stitches, and increase 1 st 2 st before the last (and consider the 8 purl stitches in between as non-stitches, but they are knitted in alternative colours).

When you start the pattern try to keep the pattern 2-3 stitches from the beginning and the end of the round. Start by placing the pattern center on your knitting.

Preparing for the top most part



When you decide that the shawl is large enough for you, prepare for the top edge. At the top we need to bind off some stitches so the top of the shawl won't curl downwards when you are using it.

This is the way to do that: At the last row of the pattern, decrease 1 stitch in between the flowers. Which make 1 stitch less about every 29th stitch. Knit one row in the main colour, no decreases in this row. Next row, decrease 1 stitch over every flower, in the middle. That way you won't decrease over the same place as two rows ago. So this time you will decrease 1 stitch about every 28th stitch.

Knit another row in the main colour, no decreasing at this row either.

The Top Pattern and edge

Now you will start the last pattern, the stripes that will make the end. Start the pattern with 2 st in the main colour, 2 st in the contrast colour, and at the same time, on this the first row, decrease about every 16 stitch. Continue knitting the end pattern for about 10 rows or as long as you want it.

This part will be turned when finished, and sewn on the backside. When the edge is deep enough for your liking, bind off, and cut a long tail of the yarn. That long tail you can use to sew it on.

I prefer to turn and sew the topmost edge now, but you can choose to do this later when you have finished the other two edges on the sides. Anyway you'll use the same method on all three edges: you fold the knitted edge in the middle and sew it on on the backside into the bind off stitches.

The Side Edges

Now to the two edges on the sides. With a thin circular needle pick up the stitches from one side of the steeking. As we have 2 knitted stitches between the steeking and the increasing stitch you can use either of these. Since the yarn *Wollmeise* is a bit slick I prefer to pick up the far most stitch away from the steeking seam to be sure the stitches won't come loose when cutting in a minute, and if the stitches unravel there will be some room for helping them placed back again.

With your circular needle (in this case, 2.5 mm) you knit off the smaller needle on the first round, and when coming to the end of the needle cast on 7 new stitches which will be the steeking seam of this edge. Knit in the round, 2 in the ground colour, 2 in the contrast colour in the same way as you knitted the topmost edge. Bind off after 10-12 rows. The corner

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where you started the shawl you'll have to improvise a little. What I do is that I increase 2 stitches on either side of the corner every other row until about the middle of the edge, and then I decrease on the same places on the other side to get a out/in form when folding the edge later. If you have sewn corners earlier you know what I mean?

If you don't do nothing the corner will be a little tight when sewn on to the backside, but I wouldn't worry too much on this detail. Mine are never perfect and I have never heard anyone mentioned that :) If you find a good way to do this, please do come back and tell?

Now your shawl will look very weird because the first edge is knitted in the round and make the shawl turn around. Don't be scared, everything will be fine in the end.

Pick up and knit in the same way, the second side edge.

Steeking

There are two types of sewing involved now. Sewing on the edges, which you'll do with a needle and Wollmeise yarn, and the steeking, which at least I prefer to do on a sewing machine. And that is what happens first: Sew two seams in the middle of the steeking with a couple of knitted stitches in between, on all the three steeks you have.

And then, the scary part: Cutting the three seams! I prefer to do this process in one going: Cut and sew on the edges immediately after. I cut, use pins to fold the side edges and then sew, hiding the raw edge of the cut.

Eunny Jang calls this way of steeking Norwegian, and [here](#) you will see very good pictures of the method.



Finishing

Another Norwegian particularity is that we don't block our knitting; we dampen it lightly with an iron.

If you need more pictures, go to flickr.com and search for "barista" or google it.

Thank you's

This shawl, 'Mrs. Barista', is named after the yarn Barista by Claudia at *Wollmeise*. The *Thistle flower* was given to me for use very generously by the Norwegian yarn factory *Dale*.

You as a knitter might do whatever you want to do with this pattern: knit hundred of shawls and sell them dearly, or even burn it. Knitting is a common gift, and if you consider this to be a gift from me, so much richer for me ☺

Copyright is mine, Ann Myhre, and you'll find me on Ravelry as Pinneguri.

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