

Simply Knitting

THE UK'S NO.1

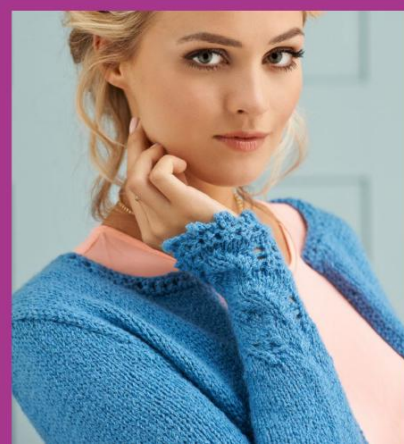
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& ideas



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Hello

MEET
GRANDMA
HOLLY!
p61



Happy New Year! As 2014 draws to a close, it's time to take stock and look ahead at the good things to come. The big question is: are you going to be making any knitting resolutions this year? Here at SK HQ we're all feeling energised and

motivated to make the odd change and freshen up our knitting habits.

I've decided it's time to use up some of my stash, so I've banned myself from buying any yarn, no matter how lovely it is! Lizzie is determined to learn a new technique, so she's on the hunt for unusual workshops and classes to try. And although projects are always flying off Sarah's needles, they're usually meant for other people, so this year she's going to knit a beautiful cardigan, just for her! What are you going to be trying this January? Write in and let us know – we love to hear from you!

Kirstie



Pretty Fair Isle jumper p26



FUN BOBBLED
TEA COSY p21



Cosy cabled legwarmers p42

PLUS YOUR
FREE GIFT!



Make it now!

Knit this sweet cowl as a Christmas gift

Knitting



Subscribe
and save up to
34%

PS Subscribe and save up to 34% off the cover price, get an extra pattern every month and still enjoy our free gifts each issue! See page 46 for more information.

DUE TO A MIX-UP LAST ISSUE, WE'VE INCLUDED THE COWL PATTERN AGAIN

Subscribe digitally from just £3.99! Learn more at www.myfavouritemagazines.co.uk.

January

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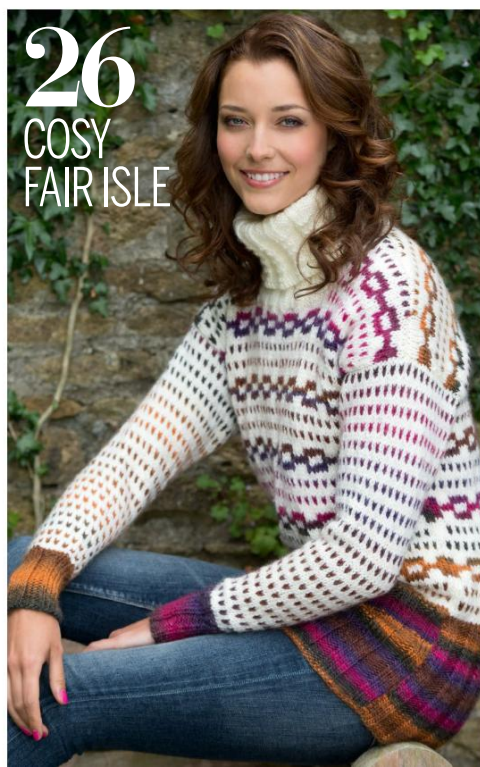


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EXCLUSIVE!



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CAST ON *January*

KNITTING IDEAS & INSPIRATION FOR THE MONTH AHEAD



KNITTER'S CALENDAR

■ Have you made your New Year's resolutions yet? If you're aiming to be really organised, join the club! We'll be keeping track of appointments, birthdays and more on this 2015 Knitting Calendar (£3.95) from The Knitting Gift Shop, which features beautiful full-colour photos of knitting goodies, plus plenty of space for making notes. It would be a great present for fellow yarn fans too! Call 07528 812731 or go to www.theknittinggiftshop.co.uk.



Snuggly cables

If you're planning to splash out on a new winter coat this year, why not make it a hand knit? This Hooded Coat from Bergère de France's *Creations Catalogue 14/15* (£12) is just the ticket! It's knitted in chunky Duvetine yarn and closed with toggle and loop fastenings. For more info visit www.bergeredefrance.co.uk.

A GOOD READ

We have 10 copies of Alexandra Brown's engrossing new novel *The Great Christmas Knit Off* (published by Harper) to give away. For a chance of winning see page 80 to enter, using code SKBOOK128.



TOP KNOT-CH!

To celebrate the launch of *Shaun the Sheep the Movie* in February, Hobbycraft is giving you the opportunity to make your own Shaun-style Top Knot. Every weekend from Saturday 10 January to Sunday 22 February 2015, Hobbycraft will be running free sessions across all its 81 stores. Look out for details in store or visit www.hobbycraft.co.uk/stores. Plus we're giving 10 lucky readers the chance to win £25 of Hobbycraft vouchers and some *Shaun the Sheep the Movie* goodies! See www.simplyknitting.co.uk for details.

hobbycraft



ON TREND

Fishermen's knits

Chunky aran jumpers are all over the high street at the moment, so get in on the trend with Brooklyn Tweed's *BT Fall 14* collection. It's packed with flattering casual knits inspired by traditional fishermen's sweaters, such as the 'Backbay' cable pullover (left). Find the patterns at Loop (0207 288 1160, www.loopknittingshop.com) or buy digital copies online at www.brooklyntweed.com.



POINT PROTECTORS

Splurge or save to keep your stitches safe and secure.



SAVE

Brick red

Pair of small Point Protectors from Pony, £0.89, 0800 488 0708 www.deramores.com



SPEND

Cute keepers

KnitPro Point Protectors (2-5mm needles), £1.19, 01926 882818. www.woolwarehouse.co.uk



SPLURGE

Full circle

Clover Point Protectors for circulars or straights, £3.50, 01242 300280. www.woolstack.co.uk



PATTERN MARKET

Discover and support new indie designers with a little help from LoveKnitting. The retailer has launched its own online marketplace, LoveKnitting Designers, where knitting and crochet designers can upload and sell their patterns. Visit www.loveknitting.com/independent-designers to browse, buy, and maybe find the next knitwear star!

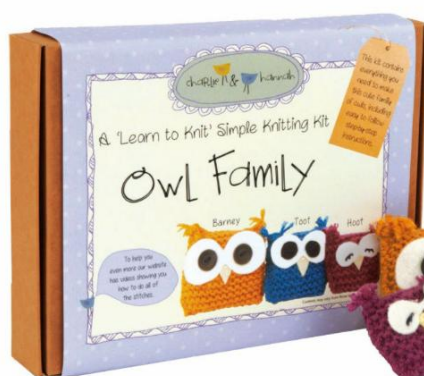
PS

You can subscribe to *Simply Knitting* digitally from just £3.99. See myfavouritemagazines.co.uk/digital-magazines for more.



WIN

TICKET GIVEAWAY! We have 10 pairs of tickets to the Stitching, Sewing and Hobbycrafts show at EventCity in Manchester on 6-8 February to give away. See page 80 to enter, using code **SKSHOW128**.



A parliament of tiny owls...

Twit two! These adorable owls are just begging to be played with – but you'll have to knit them first. Find all you need to make them in this Owl Family Knitting Kit (£12) from charlie & hannah. It's ideal for beginners, or for old hands who want to whip up a quick gift. For more details see www.charlieandhannah.co.uk.

QUICK QUESTION

GLOVES

Q I want to make myself some gloves, but I'm nervous! Do you have any tips for getting them right?
Margaret, London

A Why not start off by knitting a pair of mittens to boost your confidence? When you do cast on for gloves, keep lots of stitch holders handy for when you're working the fingers! You may find the Magic Loop technique good for this stage. If you get holes at the base of the fingers, try picking up a couple of extra stitches on the pick-up row, then decreasing these stitches on the next round.



THE BEST OF THIS MONTH'S WORKSHOPS & SHOWS

3 JANUARY Beginner's Sock Knitting Class (six sessions), Surrey, 01883 345220
www.theknitclub.co.uk

11 JANUARY Knit with colour, Weston-super-Mare, 07805 126078
www.thewoolsanctuary.com

13 JANUARY Learn to Knit Socks, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire, 01608 645970
www.thefibreworks.co.uk

18 JANUARY How to Knit, Harrogate, 01132 781788
www.baaramewe.co.uk

31 JANUARY Knitting Workshop, Burwash Manor, Cambridge, 01223 328739
www.purlalpacadesigns.com

FIVE OF THE BEST...

WINTER BLANKETS

Cosy afghans for your home.



BIG KNIT
King Cole 3458, a beautifully patterned blanket knitted in aran weight King Cole yarn. www.kingcole.co.uk, 01756 703670



DIAMONDS
Hayfield 7134, chunky blanket or throw in acrylic and wool blend Hayfield Bonus Aran Tweed. www.sirdar.co.uk, 01924 231686



COSY CHIC
Stylecraft 8755, everyday blanket and cushion in the company's Classique Cotton. www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk, 01535 609798



HIP TO BE SQUARE
Patons 3870, two pretty textured blankets, one knitted and one crocheted. www.makeitcoats.com, 01484 681881



PATCHWORK
Twilleys of Stamford 9067, heart and stripe blanket knitted in Twilleys Freedom Sincere DK. www.tbamsden.co.uk, 01943 872264



5 MINUTES WITH...

RHIAN DRINKWATER

This month we have a chat with designer Rhian Drinkwater about her pretty, practical knits.

Favourite knitting technique?

Probably Magic Loop. I use it all the time – socks, sleeves, neckbands... It's easy to work and a simple way to just use one long circular for all sorts of projects.

Describe your design style.

I like playing with simple lace and textured stitch patterns, used just right to highlight the yarn. I also enjoy making practical, everyday knits. Hence all the socks! I like to really wear my knitting – it's not for special occasions or fancy dos, it's a part of my wardrobe that goes with my jeans and tops and shoes.

What's your desert island yarn?

Anything by Laughing Yaffle! Alison (the dyer) creates gorgeous, vibrant colourways in a range of sock yarns. You can't get bored knitting with all those colours!

Must-have knitting gadget?

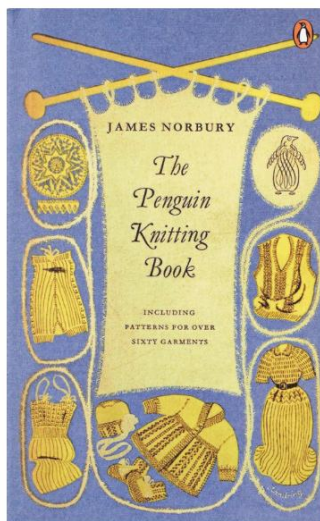
My yarn winder and swift. I once hand-wound 400m of sock yarn on a train and have never appreciated them more!

Tips for knitting socks?

Remember that shoe sizes aren't the best way to think about sock fitting – they relate to the length of the foot, but it's the circumference that determines the number of stitches you want on your needles.

Find Rhian's elegant socks on page 93, and visit Ravelry or her blog www.thecraftygeek.blogspot.co.uk to see more of her designs.

BEAUTIFUL BOOKS



THE PENGUIN KNITTING BOOK

James Norbury (Penguin, £7.99)

Fans of vintage knits and knitting history will love this classic guide to the craft, which was first published in 1957. James Norbury's no-nonsense knitting advice will entertain and also educate – while much has changed in the intervening years, the basic principles he describes are still relevant. There are lots of patterns to try, including a baby's layette and flattering fitted cardigans for women.



KNITTED WITH LOVE

Jane Ellison (£19.95)

A collection of 24 patterns for babies and children up to the age of 10, this charming book is packed with special little knits from the designer behind Purl&Jane. Choose one of the easy garter stitch items if you need a quick gift for a newborn, or stretch yourself with a cabled sweater.



THE GREAT CHRISTMAS KNIT OFF

Alexandra Brown

(Harper, £6.99)

When avid knitter Sybil moves to the village of Tindledale, she finds a knitting shop in danger of closing down – but her talent for making Christmas jumpers just might help... Win a copy of this festive read on page 7.



KNOCKOUT KNITS

Laura Nelkin

(Potter Craft, £16.99)

In this addictive book, designer Laura Nelkin looks at three of her favourite techniques for creating stunning accessories – wrapped stitches, beading and lace – and applies them to pretty projects large and small. We adore her intricate beaded necklaces.

5 SUPER TIPS ON...

SWATCHING

1. Bigger is better

You'll get more accurate results from a larger swatch, so cast on more stitches than you need.

2. Knit a border

Give your swatch a garter stitch border so that it lies flat, making it easier to measure.

3. Use a ruler

Fabric tape measures can stretch and give an incorrect reading, so use a ruler instead.

4. Block it

The swatch may change size when it's washed, so block your fabric before measuring it.

5. Double up

More than one stitch pattern in your project? Consider doing more than one swatch too.



WOOLLY WONDER

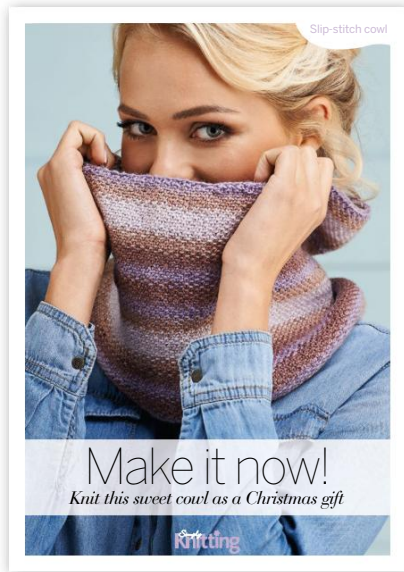
Look out for the 24 new shades in Twilleys of Stamford's super chunky Freedom Wool. This 100% wool yarn is available in 50g/50m balls (RRP £3.20). It's fantastic for felting and produces stylish garments that are toasty warm and satisfyingly quick to knit. Call 01943 872264 or visit www.tbramsden.co.uk.

YOUR FREE GIFT!

with your January issue...

SLIP-STITCH COWL

Your bonus pattern



* Due to a mix-up in the print magazine last issue, we've included this stylish cowl pattern again. Designed by Jane Burns, this slip-stitch design is the perfect quick knit and it's great for gifts.

SUBSCRIBERS' PATTERN

EXTRA PRETTY LACE HAT

EVERY ISSUE, SUBSCRIBERS RECEIVE AN EXTRA PATTERN*. THIS MONTH, THERE'S KIRSTIE MCLEOD'S FUN AND EASY HAT DESIGN. SEE PAGE 46 FOR HOW TO SUBSCRIBE.



*Currently available on Apple Newsstand digital edition only.



MOHAIR JUMPER



KEEP COSY
IN THE DEPTHS
OF WINTER

SNOWFALL

*Light as a cloud and yet super snuggly,
Sarah Hatton's understated sweater features
textures and cables for a stylish winter warmer.*



YOU WILL NEED

- Rowan, Mohair Haze (70% mohair, 30% wool, 25g/102m)
- A pair of 2¾mm needles
- A pair of 3mm needles
- Cable needle
- Stitch holder

For yarn stockists contact
Rowan 01484 681881
www.knitrowan.com

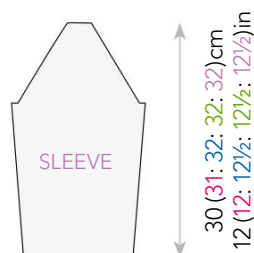
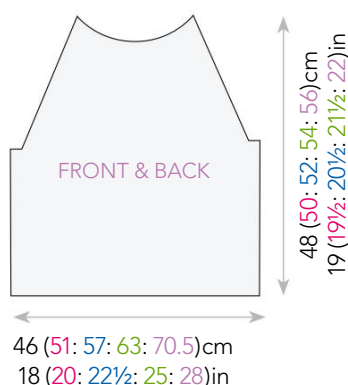
TENSION

Yarn used knits as 4ply to this tension: 28 sts and 36 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over rev st st using 3mm needles

ABBREVIATIONS

C6B slip next 3 sts onto cable needle and leave at back of work, K3, then K3 from cable needle
C6F slip next 3 sts onto cable needle and leave at front of work, K3, then K3 from cable needle

For a full list see page 92



Featuring a neckline that Audrey Hepburn would approve of, and a flattering shape for everyone, this sweater is a true classic. The subtle textures of moss stitch and reverse stocking stitch are perfect partners to the soft mohair yarn, and the delicate raglan cables are a beautiful accent to tie it all together. It just oozes class.



BACK

Cast on 129 (143: 159: 177: 197) sts using 2¾mm needles.

Row 1 (RS) K1, *P1, K1, rep from * to end.

Row 2 As row 1.

These 2 rows form moss st.

Cont in moss st for a further 14 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Change to 3mm needles.

Beg with a P row, work in rev st st until back meas 24 (25: 26: 27: 28)cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE RAGLAN ARMHOLES

Cast off 3 sts at beg of next row.

Next row (WS) Cast off 3 sts (one st on right needle), K2, inc once in each of next 2 sts, K to last 5 sts, inc once in each of next 2 sts, K3.

[127 (141: 157: 175: 195) sts]

Now work in cable patt as folls:

Row 1 (RS) P2, K6, P1, p2tog, P to last 11 sts, p2tog tbl, P1, K6, P2.

Row 2 K2, P6, (K1, sl1, K1, psso) 0 (1: 1: 1: 1) times, K to last 8 (11: 11: 11: 11) sts, (k2tog, K1) 0 (1: 1: 1: 1) times, P6, K2.

Row 3 P2, C6F, (P1, p2tog) 0 (1: 1: 1: 1) times, P to last 8 (11: 11: 11: 11) sts,

(p2tog tbl, P1) 0 (1: 1: 1: 1) times, C6B, P2.

Row 4 K2, P6, (K1, sl1, K1, psso) 0 (1: 1: 1: 1) times, K to last 8 (11: 11: 11: 11) sts, (k2tog, K1) 0 (1: 1: 1: 1) times, P6, K2.

Row 5 (RS) P2, K6, P1, p2tog, P to last 11 sts, p2tog tbl, P1, K6, P2.

Row 6 K2, P6, (K1, sl1, K1, psso) 0 (1: 1: 1: 1) times, K to last 8 (11: 11: 11: 11) sts, (k2tog, K1) 0 (1: 1: 1: 1) times, P6, K2.

Row 7 P2, K6, (P1, p2tog) 0 (1: 1: 1: 1) times, P to last 8 (11: 11: 11: 11) sts, (p2tog tbl, P1) 0 (1: 1: 1: 1) times, K6, P2.

Row 8 K2, P6, (K1, sl1, K1, psso) 0 (1: 1: 1: 1) times, K to last 8 (8: 11: 11: 11) sts, (k2tog, K1) 0 (0: 1: 1: 1) times, P6, K2. [123 (127: 141: 159: 179) sts]

These 8 rows form cable patt and beg raglan armhole shaping.

Keeping cable patt correct and working all raglan armhole decreases as now set, dec 1 st at each end of next 1 (1: 9: 23: 37) rows, then on foll 32 (34: 31: 26: 21) alt rows, ending with WS facing for next row. [57 (57: 61: 61: 63) sts]

Next row (WS) K2, P1, (p2tog) twice, P1, K to last 8 sts, P1, (p2tog tbl) twice, P1, K2.

Break yarn and leave rem 53 (53: 57: 57: 59) sts on a holder.

FRONT

Work as given for Back until 79 (79: 87: 87: 91) sts rem in raglan armhole shaping.

Work 1 row, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE FRONT NECK

Next row (RS) Patt 9 sts, p2tog, P8

SIZE		S	M	L	XL	XXL
TO FIT	cm	81-86	91-97	102-107	112-117	122-127
BUST	in	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46	48-50
ACTUAL BUST	cm	92	102	114	126	141
	in	36	40	45	50	56
LENGTH	cm	48	50	52	54	56
	in	19	19½	20½	21½	22
SLEEVE	cm	30	31	32	32	32
LENGTH	in	12	12	12½	12½	12½
YARN	Rowan, Mohair Haze (25g/102m balls)					
Cuddle (520)		8	9	9	10	11

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.

MOHAIR JUMPER

(8: 12: 12: 14) and turn, leaving rem sts on a holder. [18 (18: 22: 22: 24) sts]
Work each side of neck separately.
Keeping patt and raglan armhole decreases correct as set, dec 1 st at neck edge of next 5 (5: 7: 7: 8) rows and at same time dec 1 st at raglan armhole edge of 2nd and foll 1 (1: 2: 2: 3) alt rows. [11 (11: 12: 12: 12) sts]
Work 0 (0: 0: 0: 1) row, ending with RS facing for next row.

SIZE S AND M ONLY

Next row (RS) P2, patt 6 sts, p3tog. [9 sts]
Next row P2tog tbl, P5, K2. [8 sts]

SIZES L, XL AND XXL ONLY

Next row (RS) P2, patt 6 sts, P1, p3tog. [10 sts]
Next row K2, P6, K2.
Next row P2, K5, sl1, k2tog, psso. [8 sts]
Next row P6, K2.

ALL SIZES

Next row (RS) P2, K3, sl1, k2tog, psso. [6 sts]
Next row P4, K2.
Next row P2, K1, sl1, k2tog, psso. [4 sts]
Next row P2, K2.
Next row P1, p3tog. [2 sts]
Next row K2.
Next row P2tog and fasten off.
With RS facing, slip centre 41 sts onto a holder, rejoin yarn. P to last 11 sts, p2tog tbl, P1, patt 6 sts, P2. [18 (18: 22: 22: 24) sts]
Complete to match first side, reversing shapings.

SLEEVES

Cast on 67 (71: 73: 75) sts using 2¾mm needles.
Work in moss st as given for Back for 12 rows, ending with RS facing for next row.

Change to 3mm needles.
Beg with a P row, work in rev st st, shaping sides by inc 1 st at each end of 3rd and every foll 4th row to 87 (89: 87: 99: 107) sts, then on every foll 6th row until there are 101 (105: 107: 111: 115) sts.
Cont straight until sleeve meas 30 (31: 32: 32: 32)cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE RAGLAN

Cast off 3 sts at beg of next row.
Next row (WS) Cast off 3 sts (one st on

right needle), K2, inc once in each of next 2 sts, K to last 5 sts, inc once in each of next 2 sts, K3.
[99 (103: 105: 109: 113) sts]

Now work in cable patt as folls:

Row 1 (RS) P2, K6, P1, p2tog, P to last 11 sts, p2tog tbl, P1, K6, P2.
Row 2 K2, P6, K1, sl1, K1, psso, K to last 11 sts, k2tog, K1, P6, K2.
Row 3 P2, C6F, P1, p2tog, P to last 11 sts, p2tog tbl, P1, C6B, P2.
Row 4 As row 2.
Row 5 As row 1.
Row 6 K2, P6, K to last 8 sts, P6, K2.
Row 7 As row 1.
Row 8 As row 6.
[87 (91: 93: 97: 101) sts]

These 8 rows form cable patt and beg raglan shaping. Keeping cable patt correct and working all raglan decreases as now set, dec 1 st at each end of next and every foll alt row until 29 sts rem.
Work 1 row, ending with RS facing for next row.

LEFT SLEEVE ONLY

Dec 1 st at each end of next row, then cast off 4 sts at beg of foll row. [23 sts]
Dec 1 st at beg of next row, then cast off 5 sts at beg of foll row. [17 sts]
Rep last 2 rows twice more.

RIGHT SLEEVE ONLY

Cast off 5 sts at beg and dec 1 st at end of next row. [23 sts]
Work 1 row.
Rep last 2 rows 3 times more.

BOTH SLEEVES

Cast off rem 5 sts.

TO MAKE UP

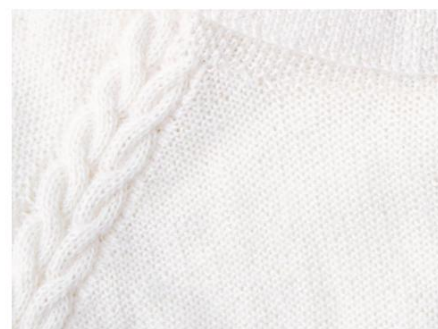
Block out each piece of knitting and, following the instructions on the ball band, press the garment pieces. Take special care to press the edges, as this will make sewing up easier and neater.
Join both Front and right Back raglan seams using back stitch, or mattress stitch if preferred.

COLLAR

With RS facing and using 2¾mm needles, pick up and knit 17 sts from top of left sleeve, and 12 (12: 16: 16: 18) sts down left side of front neck, K across 41 sts on front holder, pick up and knit 12 (12: 16: 16: 18) sts up right side of front neck, and 17 sts from top of right sleeve, then K across 53 (53: 57: 57: 59) sts on back holder dec 1 st at



Reverse stocking stitch means the purl side is the RS, for a subtle textured finish.



These eye-catching cables run along the raglan edge of the front and back panels.

centre. [151 (151: 163: 163: 169) sts]
Work in moss st as given for Back for 4cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

Next row (RS) Moss st 15 (15: 15: 15: 16) sts, inc twice into next st, (moss st 29 (29: 32: 32: 33) sts, inc twice in next st) 4 times, moss st 15 (15: 15: 15: 16) sts. [161 (161: 173: 173: 179) sts]
Cont in moss st until Collar meas 10cm from pick-up row.

Cast off in moss st.
Sew up Collar seam using mattress st, reversing seam for last 6cm to create turn-back. 



This stylish design is one of 54 delightful and varied patterns in Rowan's Knitting and Crochet Magazine 56. For stockist info visit www.knitrowan.com or call 01484 681881.

AZTECA

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A PENNY SAVED

Which of **Sarah Dennis's** six Fair Isle coin purses will you choose to cast on?

Quick
&
Easy

USE THE FREE YARN
in your knitting kit
to MAKE ONE OF THESE
DELIGHTFUL PURSES!



Tip If you're not comfortable using crochet stitches to attach each side of your purse, you can sew them together instead. Simply place the right sides together (rather than the wrong sides), and use whichever stitch you're most confident with to seam the pieces.



YOU WILL NEED

- Yarn from free kit OR Sirdar Country Style DK (40% nylon, 30% wool, 30% acrylic, 50g/155m) 1 ball of each:

Yarn A Cherry (402)

Yarn B Cream (411)

- A pair of 3 1/4mm needles
- A 3mm crochet hook
- Stitch markers
- 5cm purse clasp

For yarn stockists contact

Sirdar 01924 231682

www.sirdar.co.uk

TENSION

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension: 23 sts and 30 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) using 3 1/4mm needles over Fair Isle pattern

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list see page 92

Coin purses are so handy. Whether you use them to keep spare change safe or hide a stash of sweets in your bag, there's always some genius purpose they can serve. Even better, with the yarn from your free kit you can make any one of these designs that you like. The hardest part will be choosing your favourite motif!



ZIGZAG PURSE (MAKE 2)

Cast on 13 sts using 3 1/4mm needles and Yarn B.

Row 1 Knit.

Row 2 Inc purlwise in the first st, P to last st, inc purlwise in last st. [15 sts]

Row 3 Inc knitwise in the first st, K to last st, inc knitwise in last st. [17 sts] Join in Yarn A and begin working from Chart 1, row 4, increasing and decreasing as set on rows where indicated until row 19 has been worked.

Place a st marker at each end of this row. Continue working from Chart 1 until row 28 has been worked.

Cast off working row 29.

Follow making up instructions using Yarn B.

STRIPE AND CROSS PURSE (MAKE 2)

Cast on 13 sts using 3 1/4mm needles and Yarn A.

Row 1 Knit.

Row 2 Inc purlwise in the first st, P to last st, inc purlwise in last st. [15 sts]

Row 3 Inc knitwise in the first st, K to last st, inc knitwise in last st. [17 sts]

Join in Yarn B and begin working from Chart 2, row 4, increasing and decreasing as set on rows where indicated until row 19 has been worked.

Place a st marker at each end of this row. Continue working from Chart 2 until row 28 has been worked.

Cast off working row 29.

Follow making up instructions using Yarn B.

ARROWHEAD PURSE (MAKE 2)

Cast on 13 sts using 3 1/4mm needles and Yarn B.

Row 1 Knit.

Row 2 Inc purlwise in the first st, P to last st, inc purlwise in last st. [15 sts]

Row 3 Inc knitwise in the first st, K to last st, inc knitwise in last st. [17 sts]

Join in Yarn A and begin working from Chart 3, row 4, increasing and decreasing as set on rows where indicated until row 19 has been worked.

Place a st marker at each end of this row. Continue working from Chart 3 until row 28 has been worked.

Cast off working row 29.

Follow making up instructions using Yarn B.

BRICK PURSE (MAKE 2)

Cast on 13 sts using 3 1/4mm needles and Yarn A.

Row 1 Knit.

Row 2 Inc purlwise in the first st, P to last st, inc purlwise in last st. [15 sts]

Row 3 Inc knitwise in the first st, K to last st, inc knitwise in last st. [17 sts]

Join in Yarn B and begin working from Chart 4, row 4, increasing and decreasing as set on rows where indicated until row 19 has been worked.

Place a st marker at each end of this row. Continue working from Chart 4 until row 28 has been worked.

Cast off working row 29.

STEP-BY-STEP HOW TO KNIT FAIR ISLE



1 These images show what happens to the yarn that you carry over on the wrong side of the work. Work a stitch in the first colour as usual. To change colour, twist the two yarns together before working the next stitch.



2 Work the next stitch in the new colour as normal. When working alternating stitches of two colours, try and keep an even tension and do not pull the yarn too tight.



3 Change back to the original colour, not forgetting to twist the two yarns together before you work the stitch.



4 A completed row shows the yarn 'floats' carried across the back of the work. If the floats of one colour always stay above the other colour, your work will look more even.

COIN PURSES

Follow making up instructions using Yarn A.

GREEK KEY PURSE (MAKE 2)

Cast on 13 sts using 3¼mm needles and Yarn B.

Row 1 Knit.

Row 2 Inc purlwise in the first st, P to last st, inc purlwise in last st. [15 sts]

Row 3 Inc knitwise in the first st, K to last st, inc knitwise in last st. [17 sts]

Join in Yarn A and begin working from Chart 5, row 4, increasing and decreasing as set on rows where indicated until row 19 has been worked. Place a st marker at each end of this row. Continue working from Chart 5 until row 28 has been worked.

Cast off working row 29.

Follow making up instructions using Yarn B.

TRIANGLE PURSE (MAKE 2)

Cast on 13 sts using 3¼mm needles and Yarn A.

Row 1 Knit.

Row 2 Inc purlwise in the first st, P to last st, inc purlwise in last st. [15 sts]

Row 3 Inc knitwise in the first st, K to last st, inc knitwise in last st. [17 sts]

Join in Yarn B and begin working from Chart 6, row 4, increasing and decreasing as set on rows where indicated until row 19 has been worked. Place a st marker at each end of this row. Continue working from Chart 6 until row 28 has been worked.

Cast off working row 29.

Follow making up instructions using Yarn A.

TO MAKE UP

Weave in ends and block pieces gently. Place two pieces of the purse with wrong sides together, ensuring the two pairs of st markers are aligned. Starting at the right side st markers and working through both layers of fabric towards the bottom of the purse (the wider end), using 3mm crochet hook work a row of dc until the left side st markers are reached (approximately 1 dc for each knitted st). Now, working through a single layer of fabric only, work a row of dc along top from left st marker to right st marker, then again (on the opposite piece of fabric) from right st marker to left st marker, joining with a sl st each time the top of the first row of dc is reached. Sew purse clasp onto this open edge of the knitted fabric, or use glue to hold in position. 🧵

Chart 1: Zigzag

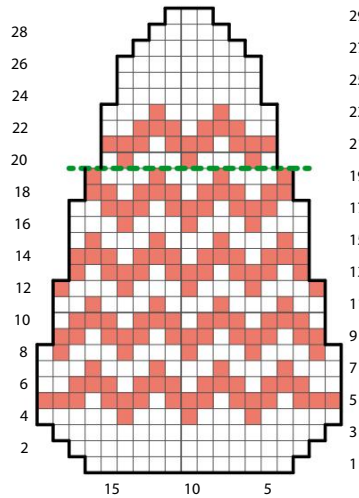


Chart 2: Stripe and cross

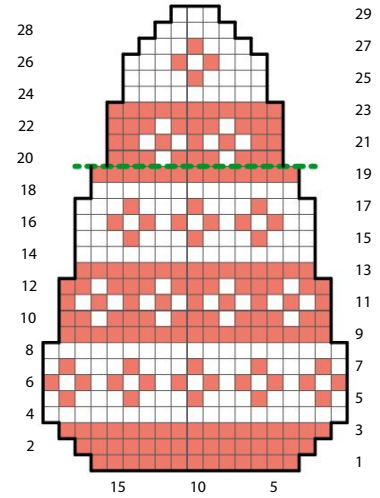


Chart 3: Arrowhead

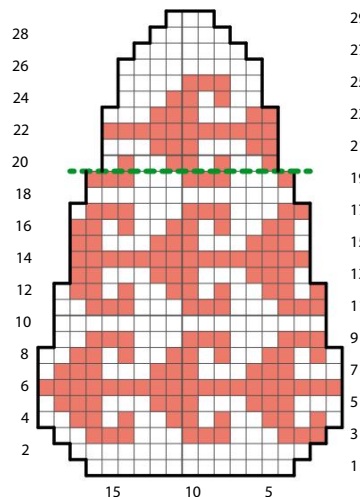


Chart 4: Brick

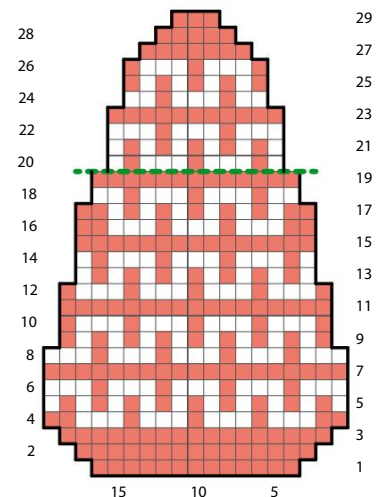


Chart 5: Greek key

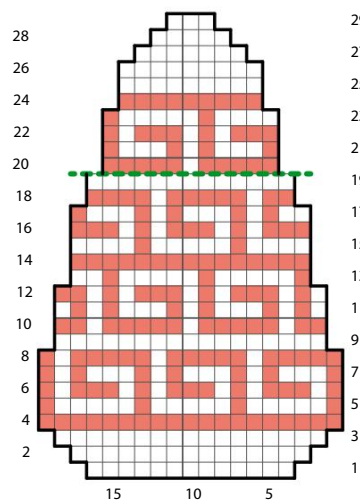
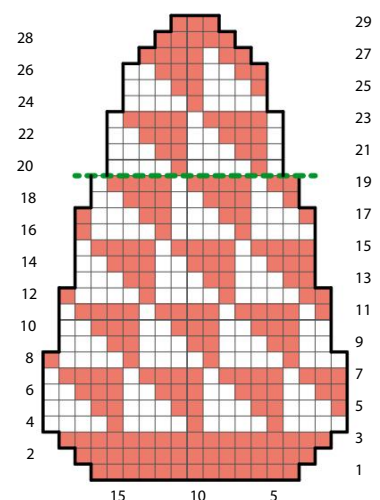


Chart 6: Triangles



HOW TO USE OUR CHARTS

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

Key
■ Yarn A
■ Yarn B
--- Place stitch marker

NEW
COLOURS
in DK & Aran



reared, sheared & spun
I N B R I T A I N



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QUALITIES OF ALPACA YARN
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WARM FOR AGES!

Tip The pom-pom uses such a small amount of Yarn B that you could use what's left to make another tea cosy with the colours swapped over. Or, if you sew the seams up all the way you could even use it as a hat! We love a pattern with this many options.



YOU WILL NEED

- Rooster, Almerino Aran (50% baby alpaca, 50% Merino wool, 50g/94m) 1 ball of each: Yarn A Shimmer (315) Yarn B Sugared Almond (302)
 - A pair of 4½mm needles
 - A pair of 5mm needles
 - A cable needle
- For yarn stockists contact
Rooster Yarns 01829 740903
www.roosteryarns.com

TENSION

Yarn used knits as aran to this tension: 28 sts and 22 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st pattern using 5mm needles

ABBREVIATIONS

MB Make bobble: (K1, P1 tbl, K1, P1 tbl) into 1 st, turn work, K4, turn work, P4, turn work, K4, turn work, K4, then one by one pass the first 3 sts over the 4th stitch

For a full list see page 92

Tea cosies are almost a rite of passage for knitters, and if you've never attempted one, when better than with the New Year? It's the perfect time to shake things up and start new habits, and as the days are still bitterly cold you'll need all the help you can get to keep your hot drinks hot! The rich cables in aran weight natural fibres are perfect for trapping the hot air before it escapes your teapot entirely, and they'll be great knitting to keep your mind occupied on the long, dark winter evenings. Whether you're knitting it as a gift, or to keep all to yourself, this tea cosy is well worth the time and effort.



TEA COSY SIDES (MAKE 2)

Cast on 49 sts using 4½mm needles and Yarn A.

Next row Ktbl of each stitch to end. Change to 5mm needles.

CABLE PATTERN

Row 1 *K2, P2, K2, P1; rep from * to end.

Row 2 and all even numbered rows *K1, P2, K2, P2; rep from * to end.

Row 3 *Slip next 4 sts onto a cable needle and hold at front of work, knit next 2 sts from left-hand needle, then slip the 2 purl sts from the cable needle back to the left-hand needle. Pass the cable needle with the 2 remaining sts to the back of your work, purl the 2 sts from the left-hand needle, then knit the 2 sts from the cable needle, P1; rep from * to end.

Row 5 *K2, P2, K2, P1; rep from * to end.

Row 7 *K2, P2, K2, P1; rep from * to end.

Row 9 *K2, P1, MB, K2, P1; rep from * to end.

Row 10 *K1, P2, K2, P2; rep from * to end.

Repeat these 10 rows 3 more times and then rep rows 1–3 again.

DECREASING FOR THE TOP

Row 1 *K1, p2tog; rep from * to last st, K1. [33 sts]

Row 2 *K1, P1; rep from * to last st, K1.

Row 3 *P2tog; rep from * to last st, P1. [17 sts]

Break yarn, leaving a long tail for sewing up. Using a tapestry needle, thread yarn tail through rem sts on your needle and draw them up tightly. Secure with a stitch.



This effective design is created by pairing simple cables with textured bobbles.



You can use a pom-pom maker or pieces of card to make this finishing touch.

TO MAKE UP

Using mattress stitch with RS facing, sew up each side, leaving a space for the spout and the handle. Weave in any loose ends.

Make a pom-pom in Yarn B and sew onto the top of the tea cosy.

NEXT MONTH

Give your lounge a makeover with a stylish Fair Isle cushion cover. Issue 129, February, is on sale Friday 2 January.

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Pattern: Stylecraft 9102 Yarn: Harlequin Chunky Stylecraft 



KATH GARNER

KNITTING NOVICE

One beginner shares her latest knitting achievements.

“Books quelled my hunger for all things wool-related”

My knitting progress has been severely scuppered over the last few weeks following a recent injury...

“Ha,” shouted my long-suffering husband with obvious glee on my return from a trip to the doctor, “Talk about knitter’s thumb. That will put a stop to your clickety clacking for a while!” He was right of course. With a huge cartoon bandage on my badly infected thumb, I couldn’t even turn on the TV, let alone pick up a pair of knitting needles. What was I going to do now? How would I switch off and relax after the traumas of a stressful day? Could I just go cold turkey and cope with the knitting withdrawal symptoms? I didn’t believe so, but my knitting group had other ideas.

“Heard of knit lit?” asked The Speedy Knitter, who not only knits at lightning speed but can read a book in minutes. “There are loads of books about knitting.” She wasn’t joking. A simple search on my laptop unleashed a long list of knitting-themed books which would quell my hunger for all things wool-related, keep me occupied

while I was incapacitated and even continue my knitting learning.

After a quick trip to the nearest bookshop, I settled down with my chosen novel, a box of chocolates and a cup of coffee, and stepped into the woolly world of Lydia Hoffman, shop proprietor of *The Shop on Blossom Street*. Here I could revel in all the descriptions of colourful yarns and projects on display in her shop and became entwined in the lives of her customers. Finishing it rather quicker than I finish my knitting projects, I sought out other books in the series.

A NEW ADDICTION

Moving on, I laughed through *Divas Don’t Knit* and bawled through *The Friday Night Knitting Club*, by which time I was emotionally drained! How could a book about knitting cause such trauma? Then again, when I thought of it, most of my knitting projects caused me trauma of one kind or another! I’ve also started putting my needles away more carefully after discovering a series of murder mystery novels set in an American yarn store – I don’t want

to give my aforementioned long-suffering husband any ideas!

It soon became obvious that knit lit is a fast-growing industry. I also realised that many of the stories are written about knitting groups, the strong bonds of friendship that are formed and how members overcome difficulties through the support they get there. My own knitting group is very similar. Although perhaps not quite as glamorous, we’re a mixed bunch of ages, abilities and interests who can talk freely and easily to each other and know that support is there in abundance should we need it.

But there’s one thing I’ve kept secret from hubby. Not only are the books a good read, they often contain a knitting pattern or two, which I’m carefully stashing away for future reference. So now, when he asks if I’m enjoying my book, joyous that there’s no wool to get tangled in or needles to accidentally sit on, I hide a secret smile. He’s oblivious to the fact that once my thumb has recovered fully, I have plenty of new projects to begin, all hidden in the pages of my book collection! 🧶



Books mentioned: *The Shop on Blossom Street* series by Debbie Macomber (Mira), *Divas Don't Knit* by Gil McNeil (Bloomsbury), *The Friday Night Knitting Club* by Kate Jacobs (Hodder), *Knit One, Kill Two* by Maggie Sefton (Penguin)



From left to right: Kath has turned to fiction books to fulfil all her knitting needs; a badly infected thumb means Kath won't be picking up her needles for a while; gripping novels and the odd chocolate are a good enough replacement for Kath's usual hobby... for now!



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CHUNKY SWEATER



HAVE A go
AT FAIR ISLE
knitting

BERRIES

*Add cosy colour to your winter wardrobe with
Pat Menchini's après-ski style jumper. It'll
be perfect to throw on with anything!*



YOU WILL NEED

- King Cole, Big Value Chunky (100% acrylic, 100g/152m)
- King Cole, Riot Chunky (70% acrylic, 30% wool, 100g/134m)
- A pair of 5mm needles
- A 5mm circular needle (40cm long)
- A pair of 6mm needles
- 2 stitch holders

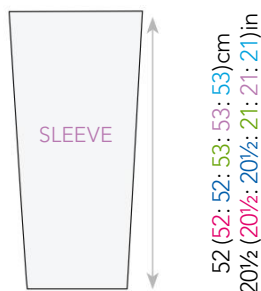
For yarn stockists contact
King Cole 01756 703670
www.kingcole.co.uk

TENSION

Yarns used knit as chunky to this tension: 18 sts and 18 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over patt using 6mm needles

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list see page 92



Let the yarn do the talking with this colourful Fair Isle jumper. It may look like a complicated design, but it's just simple repeats with variegated yarn! The roll-neck will be super cosy for chilly winter days, but if you fancy a plain neckline, simply work a few rows of rib on the same picked-up stitches and cast off. It's your jumper, make it personal!



BACK

Cast on 76 (84: 92: 100: 108: 116) sts using 5mm needles and Yarn B.

Row 1 (RS) K4, (P4, K4) to end.

Row 2 K1, P3, (K4, P4) to last 8 sts, K4, P3, K1.

Rep the last 2 rows until work measures 20cm, ending after a row 1.

Next row Purl, inc 5 sts evenly across row. [81 (89: 97: 105: 113: 121) sts]

Change to 6mm needles and begin patt as folls, carrying the yarn not in use loosely across back of work over no more than 3 sts at a time.

Row 1 (RS) Using Yarn A, knit.

Row 2 Using Yarn A, purl.

Row 3 K2A, (K1B, K1A) to last 3 sts, K1B, K2A.

Row 4 P2A, (P1B, P1A) to last 3 sts, P1B, P2A.

Row 5 Using Yarn A, knit.

Row 6 Using Yarn A, purl.

Row 7 K3A, (K1B, K1A) to last 4 sts, K1B, K3A.

Row 8 P3A, (P1B, P1A) to last 4 sts, P1B, P3A.

Row 9 Using Yarn A, knit.

Row 10 Using Yarn A, purl.

Row 11 K3B, (K3A, K5B) to last 6 sts, K3A, K3B.

Row 12 P3B, (P3A, P5B) to last 6 sts, P3A, P3B.

Row 13 K7B, (K3A, K5B) to last 2 sts, K2B.

Row 14 P7B, (P3A, P5B) to last 2 sts, P2B.

Row 15 K3B, (K3A, K5B) to last 6 sts, K3A, K3B.

Row 16 P3B, (P3A, P5B) to last 6 sts, P3A, P3B.

These 16 rows form the patt.

Cont in patt until work measures 71 (71: 71: 72: 72: 72)cm, ending after a WS row.

SHAPE SHOULDERS

Cast off 6 (7: 8: 9: 10: 11) sts at beg of next 6 rows, then 8 (8: 8: 9: 9) sts at beg of next 2 rows.

[29 (31: 33: 33: 35: 37) sts]

Slip rem 29 (31: 33: 33: 35: 37) sts onto a stitch holder.

FRONT

Work as given for Back until Front measures 6 (6: 6: 7: 7)cm less than Back up to shoulder shaping, ending after a WS row.

SHAPE NECK

Next row Work across 29 (32: 35: 39: 42: 45) sts, turn.

Cont on this group of sts for left half of neck.

SIZE		6-8	10-12	14-16	18-20	22-24	26-28
TO FIT BUST	cm	76-81	86-91	97-102	107-112	117-122	127-132
	in	30-32	34-36	38-40	41-42	44-48	50-52
ACTUAL BUST	cm	90	99	108	117	126	134
	in	35½	39	42½	46	49½	53
LENGTH	cm	71	71	71	72	72	72
	in	28	28	28	28½	28½	28½
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	52	52	52	53	53	53
	in	20½	20½	20½	21	21	21
YARN		King Cole, Big Value Chunky (100g/152m balls)					
Yarn A Cream (551)		5	5	6	6	7	7
YARN		King Cole, Riot Chunky (100g/134m balls)					
Yarn B Wild Flower (654)		4	4	4	5	5	5

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.

CHUNKY SWEATER

Dec 1 st at neck edge on next 3 rows.
[26 (29: 32: 36: 39: 42) sts]
Cont straight until Front measures same
as Back to shoulder shaping, ending at
side edge.

SHAPE SHOULDER

Cast off 6 (7: 8: 9: 10: 11) sts at beg of
next row and the 2 foll alt rows.

[8 (8: 8: 9: 9: 9) sts]

Work 1 row.

Cast off rem sts.

With RS facing, slip next 23 (25: 27: 27:
29: 31) sts on a stitch holder and leave.
Rejoin yarn and work to end of row.
Complete right neck shaping as given
for left.

SLEEVES

Cast on 28 (28: 28: 32: 32: 32) sts using
5mm needles and Yarn B.

Row 1 (RS) K2 (2: 2: 4: 4: 4), (P3, K4) 3
times, P3, K2 (2: 2: 4: 4: 4).

Row 2 K1, P1 (1: 1: 3: 3: 3), (K3, P4) 3
times, K3, P1 (1: 1: 3: 3: 3).

Rep the last 2 rows until work measures
10cm from beg, ending after a row 1.

Next row Purl, inc 7 (7: 9: 7: 9: 11) sts
evenly across row.

[35 (35: 37: 39: 41: 43) sts]

Change to 6mm needles and work rows
1–8 of patt as for Back.
These 8 rows only form the patt for
Sleeves.

Cont in patt as set inc 1 st at each end
of next row, then on every foll 4th (4th:
3rd: 3rd: 3rd: 3rd) row until there are 57
(55: 51: 57: 63: 73) sts, then on every
foll 6th (4th: 4th: 4th: 4th: 4th) row until
there are 63 (67: 71: 75: 79: 83) sts,
taking extra sts into patt.

Cont in patt without shaping until

sleeve measures 52 (52: 52: 53: 53)
cm from beg, ending after a RS row.

Cast off loosely in Yarn A.

COLLAR

Join shoulder seams. Using 5mm
circular needle and Yarn A, with RS
facing, knit across 29 (31: 33: 33: 35:
37) sts at back of neck, AT THE SAME
TIME increasing 1 (1: 3: 1: 2: 5) sts
evenly, pick up and knit 13 (13: 13: 15:
15: 15) sts down left side of neck, knit
across front 23 (25: 27: 27: 29: 31) neck
sts AT THE SAME TIME increasing 6 (9:
10: 8: 10: 10) sts evenly, finally pick up
and knit 13 (13: 13: 15: 15: 15) sts
evenly up right side of neck.

[85 (92: 99: 99: 106: 113) sts]

Row 1 K2, (P4, K3) to last 6 sts, P4, K2.

Row 2 K1, P1, (K4, P3) to last 6 sts, K4,
P1, K1.

Rep last 2 rows until work meas 11cm.

Change to 6mm needles and cont as
set until work meas 18cm, ending after
a row 1.

Next row Knit. (This will form a ridge
on RS where collar is folded over.)

Next row K2, (P4, K3) to last 6 sts, P4,
K2.

Next row K1, P1, (K4, P3) to last 6 sts,
K4, P1, K1.

Next row K2, (P4, K3) to last 6 sts, P4,
K2.

Rep the last 4 rows 3 times more.

Next 2 rows Knit.

Cast off very loosely knitwise.

TO MAKE UP

Join side edges of collar. Sew cast-off
edges of sleeves to side edges of
corresponding portions of Back and
Front. Join side and sleeve seams. 



*Wear the deep rib section higher on your
hips to get a slouchier-style sweater.*



*The colour changes in King Cole's Riot
Chunky yarn produce this stripe pattern.*

STEP-BY-STEP PICK UP STITCHES



1 Holding the piece of
knitting you are going to pick
the sts up from in your left
hand, and starting at the
top-right corner, insert the
RH needle between the first
two stitches of the row.



2 Wind your wool around the
needle and 'knit' the first
stitch...



3 ...And pull the new stitch
through between the two
stitches.



4 Continue to work like this
along the row or until you
have picked up the
necessary amount of
stitches. Try to space your
stitches evenly.

Talking Points

Every letter printed here will win a Patons pattern and fab Millward needles from Coats Crafts. Don't forget to tell us where to send your prize!



Star letter

Meet Mr Stegosaurus. This has to be the biggest thing I've ever knitted and it's taken me months to finish it. I have only been knitting for 18 months and this was a real labour of love. I kept picking it up and putting it down to do other projects but finally got stuck in after the constant cries from my little one of, "Is my dinosaur done yet?" Without a doubt this is his new best friend! I just hope he treasures it for years to come. I used a Patons knitting pattern, and their Fab yarn.

Louise Rodda, via email

Mr Stegosaurus is fantastic! You must be thrilled.



Louise laboured over Mr Stegosaurus, and we think he's a lovely addition to the family.



OUR LETTER OF THE MONTH WRITER WINS £50 WORTH OF KNITTING GOODIES FROM YEOMAN YARNS! With yarn for machine and hand knitting, in a range of different fibres and weights, there's lots to choose from. www.yeoman-yarns.co.uk, 01162 404464.

WORK IN PROGRESS

I've just seen the picture of Denise Bowers' Rose Garden jumper in issue 124. I loved the pattern when I saw it but didn't want to spend so much on the yarn. I bought some Sirdar Crofter to use instead, which cost me about £13. I also wanted to



lengthen the sleeves a bit. Sadly, I haven't finished it yet as I've been sidetracked by other projects, including two baby blankets, both SK patterns, baby clothes, a summer top and a Sherlock Holmes mystery afghan knit-a-long on Ravelry that I joined after reading the articles in *The Knitter*. However, I do intend to get back to it soon. Here's a picture of the half that's completed. So much to knit and so little time! Lynne Fallowell, via email
It looks gorgeous so far, Lynne. Keep going with it!

FIND A FRIEND

I noticed the recent penpal requests in *Simply Knitting* and would like to



Tina made up the pattern for this Mario toy from scratch!

SK READER TIP

■ Only knit for people who will really appreciate it. You don't want to slave for months over a stunning Fair Isle jumper only for it to be discarded and forgotten about. Trust me. Nina Lewis, Flint

Lynne chose an alternative yarn to knit her Rose Garden jumper.

recommend a website for anyone who knits or crochets. It offers friendship, advice, resources and links, photos of completed projects done by members, a machine knitting section and a swap and knit-a-long section as well as the ability for general chatting. It's free to join, it's worldwide, it's easy to use and a wonderful way to connect with knitters and crocheters. I've been a member for a while and I love it. It's found at www.knittingparadise.com. I start every morning reading it with my coffee!

Trina Smith, Ontario

Thank you so much for sharing this website with our readers, Trina. We think there might be a few more members very soon!

IT'S A-ME, MARIO!

Here's a picture of my knitted Mario. My son kept asking me to knit him a Mario and I couldn't locate a pattern, so I made up one myself and this is the result. It took a few goes for some of the pieces but eventually it all came together and my son loves it. I hope you like it too.



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Marjorie's mice were
advent gifts for her
grandchildren.

Tina Burke, Limavady

This is fantastic, Tina! We're so
impressed that you made the
pattern up – it looks just like the
original video game character.

SWEET SPARKLE

I spotted the pattern for a sparkly
jumper in the supplement that came
with issue 120. It was autumn before
I had the chance to work on it and as
time was short, I opted not to work
the panels on each side, just the
sparkly star. I also knitted a bigger
size fearful that I would get bored
but the sequinned Galaxy yarn
spurred me on – the more you
knitted, the sparklier it became! My
six-year-old daughter Mackenzie
loves it and thinks it's perfect for
snuggly winter days. Thanks for
giving us such a straightforward
pattern with such stunning results.

Lynne McNeil, Fife

You're very welcome, Lynne. You've
done a fantastic job and your
daughter is clearly thrilled with it.

KNITTING FIEND

I couldn't resist knitting these
adorable little mice. I knitted my

grandchildren hanging advent
pockets and they love the little
surprises I pop in them. Thank you
for all the Alan Dart patterns – I enjoy
knitting them and they're just
perfect for new knitted gifts each
year. I've now had a request for
Disney princesses, so I'll have to
adapt a set to look like them! I must
stop sharing my knits with my sister
because she now wants the knitting
cat family I made for my craft room.
My husband asks, "Do you never get
fed up knitting?" but my motto is: if
I'm sitting I'm knitting!

Marjorie Holloway, Ballinamuck →



We just love
Lynne's version
of this sparkly
star top – and
her daughter
does too!



Knitting around THE WORLD

This is the Dark Hedges in
Northern Ireland. The
landmark has been used for
the TV series *Game of Thrones*
and as a result they've
become a huge tourist
attraction with followers of the
series throughout the world.

Siobhan Sargent, via email

We'd love to see more pictures of you with *Simply Knitting* (or even just your knitting!) in
foreign lands. The sender of every letter will receive a circular needle from Coats Crafts UK.



Get in touch and tell us what you're knitting!

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<http://www.futurenet.com/futureonline/competitionrules.asp>



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GET MORE CHAT you can ALSO get in touch with us via FACEBOOK AND RAVELRY, AND you CAN TALK TO OTHER SIMPLY KNITTERS THERE TOO. IF YOU HAVE AN URGENT ENQUIRY THOUGH, IT'S ALWAYS BEST TO PHONE OR EMAIL US.



Judy knitted this unusual sweater for her granddaughter.

What a lovely idea for personalised Christmas gifts, Marjorie. We would have loved to find these cuties in our advent calendars!

ON THE HUNT

I was just wondering if anyone had a spare copy of the December 2007, issue 35, supplement for the Shaun the Sheep mobile pattern that I could have or borrow? If so, please email me at marie.com@gmail.com or call +61 (0) 466 341175.



MY BEST IDEA

■ It might seem quite obvious to some of you, but joining my local knitting group was the best idea I've ever had!
 Carly Trainor, Glasgow

Debbi is well and truly back in the knitting swing with this delightful cake!

Marie Duarte, Queensland, Australia
 We're sure someone will be happy to help you out, Marie.

STRIKE A POSE

Here's my granddaughter Samantha wearing the bow-back top I made for her from issue 121. We used the same Rowan linen yarn as given in the pattern and I think she looks beautiful in it.

Judy Adamczyk, Eugene, USA
 She does look beautiful, Judy, and so does your knitting!

REUNITED

I took up knitting again after a break of about 15 years starting with a cable cushion. I moved on to a cardi for my great niece and a jacket for my grandson in Sweden. Here's my latest project, for a friend's daughter who's getting married soon. Having only ever knitted a couple of small toys I'm very proud of it. I love your magazine – it's giving me lots of inspiration and confidence.

Debbi Tayler, Suffolk
 Welcome back to the knitting world, Debbi! Your creations are stunning – you should be proud.



Write to us!

We love hearing from our readers. If you'd like to get in touch, you can email us at simplyknitting@futurenet.com or write to us at 'Talking Points', Simply Knitting, Units 1&2 Cottrell Court, Monmouth Place, Bath BA1 2NP.

When you include a photo, please make it as clear as possible, and take it somewhere with plenty of light so your knitting really looks its best. Please don't resize or edit the photo before sending it to us – we can make your pictures smaller here, but we can't make them larger, so if you make it too small we won't be able to use it.

We're sorry, but unfortunately we can't guarantee to return photos, so please don't send us anything irreplaceable.

knit & stitch it 15

27th February-1st March 2015

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www.knitandstitch-it.org.uk

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INSTANT UPDATE...

The easy way to shop on trend! Here are all our favourite buys this season.



**This is the season
of winter florals.**

Bring rich colours and bold blooms into your home easily with these luxurious bedroom pieces at Debenhams. Priced from £24. Visit www.debenhams.com, or call 0844 800 8877 for more information and stockist details.

SAY IT LOUD
Statement necklace,
Accessorize, £22



FIRST IMPRESSIONS
Embossed vase, Marks
and Spencer, £25



FLOWER POWER
Sasha Kagan cushion,
The Knitter issue 77



STRIKE A POSE
High-heeled shoes,
Dorothy Perkins, £25



Style
steal

WOW FACTOR
Bra set, Marks and
Spencer, from £7.50



COMFY COOL
Velvet oversized tee,
New Look, £27.99



**HEAVEN
SCENT**
Foam bath,
Marks and
Spencer,
£12.50



PRETTY PAIR
Ladies' glasses,
Vision Express,
£209



ROMA-NTIC

Debbie Bliss, Roma
alpaca/wool, £8.95



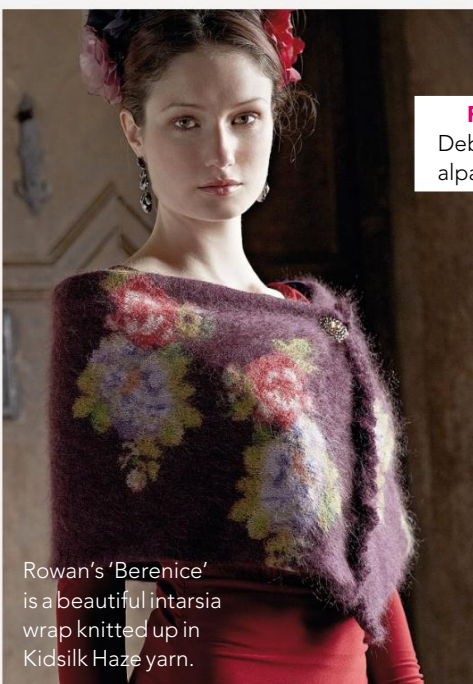
Style tip

Statement furniture
can completely alter
the overall feel of
a room.

NIGHT SHIFT
Ruched shift dress,
Phase Eight, £99



GOTHIC CHIC
Small chest, Marks
and Spencer, £379



Rowan's 'Berenice'
is a beautiful intarsia
wrap knitted up in
Kidsilk Haze yarn.

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CLEMENTINE

Bright and zingy in a cosy waffle stitch,
Sarah Hatton's jacket is a real winter hit.

LOVELY Knit
FOR BOYS
AND GIRLS

THIS YARN IS THE PERFECT
BLEND OF COSY WOOL AND
HARD-WEARING NYLON -
GREAT FOR KIDS!



Tip If you've tackled a few different stitch patterns, but are yet to knit a garment, this is a great pattern to start with. Baby jackets are so small that you can learn all of the necessary techniques quickly and easily, before moving on to adult-size garments.



YOU WILL NEED

- Red Heart, Crazy Wool (70% wool, 30% nylon, 100g/200m)
- A pair of 4mm needles
- 4 buttons, approx 1.5cm in diameter
- Stitch holder

For yarn stockists contact
Red Heart 01484 681881
www.redheart.co.uk

TENSION

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension: 23 sts and 40 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st using 4mm needles

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list see page 92

Don't you just love a pattern that pairs simple shapes with stunning stitch designs? Well, this little jacket takes it one step further by making the whole package simply adorable as well. Although the motif looks intricate, it's a simple combination of tiny stocking stitch and garter stitch sections that look as though they're interweaving. It takes just eight rows to create this pattern, so you'll soon be whizzing along, making great progress. Fun to knit and perfect for kids to romp around in, this is a winning garment.



BACK

Cast on 65 (67: 69: 71: 75: 77) sts using 4mm needles.

Row 1 (RS) Knit.

Row 2 K0 (1: 2: 3: 1: 2), *P1, K3; rep from * to last 1 (2: 3: 0: 2: 3) sts, P1 (1: 1: 0: 1: 1), K0 (1: 2: 0: 1: 2).

Rep these 2 rows once more.

Row 5 Knit.

Row 6 K2 (3: 0: 1: 3: 0), *P1, K3; rep from * to last 3 (0: 1: 2: 0: 1) sts, P1 (0: 1: 1: 0: 1), K2 (0: 0: 1: 0: 0).

Rep these 2 rows once.

These 8 rows set patt.

Working in patt as set throughout, cont until work meas 15 (16: 17: 18: 19: 20) cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE ARMHOLES

Cast off 3 sts at beg of next 2 rows.

Dec 1 st at each end of next 3 rows, then on 1 (1: 2: 2: 3: 3) foll alt rows. [51 (53: 53: 55: 57: 59) sts]

Cont without shaping until armhole meas 11.5 (12: 12.5: 13: 13.5: 14)cm,

ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE SHOULDERS

Cast off 5 (5: 5: 6: 6) sts at beg of next 2 rows.

[41 (43: 43: 45: 45: 47) sts]

Cast off 5 (6: 6: 6: 6: 7) sts at beg of next 2 rows. [31 (31: 31: 33: 33: 33) sts] Leave rem sts on a holder.

RIGHT FRONT

Cast on 42 (43: 44: 45: 47: 48) sts using 4mm needles.

Row 1 (RS) Knit.

Row 2 K1 (2: 3: 0: 2: 3), *P1, K3; rep from * to last 2 sts, K2.

Rep these 2 rows once more.

Row 5 Knit.

Row 6 K3 (0: 1: 2: 0: 1), *P1, K3; rep from * to last 4 sts, P1, K3.

Rep these 2 rows once.

These 8 rows set patt.

Working in patt as set throughout, cont until work meas 15 (16: 17: 18: 19: 20) cm, ending with WS facing for next row.

SHAPE ARMHOLE

Cast off 3 sts, patt to end.

[39 (40: 41: 42: 44: 45) sts]

Dec 1 st at armhole edge of next 3 rows, then on 1 (1: 2: 2: 3: 3) foll alt rows. [35 (36: 36: 37: 38: 39) sts]

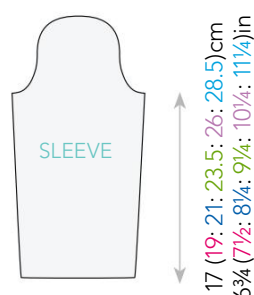
Cont without shaping until armhole meas 7.5 (8: 8.5: 9: 9.5)cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE FRONT NECK

Cast off 15 sts at beg of next RS row

in patt, placing marker after 8th st, patt to end.

Work 1 row.



SIZE		6-9mths	9-12mths	12-18mths	2yrs	3yrs	4yrs
TO FIT CHEST	cm	44	45.5	48	53	55	58.5
	in	17¼	18	18¾	20¾	21½	23
ACTUAL CHEST	cm	55	57	59	61	63	65
	in	21½	22½	23¼	24	24¾	25½
LENGTH	cm	27.5	29	30.5	32	33.5	35
	in	10¾	11½	12	12½	13	13¾
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	17	19	21	23.5	26	28.5
	in	6¾	7½	8¼	9¼	10¼	11¼
YARN Red Heart, Crazy Wool (100g/200m balls)							
Mango (004)		3	3	4	4	4	5

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.

CHILD'S JACKET

Dec 1 st at neck edge of next 9 rows, then on 1 (1: 1: 2: 2: 2) foll alt rows. [10 (11: 11: 11: 12: 13) sts]

Cont without shaping until armhole matches back to start of shoulder shaping, ending with WS facing for next row.

SHAPE SHOULDER

Cast off 5 (5: 5: 5: 6: 6) sts at beg of next RS row, patt to end.

[5 (6: 6: 6: 6: 7) sts]

Work 1 row.

Cast off rem sts.

Place markers for buttonholes, first to fall 1.5cm below neck shaping and second 4cm below this.

LEFT FRONT

Cast on 42 (43: 44: 45: 47: 48) sts using 4mm needles.

Row 1 (RS) Knit.

Row 2 K2, *P1, K3; rep from * to last 1 (2: 3: 0: 2: 3) sts, P1 (1: 1: 0: 1: 1), K0 (1: 2: 0: 1: 2).

Rep these 2 rows once more.

Row 5 Knit.

Row 6 K3, *P1, K3; rep from * to last 3 (0: 1: 2: 0: 1) sts, P1 (0: 1: 1: 0: 1), K2 (0: 0: 1: 0: 0).

Rep these 2 rows once.

These 8 rows set patt with g st at front edge.

Working in patt as set throughout, cont until work meas 15 (16: 17: 18: 19: 20) cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE ARMHOLE

Cast off 3 sts, patt to end.

[39 (40: 41: 42: 44: 45) sts]

Work 1 row.

Dec 1 st at armhole edge of next 3 rows, then on 1 (1: 2: 2: 3: 3) foll alt rows. [35 (36: 36: 37: 38: 39) sts]
Cont without shaping until armhole meas 7.5 (8: 8.5: 9: 9.5)cm, ending with WS facing for next row and AT SAME TIME when work matches right front to buttonhole markers work buttonhole row as folls:

Buttonhole row (RS) Patt to last 14 sts, k2tog, yfwd, K7, k2tog, yfwd, K3.

SHAPE FRONT NECK

Cast off 15 sts in patt, placing marker after 8th st, patt to end.

Dec 1 st at neck edge of next 9 rows, then on 1 (1: 1: 2: 2: 2) foll alt rows. [10 (11: 11: 11: 12: 13) sts]

Cont without shaping until armhole matches back to start of shoulder

shaping, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE SHOULDER

Cast off 5 (5: 5: 5: 6: 6) sts, patt to end.

Work 1 row. [5 (6: 6: 6: 6: 7) sts]

Cast off rem sts.

SLEEVES (BOTH ALIKE)

Cast on 31 (33: 33: 35: 35: 37) sts using 4mm needles.

Row 1 (RS) Knit.

Row 2 K3 (0: 0: 1: 1: 2), *P1, K3; rep from * to last 0 (1: 1: 2: 2: 3) sts, P0 (1: 1: 1: 1: 1), K0 (0: 0: 1: 1: 2).

Rep these 2 rows once more.

Row 5 Knit.

Row 6 K1 (2: 2: 3: 3: 0), *P1, K3; rep from * to last 2 (3: 3: 0: 0: 1) sts, P1 (1: 1: 0: 0: 1), K1 (2: 2: 0: 0: 0).

Rep these 2 rows once.

These 8 rows set patt.

Inc 1 st at each end of next row, then 4 (1: 10: 10: 8: 3) foll 4th (4th: 6th: 6th: 6th: 6th) rows, then on every foll 6th (6th: 8th: 8th: 8th: 8th) row to 53 (55: 57: 61: 63: 65) sts.

Cont without shaping until sleeve meas 17 (19: 21: 23.5: 26: 28.5)cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE SLEEVE TOP

Cast off 3 sts at beg of next 2 rows.

[47 (49: 51: 55: 57: 59) sts]

Dec 1 st at each end of next 3 rows, then on 1 (1: 2: 2: 3: 3) foll alt rows.

[39 (41: 41: 45: 45: 47) sts]

Cast off 5 sts at beg of next 6 rows.

[9 (11: 11: 15: 15: 17) sts]

Cast off rem sts.

TO MAKE UP

Join side and sleeve seams. Sew in sleeves. Sew on buttons.

HOOD

With RS facing, starting at markers on front neck pick up and knit 20 (20: 20: 22: 22: 22) sts up right side of neck, work across 31 (31: 31: 33: 33: 33) sts at back neck as folls: K9 (5: 1: 4: 8: 6), (M1 by picking up loop between last and next st and working into the back of this loop, K2 (2: 2: 2: 1: 1)) 6 (10: 14: 12: 16: 20) times, M1, K10 (6: 2: 5: 9: 7), pick up and knit 19 (19: 19: 21: 21: 21) sts down left side of neck ending at marker on front neck.

[77 (81: 85: 89: 93: 97) sts]

Row 1 (WS) K2, *P1, K3; rep from * to last 3 sts, P1, K2.

Row 2 Knit.

Rep these 2 rows once.



The top seam of the hood is finished with a very neat three-needle cast off.



This combination of knit and purl stitches stops the edges of the fabric from rolling.

Row 5 K2, *K2, P1, K1; rep from * to last 3 sts, K3.

Row 6 Knit.

Rep these 2 rows once.

These 8 rows set pattern.

Cont in patt until hood meas 18 (19: 19: 20: 20: 21)cm, ending with RS facing for next row.

Next row K37 (39: 41: 43: 45: 47), k2tog, turn.

Fold hood in half with WS facing and using a third needle, join top seam of hood by casting off both sets of sts together.

NEXT MONTH

Treat your little ones to a fun robot jumper – they'll love it! Issue 129, February, will be in the shops from Friday 2 January.



We love...

...top brands including West Yorkshire Spinners, Rowan, Lang Yarns, Cascade, and many more!



KNIT LIKE A YORKSHIRE LASS!

A rich British heritage runs through West Yorkshire Spinners yarns, reflecting its love of the countryside and the sheep it lovingly tends. The softest Bluefaced Leicester fleeces are spun into luscious colourways – designed around native British birds ('Country Birds'), and their cultural heritage ('Spice Rack' and 'Sweet Shop'). And who could resist the Blackcurrant Bomb?



PASSION IN EVERY SKEIN

Exquisite softness and breathtaking shades combine to make Malabrigo yarns some of the most fabulous in the world. This small family company in Uruguay is one of South America's leading yarn producers, who work with a co-operative of women. Knit or crochet something special in a Malabrigo yarn, and you'll fall in love with its glorious handle – you can almost feel the passion that goes into each skein. We love Malabrigo Worsted – make something up in Sapphire Green or Azalea and you'll believe us!



BRUSHED FLEECE COLLECTION BY MARTIN STOREY

We love Rowan Brushed Fleece – an exquisitely soft blend of extra fine merino wool and baby alpaca, artfully combined to produce a lightweight, super-warm yarn that knits into cosy jumpers, jackets, cardigans and accessories.

To illustrate its fabulous versatility, Martin Storey's *Brushed Fleece Collection* contains stunning patterns that show off the rich, marled shades. An absolute must-knit.



FUN, FUN, FUN!

Fashion leader Rico never lets us down. Rico Gigantic Mohair knits up on 15mm-20mm needles for super-fast instant drama made into a scarf! Rico Fashion Flame has also set our hearts alight – this variegated super chunky yarn comes in seven colourways and knits up fast on 10mm needles.



PICK A SHADE, ANY SHADE!

Cascade is one of America's leading brands – and we're now proud to be stocking it here in the UK in over a hundred shades. A rainbow to choose from, by degrees! Knitters love Cascade 220, a whopping 220 yards of Peruvian Highland Wool in each 100g skein, available in 146 shades – and also available in Cascade 220 Superwash!



WANT TO PLAY MARBLZ?

This season's must-have needles! The KnitPro Limited Edition Marblz set will speed up your knitting to perfection. Brightly coloured and designed to help the yarn glide across cables, Marblz are the perfect gift for the knitter in your life!



LUXURY FROM LANG YARNS

We love our new friends Lang Yarns, especially Lang Yarns Cashmere Premium, which is exquisitely soft, delicious to wear and delicious to knit. It's available in a range of stunning shades that are inspired by the colours of nature and dyed using natural dyes from walnut, cochineal, logwood and rhubarb!



SHI-SHI INDEED!

Plymouth Yarn's stunning Mushishi yarn is 95% wool, 5% silk and comes in whopping 250g skeins, fantastic value for a gorgeous variegated worsted weight yarn. A dream to knit, Mushishi comes in 22 fabulous colourways. It's a great yarn to crochet too!



Simply Knitting readers can get 15% off at LoveKnitting with the discount code **LOVESKD**. Offer ends 28 February 2015.

To see more go to www.loveknitting.com/simply.

HAPPY FEET

Beat those chilly winter days with
Monica Russel's cosy legwarmers.

QUICK KNIIT
FOR A LAZY
WEEKEND

GREAT GIFT FOR STUDENTS
GOING BACK TO DRAUGHTY
ACCOMMODATION, TO HELP
THEM STAY WARM!



LEGWARMERS



YOU WILL NEED

- King Cole, Riot Chunky (70% premium acrylic, 30% wool, 100g/134m)
2 balls of Potash (663)
 - A pair of 5mm needles
 - A pair of 6mm needles
 - Cable needle
- For yarn stockists contact
King Cole 01756 703670
www.kingcole.co.uk

TENSION

Yarn used knits as chunky to this tension: 14 sts and 20 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st using 6mm needles

ABBREVIATIONS

pf purl into front and back of next st

For a full list see page 92

Tip Are you a sufferer of second socks syndrome? Worried that it could be an issue with these legwarmers? A great way to avoid this irritating situation, and to make sure your knits are absolutely identical, is to knit both at the same time! It's simple, but effective.

Legwarmers may seem like a blast from the past, but they're actually really practical. Whether you wear them with your skinny jeans or on top of flappy-legged pyjamas, they'll keep you warm when you need it most. A simple but striking combination of rib and cables, these will be a joy to knit, and just tricky enough to keep you thinking.



K LEGWARMERS

Cast on 56 sts using 5mm needles.

Next row Knit into back of sts to form a neat edge.

Next row *K2, P2; work from * to end.

Now continue working as above rib row until work measures 7cm with WS facing for next row.

Next row K1, kfb, K1, *P2, K2; rep from * to last 3 sts, P1, pfb, P1. [58 sts]

Change to 6mm needles and start cable pattern as follows:

Row 1 K4, *P2, K4, P2, K6; rep from * to last 12 sts, P2, K4, P2, K4.

Row 2 and all even numbered rows

Work each stitch as it appears on this side of the work – K the knit sts and P the purl sts.

Row 3 K4, *P2, C4F, P2, K6; rep from * to last 12 sts, P2, C4F, P2, K4.

Row 5 K4, *P2, K4, P2, K6; rep from * to last 12 sts, P2, K4, P2, K4.

Row 7 K4, *P2, C4F, P2, K6; rep from * to last 12 sts, P2, C4F, P2, K4.

Row 9 K4, *C4B, C4F, K6; rep from * to last 12 sts, C4B, C4F, K4.

Row 11 K2, *C4B, P4, C4F, K2; rep from * to last 14 sts, C4B, P4, C4F, K2.

Row 13 K2, *C4B, P4, C4F, K2; rep from * to last 14 sts, C4B, P4, C4F, K2.

Row 15 K4, *C4F, C4B, K6; rep from * to last 12 sts, C4F, C4B, K4.
Rep rows 3–16 once more.

Change to 5mm needles.

Next row *K2, P2; repeat from * to last 2 sts, K2.

Continue until rib measures 7cm.

Cast off in rib.

TO MAKE UP

Sew in loose ends by weaving them into the WS of your cuff.

With RS facing, use mattress stitch to join side seams.

NEXT MONTH

Knit yourself a beautiful textured bag for the new season. Issue 129, February, is on sale from Friday 2 January.

STEP-BY-STEP C4F CABLE 4 FRONT



1 Work up to where the cable pattern starts, then take the yarn to the back of the knitting.



2 Slip the first 2 stitches knitwise on to a cable needle. Hold these stitches at the front of the knitting.



3 Knit the next 2 stitches from the left-hand needle, then slide the stitches on the cable needle to the end of the needle and knit them on to the right-hand needle.



4 Bring the yarn to the front of your knitting, and pull the yarn tight to avoid ladders along the side of the cable. Purl the next stitch and continue in the pattern.

Knit and Natter in Battersea



This issue, our club of the month wins a fabulous goodie bag of knitting products worth £50, courtesy of LoveKnitting. For more info visit www.loveknitting.com.



LEFT & RIGHT © YOUR CAT

ALONGSIDE PURRING and miaowing at Battersea Dogs & Cats Home's London Cattery you'll also hear another familiar sound: the clacking of needles. Staff at the centre have set up a group, Knitting Kittens, that meets once a month for what they call "the world's first interspecies knitting club".

"The idea was the brainchild of some of Battersea's keen knitters, who saw a great opportunity to bring together two of our mutual loves – knitting and cats!" says Head of

Cattery Lindsey Quinlan. "The Home has a lot of supporters who also enjoy knitting, and we thought it would be a great way to bring everyone together to enjoy this hobby and keep the 250 felines entertained and warm over the winter months while they're looking for new homes across our three London-based centres."

The Cattery receives no government funding and is completely reliant on donations from supporters to help it care for the cats until new homes can

be found, so every knit counts. The team got the word out on the Battersea website, and through local newspapers, magazines and online publications – and the response has been brilliant.

"It's amazing to be part of a group where everyone's getting together to do something amazing for the cats, and there's the added bonus of meeting other like-minded people – a crafty cat-lovers' get-together!" says SuiLi Weight, Battersea's

Cattery Team Leader. "We receive some wonderful knitted items from kind people and we thought this would be a great way to show our appreciation, as well as encourage more people to get involved.

"It's such a unique setting for a knitting club, and everyone (cats and visitors alike) seems to enjoy the chance to hang out together outside the normal hours, which is when the cats really seem to shine!"

The crafting group have been busy whipping up lots

Out & about

Great things to see and do in and around Battersea.

Battersea Park Children's Zoo houses familiar animals and more exotic creatures.



© NICOLE DUPLAIX

GREAT DAYS OUT

BATTERSEA

The towering chimneys of Battersea Power Station make this part of London instantly recognisable. Go for a leisurely walk around Battersea Park and meet the animals at the Children's Zoo (www.batterseaparkzoo.co.uk), then take in an exhibit at the Pump House Gallery (www.pumphousegallery.org.uk). Stop off at one of the many local coffee shops and restaurants – or simply enjoy the views over the River Thames.



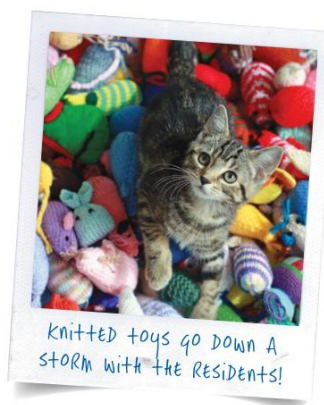
ARTS CENTRE

There's lots to see and do at the vibrant Battersea Arts Centre. Book tickets to a theatre or dance production or, if you fancy being a bit more hands-on, take part in a workshop. Call 0207 223 2223 or visit www.bac.org.uk.

There's a packed programme of shows to choose from at Battersea Arts Centre.



BATTERSEA ARTS CENTRE PHOTOS © MORLEY VON STERNBERG



LEFT & RIGHT © BATTERSEA DOGS & CATS HOME



of knitted mice, blankets and other small toys suitable for felines. "The cats' temporary home in the Cattery feels much more homely and cosy with the help of these blankets and toys, which have been made with so much love and care," says SuiLi.

But it's not just about the cats! "We also invite knitters to knit items for their own pets (or any other projects they're working on – it doesn't have to be pet-related!), using our animals as inspiration," says Lindsey. The members enjoy being able to visit Battersea and say hello to the cats and kittens that will benefit from

their skills. While the group's participants aren't able to directly socialise with the cats, being able to knit and chat with fellow animal lovers to a backdrop of gentle purring is a really relaxing experience.

"We'd love to see our club grow more and more each month," says Lindsey. "Even if you're a complete beginner, you'll be shown the ropes and be provided with easy patterns to get you started. You'll just need to bring your own knitting needles, wool and a £2 suggested donation. We'll provide the great company and purring of grateful cats!"

Knitting Kittens meet at Battersea Dogs & Cats Home's London Cattery at 4 Battersea Park Road, London, SW8 4AA. The next meeting dates are 10 December and 14 January from 5-8pm. If you'd like to find out more about the group please get in touch with Georgina Watson at g.watson@battersea.org.uk, or call 0207 627 9332.

If your knitting group would like to be featured as our club of the month, write to the usual address on page 32 or email us at simplyknitting@futurenet.com.



PS Subscribe and you could save up to 34% off the cover price, get an extra pattern every month and enjoy our free gifts with every issue! Turn to page 46 for more details.

YOUR CLUBS

■ Kingston Knitting and Crochet Group meets every Thursday from 6-9pm at Costa Coffee, Bantalls Centre, Kingston. Email naoko.ito@blueyonder.co.uk for details.

■ Balham Stitch'n'Bitch meets every Wednesday from 6pm at Balham Bowls Club, 7-9 Ramsden Road, Balham. For more information contact c.bishop@imperial.ac.uk.

■ Knit in Canary get together every other Wednesday lunchtime from 12.30-1.45pm at Starbucks in Canary Wharf. Email c_n_wright@yahoo.co.uk to find out more about joining them.



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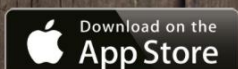
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The digital version of the magazine does not include the cover gift that you would find on newsstand copies, or access to Craft Circle.

A collection of handmade textile accessories is arranged on a light-colored wooden surface. The items include several wooden knitting needles, some with red and white yarn wrapped around them. There are also wooden buttons of various sizes and shapes, a piece of white lace, a measuring tape, and two balls of yarn (one red, one white). A small wooden spool with a piece of fabric wrapped around it is also visible. The overall aesthetic is rustic and cozy.

THE COLLECTION

AND SO TO BED

Show your bedroom some love and make it the snuggliest room in the house with this collection of beautiful, stylish accessories.

HONEYCOMB

This beautiful textured cushion will look perfect on your bed. By **Sarah Dennis**.

SIMPLE
TECHNIQUE,
FAB RESULT!



THIS PRETTY PATTERN
IS CREATED WITH A SERIES
OF SLIPPED STITCHES IN
DIFFERENT COLOURS



THE COLLECTION



YOU WILL NEED

- Sirdar, Country Style DK (40% nylon, 30% wool, 30% acrylic, 50g/155m) 3 balls of each:
 - Yarn A Cream (411)
 - Yarn B Snapdragon (618)
 - Yarn C Autumn (613)
 - A pair of 3 3/4mm needles
 - 5 buttons
 - A 43x43cm cushion
- For yarn stockists contact
Sirdar 01924 231682
www.sirdar.co.uk

TENSION

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension: 22 sts and 28 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over garter st using 6 1/2mm needles

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list see page 92



The cushion cover is knitted all in one piece with just the sides seamed.

Would you like to know a secret about this stunning cushion? It's really easy to knit! All you need to do is slip stitches and change colours at regular intervals to create this beautiful effect. So you can enjoy an easy knit and then feel really proud when your friends are gushing over how amazing your new cushion is!



PATTERN NOTES

Slip all sts purlwise. When slipping 2 sts, these can be slipped together to speed things up!

The cushion cover is easily adjusted to fit different size pads – cast on a multiple of 6 sts plus an extra 4 sts (for symmetry), and work patt as given below, but note that buttonhole row will also need to be adjusted (add 1 st between buttonholes for every 6 extra sts).



CUSHION COVER

Cast on 94 sts using 3 3/4mm needles and Yarn A.

Knit 4 rows.

Row 1 Knit.

Row 2 Knit.

Change to Yarn B.

Row 3 (RS) K1, *sl2, K4; rep from * to last 3 sts, sl2, K1.

Row 4 P1, *sl2, P4; rep from * to last 3 sts, sl2, P1.

Row 5 K1, *sl2, K4; rep from * to last 3 sts, sl2, K1.

Row 6 P1, *sl2, P4; rep from * to last 3 sts, sl2, P1.

Change to Yarn A.

Row 7 Knit.



These little wooden buttons make a really lovely feature on the front of the cushion.

Row 8 Knit.

Change to Yarn C.

Row 9 K4, *sl2, K4; rep from * to end.

Row 10 P4, *sl2, P4; rep from * to end.

Row 11 K4, *sl2, K4; rep from * to end.

Row 12 P4, *sl2, P4; rep from * to end.

Change to Yarn A.

Rows 1–12 form patt.

Cont until work measures 85cm, ending with either row 6 or row 12 of patt.

Knit 4 rows.

Next row (buttonhole row) K10, *yo, k2tog, K16; rep from * to last 12 sts, yo, k2tog, K10.

Knit 4 rows.

Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Wrap cushion around on itself so that buttonhole row overlaps lower border. Sew up side seams, overlapping the button and buttonhole bands. Sew on buttons to correspond with buttonholes.

STEP-BY-STEP YO YARN OVER



1 Bring the yarn to the front before you work the next stitch.



2 Insert the needle into the next stitch and take the yarn from front to back over the needle and wrap it around the needle.



3 Pick up the yarn and pull it through the stitch on the needle.



4 Slip the stitch off the needle. You'll notice that the yarn over forms an extra loop to the right of the stitch you've just worked. When you purl back across the row, it'll create a hole.

THE COLLECTION



KNIT
LACE



DK
WEIGHT



6½MM

YOU WILL NEED

- Sirdar, Country Style DK (40% nylon, 30% wool, 30% acrylic, 50g/155m)
6 balls of Naturelle (409)
- A pair of 6½mm needles
- 3 buttons

For yarn stockists contact
Sirdar 01924 231682
www.sirdar.co.uk

TENSION

Yarn used knits as triple thickness DK to this tension:
16 sts and 16 rows to measure
10x10cm (4x4in) over pattern
using 3¾mm needles

ABBREVIATIONS

MS Make Star: p3tog, leave sts on needle, yo, then purl the same 3 sts again

For a full list see page 92



STARRY NIGHT

Keep your pyjamas neat and tidy with this stylish case. By Sarah Dennis.

Tip The main feature of this case is the pretty star stitch. If you've never done it before, have a go on a swatch before you tackle the whole case. That way you'll know what to do and you can just sit back and relax.



Sew your buttons on securely to make sure they survive plenty of use!

Pyjama cases aren't just for kids! The clever star stitch and stylish buttons make this knitted case a sophisticated option for grown-ups – and it would be a thoughtful gift for a winter birthday too. The yarn is held triple, so despite the complex-looking stitch pattern it'll knit up quickly, making this a great project for a quiet weekend.



PATTERN NOTES

The pattern is worked with the yarn held triple throughout. The easiest way to do this is to work from 3 balls at once, holding all 3 yarns together.

PYJAMA CASE

Cast on 65 sts using 6½mm needles and yarn held triple.

Row 1 Knit.

Row 2 P1, *MS, P1; rep from * to end of

row.

Row 3 Knit.

Row 4 P3, MS, *P1, MS; rep from * to last 3 sts, P3.

Rows 1–4 form patt.

Continue as set until work measures 50cm, ending with row 4 of patt.

Buttonhole row K16, *yo, k2tog, K14; rep from * to last 17 sts, yo, k2tog, K15.

Next row P1, *MS, P1; rep from * to end of row.

Next row Knit.

Next row P3, MS, *P1, MS; rep from * to last 3 sts, P3.

Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Wrap case around on itself so that buttonhole row just overlaps lower border. Sew up side seams, overlapping the button and buttonhole bands. Sew on buttons, using buttonholes as a guide. 

SHINE A LIGHT

Dress up plain lampshades with this pretty and intricate cover. By **Sarah Dennis**.

HAVE A GO
AT A NEW
TECHNIQUE!



MAKE SURE YOU BLOCK YOUR
KNITTING FIRMLY TO PREVENT THE
SCALLOPED EDGE FROM CURLING



Tip Blocking your lace knitting is really important. The process of soaking and pinning out your projects evens out the stitches and allows the designs to bloom – opening out the yarn overs and neaten up the decreases. It's worth the extra effort, trust us!



YOU WILL NEED

- Sirdar, Country Style DK (40% nylon, 30% wool, 30% acrylic, 50g/155m) 1 ball of Cream (411)
- A 3mm circular needle (60cm long)
- A 3 3/4mm circular needle (optional – for casting off)
- Stitch holders
- A 20cm (top diameter) x 20cm (bottom diameter) x 20cm (height) lampshade frame

For yarn stockists contact
Sirdar 01924 231682
www.sirdar.co.uk

TENSION

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension: 30 sts and 32 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over pattern using 3mm needles

ABBREVIATIONS

S2kpo sl2 sts as if to K them tog, K1, pass 2 sl sts over

For a full list see page 92

Elegant and pretty, this lampshade cover will instantly add feminine chic to your bedroom. The unusual fan stitch is really effective and it'll be interesting to knit too, so it's a great pattern to go for on bad-weather weekends when you're stuck indoors. What could be better than an afternoon on the sofa with a good knitting project?



PATTERN NOTES

When a stitch marker is used, slip it each time it's reached, unless stated otherwise in the row instructions.

The lampshade cover is easily adjusted to fit different cylindrical frames – cast on a multiple of 12 sts and work patt as given below.

K LAMP SHADE

Cast on 120 sts using 3mm circular needle. Join into the round, taking care not to twist sts.

NOTE You may find it useful to place a marker after every 12 sts to help keep count of sts in this pattern.

Round 1 *K1, yo, K4, s2kpo, K4, yo; rep from * to end of round.

Round 2 Knit.

Round 3 *K2, yo, K3, s2kpo, K3, yo, K1; rep from * to end of round.

Round 4 Knit.

Round 5 *K3, yo, skip the next 7 sts and insert the RH needle here (in the space between the LH needle and the knitting) to draw up the long loop, pull this loop through and place it at the front of the LH needle (so it would be the next st knitted if you were just knitting normally) and knit it together with the first of the 7 sts that you skipped, K1, s2kpo, K2, yo, K2; rep from * to end of round.

Round 6 Knit.

Remove st marker, K6, then replace marker. Work rounds 7–12 from new marker position.

Round 7 *K1, yo, K4, s2kpo, K4, yo; rep from * to end of round.

Round 8 Knit.

Round 9 *K2, yo, K3, s2kpo, K3, yo, K1; rep from * to end of round.

Round 10 Knit.

Round 11 *K3, yo, skip the next 7 sts and insert the RH needle here (in the space between the LH needle and the knitting) to draw up the long loop, pull this loop through and place it at the front of the LH needle (so it would be the next st knitted if you were just knitting normally) and knit it together



Using a larger needle to cast off ensures an even finished edge that isn't too tight.



Pull the yarn through and around selected live stitches to create the long loops.

with the first of the 7 sts that you skipped, K1, s2kpo, K2, yo, K2; rep from * to end of round.

Round 12 Knit to last 6 sts of round, place second st marker (this marker is now in the original position). Recommence round 1 starting from this marker, and remove the marker that was placed between rounds 6&7.

Rounds 1–12 form pattern. Rep rounds 1–12 until shade meas approx 18cm (this will stretch over a 20cm shade frame), ending with round 6 or round 12 of patt.

Cast off using 3 3/4mm needle.

TO MAKE UP

Block and weave in any loose ends. 🧶

STOWAWAY

Organise your lotions and potions with these handy little pots. By **Sarah Dennis**.

FRESHEN UP
YOUR LOOK
AT HOME

HAVE A GO AT SOME SIMPLE
CROCHET STITCHES TO MAKE
THIS STURDY POT AND LID





YOU WILL NEED

- Sirdar, Country Style DK (40% nylon, 30% wool, 30% acrylic, 50g/155m) 3 balls of each:
 - Yarn A Cream (411)
 - Yarn B Snapdragon (618)
 - Yarn C Autumn (613)
- A pair of 6½mm needles
- A 6½mm circular needle (60cm long)
- A 6½mm crochet hook
- Stitch holders

For yarn stockists contact
Sirdar 01924 231682
www.sirdar.co.uk

TENSION

Yarn used knits as triple thickness DK to this tension: 16 sts and 28 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over garter st using 6½mm needles

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list see page 92

Let's face it: there are always lots of bits and bobs that end up strewn across bedside tables and cabinets in your bedroom. So why not whip up a couple of sweet little pots to help keep everything organised? Using the yarn held triple means that these designs will be really chunky and super quick to knit, so you'll be using them in no time!



PATTERN NOTES

The pattern is worked with the yarn held triple throughout.

For crochet pot with lid, this can be made any size – just ensure that the lid has 1 extra round of increase dcs than the base of the pot. A large button could be added as a handle for the lid.

SQUARE POT

BASE

Cast on 16 sts using 6½mm needles and 1 length each of Yarns A, B and C. Knit 28 rows.

Cast off.

SIDES (MAKE 4)

Cast on 16 sts using 6½mm needles and 1 length each of Yarns A, B and C. Knit 18 rows.

Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Using 1 strand of each yarn, sew bottom of each side to base. Sew up side seams. For an interesting effect, oversew the sides from the right side of the work.

CROCHET POT WITH LID

POT
Using 6½mm crochet hook and triple thickness of Yarn A, ch 6 and join into a ring with sl st.

Round 1 Work 8 dc into ring. [8 sts]

Round 2 *2 dc in next dc; rep from * to end of round. [16 dc]

Round 3 *1 dc in next dc, 2 dc in next dc; rep from * to end of round. [24 dc]

Round 4 *1 dc in each of next 2 dc, 2 dc in next dc; rep from * to end of round. [32 dc]

Round 5 *1 dc in each of next 3 dc, 2 dc in next dc; rep from * to end of round. [40 dc]

Round 6 *1 dc in each of next 4 dc, 2 dc in next dc; rep from * to end of round. [48 dc] **

Round 7 Working only into the uppermost loop of each dc in the previous round, work 1 dc into each dc.



Holding all three yarns together as you knit produces this pretty colour pattern.

Round 8 Work 1 dc into each dc.

Rep round 8 until pot is desired height. Join to start of round with a sl st.

Fasten off.

LID

Work as for Pot to **.

Round 7 *1 dc in each of next 5 dc, 2 dc in next dc; rep from * to end of round. [56 dc]

Round 8 Working only into the uppermost loop of each dc in the previous round, work 1 dc into each dc.

Round 9 Work 1 dc into each dc.

Rep round 9 a further 4 times. Join to start of round with a sl st.

Fasten off.

NEXT MONTH

Stave off the winter chill with some snugly and stylish accessories. Issue 129, February, is on sale from Friday 2 January.

ARROWHEAD



Cosy and chic, you'll wonder how you ever lived without **Helen Ardley's** lacy scarf.



THIS SCARF IS A GREAT CHOICE IF YOU'RE NEW TO LACE, AS THERE'S JUST ONE 10-ROW STITCH PATTERN TO LEARN

Tip This is a really thrifty project, because it only uses one ball of yarn – so you can have a luxurious scarf for just £8.10. What a bargain! To really make the most of your yarn, you can just keep repeating the 10-row pattern until you run out.



YOU WILL NEED

- DROPS, Lace (70% alpaca, 30% silk, 100g/800m)
1 skein of Light Grey Mix (0501)
- A pair of 3mm needles

For yarn stockists contact
Wool Warehouse 01926 882818
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk

TENSION

Yarn used knits as lace to this tension: 24 sts and 40 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over lace pattern using 3mm needles

MEASUREMENTS

Approx 32cm x 176cm

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list see page 92

When the weather turns nasty, you need a good, reliable scarf to keep you cosy. But who said snugly had to mean bulky? Knitted up in naturally insulating fibres, this scarf is perfectly toasty, while still being light and airy. And to top it all off, it's a stylish addition to any outfit. Really, it's a match made in heaven!



SCARF

Cast on 89 sts using 3mm needles.

Row 1 (WS) Purl.

Row 2 (RS) K1, *sl1, K1, pssso, (K1, yo) twice, K1, k2tog, K1; rep from * to end of row.

Row 3 Purl.

Row 4 K1, *sl1, K1, pssso, (K1, yo) twice, K1, k2tog, K1; rep from * to end of row.

Row 5 Purl.

Row 6 K1, *yo, sl1, K1, pssso, K3, k2tog, yo, K1; rep from * to end of row.

Row 7 Purl.

Row 8 K1, *K1, yo, sl1, K1, pssso, K1, k2tog, yo, K2; rep from * to end of row.

Row 9 Purl.

Row 10 K1, *K2, yo, sl2tog knitwise, K1, pssso, yo, K3; rep from * to end of row.

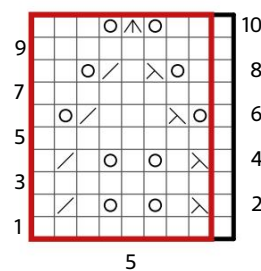
These 10 rows form the pattern.
Rep rows 1–10 using written text or Chart until work measures approx 176cm long.

Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Weave all loose ends into the WS of the work. Gently block to measurements given, following any special yarn care instructions on the ball band.

Chart



Key

- K on RS; P on WS
- ▤ K2tog
- ▥ sl1, k1, pssso
- yo
- △ sl2 tog knitwise, K1, pssso
- repeat

HOW TO USE OUR CHARTS

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

NEXT MONTH

Everyone loves a poncho! Treat yourself to this timeless garment. Issue 129, February, is on sale Friday 2 January.

STEP-BY-STEP SKPO SLIP 1, KNIT 1, PASS SLIPPED STITCH OVER



1 Insert the point of the right-hand needle into the next stitch as if you were to knit, but slip the stitch off and on to the right-hand needle.



2 Knit the next stitch as normal.



3 Now insert the left-hand needle into the slipped stitch on the right-hand needle and lift it over the knitted stitch.



4 Continue knitting until the end of the row. This decrease forms a slant which lies to the right.

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GRANDMA HOLLY

Quaint and quintessentially British, you'll love **Alan Dart**'s sweet little lady.

EXCLUSIVE
ALAN DART
Design



IF YOU'RE QUICK,
A BATCH OF THESE
WREATHS WOULD MAKE
FUN FESTIVE NAPKIN
RINGS!

Tip Grandma Holly would make a lovely present for grandchildren who live in a different city or country. You could personalise the colours of her clothes and hair and give them to your little ones so that Grandma can be nearby for a cuddle no matter how far away she lives.



YOU WILL NEED

- Hayfield, Bonus DK (100% acrylic, 100g/280m)
1 ball of each:
Moss Green (792), Claret (841), Oatmeal (964), Flesh Tone (963), Bottle Green (839), Black (965), Orchard (904), White (961), Classic Red (833), Grass (825) and Chocolate (947)
- 50cm length of dusky pink DK yarn
- A pair of 3mm knitting needles
- 75g washable toy stuffing
- Long tweezers
- Pair of compasses
- Stiff card
- Clear adhesive
- Pink pencil
- Hair spray

For yarn stockists contact
Sirdar 01924 231682
www.sirdar.co.uk

TENSION

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension: 26 sts and 36 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st using 3mm needles

MEASUREMENTS

30cm tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list see page 92

The perfect mix of wintry and festive, presented in an adorable package, Grandma Holly has stolen our hearts. We just love her impeccable Victorian style and easy rapport with nature, don't you? And if you're new to knitting toys this is a great one to start with, thanks to the simpler accessories and construction.



NOTE

Use 3mm needles throughout and cast on by using the cable (two needle) method. This is most important when knitting the smaller pieces. Also begin all pieces with a K row, and always work 'inc 1' by knitting into the front and back of the stitch, otherwise your stitch count will not be correct. Be aware that shaping will commence on the first row for some of the pieces.

K SKIRT AND BODICE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 16 sts with Moss Green for base edge.

Work in st st for 2 rows.

Inc row 1 Inc into every st to end. [32 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows.

Inc row 2 (Inc 1, K1) to end. [48 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows.

Inc row 3 (K1, inc 1, K1) to end. [64 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows.

Inc row 4 (K1, inc 1, K2) to end. [80 sts]

Work in st st for 2 rows.

P 3 rows for fold line.

Work in st st for 10 rows, beg with a K row.

Dec row 1 (K4, k2tog, K4) to end. [72 sts]

Work in st st for 11 rows.

Dec row 2 (K4, k2tog, K3) to end. [64 sts]

Work in st st for 9 rows.

Dec row 3 (K3, k2tog, K3) to end. [56 sts]

Work in st st for 7 rows.

Dec row 4 (K3, k2tog, K2) to end. [48 sts]

Work in st st for 5 rows.

Dec row 5 (K2, k2tog, K2) to end. [40 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows.

Dec row 6 (K2, k2tog, K1) to end. [32 sts]

P 1 row.

Change to Claret for bodice and work in st st for 14 rows.

SHAPE SIDES

Dec row 1 (K5, skpo, K3, k2tog, K3) twice, K2. [28 sts]

P 1 row.

Dec row 2 (K5, skpo, K1, k2tog, K3) twice, K2. [24 sts]

P 1 row.

Cast off for shoulder edge.

APRON (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 30 sts with Oatmeal for base edge.

Work in st st for 8 rows.

Dec row 1 K2, (K2, k2tog, K3) to end. [26 sts]

Work in st st for 7 rows.

Dec row 2 K2, (K1, k2tog, K3) to end. [22 sts]

Work in st st for 7 rows.

Dec row 3 K2, (K1, k2tog, K2) to end. [18 sts]

Work in st st for 7 rows.

Dec row 4 K2, (k2tog, K2) to end. [14 sts]

Work in st st for 7 rows.

Cast off for waist edge.

JACKET SKIRT (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 77 sts with Claret for base edge.

Work in st st for 8 rows.

Dec row 1 (K3, k2tog, K2) to end. [66 sts]

Work in st st for 5 rows.

Dec row 2 (K2, k2tog, K2) to end. [55 sts]

Work in st st for 5 rows.

Dec row 3 (K2, k2tog, K1) to end. [44 sts]

Work in st st for 5 rows.

Cast off for waist edge.

SLEEVES AND MITTENS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 4 sts with Claret for top edge of sleeve.

Inc row Inc into every st to end. [8 sts]

P 1 row.

Work in st st for 6 rows, inc 1 st at beg of each row. [14 sts]

Cast on 2 sts at beg of next 2 rows for underarm. [18 sts]

Work in st st for 6 rows.

Dec 1 st at beg and end of next row.

Work in st st for 5 rows.

Repeat the last 6 rows once more.

[14 sts]

K 2 rows for sleeve cuff.

Change to Grass for mitten and work in st st for 2 rows, beg with a K row.

Cast on 3 sts at beg of next 2 rows for thumb. [20 sts]

Cast off 3 sts at beg of next 2 rows. [14 sts]

Work in st st for 6 rows.

ALAN DART TOY

Dec row 1 K1, (k2tog, K2, skpo) twice, K1. [10 sts]
P 1 row.

Dec row 2 K1, (k2tog, skpo) twice, K1. [6 sts]

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

NECK AND HEAD (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 14 sts with Flesh Tone for base edge of neck.

Work in st st for 4 rows.

SHAPE BASE OF HEAD

Inc row 1 Inc into every st to end. [28 sts]

P 1 row.

Inc row 2 K6, (inc 1, K1) eight times, K6. [36 sts]

Work in st st for 19 rows.

SHAPE TOP OF HEAD

Dec row 1 (K1, k2tog) to end. [24 sts]

P 1 row.

Dec row 2 (K2tog) to end. [12 sts]

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

EARS (MAKE 2 PIECES)

Cast on 8 sts with Flesh Tone and K 1 row.

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

NOSE (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 8 sts with Flesh Tone for face edge.

Work in st st for 2 rows.

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

HAIR (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 48 sts with White for base edge.

Work in garter st for 2 rows.

Dec row 1 (K3, k2tog, K3) to end. [42 sts]

Work in garter st for 2 rows.

Dec row 2 (K3, k2tog, K2) to end. [36 sts]

Work in garter st for 2 rows.

Dec row 3 (K2, k2tog, K2) to end. [30 sts]

K 1 row.

Cast off for top edge.

HAIR BUN (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 11 sts with White for back edge.

Work in st st for 2 rows.

Inc row Inc into every st to end. [22 sts]
Work in st st for 7 rows.

Dec row (K2tog) to end. [11 sts]

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

HAT (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 84 sts with Black for brim edge.

Work in garter st for 2 rows.

SHAPE BRIM

Dec row 1 K4, (K1, k2tog, K5) to end. [74 sts]

Work in garter st for 2 rows.

Dec row 2 (K2tog, K5) to last 4 sts, K4. [64 sts]

K 1 row.

Dec row 3 K4, (k2tog, K4) to end. [54 sts]

Work in garter st for 2 rows.

Dec row 4 (K2tog, K3) to last 4 sts, K4. [44 sts]



The skirt has a flat bottom, knitted from the centre out, to create a stable base.



Grandma Holly's bun is knitted separately and sewn on tucked under her hat brim.

WORK SIDE

Next row Knit, inc 1 st at beg and end. [46 sts]

Work in st st for 7 rows, beg with a P row.

K 3 rows for fold line.

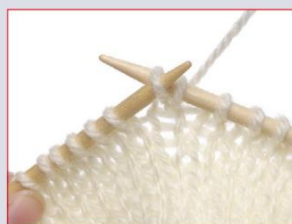
SHAPE TOP

Dec row 1 P2, (p2tog, P2) to end. [35 sts]

STEP-BY-STEP KFB INCREASE 1 BY KNITTING INTO FRONT AND BACK



1 Insert the tip of the right-hand needle into the front of the stitch and knit as normal, but don't drop it from the left-hand needle.



2 Then take the right-hand needle behind the left and insert the tip of the needle down through the back of the stitch on the left-hand needle.



3 Wrap the yarn round the tip of the right-hand needle to knit the stitch. Bring the needle through to make the stitch, keeping it on the right-hand needle.



4 Take the stitch off the left-hand needle. You'll have increased one stitch by knitting twice into the original stitch, first at the front, then at the back.

Tip When you come to colouring the blush onto Grandma Holly's cheeks, remember that less is more. Try and build the colour up gradually, with gentle pressure on the knitted fabric. You can always add more if it doesn't seem like enough, but you can't take it away!

Work in st st for 2 rows, beg with a K row.

Dec row 2 K2, (k2tog, K1) to end. [24 sts]

Work in st st for 2 rows.

Dec row 3 (P2tog) to end. [12 sts]

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

HOLLY LEAVES (MAKE 5 PIECES)

Cast on 2 sts with Bottle Green for base edge.

Work in garter st for 4 rows.

Next row Skpo, break yarn and draw through st.

MUFFLER (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 7 sts with Orchard.

Work in garter st for 74 rows.

Cast off.

WREATH (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 32 sts with Bottle Green for inside edge.

Work in st st for 2 rows.

Inc row 1 (Inc 1, K1) to end. [48 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows.

Inc row 2 (K1, inc 1, K1) to end. [64 sts]

Work in st st for 5 rows.

Dec row 1 (K1, k2tog, K1) to end. [48 sts]

Work in st st for 3 rows.

Dec row 2 (K1, k2tog) to end. [32 sts] P 1 row.

Cast off for inside edge.

WREATH RIBBON (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 100 sts with Classic Red.

Cast off.

WREATH BOW (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 54 sts with Classic Red.

Cast off.

ROBIN (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 7 sts with Chocolate for base edge.

Work in st st for 2 rows.

Inc row Inc into every st to end. [14 sts] P 1 row.

WORK CHEST

Use a separate ball of yarn for each colour change, and twist yarns where colours meet to prevent a hole from forming.

Row 1 K6 Chocolate, K2 White, K6 Chocolate.

Row 2 P5 Chocolate, P4 White, P5 Chocolate.

Row 3 K4 Chocolate, K6 White, K4 Chocolate.

Rows 4&6 P4 Chocolate, P6 Classic Red, P4 Chocolate.

Rows 5&7 K4 Chocolate, K6 Classic Red, K4 Chocolate.

Row 8 P5 Chocolate, P4 Classic Red, P5 Chocolate.

Row 9 K6 Chocolate, K2 Classic Red, K6 Chocolate.

Continue in Chocolate and P 1 row.

Dec row (K2tog) to end. [7 sts]

Break yarn, leaving a long end. Thread through sts on needle, draw up tightly and fasten off.

ROBIN TAIL (MAKE 1 PIECE)

Cast on 4 sts with Chocolate.

Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

Unless otherwise stated, sew seams and join pieces using mattress stitch, working with right side of knitting uppermost. A one-stitch knitted seam turning has been allowed on most pieces to accommodate this method. Join skirt seam from base edge, stopping 12mm above hem fold line, then work a gathering thread through every cast-on stitch along base edge,

IT'S ALL IN THE DETAIL



Above: make sure you're happy with the position of the ribbon and bow before you sew them onto the wreath. Top right: leave the mittens unstuffed and sew the robin on securely so that he'll stand upright. Bottom right: the holly leaves are knitted and then sewn in place, but the stem and berries are embroidered directly onto the hat.



draw up tightly and fasten off. Use compasses to draw an 11cm diameter circle on to card, then cut this out and glue to wrong side of work inside base, matching edge to knitted fold line. Continue to join skirt seam, stopping at first knitted row of jacket bodice and stuff skirt firmly, then join remainder of seam and stuff jacket bodice firmly. With this seam running down centre back, fold shoulder edge flat and sew across.

Starting at gathered top point, join head seam, stopping 2.5cm away from neck edge. Stuff head firmly and join remainder of seam, then use tweezers to stuff neck very firmly. With seam running down centre back, position and sew neck edge of head to top of body. Work a gathering thread through every knitted stitch along first increase row at base of head, draw up to shape, then tie off securely and sew yarn ends into head.

Following instructions printed on ball band, press apron and jacket skirt pieces lightly on wrong side. Position and pin apron at centre front, with waist edge in line with last knitted row of skirt, then sew in place by working backstitch over every cast-off stitch along waist edge and remove pins. Now wrap jacket skirt round waist, with ends meeting at centre front and with waist edge in line with first knitted row of bodice, and pin in position. Sew in place by working backstitch over every cast-off stitch along waist edge and remove pins.

Starting at gathered edge of mitten, join mitten and sleeve seam, sewing round thumbs and stopping at underarm. Leaving mittens unstuffed, use tweezers to stuff sleeves, then position and sew sleeve heads to sides of body, placing within shaped side sections at top of body.

Starting at gathered end, join nose seam and leave unstuffed, then position and sew to face, placing 4 knitted rows above 2nd increase row at base of head. When embroidering features, tie off ends of yarn at top of head where they will eventually be covered by hat. Mark eye positions with pins, placing 2 knitted rows above top of nose and spacing 4 knitted stitches apart. Take a length of Chocolate yarn and draw out a single strand. Use the remaining 2 strands to embroider a circle of 5 tiny chain stitches for each eye. Also using 2 strands of dusky pink yarn, embroider a curved line of chain

stitches for mouth, working over 5 knitted stitches and placing one knitted row below base of nose. Using White yarn, and without drawing out a strand, embroider a single straight stitch above each eye for eyebrows, working over 3 knitted stitches. Use pencil to blush cheeks, working in a circular motion to gradually build up colour.

Position and sew ears to sides of head, placing top of each ear in line with eyes and spacing 5 knitted stitches away from each eye. Oversew side edges of hair piece to form a band. Fit hair on head, placing this seam at centre front, and with base edge in line with first decrease row at top of head. Pin in position so hair passes over top of ears, and at back of head the base edge is 4 knitted rows above first increase row at top of neck. Sew in place by working backstitch over every cast-on stitch along base edge, remove pins, then hold cast-off top edge in place with a few stitches.

Starting at gathered top edge, join hat seam down to brim, then oversew side edges of brim section together. Use compasses to draw a 6cm diameter circle on to card, then cut this out and glue to wrong side of work inside top of hat, matching edge to knitted fold line. Coat hat brim with hair spray and pat into knitting with fingers, then shape and place on a flat surface to dry. Lightly stuff hat, then, with seam at centre back, fit on head and pin in position. Sew in place by working backstitch over every knitted stitch along first row of side section, then remove pins.

Take a length of Chocolate yarn and embroider a line of 7 chain stitches on hat for holly twig. To attach holly leaves to twig, first darn yarn end remaining at cast-off edge down centre of leaf and draw out at base edge. Now thread a needle with both ends of yarn and sew first leaf into hat at tip of twig, drawing out needle at side of hat. Draw up, leaving 12mm of yarn visible at base of leaf, dab a spot of glue on this section of yarn then pull ends to draw leaf into place. Trim away excess yarn. Attach remaining four leaves in same manner, sewing two to each side of twig. Using Classic Red yarn, embroider French knot holly berries along twig.

Treating purl side as right side, and starting at gathered edge, join hair bun piece. Use tweezers to stuff lightly, then work a gathering thread through every cast-on stitch along back edge, draw

up tightly and fasten off. Work a few stitches between the two gathered points, sewing through bun, and draw up tightly to make a flattened shape, then position and sew bun to back of hair.

Wrap muffler round neck, folding in half at back of neck, and cross right end over left at front. Hold in place with a few stitches.

Treating purl side as right side, join side edges of wreath piece to form a band. Now sew cast-on edge to cast-off edge, gradually adding small amounts of stuffing as you join this seam so that entire wreath will be stuffed once seam has been completed. Stretch ribbon piece, then wrap round wreath five times and sew ends together. Stretch bow piece and tie a tight knot in centre. Now measure 4cm in from one end and sew this point to back of knot, forming a loop and a tail. Repeat on opposite side to create a bow, then position and sew to wreath ribbon. Position wreath in right mitten and sew in place with a few stitches, then hold top of wreath to jacket skirt with a few stitches.

Darn in ends of yarn on back of robin chest section, then, starting at gathered top edge, join seam, stopping 12mm away from base edge. Use tweezers to stuff firmly, then join remainder of seam and oversew across base edge. Position and sew tail to base edge. Take a length of Black yarn and draw out a single strand. Use the remaining two strands to embroider eyes with tiny French knots, placing at top of chest section and spacing 2 knitted stitches apart, then make beak by working a small, vertical stitch, and draw up to leave a loop. Spread this loop with a little glue and pinch it between finger and thumb to create a pointed shape.

Position and sew robin to left mitten, then coat left sleeve with hair spray, bend at elbow, and leave to set. 🍷

NEXT MONTH

Get in the mood for sweet treats with Alan Dart's Sugar Plum Fairy. Issue 129, February, is on sale from Friday 2 January.



LACE CARDIGAN



Time to get
your thinking
cap on!

ICE QUEEN

An elegant shape with delightful details,
Louisa Harding's alpaca cardi is cosy and
classy – perfect for winter parties!

Tip Top-down garments like this are great if you dislike sewing up seams. However, you do need to pay special attention when forming the armholes, to make sure your stitches don't get twisted and create a moebius. The last thing you want is to rip it all back!



YOU WILL NEED

- Louisa Harding, Susurro (100% alpaca, 50g/90m)
 - A pair of 5mm needles
 - A pair of 6mm needles
 - 2m of fine satin ribbon
- For yarn stockists contact
Designer Yarns 01535 664222
www.designeryarns.uk.com

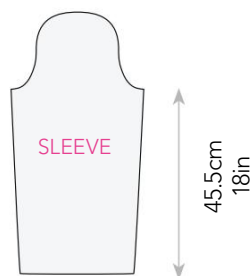
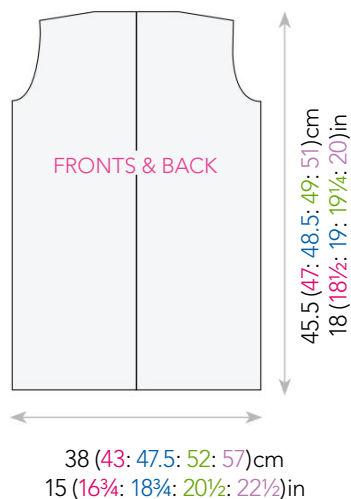
TENSION

Yarn used knits as aran to this tension: 18 sts and 24 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st using 6mm needles

ABBREVIATIONS

k3tog Knit 3 sts together
Slm Slip marker

For a full list see page 92



Graceful and intricate, this is a truly stunning cardigan. Fancy enough to wear over a posh frock for a winter wedding, yet equally suited to pairing with jeans and tee, this garment really will take you anywhere. The project features lace stitches and fancy picot edges, so it'll keep your brain whirring from start to finish!



BACK & FRONTS

NOTE Garment is knitted in one piece to armholes.

Using 6mm needles work Picot Cast On as follows:

***Cast on** 5 sts, cast off 2 sts, slip st on RH needle back onto LH needle; (3 sts now on LH needle), rep from * 44 (50: 56: 61: 67) more times, cast on 2 (1: 0: 2: 1) sts. [137 (154: 171: 188: 205) sts] Work 2 rows in garter st.

Next row (RS) K2, (yo, k2tog) to last 1 (2: 1: 2: 1) sts, K1 (2: 1: 2: 1).

Next row Knit.

Now work 12 rows in lace patt setting sts as follows:

Lace row 1 (RS) (K10, yo, K1, yo, K3, sk2po) 8 (9: 10: 11: 12) times, K1.

Lace row 2 and all even rows to row 10 K1, P to last st, K1.

Lace row 3 (K11, yo, K1, yo, K2, sk2po) 8 (9: 10: 11: 12) times, K1.

Lace row 5 (K1, k3tog, K4, yo, K1, yo, K3, (yo, K1) twice, sk2po) 8 (9: 10: 11: 12) times, K1.

Lace row 7 (K1, k3tog, K3, yo, K1, yo, K9) 8 (9: 10: 11: 12) times, K1.

Lace row 9 (K1, k3tog, K2, yo, K1, yo, K10) 8 (9: 10: 11: 12) times, K1.

Lace row 11 (K1, k3tog, (K1, yo) twice, K3, yo, K1, yo, K4, sk2po) 8 (9: 10: 11: 12) times, K1.

Lace row 12 K1, P to last st, K1.

These 12 rows form the lace patt. Work these 12 rows 3 more times.

Next row (RS) (K10, yo, K1, yo, K3, sk2po) 8 (9: 10: 11: 12) times, K1.

Next row and foll WS row K1, P to last st, K1.

Next row (K11, yo, K1, yo, K2, sk2po) 8 (9: 10: 11: 12) times, K1.

Next row (K1, k3tog, K4, yo, K1, yo, K3, (yo, K1) twice, sk2po) 8 (9: 10: 11: 12) times, K1.

Next row K1, P to last st, K1.

Now work in st st with garter st selvedge setting sts as follows:

Next row (RS) Knit.

Next row K1, P to last st, K1.

These 2 rows set the patt.

Cont to work in patt until work measures 28cm from cast-on edge, ending with RS facing for next row.

DIVIDE FOR RIGHT FRONT SHAPE ARMHOLE

Next row (RS) K35 (39: 43: 50: 55), turn and leave rem sts on a holder for Back and Left Front.

Next row (WS) Cast off 3 (3: 5: 5: 7) sts at beg next row, P to last st, K1.

[32 (36: 38: 45: 48) sts]

Next row K to end.

Next row (WS) Cast off 0 (3: 4: 4: 6) sts, P to last st, K1.

[32 (33: 34: 41: 42) sts]

Dec 1 st at armhole edge on next row and 2 (2: 2: 4: 4) foll alt rows.

[29 (30: 31: 36: 37) sts]

Work 1 row, ending with RS facing for next row.

Cont in st st with garter st selvedge setting sts as follows:

Next row (RS) Knit.

SIZE		XS	S	M	L	XL
TO FIT	cm	71-76	81-86	91-97	101-107	112-117
BUST	in	28-30	32-34	36-38	40-42	44-46
ACTUAL BUST	cm	76	85.5	95	104.5	114
	in	30	33¾	37½	41	44¾
LENGTH	cm	45.5	47	48.5	49	51
	in	18	18½	19	19¼	20
SLEEVE LENGTH	cm	45.5	45.5	45.5	45.5	45.5
	in	18	18	18	18	18
YARN	Louisa Harding, Susurro (50g/90m balls)					
Petrol (003)		7	8	9	10	11

To make this pattern easier to follow, we've colour-coded the sizing instructions – simply follow the relevant column.

LACE CARDIGAN

Next row K1, P to last st, K1.

These 2 rows set the patt.

Cont to work in patt until right front measures 10cm from start of armhole shaping, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE RIGHT FRONT NECK

Next row (RS) Cast off 10 (10: 10: 12: 12) sts, K to end. [19 (20: 21: 24: 25) sts] Dec 1 st at neck edge on next 4 rows. [15 (16: 17: 20: 21) sts]

Cont in patt without further shaping until right front measures 18 (19: 20: 21: 23)cm from start of armhole shaping, ending with WS facing for next row.

SHAPE SHOULDER

Cast off 5 (5: 6: 7: 8) sts at beg next row and foll alt row. [5 (6: 5: 6: 5) sts] Work 1 row.

Cast off rem 5 (6: 5: 6: 5) sts.

BACK

With RS facing, rejoin yarn to rem sts on holder for Back and Left Front, cast off 3 (3: 5: 5: 7) sts, K until 64 (73: 80: 83: 88) sts on RH needle, turn, leave rem 35 (39: 43: 50: 55) sts on a holder for Left Front.

Next row (WS) Cast off 3 (3: 5: 5: 7) sts, P to last st, K1.

[61 (70: 75: 81) sts]

Cast off 0 (3: 4: 4: 6) sts at beg of next 2 rows. [61 (64: 67: 70: 69) sts]

Dec 1 st at armhole edge at each end of next row and 2 foll alt rows.

[55 (58: 61: 64: 63) sts]

Work 1 row, ending with RS facing for next row.

Cont in st st with garter st selvedge setting sts as folls:

Next row (RS) Knit.

Next row K1, P to last st, K1.

These 2 rows set the patt.

Cont in patt until Back measures 18 (19: 20: 21: 23)cm from start of armhole shaping, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE SHOULDERS AND BACK NECK

Cast off 5 (5: 6: 6: 6) sts at beg next 4 rows. [35 (38: 37: 40: 39) sts]

Cast off 5 (6: 5: 6: 5) sts at beg next 2 rows. [25 (26: 27: 28: 29) sts]

Leave rem sts on a holder for back neck.

LEFT FRONT

With RS facing, rejoin yarn to sts on holder for Left Front and work as folls:

Next row (RS) Cast off 3 (3: 5: 5: 7) sts at beg next row, K to end.

[32 (36: 38: 45: 48) sts]

Next row K1, P to last st, K1.

Next row (RS) Cast off 0 (3: 4: 4: 6) sts, K to end. [32 (33: 34: 41: 42) sts]

Next row K1, P to last st, K1.

Dec 1 st at armhole edge on next row and 2 (2: 2: 4: 4) foll alt rows.

[29 (30: 31: 36: 37) sts]

Work 1 row, ending with RS facing for next row.

Cont in st st with garter st selvedge setting sts as folls:

Next row (RS) Knit.

Next row K1, P to last st, K1.

These 2 rows set the patt.

Cont to work in patt until Right Front measures 10cm from start of armhole shaping, ending with WS facing for next row.

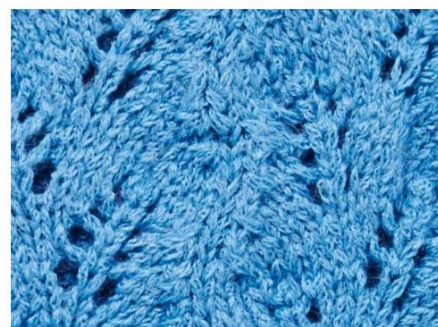
SHAPE LEFT FRONT NECK

Next row (WS) Cast off 10 (10: 10: 12: 12) sts, P to last st, K1.

[19 (20: 21: 24: 25) sts]



Each piece of this garment starts with a picot cast on, for a pretty, delicate edge.



This beautiful cardi is worked partly in the lace pattern and partly in stocking stitch.

Dec 1 st at neck edge on next 4 rows. [15 (16: 17: 20: 21) sts]

Cont in patt without further shaping until Right Front measures 18 (19: 20: 21: 23)cm from start of armhole

STEP-BY-STEP K3TOG KNIT 3 TOGETHER



1 Push the point of your right-hand needle through the first three stitches on your left-hand needle, going from left to right just as you would for a knit stitch.



2 Bring the yarn between both needle points.



3 Pull the yarn through all three stitches, again just as you would if working a knit stitch, and drop them from the left-hand needle.



4 Knitting three stitches together decreases your stitch count by two, and the decrease stitch leans to the right. This picture shows how a series looks.

Tip If you're new to working a picot cast on, and are feeling a little bit intimidated by it, why not start with the sleeves, rather than the main body of this garment? They're much smaller so you can have a go at the technique before tackling large stitch counts.

shaping, ending with RS facing for next row.

SHAPE SHOULDER

Cast off 5 (5: 6: 7: 8) sts at beg next row and foll alt row. [5 (6: 5: 6: 5) sts]
Work 1 row.

Cast off rem 5 (6: 5: 6: 5) sts.

SLEEVES (WORK BOTH THE SAME)

Using 6mm needles work Picot Cast On as folls:

***Cast on** 5 sts using the cable cast on method, cast off 2 sts, slip st on RH needle back onto LH needle; (3 sts now on LH needle), rep from * 10 more times, cast on 2 sts. [35 sts]

Work 2 rows in garter st.

Next row K2, (yo, k2tog) to last st, K1.

Next row Knit.

Now work 12 rows in lace patt setting sts as folls:

Lace row 1 (RS) (K10, yo, K1, yo, K3, sk2po) twice, K1.

Lace row 2 and all even rows to row 10 K1, P to last st, K1.

Lace row 3 (K11, yo, K1, yo, K2, sk2po) twice, K1.

Lace row 5 (K1, k3tog, K4, yo, K1, yo, K3, (yo, K1) twice, sk2po) twice, K1.

Lace row 7 (K1, k3tog, K3, yo, K1, yo, K9) twice, K1.

Lace row 9 (K1, k3tog, K2, yo, K1, yo, K10) twice, K1.

Lace row 11 (K1, k3tog, [K1, yo] twice, K3, yo, K1, yo, K4, sk2po) twice, K1.

Lace row 12 (WS) K1, P to last st, K1.

These 12 rows form the lace patt: Work these 12 rows once more.

Next row (RS) (K10, yo, K1, yo, K3, sk2po) twice, K1.

Next row and foll WS row K1, P to last st, K1.

Next row (K11, yo, K1, yo, K2, sk2po) twice, K1.

Next row (K1, k3tog, K4, yo, K1, yo, K3, (yo, K1) twice, sk2po) twice, K1.

Next row K1, P to last st, K1.

Now work in st st with garter st selvedge setting sts as folls:

Next row (RS) Knit.

Next row K1, P to last st, K1.

These 2 rows set the patt.

Work 4 more rows in patt.

Next row (RS) K3, M1, K to last 3 sts, M1, K3. [37 sts]

Next row K1, P to last st, K1.

Work 4 rows in st st with garter st selvedge as set.

Inc as above on next row and 7 (9: 10: 14: 16) foll 6th (6th: 6th: 4th: 4th) rows to 53 (57: 59: 67: 71) sts.

Cont to work in st st with garter st

selvedge until sleeve measures 45.5cm from cast-on edge.

** SHAPE SLEEVEHEAD

Cast off 4 sts at beg next 2 rows.

[45 (49: 51: 59: 63) sts]

Dec 1 st at each end of next 3 (3: 3: 3: 5) rows and 2 foll alt rows.

[35 (39: 41: 49: 49) sts]

Work 3 (3: 3: 3: 5) rows.

Dec 1 st at each end of next row and 3 foll 4th rows. [27 (31: 33: 41: 41) sts]

Work 1 (1: 1: 3: 3) rows.

Dec 1 st at each end of next row and 2 foll alt rows, ending with a WS row.

[21 (25: 27: 35: 35) sts]

Dec 1 st at each of next row, and 0 (0: 0: 2: 2) foll rows, ending with a RS row.

[19 (23: 25: 29: 29) sts]

Cast off 3 (3: 3: 4: 4) sts at beg next 4 rows. [7 (11: 13: 13: 13) sts]

Cast off.

Join both shoulder seams using back stitch.

RIGHT FRONT EDGING

With RS facing of Right Front and using 5mm needles, pick up and K81 sts from cast-on edge to neck edging cast off.

Work 2 rows in garter st, ending with WS facing for next row.

Turn work and cast off knitwise on WS.

LEFT FRONT EDGING

With RS facing of Left Front and using 5mm needles, pick up and K81 sts from neck edging cast off to cast-on edge.

Work 2 rows in garter st, ending with WS facing for next row.

Turn work and cast off knitwise on WS.

NECK EDGING

With RS facing of Right Front and using 5mm needles, pick up and knit 3 sts across front edging, 28 (28: 28: 34: 34)

sts up right front neck to shoulder, knit across 25 (26: 27: 28: 29) sts left on

holder for back neck, pick up and K28 (28: 28: 34: 34) sts down left front neck

to front edging, pick up and knit 3 sts from front edging.

[87 (88: 89: 102: 103) sts]

Next row (WS) Knit across row dec 0 (1: 2: 1: 2) sts evenly across row.

[87 (87: 87: 101: 101) sts]

Eyelet row K2, (yo, k2tog) to last st, K1.

Next row Knit.

Next row K0 (0: 0: 2: 2), (K8, k2tog) 8 (8: 8: 9: 9) times, K7 (7: 7: 9: 9).

[79 (79: 79: 93: 93) sts]

Turn work and cast off knitwise on WS.



The eyelets on the neck edging are made by working yo, k2tog across the row.



A length of matching ribbon is threaded through the holes in the lace pattern.

TO MAKE UP

Join sleeve seams. Place centre of cast-off edge of sleeves to shoulder seams. Set in sleeves, easing sleeveheads into armholes. Using photograph as a guide, thread ribbon through eyelets in neck band or through eyelets in lace patt at centre front. Tie ribbon with a bow.

NEXT MONTH

Keep out the winter chill with a snugly roll-neck tunic. Issue 129, February, is on sale from Friday 2 January.



This cardi is one of 14 elegant and feminine designs from Louisa Harding's stunning new pattern booklet, *Susurro*. For stockist information visit www.designeryarns.uk.com or call 01535 664222.



@simplyknitting

GET IN TOUCH THROUGH EMAIL, TWITTER AND FACEBOOK!

A FIRST TIME FOR EVERYTHING

I was so taken with Nicki Trench's Fair Isle socks (issue 124) that I immediately ordered the yarn, despite never having attempted Fair Isle before!

I'm pleased with the results, and for their first outing I wore them very proudly to The Knitting & Stitching Show.

Thanks for your inspirational patterns, and here's to more Fair Isle attempts!

Saranna Watkins, Welwyn Wow, Saranna, these socks are fantastic! Well done for taking the plunge and trying something new. Perhaps a Fair Isle jumper next?

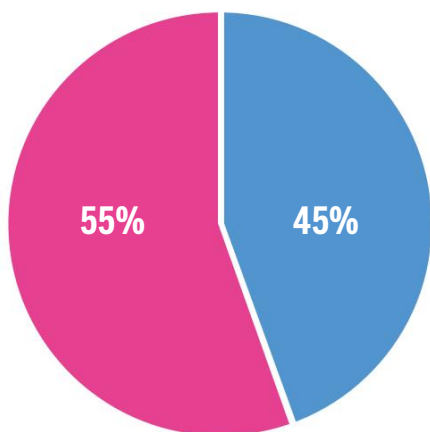


FREE FOR you! TREAT YOURSELF TO SOME LUXURY with KIRSTIE McLEOD'S ALPACA SCARF. FIND THE LATEST NEWS, COMPS AND TIPS ON OUR WEBSITE, www.simplyknitting.co.uk!

FACEBOOK POLL

THE LAST STITCH

We asked... have you ever pulled a sickie to finish a project in time?



55% NO Most of you haven't resorted to lying, but you have given up your sleep: "Many a time I've stayed up until stupid o'clock finishing things..."

45% YES Almost half of you have faked an illness to fit in more cheeky knitting!

THE BEST OF THIS
MONTH'S TWEETS
FROM YOU

@WINETRAIN

Have you heard about Napa's newest variety? #YarnBomb Grapes! @SimplyKnitMag

@KNITTINGIMAGE

Pretty in Pink Christmas Tree Jumper wp.me/p3N8K0-tL as seen in @SimplyKnitMag

@CYGNETYARNS

Can you help out?
#shaunthesheep #yarnbombing
bit.ly/1zMOjB3

@INNOCENTDRINKS

78-year-old Ella has knitted a whopping 1,000 hats for this year's #BigKnit
www.thebigknit.co.uk

THREE OF THE BEST...

GREAT KNITS ON PINTEREST

We love to see all your photos!



WHOVIAN

How incredible is this? It's Emma-Jane Darlington's progress on her fantastic Doctor Who-themed jumper. We all want one now!



WEE WONDER

Fair Elaine Knitter made these lovely little booties out of DROPS Eskimo using a free pattern on www.garnstudio.com. They're adorable!



HOOK IT UP!

Don't you just love Loopsan's granny square? It's in a square-a-day crochet-along she's running on her blog www.loopsan.com.

PS

You can subscribe to *Simply Knitting* digitally from just £3.99. See myfavouritemagazines.co.uk/digital-magazines for more.



SKEINING RAINBOWS

Have you ever dreamt of running away to start your own yarn dyeing business? We meet two women who did just that.

We're always inspired by people who follow their dreams, and recent chats with two of our favourite yarn producers had us filled with envy.

Victoria Magnus, founder and genius behind Eden Cottage Yarns (www.edencottageyarns.co.uk) is pursuing her love of yarn in the most delicious colours. Yet she found her way there in a rather unconventional manner.

"I was at university studying architecture, and had seen another student having a go at knitting," she recalls. "I fancied it, so I had a try. I'd always loved textiles and took to it like a duck to water!"

This passion, paired with a natural curiosity, led to Victoria wanting to dye her own yarn. "I think it all went hand-in-hand," she says. "It was just pre-Ravelry, there was no local yarn shop nearby, and I couldn't find a purple sock yarn online, so I bought some undyed yarn, had a browse online to find out what to do, and

gave it a go. I just sort of ended up dyeing more and more, and started selling it to fund the habit."

The next logical step for Victoria was spinning. "It just happened. Once I was hooked on knitting it was a fast descent into the world of natural fibres. I fancied trying out spinning, so looked that up as well, and had a go on a drop spindle. I actually didn't like it, so I went to a local guild meeting and had a go on a wheel, and that was love at first... treadle, you might say."

Alison Hamnett of Laughing Yaffle (www.laughingyaffle.com) rediscovered a childhood love of knitting when she was in her late 20s, studying textiles for a City & Guilds course. "I used knitting just as a base for embroidered wall hangings, but the more stitches I learned the better I got."

MAKING THE LEAP

Victoria had been dyeing as a hobby for a while when in September 2012 she made a life-changing decision

to move away from her job and flat in Manchester. "I moved to a crumbling 1720s farmhouse in Eden Valley. I had no job lined up, no income, and was alone, so decided it was as good a time as any to start chasing my dreams. It was a very, very tough winter, with little food or coal, but it did me good. I gradually did the house and garden up, and then built the business up."

Happily, Victoria's efforts paid off and Eden Cottage Yarns is now a full-time venture. "I try to have a day or weekend off occasionally but it isn't always easy!"

Alison initially learned to dye fabrics as part of her course. "I found I loved dyed silk fibres and threads, and I wanted to try dyeing woollen yarns. I experimented with small quantities but I had no idea what to do with the finished yarn. Then I discovered sock knitting. At that time bright coloured sock yarns were just coming onto the UK market but I couldn't source any of the eccentric colour combinations



Clockwise from top left: some of the vibrant colourways from Laughing Yaffle; Eden Cottage Yarns shades are inspired by different aspects of nature; Alison Hamnett; Victoria Magnus; Victoria's freshly dyed yarns drying naturally outside.

I liked. Many of the dyers I admired were US-based and I couldn't afford the costs of importing their yarns. So I started to dye my own and thought that I could try making a living from selling what I dyed."

Once you have the raw yarn, the fun begins – choosing the jewel hues and nature-inspired shades to imbue them with.

"It's like painting, but on beautiful fibres, and even better, the finished product has a practical use," says Victoria. "I love how different fibres take colours differently, and I love experimenting with colour."

For Alison, it's all about shades that fill your home with sunshine, even on dreary winter days.

"I really enjoy playing with colour," she says. "I love how colours mix. Even when things go a bit wrong, it's fun to learn how colours go together – or how they don't!"

The major challenge for both dyers is time management. "I work from around 6am to 10pm most days, and still don't fit everything

in," says Victoria ruefully. "My other half David helps when he's not at work, which has made a huge difference as the company grows. He does most of the knitting now, and he helps with labelling, stocktaking and so on."

Alison's time battles are mainly due to one particularly demanding person. "I have a 15-month-old boy now and he's keen to help so I have to make sure it's all out of his reach. I can usually manage dyeing a few skeins per day on a good week, but it really depends on how he is."

For both of them, the hard work is balanced by the joy of being able to have such a creative, tactile role.

"I love the freedom," Victoria says. "I love being in charge of my own destiny, and being able to be creative on a daily basis is the most amazing thing. It's a great industry to be in, and we get to meet so many really lovely people. I have wonderful customers – without them I wouldn't be doing this – and they make it feel like a real

community. Life's excellent when your job is something that you're passionate about, and I just adore natural fibres, colour and texture."

Alison had already established Laughing Yaffle by the time her son was born, and hasn't looked back. "When my baby came along it was great to be in a job I could do from home," she says. "It's still part-time for now but when he's old enough he'll be at nursery and I can have more dyeing time. And when he's older I hope I can train him to help skein up yarn or pack the parcels!"

The future certainly looks bright for these yarn dyers, with plenty of opportunities on the horizon.

"I just love this business!" says Victoria. "It's hard work, and it takes over your life completely, but no matter how exhausted I am, I always remind myself how lucky I am to be doing a job I love so much." 🌿

*Written by Judy Darley
Want to follow in our dyers' footsteps?
Visit www.simplyknitting.co.uk to read their top tips and first-hand knowledge.*

CHEEKY CHOPS

Little ones can keep all their stationery safe and tidy in **Jane Burns's** pencil case.

SWEET
TREAT FOR
THE KIDS!



PENCIL CASE



YOU WILL NEED

- Rico Design, Essentials Merino DK (100% Merino wool, 50g/120m)
- 1 ball of Magenta (10)
- A pair of 3 1/4mm needles
- A set of 3 1/4mm DPNs
- 20cm zip
- Toy stuffing
- Large toy eyes
- Cardboard

For yarn stockists contact Rico Design
www.rico-design.de/en/home

TENSION

Yarn used knits as DK to this tension: 26 sts and 38 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st using 3 1/4mm needles

MEASUREMENTS

21cm wide x 11cm tall

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list see page 92

How fantastic is this little piggy? Any child would be absolutely thrilled to receive this inspired case to keep all their crafty bits and pieces safe at hand. And it couldn't be easier to knit. Just a stocking stitch rectangle, with a round snout and an i-cord tail attached afterwards, you could knock this up in an afternoon!



K CASE

Cast on 58 sts using 3 1/4mm needles. Work in stocking stitch until piece measures 24cm from cast-on edge.
Cast off.

SNOUT

Cast on 8 sts using 3 1/4mm DPNs and join into the round, taking care not to twist.

Rounds 1–2 Knit.

Round 3 *K1, M1; rep from * to end. [16 sts]

Rounds 4–6 Knit.

Round 7 *K1, M1; rep from * to end. [32 sts]

Rounds 8–10 Knit.

Round 11 *K2, M1; rep from * to end. [48 sts]

Round 12 Purl.

Rounds 13–18 Knit.

Cast off tightly.

Place a running thread through the cast-on stitches and pull tight to close.

TAIL

Cast on 4 sts using 3 1/4mm needles and make an i-cord as foll:

Row 1 Knit, do not turn, slide sts to other end of needle, pull yarn tight across back of i-cord.

Rows 2–3 K2, sl1 purlwise, K1, do not



The pig's tail is an i-cord with well-placed slipped stitches that create the coils.

turn, slide sts to other end of needle, pull yarn tight across back of i-cord. Repeat rows 1–3 until piece measures 8cm.

Cast off.

TO MAKE UP

With WS facing fold case in half, bring cast-off and cast-on edges together. Sew along side edges. Sew zip into place.

NOTE The zip opening runs along the bottom of the pig's head.

Using image as a guide, sew across top corners of case to form ears and add stuffing if you desire. Cut a circle of cardboard the same size as snout and position inside. Sew snout to centre of case, stuffing as you go. Attach eyes and sew tail to zip.

NEXT MONTH

Make your little ones some knitted rings – perfect for dressing up! Issue 129, February, is on sale Friday 2 January.

STEP-BY-STEP M1 MAKE 1 INCREASE



1 Insert the point of the right-hand needle under the loop or line of yarn that lies between the two stitches and pick it up as a stitch.



2 Slip the picked-up stitch on to the left-hand needle.



3 Insert the tip of the right-hand needle into the back of the stitch and knit this stitch.



4 Pull the stitch all the way through and you'll have an extra stitch on your right-hand needle.

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Passing knitting skills on to new **GENERATIONS**

A reader in South Africa is doing us proud by sharing her love of knitting with her grandchildren.

Dawn Kutranov, from South Africa, started knitting when she was just five years old, and is now passing on her extensive skills to her six-year-old granddaughter, Mikka.

"She's always around me and her mum when we're busy sewing and knitting," Dawn explains. "One day she said, 'Granny, I need to knit' and so the bug took over!"

Fortunately, Dawn had some special needles designed for little hands, ready and waiting for this very moment.

"Right now she's knitting a little scarf for a dolly which I gave her for her fifth birthday last year," says Dawn. "It gives me such pleasure to see a little girl so keen to learn and grasp the joy of knitting."

Dawn's own passion for the craft has never waned, and she remains a prolific knitter herself despite working a full-time job.

"I'm always knitting and making something! I'm in the process of finishing off Alan Dart's Pirate and Mermaid. I knitted Mikka a beautiful dress and her little brother Ruan a lovely sleeveless jerkin, both using

patterns I found in different issues of *Simply Knitting* magazine."

When Mikka was learning to read, aged four, Dawn managed to find a *Little Red Riding Hood* book and CD combination to help her along. "I couldn't believe my luck when issue 97 of *Simply Knitting* fell into my hands and there was the great Alan Dart pattern for Little Red Riding Hood!" she exclaims. "I set to work immediately and managed to finish it just in time to give the knitted doll to Mikka for Christmas. She was delighted!"

KEEPING THE CRAFT ALIVE

Dawn has found it relatively easy to teach her granddaughter to knit. "Her co-ordination is very good. She now tells me, 'Granny, you don't have to watch me anymore.' Just seeing her scarf slowly growing row by row gives her enjoyment – her little face lights up."

At school Mikka will be taught to knit from age seven onwards, but it looks like she'll have a fantastic head start! "Some schools in South Africa have knitting clubs where mums, grannies and aunts are invited to

come in and teach the little ones," says Dawn. "In actual fact I was involved at my goddaughter's school in such a club. She's now 13, but in the past I knitted Alan Dart patterns for her too, and she still treasures them."

Dawn is currently in the process of searching for a pattern for a shawl to knit for her newest grandchild, who is due to be born in the UK in December 2014. "I knitted one for Mikka when she was born and it was used for her and her brother and now for her dolls."

With Mikka's skills developing all the time, we're sure she'll be a star pupil at the school's knitting club. "She's taken to it like a fish to water but wants to know when she'll be able to knit as fast as Granny," says Dawn. "I told her I would also teach her little brother Ruan to knit and she looked at me as if to say 'boys don't knit', so I told her the story of one of my uncles who did all the knitting in the house. I think it's important to let her know that knitting is for everyone!" We couldn't agree more, Dawn. 🧶

Written by Judy Darley



From left to right: Dawn has so many skills to share with Mikka and they love knitting together; Red Riding Hood was a gift for Mikka to help her along as she started learning to read; this lovely jumper is just one of many things that Dawn has knitted for her grandchildren.



MOHAIR BLENDS

Soft, snuggly and stylish, perfect for the New Year.

Debbie Bliss ANGEL PRINTS

BALL WEIGHT 25g
BALL LENGTH 200m
YARN CONTENT 76% mohair,
 24% silk
KNITS AS lace weight
RRP £8.95
REC NEEDLE SIZE 3¼-5mm



Sumptuous and soft, this yarn will be a delight to knit with and to wear.

Two delicate plies are tightly twisted for crisp stitch definition and an even fabric with a lush, long-fibre halo.

A colourful variation on the original Angel range, the eight shades of this yarn are all inspired by the palettes of

famous artists. From bright and colourful Kahlo to demure and understated Degas (pictured) there's a hue for every taste, perfect for the classic shapes in the pattern support for this yarn.

Hand wash this delicate yarn and dry flat.

www.designeryarns.uk.com, 01535 664222



Bergère de France PURE DOUCEUR

BALL WEIGHT 50g
BALL LENGTH 250m
YARN CONTENT 58% mohair,
 37% polyamide, 5% wool
KNITS AS aran
RRP £9.95
REC NEEDLE SIZE 4½mm



This classic mohair blend is the perfect combination of soft, light and timeless.

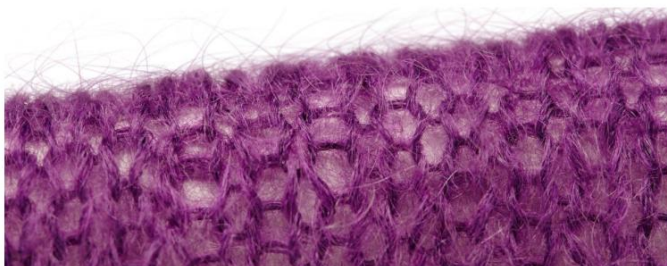
This three-ply yarn is loosely spun, creating plump, rounded stitches and a squashy overall fabric. For ease of knitting, a pair of sharp-pointed needles won't go amiss.

With 10 colours available, ranging from muted Teck to

rich Amethyste (pictured) you are sure to find something you love that will suit any project.

The selection of designs created for this yarn is really diverse, including delicate baby garments and elegant dresses, so the whole family can enjoy this delightful yarn.

Hand wash and dry flat.
www.bergeredefrance.co.uk



AdriaFil SOFFIO PLUS

BALL WEIGHT 50g
BALL LENGTH 150m
YARN CONTENT 50% acrylic,
 40% mohair, 10% wool
KNITS AS DK
RRP £3.59
REC NEEDLE SIZE 4½mm



Encompassing all the usual delicacy of mohair in a thicker and more sturdy weight, this yarn is the best of all worlds.

This loosely plied yarn creates a thick, warm fabric which will be perfect for keeping out the winter chills.

With a whopping range of 20 colours to choose from, you can realise any project with

this yarn. Whether you need a basic cream or a deep red, all the bases are covered.

There are a range of patterns for women's garments and accessories available in this yarn, so you can treat yourself to something luxurious.

Hand wash and dry flat.

www.adriafil.com/uk,
 +39 0541 383706



Rowan MOHAIR HAZE

BALL WEIGHT 25g
BALL LENGTH 102m
YARN CONTENT 70% mohair,
 30% wool
KNITS AS 4ply
RRP £7.50
REC NEEDLE SIZE 3mm



For elegant knits with a refined feel, this is a lovely yarn choice.

This two-ply yarn is loosely spun for plump stitches, but the strands are so fine that you still get a wonderfully light fabric with stunning drape.

The treatment of the fibres gives the fabric a slight sheen, which adds an extra layer of beauty to your creations.

There are 16 varied shades, ranging from timeless Cradle (pictured) to zingy Smile, to pick from, which are perfect for the vast range of designs that are available. Choose between patterns for classic garments, sweet toys and so much more.

Hand wash and dry flat.

www.knitrowan.com,
 01484 681881



Sirdar HUSH

BALL WEIGHT 25g
BALL LENGTH 205m
YARN CONTENT 44% acrylic, 27%
 mohair, 22% nylon, 7% polyester
KNITS AS lace weight
RRP £5.57
REC NEEDLE SIZE 5mm



If you're on the hunt for a glamorous touch to your mohair, then look no further!

Constructed of three tight plies, this fine yarn would be ideal for light accessories with a bit of sparkle. The man-made fibres coil around the mohair for a slightly reduced halo.

All six of the shades available are beautifully variegated, with

subtle gradations of colour for a rich overall finish.

This versatile yarn is great for garments as well as accessories with a good range of patterns to choose from.

A hard-wearing option, this yarn is machine washable at 40°C, but must be dried flat.

www.sirdar.co.uk,
 01924 231682



DROPS PUDEL

BALL WEIGHT 50g
BALL LENGTH 50m
YARN CONTENT 94% mohair,
 6% polyester
KNITS AS chunky
RRP £3.70
REC NEEDLE SIZE 7mm



For luscious texture and super-warm knits, this yarn is an unusual but brilliant choice.

Somewhere between a boucle and faux fur yarn, Pudel features coils of fibres in a multiple ply strand. The finish is quite random on stocking stitch fabric, while garter stitch creates a more uniformly loopy look that

would be great for toys or on-trend fur-effect garments.

All three colours available are neutral and understated for a more genuinely furry look that would be great for winter hats and mitts or a stylish gilet to layer on cold days.

Hand wash and dry flat.

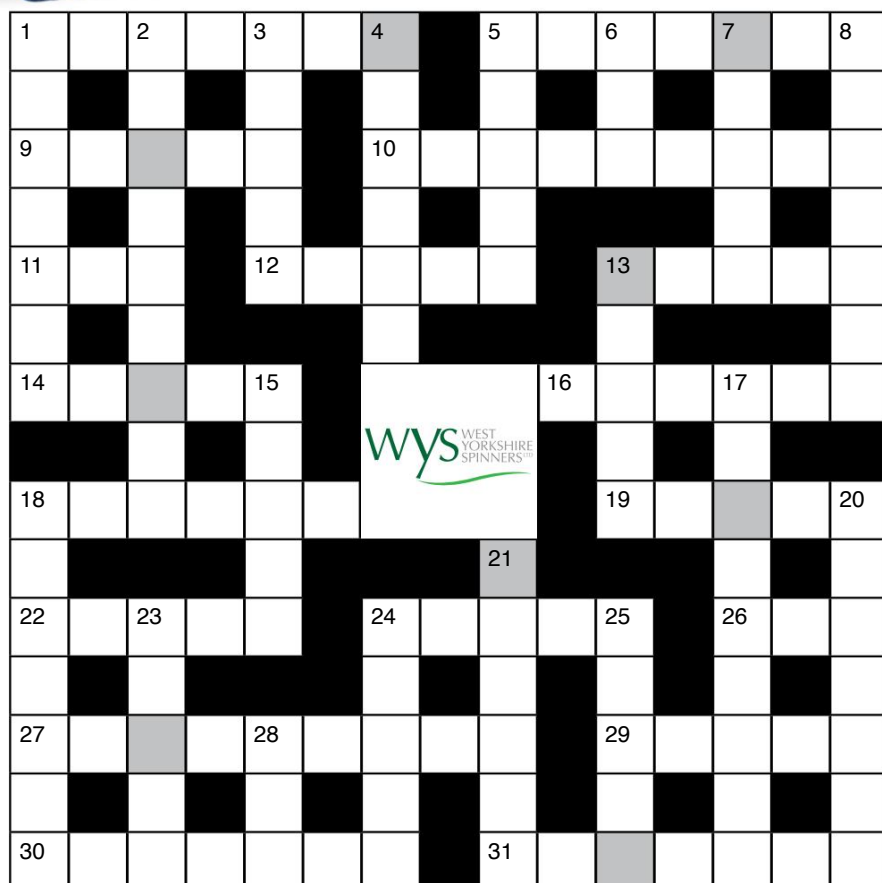
www.woolwarehouse.co.uk,
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PRIZE PUZZLES



As a crossword prize 5 people will get £10 worth of goodies from West Yorkshire Spinners (www.wyspinners.com, 01535 664500). Ten lucky sudoku prize winners can create their very own tiny woodland world with Sachiyo Ishii's Mini Knitted Woodland, courtesy of Search Press (www.searchpress.com, 01892 510850).



Across

- 1 University lesson (7)
5 Tomato sauce (7)
9 Performance-based sum of money (5)
10 Promenade (9)
11 Formal neckwear (3)
12 Prank (5)
13 Unit of length (5)
14 Streets (5)
16 Shut (6)
18 Short poems (6)
19 Become mature (5)
22 Holy man (5)
24 Steam room (5)
26 --- counter, knitting tool (3)
27 Period of economic decline (9)
29 --- oil, vinaigrette ingredient (5)
30 Investigate (7)
31 Non-professional (7)

Down

- 1 Edible crustacean (7)
2 Hundredth anniversary (9)
3 Make (someone) unhappy (5)
4 Where one applies eye shadow? (6)
5 Soft toy or cushion filling (5)
6 Cream ---, scone and jam treat (3)
7 Vital organ (5)
8 Make-believe (7)
13 Large tooth (5)
15 Guide (a vehicle) (5)
17 Oversee (9)
18 --- stockinette, basic stitch (7)
20 Celebrated on 1st January? (3,4)
21 Papua New ---, Oceanian country (6)
23 Bedtime drink (5)
24 Steeple (5)
25 Hawaiian greeting (5)
28 Slide on snow (3)

Issue 126 solution Across: 1 Society, 5 Bicycle, 9 Ounce, 10 Casserole, 11 Kin, 12 Title, 13 Fudge, 14 Larva, 16 Silent, 18 Bumper, 19 Gauge, 22 Cupid, 24 Clamp, 26 Par, 27 Reluctant, 29 Scent, 30 Minutes, 31 Elastic. Down: 1 Snorkel, 2 Conundrum, 3 Eject, 4 Yachts, 5 Baste, 6 Cue, 7 Crowd, 8 Element, 13 Fling, 15 Amend, 17 Equipment, 18 Buckram, 20 Erratic, 21 Rattle, 23 Pylon, 24 Class, 25 Pasta, 28 Cat. Prize answer: ROCKET.

ENTER OUR COMPS!

To enter one of our competitions visit www.simplyknitting.co.uk and click on the 'Competitions' tab. Then, all you have to do is enter the correct code, your name and your address. You will need an email address to enter online, but if you don't have one of your own, feel free to use ours! Just type in simplyknitting@futurenet.com.

Here are this month's competition codes:

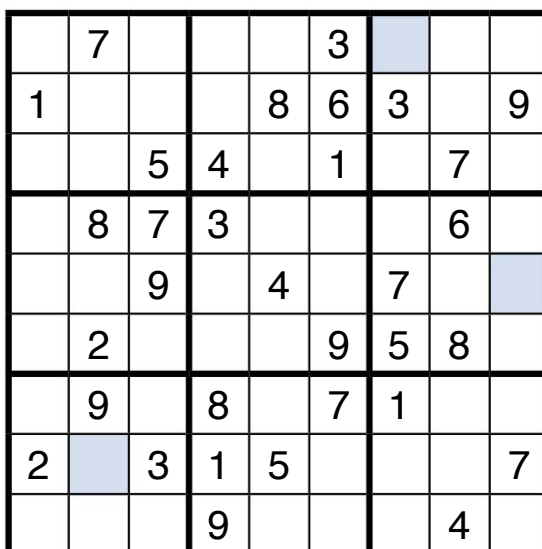
Crossword: **SKXWORD128** (then a space followed by the Prize Puzzle Word)

Sudoku: **SKSUDOKU128** (then a space followed by the Prize Number)

Alexandra Brown novels: **SKBOOK128**

Show tickets: **SKSHOW128**

Find full terms and conditions on p32. The competitions close on Friday 2 January.



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5	4	1	2	3	8	7	6	9
6	2	8	1	9	7	4	3	5
3	9	7	4	5	6	2	8	1
9	8	2	3	7	4	5	1	6
7	6	4	8	1	5	9	2	3
1	5	3	6	2	9	8	4	7
2	1	5	9	4	3	6	7	8
8	3	9	7	6	2	1	5	4
4	7	6	5	8	1	3	9	2

ISSUE 126 SOLUTION

A GREAT
EXCUSE TO GO
SHOPPING!

ESSENTIAL KNITTING

Kit yourself out with all the tools you'll need to make your knitting a doddle.



This new year, get into good habits with your knitting and make sure you have everything you could possibly need with our essentials kit.

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4. Keep tabs on your progress with this Hemline tape

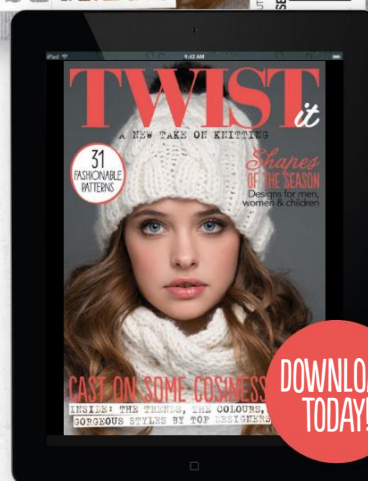
- measure – the handy keyring means you'll never lose it! £2.35, groves@stockistenquiries.co.uk, 01453 883581
5. Keep stitches safe on these aluminium holders. £4 for set of three, www.atomicknitting.co.uk, 07787 526592
6. Even tricky patterns will be a cinch with these Clover markers. £4.94, for stockists see www.viridianyarn.com
7. Jot down handy notes in this cute illustrated notepad. £5, www.katebroughton.co.uk, 07809 041275
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MILESTONES TRUST

KNIT 1 PURL FUN

A group of knitters stroll along Drop Stitch Drive.

“It’s been great to watch our participants’ confidence grow”



Drop Stitch Drive was created by a group of around 50 knitters.



The knitted food looks good enough to eat!



Drop Stitch Drive even had its own laundrette, The Lost Sock.

Service users of Milestones Trust have been putting their craft skills to the test, creating an entire life-sized knitted street!

The Bristol charity, which works with people with learning disabilities, mental health needs and dementia, hosts an annual exhibition called Expressions. Each one has a different theme, packed with ingenuity.

“Our theme for 2014 was The Journey, so we started thinking what this meant to each of us,” explains Ali Brown, who directed the workshops. “We discussed our everyday journeys, and how we could create pieces that were familiar but different – full of colour and humour.”

The street, named Drop Stitch Drive, is crammed with things to make you smile, from the details on the food stall to the shrunken jumpers at laundrette The Lost Sock.

“As we only had a limited time, we chose what to make by thinking about what would be the most fun to create and to visit,” says Ali. “Around 50 knitters were involved in knitting everything from bricks to wigs.”

The project has been entirely led by Milestones Trust’s service users. “A conversation would begin with one idea that led to loads of others, so it just kept growing!”

Eventually, Ali and the team had to stop making and get the exhibition installed at Bristol’s Paintworks. “We never have time to get to the end of our ideas list, but it was wonderful seeing knitted versions of the things we dreamt up at the beginning,” says Ali. “And it’s been great to watch our participants’ confidence grow.”

All this effort culminated in an opening night launched by award-winning author Nathan Filer. “Paula Tovey, one of our most passionate knitters, presented him with a knitted version of his book *The Shock of the Fall*,” says Ali. “He was delighted, and asked her to sign it for him.” She adds: “It was great to see all the contributors chatting with visitors, and seeing and enjoying their work.”

Heather Child, the charity’s Communications and Marketing Manager, was impressed (as we were!) by the sheer ambition of the project. “The knitted street is a great example of all of Expressions. It mixes different groups and helps erode the idea of people with learning disabilities and mental health needs being ‘other’ in some way. Creativity is potent and transformative no matter who you are!” We couldn’t agree more.

Find out more about the exhibition by visiting www.milestonetrust.org.uk/expressions.



The group had so many fantastic ideas, but only time to knit a fraction of them.



It was wigs galore at Drop Stitch Drive’s hairdressers.



The knitting theme even extended to what was playing on the TVs!



JUST FOR FUN

Get a cuppa and enjoy a brainstretcher and a giggle with the Knitall family. Can you find the word that's missing from the list?

WORDSEARCH

All of these popular New Year's resolutions can be found in the grid – but there's one that's not listed. Have a go at finding it and in the next issue we'll tell you what it was. There's no prize – just satisfaction!

CLEAR OUT / HOUSE
 DRINK LESS / ALCOHOL
 EAT LESS / EXERCISE
 GIVE UP / CHOCOLATE
 GO TRAVELLING
 LOSE WEIGHT
 MORE FAMILY / TIME
 NEW HAIRSTYLE
 ORGANISE / PHOTOS
 QUIT SMOKING
 READ MORE
 REDECORATE
 RUN A MARATHON
 SAVE MONEY
 Last issue's word:
 PANTOMIME



In stitches by Malcolm Bird



See more of Malcolm's great art work on his website www.malcolm-bird.co.uk

STITCH LIBRARY

MORE THAN K1, P1!

Ribs don't have to be just stretchy cuffs. Here are some of our favourite fancy rib stitches.



KNOTTED RIB

Cast on a multiple of 3 sts plus 2.
(Try 32 sts.)

Row 1 (RS) P2, *kfb, P2; rep from * to end.

Row 2 K2, *p2tog, K2; rep from * to end.
Rep rows 1&2 to form pattern.

BAMBOO RIB

Cast on a multiple of 19 sts plus 6.
(Try 44 sts.)

Row 1 (RS) *K6, P6, K1, P6; rep from * to last 6 sts, K6.

Row 2 P6, *K6, P1, K6, P6; rep from * to end.

Row 3 *K6, P6, K1, P6; rep from * to last 6 sts, K6.

Row 4 Knit.

Rep rows 1–4 to form pattern.

CHEQUERED RIB

Cast on a multiple of 5 sts plus 1.
(Try 31 sts.)

Row 1 (RS) K1tbl, *P1, K2, P1, K1b; rep from * to end.

Row 2 P1, *K1, P2, K1, P1; rep from * to end.

Row 3 K1tbl, *P4, K1b; rep from * to end.

Row 4 P1, *K4, P1; rep from * to end.
Rep rows 1–4 to form pattern.

ABBREVIATIONS

K knit

kfb knit into front and back of stitch

K1tbl knit 1 into the back loop

P purl

P2tog purl 2 sts together

rep repeat

st(s) stitch(es)

NEXT MONTH

Add some texture to your knits with our beautiful stitch designs.
Issue 129, February, is on sale Friday 2 January.

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OF THE
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MAKE IT EASY

Everything you need to know to help you make the most of the projects in this issue!



CLEMENTINE, p37

3-NEEDLE CAST OFF Join seam by casting off two sets of stitches together.



1 Hold your knitting so both pieces have the WS facing out. Put the tip of a third needle knitwise through the first stitch on both needles.



2 Knit both stitches together, dropping them from the needles.



3 Repeat this for the second stitch on both needles.



4 Now cast off one of the stitches on the third needle, just as you would when working a regular cast off.



STOWAWAY, p55

DC How to work a double crochet stitch.



1 To make a double crochet stitch, insert the hook under the top two loops of the first stitch on the previous row.



2 Wind the yarn around the hook and pull it through the stitch, giving you two loops on your crochet hook.



3 Yarn round hook again, then pull the yarn through both loops. You've made one double crochet and have one loop on your hook ready to do the next stitch.



4 For following rows, turn and make one turning chain. The t-ch does not count as a st. Work your first dc in the st at the base of the ch. At the end of the row do now work into the top of the t-ch.



BLOSSOM, p93

KITCHENER STITCH This creates an invisible join between two pieces of knitting.



1 Cut the yarn, leaving a long tail. Thread yarn purlwise through the first stitch at the front and knitwise through the first stitch at the back.



2 Back to the front. Pass through first stitch knitwise, then slip the stitch from the needle. Sew into the next front st purlwise, pulling the yarn through both stitches.



3 Take the sewing needle to the back needle and 'purl' a stitch, then slip that stitch from the needle. 'Knit' into the next stitch on the back needle.



4 Repeat steps 2-3 across until all the stitches have been grafted and weave the yarn in to finish off neatly.

How to Knit

CAST ON: CABLE METHOD Use it for a firm edge, and when adding stitches in your work.



1 Make a slip knot. Insert right-hand needle into the stitch as if to knit. Wrap the yarn around the point and pull through, slipping the stitch on to the left-hand needle.



2 Push the point of the right-hand needle between the first and second stitches. Wrap the yarn anti-clockwise round the point of the right-hand needle.



3 Pull the loop out with the right-hand needle, then slip it over the tip of the left-hand needle.



4 Repeat steps 2-3 until you have the number of stitches you require.

KNIT Follow our simple steps to make the most important stitch you'll learn.



1 Hold the needle with the stitches on it in your left hand. Keeping the yarn in your right hand and at the back of your work, insert the point of the right-hand needle up into the front loop of the first stitch, as shown.



2 Wind the yarn anti-clockwise around the point of the right-hand needle using your index finger. It's important to keep the yarn in your right hand relatively taut to maintain an even tension as you go.



3 Bring the right-hand needle down through the loop, making sure that you catch the yarn you wound around the needle. This creates the stitch. Don't pull the free yarn too tightly, let out some slack.



4 Push the point of the right needle further through the stitch you created, then gently pull the right needle up and to your left, taking the original loop with it. You've now created one knit stitch. Repeat points 1-4 across the row.

PURL To make purl stitches, just reverse the action of plain knit stitches.



1 Holding the needle with all the stitches on in your left hand, and ensuring that the yarn is at the front of your work, insert the right-hand needle down through the front loop of your first stitch as shown.



2 Wind the yarn around the tip of the right-hand needle from right to left, in an anti-clockwise motion, constantly keeping a slight tension on the yarn.



3 Now slip the right-hand needle back through the stitch, ensuring that you catch the yarn that you've already wound around the needle. This creates a stitch on your right-hand needle.



4 Pushing the point of the right-hand needle a little further through the stitch you've just created, pull the original loop up and off the left-hand needle. That's your first purl! Repeat points 1-4 across the row.

CAST OFF Finish off your knitting with this straightforward cast-off technique.



1 Start by knitting the first two stitches of the row as normal, but don't go any further along as you usually would.



2 Insert the left-hand needle through the first stitch, as shown. Lift this stitch over the other stitch on the right-hand needle and over the needle point.



3 Knit another stitch so you have two on the right needle. Lift the first stitch over the second, then repeat steps 1-3.



4 When you get to the last stitch, cut the yarn about 6in (15cm) away, feed it through the loop and pull through firmly to fasten off.

How to Crochet

CHAIN STITCH This is the foundation of all crochet stitches.



1 About 6in (15cm) from the end of the yarn, make a loop with the ball end on top. Insert the hook through this loop and catch the yarn, pulling it through the loop. Slide the slipknot up to the hook.



2 With the hook in your right hand, hold the slipknot between thumb and finger of the left hand. Move the hook under and over the yarn.



3 Pull the hook and yarn back through the slipknot loop to form your first chain (ch) stitch. Now repeat steps 1-2 until you've formed a chain.



4 This is what your row of chains will look like. Keep going until you have the number of chains that are stated on your pattern. (Don't count the slipknot.)

SLIP STITCH This stitch won't add height.



1 Insert the hook from front to back under the top of the second chain from the hook. Wrap the yarn round the hook (this is known as yrh).



2 Pull the yarn through both loops on the hook to make a slip stitch (sl st). To carry on working a row of slip stitches, insert the hook into the next chain down and so on, repeating step 2 each time.

FOUNDATION RING Carry on for a spiral.



1 Make a short length of foundation chain as stated in your pattern instructions, for example, ch 5. Insert hook into the first chain.



2 Close the ring with a slip stitch (yarn round hook and pull through). You can continue the spiral. If working in the round, add a stitch marker here.

Get Professional Results with *LoveKnitting* have some excellent advice to make sure your Fair Isle knitting goes as smoothly as possible.



FAIR ISLE: IT'S EASIER THAN YOU THINK

There are a few different methods for this technique, so pick the one that suits your knitting style. Double handed: have one colour in each hand. This makes it easier to keep the yarns untangled. Single handed: hold both yarns in one hand and alternate the strands for the colour you need. This is a little slower, but as long as you're meticulous about not getting tangled, it still works!



TOP FAIR ISLE TIPS

- 1 Make sure each yarn is the same weight and type within each project.
- 2 Take your time – rushing can result in frustrating tangles!
- 3 Be consistent with the way you hold your yarn to allow one of your colours to dominate over the other consistently.
- 4 Colour in your charts before you start, so you know exactly which strand to use at a glance.
- 5 Use a ruler or sticky note with your chart to make it really easy to see which row you're currently working on.



For more hints and tips or to find out more about LoveKnitting, visit us online at www.loveknitting.com or call 0845 5760 007. Use the code SKHELP for 10% off your order.

Abbreviations & Useful Info

alt	alternate	P/p	purl	ssp	slip 2 sts one at a time, purl 2 slipped stitches together through back of the loops (1 stitch decreased)
approx	approximately	patt(s)	pattern(s)	st(s)	stitch(es)
beg	beginning	patt	pattern repeat(s)	st st	stocking stitch
C2B	slip next st to cn & hold at back, K1; K1 from cn	rep(s)	place bead	tbl	through the back of the loop
C2F	slip next st to cn & hold at front, K1; K1 from cn	PB	purl into front and back of stitch	T2B	slip next st to cn & hold at back, K1; P1 from cn
C4B	slip next 2 sts to cn & hold at back, K2; K2 from cn	pfb	purl into front and back of stitch	T2F	slip next st to cn & hold at front, P1; K1 from cn
C4F	slip next 2 sts to cn & hold at front, K2; K2 from cn	PM	place marker	T5L	slip next 3 sts to cn & hold at front, P2; K3 from cn
C6B	slip next 3 sts to cn & hold at back, K3; K3 from cn	P2tog	purl 2 stitches together (1 stitch decreased)	T5R	slip next 2 sts to cn & hold at back, K3; P2 from cn
C6F	slip next 3 sts to cn & hold at front, K3; K3 from cn	P3tog	purl 3 stitches together (2 stitches decreased)	tog	together
cb	cable back	prev	previous	W3	Wrap 3 stitches – with yarn held at back of work, slip next 3 sts to cable needle and hold at front of work. Wrap yarn 3 times around these 3 sts, being careful not to pull it too tight and ending up with yarn at back of work. Slip the 3 sts to right needle without knitting them wrong side with yarn at back with yarn in front yarn to the back yarn forward yarn over yarn round needle yarn over needle work instructions immediately following *, then repeat as directed
CC	contrast colour	pssso	pass slipped stitch over		
cf	cable forward	p2sso	pass 2 slipped stitches over		
cn	cable needle	p(1)tbl	purl (1) into back loop purlwise; by purling the stitch		
co	cast on	pwise	purlwise; by purling the stitch		
cont	continue	rem	remain/remaining		
dec	decrease(ing) (by working two stitches together)	rep(s)	repeat(s)		
est	established	rev st st	reverse stocking stitch		
DK	double knitting	RH	right hand		
DPNs	double-pointed needles	rib2tog	either k2tog or p2tog dep on what next st in ribbing should be (keeps ribbing looking neat on buttonholes)		
foll/s	following/follows	rnd(s)	round(s) (on a circular needle/DPNs)		
g st	garter stitch (knit every row)	RS	right side		
inc	increase (usually knit into same stitch twice)	RT	right twist		
K/k	knit	skpo	slip 1 stitch, knit 1 stitch, pass slipped stitch over (1 stitch decreased)		
kfb	knit into front and back of stitch	sl	slip		
kwise	knitwise; by knitting the stitch	sl st	slip stitch		
k2tog	knit the next two stitches together	sm	stitch marker		
k(1)tbl	knit (1) into back loop	ssk	slip 2 stitches one at a time, knit 2 slipped stitches together (1 stitch decreased)		
LH	left hand				
LT	left twist				
meas	measure(s)				
M1	make one by knitting into back of loop between two sts (increase 1 stitch)				
M1L	make one twisted to the left (increase 1 stitch)				
M1R	make one twisted to the right (increase 1 stitch)				
M1P	make one purlwise by purling into back of loop between two sts (increase 1 stitch)				
MB	make a bobble				
MC	main colour				

YARN WEIGHT UK/US CONVERSION

4ply	Sport
Double knitting	Light worsted
Aran	Fisherman/Worsted
Chunky	Bulky
Super chunky	Extra bulky

NEEDLE SIZES

UK	METRIC	US
14	2mm	0
13	2¼mm	1
–	2½mm	–
12	2¾mm	2
11	3mm	–
10	3¼mm	3
–	3½mm	4
9	3¾mm	5
8	4mm	6
7	4½mm	7
6	5mm	8
5	5½mm	9
4	6mm	10
3	6½mm	10½
2	7mm	–
1	7½mm	–
0	8mm	11
00	9mm	13
000	10mm	15
–	12mm	17
–	15mm	19
–	20mm	36
–	25mm	50

HOOK SIZES

UK	METRIC	US
14	2mm	B/1
13	2.25mm	–
12	2.5mm	C/2
11	3mm	–
10	3.25mm	D/3
9	3.5mm	E/4
8	4mm	G/6
7	4.5mm	7
6	5mm	H/8
5	5.5mm	I/9
4	6mm	J/10
3	6.5mm	K/10½
2	7mm	–
0	8mm	–
00	9mm	–
000	10mm	–

YARN WEIGHTS

CHOOSE THE RIGHT YARNS TO KNIT WITH.

1, 2 & 3ply Knit on 2-3½mm needles. Use for delicate lace knitting and baby garments. Good for socks and gloves.

4ply Knit on 3-4mm needles.

Great for baby clothes, heavier socks and lightweight tops.

Double knitting (DK) Knit on 3½-4½mm needles. Usually double the weight of 4ply, this is the most widely used weight. Suitable for most garments and quick to knit up.

Aran Knit on 4-5½mm needles. Originally created for fishermen's jumpers. Use when DK isn't heavy enough, and chunky is too bulky. Perfect for outdoor or warm clothing.

Chunky Knit on 5½-7mm needles. Associated with outdoor wear and winter jumpers, great for oversized garments.

Super chunky Knit on 7-12mm needles. A great weight for beginners, as it produces quick results. Good for furnishings.

Big Knit on 9-20mm needles. Perfect for eye-catching scarves and coats, as well as cosy cushions and throws.

BLOSSOM

The beauty is in the detail with these understated socks by **Rhian Drinkwater**.



THESE LUXURIOUS SOCKS
ARE PERFECT FOR SLIPPING
ON AFTER A HARD
DAY'S WORK



Tip This sock is quite unusual in that the stitch pattern runs down into the heel. If you're worried about the wear on this part of this sock, you could knit a slip-stitch heel instead, working (sl1, K1) to end on RS rows and (sl1, purl) to end on WS rows. The choice is yours!



YOU WILL NEED

- EasyKnits, Deeply Wicked (100% Merino wool, 100g/400m) 1 skein of Precious
- A 2½mm circular needle, 80cm long for Magic Loop, or a set of 2½mm DPNs

For yarn stockists contact
EasyKnits 07793 776011
www.easyknits.co.uk

TENSION

Yarn used knits as 4ply to this tension: 36 sts and 50 rounds to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over st st using 2½mm needles

SIZE

To fit foot circumference of approx 18 (20: 22)cm
Please note socks should have some negative ease
Length of leg and foot can be adjusted to fit

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list see page 92

One of the most wonderful things about knitting is the endless supply of designs you can make with different combinations of knit and purl stitches. This pattern is a perfect example of that. Worked over eight stitches and 12 rows, this motif is simple, elegant and easy to remember so you can sit back, relax and knit.



FLOWER PATTERN

Rounds 1–3 Knit.

Round 4 *K1, P1, K6; rep from * to end.

Round 5 *P1, K1, P1, K5; rep from * to end.

Round 6 *K1, P1, K6; rep from * to end.

Rounds 7–9 Knit.

Round 10 *K5, P1, K2; rep from * to end.

Round 11 *K4, P1, K1, P1, K1; rep from * to end.

Round 12 *K5, P1, K2; rep from * to end.



CUFF

Cast on 56 (64: 72) stitches, using a long-tail cast on for elasticity. Join in the round, being careful not to twist.

Rounds 1–12 (K2, P2) to end.

LEG

Begin working Flower Pattern as follows:

Left foot

Work Flower Pattern as above, starting with round 1 of pattern.

Right foot

Work Flower Pattern as above, starting with round 7 of pattern.

Continue to work in pattern until leg of sock measures approximately 12cm from cast-on edge, finishing with round 1 or 7 of pattern.

HEEL

Row 1 Sl1 purlwise, P28 (32: 36), turn.

Row 2 Sl1 purlwise, K28 (32: 36), turn. Then continue to work in Flower Pattern as set for a further 22 (24: 28) rows.

Next row Sl1 purlwise, P17 (19: 21), p2tog, P1, turn.

Next row Sl1, K8, ssk, K1, turn.

Next row Sl1, P9, p2tog, P1, turn.

Next row Sl1, K10, ssk, K1, turn.

Next row Sl1, P11, p2tog, P1, turn. Continue in this way until all the sts have been used up.

Resume working in rounds.

Next round Pick up 14 (15: 16) sts down left side of flap, place marker (M1), work across top of foot in pattern, place marker (M2), then pick up 14 (15: 16) sts up right side of flap.

Dec round K to 3 sts before M1, k2tog, K1, work across top of foot in pattern to M2, K1, ssk, K to end.

Straight round Work around sock in pattern (stocking stitch on sole of foot, Flower Pattern on top).

Repeat these two rounds until 56 (64: 72) sts remain, 27 (31: 35) sts on top of foot, and 29 (33: 37) sts on sole.

AT THE SAME TIME

Work 2½ more repeats of Flower Pattern (5 "lines" of the purl flowers) from the start of the heel, then on each subsequent "line" of flowers, work one fewer flower (as per photo). On the left foot, remove one flower from the left on each "line", and on the right, remove one flower from the right each "line".

Continue to knit in st st until foot meas 5cm less than the length of your foot.

SHAPE TOE

K to M1. From now on, round begins immediately after marker 1.

Next round K to M2, K1, ssk, K to 3 sts before M1, k2tog, K1.

Next round Knit.

You should now have 54 (62: 70) sts total, 27 (31: 35) on top of foot, 27 (31: 35) on sole.

Dec round K1, ssk, K to 3 sts before M2, k2tog, K2 (1 st either side of M2), ssk, K to 3 sts before M1, k2tog, K1.

Straight round Knit.

Repeat these two rounds until 22 sts remain. Distribute sts so there are 11 on each needle tip. Now, 'cast off' 1 stitch at the end of each needle, lifting the very end stitch over the one next to it, then off the needles.

Graft the rem 18 sts using Kitchener stitch.

NEXT MONTH

Dainty cables in snazzy variegated yarn make for funky socks! Issue 129, February, is on sale from Friday 2 January.

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Next month

Ladies' wrap cardigan
Men's Fair Isle sweater
Winter warmer collection
Kids' fun robot jumper
Alan Dart's Sugar Plum Fairy toy
And more...

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FEBRUARY ISSUE ON SALE FRIDAY 2 JANUARY 2015





On the needles

JULIE WILLIAMS

The inspired mind behind Little Cotton Rabbits.



Best favourite things
Mooching around the veg garden in my PJs, star gazing, walking in the woods with my son.



Best knitting triumph I'm pleased with how the patterns for my animals have worked out.



Best knitting companion
I like solitary knitting with my radio.

BEST KNITTING TEACHER My lovely Gangan (my Granny) and my Mum. I remember intense frustration followed by great pride when I finally managed to knit a row on my own. It was a red scarf for a doll called Angela.

BEST STYLE DESCRIPTION Precise. I like a very neat finish to things – perhaps a bit too much as I'm apt to unpick anything that I'm not 100% happy with.

BEST INSPIRATION The inspiration for my knitted animals came from having my daughter and wanting to make playthings for her. Now I just like noticing interesting colour combinations when I'm out and about and enjoy using them in my designs.

BEST FAVOURITE BOOK *Love in the Time of Cholera* by Gabriel García Márquez.

BEST KNITTING RITUAL Before I start I like to clear a space (and hide the pile of ironing out of sight), have all my tools to hand, supple up my hands with some delicious smelling hand cream (my current favourite is Rose and Rhubarb) and then begin.

BEST KNITTING TIP Learn to mattress stitch – it will transform your finished projects.

BEST KNITTING DISASTER I made my college boyfriend an Aran sweater which was much too long in the arms and knitted from some quite cheap and nasty acrylic. I don't think he ever wore it but he did forgive me – he's now my husband!

BEST IRRESISTIBLE TEMPTATION
Buying yarn.

BEST FAMILY HOME This one. It's not very tidy but it's cosy and comfy with plain painted walls which are a little shabby from the after-effects of exuberant small children. Lots of natural colours and natural dust!

BEST KNITTING HERO Kaffe Fassett. His use of colour is just breathtaking.

BEST ALTERNATIVE SKILLS Looking on the bright side and appreciating life's small pleasures.

Julie's knitted animal patterns are available on Ravelry (www.ravelry.com/stores/little-cotton-rabbits) and Etsy (www.littlecottonrabbits.etsy.com). Plus don't miss her lovely blog, www.littlecottonrabbits.typepad.co.uk.



Best knitting tool
Good quality needles. Wooden and bamboo needles are so much kinder to your hands.



Best place to knit
By the fire in winter and in the garden in summer.

Best knitting projects
Anything little – I need instant gratification so mittens, gloves, scarves and, of course, toys!



Best colour combo
Everything I'm knitting at the moment is grey.

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Issue 127 December 2014

Christmas jumper * Child's jacket * Men's pullover * Embellished sweater * Mug hugs * Easy mitts * Lace cardi * Sparkly stocking * Dog's coat and hat * Scarf Collection * Hedgehog paperweight * Slipper boots * Alan Dart's Santa Mobile, Part 2



Issue 126 November 2014

Faux fur-trimmed cape * Textured wrap cardi * Baby hat, pinafore and jacket * Cat motif jumper * Cable wristwarmers * Ribbed cowl * Stocking Collection * Men's hoodie * Intarsia throw * Alan Dart's Santa Mobile, Part 1 * Double knitting socks



Issue 125 October 2014

Chunky shrug * Cable jumper * Lace scarf * Openwork pullover * Lace scarf * Bobble bag * Baby booties * Men's jumper * Textured hat * Halloween Collection * Alan Dart's Skeleton * Lacy socks * **PLUS! Hand Knit Christmas book**



Issue 124 September 2014

Floral intarsia top * Faux quilted gilet * Lace cardigan * Jumper dress * Child's striped jumper * Stripy unisex hat * Luxury cowl * Men's socks * Alan Dart's Silent Movie Mice * Patchwork Home Collection * **PLUS! Fair Isle sock pattern**



Issue 123 August 2014

Cropped cardi * Lace tank top * Oversized top * Summer tee * Baby jacket * Kid's cat tunic * Flower cushion * Lace set * Alan Dart's Monsieur Bearnard * Zig-zag socks * Beach set * Lacy belt * Charity nurses * **PLUS! 50 sock patterns**

TURN FOR MORE BACK ISSUES



Issue 122 July 2014

Bright cardigan * Teen zigzag jumper * Ladies' tank top * Kid's monster sweater and toy * Classic cardigan * Conservatory Collection * Trio of hangers * Fruit keyring * Cabled socks * Tablet cover * Sparkly collar * **PLUS! Alan Dart's Llama pattern**



Issue 121 June 2014

Summer top * Lace cardigan * Ladies' hoodie * Baby onesie * Kids' slippers * Alan Dart's One-Man Band * Bike Collection * Cafetière cosy and mug hug * Vintage footie mascot * Super boyfriend * Ankle socks * **PLUS! Summer shawl pattern**



Issue 120 May 2014

Silk cardigan * Textured cardigan * Kid's sweater * Men's cardigan * Summer bag * Lace jumper * Alan Dart's cats * Charity duck * Kid's bedroom set * Camera strap & golf club covers * Socks * **PLUS! World cup toys, festival patterns book, and doll**



Issue 119 Spring 2014

Slash neck jumper * Lace sweater * Bag Collection * Wrap * Kid's sweater * Lace socks * Sheep keyring * Alan Dart's Tweety Birds * I-cord headband * Fair Isle cushion * Fox purse * Man's jumper * **PLUS! Sparkly cardigan pattern**



Issue 118 April 2014

Alpaca jumper * Long hooded cardigan * Lacy shawl * Kitchen Collection * Retro socks * Rib hat * Baby's fox onesie * Lace collar * Shopper bag * Home accessories * **PLUS! Easter eggs and Alan Dart gnome patterns**



Issue 117 March 2014

Cable jumper * Fun fur sweater * Boy's waistcoat * Man's Fair Isle jumper * Storage baskets * Phone case * Wavy rib socks * Cable hat * Denim Collection * Lacy mittens * Tea set * Alan Dart's Mother Goose * **PLUS! Sewing set pattern**



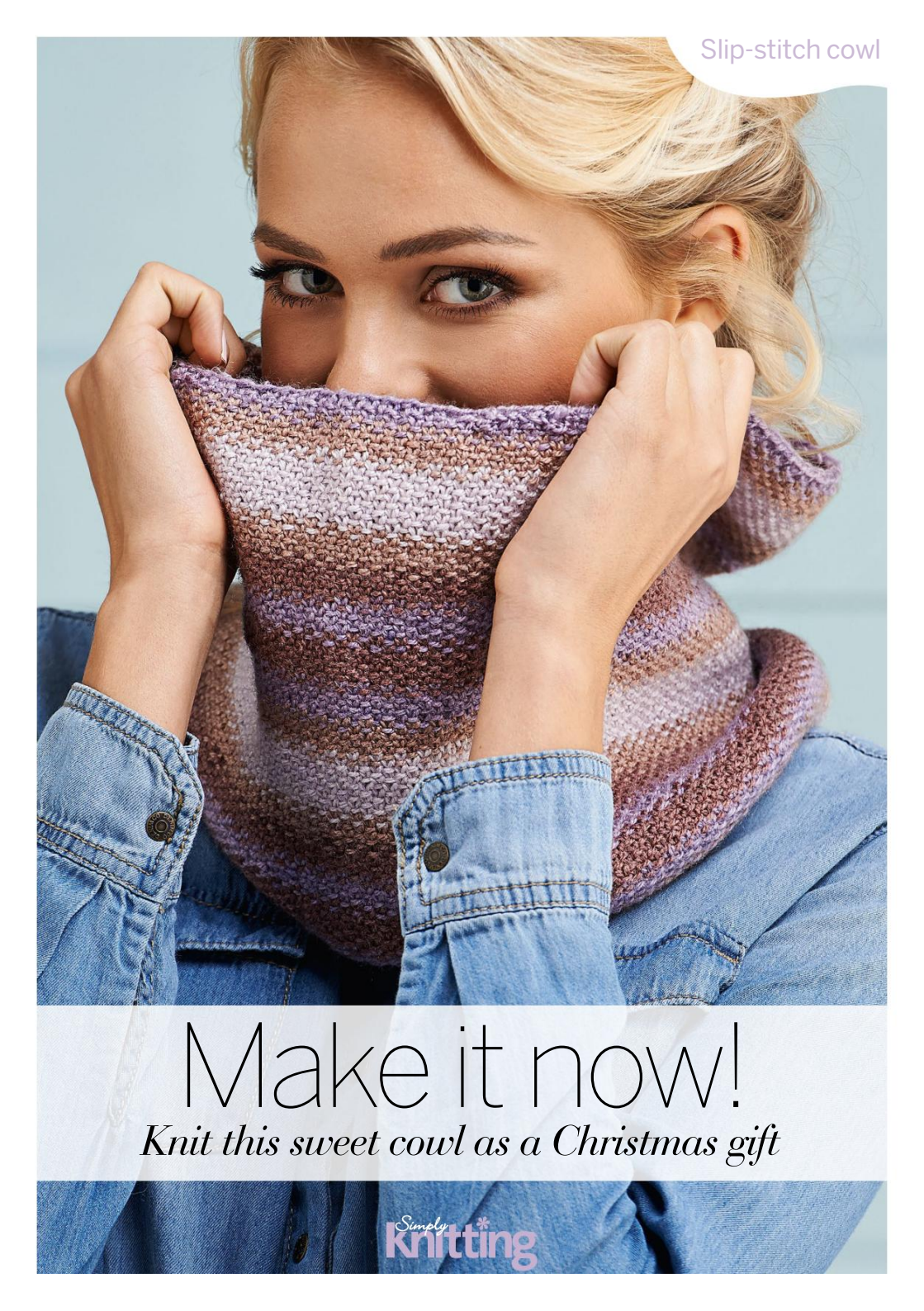
Issue 116 February 2014

Angora shrug * Cable waistcoat * Faux fur coat * Child's jumper * Hanging hearts * Tablet case * Tangerine Collection * Lacy socks * Alan Dart's Romeo & Juliet * Trio of heart accessories * Scarf * Capelet set booklet



Issue 115 January 2014

Shimmering Fair Isle jumper * Zip up cabled jacket * Stripy slippers * Sweet girl's dress * Alan Dart's Pantomime part 2 * Oversized jumper * Men's ribbed hat * Colourwork mittens * Felted needle roll * Scarf and cushion



Slip-stitch cowl

Make it now!

Knit this sweet cowl as a Christmas gift

Simply
Knitting

YOU WILL NEED

- Stylecraft, Vision DK (80% acrylic, 20% wool, 100g/282m) 1 ball of Purple Haze (1495)
- A set of 5mm circular needles, 60cm long
- A set of 6mm circular needles, 60cm long

For yarn stockists

contact **Stylecraft**
01535 609798 [www.
stylecraft-yarns.co.uk](http://www.stylecraft-yarns.co.uk)

TENSION

24 sts and 44 rows to measure 10x10cm (4x4in) over stitch pattern using 6mm needles

ABBREVIATIONS

For a full list see page 92 of *Simply Knitting* magazine

This cosy cowl pattern is presented with issue 127, December 2014, of *Simply Knitting*.

This beautiful cowl is at the top of our gift-knitting list this winter! Designed by Jane Burns, it uses a fun slip-stitch pattern and works up in a flash. Why not cast on a couple in different colours?



COWL

NOTE Always slip stitches purlwise.

Cast on 170 sts, using long tail cast on and 5mm needles, join into the round taking care not to twist.

Round 1 *K1, sl1 with

yarn held in front; rep from * to end.

Round 2 *S11 with yarn held in front, K1. Repeat rounds 1&2 once more.

Change to 6mm needles. Repeat rounds 1&2 until piece measures 22cm from cast-on edge.

Change to 5mm needles. Repeat rounds 1&2 twice in total.

FINISHING

Darn in ends and block. 



The colour shifts are created by the self-striping yarn.