



Gradient Minnow

By Cate Carter-Evans

v 0.1



This elegant elongated heart-shaped shawl features a stitch pattern inspired by traditional Japanese sashiko embroidery. If you've done basic brioche before and are feeling adventurous, this project is for you!

All increases and decreases happen in the same row on the front side of the work, making it a manageable project even if you've never done brioche increases or decreases before.

Designed for Half-n-Half Sock Gradients plus a coordinating skein of sock yarn or sport weight yarn, you can make a truly one-of-a-kind gradient shawl – and you might already have half your yarn in your stash!

About this Pattern

Skill Level: Intermediate, with some experience knitting brioche.

Skills Needed: Basic knitting skills and ability to follow a chart plus brioche knits and purls (brk and brp), brioche two together (br2tog), brioche knit–yarn over–brioche knit (brkyobrk), brioche two together combined with brioche knit–yarn over–brioche knit (br2tog-brkyobrk), Judy's Magic Cast-on, i-cord, and grafting / Kitchener stitch.

Finished Size: 80 inches / 204 cm tip to tip, and 12 inches / 30 cm deep at the center point.

Yarn: MC – Infinite Twist Helix, 100% Merino wool, 240 g/710 y, pattern uses approx. 400 m. A skein of sock yarn makes a great substitution. **CC** – Infinite Twist Half-n-Half Sock Gradient, 100 g/400 m.

Needles: U.S. size 4 / 3.5 mm circular needle, at least 80 cm long, or any size yielding correct gauge, plus one set of DPNs in same size as circular needle.

Gauge: 12 CC ribs & 18 CC rows over 4 inches / 10 cm in brioche stitch pattern.

Notions: At least one locking stitch marker, yarn needle.

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Abbreviations

Brk – Brioche knit; knit stitch together with its accompanying yarn-over.

Brp – Brioche purl; purl stitch together with its accompanying yarn-over.

BrK2tog – Brioche 2 together. Slip 1 brk knitwise, knit the next stitch, pass the slipped stitch over, then take the brk on the left needle and pass it over as well. Creates a right-leaning decrease.

BrK2tog-brkyobrk – involves three stitches. Pass the right-hand needle or a crochet hook from left to right through 3 sts (brk, st, brk) on the left hand needle as if to decrease, but instead brkyobrk.

Brkyobrk – Brioche knit – yarn over – brioche knit. Brk1, leave stitch on left-hand needle, yarn over, then brk into the same stitch. Increases 2 sts.

CC – Contrast color

K – Knit

MC – Main Color

P – Purl

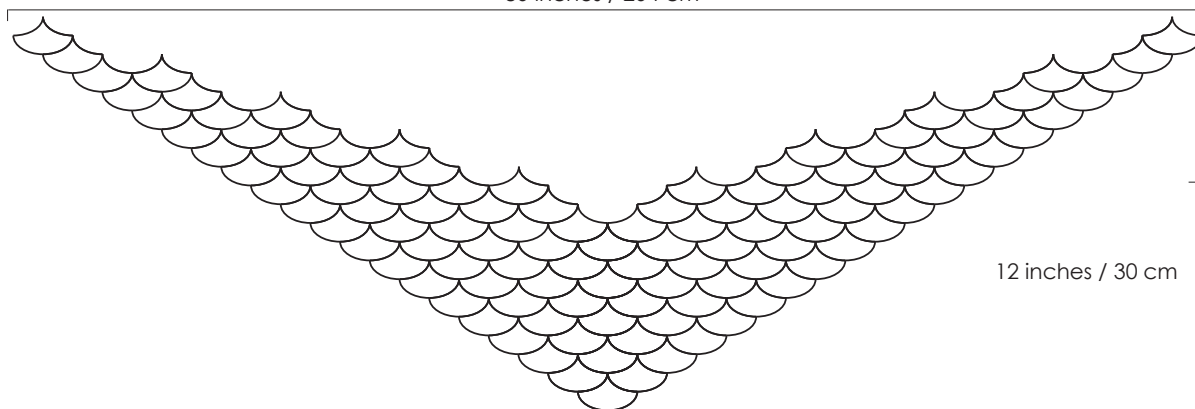
St(s) – Stich(es)

Yf sl1yo – Slip one stitch while adding a yarn over. Slipped stitch and accompanying yarn-over are considered one brioche stitch.



Schematic

80 inches / 204 cm



Pattern Notes

This shawl is knit sideways from corner to corner, a bit like a cuff-to-cuff sweater. The design is composed of repeating fish-scale motifs, and has an edging in MC. The outermost edge stitch is slipped every other row to keep the edge neat, and to encourage it to curl up like i-cord. Do not flatten out the edging when you block your shawl.

To make your gradient yarns match, you'll work from the "A" end of your first cake to the "B" end, and knit the second from the "B" end to the "A" end. Your "A" color will make up the ends of your finished shawl, and your "B" color will make up the middle.

Pattern Notes, cont.

If you wish to shorten your shawl, the best place to do that is in the middle. Block (or steam block) your work to ensure the length doesn't change dramatically when you block it after completion.

Before you begin, wind off 10 m and put it aside. When you reach the midpoint of your shawl, unwind your remaining CC yarn. Hold the end of working yarn with the matching end of the 2nd CC cake and wind the CC yarn double until you reach your work. Break both yarns, and join 2nd CC ball. If your gauge relaxes on the 2nd half of your shawl, you can use the 10 m you put aside.

Chart 1 includes every row of the four-row brioche repeat. Charting this way becomes increasingly unwieldy as the shawl increases in size, and no increases or decreases happen on the wrong-side rows. Subsequent charts show only the right-side rows.

Instructions

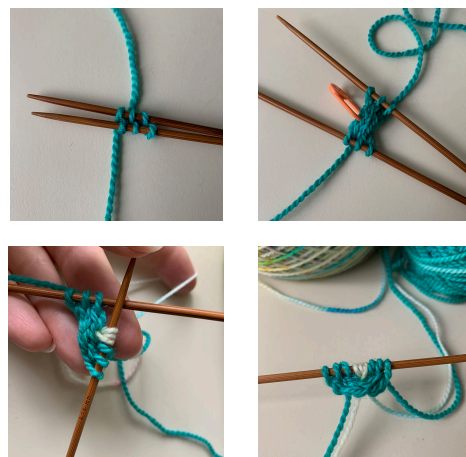
Using MC, cast on 3 sts using Judy's Magic Cast On.

Rounds 1 – 3: Work as i-cord.

Round 4: Place a locking marker in the first st. Work as i-cord.

Rounds 5 – 8: Work as i-cord.

Set-up row: Turn work, p3, pick up and slip the stitch indicated by the marker placed in round 4, p3 (from end of cast on).



Row 1 (also shown on Chart 1, next page), CC: Slip 3 sts knitwise, k-yo-k into the picked-up st from the last row, slip 3 sts knitwise. You now have a u-shaped piece of i-cord with 3 sts in CC in the middle of the "u". MC yarn is on the right, so slide work to opposite end of the needle.

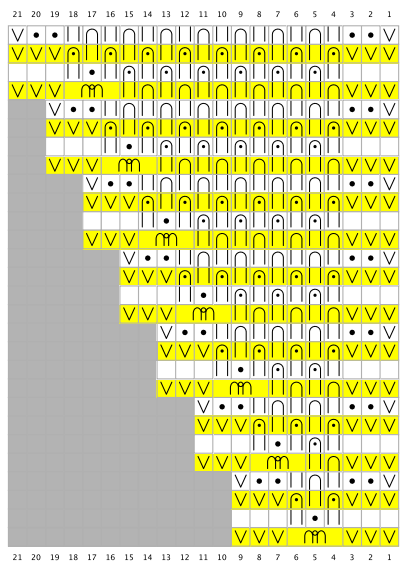
Continue to work following the chart. The chart uses white to represent MC; yellow represents CC. Every row of the four-row brioche repeat is included on this chart - subsequent charts only show the RS rows.

Please note that the first "scale" of the shawl (Chart 1, below) has one more brioche rib than the standard repeat of the pattern and thus the chart has four more rows than subsequent sections.

When you finish line 28 with MC, work the last 3 sts again as i-cord. This creates a little extra length in your edging to allow it to stretch over the point of the fish scale. Change to Chart 2 (next page) after working 28 rows.

After Chart 1, only RS rows are counted, and only RS rows are included on Chart 2 and subsequent charts. Refer to the wrong side chart next to Chart 2. Repeats are indicated by blue lines. Take special note of the stitches highlighted in orange on chart line 25. You'll reach this line on row 37.

Minnow Shawl Chart 1

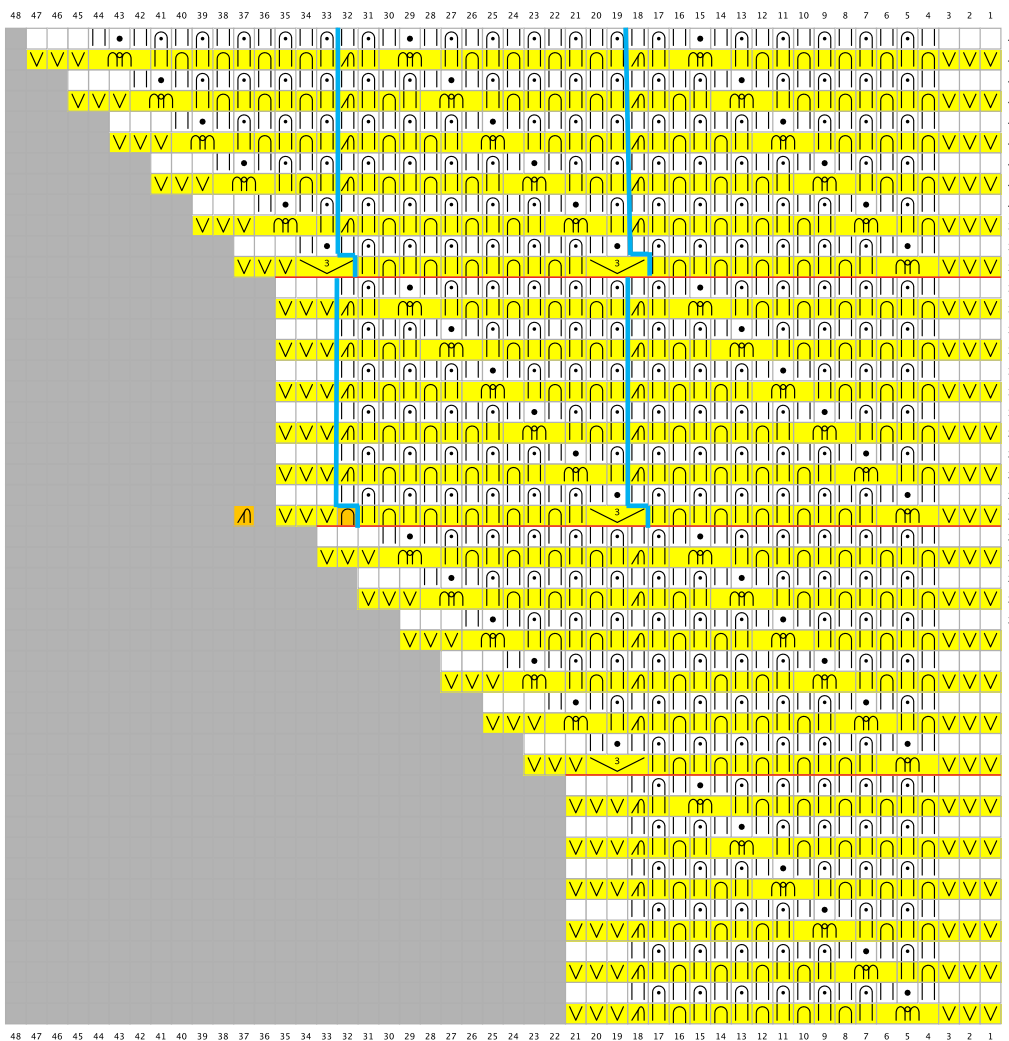


Key














	knit
	brkyobrk
	yf sl1yo
	brk
	brk2tog
	brp
	no stitch
	purl
	slip
	CC



Minnow Shawl Chart 2



Key

	MC
	CC
	no stitch
	knit
	purl
	slip
	brk
	brp
	yf sl1yo
	brk2tog
	brkyobrk
	brk2tog - brkyobrk
	Repeat line

Wrong Side Chart



Rows 1 – 12: Work Chart 2 lines 1 - 12, working WS rows in established brioche pattern (refer to wrong side chart, no increases or decreases) and edge stitches in stockinette as established.

Rows 13 - 36: Work lines 1 – 12 two more times.

Rows 37 - 48: Work lines 13 – 24 once. When you finish line 24 with MC, work the last 3 sts again as i-cord. This creates a little extra length in your edging to allow it to stretch over the point of the fish scale.

Rows 49 – 60: Work line 25 ending with a brk (as charted) once. Work lines 26 – 36.

Rows 61 – 84: [Work line 25, working the last stitch (highlighted in orange) as a brk2tog, work lines 26 – 36.] Repeat bracketed section once more.

Rows 85 – 96: Work lines 37 – 48 once. When you finish row 48 with MC, work the last 3 sts again as i-cord. This creates a little extra length in your edging to allow it to stretch over the point of the fish scale.

Subsequent sections follow the same model as the section you've just Worked. There are 48 total rows in each section and three component parts with increasing numbers of repeats as the shawl grows.

Section Set-up (12 Rows, 97 – 108): Work line 25 to the section bordered in blue, work the bordered section twice, and end with a brk (as charted) one time. Work subsequent chart lines 26 – 36 as established (working the bordered section twice).

Middle (24 Rows, 109 – 132): [Work line 25, working the last stitch (highlighted in orange) as a brk2tog. Work lines 26 – 36 again as established.] Repeat bracketed section once more.

Increase (12 Rows, 133 – 144): Work line 37 to the section bordered in blue, work the bordered section twice, and work to the end of the line. Work subsequent chart lines 38 – 48 as established (working the bordered section twice). When you finish line 48 with MC, work the last 3 sts again as i-cord.



Section Set-up (145 – 156): Work line 25 to the section bordered in blue, work the bordered section three times, and end with a brk (as charted) one time. Work subsequent chart lines 26 – 36 as established (working the bordered section three times).

Middle (157 – 180): [Work line 25, working the bordered section three times, and working the last stitch (highlighted in orange) as a brk2tog. Work lines 26 – 36 again as established.] Repeat bracketed section once more.

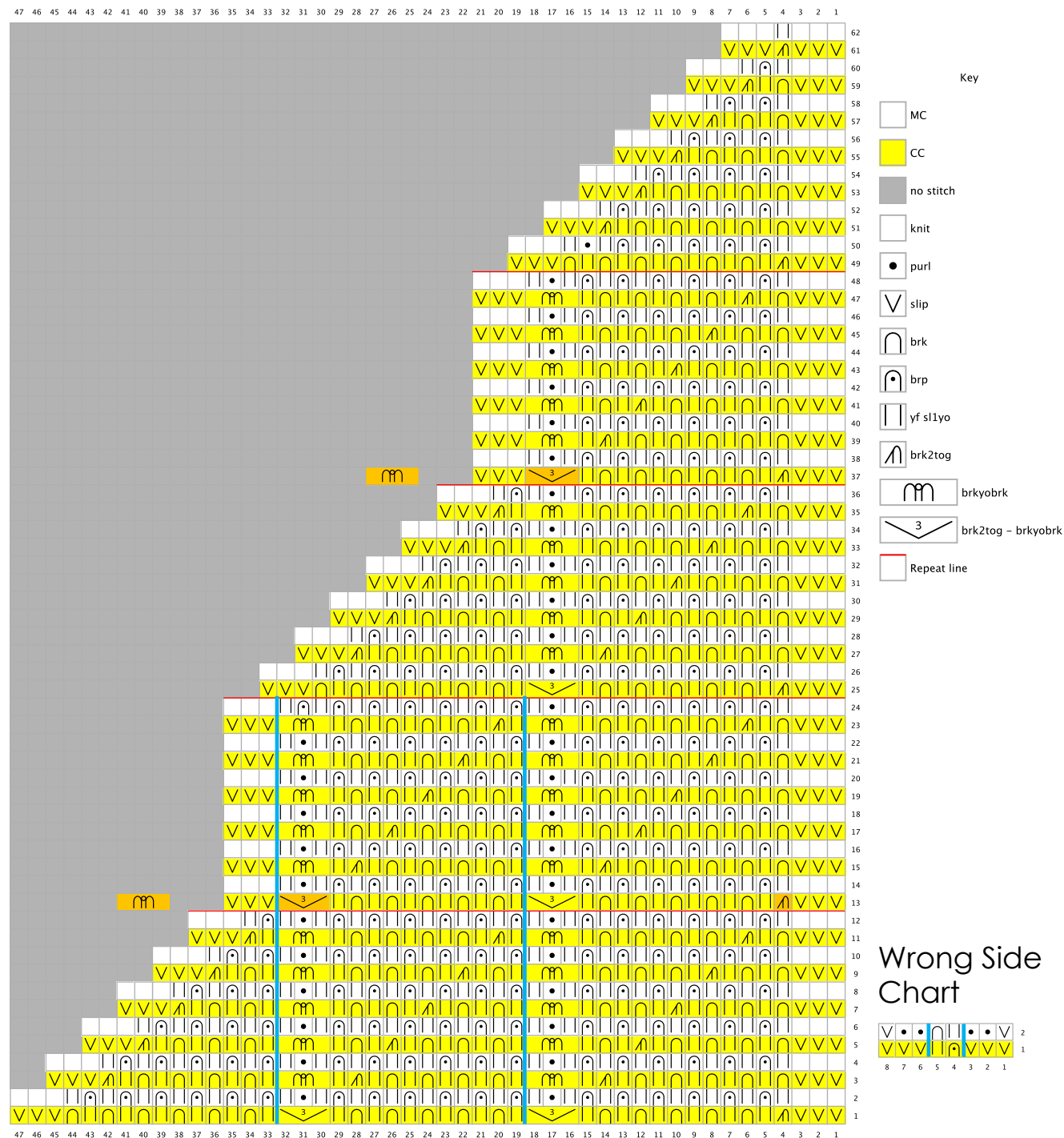
Increase (181 – 192): Work line 37 to the section bordered in blue, work the bordered section three times, and work to the end of the line. Work subsequent chart lines 38 – 48 as established (working the bordered section three times). When you finish line 48 with MC, work the last 3 sts again as i-cord.

Section Set-up (193 – 204): Work line 25 to the section bordered in blue, work the bordered section four times, and end with a brk (as charted) one time. Work subsequent chart lines 26 – 36 as established (working the bordered section four times).

Middle (205 – 228): [Work line 25, working the bordered section four times, and working the last stitch (highlighted in orange) as a brk2tog. Work lines 26 – 36 again as established.] Repeat bracketed section once more.

Begin Chart 3.

Minnow Shawl Chart 3



Section Set Up (229 – 240): Work first stitch of line 13 as a brk, work to the section bordered in blue, work the bordered section four times, and work to the end of the row as charted. Work lines 14 – 24 as established (working the bordered section four times).

Middle (241 - 264): Work line 13, work to the section bordered in blue, work the bordered section four times, work the last stitch as a brk-yo-brk. Work lines 14 – 24 as written.] Repeat bracketed section once more.

Decrease (265 – 276): Work line 1 to the section bordered in blue, work the bordered section three times, and work to the end of the line. Work line 2 as established (working the bordered section three times). When you reach the end of line 2, work the last 3 sts again as i-cord. Work subsequent chart lines 3 – 12 as established.

Section Set-up (277 – 288): Work first stitch of line 13 as a brk2tog, work to the section bordered in blue, work the bordered section three times, and work to the end of the row as charted. Work lines 14 – 24 as established (working the bordered section three times).

Middle (289 – 312): [Work line 13 to the section bordered in blue, work the bordered section three times, and work the last stitch as a brk-yo-brk. Work lines 14 – 24 as established, working the bordered section three times.] Repeat bracketed section once more.



Decrease (313 – 324): Work line 1 to the section bordered in blue, work the bordered section twice, and work to the end of the line. Work line 2 as established (working the bordered section twice). When you reach the end of line 2, work the last 3 sts again as i-cord. Work subsequent chart lines 3 – 12 as established.

Section Set-up (325 – 336): Work first stitch of line 13 as a brk, work to the section bordered in blue, work the bordered section twice, and work to the end of the row as charted. Work lines 14 – 24 as established (working the bordered section twice).

Middle (337 – 360): [Work line 13 to the section bordered in blue, work the bordered section twice, and work the last stitch as a brk-yo-brk. Work lines 14 – 24 as written.] Repeat bracketed section once more.

Decrease (361 – 372): Work line 1 as written to the end of the line. There are no extra repeats of the bordered section from this point on. Work row 2 as established (working the bordered section once). When you reach the end of line 2, work the last 3 sts again as i-cord. Work subsequent chart lines 3 – 12 as established.

Section Set-up (373 – 384): Work first stitch of line 13 as a brk, and work to the end of the row as charted. Work lines 14 – 24 as established.

Middle (385 – 408): [Work line 13, working the last stitch as a brk-yo-brk. Work lines 14 – 24 as written.] Repeat bracketed section once more. There are no extra repeats of the bordered section from this point on.

Decrease (409 – 420): Work lines 25 – 36.

Section Set-up (420 – 432): Work first stitch of line 37 as a brk, and work to the end of the row as charted. Work lines 38 – 48.

Middle (433 – 456): Work lines 37 – 48 twice.

Decrease (457 – 470): Work lines 49 – 62. Note that this section is unique in that it has two more lines than the body sections, mirroring Chart 1.

Break CC, and leave tail dangling at the back of the work.

Round 1 - 2: With MC, work 3 sts (from the right-hand needle) as i-cord.

Round 3 - 4: Slip edge stitches and brioche stitch from row below to left hand needle, work brioche stitch and first edge stitch as a k2tog, knit the other two edge stitches.

Round 5: K3.

Graft 3 sts from right-hand needle with remaining 3 sts from the left-hand needle using the Kitchener stitch.

Soak your finished shawl in warm water (not more than 104F / 40 C) and mild detergent or wool wash for 5 minutes, or until fibers are fully saturated. Rinse, remove excess water, and lay out flat on a towel or blocking mat. Gently stretch the shawl to desired dimensions, and dry flat. Weave in your ends.