

From the Author of *Traditional Danish Sweaters*

VIVIAN HØXBRO'S KNITTING HANDBOOK

8 Schools of Modular Knitting



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VIVIAN HOXBRO'S

KNITTING HANDBOOK

8 SCHOOLS OF MODULAR KNITTING

Vivian Høxbro

Vivian Høxbro has worked as a knitting designer for over 35 years, both for yarn companies and freelance. She has written 12 knitting books, some of which were published in Norway, Japan, and the United States. In 2000, she presented her own kit collection. Since then, she has taught and given lectures in Scandinavia as well as in the U. S. and Japan. She is now working to make Denmark's first knitting museum in Stubbekøbing a reality.

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She is also the author of *Traditional Danish Sweaters*, available from Trafalgar Square Books.

First published in the United States of America
in 2022 by
Trafalgar Square Books
North Pomfret, Vermont 05053

Originally published in Danish as *Finurlig strik*.

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English translation © 2021 Trafalgar Square Books

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The instructions and material lists in this book were carefully reviewed by the author and editor; however, accuracy cannot be guaranteed. The author and publisher cannot be held liable for errors.

ISBN: 978-1-64601-135-3
Library of Congress Control Number: 2022930196

Text and Pattern Design: Vivian Høxbro (www.viv.dk)

Charts: Design Partner (www.design-partner.dk)

Photos: Ingrid Riis (www.ingridriisfotografi.dk)

Step-by-Step Photos: Vivian Høxbro

Stylist and Color Consultant: Sophia Høxbro

Danish Editor: Merete Kjær Petersen

Interior Graphic Design: Karin Hold

Cover Design: RM Didier

Translation into English: Carol Huebscher Rhoades

Printed in China
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

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PREFACE

Knitting strips, squares, and other shapes that are joined as you work or crocheted together afterwards is enjoyable and motivating. All the while, you'll be well-entertained, which is exactly what knitting means to me.

When I was a child (right after WWII), people would unravel old sweaters and knit new ones from the salvaged yarn. Of course, back then, everyone needed warm clothes and they could be hard to come by. I remember one sweater with Norwegian patterning in blue and yellow—I hated it! It isn't the same these days, when most people have so many clothes that they could fill a whole separate room with them.

KNITTING AND PLEASURE

Let's be realistic: The vast majority of us no longer knit out of necessity but for enjoyment. That doesn't mean that we can't refine our skills and enjoy learning! The more you know, the better the results, and the happier you will be about the work.

I have never been a fan of “cast on 385 stitches and knit around to the underarms,” etc. Knitting something for yourself that could just as easily be bought, and probably more cheaply than your yarn, isn't my idea of a good time. I'd rather be entertained and challenged, and create something you could never find in a store. I like the knitting process.

If you also feel that way, or you'd like a change of pace from your usual patterns, then this book is for you.

LEARN NEW TECHNIQUES—8 “SCHOOLS”

You are undoubtedly familiar with some of the

techniques in this book because they build on domino knitting. You can learn the techniques you don't already know if you follow the book's 8 “schools,” which is to say the 8 categories, organized by shape, that I've divided these pattern techniques into. Spend a few evenings studying each school, preferably with your knitting friends. It's always great to work together so you can help each other.

If you like to teach, you'll also find teaching materials here, ready to use. I would, of course, be happy if you encouraged your students to buy the book.

I would like to recommend that you save the “Staircase” school for last. It isn't especially difficult, but it uses some of the techniques presented in the other schools, so studying the rest first will make the instructions easier to follow. The Staircase technique is simpler than it looks, and once you've gone through the other schools, it will be like a game—entertaining and motivating. I'm wild about it, as you'll see from the patterns that make use of it.

PATTERNS—16 DESIGNS

Each of the 8 “schools” includes two designs, which expand on the fundamental knitting technique presented in each respective school. Once you've learned each technique, you can follow the patterns and even design your own, combining or rearranging the building blocks from each school.

COLORS

If you've encountered any of my designs before, you know that I go all out on the color palette. This time, I listened to my creative granddaughter, Sophia. She has been my consultant, and she inspired me

to refresh my style and step into a new color world. It is also Sophia who was the book's stylist, and her school friends joined in as the book's models! Thank you, Sophia!

PICTURES AND TEXT

"My" photographer, Ingrid Riis, and Sophia and I totally agreed that we wanted to show how beautiful it is on Østfalster at the Corselitze estate's forest and accompanying lake, which spills out into the Øster Sea. We photographed on the warmest day of summer, so everything looked its most beautiful. Thank you, Corselitze.

I would also like to thank my Danish publisher, Turbine. This is the third book we've published together. I'm very thankful for the publisher's openness and accommodation, which allowed me to work on exactly the books I wanted to publish. And thank you to Trafalgar Square Books for taking on the task of publishing this book in English!

In addition, I want to thank my Danish editor, Merete Kjær Petersen. If you have had Merete as your editor, you know how much work and enthusiasm she puts into her editing and the close collaboration we had during the editing process. It is her participation that gave my book precisely the degree of quality I wished for. Many, many thanks, Merete!

KNITTING HANDBOOK

With this book, I am sharing my methods of knitting with you. My dream is that you will play and experiment further, as you may already have played with regular domino knitting. Above all, I want to spread happiness and excitement about knitting, with the many possibilities there are to enjoy working with yarn and needles.

Knitting Greetings from

Vivian Høxbro

www.viv.dk



MATERIALS

YARN

Some of the patterns and all of the swatches in this book were knitted with Pernilla from Filcolana, a wool yarn that knits up evenly and beautifully. This “mélange” yarn shifts to heather shades, usually with a bit of white.

When I wanted a particularly delicate, thin yarn in soft colors, I chose Isager yarns. In addition, I enjoyed working with Hedgehog Kidsilk Lace—the finest hand-dyed silk mohair from Ireland.

NEEDLES

For the knitting in this book, I used double-pointed needles, hybrid jumper needles, and circular needles. I changed from double points to a circular as I worked, whenever it was practical and comfortable.

My needles of choice are Ferrari ChiaoGoo circulars with points made with surgical steel. However, everyone has their own favorites, of course. It's easiest to knit slick yarns—such as Tilia from Filcolana, Isager Silk Mohair, and Hedgehog's Kidsilk Lace, for example—with wooden needles, so the stitches won't slide off the needles.

For certain finishing jobs, it's a good idea to have a good crochet hook on hand.





SCHOOLS AND DESIGNS



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1 STRIPES



STRIPES

SCHOOL 1

Stripes can be knitted either vertically or horizontally with an easy technique that is endlessly variable. Begin with a strip of 8 stitches and 50 garter ridges. On the right side of the strip, work an intermediate middle stripe with 50 stitches and 12 rows (= 6 garter ridges) and then work 1 strip parallel to the first one and along the stitches of the intermediate stripe.

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Width: 7½ in / 19 cm

Length: 8 in / 20 cm

Each Strip: approx. 1¼ x 8 in /
3 x 20 cm

MATERIALS

Yarn: CYCA #3 (DK, light worsted)
Filcolana Pernilla (100% pure new
wool, 191 yd/175 m / 50 g)

Colors:

Isabella Heather 820 (pink)

Acacia Heather 825 (curry)

Charcoal Heather 956 (charcoal)

Marzipan Heather 977 (natural
white)

Needles: U. S. size 2.5 / 3 mm: 2
dpn

SWATCH

Stitch Count

In principle, the strips can have any number of stitches and rows, but the final number of garter ridges and intermediate stripes should always be the same.

Each strip here has 8 sts and 50 garter ridges (= 100 knit rows).

The intermediate stripes have 50 sts.

1ST STRIP

Worked **horizontally** with pink.

K-CO 8 sts (with 2 beg sts) on a
dpn.

Row 1 (RS): Knit across.

Row 2 (WS): Sl 1 pwise, knit to
end of row.

Row 3 (RS): Sl 1 pwise, knit to
end of row.

Rep Rows 2-3 until there are

49 ridges on RS and you've just completed a RS row. The yarn hangs on left side.

BO on WS; cut yarn, elongate the 8th st and draw yarn end through it (end st), but do not tighten st. There are now 50 ridges on RS and WS. The yarn end from the cast-on hangs at left side and the yarn from the bind-off is on the right side (see photo A).

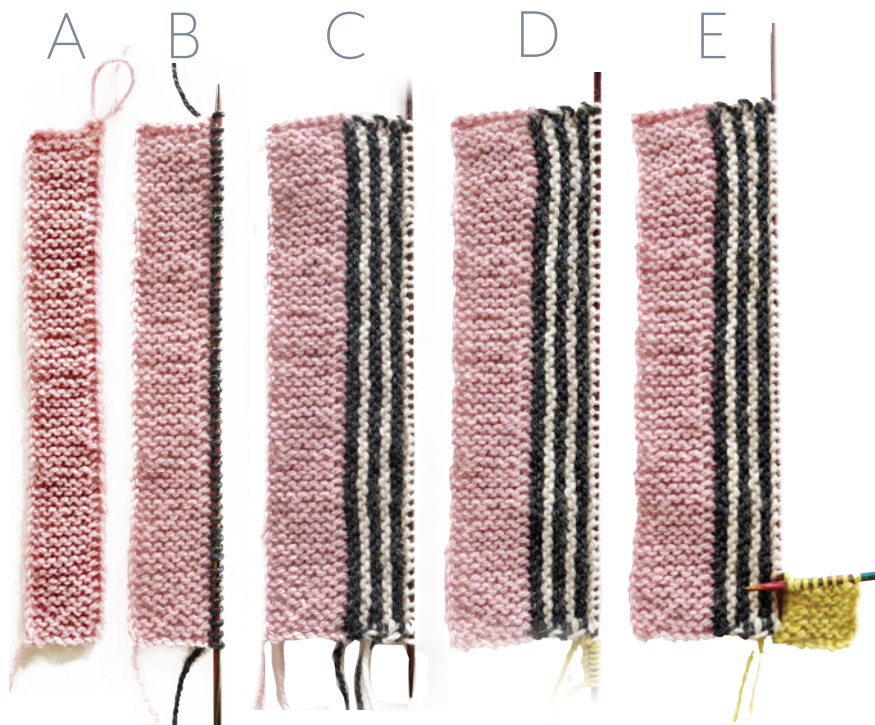
1ST INTERMEDIATE STRIPE

Work vertically, alternating
2 rows charcoal and 2 rows
natural white.

Work all color changes on RS
rows; the last row is on WS.

Row 1 (RS), pick up and knit:

With charcoal, pick up and knit
1 st in loop of 1st strip's lower right
corner, and then pick up and knit



A Narrow or Nonexistent Intermediate Stripe

You can settle for just one vertical row as a vertical intermediate stripe—it will look like lovely stitching. Be aware, though, that in order to avoid a notch on the piece's edge, you must pick up and knit 2 more stitches than needed. You can knit them together on the next row. See *Spiral Top* on page 25.

sts along the right side (1 st in each ridge). End with k1 in end st (= 52) sts. These horizontal sts are the intermediate stripe sts (ISS).

There are now 2 sts more than ridges or edge sts. These sts prevent a “notch” at bottom and top, and will be decreased on Row 2.

Row 2 (WS): Sl 1 pwise, k2tog, knit until 3 sts rem, k2tog, p1.

Now the extra sts have been removed (photo B). Change to natural white.

Row 3: Sl 1 kwise, knit to end of row.

Row 4: Sl 1 pwise, knit to last st, p1.

Hold charcoal out under/in front of and over natural white (see *Changing Colors with Stripes*, page 174), slip first st kwise and then continue with charcoal. Do not tighten yarns when changing colors!

Row 5: Sl 1 kwise, knit to end of row.

Row 6: Sl 1 pwise, knit to last st, p1.

Hold natural white out under/in front of and over charcoal, sl 1 kwise, and continue with natural white.

Rep Rows 3-6 until there are 3 charcoal and 3 natural white ridges on RS (photo C). Weave in ends.

2ND STRIP

Worked **horizontally** with curry.

Use bottom st of intermediate stripe as beginning st and K-CO 8 sts as an extension of sts from intermediate stripe (photo D) = 50 + 8 sts on needle.

Row 1 (RS): K7, p2tog (= with 1 st from strip and 1 ISS); turn.

There are now 49 ISS + 8 curry sts.

Row 2 (WS): Sl 1 kwise, knit to end of row; turn.

Row 3: Sl 1 pwise, k6, p2tog; turn.

There are now 48 ISS + 8 curry sts.

Row 4: Sl 1 pwise, knit to end of row; turn.

Rep Rows 3-4 until 3 ISS rem after a WS row (photo E).

Next Row (RS): Sl 1 pwise, k6, p3tog; turn.

Next Row (WS): Sl 1 kwise, knit to end of row; turn

Next Row (RS): Sl 1 pwise, k6, p2tog; turn.

BO on WS, slipping 1st st pwise.

Leave end st loose as on 1st strip. Cut yarn.

There are now 50 ridges on RS and WS.

2ND INTERMEDIATE STRIPE

Work as for 1st intermediate stripe.

3RD STRIP

Work as for 2nd strip, but with pink.

3RD INTERMEDIATE STRIPE

Work as for 1st intermediate stripe.

4TH STRIP

Work as for 2nd strip.

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2

SQUARES



SQUARES

SCHOOL 2

Squares knitted together in a block pattern are called entrelac. In this school, they are used in a somewhat untraditional way. I suggest that you begin by reviewing School 1, if you haven't read through it already. The squares here are knitted up on the diagonal and purled down on the diagonal. The ridges of the purl squares will lean vertically in the finished piece, while the ridges of the knit squares will be horizontal. The squares can also be knitted together in other directions than those I've chosen. In that case, just place the stitches from each square on a holder until you join them later.

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Entire Swatch: 7½ x 7½ in / 19 x 19 cm

Single Square: slightly less than 1½ x 1½ in / 4 x 4 cm

MATERIALS

Yarn: CYCA #3 (DK, light worsted)
Filcolana Pernilla (100% pure new wool, 191 yd/175 m / 50 g)

Colors:

Nougat Heather 973 (gray-brown)
Isabella Heather 820 (pink)
Marzipan Heather 977 (natural white)
Willow Heather 822 (khaki)
Aqua Mist Heather 808 (turquoise)
Acacia Heather 825 (curry)
Dijon Heather 827 (red-brown)

Needles: U. S. size 2.5 / 3 mm: 2 dpn and 24 in / 60 cm circular

SWATCH

Diagram

The diagram shows the entire swatch. The numbers on the squares indicate the order of knitting.

Stitches and Ridges

One square can have any number of stitches. There should be the same number of stitches and ridges.

The pattern has 3 different sizes of squares: squares that are 10 sts and 10 ridges (swatch), squares that are 13 sts and 13 ridges (Checkerboard Vest), and squares that are 20 sts and 20 ridges (Reddish Pillow Cover).

The swatch is constructed with 5

x 5 squares. Each square is 10 sts and 10 ridges.

PANEL 1

*This panel consists of one **purl square** with **vertical ridges**.*

SQUARE 1

The first square is on the lower left corner (photo A).

With gray-brown and dpn, K-CO 10 (13, 20) sts (with 2 beg sts).

When comfortable, change to circular.

Row 1 (WS): P10 (13, 20).

Row 2 (RS): Sl1 kwise, p9 (12, 19).

Row 3 (WS): Sl1 kwise, p9 (12, 19).

Rep Rows 2-3 until there are 10 (13, 20) ridges on RS and 11 (14,

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TRI- SQUARES



TRI-SQUARES

SCHOOL 3

At first glance, these tri-squares look like domino-knit squares, but they are completely different. A “tri-square” is a triangle knitted from the bottom up with short rows and wrapped stitches. Another triangle is knitted from the top down alongside the first, so, and together they form a square. The squares are crocheted together.

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Whole Swatch: 9¾ x 9¾ in / 25 x 25 cm

Single Triangle: approx. 3¼ x 3¼ in / 8.5 x 8.5 cm

MATERIALS

Yarn: CYCA #3 (DK, light worsted)
Filcolana Pernilla (100% pure new wool, 191 yd/175 m / 50 g)

Yarn Colors and Amounts:

Nougat Heather 973 (gray-brown)
Oatmeal Heather 978 (gray-beige)
Marzipan Heather 977 (natural white)
Parrot Green Heather 824 (green)
Aqua Mist Heather 808 (turquoise)
Cantaloupe Heather 826 (salmon)
Acacia Heather 825 (curry)

Needles: U. S. size 2.5 / 3 mm: 2 dpn
Crochet Hook: U. S. size D-3 / 3 mm

SWATCH

This swatch consists of triangles in 9 different color combinations. These are crocheted together for finishing. Step-by-step photos show how to work the center triangle.

ONE TRI-SQUARE

Triangle 1

This triangle is the first half of Tri-Square 1.
With gray-brown and U. S. 2.5 / 3 mm needles, K-CO 20 sts (with 2 beg sts).

Row 1 (WS): Knit to last st, pl turn.

Row 2 (RS), forward: Sl 1 pwise, knit to last st, weaving in yarn end as you knit. Sl 1 pwise (see 1 wrapped st, before turning); turn.

Row 3 (WS), return: Sl 1 pwise

(see 1 wrapped st, after turning). You’ve now wrapped around 1 st (from now on called 1 wrapped st). Knit to end of row (1 wrapped st + 19 sts); turn.

Row 4, forward: Sl 1 pwise, knit to last st before wrapped st (a total of 18 sts), sl 1 pwise; turn.

Row 5, return: Work as for Row 3 (2 wrapped sts + 18 sts); turn.

Row 6, forward: Sl 1 pwise, knit until 1 st before last wrapped st (a total of 17 sts), sl 1 pwise; turn.

Row 7, return: Work as for Row 3 (3 wrapped sts + 17 sts).

Row 8, forward: Sl 1 pwise, knit until 1 st before last wrapped st (a total of 16 sts), sl 1 pwise; turn.

Row 9, return: Work as for Row 3 (4 wrapped sts + 16 sts).

Continue as est until there are 18 wrapped sts + 2 sts after a return row on WS.

Right Panel

Crochet Tri-squares 7, 8, and 9 together the same way; the colors are different. Turn each back.

Crocheting Panels Together

Slip held sts of center panel onto a needle. Hold the panel with stitches on the needle with right sides facing and parallel to left panel, so left panel's edge sts lie nearest you and the needle with sts is furthest back. Work 1 slip st through 1 edge st of left panel and 1 st on needle. Put panels aside.

Crochet the middle and right panels together the same way.

Knitting Tip

Check regularly to make sure the stitch count is correct. Count the stitches on the needle after a WS row.

Also count the number of ridges on the right side and add these 2 numbers together.

The total should always be the same as the number of stitches cast on for a square.





RIGHT ANGLES

SCHOOL 4

Stripes (School 1) and Squares (School 2) are the foundations for this school, but if you're brave, you can skip both and begin here. Knit a corner square first, then a right angle along 2 sides of the square. Another, larger right angle is knitted around this block, and so on. If you continue adding right angles, you will end up with wonderful large squares. Use 4 squares (as on the swatch) for a pillow cover (see page 74), or continue adding right angles to one square for a larger square to fit the pillow.

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Whole Swatch: 8 x 8 in / 20 x 20 cm

Width of Leg of Right Angle:
approx. 1½ in / 4 cm

MATERIALS

Yarn: CYCA #3 (DK, light worsted)
Filcolana Pernilla (100% pure new wool, 191 yd/175 m / 50 g)

Yarn Colors and Amounts:

Acacia Heather 825 (curry)
Charcoal Heather 956 (charcoal)
Medium Gray 955 (dark gray)
Light Gray Heather 954 (medium gray)
Very Light Gray Heather 957 (light gray)

Needles: U. S. size 2.5 / 3 mm: dpn and 24 in / 60 cm circular

SWATCH

Knit a corner square and then surround it with larger and larger right angles, first Leg 1 and then Leg 2.

Stitches and Ridges

The number of stitches and ridges are optional, but the number of ridges should be the same as the number of stitches along the side where stitches were picked up. Here, Leg 1 has 10 stitches and more and more ridges in height.

CORNER SQUARE

Purl with curry; square consists of 10 sts and 10 ridges.

With curry and dpn, K-CO 10 sts (with 2 beg sts).

Row 1 (RS): Purl across.

Row 2 (WS): Sl 1 kwise, purl to

end of row.

Row 3 (RS): Sl 1 kwise, purl to end of row.

Rep Rows 2-3 until there are 10 ridges on both RS and WS after a WS row (photo A).

The yarn end hangs at lower left and working yarn is at top right corner. Cut yarn.

RIGHT ANGLE 1

Leg 1

Knit with charcoal; square consists of 10 sts and 10 ridges. With charcoal and dpn, K-CO 10 sts as extension of corner square's 10 sts on needle (photo B).

Row 1 (RS): K9, p2tog (= 10 sts); turn.

Row 2 (WS): Sl 1 kwise, knit to end of row; turn.

Row 3 (RS): Sl 1 pwise, k8, p2tog; turn.

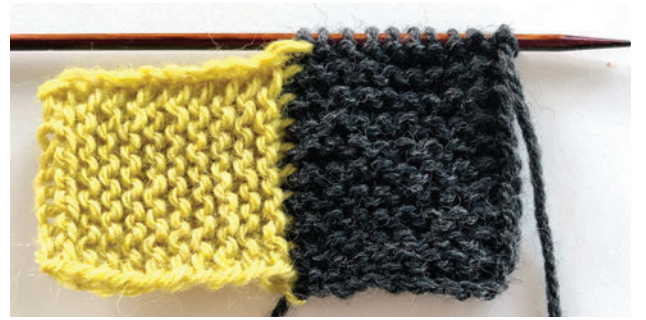
A



B



C



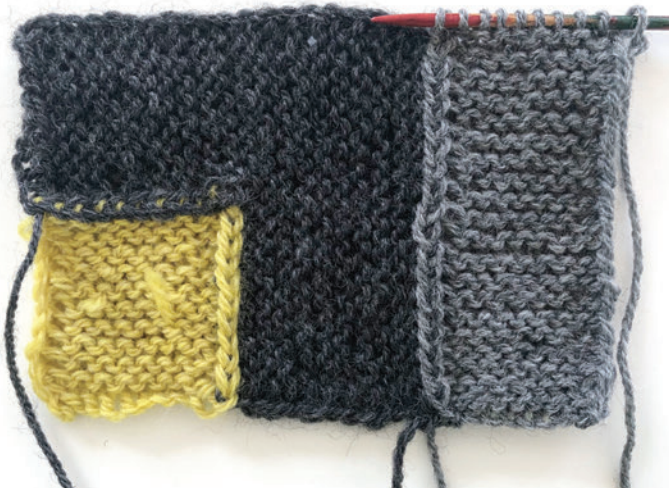
D



E



F



G

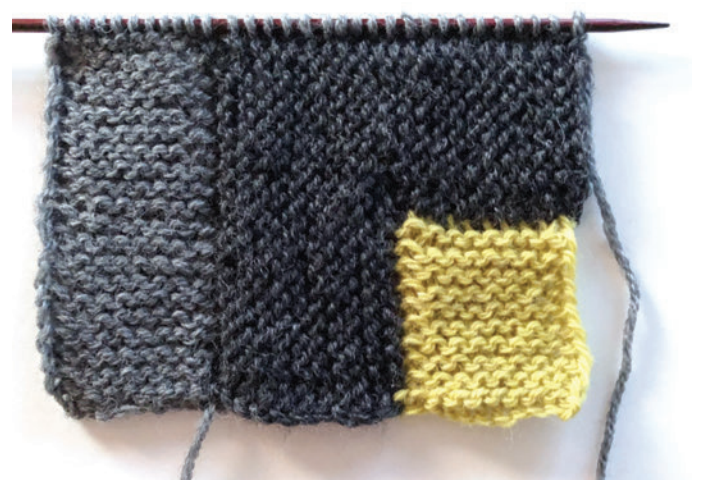
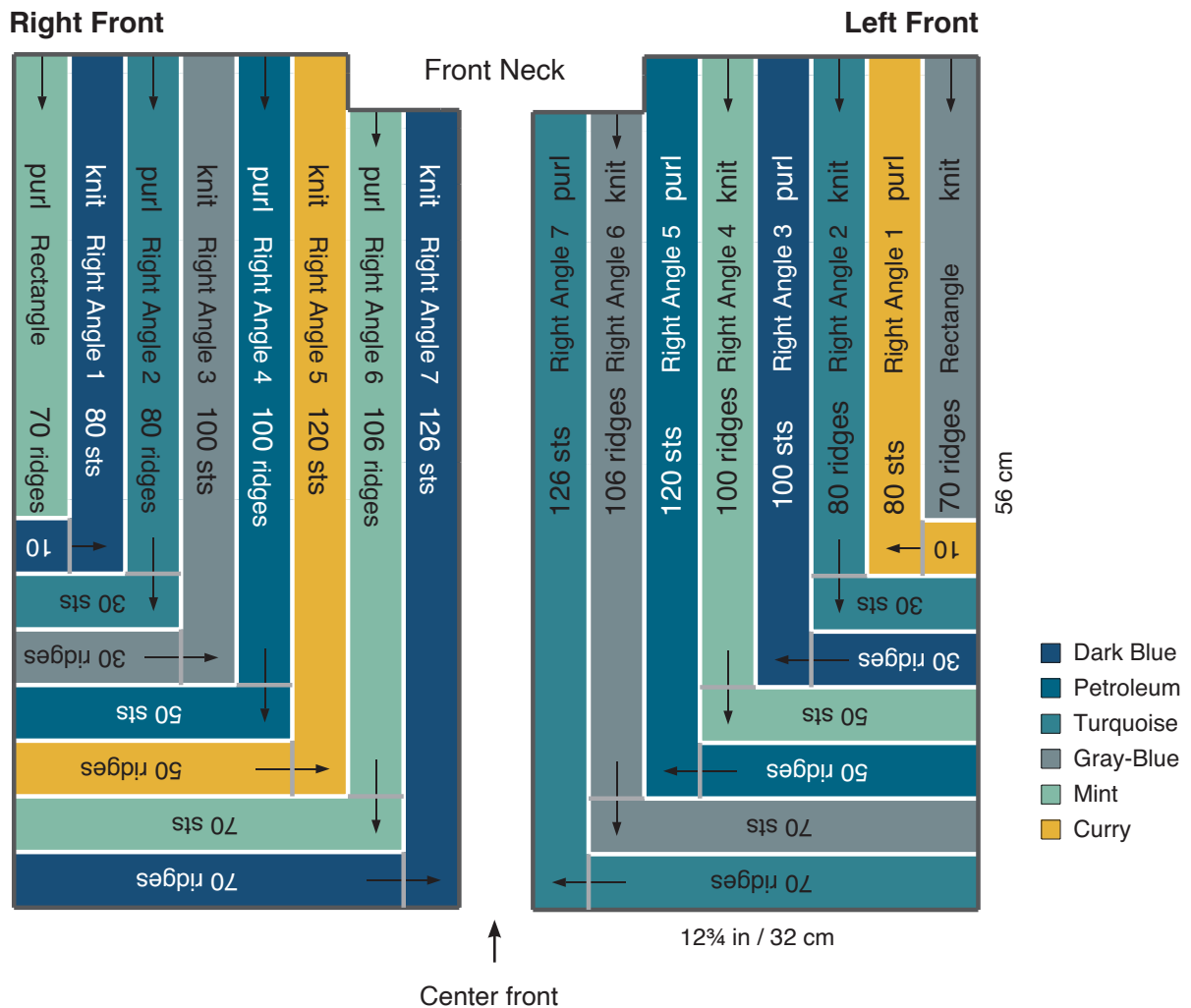






DIAGRAM FOR RIGHT ANGLE JACKET



10 ridges on RS and 9 on WS.

JOINING THE 2 SIDES OF BACK

Hold right and left sides of back with right sides facing and needles parallel. Using dpn U. S. 2.5 / 3 mm, join pieces with three-needle bind-off (see page 184).

LEFT FRONT

Work as for right back but in colors shown on diagram. Right Angles 6

and 7 are shorter on front to shape neckline.

RIGHT ANGLE 6

Place top 14 sts of Right Angle 5 onto a holder. Use the 15th st as a beg st and K-CO 10 sts with gray-blue. Work Leg 1 along Right Angle 5. Work Leg 2 as for Leg 2 of right back, Right Angle 6.

RIGHT ANGLE 7

Leg 2 is shorter than Right Angle 5's Leg 2.

End by leaving sts on needle or slip onto a holder for edging.

RIGHT FRONT

Work as for left back but in colors shown on diagram.

RIGHT ANGLE 6

Place top 14 sts of Right Angle 5

STAIRCASES

SCHOOL 5

Knitting up and down staircases is downright funny—and useful for shawls, sweaters, and much more. Staircases can be knitted as here, on the diagonal, or horizontally, as in School 6 (page 110). Staircases can be worked alternately in purl and knit, step by step, staircase by staircase. Each staircase consists of steps, formed as rectangles, but ends or begins with a “half” step, to form a square.

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Whole Swatch: 7½ x 7½ in /
19 x 19 cm

Single Section: 1 step wide and
2 steps high, approx. 2 x 2 in /
5 x 5 cm

MATERIALS

Yarn: CYCA #3 (DK, light worsted)
Filcolana Pernilla (100% pure new
wool, 191 yd/175 m / 50 g)

Yarn Colors and Amounts:
Charcoal Heather 956 (charcoal)
Willow Heather 822 (khaki)
Lavender Gray Heather 815 (light
purple)
Acacia Heather 825 (curry)

Needles: U. S. size 2.5 / 3 mm: 2
dpn and 24 in / 60 cm circular

SWATCH

Stitches and Ridges

A step can have any even number of stitches. The number of ridges should be half the stitch count of the step.

Each step in this swatch has 12 sts and 6 ridges.

Rule of Thumb

Always begin a staircase where the last-knitted one ended. The yarn should always hang at outer edge of the last-knitted stitch, ready to be the beginning stitch for the next staircase.

STAIRCASE 1

*The first staircase consists of only 2 steps: a “whole” and a “half.” It is **purled** in a single color, charcoal.*

Direction of work: bottom up towards right.

Step 1

Purl beginning step—a rectangle. With charcoal and dpn, K-CO 12 sts (with 2 beg sts).

Row 1 (RS): Purl across.

Row 2 (WS): Sl 1 kwise, purl to end of row.

Row 3 (WS): Sl 1 kwise, purl to end of row.

Rep Rows 2-3 until there are 6 ridges on both RS and WS, after a WS row (photo A).

When RS faces you, the yarn end is on the left side and the working yarn at right.

Step 2

Purl end step—a square.

Continue over the first 6 sts. The other 6 sts rem on needle.

Row 1 (RS): Sl 1 kwise, p5; turn.

Row 2 (WS): Sl 1 kwise, p5; turn.

Rep Rows 1-2 until there are 6 ridges on both RS and WS, after a

A



B



C



D



F



E



G



H



of row.

Row 3 (RS): Sl pwise, knit to end of row.

Rep Rows 2-3 throughout, and *at the same time*, on every 8th row, decrease as follows:

Alternate decreasing:

at center of row: K2tog k2, sl 1, kl, pssso, and **at beginning and end of row:** Sl 1 pwise, kl, k2tog, knit until 4 sts rem, sl 1, kl, pssso, k2. Decrease as est until 56 sts rem. Continue until sleeve is 17 in / 43 cm long (110 ridges) or desired length. The last row is on WS.

Double-knit Edging

K-CO 5 sts as an extension of 1st row:

Row 1 (RS): Kl, sl 1 pwise, kl, sl 1 pwise, p2tog; turn.

Row 2 (WS): Sl 1 kwise, kl, sl 1 pwise, kl, sl 1 pwise; turn.

Rep 1-2 until only 5 sts rem.

BO on RS, and *at the same time*, k2tog 2 times.

Knit second sleeve the same way.

ASSEMBLING JACKET

Now join the 4 pieces, partly with a back band “center back” between the 2 sides of the back, partly with 2 shoulder pieces.

BACK BAND

With charcoal and larger circular, pick up and knit 95 sts along **right back**, where it faces the center.

Begin at top: pick up and knit 1 st in corner, 11 sts for each staircase, 5 sts along lowest step, and 1 st in corner; turn work and K-CO 6 sts



ZIGZAG

SCHOOL 6

Downward staircases become a horizontal zigzag pattern. Zigzag staircases are entertaining to knit. They are alternately knitted and purled, with each staircase consisting of steps that form rectangles, ending and beginning with cropped figures.

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Whole Swatch: 6¾ x 6¾ in / 17 x 17 cm

Single Zigzag: 1 step wide and 2 steps high, approx. 2 x 2 in / 5 x 5 cm

MATERIALS

Yarn: CYCA #3 (DK, light worsted) Filcolana Pernilla (100% pure new wool, 191 yd/175 m / 50 g)

Yarn Colors and Amounts:

Willow Heather 822 (khaki)
Charcoal Heather 956 (charcoal)
Acacia Heather 825 (curry)

Needles: U. S. size 2.5 / 3 mm: 2 dpn and 16 in / 40 cm circular

SWATCH

Diagram

The diagram on page 114 shows all staircases and steps.

Stitches and Ridges

A step can have any even number of stitches. The number of ridges should be half the stitch count of the step.

This pattern includes 3 sizes of staircases: 12 sts and 6 ridges for the swatch (16 sts and 8 ridges for the Zigzag Poncho, 20 sts and 10 ridges for the Zigzag Vest).

Each step in the swatch has 12 sts and 6 ridges.

Rule of Thumb

Always begin a staircase where the last-knitted one ended. The yarn should always hang at outer edge at the last-knitted stitch, ready to be the beginning stitch for the next staircase.

STAIRCASE 1

Purl with *khaki* from left to right.

Step 1

Purl beginning step—a rectangle. K-CO 12 (16, 20) sts with 2 beg sts. Begin with dpn and change to circular when comfortable.

Row 1 (WS): Purl. There is now 1 ridge on RS.

Row 2 (WS): Sl 1 kwise, purl to end of row.

Row 3: Sl 1 kwise, purl to end of row.

Row 4: Sl 1 kwise, purl to end of row.

There are now 2 ridges on both RS and WS.

Rep Rows 3-4 until there are 6 (8, 10) ridges on both RS and WS (photo A). The last row is on WS. When RS faces you, the yarn end is at left side and working yarn on right. Pm on RS.

A



B



C



D



E





ZIGZAG VEST

Pretty, soft, and downy—everything lovely in one package. The zigzag staircases are worked alternately with Silk Mohair and Tvinni, an elegant combination. Wear it next to your skin or with a T-shirt or blouse underneath. The back and front are worked in one long piece. Doubled edges frame the sides with buttons sewn on through both layers. The neckline is edged with a fine I-cord bind-off.

SIZE

Medium

FINISHED

MEASUREMENTS

Chest: 39½ in / 100 cm

Total Length: 19¾ in / 50 cm

MATERIALS

Yarn: CYCA #2 (sport) Isager Tvinni (100% pure new Merino wool, 279 yd/255 m / 50 g)

Yarn Colors and Amounts:

Color A: Ice-Blue Heather 10s: 50 g

Color C: Light Lime 29s: 50 g

Color E: Ice Blue 10: 50 g

Yarn: CYCA #0 (lace) Isager Silk Mohair (75% kid mohair, 25% mulberry silk, 232 yd/212 m / 25 g)

Yarn Colors and Amounts:

Color B: Mint 66: 25 g

Color D: Blue 41: 25 g

Color G: Dark Mint 67: 25 g

Needles: U. S. size 1.5 / 2.5 mm:

2 dpn and 24 in / 60 cm circular

U. S. size 2.5 / 3 mm: 1 dpn

Notions: 8 small buttons

GAUGE

25 sts and 56 rows/28 ridges in garter st with Tvinni on U. S. 1.5 / 2.5 mm needles = 4 x 4 in / 10 x 10 cm.

24 sts and 52 rows/26 ridges in garter st with Silk Mohair on U. S. 1.5 / 2.5 mm needles = 4 x 4 in / 10 x 10 cm.

1 step of 20 sts and 10 ridges on RS is 5 in / 12.5 cm wide and 2½ in / 6 cm long.

2 steps measured diagonally = 4 in / 10 cm.

Adjust needle size to obtain correct gauge if necessary.

INSTRUCTIONS

Technique

The pattern is based on School 6 (page 114), with steps in 3 sizes. Learn the technique by working the whole School 6 swatch.

Diagram

Follow the diagram on page 122, which shows the color sequence, direction of working, staircases, and steps—or follow the instructions for the largest size for the School 6 swatch.

Stitches and Ridges

Each step has 20 sts and 10 ridges on RS.



SHELLS

SCHOOL 7

You'll learn how to knit shells in this school. The idea is "stolen" from a nineteenth-century baby blanket knitted with a fine white cotton yarn on very small needles. On the original blanket, the shells were knitted individually and joined last. This technique can be used for shawls, baby blankets, summer tops, etc. When the triangles are knitted together in diagonal panels, they look like shells, because they don't fit perfectly into the puzzle and so they bend into arches.

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Width: 10¾ in / 27 cm

Height: approx. 9½ in / 24 cm

MATERIALS

Yarn: Leftovers of a fine wool yarn

Yarn Colors and Amounts:

Yellow-Green: 50 g ball

Green: 50 g ball

Light Red: 10 g

Salmon: 10g

Needles: U. S. size 1.5 / 2.5 mm:
dpn (or hybrid jumper needle),
24 in / 60 cm circular

Notions: Locking ring markers

GAUGE

1 shell = 2¾ x 5¼ in / 7 x 13 cm

Adjust needle size to obtain correct gauge if necessary.

SWATCH

Knit the swatch following pattern below and diagram.

One shell consists of a hill (in reverse stockinette) and a valley (stockinette) with 4 garter edge stitches on each side.

Stitch Count

A shell should always have an odd number of stitches, with the same number of stitches to either side of the center stitch.

The pattern has two sizes of shell:

Whole shells: 37 sts for the swatch (45 sts for the Wing Shawl).

Half shells: 19 sts for the swatch (23 sts for the Wing Shawl).

PANEL 1

Comprised of Shells 1 and 2.

Shell 1

This is the first shell, a beginning shell, which is the basis for the following shells.

Beginning Hill

Row 1 (RS), cast-on: With yellow-green and dpn, K-CO 37 (45) sts (with 2 beg sts).

Row 2 (WS): Sl 1 pwise, knit to end of row.

Row 3: Sl 1 pwise, p2, p2tog, purl to end of row.

Row 4: Sl 1 kwise, k2, k2tog, knit to last st, p1 = 35 (43) sts.

A Valley

Row 5 (RS): Sl 1 kwise, k2, k2tog, knit to end of row.

Row 6 (WS): Sl 1 pwise, k2, k2tog, purl until 4 sts rem, k4.

Row 7: Sl 1 pwise, k2, k2tog, knit to end of row.

A



B



Overview

Beginning shells: 1 and 3

Shell knitted between 2 shells: 5, 8, 9,
10, 13, and 14

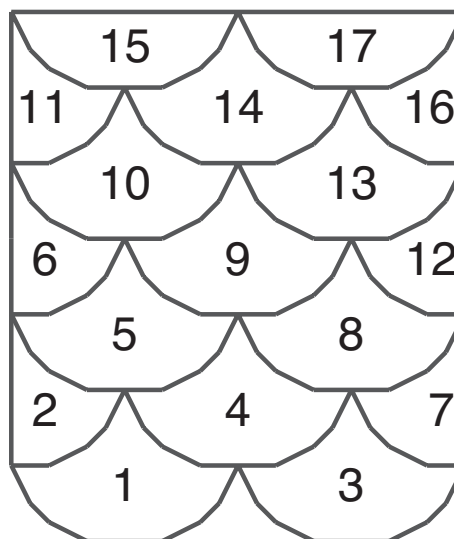
Shell knitted between 2 shells with a
joining stitch in the center: 4

Half shells, right half: 2, 6, and 11

Half shells, left half: 7, 12, and 16

Top shells: 15 and 17

DIAGRAM FOR SCHOOL 7



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CIRCLES

SCHOOL 8

By using the fairly simple German short-row technique, you can turn in the middle of a row without making a hole. Short rows are used for shaping, and, in this case, to create circles with 16 segments that I call “birthday cake slices.” The circles are knitted counter-clockwise.

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Diameter: 7 in / 18 cm

MATERIALS

Yarn: CYCA #3 (DK, light worsted)
Filcolana Pernilla (100% pure new wool, 191 yd/175 m / 50 g)

Yarn Colors and Amounts:

Charcoal Heather 956 (charcoal):
50 g
Medium Gray Heather 955 (gray):
50 g
Acacia Heather 825 (curry): 50 g

Needles: U. S. size 2.5 / 3 mm: 2
dpr

SWATCH

Technique

Circle shaped with German short rows (see page 186).

The circles are knitted counter-clockwise.

A circle is composed of birthday layer cake slices and each slice has a wide side and a narrow side.

The wide side: This side arches and is part of the circle’s circumference—that is, the side with the most edge stitches. All subsequent slices begin at this side. It is also where the colors change, and where the yarn is carried up.

The narrow side: The left side, where the work turns, with the

right side facing you as shown in photo A. This side forms the inside of the circle.

Changing Colors

The last-knitted stitch on the row on the side where the colors change is always purled and the next row begins with sl 1 kwise. Colors are always changed on the RS (the right side).

On the row with the color change, cross the colors **clockwise**, and *at the same time*, slip the first stitch knitwise.

If you want to carry up colors, end all rows at the side with the color change with p1 and begin next row with slip the first stitch knitwise, and *at the same time*, cross the colors **counter-clockwise** (photo C).

In photo D, you can see how the

charcoal yarn is carried up inside the edge stitches without pulling in the edge.

See also Changing Colors with stripes on page 174.

A CIRCLE

Birthday Cake Slice 1

Begin at arrow in photo A.

With charcoal and dpn, K-CO (with 2 beg sts), 20 sts.

Row 1 (WS), set-up row: Knit to end of row. There is now 1 ridge on RS. The first row is a set-up row/ridge, which is not included with the slice's ridge count.

Row 2 (RS), forward: Sl 1 pwise, k2; turn.

Row 3 (WS), return: DS (= pull up with working yarn so st flips and 2 legs are on needle; see page 186), k2.

There is now a tiny ridge of only 1 st on RS; the first st is an edge st and the last is a DS. It will be a bit difficult to see but it is counted in the ridge count.

Row 4, forward: Sl 1 pwise, k1, knit DS as 1 st, k2; turn.

Row 5, return: DS, knit to end of row.

Row 6, forward: Sl 1 pwise, knit to DS (here: k3), knit DS as 1 st, k2; turn.

Row 7, return: DS, knit to end of row.

Row 8, forward: Sl 1 pwise, knit to DS (here: k5), knit DS as 1 st, k2; turn.

Row 9, return: DS, knit to end of row.

Rep Row 8-9 with more and more

DIAGRAM PHOTOS FOR SCHOOL 8

A



B



C



D



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BASIC TECHNIQUES

CASTING ON

Most cast-ons begin with a slip knot, but a book from 1875 described a way to begin with two beginning stitches and no knot. You can learn how to do this cast-on here. All the patterns in this book use this method for casting on.

CAST-ON WITH TWO STITCHES

= 2 beginning stitches

These 2 stitches are always a good way to begin whether you begin with a long-tail or knitted cast-on.

Hold the yarn as a bow in your left hand, with the yarn end over your thumb and the yarn from the ball over your index finger (photo A).

Insert needle tip over the bow (the yarn between your two fingers), and tip needle down and to the left (clockwise) so the yarn makes a loop around the needle (photo B).

Hold the stitch firmly on the needle with your index finger and cast on 1 stitch with the long-tail method.

A



B



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TAKE YOUR KNITTING TO THE NEXT LEVEL

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Domino knitting has taken the crafting world by storm, with its flexible modular structure—easy-to-join squares, combined and recombined—and boundless design potential. Now, Vivian Høxbro, a Danish knitting expert with decades of design experience, takes the principles of domino knitting and applies them anew, with striking, dynamic results.

Dive into quick, straightforward lessons for knitting endlessly adaptable design elements, one for each of eight classic, fundamental shapes that can be worked in repeating rows to create just about anything. From stripes to squares, circles to shells, learn the basic shaping technique with a practice swatch, and then test your skills with dramatic designs, including jackets, vests, shawls, scarves, pillow covers, and more! Includes step-by-step instructions for each fundamental shape, with accompanying full-color photographs.



\$31.95 USD

ISBN: 9781646011353



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