THE VERY EASY GUIDE TO

Lace Knitting

Step-by-step techniques, easy-to-follow stitch patterns, and projects to get you started

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Horseshoe and bobbles

This simple horseshoe pattern, outlined with small bobbles, looks effective used as a single panel. Use it as a central panel, or space two or three evenly across the front of a sweater.

**Pattern**

**Pattern notes:** Single panel of fifteen stitches worked on a background of stockinette stitch.

1st row (RS) K2, yo, k2tog, yo, k1, yo, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, k3, yo, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, k5, yo, k1, yo, skpo, yo, k1

2nd and every alt row P to end.

3rd row K1, yo, k2tog, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, k2, yo, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, k3, yo, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, k5, yo, k1, yo, skpo, yo, k1

5th row K1, yo, k2tog, yo, k5, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, k1, yo, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, skpo, yo, k1

10th row P to end.

These 10 rows form the pattern.

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Paired leaves

The shaping used to produce the pairs of drooping leaves on this design form a pointed shape on the lower edge, making it an ideal central panel for a triangular shawl.

**Yarn weight variation**

The main sample is worked in double knitting yarn on 3.75 mm needles.

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**Special abbreviations**

Yo: Yarn over—bring the yarn forward between the needles from back to front of the work.

K2tog: Knit two stitches together through the front loops.

Skpo: Slip one stitch knitwise—knit one stitch, then pass the slipped stitch over.

Sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy: Slip two as if to knit two together through the front loops; knit one; then pass the slipped stitches over.

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**Beaded variation**

This sample is worked in two-ply yarn on 3.25 mm needles. The bobbles have been replaced with beads in a contrasting color.

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**Pattern**

**Pattern notes:** Single panel of twenty-nine stitches worked on a background of stockinette stitch.

1st row (RS) K1, yo, k2tog, yo, k1, yo, k2, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, k3, yo, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, k5, yo, k1, yo, skpo, yo, k1

2nd row and every alt row P to end.

3rd row K1, yo, k2tog, yo, k1, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, k2, yo, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, k4, yo, k1, yo, skpo, yo, k1

5th row K1, yo, k2tog, yo, k5, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, k1, yo, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy, yo, k1

7th row K1, yo, k2tog, yo, k7, yo, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy 3 times; yo, k7, yo, skpo, yo, k1

9th row K1, yo, k2tog, yo, k8, (yo, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, pssy) 3 times, yo, k8, yo, skpo, yo, k1

11th row P to end.

These 10 rows form the pattern.
Feather lace

Each feather-like shape is emphasized by an outline of small eyelets. The horizontal lines of feathers are staggered, with each tip sitting neatly between the feathers on the previous line.

Yarn weight variation
By using a double knitting yarn and 4 mm needles the pattern becomes more pronounced.

The main sample is worked in a fine lace yarn on 4 mm needles to produce an open, lightweight fabric.

Special abbreviations
Yo: Yarn over—bring the yarn forward between the needles from back to front of the work.
K2tog: Knit two stitches together through the front of the loops.
Skpo: Slip one stitch knitwise—knit one stitch, then pass the slipped stitch over.
Sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, psso: Slip two as if to knit two together through the front loops; knit one; then pass the slipped stitches over.

Pattern notes: This sample shows four pattern repeats. Worked over a multiple of eight stitches plus three shown over nineteen stitches.

1st row (RS) K2, *yo, k2, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, psso, k2, yo, k1, rep from * to last 2, k1.
2nd row and every alt row P to end.
3rd row K3, *yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, psso, k1, yo, k1, rep from * to end.

5th row K4, *yo, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, psso, yo, k5, rep from * to end, finishing last rep k4.
7th, 9th, 11th, and 13th rows K1, k2tog, k2, yo, k1, yo, k2, *sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, psso, k2, yo, k1, yo, k2, rep from * to last 3 sts, skpo, k1.
15th row K7, k2tog, k1, yo, k3, *yo, k1, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, psso, k1, yo, k3, rep from * to last 4 sts, yo, k1, skpo, k1.
17th row K1, k2tog, yo, k5, *yo, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, psso, yo, k5, rep from * to last 3 sts, yo, skpo, k1.
19th, 21st, and 23rd row K2, yo, k2, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, psso, k2, *yo, k1, yo, k2, sl 2 as if to work k2tog, k1, psso, k2, yo, k1, yo, k2, rep from * to last 2 sts, yo, k2.
24th row P to end.

These 24 rows form the pattern.

Yarn weight variation
By using a double knitting yarn and 4 mm needles the pattern becomes more pronounced.

Design inspirations
Placing this knitted pattern over a darker-colored fabric will really show up the feather shapes. Try the knitted-wrapped cushion on page 72.
Eyelet patterns

The difference between eyelet patterns and lace patterns is a subtle one. Generally speaking, eyelet patterns are less open than lace patterns although a number of patterns could fit into both categories. In this chapter you will find patterns that include increases and decreases that form simple eyelet patterns. More complicated eyelet patterns can be found in the following chapters.

Working the pattern

This lesson explains the use of a basic increase and decrease to work a simple eyelet. A eyelet is formed by taking the yarn over the needle without knitting a stitch, this is followed by working two stitches together. For this pattern a yarn over (yo) increase is worked.

Yarn over increase

The first row of eyelets is worked on row one, a right-side row, and the stitch before the increase is a knit stitch, therefore the yarn is at the back of the work. Bring the yarn to the front ready to work the next stitch—the yarn will be taken over the needle to form the new stitch.

Decrease slanting to the left

To counteract the increase a decrease needs to be worked. For this pattern the two stitches following the increase are decreased with a slant to the left. This is worked by slipping the first stitch without knitting it and knitting the second stitch. The slipped stitch is then passed over the knitted stitch and off the needle.

Pattern

Pattern notes: This sample shows one and a half pattern repeats, shown over twenty-seven stitches. (The highlighted area shows one twenty-eight row repeat.)

1st row (RS): K2, *yo, skpo* 5 times, k4, rep from * to end, finishing last rep k1.
2nd row and every alt row: P to end. 
3rd row: K3, *yo, skpo* 4 times, k6, rep from * to end, finishing last rep k2.
5th row: K4, *yo, skpo* 3 times, k8, rep from * to end, finishing last rep k4.
9th row: K6, *yo, skpo* k12, rep from * to end, finishing last rep k6.
11th row: K10, *(yo, skpo)* 4 times, k6, rep from * to last 3 sts, k3.
15th row: K8, *(yo, skpo)* 5 times, k4, rep from * to last 4 sts, k4.
17th row: K10, *(yo, skpo)* 4 times, k6, rep from * to last 3 sts, k3.
19th row: K11, *(yo, skpo)* 3 times, k8, rep from * to last 2 sts, k2.
21st row: K12, *(yo, skpo)* twice, k10, rep from * to last st, k1.
23rd row: K13, *yo, skpo* k12, rep from * to end.
25th and 27th rows: K to end.
28th row: P to end. 

These 28 rows form the pattern.

Choosing yarns

This sample is worked in double knitting yarn and 4 mm needles, but it will work with any weight or texture of yarn: choose needles to suit the yarn you are working with.

Where & when?

• This simple eyelet pattern is suitable for most types of yarn, from fine lace chunky, mohair, and tweedy boulki. The sample is double knitting yarn.
• The triangular pattern is suitable for use as an allover pattern and a wide or narrow border. For an allover pattern, repeat the 28 pattern rows as many times as required. Work the 28 pattern rows once for a wide eyelet border, or just rows 1 to 10 for a narrow border.
• When using this pattern for an area that requires shaping—on the crown of a hat, for example—the correct number of stitches on the needle. 
• If you are unable to work either the decrease or increase within a repeat just knit the stitches, do not work just one part of the eyelet.
• To avoid shaping in the pattern area, work straight sections in a basic stitch such as stockinette stitch or garter stitch for shaped areas—on the crown of a hat, for example.

Special abbreviations

Yo—Yarn over—bring the yarn forward between the needles from back to front of the work.
Skpo—Slip one stitch knitwise, knit one stitch, then pass the slipped stitch over.

How to read the chart

Each square on the chart represents a stitch and each horizontal line of squares a row of knitting. The symbols represent an instruction and have been designed to resemble the appearance of the knitting. Before you start knitting familiarise yourself with the symbols.

The numbers on each side of the chart indicate the row number, the right- and wrong-side rows, and the pattern repeat. The numbers on the right of the chart indicate the right-side rows and the numbers on the left the wrong-side rows—row 1 on this chart is on the right, therefore it is a right-side row. The symbols appear from the right side of the work just as they will on the knitting.

28-row pattern repeat.

multiples of 14 stitches plus 13 [27 sts]