Embla - a striped shawl in garter stitch

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Embla is a very simple garter stitch shawl, but because it is worked in a series of connected triangles and trapezes, the result is this unexpected shape. The idea is that you can knit almost the entire shawl without having to count or look at the pattern, once you've learned the simple "rules" for each module.

The pattern can be worked in 2 sizes. The shawl in the photos is the large version.

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Materials

100 (100) g Saga (SA) by Filcolana 150 (150) g Indiecita (IN) by Filcolana 3,5 mm circular needle, 60-80 cm

Large blue version (photos on this page)

SA: Farve 212 (Navy Blue) IN: Farve 319 (Blue Violet)

Small soft pink version (photo on next page)

SA: 121 (Port) IN: 334 (Light Blush)

Measurements

Wingspan from tip to top: 136 (160) cm

Height at center: 34 (42) cm The version shown is the large

Gauge

20 sts and 21 garter ridges (42 rows) in garter stitch on a $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm circular needle = 10×10 cm.

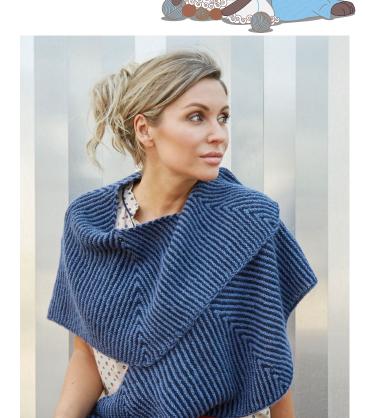
Special abbreviations

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M1: Make 1. Increase one stitch by lifting the chain between sts onto the left needle and knitting it through the back loop.

SI1 wyif: Slip 1 stitch purlwise with the yarn held in front.







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Short rows

When working a short row by turning in the middle of a row, it is important to do something to avoid ending up with a hole at the turning point. There are various methods for doing this, but for this striped garter stitch shawl, the best method is working yarn overs: Work a yarn over after turning the work, by bringing the working yarn to the back of the work between the needle, then up and over the right needle and back behind the work. This creates a yarn over or extra stitch which will lie close against the next knit stitch. When working these sts, the yarn over needs to be knit together with the next stitch on the needle. Not the stitch it lies up against, but the stitch on the opposite side of it. This will close the hole created by the turn.

Shawl

Cast on 3 sts using SA.

Row 1 (SA): K3.

Row 2 (SA): SI1 wyif, yo, k2.

Change to IN.

Row 3 (IN): Sl1 wyif, yo, k1, k2tog.

Row 4 (IN): Work as Row 3.

Work garter ridges alternating between SA and IN. The parenthesis indicates the yarn used for a given row.

Trapezium with increases

Row 1 (SA): SI1 wyif, yo, knit to the last 3 sts, M1, k1, k2tog.

Row 2 (SA): Sl1 wyif, yo, knit to the last 2 sts, k2tog.

Row 3 (IN): Work as Row 2. Row 4 (IN): Work as Row 2.

Repeat Row 1-4 until there are 24 sts on the needle.

Wedge

Transition garter ridge

Transition row 1 (SA): SI1 wyif, yo, knit to the last 2 sts, k2tog.

Transition row 2(SA): SI1 wyif, yo, knit to the last 2





First half of wedge

Row 1 (IN): Sl1 wyif, yo, knit to the last 2 sts. Turn.

Row 2 (IN): Yo, knit to the last 2 sts, k2tog.

Row 3 (SA): SI1 wyif, yo, knit to 2 sts before the last

turn (not counting the yo at the turn). Turn.

Row 4 (SA): Work as Row 2. Row 5 (IN): Work as Row 3. Row 6 (IN): Work as Row 2.

Repeat Row 3-6 as many times as possible. Second to last row (IN): Sl1 wyif, yo, k1. Turn.

Last row (IN): Yo, k1, k2tog.

Second half of wedge

Row 1 (SA): SI1 wyif, yo, k1, knit the yo together with the next stitch on the needle, k1, knit the yo together with the next stitch on the needle. Turn.

Row 2 (SA): Yo, knit to the last 2 sts, k2tog.

Row 3 (IN): Sl1 wyif, yo, k4, knit the yo together with

the next stitch on the needle 2 times. Turn.

Row 4 (IN): Work as Row 2.

Row 5 (SA): SI1 wyif, yo, k6, knit the yo together with the next stitch on the needle 2 times. Turn.

Row 6 (SA): Work as Row 2.

Continue as established above, knitting 2 more sts before the yos every odd numbered row. On the last ridge in the wedge (IN), the yo is knit together with the second to last stitch on the needle, which is also a yo.

Transitions garter ridge

Transition row 1 (SA): SI1 wyif, yo, knit to the last 3 sts, k3tog.

Transition row 2 (SA): SI1 wyif, yo, knit to the last 2 sts, k2tog.

Transition row 3 (IN): Work as Transition row 2. Transition row 4 (IN): Work as Transition row 2.

Continue...

Work another trapezium by repeating Row 1-4 of Trapezium with increases, until a total of 12 sts have been increased. Then work another wedge. Work alternating trapeziums with 12 increases and wedges until a total of 5 (6) wedges have been worked. There are now 72 (84) sts on the needle. The 5th (6th) wedge is the middle of the shawl. Work trapeziums with decreases instead of increases for the second half of the shawl.

Trapezium with decreases

Row 1 (SA): SI1 wyif, yo, knit to the last 5 sts, k1, ssk, k2tog.

Row 2 (SA): SI1 wyif, yo, knit to the last 2 sts, k2tog.

Row 3 (IN): Work as Row 2. Row 4 (IN): Work as Row 2.

Repeat Row 1-4 until 12 sts have been decreased. There are now 60 (72) sts on the needle.

Continue...

Work a wedge. Work another trapezium with 12 de-

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creases.

Work alternating trapeziums with 12 decreases and wedges until a total of (9) 11 wedges have been knit. There are now 24 sts on the needle.
Repeat Row 1-4 of trapezium with decreases until there are 5 sts left on the needle. End on an IN ridge.
Row 1 (SA): SI1 wyif, yo, k3, k2tog.
Row 2 (SA): SI1 wyif, k3, k2tog (skip the yo = 1 stitch less on the needle).
Row 3 (IN): SI1 wyif, yo, k2, k2tog.
Row 4 (IN): Work as Row 3.
Row 5 (SA): SI1 wyif, yo, k2, k2tog.
Row 6 (SA): SI1 wyif, k2, k2tog.

Row 7 (IN): Sl1 wyif, yo, k1, k2tog. Row 8 (IN): Work as Row 7.

Row 9 (SA): SI1 wyif, yo, k1, k2tog. Row 10 (SA): SI1 wyif, k1, k2tog.

Bind off using SA.

Finishing

Weave in the ends. Gently rinse the shawl, then put it though a (dry) spin cycle in the washing machine or press as much water out of the shawl as possible inside a rolled up towel. Place the shawl on a flat surface, gently pull it into shape with your hands and leave it to dry completely.