Vintage iron skeleton key C2C graph

US terms

Finished size
About 40½ × 15¾ in (103 × 40 cm)

Skill
Intermediate
5 yarns; up to 11 color changes in one row; 9 lone blocks. 59 balls to wind, 118 ends to weave in.

Yarn
Medium (4), 5 colors

Hook
5.5 mm (US I-9)

Gauge
About 5.3 blocks to 4 in (10 cm) each way
In corner-to-corner blocks of ch 3 and 3 double crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: cream, background, wind 8 small balls	**about 450 yd (411 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: brown, cross on the graph, wind 32 small balls	**about 110 yd (101 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: gray (the middle one of 3), dot on the graph, wind 7 small balls	**about 100 yd (91 m), an estimate**
Yarn D: gray (the lightest of 3), slash on the graph, wind 7 small balls	**about 45 yd (41 m), an estimate**
Yarn E: gray (the darkest of 3), ring on the graph, wind 5 small balls	**about 35 yd (32 m), an estimate**

Hook: 5.5 mm (US I-9). Also: yarn needle, bobbins or small balls, one for each stretch of color: 59 in all, scissors and tape measure.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. The estimate is from the stitches and chains of this size at this gauge, with 30 percent added. To measure your own: work the swatch and measure it, mark the yarn where the swatch begins and ends, pull the swatch out and measure the yarn it took; divide by the area of the swatch and multiply by the area of the piece.

Abbreviations

Written in US terms. Where the UK name differs it is given beside the US one.

ch	chain stitch
dc	double crochet (UK tr, treble)
sl st	slip stitch (UK ss, slip stitch)
sp	space
RS	right side
WS	wrong side

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Gauge

About 5.3 blocks to 4 in (10 cm) each way in corner-to-corner blocks of ch 3 and 3 double crochet.

The pattern also stops you to measure after row 6.

The swatch. A test piece to measure and pull out. It is not the start of the pattern. Work the first 8 rows of the pattern in one yarn: a triangle with 8 blocks along each straight edge, about 6 in (15 cm). Count the blocks in 4 in (10 cm) along the middle of a straight edge.

Swatch foundation	With A, ch 6.	
Swatch row 1 (RS, increase)	1 A	**(1 block)**
Swatch row 2 (WS, increase)	2 A	**(2 blocks)**
Swatch row 3 (RS, increase)	3 A	**(3 blocks)**
Swatch row 4 (WS, increase)	4 A	**(4 blocks)**
Swatch row 5 (RS, increase)	5 A	**(5 blocks)**
Swatch row 6 (WS, increase)	6 A	**(6 blocks)**
Swatch row 7 (RS, increase)	7 A	**(7 blocks)**
Swatch row 8 (WS, increase)	8 A	**(8 blocks)**

The same graph in other yarn weights

Light (3): 6.2 blocks to 4 in (10 cm), hook 4.5 to 5.5 mm, about 35 × 13½ in (89 × 34 cm).

Bulky (5): 4.1 blocks to 4 in (10 cm), hook 6.5 to 9 mm, about 52½ × 20½ in (133 × 52 cm).

No yarn amount has been worked out for these weights.

Before you start

- Row 1 is the block in the bottom right corner of the graph. Rows run on the diagonal to the top left corner. Odd rows are read from the right edge, later the top edge, down to the bottom edge, later the left edge; even rows are read back up. Each row's label names its two edges.
- The picture reads the right way round on one face of the piece. If yours is mirrored, turn it over.
- Find that face after row 2. Lay the three blocks down with the first block at the bottom right and the other two to its left and above it; turn the piece over and lay it the same way to see the other face. On the face you want, the block you worked first in row 2, the one begun with ch 6, is the one to the left of the first block. That face is your right side for the whole piece.
- Right-handed: expect it to be the face toward you in row 1 and in every odd row, as the row labels say.
- Each square of the graph is one block: ch 3 and 3 double crochet. Rows are counted in blocks. The colors of every row are written in the order you work them: "3 A" is 3 blocks in yarn A.
- Row 1 is one block: dc in the 4th ch from the hook and in each of the next 2 chs. The 3 chains skipped stand at the side of the block and make its ch-3 sp.

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- Turn after every row. A row's label says how it is worked: increase, decrease or even.
- An increase row has one block more than the row before. It begins with a new block: ch 6, turn, dc in 4th ch from hook, dc in next 2 chs. It ends with a block in the last ch-3 sp.
- A decrease row has one block fewer than the row before. It begins with no new block: turn, sl st in each of the 3 dc of the last block made. It ends with a sl st in the last ch-3 sp.
- An even row has as many blocks as the row before: one edge of the graph is finished and the other still grows. Its label says how it begins. An even row that begins with a new block begins as an increase row does and ends with a sl st in the last ch-3 sp. An even row that begins with slip stitches begins as a decrease row does and ends with a block in the last ch-3 sp.
- Where a row begins with slip stitches, as every decrease row does, its first block is (sl st, ch 3, 3 dc) in the ch-3 sp of the block just slipped across.
- Every other block of a row is (sl st, ch 3, 3 dc) in the ch-3 sp of the next block of the row before.
- To change color, work the last yarn-over of the last dc of the block before in the new color, and make the next slip stitch with the new color.
- Nothing is carried from row to row. Each stretch of color has a small ball or bobbin of its own: 59 in all. Drop a yarn on the wrong side where its color ends and pick it up again on the next row.
- A star (*) after a run: begin that run with a new ball, leaving a tail of about 6 in (15 cm). A run with no star goes on with the ball of its color left hanging from the row below; where that ball hangs a block or two away, lay the yarn along the row and work over it. If more than one ball of that color hangs within reach, take the nearest.
- A hash (#) after a run: its ball is not used again. When the run is worked, cut the yarn, leaving a tail of about 6 in (15 cm). A run with both marks (*#) is worked from a new ball that is cut when the run is done.
- At most 12 balls hang from the work at one time: the row with the most color changes has 11.
- This picture has 9 lone blocks: a block with no block of its own color to its left, to its right, above it or below it. 5 of them are alone in their diagonal row as well, and each of those is worked from a small ball of its own; the other 4 lie next to a block of their own color in their diagonal row and are worked from the ball of that run.
- Close shades: C, D and E are all gray; A and D are close in shade. Choose yarns you can tell apart in your own light.
- Left-handed. Work the same rows exactly as they are written. Expect your right side to be the face toward you in row 2 and in every even row: read RS as WS and WS as RS throughout, and drop yarns and weave in ends on the face toward you in the odd rows.

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Graph, sheet 1 of 2

54 squares wide and 21 tall. One square is 1 block of ch 3 and 3 double crochet, worked on the diagonal. Row 1 is the square in the bottom right corner, and each row after it is the next diagonal of the graph, as far as the top left corner. A row's number stands at its lower end: along the bottom edge, then up the left edge. Right-side rows are read down the diagonal to that end, wrong-side rows back up from it. This sheet: columns 1 to 28 counted from the right, lines of squares 1 to 21 counted from the bottom. Sheet 1 is the corner row 1 begins in. The numbers stand on the sheets that hold the graph's bottom edge or its left edge. The shaded squares are on the next sheet as well, beside this one or above it.

- A cream, no symbol, 707 squares
- B brown, cross, 156 squares
- C gray (the middle one of 3), dot, 155 squares
- D gray (the lightest of 3), slash, 63 squares
- E gray (the darkest of 3), ring, 53 squares

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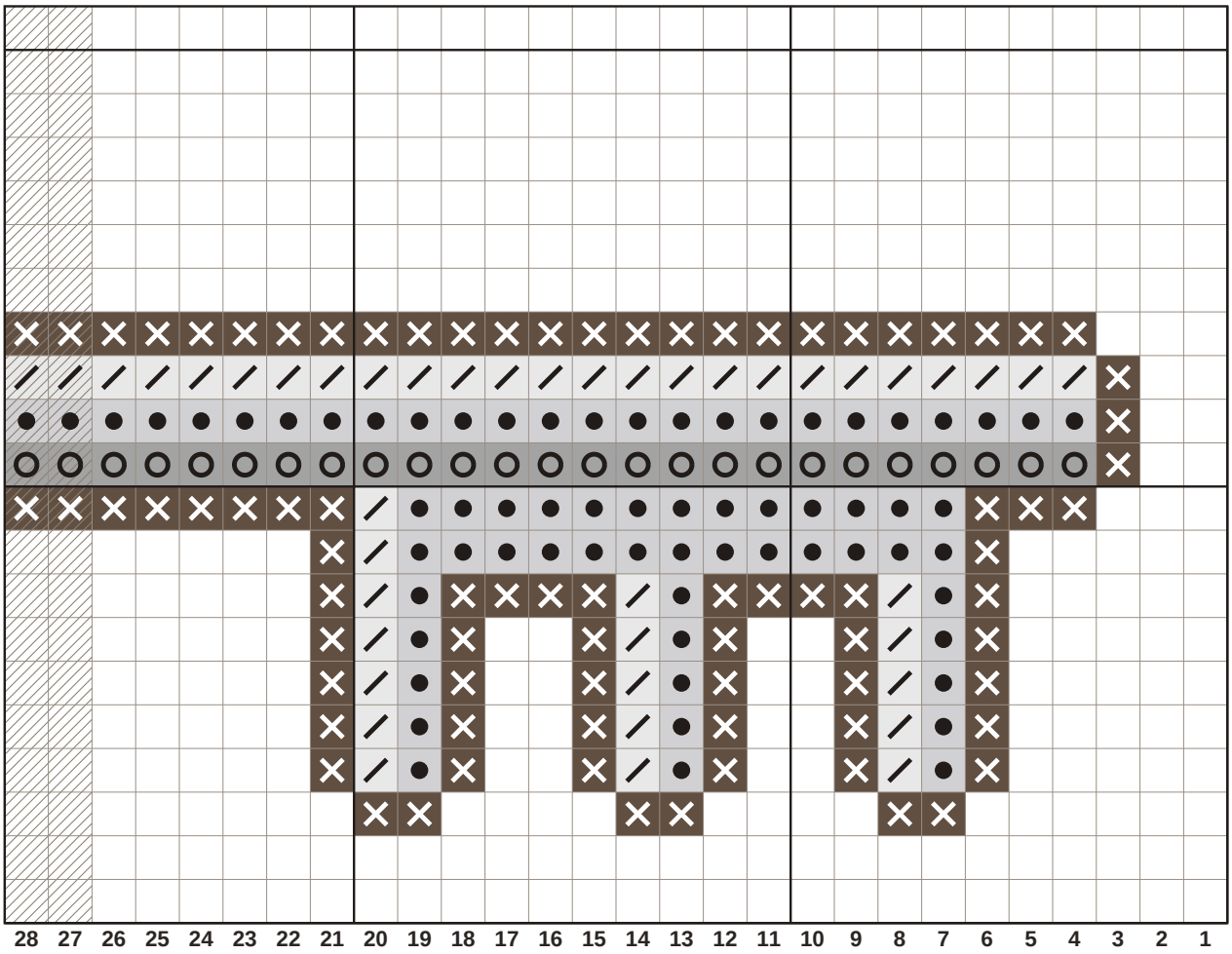

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Graph, sheet 2 of 2

54 squares wide and 21 tall. One square is 1 block of ch 3 and 3 double crochet, worked on the diagonal. Row 1 is the square in the bottom right corner, and each row after it is the next diagonal of the graph, as far as the top left corner. A row's number stands at its lower end: along the bottom edge, then up the left edge. Right-side rows are read down the diagonal to that end, wrong-side rows back up from it. This sheet: columns 27 to 54 counted from the right, lines of squares 1 to 21 counted from the bottom. Sheet 1 is the corner row 1 begins in. The numbers stand on the sheets that hold the graph's bottom edge or its left edge. The shaded squares are on the next sheet as well, beside this one or above it.

- A cream, no symbol, 707 squares
- B brown, cross, 156 squares
- C gray (the middle one of 3), dot, 155 squares
- D gray (the lightest of 3), slash, 63 squares
- E gray (the darkest of 3), ring, 53 squares

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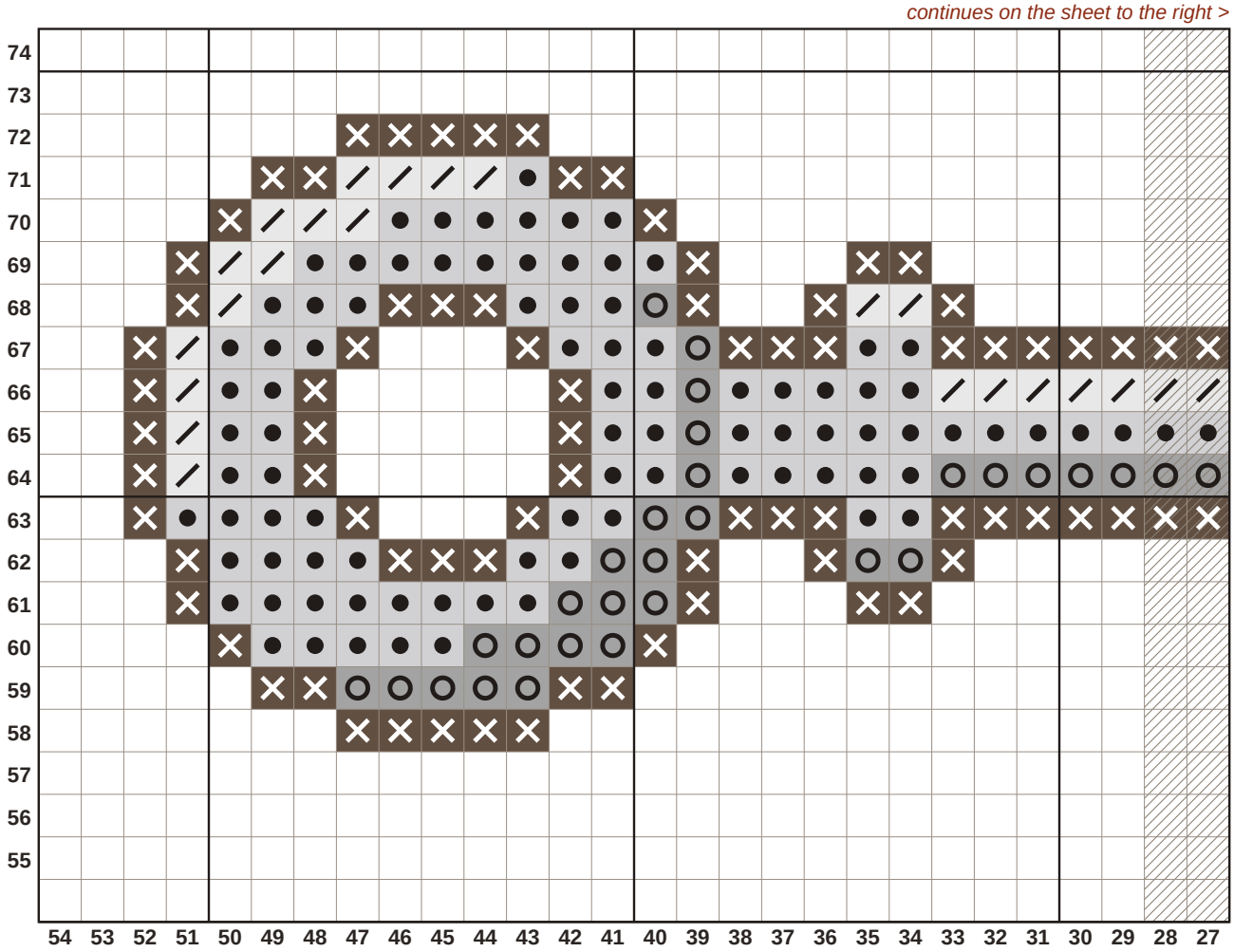

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Instructions

A row of the graph is written as its colors in the order you work them, each with its number of blocks: never read a row's list backwards. On the graph a right-side (RS) row runs down the diagonal and a wrong-side (WS) row up the diagonal. The count in round brackets at the end of a line is what that line leaves. Tick the box when a row is done. In UK terms dc is treble and sl st is slip stitch.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 6. Row 1 is one block, worked into these chains.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	*Increase, read from the right edge down to the bottom edge.* 1 A*	**(1 block)**
☐ **Row 2 (WS)**	*Increase, read from the bottom edge up to the right edge.* 2 A	**(2 blocks)**
☐ **Row 3 (RS)**	*Increase, read from the right edge down to the bottom edge.* 3 A	**(3 blocks)**
☐ **Row 4 (WS)**	*Increase, read from the bottom edge up to the right edge.* 4 A	**(4 blocks)**
☐ **Row 5 (RS)**	*Increase, read from the right edge down to the bottom edge.* 5 A	**(5 blocks)**
☐ **Row 6 (WS)**	*Increase, read from the bottom edge up to the right edge.* 6 A	**(6 blocks)**

Stop and measure now, after row 6. One straight edge of the triangle, from the first block to the end of the row: about 4½ in (11 cm). If it is longer, the whole picture will be larger: start again with a smaller hook, or keep going and expect a larger piece. If it is shorter, a larger hook.

☐ **Row 7 (RS)**	*Increase, read from the right edge down to the bottom edge.* 7 A	**(7 blocks)**
☐ **Row 8 (WS)**	*Increase, read from the bottom edge up to the right edge.* 8 A	**(8 blocks)**
☐ **Row 9 (RS)**	*Increase, read from the right edge down to the bottom edge.* 5 A, 2 B*, 2 A*	**(9 blocks)**
☐ **Row 10 (WS)**	*Increase, read from the bottom edge up to the right edge.* 2 A, 1 B#, 1 C*, 1 B*, 5 A	**(10 blocks)**
☐ **Row 11 (RS)**	*Increase, read from the right edge down to the bottom edge.* 5 A, 1 B, 1 C, 1 D*, 3 A	**(11 blocks)**
☐ **Row 12 (WS)**	*Increase, read from the bottom edge up to the right edge.* 3 A, 1 B*, 1 D, 1 C, 1 B, 5 A	**(12 blocks)**
☐ **Row 13 (RS)**	*Increase, read from the right edge down to the bottom edge.* 2 A, 2 B*, 1 A*#, 1 B, 1 C, 1 D, 1 B, 4 A	**(13 blocks)**
☐ **Row 14 (WS)**	*Increase, read from the bottom edge up to the right edge.* 5 A, 1 B, 1 D, 1 C, 2 B, 1 E*, 1 B, 2 A	**(14 blocks)**
☐ **Row 15 (RS)**	*Increase, read from the right edge down to the bottom edge.* 2 A, 1 B#, 1 C*, 1 E, 1 B#, 1 C, 1 D#, 1 B, 2 A, 2 B*, 2 A*	**(15 blocks)**
☐ **Row 16 (WS)**	*Increase, read from the bottom edge up to the right edge.* 2 A, 1 B#, 1 C*, 1 B*, 2 A, 1 B, 2 C, 1 E, 1 C, 1 D*, 3 A	**(16 blocks)**
☐ **Row 17 (RS)**	*Increase, read from the right edge down to the bottom edge.* 3 A, 1 B*, 1 D, 1 C, 1 E, 2 C, 1 B#, 1 A#, 1 B, 1 C, 1 D*, 3 A	**(17 blocks)**
☐ **Row 18 (WS)**	*Increase, read from the bottom edge up to the right edge.* 3 A, 1 B*, 1 D, 1 C, 2 B, 2 C, 1 E, 1 C, 1 D, 1 B, 4 A	**(18 blocks)**
☐ **Row 19 (RS)**	*Increase, read from the right edge down to the bottom edge.* 5 A, 1 B, 1 D, 1 C, 1 E, 2 C#, 1 B#, 1 C, 1 D, 1 B, 4 A	**(19 blocks)**

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☐ **Row 20 (WS)**	*Increase, read from the bottom edge up to the right edge.* 5 A, 1 B, 1 D, 3 C, 1 E, 1 C, 1 D, 1 B, 6 A **(20 blocks)**
☐ **Row 21 (RS)**	*Increase, read from the right edge down to the bottom edge.* 7 A, 1 B, 1 D, 1 C, 1 E, 2 C, 1 D#, 1 B, 2 A, 2 B*, 2 A* **(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 22 (WS)**	*Even, begins with a new block, read from the bottom edge up to the top edge.* 2 A, 1 B#, 1 C*, 1 B*, 2 A, 1 B, 2 C, 1 E, 1 C, 1 D, 1 B, 7 A **(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 23 (RS)**	*Even, begins with slip stitches, read from the top edge down to the bottom edge.* 7 A, 1 B, 1 D, 1 C, 1 E, 2 C, 1 B#, 1 A#, 1 B, 1 C, 1 D*, 3 A **(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 24 (WS)**	*Even, begins with a new block, read from the bottom edge up to the top edge.* 3 A, 1 B*, 1 D, 1 C, 2 B, 2 C, 1 E, 1 C, 1 D, 1 B, 7 A **(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 25 (RS)**	*Even, begins with slip stitches, read from the top edge down to the bottom edge.* 7 A, 1 B, 1 D, 1 C, 1 E, 2 C#, 1 B#, 1 C, 1 D, 1 B, 4 A **(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 26 (WS)**	*Even, begins with a new block, read from the bottom edge up to the top edge.* 5 A, 1 B, 1 D, 3 C, 1 E, 1 C, 1 D, 1 B, 7 A **(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 27 (RS)**	*Even, begins with slip stitches, read from the top edge down to the bottom edge.* 7 A, 1 B, 1 D, 1 C, 1 E, 2 C, 1 D, 1 B, 6 A **(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 28 (WS)**	*Even, begins with a new block, read from the bottom edge up to the top edge.* 7 A, 1 B, 1 D, 1 C#, 1 E, 1 C, 1 D, 1 B, 7 A **(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 29 (RS)**	*Even, begins with slip stitches, read from the top edge down to the bottom edge.* 7 A, 1 B, 1 D, 1 C, 1 E, 1 D#, 1 B, 8 A **(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 30 (WS)**	*Even, begins with a new block, read from the bottom edge up to the top edge.* 9 A, 1 B, 1 E, 1 C, 1 D, 1 B, 7 A **(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 31 (RS)**	*Even, begins with slip stitches, read from the top edge down to the bottom edge.* 7 A, 1 B, 1 D, 1 C, 1 E, 1 B, 9 A **(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 32 (WS)**	*Even, begins with a new block, read from the bottom edge up to the top edge.* 9 A, 1 B, 1 E, 1 C, 1 D, 1 B, 7 A **(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 33 (RS)**	*Even, begins with slip stitches, read from the top edge down to the bottom edge.* 7 A, 1 B, 1 D, 1 C, 1 E, 1 B, 9 A **(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 34 (WS)**	*Even, begins with a new block, read from the bottom edge up to the top edge.* 9 A, 1 B, 1 E, 1 C, 1 D, 1 B, 7 A **(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 35 (RS)**	*Even, begins with slip stitches, read from the top edge down to the bottom edge.* 7 A, 1 B, 1 D, 1 C, 1 E, 1 B, 9 A **(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 36 (WS)**	*Even, begins with a new block, read from the bottom edge up to the top edge.* 9 A, 1 B, 1 E, 1 C, 1 D, 1 B, 7 A **(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 37 (RS)**	*Even, begins with slip stitches, read from the top edge down to the bottom edge.* 7 A, 1 B, 1 D, 1 C, 1 E, 1 B, 9 A **(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 38 (WS)**	*Even, begins with a new block, read from the bottom edge up to the top edge.* 9 A, 1 B, 1 E, 1 C, 1 D, 1 B, 7 A **(21 blocks)**

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☐ **Row 39 (RS)**	*Even, begins with slip stitches, read from the top edge down to the bottom edge.* 7 A, 1 B, 1 D, 1 C, 1 E, 1 B, 9 A	**(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 40 (WS)**	*Even, begins with a new block, read from the bottom edge up to the top edge.* 9 A#, 1 B, 1 E, 1 C, 1 D, 1 B, 7 A	**(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 41 (RS)**	*Even, begins with slip stitches, read from the top edge down to the bottom edge.* 7 A, 1 B, 1 D, 1 C, 1 E, 3 B, 7 A*	**(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 42 (WS)**	*Even, begins with a new block, read from the bottom edge up to the top edge.* 7 A, 1 B#, 1 E*, 1 B*#, 1 E, 1 C, 1 D, 1 B, 7 A	**(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 43 (RS)**	*Even, begins with slip stitches, read from the top edge down to the bottom edge.* 7 A, 1 B, 1 D, 1 C#, 1 E#, 1 C*, 1 E#, 8 A	**(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 44 (WS)**	*Even, begins with a new block, read from the bottom edge up to the top edge.* 8 A, 1 B*, 3 C, 1 D, 1 B, 7 A	**(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 45 (RS)**	*Even, begins with slip stitches, read from the top edge down to the bottom edge.* 7 A, 1 B, 1 D#, 2 C, 1 B, 9 A	**(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 46 (WS)**	*Even, begins with a new block, read from the bottom edge up to the top edge.* 5 A, 3 B*, 1 A*#, 1 B#, 3 C, 1 B, 7 A	**(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 47 (RS)**	*Even, begins with slip stitches, read from the top edge down to the bottom edge.* 6 A, 1 B#, 4 C, 2 B#, 2 E*, 2 B*, 4 A	**(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 48 (WS)**	*Even, begins with a new block, read from the bottom edge up to the top edge.* 4 A, 1 B, 5 E, 4 C, 1 D*, 6 A	**(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 49 (RS)**	*Even, begins with slip stitches, read from the top edge down to the bottom edge.* 5 A, 1 B*#, 1 D#, 1 B*, 2 C, 6 E, 1 B, 4 A	**(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 50 (WS)**	*Even, begins with a new block, read from the bottom edge up to the top edge.* 4 A, 1 B, 2 E, 4 C*, 1 E*, 1 C#, 3 B#, 5 A	**(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 51 (RS)**	*Even, begins with slip stitches, read from the top edge down to the bottom edge.* 7 A, 1 B*#, 1 E, 6 C, 1 E, 1 B#, 4 A	**(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 52 (WS)**	*Even, begins with a new block, read from the bottom edge up to the top edge.* 5 A, 1 E#, 2 C, 3 B*, 2 C*, 1 E#, 7 A	**(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 53 (RS)**	*Even, begins with slip stitches, read from the top edge down to the bottom edge.* 6 A, 1 B*, 2 C, 1 B, 2 A*, 1 B*, 2 C, 1 B*, 5 A	**(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 54 (WS)**	*Even, begins with a new block, read from the bottom edge up to the top edge.* 5 A, 1 B#, 2 C, 1 B#, 3 A, 1 B#, 1 C, 1 E*#, 1 B#, 5 A	**(21 blocks)**
☐ **Row 55 (RS)**	*Decrease, read from the top edge down to the left edge.* 5 A, 3 C, 4 A, 3 C, 5 A	**(20 blocks)**
☐ **Row 56 (WS)**	*Decrease, read from the left edge up to the top edge.* 4 A, 1 B*#, 2 C, 1 B*#, 3 A, 1 B*#, 2 C, 1 B*#, 4 A	**(19 blocks)**
☐ **Row 57 (RS)**	*Decrease, read from the top edge down to the left edge.* 4 A, 3 C, 4 A, 3 C, 4 A	**(18 blocks)**
☐ **Row 58 (WS)**	*Decrease, read from the left edge up to the top edge.* 3 A, 1 B*, 2 C, 1 B*, 3 A, 1 B*, 2 C, 1 B*, 3 A	**(17 blocks)**

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☐ **Row 59 (RS)**	*Decrease, read from the top edge down to the left edge.* 3 A, 1 B#, 2 C, 1 B#, 2 A#, 1 B, 2 C, 1 B#, 3 A	**(16 blocks)**
☐ **Row 60 (WS)**	*Decrease, read from the left edge up to the top edge.* 3 A, 3 C#, 3 B#, 3 C, 3 A	**(15 blocks)**
☐ **Row 61 (RS)**	*Decrease, read from the top edge down to the left edge.* 2 A, 1 B*, 1 D*, 6 C, 1 D*, 1 B*, 2 A	**(14 blocks)**
☐ **Row 62 (WS)**	*Decrease, read from the left edge up to the top edge.* 2 A, 1 B, 1 D, 5 C, 1 D, 1 B, 2 A	**(13 blocks)**
☐ **Row 63 (RS)**	*Decrease, read from the top edge down to the left edge.* 2 A, 1 B, 2 D#, 3 C#, 1 D, 1 B, 2 A	**(12 blocks)**
☐ **Row 64 (WS)**	*Decrease, read from the left edge up to the top edge.* 2 A, 1 B, 5 D, 1 B, 2 A	**(11 blocks)**
☐ **Row 65 (RS)**	*Decrease, read from the top edge down to the left edge.* 2 A, 2 B#, 2 D#, 2 B, 2 A	**(10 blocks)**
☐ **Row 66 (WS)**	*Decrease, read from the left edge up to the top edge.* 3 A#, 3 B#, 3 A	**(9 blocks)**
☐ **Row 67 (RS)**	*Decrease, read from the top edge down to the left edge.* 8 A	**(8 blocks)**
☐ **Row 68 (WS)**	*Decrease, read from the left edge up to the top edge.* 7 A	**(7 blocks)**
☐ **Row 69 (RS)**	*Decrease, read from the top edge down to the left edge.* 6 A	**(6 blocks)**
☐ **Row 70 (WS)**	*Decrease, read from the left edge up to the top edge.* 5 A	**(5 blocks)**
☐ **Row 71 (RS)**	*Decrease, read from the top edge down to the left edge.* 4 A	**(4 blocks)**
☐ **Row 72 (WS)**	*Decrease, read from the left edge up to the top edge.* 3 A	**(3 blocks)**
☐ **Row 73 (RS)**	*Decrease, read from the top edge down to the left edge.* 2 A	**(2 blocks)**
☐ **Row 74 (WS)**	*Decrease, read from the left edge up to the top edge.* 1 A#	**(1 block)**
☐ **End**	Fasten off, leaving a 6 in (15 cm) tail.	

Finishing

- Weave in every end along blocks of its own color.
- This pattern has no border: the size, the yarn amounts and the ends counted are for the blocks alone.

In all: 74 rows; 1,134 blocks; 392 color changes, at most 11 in a row; 59 small balls; 118 ends to weave in.

Found a mistake in this pattern? Tell us at flossfield.com, under Make a request.

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