

The Starry Crown

A Square to Honor Nelson Mandela for 67 Blankets

Intermediate to Advanced Skill Level

This square is in honor of Nelson Mandela and is for the 67 Blankets Project stitch-along sponsored by the Sheep & Wool Festival 2016, held in Maryland. When I set about designing the square, all I could hear in my mind was the hymn, *Down to the River to Pray*, specifically the line, “And who shall wear the starry crown; Good Lord, show us the way!” If ever a person showed us God’s way, it would be Nelson Mandela! He exemplified the virtues of love, fortitude and strong determination in the face of evil, peace, courage, endurance, strength, quiet persistence, community, and hope – all these are the stars that grace his crown. Mandela created waves of change and left lasting footprints for all good people to follow. The seeds that he has sown will bear good fruit for our children’s children.

Be blessed with Mandela’s inspiration as you stitch!

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Soli Deo Gloria

Finished size: 10” X 10”

Worsted Weight yarn

#6 needles

Gauge: 5.5 stitches per inch; 5 rows of Stockinette equals 1 inch It is important to knit to gauge so that your square will measure 10" X 10" when completed. The person who puts together the squares to make a blanket will appreciate that!

Glossary:

K – Knit

P – Purl

Sl – slip the stitch as if to purl

YO – yarn over

Tog – together

P2tog-b - Purl 2 together through the back loop

SSK – Knit 2 together through the back loop. (Note: Twisting the first stitch by re-mounting first creates a tighter join)

PSSO – Pass the slipped stitch over

P2SSO – Pass 2 slipped stitches over

BB – Bobble Stitch K1, YO, K1, YO, K1 in one stitch, leaving the stitch on the needle. Turn and knit the 5 stitches. Turn and purl the 5 stitches. Turn, then K1, Sl 1, K2tog, PSSO, K1. Turn once more and P3tog. Bobble is complete.

Seed Stitch – K1, P1 across each row.

Hints:

When working the cables in Waves and Footprints, the “center stitches” on the cable needle are the two closest to the left needle.

Odd rows are the right side rows.

Pattern:

Cast on 47 stitches. Work 5 rows of Seed stitch. Maintain a 4 stitch border of Seed Stitch on either side. Work these two patterns simultaneously between the borders. I put them in a table for your convenience.

	Waves and Footprints 8 stitches	Starry Crown 31 stitches
1	Knit	Knit
2	K2, (P1, K2) twice	Purl
3	P2, K1, YO, SSK, K1, P2	Knit
4	K2, (P1, K2) twice	Purl
5	P2, K1, K2tog, YO, K1, P2	Knit
6	K2, (P1, K2) twice	Purl
7	P2, K1, YO, SSK, K1, P2	Knit
8	K2, (P1, K2) twice	Purl
9	P2, K1, K2tog, YO, K1, P2	Knit
10	K2, (P1, K2) twice	Purl
11	P2, K1, YO, SSK, K1, P2	Knit
12	K2, (P1, K2) twice	P8, K15, P8
13	P2, K4, P2	K8, P15, K8
14	K2, (P1, K2) twice	P8, K15, P8
15	P2, sl next 3 stitches to a cable needle, hold the cable needle in back, K1, then slip the 2 center stitches from the cable needle back to the left needle and knit them. Knit 1 from the cable needle, P2	K9, (P1, K1) 6 times, P1, K9
16	K2, (P1, K2) twice	P8, (K1, P1) 7 times, K1, P8
17	P2, K1, K2tog, YO, K1, P2	K9, (BB, K1, P1, BB, P1, K1)twice, BB, K9
18	K2, (P1, K2) twice	P8, (K1, P1) 7 times, K1, P8
19	P2, K1, YO, SSK, K1, P2	K9, (P1, K1) 6 times, P1, K9
20	K2, (P1, K2) twice	P14, K1, P1, K1, P14
21	P2, K1, K2tog, YO, K1, P2	K7, (K2tog, YO) 3 times, K2, BB, K2, (YO, SSK) 3 times, K7
22	K2, (P1, K2) twice	P6, (P2tog-b, YO) twice, P4, K1, P1, K1, P4, (YO, P2tog) twice, P6
23	P2, K1, YO, SSK, K1, P2	K5, [(K2tog, YO) twice, K1] twice, P1, [K1, (YO, SSK) twice] twice, K5
24	K2, (P1, K2) twice	P4, (P2tog-b, YO) twice, P15, (YO, P2tog) twice, P4
25	P2, K1, K2tog, YO, K1, P2	K3, (K2tog, YO) twice, K2, (K2tog, YO) twice, K1, YO, Sl 2 – K1-P2SSO, YO, K1, (YO, SSK) twice, K2, (YO, SSK) twice, K3

26	K2, (P1, K2) twice	P2, (P2tog-b, YO) twice, P19, (YO, P2tog) twice, P2
27	P2, K4, P2	K1, (K2tog, YO) twice, K3, (K2tog, YO) twice, K2, YO, Sl 2 – K1-P2SSO, YO, K2, (YO, SSK) twice, K3, (YO, SSK) twice, K1
28	K2, (P1, K2) twice	Purl
29	P2, sl next 3 stitches to a cable needle, hold the cable needle in front, K1, then slip the 2 center stitches from the cable needle back to the left needle and knit them. Knit 1 from the cable needle, P2	K2, YO, Sl 2 – K1-P2SSO, YO, K2, (K2tog, YO) twice, K3, YO, Sl 2 – K1-P2SSO, YO, K3, (YO, SSK) twice, K2, YO, Sl 2 – K1-P2SSO, YO, K2
30	K2, (P1, K2) twice	Purl
31	P2, K1, YO, SSK, K1, P2	K2, (YO, Sl 2 – K1-P2SSO, YO, K3) 5 times ending with K2
32	K2, (P1, K2) twice	Purl
33	P2, K1, K2tog, YO, K1, P2	K3, BB, K4, (YO, Sl 2 – K1-P2SSO, YO, K3) 3 times, K1, BB, K3
34	K2, (P1, K2) twice	Purl
35	P2, K1, YO, SSK, K1, P2	K9, BB, K4, YO, Sl 2 – K1-P2SSO, YO, K4, BB, K9
36	K2, (P1, K2) twice	Purl
37	P2, K1, K2tog, YO, K1, P2	K15, BB, K15
38	K2, (P1, K2) twice	Purl
39	P2, K1, YO, SSK, K1, P2	Knit
40	K2, (P1, K2) twice	Purl
41	P2, K4, P2	Knit
42	K2, (P1, K2) twice	Purl
43	P2, sl next 3 stitches to a cable needle, hold the cable needle in back, K1, then slip the 2 center stitches from the cable needle back to the left needle and knit them. Knit 1 from the cable needle, P2	Knit
44	K2, (P1, K2) twice	Purl
45	P2, K1, K2tog, YO, K1, P2	Knit
46	K2, (P1, K2) twice	Purl
47	P2, K1, YO, SSK, K1, P2	Knit
48	K2, (P1, K2) twice	Purl

Work 5 rows of Seed stitch. Bind off and block to 10” X 10”.

Put a tag on your block noting the fiber used, wool or synthetic, and bring it to Sheep & Wool! I hope to see you there!