## Melrose Snowflake Block

Inspired by the inscribed Victorian quilt returning to Melrose in December 2018, this knit "Snowflake" block can be used in the Melrose History Yarnstorm.

Learn more about the quilt, the history tour of Melrose and the homecoming celebration at

Melrosehistoryquilt.org

Skill Level: Intermediate


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Yarn Weight: Bulky


Finished Measurements: 20"/ 50 cm square
Materials: 110 yards for border color, 30 yards for square, 50 yards for triangles
Gauge: 14 stitches in garter st $=4$ " unblocked
Needles: Size 10.5/ 6mm circular needle at least 24 " long or size needed to obtain gauge.
Tools: 8 Locking stitch markers, 3 needle holders (or waste yarn), tapestry needle, ruler or tape measure.

Techniques Used: Cast on, bind off, knit, purl, increase, decrease, pick up stitches.

## Definitions:

Bind off: Work the first stitch of the row. Repeat these next two steps:

- Slip the stitch from the right needle to the left.
- Knit the next two stitches together. M1 (Make 1): With left needle, pick up the yarn that connects the stitches between your right and left needle from front to back. Knit by inserting right needle into the back leg of the stitch.

M1L (Make 1 Left): With the right needle from back to front, lift the right leg of the knit st in the row below and place it on the left hand needle. Knit.
M1R (Make 1 Right): With left needle from back to front, pick up the left leg of the stitch two rows below the first st on the right needle. Knit.
K2tog (Knit 2 together): Push your needle through the top two stitches on the left hand needle and knit them at the same time.

Main strip:
In border color, cast on 2.
Row 1: K1, m1, k1.
Row 2: K1, m1, k to end.
Repeat Row 2 until there are (21) st. Place a locking marker marker in the first and last st. Continue working in garter st for 4". Switch to square color and work another 4 " in garter st. Pick up border color again and work in garter st for ". Place a locking marker marker in the first and last st.
Row 3: K1, k2tog, k to end. Repeat row 3 until there are 2 st remaining. K2tog. Break off yarn and pull through st.

## Side strip:

With border color and the front side facing (the side with solid colors, not the side with the contrasting color garter ribs), pick up and knit 21 st. Work even in garter st for ". Place a locking marker marker in the first and last st.
As for the main strip, work Row 3 until 2 st remain. Bind off.
Repeat the side strip on the remaining side of square.

## Triangles:

With front side facing, pick up one st in the right angler where the border color and the square meet. Pick up one st on the left hand border (See photo below). Turn.


Row 4: K across. Pick up one st on the border like this: With yarn in front, push needle in the middle of the first border stitch. Wrap yarn around needle and bring to back of work. Turn.
Row 5: K across. Pick up one st on the border as follows: With yarn in back, needle in the middle of the first border stitch. Wrap yarn around needle and bring to front of work. Turn.
Repeat Rows 4 and 5 until you reach the markers on both border strips, ending with the back side facing. You should have 25 st (don't sweat it if you've got 23 or 27 ... just make sure all four triangles have the same number of st). Break off yarn. Place st on waste yarn or st holder, except for the last corner.
Repeat at each corner of the square.

## Border:

Begin working in the round. Pm, *k across the front side of the triangle, pu 9 st across the border strip, pm, pu 1 st at the border point, pu 9 st across the border strip*. Repeat * * three more times. 176
st
Row 6: *Work to m, m1r, sm, k1, m1|*. Repeat * * three more times.
Work Row 6 three more times. 200 st.
Bind off: K1, [ *sl st from right needle to left, k2tog*. Repeat * * until m.
To work corner, sl st from right needle to left, $k 1$, remove $m$, sl st from right needle to left, k2tog, sl st from right needle to left, k1]
Repeat [ ] three more times. Continue binding off until 1 st remains. Break off yarn, leaving a long 12 " tail. Draw tail through loop.
Weave in loose ends.

