

# Finnstar Shawl

by Heather Classen

**A subtly shaped crescent shawl, knit sideways with a rib stitch border and a space-warship lace motif.**

## *Skills Required*

Suitable for knitters familiar with stockinette stitch, garter stitch, basic lacework, and chart reading.

## *Yarn and Needles*

Sample as shown uses one skein of LadyDye 100% Superwash merino (328yards / 300m) sport weight yarn, and 5 mm / US 8 needles for working flat.

## *Shawl Size and Gauge*

This shawl can be worked with any yarn and needles that create a nice comfortable flowing fabric.

The sport weight sample shown has a length of 64" and width of 9" with a gauge of 22 st x 21 rows = 4 inches square in st st.

With sock yarn use needles 3.5mm/US4 (for a denser fabric) up to 5.0mm/US8 (for a lacier fabric).

## *Notions*

2 stitch markers

## *References*

**Heirloom Knitting** by Sharon Miller ©2002



## *Credits*

Tech Editor: Kate Atherley

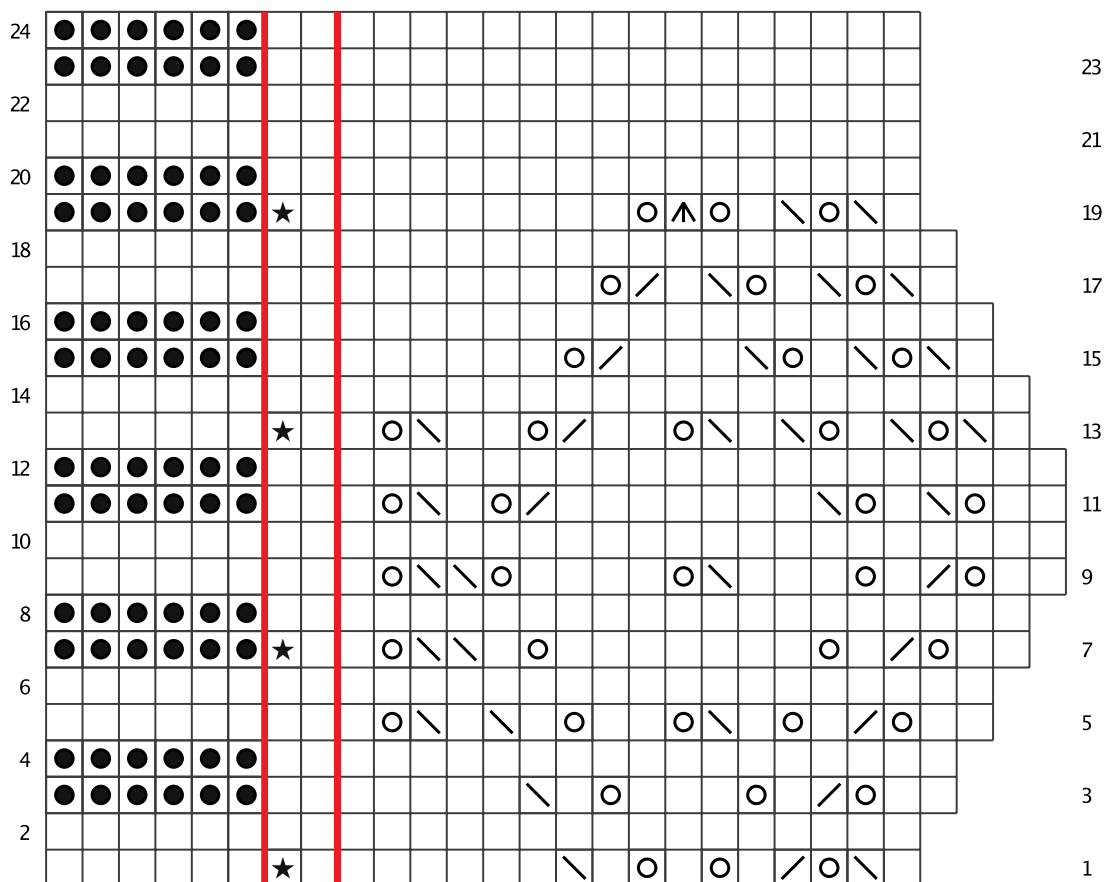
Photographer: Heather Classen

## *Pattern Notes*

Divide available yarn into three equally weighted portions and use one third each for the increase, the middle, and the decrease parts.

*Optional asymmetrical triangle shape modification:* Increase for the entire shawl until you run out of yarn. i.e. sock yarn would need about 600 – 700 yards with 4mm/US6 needles.

## Star Chart



### *The Star Chart and How to Read It.*

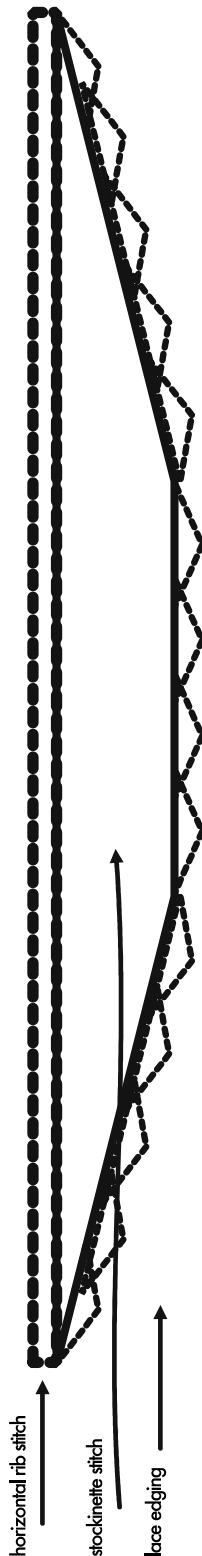
The Star Chart above has everything you need to knit the Finnstar Shawl, with the instructions starting on the next page.

Note:

- the vertical red lines 6 and 8 columns from the left side indicate stitch marker placement.
- the 6 leftmost sts create a horizontal rib for a gentle gather
- the 2 middle columns, with the stars indicate the stockinette area where the stitch count grows, stays even, or shrinks. The star indicates working “kfb”, “k”, or “ssk” for “increase”, “even” or “decrease” respectively.
- the lace starship is to the right of the red stitch marker columns. The lacework is worked on the odd numbered rows. Even numbered return rows are purled once you pass the 6 horizontal rib sts.
- rows 20 through 24 leave “resting” space between the star ships while allowing for the increases and decreases to occur regularly every 6 rows.

	RS: knit, WS: purl
	RS: purl, WS: knit
	k2tog
	ssk
	sl st, k2tog, pssso
	yarn over
	stitch marker
	Kfb if increasing, k if working even, ssk if decreasing.

As shown



### Instructions

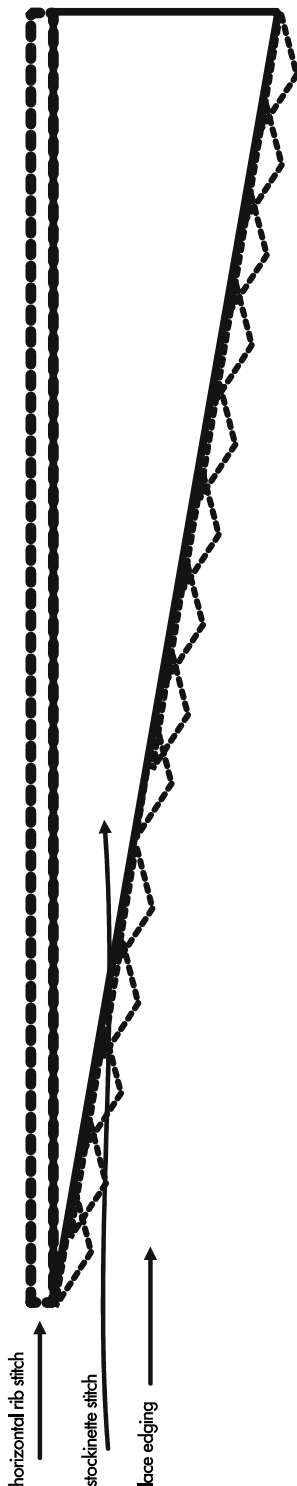
Divide available yarn into three equally weighted portions and use one third each for the increase, the middle, and the decrease parts.

#### For the pictured long crescent shawl:

- CO 24
- K 5 rows, placing stitch markers 6 and 8 sts from the end of the last row to prepare for working the Star Chart.
- Begin working the Star Chart at Row 1 using kfb when you get to the star symbol, increasing one st every six rows. Use up the first third of your yarn on this section. Note: the sport weight sample has 5 chart repeats for this portion.
- Work even for the second third of your yarn using a knit stitch for the star symbol. Note: the sport weight sample has 4 chart repeats for this portion.
- With the last third of your yarn work using ssk for the star symbol, decreasing one st every 6 rows. The sport weight sample has 5 chart repeats for this portion.
- K 5 rows.
- Bind off.
- Weave in ends.
- Soak, lay flat to dry using pins or lace blocking needles to accentuate the points of the star ships.



## Optional



### For the optional asymmetrical triangle shawl:

- CO 24
- K 5 rows, placing stitch markers 6 and 8 sts from the end of row to prepare for working the Star Chart.
- Work the Star Chart at Row 1 using kfb for the star symbol to increase one st every six rows until most of your yarn is used up or you have achieved the desired length.
- K 5 rows.
- Bind off.
- Weave in ends.
- Soak, lay flat to dry using pins or lace blocking needles to accentuate the points of the star ships.

### Glossary

**CO** - cast on

**k** - knit

**kfb** – knit in front and back of stitch

**k2tog** – knit two stitches together creating a right leaning slant while decreasing 1 stitch

**p** - purl

**pm** - place marker

**pssso** – pass slipped stitch over

**RS** – right side

**sl st** – slip stitch knitwise

**sm** – slip marker

**ssk** – slip next two stitches knit wise, then insert left needle into fronts of these two stitches and knit them together creating a left leaning slant while decreasing 1 stitch

**st st** – stockinette stitch

**st** – stitch

**sts** – stitches

**WS** – wrong side

**yo** – yarn over. Bring yarn front to back over the right needles creating a hole in the work, increasing one stitch

