

die Pfeilraupe

vielseitig und variabel



versatile and variable

Please do not expect the following descriptions to be a perfect guide! By popular demand, I am now simply trying to explain how I knitted my Arrow Caterpillar.

I used 538m (588 yards) yarn, unfortunately I cannot be exact as the yarn was handspun. My yarn was somewhere near sportweight. If you use thinner yarn, the shawl will be smaller if knitted exactly after the instructions. If you use yarn more bulky, the shawl will be bigger and sturdier. In both cases you will probably need more yarn.

For the first half to the tip I used almost 40% of my yarn, the second half used just over 60%. I knitted with 3.5mm (US 4) needles at a relatively firm gauge, because I do not like it when the garter ribs are so loose they fall apart.

Please read through all the instructions first, because several steps are made at the same time (in parallel) but for simplicity's sake I have described each step individually. It sounds more complicated than it is.

Following the instructions are charts showing the whole project as well as enlarged details for a better understanding.

In addition to a circular needle at least 80 cm (32 inches) long, you'll need a lot of stitch markers, namely 25! :-)))

The project is knitted in garter stitch, meaning that 2 knitted rows = 1 garter ridge.

All techniques used here are explained in detail in [her] knitting book, here: [Strickbuch](http://alpi-alpenrose.blogspot.com/)

Abbreviations:

r right

l left

st(s) stitch(es)

SS selvage stitch (slip the last stitch of every row while yarn in front. The first stitch of every row may be either k or kbl, as you prefer)

SM stitch marker

kfb knit into front and back of the stitch (one stitch increased)

Setup

Start with “[aufhäkeln](#)” (cast on to knitting needle using a crochet hook) the technique is also called Crochet Cast on.

Please make the first cast-on stitch as shown [here](#).

[the translators did not attempt to translate these, hoping people can follow the photos. If you can't follow the photos, don't bother, a simple Cable Cast On will do ;)]

Cast on 12 stitches, place a stitch marker (SM). *Cast on 11 more stitches, place another stitch marker (SM)*, repeat until you have used all 25 stitch markers. Then cast on 12 more stitches for a total of 288 stitches on the needle.

Lower Long Edge

The lower long edge is formed by a series of short rows. I have not worked a double stitch here, but simply turned the work, slipped first stitch with yarn in front and tightened the yarn, so that the stitches are neat and firm. This gives a nicer edge than using double stitches.

The elongation of the rows takes place in alternating series of 5-stitch and 6-stitch short rows.

First short row is 5 stitches long plus the Selvage stitch. The second short row goes to first stitch marker (SM). The third is 5 stitches past the stitch marker. The fourth goes again to the next stitch marker.

Repeat the alternating rhythm described for the third and fourth short rows to the end.

The first two SMs are slipped and left in place, they serve as designation for the slots, see diagram.

Remove the other SMs as you work the return row, after you slipped the SM and knitted 5 more sts.

(This helps to stay perfectly in rhythm because you know that when you just slipped the next SM, 5 sts must be knitted. In the next ridge you knit again to the next SM and have so a perfect 6 sts step without counting.)

Short Edge

At the same time, on the right edge of the work on each fourth ridge on the back row the last sts before the selvage stitch is doubled (kfb) and thus makes the inclination of the short edge.

Slots

The first slot is made in the 17th ridge (= 14th ridge counted from the edge of 4th step). On the following chart you can see exactly how this is meant. You cast off on front rows.

To get a nice transition, from the last knitted stitch (on the right needle) I retrieved a loop. With this the first stitch is to be bound off (Attention, this loop does not count!), then a total of 11 stitches are bound off. Be sure to tighten the first few stitches after the cast off very tight.

On the back row, the 11 stitches are cast on again with the crochet cast on method.

The last loop is the 1st stitch after the slot, i.e. the next stitch simply pulled over it and tightened.

Detailed and illustrated instructions, can be found [here](#) in Alpis Strickbuch.

If the transition is not so neat, that's not tragic, you won't see it when worn anyway ;).

Tip

On the 7th ridge after the third slot, you get to the tip: after knitting the turning stitch only knit 6 sts, the last is the selvage stitch and simply remains unknitted. To work the tip more accentuated, the short rows are slightly offset, i.e., after the double stitch knit only 4 sts, place marker (SM = next turning point) end row.

Upper Long edge [Knitting second half]

From here on you work back again with short rows. Use a SM, to make your life easier. At this point, we work [double stitches](#) as turning stitches!

You should now have at least 60% of your yarn remaining!

Knitting the second half is actually the same as the first half, but in reverse, getting shorter instead of longer.

That is: work the next ridge to marker, remove marker, turn work, work double stitch, knit 10 sts, place marker knit to end of row.

In the next ridge knit to marker, slip marker, knit 6 more sts, turn work, work double stitch, knit to end of row.

On the following ridge knit to marker, remove marker, turn work, work double stitch, knit 10 sts, place marker, knit to end of row.

Repeat these two rows until there are no more stitches left.

!!! Don't forget to continue the increases at the short edge as before and also don't forget the slots !!!

Finishing

Cast off all stitches knitwise until you come to the first stitch. This stitch is sewn together with the yarntail to gain a neat tip. Weave in ends, soak, lay out to dry or block gently as desired!

Have fun trying how many ways the arrow caterpillar can be worn.

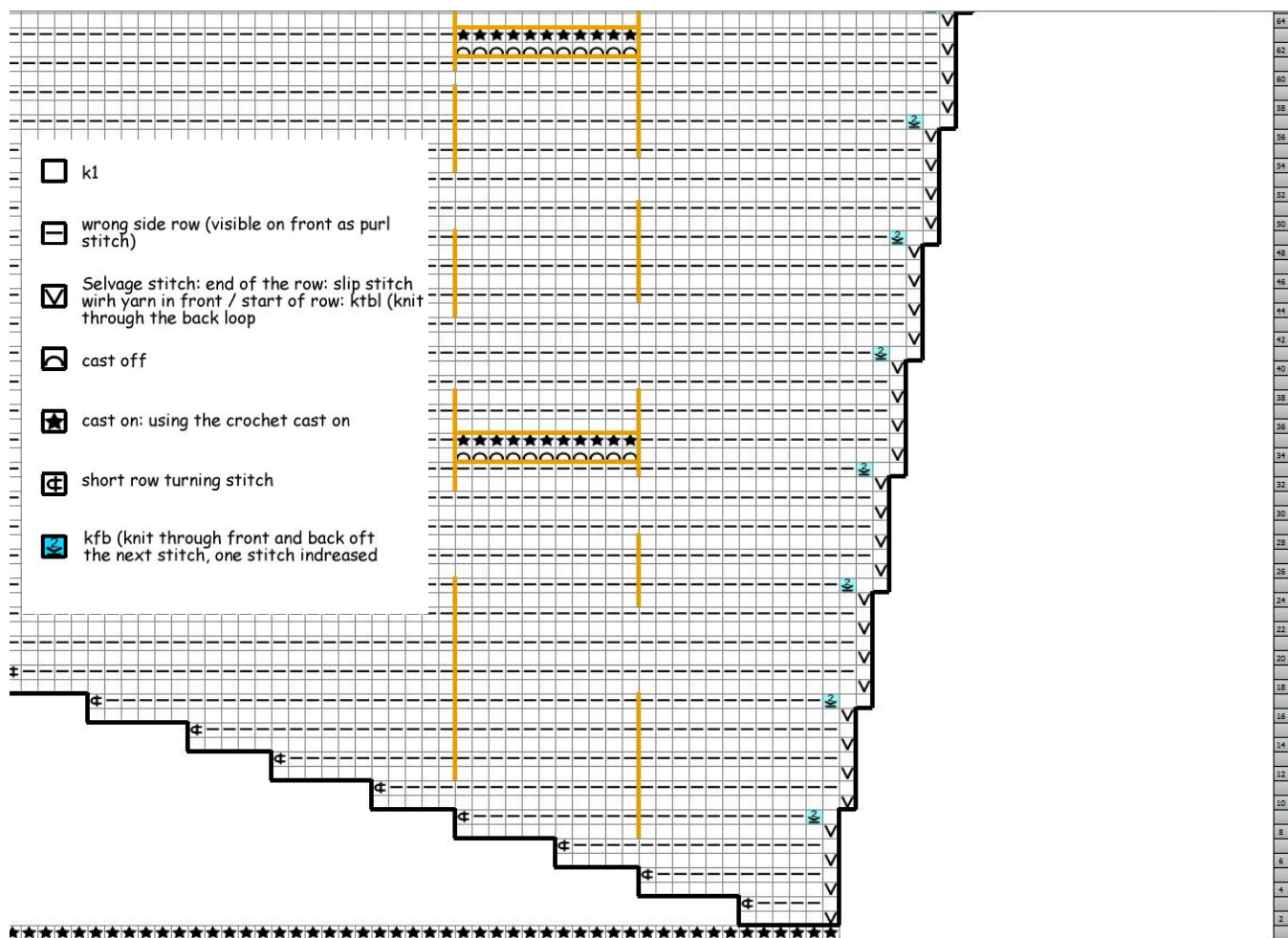
Variations

You may take shorter steps, then the triangle will be obtuse and the wrap shorter. The slots could also be done in the buttonhole technique. I tried this but decided against it because the bound off stitches of the buttonhole technique are very tight. To my mind, for so long a distance they are too tight, which would show badly after the relaxation of the fabric, because although the knitted garter fabric relaxes the tight bound off stitches do not, which causes puckering.

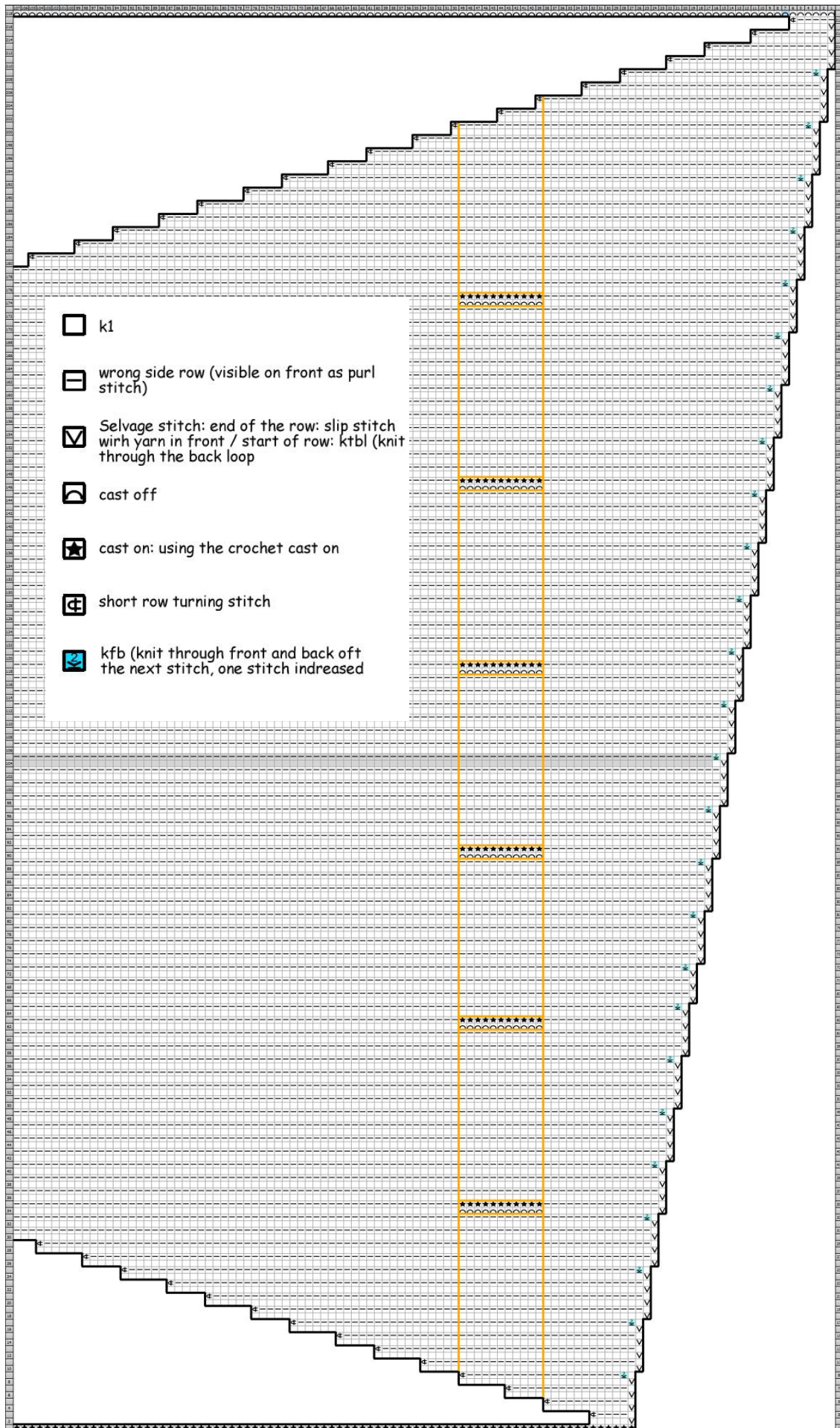
The following charts are for a better understanding of the written instructions. I have placed these at the end, so that if you prefer not to print them, you can simply omit these pages.

Many thanks to MaggieBelize and Verdandiknits for the English translation!

Start corner with first two slots



detail short edge



Entire chart of shawl

