

# Montclair Flair

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Montclair, NJ is the vibrant town in which I made my home after graduating from college. This shawl design is inspired by several aspects of this suburban oasis.

The first and core section of the shawl uses a brush stitch that is designed to highlight a multi-colored, speckled colorway, representing Montclair's flourishing arts community.

Surrounding the town's artistic heart is the second section, alternating segments of garter stitch and a mesh railroad stitch, representing generous park acreage criss-crossed by commuter rails.

## Techniques

This pattern is suitable for an intermediate knitter. Some familiarity with center-out shawl construction and knitted-on shawl borders will help.

Techniques used: brush stitch (tutorial included), k2tog, p2tog, yo, kyok, slip stitches, pssso, w&t short rows, garter tab cast on, short tail cast on.

## Yarn Requirements

3 skeins of fingering weight yarn in colors 1, 2, and 3. Sample: Ancient Arts Fingering/Sock, 385y/100g. Colorway recommendations:

- Color 1 - speckled/variegated
- Colors 2 & 3 - contrasting semi-solids

## Tools

- US 5/3.75mm 40" circular needle (or size needed to obtain a desirable fabric)
- 7 stitch markers in 4 colors (A x1, B x1, C x4, and D x1)
- tapestry needle

## Sizing/Gauge: 18 sts × 26 rows/4"

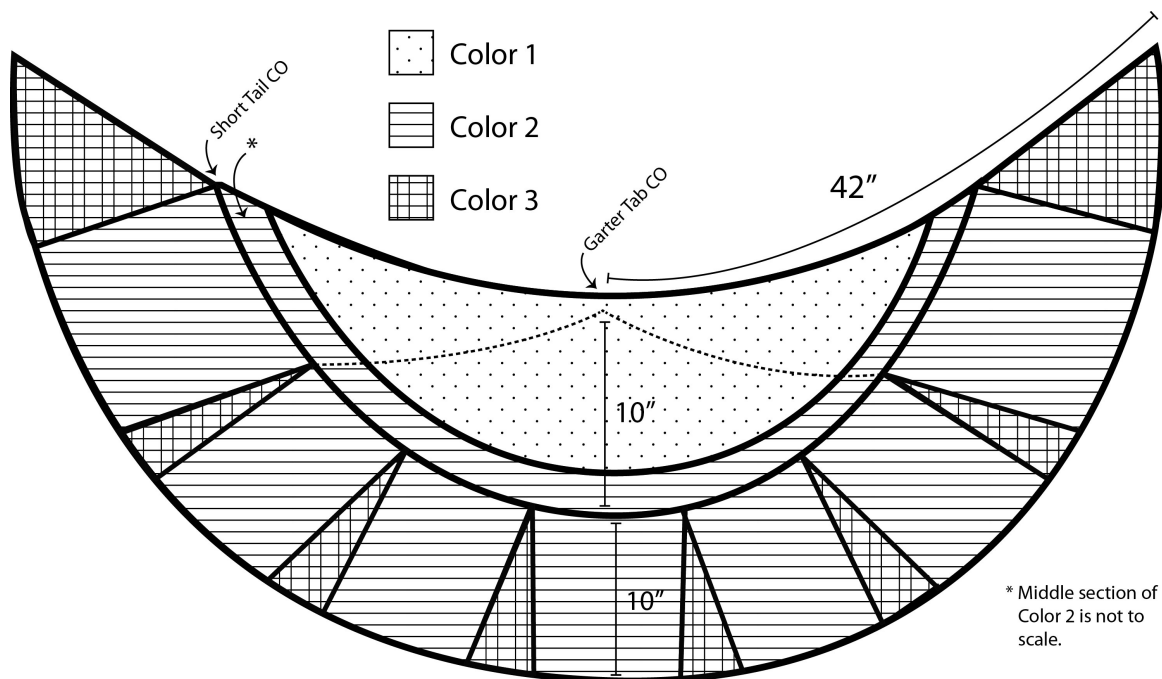
One size. See schematic for sample dimensions. Gauge was measured in blocked garter stitch. It is not critical for the shawl, but a looser/tighter gauge may change the yardage required.



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# Schematic

Color in the schematic using your approximate color choices.



## Pattern Key

*Written instructions:*

Repeats are indicated with either [stitches] x number *or* [stitches] to specified point.

Abbr.	Description
k	knit
p	purl
s1	<b>slip one:</b> slip one st purlwise; wyib – “with yarn in back” <i>or</i> wyif – “with yarn in front”
kfb	<b>knit front back:</b> knit stitch through front loop as usual, then in the same stitch, knit through the back loop
kyok	<b>knit yarn-over knit:</b> in a single stitch, knit, yarn over, then knit again
k2tog	knit 2 together
p2tog	purl 2 together
psso	pass slipped st over
w&t	<b>wrap &amp; turn:</b> s1 wyib, bring yarn to front, s1 back to left needle to “wrap” stitch, turn work
br st	<b>brush stitch:</b> K1. Insert right needle into third st below the first st on left needle and draw through a loop, leaving it on the needle. K1. Insert needle into same st as before and draw through another loop. K1. Insert needle into same st and draw through a third loop. (See photo tutorial in Appendix.)

**TIP:** When breaking yarns, leave a long (6 in) tail for weaving in.

## Cast On and Set Up

1. **Garter tab:** With Color 1, CO 3 sts using the long-tail method. Knit 6 rows in garter stitch. (3 sts)
2. After the last row, do not turn work and instead, rotate work by 90 degrees clockwise. Pick up and knit 3 stitches into the garter edge. (6 sts)
3. Rotate work 90 degrees clockwise again. Pick up and knit 3 stitches along the cast on edge. (9 sts)

Continue with Color 1 and work the following rows once.

**Set Up:** (WS) k3, yo, k3, yo, k3 (11 sts)

**Row 1:** (RS) k3, kyok into yo, k to 4 sts before end, kyok into yo, k3 (15 sts)

**Row 2:** (WS) k3, yo, k to 3 sts before end, yo, k3 (17 sts)

**Rows 3-4:** Repeat Rows 1-2 (23 sts)

**Rows 5-6:** Repeat Rows 1-2 (29 sts)

**Row 7:** k3, kyok, k9, *pm* A, k3, *pm* B, k9, kyok, k3 (33 sts)

**Row 8:** Repeat Row 2, slipping markers (*sm*) as they come (35 sts)

Reading from right to left, your stitches should look like: 16 sts / A / 3 sts / B / 16 sts = 35 sts total



## Section 1: Downtown Arts

Continuing in Color 1, work 12 repeats of Rows 1-6. Total stitch count will increase 18 sts per repeat. In the first repeat, Row 6 should have 3 br sts. In the last (12th) repeat, Row 6 should have 25 br sts.

**Row 1:** (RS) k3, kyok into yo, k to 4 sts before end, kyok into yo, k3

**Row 2:** (WS) k3, yo, k to 3 sts before end, yo, k3

**Rows 3-4:** Repeat Rows 1-2.

**Row 5:** k3, kyok, k to 6 sts before marker A, *pm* for new A, br st, k3, *rm* A, [**br st, k3**] to 3 sts from marker B, br st, *rm* B, k3, br st, *pm* for new B, k to 4 sts before end, kyok, k3

**Row 6:** k3, yo, k to marker B, *sm*, [**p2tog**×3, **k3**] to 6 sts before marker A, **p2tog**×3, *sm*, k to 3 sts before end, yo, k3

Break Color 1. You should have 52 sts / A / 147 sts / B / 52 sts = 251 sts total

## Section 2: Steel and Green

In Section 2, you are working a deep knitted-on border, joining to Section 1 as you go. The two main elements of this section are short row wedges in garter stitch and panels in a 4-row mesh railroad stitch.

### Set Up

Join Color 2, the color you will use for the mesh panels. Work the following rows once.

**Row 1:** k1, kfb, k to 2 sts before marker A, *pm* for new A, k2, *rm* A, k28, *pm* C, [**k30, *pm* C**]×3, k29, *rm* B, k1, *pm* for new B, kfb, k to end

**Rows 2-4:** k across, *sm* as they come

Break Color 2. Your shawl should now be separated into 7 sections: 51 sts / A / 30 sts / C / 30 sts / C / 30 sts / C / 30 sts / C / 30 sts / B / 52 sts = 253 sts total



**Sequence:** Work the following sequence. Wedges are worked in Color 3 and mesh panels in Color 2.

- ☐ **Large Wedge A**
- ☐ **Mesh Panel** to marker A
- ☐ **Small Wedge**
- ☐ **Mesh Panel** to marker C
- ☐ **Small Wedge**
- ☐ **Mesh Panel** to marker C
- ☐ **Small Wedge**
- ☐ **Mesh Panel** to marker C
- ☐ **Small Wedge**
- ☐ **Mesh Panel** to marker C
- ☐ **Small Wedge**
- ☐ **Mesh Panel** to marker B
- ☐ **Small Wedge**
- ☐ **Mesh Panel** until 2 sts remain between marker D and end of row
- ☐ **Large Wedge B**

## Large Wedge A

Join Color 3 and using a short tail CO such as the cable CO, loosely CO 41 sts. (294 total sts) Set up as follows:

**Set Up 1:** s1 wyib, k3, w&t

**Set Up 2:** k to end

Repeat Rows 1-2 until wrapped st is next to the 1st CO st.

**Row 1:** s1 wyib, k to wrapped st, work wrapped st by inserting needle knitwise into wrap then k together with st (*All wrapped sts worked likewise*), w&t

**Row 2:** k to end

Work Rows 3-4 once to finish Large Wedge A.

**Row 3:** s1 wyib, k to wrapped st, work wrapped st, *pm D (marks where Section 1 is joined)*, s1 wyib, k1, psso, turn (−1 st)

**Row 4:** s1 wyif, *sm D*, k to end

Break Color 3.

After Large Wedge A, your work should look like:  
40 sts / D / slipped st / rest of shawl...

## Mesh Panel (Railroad Stitch)

**TIP:** The mesh panels will always be 40 sts wide.

Join Color 2. Repeat Rows 1-4 of the railroad stitch until there are 3 sts between marker D and the specified point.

**Row 1:** s1 wyib, k to D, *sm D*, s1 wyib, k2tog, psso, turn (−2 sts)

**Row 2:** s1 wyif, *sm D*, k to end

**Row 3:** s1 wyib, k3, [**yo, k2tog**] to marker D, *sm D*, s1 wyib, k1, psso, turn (−1 st)

**Row 4:** s1 wyif, *sm D*, p to 4 sts before end, k4

Work Rows 1-2 once more and *rm* when you come to it. Break Color 2.

## Small Wedge

Join Color 3 and repeat Set Up 1-2 from Large Wedge A. Repeat Rows 1-2 until there is 1 st between wrapped st and marker D. (*note the k1 after the wrapped st!*)

**Row 1:** s1 wyib, k to wrapped st, work wrapped st, k1, w&t

**Row 2:** k to end

Work Rows 3-4 once to finish the small wedge.

**Row 3:** s1 wyib, k to wrapped st, work wrapped st, k1, *sm D*, s1 wyib, k1, psso, turn (−1 st)

**Row 4:** s1 wyif, *sm D*, k to end

Break Color 3.

Before beginning Large Wedge B, you will have 42 sts, with two sts between marker D and the end.

## Large Wedge B

Join Color 3. Work Rows 1-2 once.

**Row 1:** s1 wyib, k to marker D, *rm D*, s1 wyib, k1, psso, turn (−1 st)

**Row 2:** s1 wyif, k to end

Repeat Rows 3-4 until 3 sts remain.

**Row 3:** s1 wyib, k to 2 sts before end, k2tog (−1 st)

**Row 4:** Repeat Row 2

Work Rows 5-7 once until 1 st remains.

**Row 5:** s1 wyib, k2tog (2 sts)

**Row 6:** s1 wyif, k1

**Row 7:** k2tog (1 st)

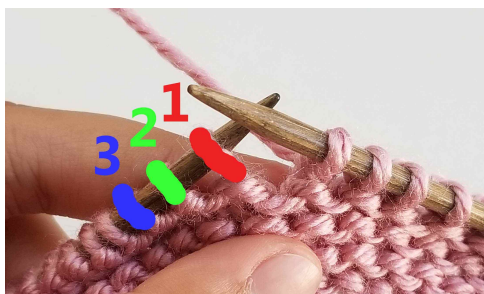
## Finishing

To finish, break yarn and pull end through the last stitch. Block aggressively. You'll have quite a lot of ends! You can either:

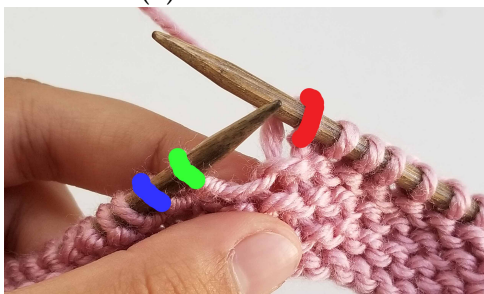
- weave them all in
- place a tassel at each color change in Section 2 (*where a wedge and mesh panel meet*) to disguise the ends.

## Appendix: Brush Stitch

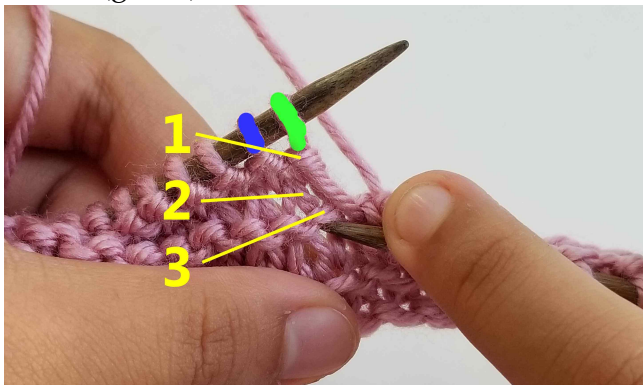
Before working the brush stitch, your work should look like this:



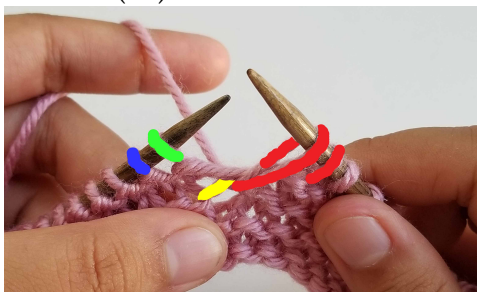
1. Knit 1 st. (1)



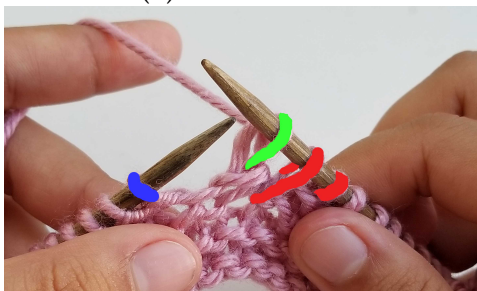
2. Insert R needle into third st below the first st (green) on the L needle.



3. Draw through a loop, leaving it on the needle. (1a)



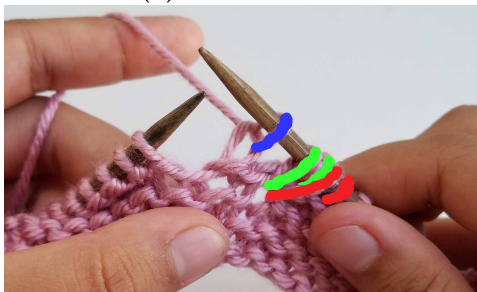
4. Knit 1 st. (2)



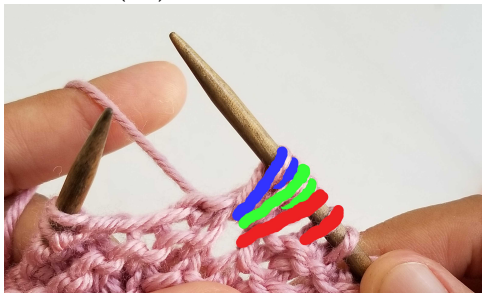
5. Insert R needle into same st as before and draw through another loop, leaving it on the needle. (2a)



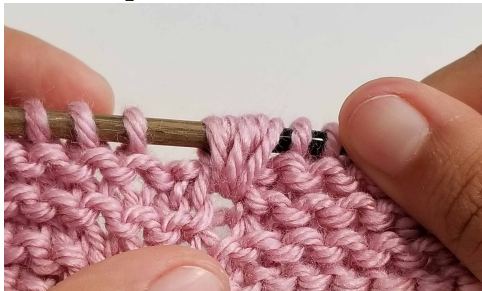
6. Knit 1 st. (3)



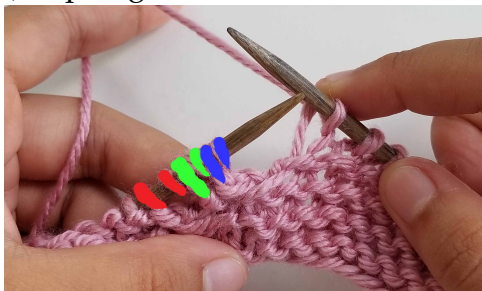
7. Insert R needle into same st and draw through a third loop, leaving it on the needle. (3a)



- 7a. The completed brush stitch (br st):



8. On the following WS row, you will purl together each loop and the stitch after it. (i.e. p2tog 1 + 1a, 2 + 2a, and 3 + 3a)



- 8a. Brush stitch after WS row is worked:

