

Twisted Cockle Shell Ornament

By Catharine Hendricks



Heavily based on Jessie Goddard's [Cockle Shell](#) pattern, the Twisted Cockle Shell replaces the knit ribbing with a twisted knit stitch and makes small changes to the finishing elements of the short rows, the edges and the bind off.

This little shell can be knit with any yarn and any weight. But a yarn with a silky sheen fits the ornamental intent of this project.

This is a Short Row Project with simple turns (no wraps)

Materials:

Yarn: Panda Pearl, Crystal Palace Yarns. 1 Skein, 220 yds -- Pattern uses approximately 10 yards

Needle (For Flat Knitting): US 2 (3mm)

Gauge: 28 stitches = 3 inches

Abbreviations:

CO – Cast On with the Longtail Cast On (Here is a good tutorial from knittinghelp.com)

BO – Bind Off

RS – Right Side

WS – Wrong Side

k – Knit (used as, k3 – knit 3 stitches)

k1tbl – Knit 1 through back loop

k2togtbl – Knit 2 together through back loop for decrease rows

p – Purl (used as, p3 – purl 3 stitches)

p1tbl – Purl 1 through back loop

p2togtbl – Purl 2 together through back loop for binding off

s1 wyf – Slip 1 (as if to purl) With Yarn Front

s1 wyb – Slip 1 (as if to purl) With Yarn Back

Instructions:

CO 41 stitches

Row 1 (Short Row):

(RS) s1 wyf, p3, (k1tbl, p3) 8 times, turn (5 stitches remain)

(WS) s1 wyb, k2, p1tbl, (k3, p1tbl) 6 times, k3, turn (5 stitches remain)

(RS) s1 wyf, p2, k1tbl, (p3, k1tbl) 5 times, p3, turn (9 stitches remain)

(WS) s1 wyb, k2, p1tbl, (k3, p1tbl) 4 times, k3, turn (9 stitches remain)

(RS) s1 wyf, p2, k1tbl, (p3, k1tbl) 3 times, p3, turn (13 stitches remain)

(WS) s1 wyb, k2, p1tbl, (k3, p1tbl) 2 times, k3, turn (13 stitches remain)

(RS) s1 wyf, p2, k1tbl, (p3, k1tbl) 6 times (knit back to end, 41 stitches)

Row 2 (Decrease Row):

(WS) s1 wyb, k2togtbl, k1, (p1tbl, k2togtbl, k1) 9 times, p1tbl (31 stitches total)

Row 3 (Short Row)

(RS) s1 wyb, p2, (k1tbl, p2) 7 times, turn (7 stitches remain)

(WS) s1 wyb, k1, p1tbl, (k2, p1tbl) 4 times, k2, turn (7 stitches remain)

(RS) s1 wyf, p1, k1tbl, (p2, k1tbl) 3 times, p2, turn (10 stitches remain)

(WS) s1 wyb, k1, p1tbl, (k2, p1tbl) 2 times, k2, turn (10 stitches remain)

(RS) s1 wyf, p1, k1tbl, p2, k1tbl, p2, turn (13 stitches remain)

(WS) s1 wyb, k1, p1tbl, k2, turn (13 stitches remain)

(RS) s1 wyf, p1, k1tbl, (p2, k1tbl) 5 times (knit back to end, 31 stitches)

Row 4 (Decrease Row):

(WS) s1 wyf, k2togtbl, (p1tbl, k2togtbl) 9 times, p1 (21 stitches total)

Row 5 (Short Row):

(RS) s1 wyb, p1, (k1tbl, p1) 8 times, turn (3 stitches left)

(WS) s1 wyb, p1tbl, (k1, p1tbl) 6 times, k1, turn (3 stitches left)

(RS) s1 wyf, k1tbl, (p1, k1tbl) 4 times, p1, turn (7 stitches left)

(WS) s1 wyb, p1tbl, (k1, p1tbl) 2 times, k1, turn (7 stitches left)

(RS) s1 wyf, k1tbl, (p1, k1tbl) 6 times (knit back to end, 21 stitches)

Row 6 (WS): s1 wyf, p2togtbl 10 times (11 stitches)

Row 7 (RS): s1 wyb, k1tbl 10 times

Row 8 (WS): BO in pattern (p1tbl)

Techniques & Notes:

ktbl or **ptbl** (Knitting/Purling through the back loop) is easy once you get the hang of it ([Here is a good illustration of both](#)). Use Lifelines (run a thread through your rows) to make the stitch orientation stand out. This will make reading your stitches much easier.

Try it on your gauge swatch and you'll see what I mean. When the knit stitch is twisted, the right-leg is under the thread. When not, the knit stitch is over the thread. It's that simple.

For final stitch in binding off: 1) When you cut your yarn, leave enough to make the Ornament Hanger as you weave in the ends. Then 2) Follow Ysolda's technique for [Avoiding Ears When Casting On and Off](#)