

This is a knitting challenge for the 2021 Royal Adelaide Show. The Handicrafts schedule will include a class for you to enter your finished blankets. The challenge will be to knit a cot blanket, lap rug - or something larger (if you wish) using the patterns provided for the Australian themed squares or creating your own. In order to cater for a range of knitting skills there will be options for "confident" and "less confident" knitters. You will be able to choose which squares and how many squares you want to knit and how you put them together.

Nine squares will make a small (90cm square) cot blanket, sixteen will make a larger (120cm square) cot blanket or small lap blanket and twenty-five will make a good sized lap blanket to snuggle under (150cm square). You may want to make more squares of one pattern by varying the colour or the stitch or you might even design your own Australia themed square and add it.

## Technical Information

All the squares are designed to be 30cm/12" in size when knitted in 8ply/DK yarn at a tension of 22sts to 10cms/4".

All the squares begin and end with six rows of garter stitch (every row knit) and a three stitch garter border on either side. The purpose of this garter stitch border is to define the edge of each square and make it much easier to join the squares together.

How much yarn you will require will depend on the number of squares you decide to knit. If you are buying yarn then each square takes about 80gms to knit. But, most knitters have a stash. Are there left overs in your stash that you can use?

A cot size blanket of nine squares will measure approximately 90cms square and take about 1,200m or approximately 600gms

As a guide the 200gm balls of Bendigo yarn should knit two squares with some left over. A 90cm square cot blanket size consisting of nine squares should be able to be knitted from four balls. A small lap rug would take seven 200gm balls of Bendigo yarn. If you are using 50gm balls of another brand you are likely to need two balls to make a square with some left over. The single coloured squares weigh about 80gms.

Unless you decide to do all the squares as knit and purl squares you will need more than one colour. Suggestions will be given for colours you might use but the choice will be yours. This is part of the challenge you are being set.

Need some help? There is a Replanting Australia page on Facebook and another on Ravelry or you can email [replantingaustralia@gmail.com](mailto:replantingaustralia@gmail.com).

Australia has more than one desert area. Some are very different from others. You might want to knit more than one square to represent the desert areas.

Confident knitters can try a slightly unusual but quite simple cluster stitch to represent the rocks often found in the desert. Less confident knitters can knit the square as a simple knit and purl pattern.

Try some different colours. e.g. brown, beige, rust, sand, umber, or coffee.

#### Abbreviations

K – knit

P - purl

#### TO KNIT THE SQUARE

Cast on 66 stitches and knit seven rows

Row 8 knit 3, purl to the last three stitches k3

Row 9 knit

Row 11 (RS): Knit 3 (K5, cluster 3 sts) x 7, k7 (66 sts)

Row 13: Knit.

Row 15: Knit.

Row 17: K9, (cluster 3 sts, k5) x 5, cluster 3 sts, k8.

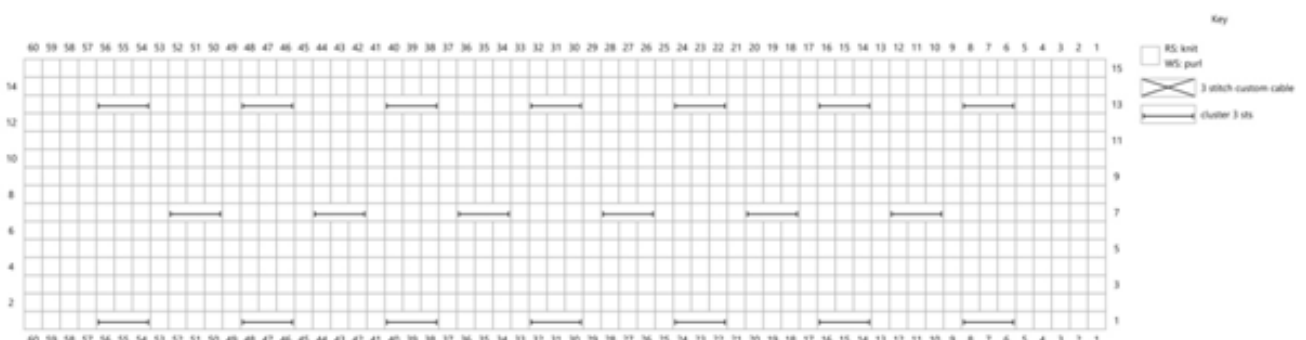
Row 19: Knit.

Row 21: Knit.

Repeat rows 11 – 22 six times and then rows 11 -16 once.

If you need more or less rows to make your square adjust the number of rows now remembering you need six (6) knit rows (3 garter stitch ridges to finish).

Chart for cluster stitch.



The dot plot displays the frequency of children per family. The x-axis is labeled with the number of children (60, 59, 58, ..., 2), and the y-axis is labeled with the frequency (0, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22). The data is as follows:

Number of Children	Frequency
56	1
55	1
54	1
50	1
49	1
48	1
47	1
46	1
41	1
40	1
39	1
38	1
32	1
31	1
30	1
24	1
23	1
22	1
16	1
15	1
14	1
8	1
7	1
6	1
52	2
51	2
50	2
49	2
48	2
47	2
46	2
41	2
40	2
39	2
38	2
32	2
31	2
30	2
24	2
23	2
22	2
16	2
15	2
14	2
8	2
7	2
6	2
52	3
51	3
50	3
49	3
48	3
47	3
46	3
41	3
40	3
39	3
38	3
32	3
31	3
30	3
24	3
23	3
22	3
16	3
15	3
14	3
8	3
7	3
6	3

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Australia is of course the world's largest island. It is surrounded by water.

There is the Indian Ocean in the west, the Pacific Ocean in the east, the Great Southern Ocean. There are also the Tasman, Timor, Coral and Arafura seas.

Here are some waves for the seas and that popular Australian past time surfing.

How to knit the pattern.

The pattern can be knitted in more than one way.

(1) Less confident knitters might want to try it just as a knit and purl pattern. ***Purl the dark squares on the right side and knit them on the wrong side.***

(2) More confident knitters might want to try it as a Fair Isle type pattern. Knit the dark squares in one colour and the light squares a second colour. Purl the colours on the wrong side. ***Remember to add the garter stitch borders***

Colour suggestions: Blues, blue-greens, greys and white. Try brighter blue for the Arafura, Timor and Coral seas. Try mid blues for the Tasman Sea and the oceans.

Cast on 66 sts. Knit six rows - every row knit (three garter stitch ridges)

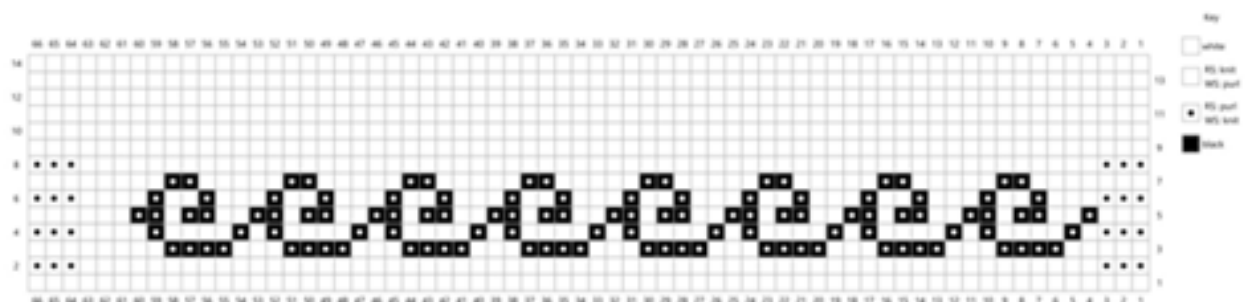


CHART for Oceans and surf

Row 1 (RS): Knit. (66 sts)

Row 2 (WS): K3, p60, k3.

Row 3: K5, (p4, k3) x 7, p4, k8.

Row 4: K3, p4, (k, p4, k, p) x 8, k3.

Row 5: K3, p, (k2, p2, k, p2) x 8, k6.

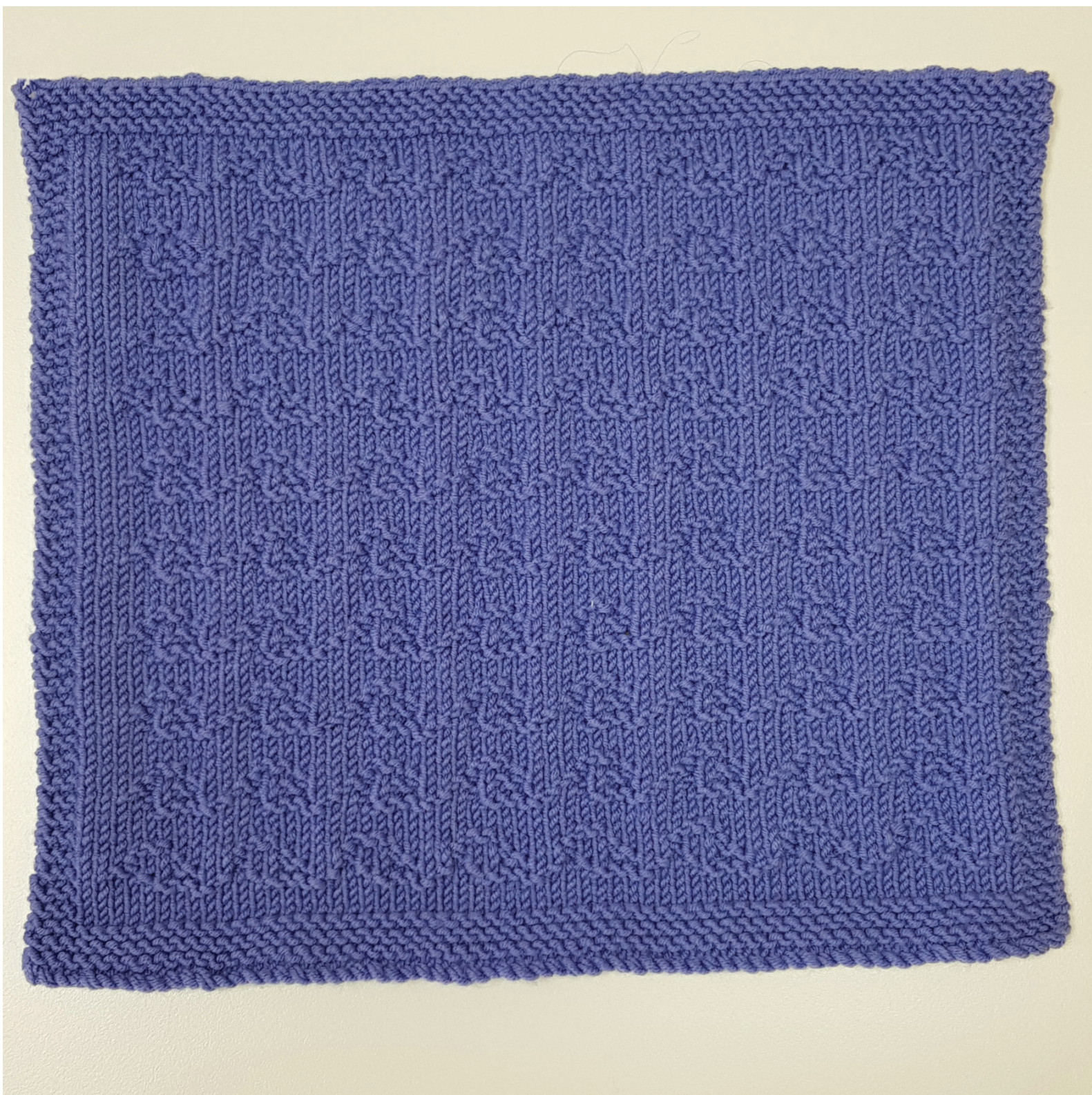
Row 6: K3, p4, (k, p2, k, p3) x 8, k3.

Row 7: K7, (p2, k5) x 7, p2, k8.

Row 8: Repeat row 2.

Repeat rows 1-8 until square - ending with six rows knit, three garter stitch ridges.







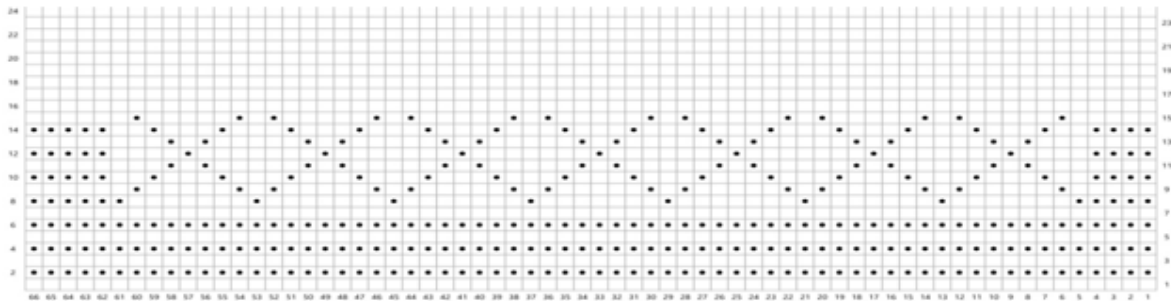
The dog fence stretches 5,614 kilometres (3,488 mi)<sup>[1]</sup> from Jimbour on the Darling Downs near Dalby in Queensland through thousands of kilometres of arid land and ends on the cliffs of the Nullarbor Plain near Nundroo on the Great Australian Bight.

Use the colours of the desert or perhaps a soft grey for the silver colour of the fence itself.

The diamond pattern is similar to the cyclone fencing which is still the way much of the fence is constructed. To fit the pattern repeat there are wider borders on either side of the pattern.

Knit this as a traditional knit and purl pattern.

#### Chart



Row 1 (RS): Knit. (66 sts)

Row 2: Knit.

Row 3: Knit.

Rows 4 - 7: Repeat rows 2 - 3.

Row 8: K6, (p7, k1) x 6, p7, k5.

Row 9: K5, (p, k5, p, k1) x 6, p, k5, p, k6.

Row 10: K5, p2, (k1, p3) x 13, k, p2, k4.

Row 11: K7, (p, k1, p, k5) x 6, p, k, p, k8.

Row 12: K5, p4, (k1, p7) x 6, k, p4, k4.

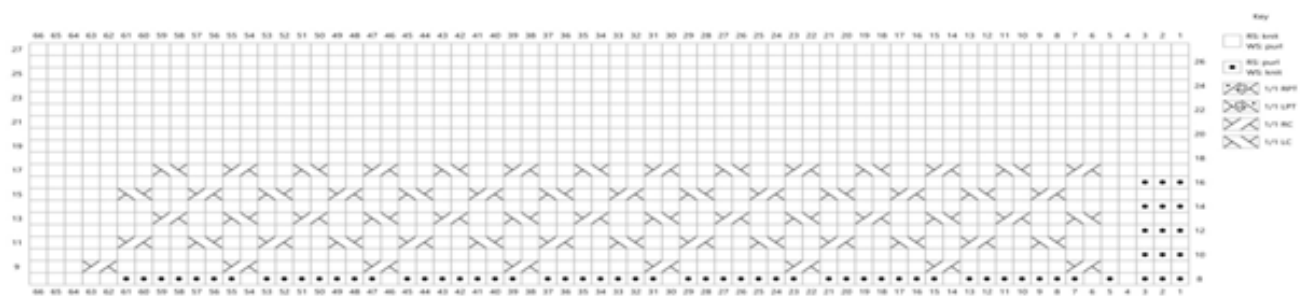
Row 13: Repeat row 11.

Row 14: Repeat row 10.

Row 15: Repeat row 9.

Repeat rows eight (8) to fifteen (15) until your knitting is almost square and then knit six rows – three garter stitch ridges before casting off.

For confident knitters who want to challenge themselves: try this pattern using left and right twisted stitches



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Kangaroo Island is home to the very valuable Ligurian bees. Many of the hives were lost in the bushfires.

Use honey coloured shades of yarn for this square perhaps.

The twisted stitches are like a two stitch cable. Confident knitters will manage this without a cable needle. Less confident knitters might prefer to use a cable needle.

This link might be useful if you need help. It is from Jen Arnall-Culliford's "Something new to learn about cables".

< [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D\\_HkqEaQn30](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D_HkqEaQn30) >

Cast on 66 sts

Knit 6 rows (3 garter stitch ridges) and then begin the chart.

Row 1: Knit. (66 sts)

Row 2: K3, p60, k3.

Row 3: (K6, 1/1 LT, 1/1 RT) x 6, k6.

Row 4: K3, p4, (k2, p8) x 5, k2, p4, k3.

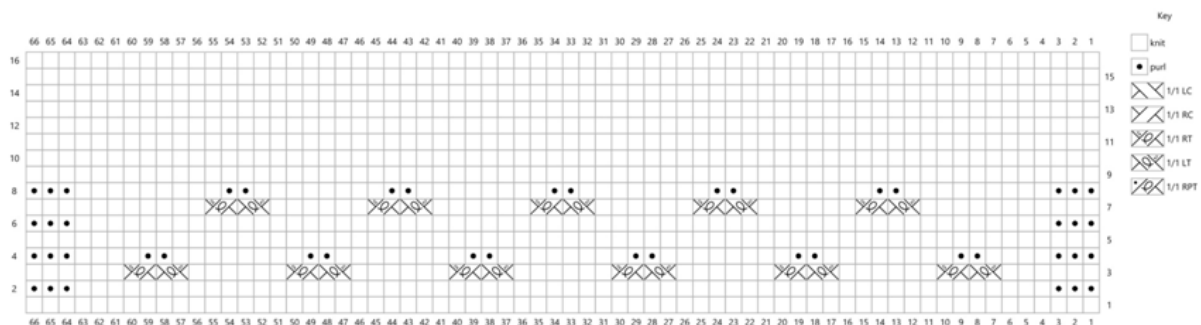
Row 5: Knit.

Row 6: Repeat row 2.

Row 7: K11, (1/1 LT, 1/1 RT, k6) x 4, 1/1 LT, 1/1 RT, k11.

Row 8: k3, p9, (k2, p8) x 4, k2, p9, k3.

Repeat rows 1 – 8 until you can end with six knit rows (three garter stitch ridges) for a square









There were eleven ships in the First Fleet. The first of these to arrive was HMS Supply. It was quickly followed by the other ten.

Here are the first three ships. Use blues for the ocean and sky and browns, black or grey for the ships perhaps?

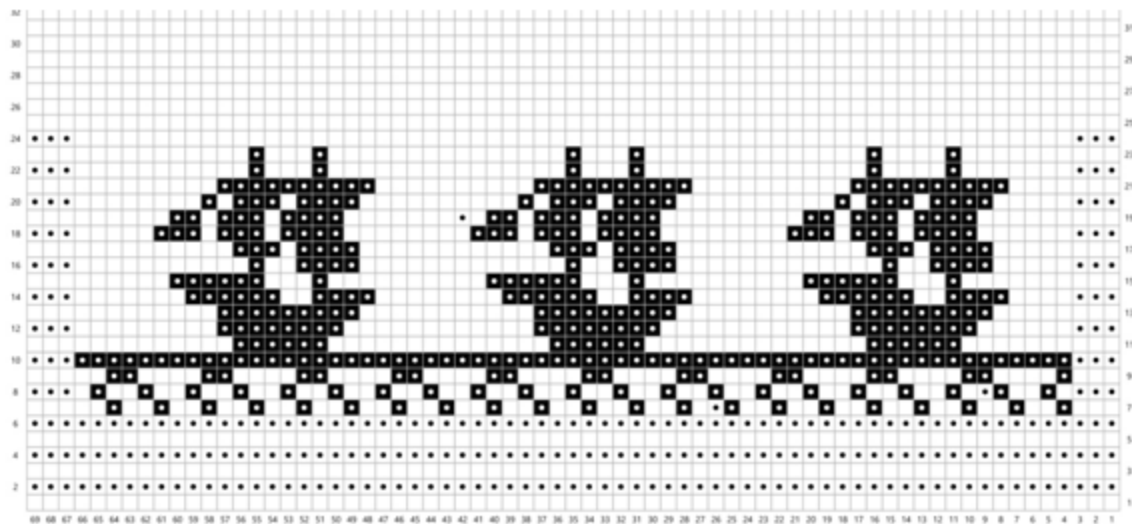
Less confident knitters: The pattern could also be knitted as knit and purl pattern.

Confident knitters: You could knit just one ship or add more ships.

**If you are knitting this in two colours make sure you catch the yarn every three or four stitches but do not pull the yarn too tightly. Your tension has to be the same all the way up the square.**

Cast on 66 sts.

Knit the chart. Then knit until almost square **remembering to keep the three stitch garter border on either side** End with six knit rows ( three garter stitch ridges) as before to finish the square.









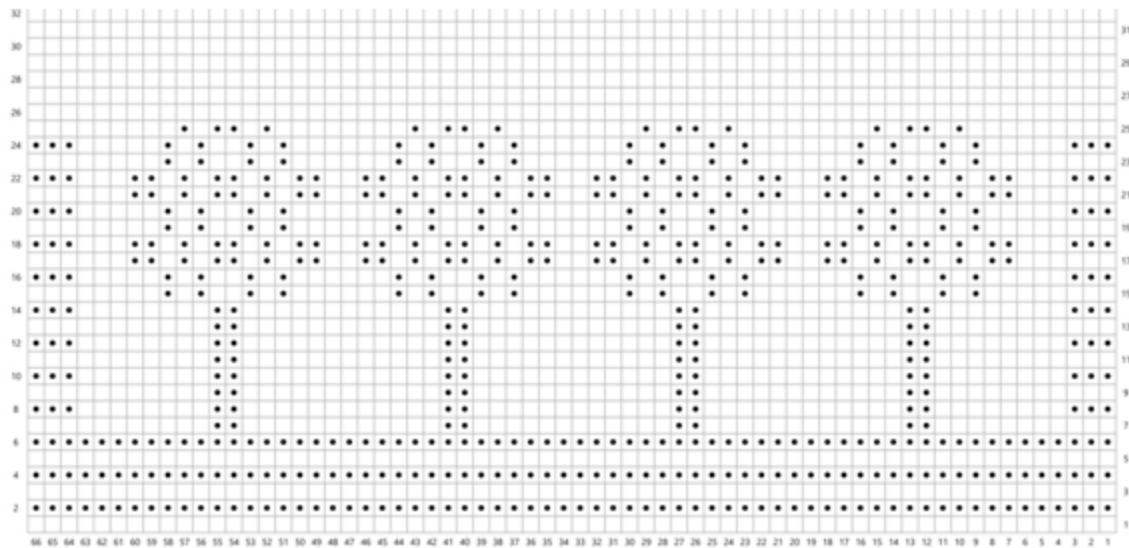
Wollemi pines are some of the oldest and rarest trees in the world, belonging to a 200 million-year-old plant family. It was known from fossil records and presumed extinct until it was discovered in 1994 by a bushwalker in the **Wollemi** National Park.

This can be knitted as a knit and purl pattern or as a Fair Isle pattern. If you knit it as a Fair Isle pattern remember to catch the yarn every three or four stitches at the back of your work. Remember to keep your tension correct and not pull the yarn too tight each time you change colour across a row.

Confident knitters, you can add additional rows of pines if you wish.

Try greens and browns. You could change from a brown trunk to green leaves at row 14 on the chart if you wish as well.

Cast on 66 sts and follow the chart. **Remember to keep the three stitch garter border on each side all the way up the square and end with three garter stitch ridges as before.**







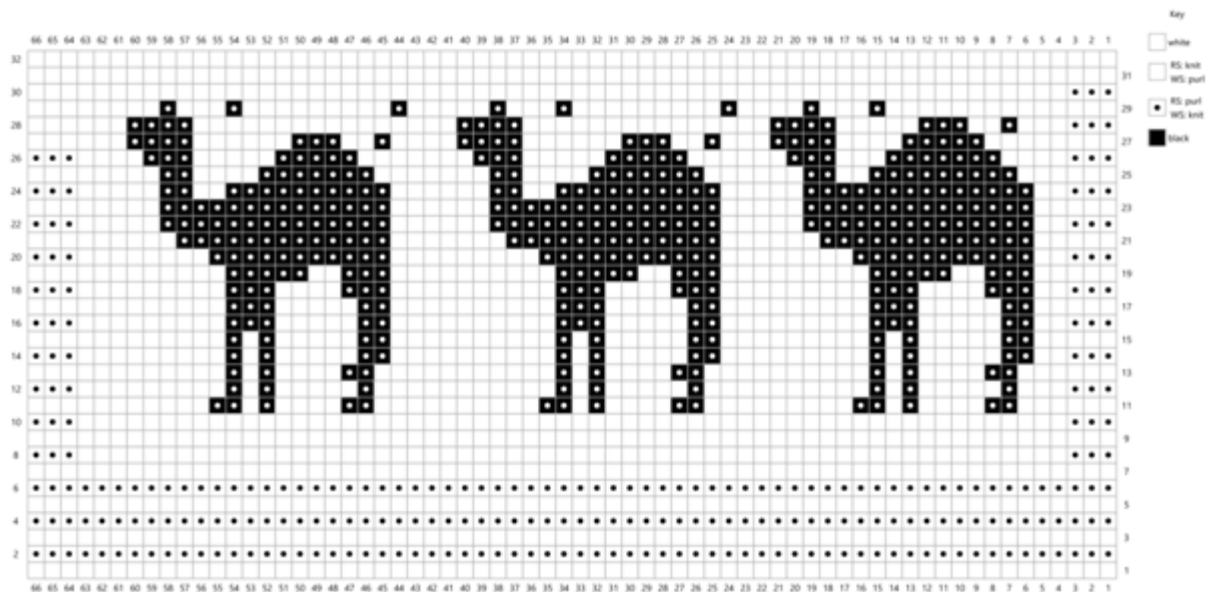


## Square Seven Camels

There are estimated to be close to a million camels in Australia. They were brought here in the 19<sup>th</sup> C from India to use for transporting goods. (An adult camel can carry up to 800kg.) Most camels are now feral and, having no natural predators in the desert, can live forty or more years.

Use the colours of the desert for the background and camel coloured yarn for the camel. You can knit this design in the “Fair Isle” way but catch the longer floats every three or four stitches. Do this in a consistent way to make your knitting look even. ( This square can also be knitted in one colour as a knit and purl pattern if you do not want to do the pattern as Fair Isle.)

Cast on 66 sts. Knit six rows (three garter stitch ridges) then follow the chart **remembering to keep three knit stitches as a border on either side**. End your square with three garter stitches as before and cast off.









Wheat – or perhaps barley, or rye? Choose a colour which reminds you of the grain of your choice.

The pattern is a simple lace pattern which less confident knitters should be able to do with care.

Watch your tension/gauge on this pattern. People often knit lace at a different tension so **check your tension** and make sure that your square will still measure the same as all your other squares.

Cast on 66sts.

Row 1 (RS): Knit.

**Row 2 and all WS rows: Knit.**

Row 3: Knit.

Row 5: Knit.

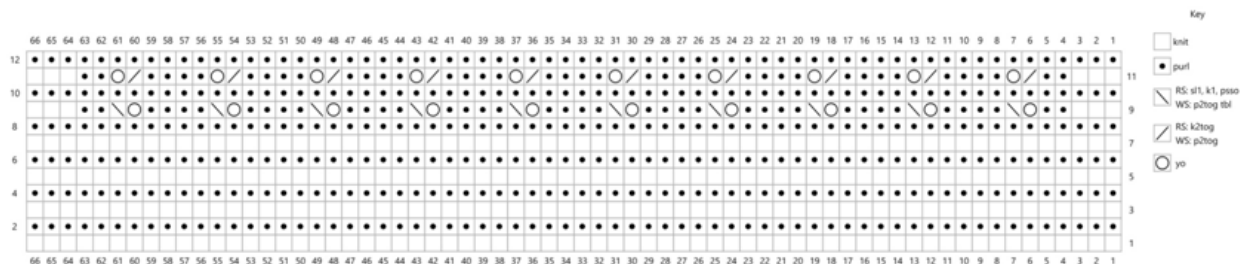
Row 7: Knit.

Row 9: K3, p2, (yo, sl1, k1, psso, p4) x 9, yo, sl1, k1, psso, p2, k3.

Row 11: K3, p2, (k2tog, yo, p4) x 9, k2tog, yo, p2, k3.

Row 12: knit

Repeat rows 9 -12 and finish with three garter stitch ridges (6 rows) before casting off.









The Muttaborrasaurus is Australia's very own dinosaur. Here is a string of them, three adults and a young one.

You can do them as a knit and purl pattern or as colour work. If you do them as Fair Isle (stranded) knitting you will need to catch the long floats every three or four stitches across the back. *Be careful not to pull your work too tight if you do this.*

You can add more sets of dinosaurs if you wish. You will need eighteen rows for each set of dinosaurs. (You could turn the chart upside down and do another set at the other end.) Working out what to do is part of the challenge!

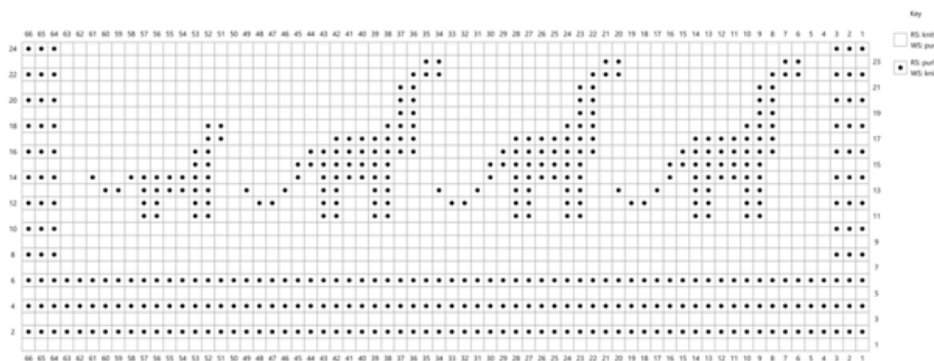
Colours? Any colour you like – there are no dinosaurs for us to be certain what colour they were.

As for all other squares:

Tension 22sts to 10cms

Using 8ply yarn cast on 66sts

Knit 6 rows for the three garter stitch ridges. Follow the chart remembering to keep three knit stitches either side on alternate rows. **When you are three garter stitch ridges short of a square at the top of the square do these and then cast off.**







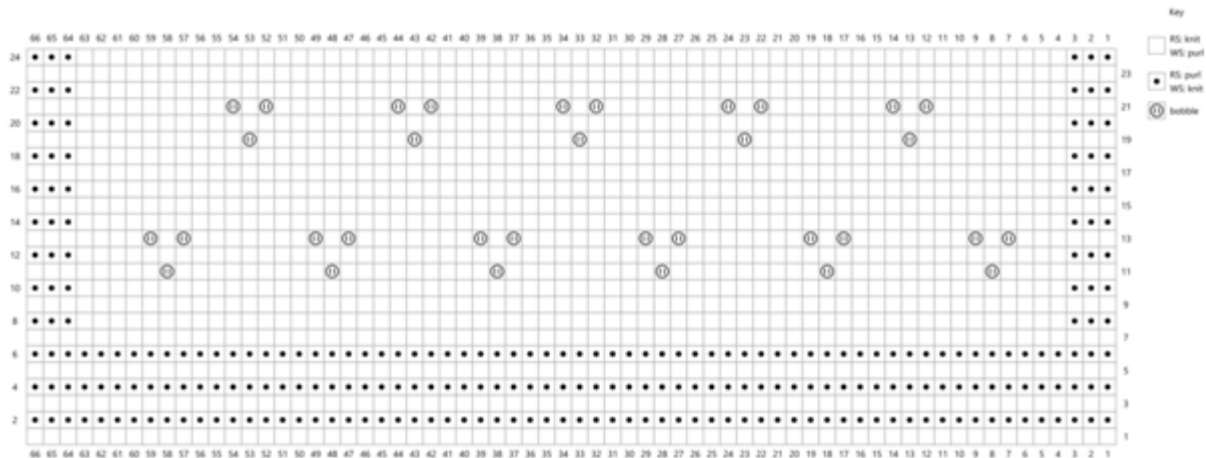


Australia exports wine all over the world so here is an all over pattern to represent the grapes from which it is made.

The pattern is made from bobbles.

**To make a bobble** k1p1k1 all into the same stitch then turn your work and purl the same three stitches then k3 together. (If you can “knit back backwards” you don’t need to turn your work.) **If you find it difficult to understand how this stitch is made then look at “bobble knitting” for a three stitch bobble on the internet for a method that suits you.** People find some methods easier than others. One useful article is this one: <https://www.interweave.com/article/knitting/5-ways-work-bobble/>

Cast on 66 stitches and follow the chart repeating rows 9-16 until you need three garter stitch ridges to make a square. (Don’t forget the three garter stitches on either side.)









The Indian Pacific railway goes from Sydney to Perth, a journey of 4,352 km, and takes three nights and just over three days to get there. It is one of the longest railway journeys in the world and one of the few truly transcontinental journeys – another is the Ghan which goes through central Australia from Adelaide to Darwin. Both journey through some of the most spectacular landscapes in the world.

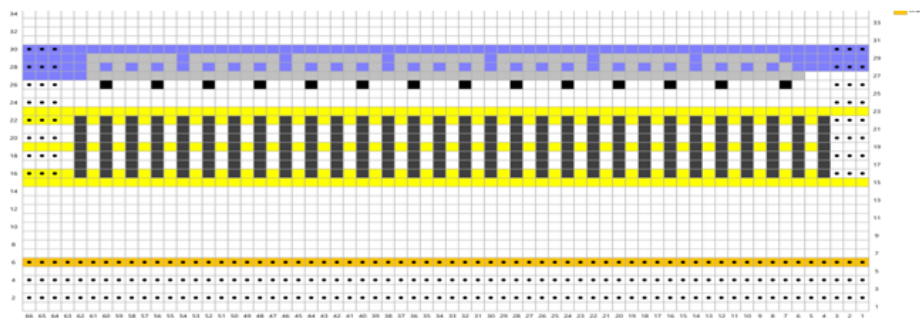
There are some colour suggestions for this one. The actual train carriages are stainless steel so perhaps make them a very light grey. The engines do vary in colour – red, yellow and blue but the engine here has been left the same colour as the carriages for ease of knitting. By making the upper background blue you can see the windows of the train carriages and continue the blue as the sky.

To knit the square:

Cast on sixty six (66) stitches and knit 6 rows for the three garter stitch ridges.

Then, remembering to knit 3sts either side on every row for the border, follow the chart. When you have completed the chart maintain the borders and continue until you need six knit rows – three garter stitch ridges – to complete the square and cast off.

n.b. rows one to fourteen (1-14) were done in a rust/tan colour on the original square and the background from row twenty-eight (28) on was done in blue for the sky. This is NOT shown on the chart.









The chart for this square has, with permission, been taken from “The Tap Dancing Lizard” by Catherine Cartwright-Jones and Roy Jones, Interweave Press 1992. P160. Their enthusiastic support in response to the request to use it is appreciated.

The Royal Flying Doctor Service was founded in 1928 by the Reverend John Flynn. It is now the world’s largest, most diverse and most comprehensive aero-medical organisation. While it gets some state and Commonwealth funding it is actually a not for profit charity which depends on the support of volunteers to continue functioning.

You can make the square any colour you feel is appropriate. It can be knitted as a knit and purl pattern or, if you like the challenge of intarsia you could try knitting the square in two different colours. The chart has been written out as a knit and purl pattern as well as the chart.

To knit the square:

Cast on sixty-six stitches and knit six (6) rows for the three garter stitch ridges of the border and then, remembering to maintain those three knit rows on every side follow the chart. When you have completed the chart continue in plain stocking stitch until you have a square remembering to end with three garter stitch ridges before casting off.

Row 1 (RS): Knit. (66 sts)

Row 2: Knit.

Rows 3 - 6: Repeat rows 1 - 2.

Row 7: Knit.

Row 8: K3, p60, k3.

Rows 9 - 22: Repeat rows 7 - 8.

Row 23: K41, p, k24.

Row 24: K3, p20, k3, p37, k3.

Row 25: Repeat row 23.

Row 26: K3, p15, k2, p4, k, p38, k3.

Row 27: K40, p2, k4, p2, k18.

Row 28: K3, p17, k, p3, k2, p37, k3.

Row 29: K40, p2, k2, p2, k20.

Row 30: K3, p15, k8, p37, k3.

Row 31: K37, p12, k17.

Row 32: K3, p13, k16, p31, k3.

Row 33: K20, p2, k10, p19, k15.

Row 34: K3, p12, k, p11, k9, p4, k4, p2, k6, p11, k3.

Row 35: K14, p2, k10, p10, k3, p5, k5, p, k16.

Row 36: K3, p14, k2, p2, k9, p4, k3, p9, k4, p13, k3.

Row 37: K20, p4, k8, p8, k, p, k, p4, k19.

Row 38: K3, p17, k, p, k, p2, k, p, k3, p10, k4, p19, k3.

Row 39: K16, p14, k9, p4, k, p, k21.

Row 40: K3, p19, k2, p8, k13, p5, k, p12, k3.

Row 41: K16, p3, k5, p, k9, p4, k6, p3, k19.

Row 42: K3, p13, k3, p7, k2, p10, k9, p16, k3.

Row 43: K19, p5, k16, p3, k7, p2, k14.

Row 44: K3, p9, k2, p7, k2, p19, k5, p16, k3.

Row 50: Repeat row 8.

