SHETLAND
woolweek

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FREE KNITTING PATTERN

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KATIE’S KEP
by Wilma Malcolmson

Katie’s Kep is named after my mother Katie, who taught me these patterns when I was a peerie lass because they were her favourites. She belonged to that large group of professional knitters, without whom our Shetland colour work and lace heritage might not have been as alive and vibrant as it is today. This is my tribute to all the known and unknown designer artists of Shetland throughout the centuries.

Materials

Colourway 1

Jamieson & Smith
2ply Jumper Weight (2ply equivalent to a 4ply/fingering weight); 100% Real Shetland Wool; 115m/25g ball
Yarn A: Shade 001; 2 x 25g balls
Yarn B: Shade 123 mix; 1 x 25g ball
Yarn C: Shade 1282; 1 x 25g ball
Yarn D: Shade FC37 mix; 1 x 25g ball
Yarn E: Shade 1283; 1 x 25g ball
www.jamiesonsofshetland.co.uk

Uradale
2ply Jumper Weight (2ply equivalent to a 4ply/fingering weight); 100% Organic Shetland wool; 86m/25g ball
Yarn A: Juniper Heath; 2 x 25g balls
Yarn B: Speedwell; 1 x 25g ball
Yarn C: Tormentil Heath; 1 x 25g ball
Yarn D: Speedwell Heath; 1 x 25g ball
Yarn E: Moss; 1 x 25g ball
www.uradale.com

Colourway 3

Shetland Handspun
Yarn kit (2ply equivalent to a 4ply/fingering weight); 100% Real Shetland Wool
Yarn A: Silver; 137 metres (150 yards)
Yarn B: Onion/Cochineal; 27 metres (30 yards)
Yarn C: Logwood; 27 metres (30 yards)
Yarn D: Moorit; 27 metres (30 yards)
Yarn E: Logwood/Onion; 27 metres (30 yards)
www.shetlandhandspun.com

Colourway 4

Jamieson’s of Shetland
Spindrift (2ply equivalent to a 4ply/fingering weight); 100% Real Shetland wool; 105m/25g ball
Yarn A: Cosmos (1340); 2 x 25g balls
Yarn B: Spice (526); 1 x 25g ball
Yarn C: Pacific (763); 1 x 25g ball
Yarn D: Madder (587); 1 x 25g ball
Yarn E: Foxglove (273); 1 x 25g ball
www.jamiesonsofshetland.co.uk

> Set of 3 or more 3.25mm DPNs, or circular needle long enough to work magic loop, or your preferred needles for working small circumferences in the round

> Stitch marker

> Tapestry needle

Tension

30 sts and 32 rounds to 10cm over Fair Isle pattern in the round, after blocking. Please check your tension carefully and adjust your needle size accordingly.

Size

One size, to fit a medium size adult head, approx 56cm circumference
Finished circumference: 56cm
Length: 20cm from crown to brim

Abbreviations

k
knit
k2tog
knit 2 sts together as if they were one stitch. 1 st decreased
m1
make one stitch by picking up the strand between stitches with the left needle from back to front and knitting this stitch. 1 st increased
p
purl
sk2p
slip 1, knit 2 sts together, pass slipped stitch over. 2 sts decreased
st(s)
stitch(es)

Techniques

Knitting in the round, increasing, decreasing, stranded colourwork

Pattern Notes

Katie’s Kep is worked in the round from the brim to the crown.

Chart Notes

Read all rows from right to left.

The columns to the right of the charts show the yarns used for the pattern colours. The background is worked entirely in yarn A.
Instructions
Brim
Using yarn A, cast on 136 sts. Place marker and join to knit in the round, being careful not to twist your work.

Join in yarn B and begin working from row 1 of chart A, working the 4 st repeat a total of 34 times across the round.

Continue working from chart as set, changing colours where indicated, until all 8 rows are complete.

Inc round: K5, m1, (k4, m1) to last 7 sts, k7. 168 sts

Body
Begin working from row 1 of chart B, working the 24 st repeat 7 times in total across the round.

Continue working from chart as set, changing colours where indicated, until all 40 rows of chart are complete.

Crown
Join in yarn D and begin working from row 1 of chart C, working the 24 st repeat 6 times in total across the round. 144 sts

Continue working from chart as set, changing colours and decreasing where indicated, until all 23 rows of chart are complete. 12 sts

Break yarn and pull through remaining stitches twice to close crown, and fasten off securely.

Finishing
Weave in or knot any ends on inside of hat. Handwash in lukewarm water, using wool wash if desired. Squeeze but do not wring out excess water, then wrap in a towel and press to remove as much water as possible. Stretch over a form of suitable size, such as a bowl or ball, until completely dry.

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This year we are delighted to be celebrating our eleventh Shetland Wool Week. When we look back and reflect on how the event has developed over the years into the international festival that we see today, we are overwhelmed by its success.

Shetland Wool Week is very much driven by community and local involvement. Over the last 11 years we have seen the wider Shetland textiles community come together to celebrate and promote our sheep, our textile industry and our farming, which touch on so many different facets of Shetland wool. Everyone behind the events makes such efforts to show all of the connections of wool and textiles in Shetland – from the farm to the wool brokers, from the mill to yarn and cloth, and beyond to design and creation; and incorporating history, heritage, culture and education into the proceedings too.

This year, as always, there will be an extensive range of exhibitions, classes and events, which will cover many different subjects. These will include; weaving, spinning, dyeing, Fair Isle and lace knitting as well as many other fascinating subject areas. Events will take place from the most southern tip of Shetland, right up to the most northerly island of Unst, famous for its beautiful lacework, with many locations in between.

We look forward to welcoming you to Shetland.