



# DRAGON LORE

by Alexandra Davidoff

## SIZE

one size

## FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

blocked & unstretched

Length: 60"/152cm

Width: 13"/33cm

## YARN

4 skeins of *Merino DK*

by *La Bien Aimée*

(shown in *Sea Dragon*)

100% Superwash Merino;

230m/252yd; 115g

A: *Vespiopeia*

B: *Vespa Graffiti*

C: *Vhagar*

D: *Hightower*

## NEEDLES

US 3/3.25mm 32"/80cm

circular needle, US 3/3.25mm

& US 1/2.25mm 47"/120cm

circular needles

## NOTIONS

row counter

22 stitch markers

tapestry needle

leather tassels

set of magnetic snaps

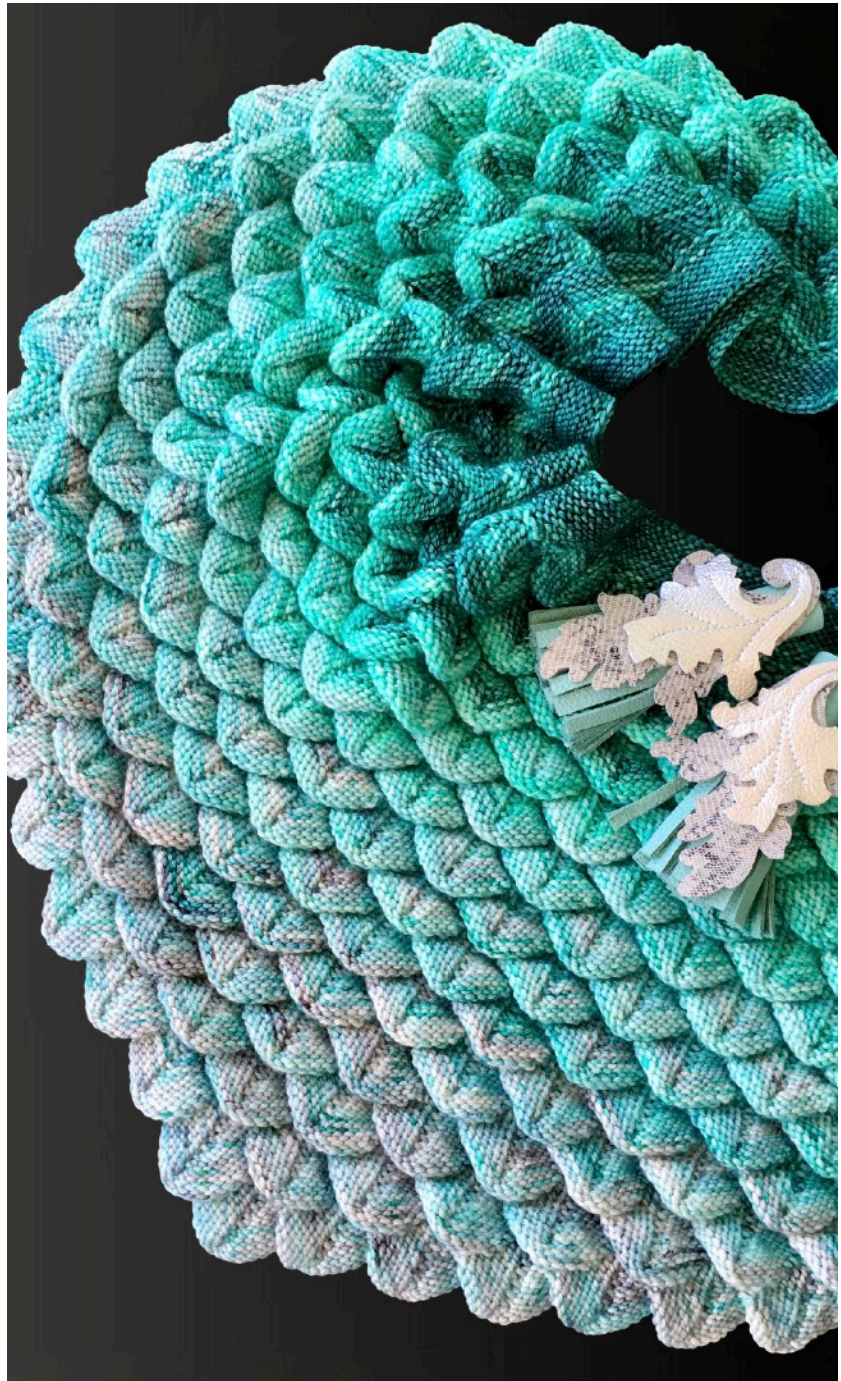
(5/8"/14mm)

## GAUGE

25 sts & 35 rows = 4"/10 cm

over Stockinette Stitch, using

US 3/3.25mm





## Abbreviations

\*.....repeat instructions  
following the single asterisk as directed

**BO**.....bind off

**CO**.....cast on

**k**.....knit

**k2tog**.....knit 2 sts together

**kfb**.....knit into front and back of one stitch (increase 1 st)

**p**.....purl

**pm**.....place marker

**p2tog**.....purl 2 sts together

**p2tog tbl**.....purl 2 sts together through back loops

**rep**.....repeat

**RS**.....right side

**st/sts**.....stitch/stitches

**ssk**.....slip, slip, knit: slip 2 sts one by one as to knit to right-hand needle. Insert the left-hand needle into the fronts of these 2 stitches and knit them together.

**WS**.....wrong side

**yo**.....yarn over



## Instructions

*Please read Notes on page 3 before you start.*

With yarn A, larger needle and using regular Long Tail Cast On, CO 18 sts. Begin **Dragon Scales Pattern** (chart on page 9).

### Dragon Scales Pattern

**Row 1 (RS):** p2tog, p6, yo, p2, yo, p6, p2tog tbl.

**Row 2 (WS):** ssk, k5, yo, k4, yo, k5, k2tog.

**Row 3:** p2tog, p4, yo, p6, yo, p4, p2tog tbl.

**Row 4:** ssk, k3, yo, k8, yo, k3, k2tog.

**Row 5:** p2tog, p2, yo, p10, yo, p2, p2tog tbl.

**Row 6:** ssk, k1, yo, k12, yo, k1, k2tog.

**Row 7:** p2tog, yo, p14, yo, p2tog tbl.

Without turning work and using Cast On: The Thumb Method, CO 9 sts. Now you have 27 sts. Turn work.

*Note: use this cast on method through the rest of the project.*

**Row 8 (WS):** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 36 sts. Turn work.

**Row 9:** p2tog, p6, yo, p1, **pm**, \* p1, yo, p6, p2tog tbl, p2tog, p6, yo, p1, **pm**; rep from \* to last 9 sts, p1, yo, p6, p2tog tbl.

**Row 10:** ssk, k5, yo, k2, \* k2, yo, k5, k2tog, ssk, k5, yo, k2; rep from \* to last 9 sts, k2, yo, k5, k2tog.

**Row 11:** p2tog, p4, yo, p3, \* p3, yo, p4, p2tog tbl, p2tog, p4, yo, p3; rep from \* to last 9 sts, p3, yo, p4, p2tog tbl.

**Row 12:** ssk, k3, yo, k4, \* k4, yo, k3, k2tog, ssk, k3, yo, k4; rep from \* to last 9 sts, k4, yo, k3, k2tog.

**Row 13:** p2tog, p2, yo, p5, \* p5, yo, p2, p2tog tbl, p2tog, p2, yo, p5; rep from \* to last 9 sts, p5, yo, p2, p2tog tbl.

**Row 14:** ssk, k1, yo, k6, \* k6, yo, k1, k2tog, ssk, k1, yo, k6; rep from \* to last 9 sts, k6, yo, k1, k2tog.

**Row 15:** p2tog, yo, p7, \* p7, yo, p2tog tbl, p2tog, yo, p7; rep from \* to last 9 sts, p7, yo, p2tog tbl.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 45 sts. Turn work.

**Row 16:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 54 sts. Turn work.

**Row 17:** \* p2tog, p6, yo, p2, yo, p6, p2tog tbl; rep from \* to end.

**Row 18:** \* ssk, k5, yo, k4, yo, k5, k2tog; rep from \* to end.

**Row 19:** \* p2tog, p4, yo, p6, yo, p4, p2tog tbl; rep from \* to end.



## Notes

- Start with US 3/3.25mm 32"/80cm long circular needle, change to US 3/3.25mm 47"/120cm long circular needle, when stitches no longer fit on the shorter needle.
- Purl side is the right side (RS).
- Increasing and decreasing is done on both RS and WS.
- Stitches should be firm, not loose, work them tight. Think of knitting socks.
- Place markers ([pm](#)) as directed, if marker is already in place from a previous row, slip marker to right-hand needle and continue work.
- For easy pattern reading, rows are color coded up to row 200: rows in yarn A printed in black, in yarn B printed in [purple](#), in yarn C printed in [blue](#) and in yarn D printed in [teal](#).
- Watch my [DRAGON SHAWL CAST ON: THE THUMB METHOD TUTORIAL](#) on YouTube.
- While fading, carry non-working yarn along the side, unless it is specified otherwise.
- Chart on page 9 for rows 1 - 22 only.
- Watch [DRAGON LORE: Quick Look](#) video on YouTube.
- Watch [DRAGON LORE Vlog](#) on YouTube.

**Row 20:** \* ssk, k3, yo, k8, yo, k3, k2tog; rep from \* to end.

**Row 21:** \* p2tog, p2, yo, p10, yo, p2, p2tog tbl; rep from \* to end.

**Row 22:** \* ssk, k1, yo, k12, yo, k1, k2tog; rep from \* to end.

**Row 23:** \* p2tog, yo, p14, yo, p2tog tbl; rep from \* to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 63 sts. Turn work.

**Row 24:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 72 sts. Turn work.

**Row 25 - 31:** rep rows 9 - 15.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 81 sts. Turn work.

**Row 32:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 90 sts. Turn work.

**Row 33 - 39:** rep rounds 17 - 23.

Introduce yarn [B](#). Without turning work and with yarn A and B held together, CO 9 sts. Now you have 99 sts. Turn work. Drop yarn A and work with B only until further instructions (continue caring yarn A along side). *Note: from this point on, CO sts with both working and carrying yarn held together.*

**Row 40:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 108 sts. Turn work.

**Row 41:** rep rows 9.

Change to yarn A (continue caring yarn B along side).

**Row 42 - 47:** rep rows 10 - 15.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 117 sts. Turn work.

**Row 48:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 126 sts. Turn work.

**Row 49 - 55:** rep rows 17 - 23.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 135 sts. Turn work.

**Row 56:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 144 sts. Turn work.

**Row 57 - 63:** rep rows 9 - 15.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 153 sts. Turn work.

[Change to yarn B.](#)

**Row 64:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 162 sts. Turn work.

**Row 65 - 67:** rep rows 17 - 19.

Change to yarn A.





## Special techniques

**Cast On: The Thumb Method** = the thumb method has the same finished look as the Long Tail CO and excellent when you need to add stitches at the end of a row. Watch [DRAGON SHAWL CAST ON: THE THUMB METHOD TUTORIAL](#) on YouTube.

**Blocking** = I recommend steam blocking. Steam generously the finished piece on WS, scooting and overlapping the dragon scales and giving them the right finished dimensions. Leave it to dry. Fold "teeth" on both slanted sides to WS. Flip the piece to RS and do the same thing, gently shaping each dragon scale, overlapping them and making sure that the scales have 3D shape. Pin each one to the blocking mat (optional). Watch my video tutorial on [ALEXANDRA DAVIDOFF STUDIO](#) YouTube channel.

**Leather Tassels** = the leather tassels can be substituted with yarn tassels, but I love the idea of combining wool and leather! Watch [DRAGON LORE LEATHER TASSEL TUTORIAL](#) on YouTube. Consider making a test tassel using a heavy structured fabric like 10oz cotton duck, or heavy denim (use an old pair of jeans!)

## References

The Editors of Vogue Knitting Magazine (2018) *Vogue Knitting The Ultimate Knitting Book*. New York: Sixth&Spring Books.

**Row 68 - 71:** rep rows 20 - 23.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 171 sts. Turn work.

Change to yarn B.

**Row 72:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 180 sts. Turn work.

**Row 73:** rep rows 9.

Change to A.

**Row 74 - 79:** rep rows 10 - 15.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 189 sts. Turn work.

Change to yarn B.

**Row 80:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 198 sts. Turn work.

**Row 81 - 87:** rep rows 17 - 23.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 207 sts. Turn work.

Change to yarn A.

**Row 88:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 216 sts. Turn work.

**Row 89 - 91:** rep rows 9 - 11.

Change to yarn B.

**Row 92 - 95:** rep rows 12 - 15.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 225 sts. Turn work.

Change to yarn A.

**Row 96:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 234 sts. Turn work.

**Row 97:** rep row 17.

Change to yarn B.

**Row 98 - 103:** rep rows 18 - 23.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 243 sts. Turn work.

Change to yarn A.

**Row 104:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 252 sts. Turn work.

**Row 105:** rep rows 9.

Change to yarn B.

**Row 106 - 111:** rep rows 10 - 15.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 261 sts. Turn work.

Change to yarn A.

**Row 112:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 270 sts. Turn work.



**Row 113:** rep rows 17.

Cut yarn A, weave in ends.

Change to yarn B.

**Row 114 - 119:** rep rows 18 - 23.

Introduce yarn C. Without turning work and holding yarn B and yarn C together, CO 9 sts. Now you have 279 sts. Turn work.

Change to yarn C.

**Row 120:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 288 sts. Turn work.

**Row 121:** rep row 9.

Change to yarn B.

**Row 122 - 127:** rep rows 10 - 15.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 297 sts. Turn work.

Change to yarn C.

**Row 128:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 306 sts. Turn work.

**Row 129 - 131:** rep rows 17 - 19.

Change to yarn B.

**Row 132 - 135:** rep rows 20 - 23.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 315 sts. Turn work.

Change to yarn C.

**Row 136:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 324 sts. Turn work.

**Row 137 - 143:** rep rows 9 - 15.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 333 sts. Turn work.

Change to yarn B.

**Row 144:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 342 sts. Turn work.

**Row 145:** rep row 17.

Cut yarn B, weave in ends.

Change to yarn C.

**Row 146 - 151:** rep rows 18 - 23.

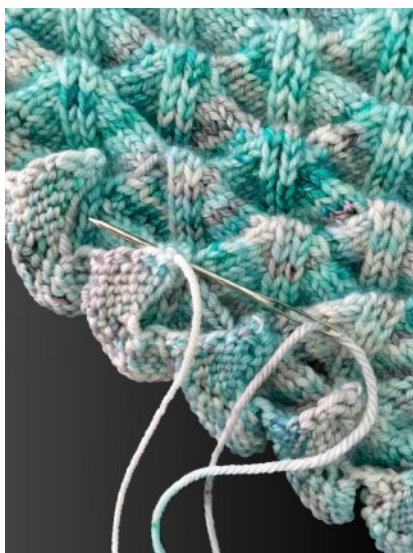
Introduce yarn D. Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 351 sts. Turn work.

**Row 152:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 360 sts. Turn work.

**Row 153:** rep row 9.

Change to yarn C.



**Row 154 - 159:** rep rows 10 - 15.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 369 sts. Turn work.  
Change to yarn D.

**Row 160:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 378 sts. Turn work.

**Row 161 - 163:** rep rows 17 - 19.

Change to yarn C.

**Row 164 - 167:** rep rows 20 - 23.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 387 sts. Turn work.  
Change to yarn D.

**Row 168:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 396 sts. Turn work.

**Row 169 - 175:** rep rows 9 - 15.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 405 sts. Turn work.  
Change to yarn C.

**Row 176:** knit all sts to end.

Without turning work, CO 9 sts. Now you have 414 sts. Turn work.

**Row 177:** rep rows 17.

Change to yarn D.

**Row 178 - 183:** rep rows 18 - 23.

Turn work.

Change to yarn C.

**Row 184:** knit all sts to end.

Change to a smaller needle. From this point on you will start creating [Garter Stitch Pattern](#) for stability (indicated in [blue](#) color for easy pattern reading) at the top and in-between the last set of 23 dragon scales, together with decreasing in-between the scales on row 185. Keep stitch markers in place until further instructions. From this point on the instructions will be in black and [blue](#) only.

**Row 185:** \* [ssk](#), yo, p5, p2tog tbl, p2tog, p5, yo, [k2tog](#); rep from \* to end. Now you have 368 sts.

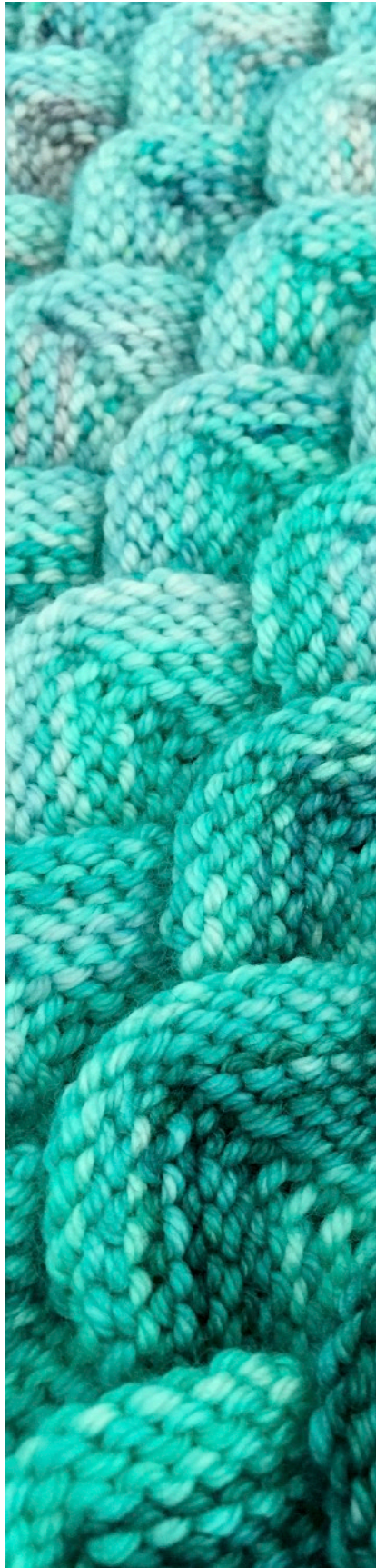
*Note: count sts between stitch markers and multiple by 23, the number of repeats. This number of sts will be consistent until further instructions.*

Cut yarn C. Weave in ends.

Change to yarn [D](#).

**Row 186:** \* [k2](#), yo, k4, k2tog, ssk, k4, yo, [k2](#); rep from \* to end.





**Row 187:** \* k3, yo, p3, p2tog tbl, p2tog, p3, yo, k3; rep from \* to end.

**Row 188:** \* k4, yo, k2, k2tog, ssk, k2, yo, k4; rep from \* to end.

**Row 189:** \* k5, yo, p1, p2tog tbl, p2tog, p1, yo, k5; rep from \* to end.

**Row 190:** \* k6, yo, k2tog, ssk, yo, k6; rep from \* to end.

From this point start shaping the top. Remove all stitch markers on row 191.

**Row 191:** k1, kfb, knit to last 2 sts, kfb, k1. Now you have 370.

**Row 192:** knit all sts to end.

**Row 193 - 200:** repeat rows 191 - 192. Now you have 378 sts.

### FINISHING

BO all stitches as to knit. Weave in ends.

### Blocking

For this project you will have to do the opposite of what you usually do while blocking knits. Instead of opening and stretching out your finished piece, you compress it, overlapping dragon scales, preserving and "locking" the three-dimensional texture of each scale. I suggest *Steam Blocking* instead the wet blocking. Start with WS. Block piece by steaming 1" - 2" above the surface. Place a long ruler on top of your blocking mats and "bump" the top of you knit piece (BO end) against it, this way you have one strait line to start with. Starting at the center, scooch the piece toward the ruler, steaming it as you go. Press the little triangles at each side of the piece to wrong side. Continue steaming and scooching until your piece measured 60"/152cm in length and 13"/33cm wide (page 9). Leave it to dry. Flip it to RS, steam it over, gently molding each dragon scale into 3D shape. Leave it to dry.

With WS facing, sew little triangles to the main fabric (photo on page 6), making sure that those stitches are not be visible on RS. On WS, sew magnetic snaps to each end of the piece, one on RS, one on WS (photo on page 9). Attach leather tassels to each end, sewing them on to WS. Watch my video tutorial on [ALEXANDRA DAVIDOFF STUDIO](#) YouTube channel.

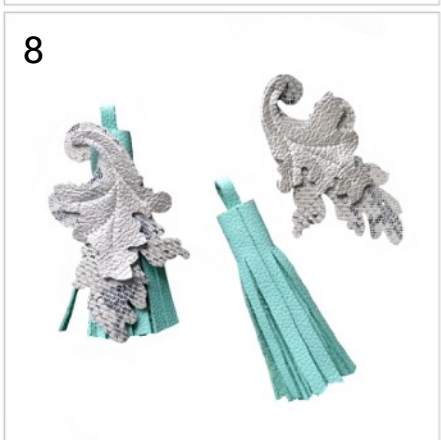
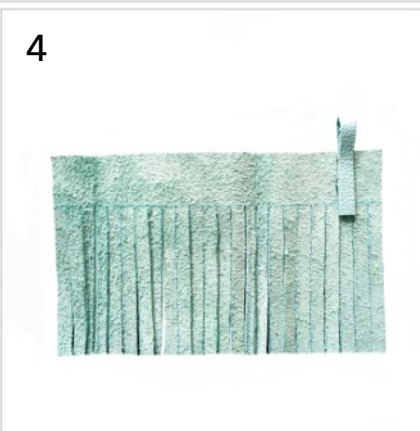
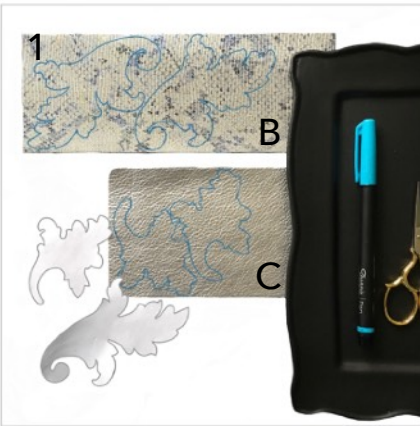
### Tassels

Make two Leather Tassels, see photo tutorial below on page 8 & floral motifs templates on page 10. Watch [DRAGON LORE LEATHER TASSEL TUTORIAL](#) on YouTube.



## LEATHER TASSELS TUTORIAL

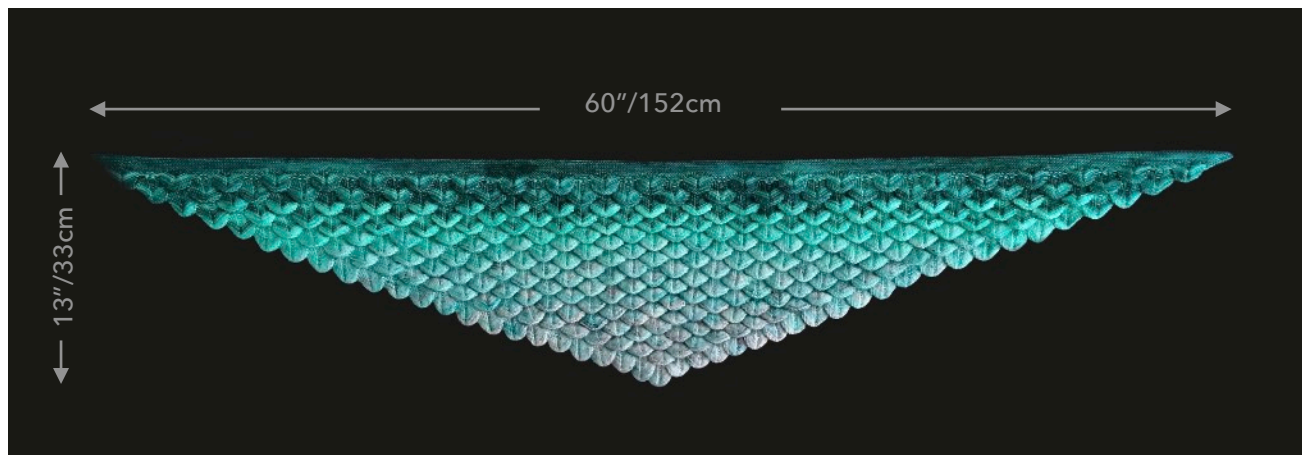
**MATERIALS:** leather A: 8"/20cm x 10"/25cm, B & C: 9"/23cm x 3"/8cm; tailor scissors, small sharp scissors, strong clear glue, pen, ruler. **1:** Trace floral motifs to RS of the leather A & B. **2:** Cut them out and set them aside. **3:** Mark on WS of leather A two rectangles, each 4"/10cm x 6.5"/16.5cm. On both rectangles mark a line 1"/2.5cm from the top. Mark fringe perpendicular to that line 0.25"/1cm apart. Mark two strips, each 4"/10cm x 0.25"/1cm. Cut rectangles and strips. Cut fringe up to 1"/2.5cm mark. **4:** Make a loop with a single strip and glue the ends. Glue the loop 0.5"/1.5cm from one side, with 0.5"/1.5cm of the loop picking out. **5:** Apply glue to 1"/2.5cm section and roll the fringe, shaping it into an oval. **6:** Make a second tassel. **7:** Place two floral motifs on top of each other and stitch them on a sewing machine creating a single unit, or simply glue them together. Make sure to have two symmetrical sets. **8:** Glue floral unit onto a tassel, placing it so that the floral unit covers the vertical raw edge of a tassel. Complete the second tassel.



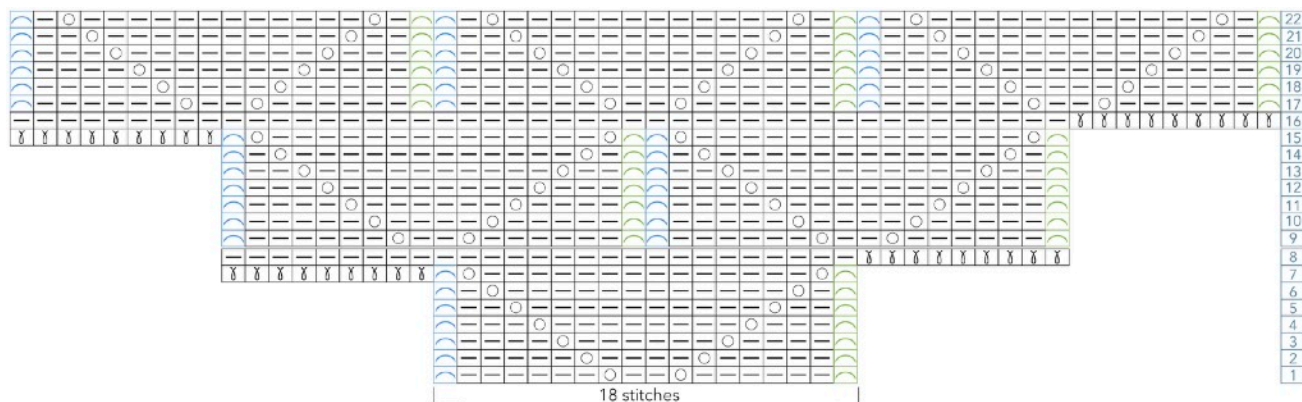









## BLOCKING

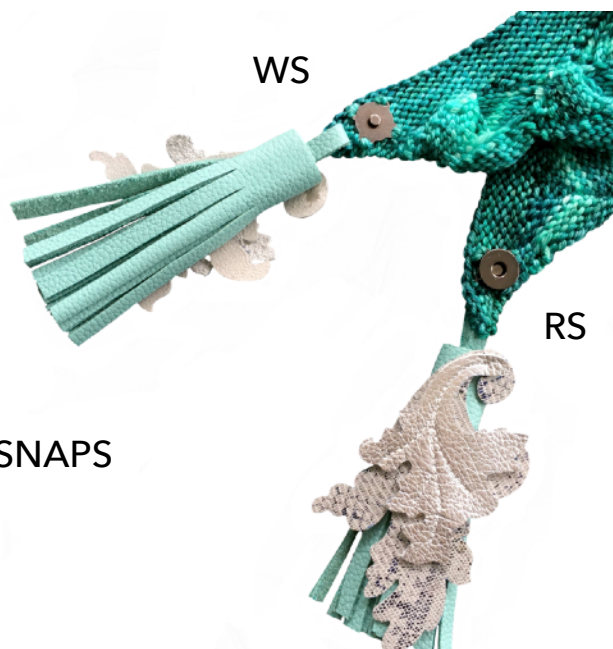


## CHART



-  RS: purl; WS: knit
-  RS: p2tog (purl 2 sts together); WS: k2tog (knit 2 sts together)
-  RS: p2tog tbl (purl 2 sts together through back loops); WS: ssk (slip, slip, knit)
-  yo (yarn over)
-  cast on stitch, the Thumb Method

## MAGNETIC SNAPS





## FLORAL MOTIFS

**Motif B:** cut two symmetrical motifs in leather B.

**Motif C:** cut two symmetrical motifs in leather C.

B



C

