Counterpane Pillow

This pillow pattern is inspired by a white cotton counterpane bureau scarf in the collection of the Huron County Museum and Historic Gaol located in Goderich, Ontario.

A traditional counterpane would have been made in white cotton and constructed from a number of smaller units (squares or octagons, for example) that are worked separately and then joined together to create an overall design or effect.

The knit cotton bureau scarf (acquired by the museum in 1981) dates from around 1890. The 48" x 22" scarf consists of three squares (each square made up of 4 triangles each), a leaf lace panel below the assembled squares, and a surrounding pointed lace edging.

The original, heirloom squares are smaller than our recreation measuring $12" \times 12"$ as they were knit with a thin cotton yarn, perhaps cotton rug warp as was common for the time period.

The front of our counterpane pillow fea-



Above: the inspiration for our Counterpane Pillow pattern. This is a photo of the top left corner of an heirloom counterpane bureau scarf in the collection of the Huron County Museum & Historic Gaol. The top of a leaf lace panel can just be seen along the bottom of the image. Photo courtesy of the Huron County Museum & Historic Gaol located in Goderich, Ontario.

tures the 4-part counterpane square as does the back of the pillow. The pointed lace edging is a recreation of the original edging on the bureau scarf.

Note: the leaf lace panel portion mentioned above will be published as a separate pattern.

Stitch Revival Studio

inspired by vintage needlework

About the designers

Sharlene Bolen is a Blyth-based freelancer & needlework designer with a love & appreciation for all things vintage & handmade. For pattern support or questions, please contact sbolen@ stitchrevivalstudio.ca. Visit www.stitchrevivalstudio.ca for more information.

Irene Kellins is the owner of Stitches with a Twist, a yarn and sewing shop in the village of Blyth, Ontario. She has had years of experience knitting, crocheting, and sewing, and she especially enjoys instructing others in the needle arts and helping solve their problems. Visit www.stitcheswithatwist.com for more information and pattern support.



a pattern to knit by Sharlene Bolen & Irene Kellins



A Counterpane Pillow inspired by a vintage counterpane bureau scarf in the collection of the Huron County Museum & Historic Gaol in Goderich, Ontario.

FINISHED SIZE This pattern consists of triangles joined together to form a square. Each triangle measures 9" from leaf point to cast-off straight edge. Assembled square measures 18" square, with pointed lace edging, 24" square.

YARN Worsted weight yarn. The sample in the photo was knit with worsted weight yarn from Steele Wool Farm; approximately 3 hanks needed to complete pillow front.

NEEDLES Size US 7 (4.5 mm) or size needed to obtain gauge

GAUGE 4 to 5 stitches per inch on a size 7 (4.5mm) knitting needle (gauge is approximate).

NOTIONS

Tapestry needle Extra yarn for sewing together 18" pillow form



Counterpane Pillow Pattern

INSTRUCTIONS

Counterpane Triangle (make 8)

Cast on 3 sts

1st Row: (Yo, k1) 3 times

2nd Row: Yo, p5, k1 (wrong side)

3rd Row: Yo, p1, k2, yo, k1, yo, k2, p1

4th Row: Yo, k1, p7, k2

5th Row: Yo, p2, k3, yo, k1, yo, k3, p2

6th Row: Yo, k2, p9, k3

7th Row: Yo, p3, k4, yo, k1, yo, k4, p3

8th Row: Yo, k3, p11, k4

9th Row: Yo, p4, k5, yo, k1, yo, k5, p4

10th Row: Yo, k4, p13, k5

11th row: Yo, p5, k6, yo, k1, yo, k6, p5

12th Row: Yo, k5, p15, k6

13th Row: Yo, p6, K7, yo, K1, yo, K7, p6

14th Row: Yo, k6, p17, k7

15th Row: Yo, p7, k8, yo, k1, yo, k8, p7

16th Row: Yo, k7, p19, k8

17th Row: Yo, p8, ssk, k15, k2tog, p8

18th Row: Yo, k8, p17, k9

19th Row: Yo, p9, ssk, k13, k2tog, p9

20th Row: Yo, k9, p15, k10

21st Row: Yo, p10, ssk, k11, k2tog, p10

22nd Row: Yo, k10, p13, k11

23rd Row: Yo, p11, ssk, k9, k2tog, p11

24th Row: Yo, k11, p11, k12

25th Row: Yo, p12, ssk, k7, k2tog, p12

26th Row: Yo, k12, p9, k13

27th Row: Yo, p13, ssk, k5, k2tog, p13

28th Row: Yo, k13, p7, k14

29th Row: Yo, p14, ssk, k3, k2tog, p14

30th Row: Yo, k14, p5, k15

31st Row: Yo, p15, ssk, k1, k2tog, p15

32nd Row: Yo, k15, p3, k16

33rd Row: Yo, p16, k3tog, p16 (top of

the leaf)

34th Row: Yo, p34 (stockinette stitch

portion; 4 rows)

35th Row: Yo, k35

36th Row: Yo, p36

37th Row: Yo, k37

38th Row: Yo, k38 (note: change from stockinette to reverse stockinette)

39th Row: Yo, p39

40th Row: Yo, k1, *yo, k2tog, k3, *repeat from *ending last repeat with k2

(eyelet row)

41st Row: Yo, purl row

42nd Row: Yo, knit row; 43 stitches. 43rd Row: yo, knit row (stocking stitch

begins)

44th Row: Yo, purl row 45th Row: Yo, knit row

46th Row: Yo, purl row

47th Row: Yo, p1, *k1, yo, k1, yo, k1, p4, *repeat across row; purl last stitch (be-

ginning of small leaves)

48th Row: Yo, k1,*p5, k4, *repeat

across row

49th Row: Yo, p2, *k2, yo, k1, yo, k2, p4 *repeat; purl remaining stitches

50th Row: Yo, k2, *p7, k4, *repeat

across row

51st Row: Yo, *p3, k3, yo, k1, yo, k3, p4, *repeat; purl remaining stitches

52nd Row: Yo, k3,*p9, k4; repeat

across; knit last stitches 53rd Row: Yo, p4, *k4, yo, k1, yo, k4, p4,

*repeat: p last stitches

54th Row: Yo, k4, *p11, k4, *repeat

across; knit last stitches

55th Row: Yo, p5, *ssk, k7, k2tog, p4,

*repeat; purl last stitches

56th Row: Yo, k5, *p9, k4, *repeat; knit remaining stitches

57th Row: Yo, p6, *ssk, k5, k2tog, p4,

*repeat; purl last stitches

58th Row: Yo, k6, *p7, k4, repeat. K re-

maining stitches

59th Row: Yo, p7, *ssk, k3, k2tog, p4, *repeat. Purl remaining stitches

60th Row: Yo, k7, *p5, k4; repeat. Knit

remaining stitches

61st Row: Yo, p8, *ssk, k1, k2tog, p4, *repeat. Purl remaining stitches

62nd Row: Yo, k8, *p3, k4; repeat. Knit

remaining stitches

63rd Row: Yo, p9, *k3tog, p4, *repeat.

Purl remaining stitches 64th Row: Yo, purl across 65th Row: Yo, knit across 66th Row: Yo, purl across 67th Row: Yo, knit across

POINTED LACE EDGING

68th Row: bind off loosely

CO 9 sts

1st row: K1, (YO, K2tog) three times, YO, K2

2nd and every alternate row: Knit to end

3rd row: K2, (YO, K2tog) three times, YO, K2

5th row: K3, (YO, K2tog) three times, YO, K2

7th row: K4, (YO, K2tog) three times, YO. K2

9th row: K5, (YO, K2tog) three times, YO, K2

11th row: K6, (YO, K2tog) three times, YO. K2

13th row: K7, (YO, K2tog) three times,

YO, K2

15th row: Knit to end

16th row: Bind off 7 sts, K8

Rows 1-16 form pattern. Repeat for desired length.

FINISHING

Wash all pieces and lay flat to block, pinning to correct measurements.

CONSTRUCTION

For the front and back of the pillow, arrange four triangle units wrong-side up so the leaf corners align at the centre and single crochet triangle units together. Mattress stitch can be used instead of single crochet, but arrange triangles right-side up for this method. Using a whip stitch, sew front and back assembled squares together, leaving one side open for the pillow form to slide in. Slide pillow into place. Sew last side closed or leave open, depending on your personal choice. Attach pointed lace edging around the perimeter of the pillow using mattress stitch. Weave in ends.

ABBREVIATIONS

BO bind off

CO cast on

DEC decrease

K knit

K2tog knit two stitches together

P purl

P2tog purl two stitches together

RS right side

WS wrong side

YO varn over