

Junction

by Lee Meredith - leethalknits.com

A shawl constructed in sections, this can be made in any weight yarn (no gauge swatch needed!), in any size you like, with variation options based on your use of colors. Sections are all joined modularly, with no picked up stitches or sewing.

This stripy asymmetrical shawl can look very different in different yarn weights and sizes, as the details will be repeated different numbers of times depending on these specifics. Use a fine weight yarn for a more delicate shawl with smaller chains, or a heavy weight for a bold look with fewer large chains.

This pattern is complex, but it shouldn't be hard if you read carefully, follow each step as it's written, and trust the pattern! Be sure to read the notes, take a look at the process photos, and pay attention to whether your piece is looking right along the way. Take it slowly, and have fun!

Junction is copyright Lee Meredith 2012 - for personal use only, no reprinting/redistributing - thanks! Visit the leethalknits.com faq page or the leethal ravelry group if you have questions or need help.

You need

- ▶ enough yarn in any weight for your size choice, approximate total yardage estimates are for sizes small{medium, large}
- fingering: 300-500{400-700, 500-900} yards / 275-450{370-650, 450-820} meters
- worsted: 250-300{350-450, 450-600} yards / 230-275{320-410, 410-550} meters
- bulky: 200-250{250-350, 350-450} yards / 180-230{230-320, 320-410} meters
- a bit more than 3/4 of total yardage is MC (the main/background color), and a bit less than 1/4 of total is CC (the contrasting color for the design details); if using two MCs, each is approx 1/2 the total MC yardage
- ▶ needles sized to match your yarn (see gauge notes) - a long circular is recommended, to comfortably hold all stitches
- ▶ 5 stitch markers (all different types/colors)

The samples

Yellow and green: Large size in *Anzula For Better or Worsted*, size US 8 needles; MC: Curry and Pesto, CC: Pesto, Curry, Bark, and Navy; four color version with two MCs (2 skeins each Curry and Pesto needed).



Grey and colors: Medium size in *Cascade Soft Spun aran* weight, size US 10 1/2 needles; MC: Gray (2 skeins needed), CCs: Light Green, Orange, Yellow, Dark Teal; one MC version, rotating between four CCs in repeating pattern.

Purple/grey and white: Small size in *Black Trillium Merilon Sock*, size US 2 needles; MC: Star, CC: white recycled silk blend of approx same weight; one MC and one CC throughout entire piece.

Yarn/gauge

This pattern is for any weight yarn, and gauge does not matter, but it is recommended that you work at a loose-ish gauge for a drape-y fabric in your yarn. So you may want to use one or two needle sizes larger than what is recommended on the ball band.

Blocking is important, so be sure to choose a yarn that will block well (no acrylic! wool is great). Your shawl will smooth out and stretch when blocked, so keep in mind as you knit that the final size will be significantly larger than what you see on the needles.



A

Sizing/ weights

Sizes small{medium, large} are given in the pattern, which are for widths of approx 36{48, 60} inches / 90{120, 150} cm; you can work to a different length in section 1 to get a different size shawl.



B

The small size is like a large kerchief, and will just wrap around your neck and look cute, but not cover your shoulders or anything. The medium is a standard small shawl size, wrapping comfortably around your neck and keeping your shoulders warm. The large is more like a standard shawl size (but not super huge), great for wrapping up for winter warmth!



C

You can easily make a huge size if you want - the total size is based on the section 1 size. As explained in section 1, stop working the repeat segments when the length of the side of that section is a third of the total width you want your shawl. Eg: work to 24 inches / 60 cm for an extra large size of around 72 inches / 180 cm. (Note that these are merely approximations and your exact shawl size may differ, but the total width will block out to somewhere near three times that length.)

It's recommended that if you are using a heavy weight (anything thicker than worsted), you make a medium or large size; if using bulky, you should make a large (or extra large). Any size will work in any weight, but it will look better this way.

Different weights will make for very different looks - for a more bold shawl with large design details, use a heavier weight; if you'd like a delicate shawl with small design details, use a finer weight. The samples are: (A) small size in fingering, (B) medium size in aran, (C) large size in worsted.



Working with colors

The pattern is written with a main color (MC) and contrasting color (CC) in all sections, the main color being the background and the contrasting being the details spread throughout. You can keep it simple by using one yarn for the main and another for the contrasting throughout your entire piece (like the small sample), or you can choose another color pattern, with several contrasting yarns or with two different main colors, like the large one.

One MC options (the same yarn for MC throughout entire piece): You may choose the simplest option, one color for MC and another for CC, or...

- Use several different colors/yarns for CC bits (perfect for using up small leftover bits in the same weight).

Rotate between 2 or more colors for CC in a repeating pattern (eg: color a, b, c, a, b, c, ...).

Or, use different CC colors in a random order.

Or, use a different color for CC in each section.

- Use a self-stripping yarn for CC so it changes throughout.

- Use a semi-variegated yarn (not too contrasty) for MC with 1 solid color for CC (something contrasty enough to pop from the variegated background, but a neutral or something to keep it from being too busy and eye-hurting).

Two MCs options: To use two different colors for MC, switch between them like so - sections 1 and 4 in one color; sections 2, 3, and 5 in the other. (Notes are in the pattern for exactly when to switch.)

You'll need around half, or a bit less than half, the total MC yardage for the first color (sections 1 and 4), and around half, or a bit more than half, for the second. It's recommended that the brighter/bolder color is used first.

You can use just two colors for entire piece - call them A and B.

Sections 1 and 4: MC = A and CC = B.

Sections 2, 3, and 5: MC = B and CC = A.

(For this, you'll need approx half the total yardage in each color.)

Or, you can use two colors for MC, switching as explained, with a different third color used as CC throughout entire piece.

Or, you can switch between two MCs and use several different colors for CC - if doing this, use nicely matching colors for the MCs, and don't get too contrasty or bright with the different CC colors, to keep your piece from getting out of hand with crazy colorfulness. Below is a good pattern for using several different CCs with two MCs which looks nice and not too busy.

Four color version with two MCs (yellow/green sample):

You'll need a bit more than half the MC yardage each of two colors, plus a small yardage of two other colors, so leftover mini-balls are perfect. All four colors should look nice together - A and B will always be background colors and sometimes also details; C and D will always be small details. It's recommended that C is more similar to A and B (all around the same general darkness/brightness level), and D is the most contrasty of the set.

x/y means switch back and forth [x, y, x, y, ...] for whole section.

Section 1: MC = A and CC = B/C.

Section 2: MC = B and CC = C/A.

Section 3: MC = B and CC = D.

Section 4: MC = A and CC = D/B.

Section 5a: MC = B and CC = C/D;

section 5b: MC = A and CC = D.

Using CC: CC is only ever used in 2-row stripes, or in pairs of 2-row bits, for the chains. The spaces between the separate times CC is used are several rows long, so you'll need to either break the yarn after each stripe/chain, and weave in the ends, or carry the strands up the back (see tutorials section at the end for more details).

Notes

Read through each section before beginning it, especially the notes within the pattern - they might not make sense until you're knitting, but all notes are there for a reason and not reading them may result in frogging later.

Often you'll be told to repeat a bracketed pattern to marker, or to end, etc - this doesn't necessarily mean the pattern will finish one complete repeat when you reach the end point. You will often be stopping at some point in the middle of the pattern, just stop when you're told to stop.

The pattern is divided into the sections, and then within each section there are chunks that are repeated (or repeated with changes) called segments.

If a marker isn't mentioned, just slip it.

Parts worked in CC are in **blue bold** to help make it as easy as possible to follow.

You may prefer to carry CC yarn up the back instead of breaking it, or to weave in CC ends as you work instead of weaving them all in later - there is a photo tutorial included at the end of this pattern.

Everything that is not worked in CC is automatically in MC. If working with 2 MCs, you'll only switch between them three times throughout the pattern - at the beginnings of section 2 (as explained), section 4, and section 5.

You will sometimes be working short rows without wrapping - if you're told to turn, then just turn; if you're told to w+t, then wrap.

Use the m1 methods in the abbreviations/techniques, as other methods may cause major holes.

Acquaint yourself with how the increases look - when you're told to repeat a row several times which includes a m1, instead of counting the rows as you work them (so you might accidentally lose track), you can just count the m1's to see how many you've worked and know when to stop.

There will be times in section 2 when the repeat pattern will have you slipping a stitch that might not seem right to slip in the context of the pattern (sometimes a wrapped stitch) - this may seem wrong, but just keep with the repeat pattern steps and slip when you're supposed to slip.

Trust the pattern. Work all steps written, and do not work any steps not written; this may seem a silly thing to be told, but some steps may feel wrong as you work. It will all come together and make sense in the end.

Stitch markers

You need 5 markers total, but you'll only be actively using 1 or 2 at a time; you'll place a couple for reference points to come back to in future sections. Make note now of which is which - jot it down in a knitting notebook, in your ravelry projects page, or write it here (a color/description for each):

A: _____ B: _____ C: _____ D: _____ E: _____

Photos

Different weights and varying specifics can make for different exact shapes... notice how the medium size chunky weight shawl is a bit shorter/wider proportionally, compared to the other two, and the left side curves down more as well. This is just due to the any-gauge nature of the pattern, with different numbers of chains / segment repeats worked in different shawls, plus different stitch gauge to row gauge ratios in different yarn weights. Just another factor to make your particular shawl unique!

small size = approx 36 inches / 90 cm wide:
(in fingering weight)



medium size = approx 48 inches / 120 cm wide:
(in aran weight)



large size = approx 60 inches / 150 cm wide:
(in worsted weight)

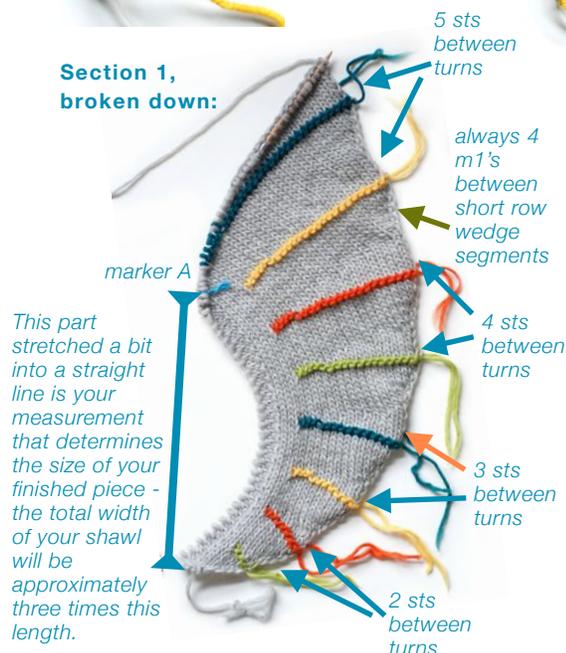


after the first 8 rows

and, after the second rows 1-8 repeat, before the second short rows wedge segment



Section 1, broken down:



Sections 1 and 3 will involve "progressing repeat rows" which means the number of stitches between wraps will progressively grow - as you can see with the notes here, you can count the contrasting color stripes to know how many stitches between wraps you should have in each segment. Count the stripes as "2, 2, 3, 3, 4, 4, ..." and so on, for as many segments as you need.