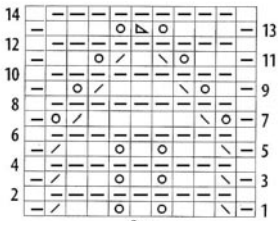
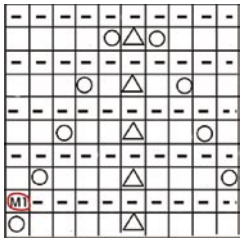
The First Lace Pattern (Fin Lace Pattern): Use the chart below to work your first Lace Pattern. Work in pattern on the RS. On WS purl in K and YO stitches, K in purl stitches.



Fin Lace Pattern



Wave Lace Pattern

A Word About / and \ ...

In the charts in this book you will see two symbols, / and \. In knitting charts they mean **K2-together-slanting-to-the-right** or **K2- together-slanting-to-the-left**. In written directions they are usually written as K2tog and SSK. Because I knit continental style that confused me for years. In written directions in this book I've adopted the habit of using **RSK2tog** and **LSK2tog**. I think that makes more sense and is easier to understand for different types of knitters. See Knitterly Notes on page 47 for more information.

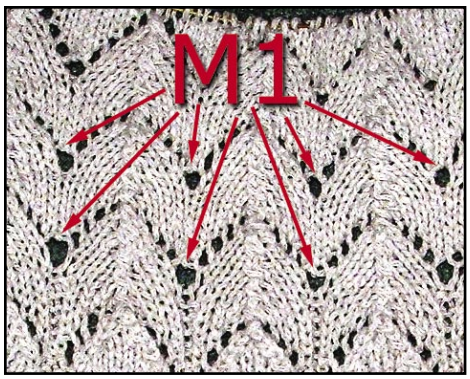


Figure 10

Figure 11

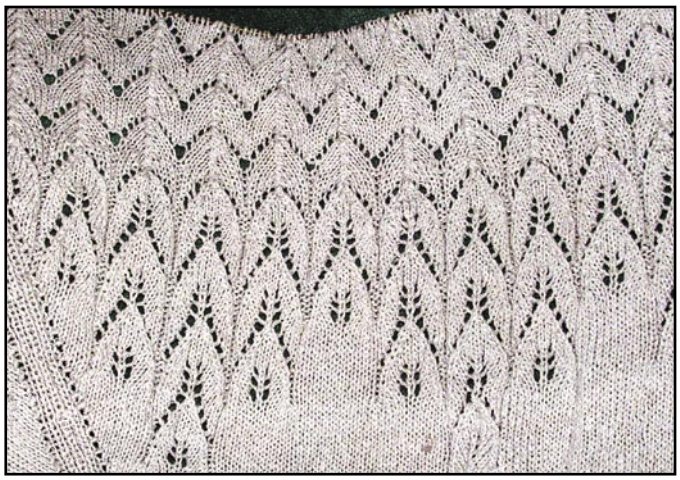


Figure 9

The Second Lace Pattern

By now you should have a pretty good idea of how this shawl works. Once you have finished 2 or 3 pattern repeats of the Fin Lace Pattern, it is time to start the second Lace Pattern—I call it the Wave Lace.

As you can see in Figure 9, there are four repeats of the Fin Lace and then the Wave Lace begins. Work as many repeats of the Wave Lace as you have decided you need, *except for the last one*. That one is worked differently. Directions follow.

Since the Wave Lace is worked over 11 stitches it should blend beautifully with the previous Lace. This is part of the beauty of this design—the way the Lace Patterns flow together. You will notice in the Wave Lace Chart at left and in Figure 10 that there is a M1 in the second (WS) row. This is to compensate for the K3tog in the first row. In order to M1 in that position K1 and then P1 in the same stitch.

When I made the first Mermaid Shawl I was working in a very fuzzy Suri alpaca that hid all of my mistakes but working with a smooth yarn which gives excellent stitch definition requires more attention to detail and precision.

If you are worried about how to work the Lace Patterns in at the four increase points (before and after the rib stitches at either side and the middle back) just keep knitting Stockinette until you have enough stitches to begin another pattern repeat. I often begin a half-repeat when I have increased enough, but this is something you will learn to do as you work. Either way is fine. Figures 9 and 11 show how I am adjusting the Lace as the shawl grows wider.

When you have achieved the depth you want *except for one pattern repeat* and the "tails" it is time to move to the final Lace Pattern.