

# The Twelve Days of Knitmas

a mystery knit-along

designed by **becky beagell**  
for **Nomadic Knits**

**Sizes:** 25"/ 63 cm circumference, approximately 22.5"/ 57 cm length.

**Needles:** US 5/ 3.75mm or size to obtain gauge in SS, and US 6/  
4.0cm or size to obtain gauge in colorwork. If you are using a circular  
needle, 24" is recommended.

\*It is recommended to change needle sizes if you are new to  
colorwork (the pattern is simple, don't worry!) or have tighter  
stitches when knitting colorwork.

**Gauge:** 24 stitches and 30 rows = 4"/ 10cm over Stockinette stitch  
and colorwork.

**Yarn:** fingering weight:

MC: 400 yards/ 366 meters; and  
CCs 1 - 4: 80 yards/ 73 meters each.

**Notions:** stitch markers, cable needle, tapestry needle.

**Samples knit in:** Nomadic Knits Twelve Days of Knitmas 2022 kits:  
Emma's Yarn Practically Perfect Sock & Smalls (80% Superwash  
Merino / 20% Nylon) 400 yards/ 100 grams.



## Day One - Chunky Ribbing

On the first day of Knitmas, my true love gave to meeeee...  
a little breathing room, because sheesh... it's been a season!

We're easing our way into Knitmas with a cast-on and some  
simple ribbing. Let's step into holiday joy and take a few  
moments to ourselves to do what we love to do - knit!

### Directions

*Using MC and gauge needles (the smaller ones), cast on 150  
sts using the longtail cast-on or your favorite stretchy CO for  
ribbing. Place marker and join to work in the round, being  
careful not to twist your sts.*

Rnd 1: [K3, p2] to end.

Rnds 2 - 10: Work as Rnd 1. (10 rows of 3x2 ribbing).

### Yarn used:

MC: ≈ 9 g

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knit the  
world **KNITS**

# Day Two - Stripes

Today is a great day to learn a simple new technique that will forever up your stripes game! The technique? It's a jogless stripe!

To create a jogless stripe, you will need to knit two or more rows of your new color. In this pattern, each stripe contains two rnds of knitting. We'll smooth out the jog by working into the row below on the second rnd.

Here is a [tutorial from Patty Lyons](#) demonstrating the jogless stripe. You'll probably see a few tutorials from Patty as we work our way through the *Twelve Days of Knitmas*. I recently acquired her latest book, *Patty Lyons' Knitting Bag of Tricks*, and it's an absolute treasure-trove of knitting tips! If you would like to check it out, [click here](#). You can also read an interview we recently did with Patty [here](#).

The striped pattern was inspired by Silver State, designed by Nomagugu Sibanda, for [issue twelve : utah / nevada](#). We modified the stripes a bit with a fun diagonal purl accent.

If you've been itching to know how all of your CCs are going to look with your MC, today is the day you find out! You will use each of your four CCs to create stripes; this will provide you with a beautiful swatch to help you choose your colors for the following sections.

## Notes:

- While you may be tempted to place markers for each 10 st section, be aware that you will have to move them every time your BOR shifts.

- When working CC, carry MC to wrong side throughout this section.

- Although it is listed as CC1, CC2, CC3, and CC4, there is no "correct" order in which to use your CCs, as long as you are alternating them with your MC.

- If you are working from a *Twelve Days of Knitmas Kit*, we will be sharing recommended CC order beginning on **Day Four**.

- If you are working from stash or other kits, we will also be sharing some helpful tips on choosing the order of your CCs on **Day Four**.

## Directions

*Using MC*

Setup Rnds 1 & 2: [K8, p2] to end.

*Using CC1*

Rnd 1: [K8, p2] to end.

Rnd 2: Remove BOR marker, use right needle to lift stitch below first stitch on left needle onto the left needle. Knit the first stitch and this new stitch together, pm (this is your new beginning of round and will shift the purl stitches to create the diagonal effect). [k8, p2] to end. Cut CC1.

*Using MC*

Work Rnds 1 & 2.

*Using CC2*

Work Rnds 1 & 2. Cut CC2.

*Using MC*

Work Rnds 1 & 2.

*Using CC3*

Work Rnds 1 & 2. Cut CC3.

*Using MC*

Work Rnds 1 & 2.

*Using CC4*

Work Rnds 1 & 2. Cut CC4.

*Using MC*

Work Rnds 1 & 2.

## Yarn used:

Approximately 1.75 g for each stripe (2 rnds)

MC: ≈ 8.5 g

CCs 1 - 4: ≈ 1.75 g each

# Day Three - Raindrop Lace

Today's stitch pattern was borrowed from the beautiful Area 51 shawl designed by Donna Estin for [issue twelve : utah / nevada](#), and modified slightly for this pattern. I think you'll find that it creates a beautiful lace pattern while being accessible for beginner lace knitters and fun for more advanced knitters.

## Notes:

- If you find it helpful, pm every 10 sts to mark the chart repeats.
- If you are feeling uncertain when it comes to knitting lace, placing a proactive lifeline can be a helpful technique to employ. [Learn more about lifelines here.](#)

## Special Techniques

*Yarnover after a purl st:* the yarn is already in front, so simply move it over the RN and to the back, ready to work the next st.

*Purl st after a yarnover:* after working the yarnover (yarn front then over), you must bring the yarn front again, ready to work the purl st. The yarn actually circles the needle one and a half times, though it can feel like a double loop.

*sl1:* slip st as if to purl

## Directions

Using MC and Chart or written directions, work Rnds 1 - 12.

Rnds 1 - 2: [K3, p2] to end.

Rnd 3: [K3, p2, yo, sl1, k2tog, pssso, yo, p2] to end.

Rnd 4: Work as Rnd 1.

Rnd 5: [K3, p2, k1, yo, ssk, p2] to end.

Rnds 6 - 7: Work as Rnd 1.

Rnd 8: [Yo, sl1, k2tog, pssso, yo, p2, k3, p2] to end.

Rnd 9: Work as Rnd 1.

Rnd 10: [K1, yo, ssk, p2, k3, p2] to end.

Rnds 11 - 12: Work as Rnd 1.

## Yarn used:

MC: ≈ 9 g

RAINDROP LACE CHART

•	•				•	•										12	
•	•				•	•											11
•	•				•	•		\	○								10
•	•				•	•											9
•	•				•	•		○	^	○							8
•	•				•	•											7
•	•				•	•											6
•	•	\	○		•	•											5
•	•				•	•											4
•	•	○	^	○	•	•											3
•	•				•	•											2
•	•				•	•											1

KEY

□	knit
•	purl
○	yo
\	ssk
^	sl1, k2tog, pssso

# Day Four - Tempest

Welcome to Day Four! Today we dive into some stranded colorwork.

The Tempest stitch pattern that today's clue is derived from was created by Andrea Rangel and can be found in her book [Altered Knits](#). If you enjoy colorwork and would like to learn more, including techniques and composition, I recommend checking it out!

Andrea's enthusiasm for knitting is contagious, and her explanations of the mechanics of it are clear and concise. Beyond technique, the book is absolutely *packed* with unique motifs to use in your knitting.

## COLORS

If you purchased a [Knitmas Kit from Nomadic Knits](#), I've created images that label each colorway with a corresponding number that you can use to reference throughout the rest of the pattern. These choices are based on contrast and yardage required for each section.

Of course, these are just suggestions. If you are comfortable with modifications and love making your project unique, go for it!

Since we aren't working with endless skeins (*isn't that the dream?!*), should you decide to modify your project, you will need to pay attention to your yarn usage so as not to end up playing yarn chicken. No need to worry - we have solutions in place if you feel like you're cutting it close! Yarn usage is documented for each section.

- CC1 will be used today (6.5g), Day Seven (5g), and Day Eleven (3.5g).
- CC2 will be used on Days Five (3.5 g) and Eleven (3.5g).
- CC3 will be used on Days Five (3.5 g) and Eleven (3.5g). CC2 & CC3 are interchangeable according to your preference.
- CC4 will be used on Days Eight (6g), Nine (5g), and Eleven (3.5g).

Your remaining yarn can be used for a fun project that we'll share with you on Day Six!

\* ALL YARN USAGE WEIGHTS ARE ESTIMATES BASED ON THE RESULTS OF TEST KNITTING. IF YOUR GAUGE AND YARN WEIGHT VARY, SO WILL YOUR YARN USAGE.

If you have created your own kit, you may want to look at the numbered Knitmas Kit images to get a sense of placement.

## Here are some helpful hints:

- ~ Your MC remains your MC throughout. As always, anything goes in Knitmas as long as you have enough yarn!
- ~ CC1 & CC4 should have the most contrast with your MC, as they will be featured on the days you are doing traditional colorwork.
- ~ CC2 & CC3 do not require as much contrast and are a great place to use variegated colorways.
- ~ Refer to your stripes from Day Two to decide which colors you would like to use.
- ~ Don't worry if you are unsure of your colors. It's just knitting; if you don't like it, rip it out and begin again. Yarn knits just as well the second time around!

Below are the color listings for each Knitmas Kit. I've kept them small to help save ink if you are printing your pattern. Please view them on your computer where you can enlarge them to better see the information. This information will also be on the blog at [NomadicKnits.com](#).

### MERRY KNITMAS, BABY!



### FUNKY KNITMAS



### A WILLIE NICE KNITMAS



### KNITMAS ALL OVER AGAIN



### KNITMAS KISSES







# Day Six - Back to the Basics!

*We're halfway there - can you believe it?!*

Day Six is a day of simple stitching to create a canvas for creativity! It's also an easy stitching day to provide a bit of a breather if you're feeling overwhelmed.

Remember, there is ***no such thing*** as behind in Knitmas!

On Day Twelve, we will share a letter chart for duplicate stitching along with some blank graphs for you to try your hand at creating your own chart.

This stockinette section also makes an excellent palette for embroidery.

**Why are we waiting until Day Twelve to embellish this section?** There is no way to account for everyone's variations in yarn usage due to this being a freestyle section. After Day Twelve, you will know precisely how much yarn you have left to get creative with!

## **Directions**

*Using Gauge needles and MC.*

Rnds 1 - 10: Knit all stitches.

**Note:** When it is time for embellishing this section (Day Twelve), please keep in mind that the TOP of your cowl is your cast-on. The bottom of your cowl is on the bind-off edge. We will remind you again on Day 12. Stitch accordingly!

## **Yarn used:**

MC: ≈ 7.5g

## ABBREVIATIONS

**BO**  
bind off

**BOR**  
beginning of round

**CC1 - CC4**  
contrast colors 1 - 4

**cn**  
cable needle

**CC**  
contrasting color

**CO**  
cast on

**dec'd**  
decreased

**DPN**  
double-pointed needle

**inc'd**  
increased

**k**  
knit

**k2tog**  
knit 2 stitches together; single right-  
leaning decrease

**LH**  
left hand

**m**  
marker

**MC**  
main color

**N**  
needle

**p**  
purl

**pm**  
place marker

**pssso**  
pass slipped stitch over

**rep**  
repeat

**RH**  
right hand

**rnd(s)**  
round(s)

**RS**  
right side

**sl**  
slip stitch purlwise

**sm**  
slip marker

**ssk**  
slip 2 stitches knitwise, knit these 2  
stitches together through back loops;  
single left-leaning decrease

**st(s)**  
stitch(es)

**SS**  
stockinette stitch

**tog**  
together

**WS**  
wrong side

**wyib**  
with yarn in back

**wyif**  
with yarn in front

**yo**  
yarn over

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