

ALICE

STARMORE'S
INFINITE
CABLE CLASS

PROSPECTUS





The Mo Chridhe Square

Way back in 1992 I designed a very special heart motif that I called *Mo Chridhe*, which in Gaelic literally means *my heart*, although it can also be used affectionately to mean *my darling* or *my dear*. I incorporated my heart into a gansey design and published it in 1993 in my book *Fishermen's Sweaters*. This year sees the 30th anniversary of that publication, which is one of two reasons why my heart motif was drifting about in my mind. The other reason is that I became a great-grandmother last November and I wanted to make a blanket for little Amelia Grace Starmore. While designing it I suddenly realised that in one single square I could incorporate not just my heart motif but all the techniques a knitter would need to master in order to understand and knit any cabled and textured design with total confidence and ease.

I was excited by the notion that I could condense an entire comprehensive knitting class into a square of side 20cm or even less, and that is how the Mo Chridhe Square came to be invented. It is constructed from one corner to its opposite corner, and within this shaping it contains an extensive range of techniques and patterns. One square can be knitted in a day, using a minimal amount of yarn, and so it can be accurately described as an intensive learning swatch. A knitter can use the class and make one square in order to learn how to follow the charts, understand the pattern forms, and practise all of the techniques.



Course Objectives

In this class you will learn how to knit and block a single square but you can also make several squares and learn how to block and sew them together into a larger design. As shown in this Prospectus, I have made both a baby blanket and a throw, each composed of 24 identical squares. They are sewn into a rectangular arrangement and then finished with a knitted edging which is shaped with mitred corners. The results are of heirloom quality.

During this class you will learn how to –

- read and understand charted cabled and textured patterns containing infinite lines.
- knit a diamond shape with correctly tensioned edges.
- work specific shaping increases and decreases.
- begin and end infinite line cables.
- create shapes by cabling outlines over a surface.
- knit textured patterns accurately within cabled forms.
- make bobbles and knots.
- knit a simple openwork row.
- work decreased cable manoeuvres.
- block a square and groups of squares.
- sew perfect seams.
- knit up stitches for edgings in accurate proportion.
- knit and finish mitred corners.











Amelia's Blanket

I made this baby blanket version of Mo Chridhe when I heard the joyous news that I was soon to be a great-grandmother. It seemed the ideal opportunity to use a hand-spun yarn that someone had gifted me, and the resulting squares are 15 x 15 cm.





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Thomas Starmore holds his daughter Amelia Grace wrapped in her Mo Cridhe Blanket.







Credits

The Mo Chridhe Blanket & Throw
were designed and made
by Alice Starmore

All photographs by Jade Starmore

This publication was designed by
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Isle of Lewis, Scotland

Our wonderful models are –

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Beatrice Murray Threipland

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