



AGNES

Scottish tartan

Scottish tartan in Icelandic wool

You weave triangles on a triangular loom. And with that, you can make a neck warmer, a warm blanket, a scarf, or even a real witch's cape... The tartan motif honors the victims of the witch craze in Scotland, including Agnes Sampson.

Original loom in a triangle

The triangles are made of 100% wool from Icelandic sheep. For the neck warmer, you need one triangle, and for the scarf, three. The blanket is a hexagon with six triangles. The cape with a pointed hood consists of eight triangles. All the triangles are woven on a triangular loom and then sewn together invisibly. You can buy the loom or make your own.



Pure sheep's wool in natural shades

Lopi yarns originate from Iceland. The wool is made from the fleece of Icelandic sheep, a unique breed of sheep that has never been mixed with other breeds. The wool from this sheep is perfectly adapted to the Icelandic climate and is known for its insulating properties. It is a strong, robust yarn that initially feels a bit stiff. But with processing and wearing, the wool becomes increasingly softer and more supple.

Warm and water-repellent

The Icelandic sheep's fleece consists of two layers, each with a different type of wool. The water-resistant outer layer has long, lustrous fibers, while the fine, soft inner fibers provide exceptional insulation. The yarn is therefore very warm, durable, and water-repellent.

Natural and environmentally friendly

The production process is as environmentally friendly as possible. Only natural energy sources, such as geothermal and hydropower, are used. During the washing process, chemicals are kept to a minimum to preserve the natural oils. This keeps the wool warm, lightweight, and water-repellent.



Even more Lopi in Micca

With Lopi you can knit breathable, warm winter clothes, such as leg warmers and gloves for Jeanne, the coat for Martine, the rune sweater for Jean or the cape for Martha.

DIMENSIONS

A finished triangle measures 80 x 60 x 60 cm.



YARN

Alafoss Lopi from Istex
100% wool
100 g = 100 m

Black Heather 0005
Happy Red 0047
Green Heather 9966
Ash Heather 0054



STITCHES AND TECHNIQUES

Weaving with a crochet hook on a triangular loom

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY



METHOD





TRIANGLE LOOM

Prefer not to buy a loom? You can easily make one yourself.

Supplies

- Wooden frame made of three 4 cm thick beams: a long side of 90 cm and two equal sides of 63 cm. Cut these sides at both ends at a 45-degree angle.
- 189 nails
- Drill with a small drill bit (pre-drilling prevents splitting)
- Try square, measuring tape, pencil

Placing nails

a. Calculate distances

- Base (90 cm): 62 spaces $\rightarrow \pm 1.45$ cm between the nails.
- Sides (63 cm): 62 spaces $\rightarrow \pm 1.02$ cm between nails.

b. Mark

- Draw a pencil line in the middle of the beam width (2 cm from the edge) along each side.
- Mark the nail positions according to the calculated distances, starting ± 0.5 –1 cm from the corners.

c. Pre-drill and nail

- Drill a small hole (1mm) at each marking.
- Drive in the nails until they protrude approximately 1 cm.



2

WEAVING

Never used a triangle loom before? It's best to watch some instructional videos beforehand. The process is very simple, but the setup does require a clear approach. You'll find plenty of explanations on YouTube. Search for "Triangle Loom."



With a pencil, mark nail 22 (counting from the top). This is where you'll change colors for the first time. You always change colors at the top. For a color change, cut the excess yarn. Weave in the new color, leaving some excess yarn. Then tie the loose yarn strands together at the top of your loom. You'll tuck these yarns neatly in later.

TIP

Regularly run the back of your hook over your work to place the strands in the correct position, both horizontally and vertically.

3

TARTAN MOTIF

Follow the color scheme:

- 22 anthracite nails
- 3 nails red
- 3 green nails
- 3 black nails
- 1 white nail
- 3 black nails
- 3 green nails
- 3 nails red
- 22 anthracite nails

Hook the last yarn and the foundation loop. Carefully remove the work from the loom. Using charcoal gray, crochet a border of single crochets around the top edge. Weave in all yarn ends as invisibly as possible.





SEWING

Sew the desired number of triangles together with anthracite. Make sure the tartan motif fits nicely.

The SCARF is made from 3 triangles that you sew together with the short sides.



The PLAID is made from 6 triangles arranged in a hexagon.



The WITCH'S CAPE is made from six triangles arranged in a hexagon, just like the blanket. Then, make a hood from two additional triangles and sew it on top.

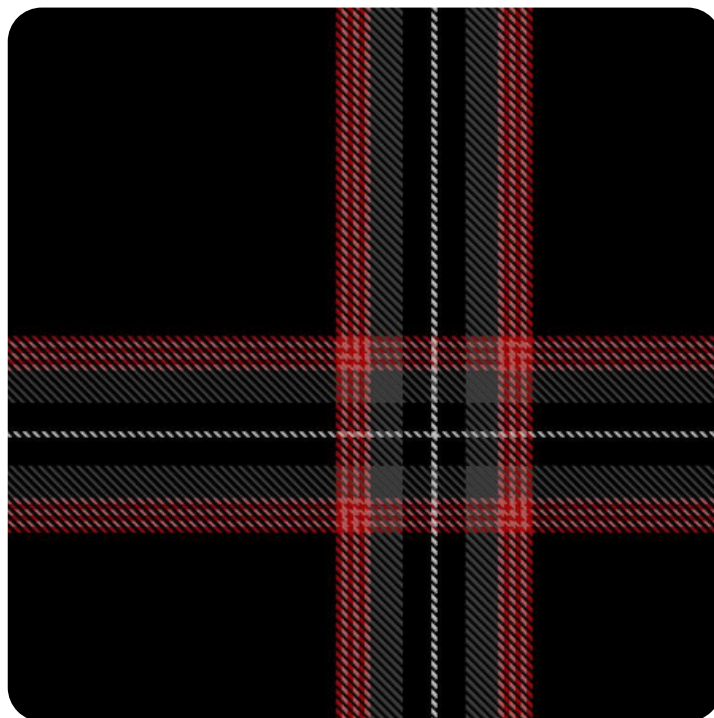


THE WITCHES OF SCOTLAND

The woven motif is inspired by the tartan "The Witches of Scotland." The design was registered in the Scottish Register of Tartans on February 11, 2025. The tartan design serves as a living memorial to those prosecuted under the Witchcraft Act.

A tartan is a checked woolen fabric used to make Scottish kilts. The tartan pattern is created by weaving alternating strips of colored threads into both the warp and the weft. Where the threads intersect, the color becomes brighter than where the threads intersect with another color. The resulting color blocks repeat vertically and horizontally. This type of weaving pattern was discovered in China as early as 3500 BC. Originally, each tartan belonged to a specific Scottish clan.

The Witches of Scotland was designed by Clare Campbell, and the Gothic pattern has symbolic meaning. The dark hues reflect the darkness of that time and the ashes of the cremated victims. Red represents bloodshed. The three threads intersected by a white thread symbolize the campaign's three objectives: pardon, apology, and memorials.



THE STORY OF AGNES SAMPSON

It was a bleak January day in 1591 when Agnes Sampson was taken to Edinburgh. She was an old woman, frail, but her eyes still gazed resolutely into the crowd. Rumors said she had summoned storms against the king himself, that she had conspired with the devil in the dead of night in the church of North Berwick.

Agnes initially denied it. She was a healer, someone who knew herbs and assisted in childbirth. But the judges didn't believe her. Her hair was shaved off to prevent any "witch's knots" from lurking. Her arms and legs were severed with ropes until the pain became unbearable. She was kept awake for days until she collapsed, exhausted.

Then she spoke. She told of nighttime gatherings where a dark figure addressed them. She said she and others had conjured up a storm just as King James and his bride were sailing across the sea. And when the king himself questioned her, she whispered a secret no one could know—a prayer he had only confided to his wife on their wedding night. The king paled. This must be evidence of witchcraft.

At Castle Hill, before the eyes of the people, she was tied to a stake. First, she was strangled, and as the fire raged, Agnes Sampson's body burned. Her death confirmed the king's fears—and fueled one of the most ferocious persecutions Scotland would ever experience. Scotland had one of the highest rates of executions for witchcraft in Europe, relative to its population. An estimated 3,000 people were executed between 1560 and 1736 (when the Witchcraft Act was repealed). The vast majority of victims were women.

Threads of love

MICCA weaves the stories of all its victims into timeless creations made of thread. Each stitch is part of the chain that connects us across the generations. You can find my designs on my Ravelry page Micca-witchcraft and also on my website www.micca-witchcraft.be

Want to learn more about the witch hunt? Send me an email. You'll receive my free e-book, in which I present the brutal reality of witch madness in an original way.



Colophon

Design, photos and text by Mieke Van Damme.

Contact : vandammemieke@proximus.be

All patterns are the property of Mieke Van Damme. They are intended for personal, non-commercial use only. You may not copy, resell, or otherwise distribute them.



Micca witchcraft



Miekemicca



Micca-witchcraft