Cabled Christmas Stocking with Marly Bird

Chapter 1 - Cabled Christmas Stocking

Introduction

(upbeat music) - Hi, I'm Marly Bird, proud spokesperson for Red Heart Yarns, and I've teamed up with Creativebug to teach you how to make a really great cabled stocking. This cabled stocking is perfect for beginners and advanced beginners. You will learn how to do seed stitch. You will learn how to do cables. And the construction is super simple. I've designed it to be made in two pieces that are then seamed together. You can make it your own by adding some tassels, or maybe a little duplicate stitch. This is a classic pattern that is customizable. You can make one for everybody in your family in their favorite color. (upbeat music)

Materials

- For this project you're going to need two colors of Red Heart With Love yarn. Whatever your main color is you'll need two skeins of it. Then you'll need a pair of size 13 circular needles. I'm using a 29 inch circular, but you can use any length you prefer to accommodate the number of stitches we are using. You can also use straight needles. An N crochet hook. A pair of scissors. Some knit clips to hold the pieces together for seaming. Some stitch markers that are removable. And some larger stitch markers that will fit around the size 13 needles. Don't forget to download your pattern PDF.

Knitting the Stocking

Working the foot

- You have your pattern and your materials now let's take a look at the stockings so you can get a better idea of what it is we're going to be doing. We're going to cast on our stitches using a longtail cast on. And for this first part, we will begin on this side and work in seed stitch over four stitches after we slip the first one. Then we'll have this area of our knitting where our cable will continue up the entire stocking. Then on this side of the stocking, we go back into seed stitch. After we do the cast on, on the first row I'm gonna show you where to put markers to delineate where the cable portion is on the stocking. That way you will never be confused where you're doing seed stitch and where you're doing the cables. I like to do the longtail cast on when I cast on stitches. And we're going to cast on 36. I'm gonna start off by putting my slipknot on to my needle. Remember, I'm using a longer, circular needle because I like it, it easier to accommodate all of the stitches. You'll notice that I doubled my yarn. You're gonna hold two strands of yarn of your main color throughout the entire project. That makes the project a little bit quicker. Couple that with the size 13 needles and this project will be done in no time. 36, once you get your 36 stitches we'll jump into row one, which is really simple. You'll notice that we begin with a slip stitch. When we begin with a slip stitch at the beginning of each row we're gonna get a really nice edge to our stocking, which makes it easier for us to seam. With our yarn in front you slip the first stitches into pearl, and then you jump in to a seed stitch. So I'm gonna begin with a knit one, and then go to pearl one, and I'm gonna do this over four stitches. Once I get to the fourth stitch, I'm going to grab that marker I mentioned that you should get. You can see I made these little markers and they're just big enough to slip right over onto my needle without interrupting the stitches. Now I'm going to prep my section of the

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stocking that has the cable. So I'm going to knit three, and then I'm going to pearl nine. As you're working along, be careful, you don't want to accidentally only work into one strand of the yarn. Make sure you're working into both strands. Once you've pearled nine, you will knit three stitches and you'll grab that second marker. It doesn't have to be a different marker but I like having two different markers, it makes it interesting. Now were gonna jump back into our seed stitch. Let's start off with a knit. Pearl and then do that all the way to the end of the row. At the end of the row, you'll turn your work and you'll begin working the first right-side row. Remember to slip your first stitch, we'll have our yarn in back and we'll slip as if to pearl. Now, working in seed stitch, remember you work the opposite of the stitch you're looking at. So I'm looking at a pearl which means I'm going to knit it. I'm looking at a knit which means I'm going to pearl it. I'm looking at a pearl, I'm going to knit. I'm looking at a knit which means I'm going to pearl. I'm going to continue doing this all the way down to my first marker. When you get to the stitch marker, simply slip it over to your right-hand needle and carry on in the cable section with the cable pattern. Meaning you will pearl the first three stitches and then you will knit the next three. You can see right there I accidentally dropped off one of my strands of yarn, so you wanna make sure you have both strands on there. I'll knit those nine stitches there and you'll notice these nine stitches that I'm knitting are the same ones that I pearled on the opposite side. So I'm keeping these nine stitches in stockinette. Which means the knit side is always going to be facing me on the right side. Once I do those nine stitches I'm over here to my three pearls before my marker. After I do my three pearls I slip my marker and I'm back into my seed stitch. So I'm looking at a knit, which means I'm going to pearl. And I'm looking at a pearl, which means I'm going to knit. And I'm gonna continue on doing this to the end of the row. Row three and all wrong-side rows are completed just like row one with the exception of, you have your markers already in place. So the action rows for this pattern are row four and row eight. Let's go ahead and jump in to row four. Just like all the other rows, we begin with our slip stitch and jump in to the seed pattern to our marker. Once you get to your marker, you slip it over and we're going to go in to the cable bit on this piece. So I'm going to pearl my first three and this is where we are going to get to our action. So these nine stitches we've been keeping in stockinette were going to begin with a cable pattern over these first six stitches. So we're going to be doing a cable three back. Meaning we're going to put these three stitches on our crochet hook, hold it to the back, and knit these three stitches then put these stitches back on our needle and knit them. Let me show you what I mean. So I'm gonna use my crochet hook, again, if you wanna use a cable needle instead of a crochet hook, you absolutely can, but I have a crochet hook handy so why not use it. I'm just going to slip these three stitches over on to my crochet hook as if to pearl. When I slip those over, I'm gonna hold them to the back of my work. They're just hanging out there, see that? Now I'm going to go ahead and knit the next three stitches on my needle, so I knit three. Now we're gonna take these three stitches that we put on our crochet hook and place them back on to our needle. So you'll notice here what I'm doing is taking my left-hand needle and I'm sticking it through the back leg of these stitches it's easier to put them on. I find it easier to work my cable stitches off of my actual needle versus my cable needle or my crochet hook. Once they're on my left-hand needle I can continue on and knit these three stitches over here. Once we've done that, we have completed a full cable. Look at that, so we've only dealt with these six stitches so we have three more to go on our stockinette portion. So we're going to keep those in stockinette. Then we go back to our three pearls to our marker and after that we'll slip our marker and do our seed stitch. Now that we've finished this row, let's take a look at what we've done. As you look down here you can see that we have our beautiful seed stitch up to our marker. Our cable section and our seed stitch here. This

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cable might not look like much yet because all we've done is twist it so far. The cable actually becomes a real cable and start to look like something more than a hot mess after you've completed the next three rows. As you remember, we did this cable as a cable three back. On the next cable we're gonna do a cable three front. I'm gonna show you what that looks like. I've worked along a little ways and I've completed five of the cables. And it's time to actually do the next cable which is a cable three front. Let's take a look at what that looks like. As you look down here you can see where we've done the cable three back and this is the cable three front. And you alternate these two cables to get this really pretty braided cable. So, as we were dealing with just the six stitches over here and we left these three stitches as stockinette on row four what happens is when we get to row eight you actually deal with six stitches including those three so it's these three and these three right here. So that creates the really beautiful cable stitch. What I'm gonna do now is work you through over here so that we can do our cable three front with these six stitches of the cable. We're on a row eight repeat and I've already done the seed stitch and I'm working into the cable pattern. I've slipped my marker and I'm going to do my first three pearls. Once I do my pearls, it's time to work my cable. For my cable, I want it over here so I'm going to knit these first three stitches of the stockinette portion. And now, into my six stitches on this side of my stockinette. What I need to do is grab my crochet hook or your cable needle and we're going to slip these stitches once again onto the crochet hook. And once we get them on there remember to slip as if it's a pearl, once we get them on there we're gonna hold them to the front. Now I'm going to knit the next three stitches. And I'm gonna place these ones back on to my needle. Look, I'm placing them on by putting the working needle, the left-hand needle, through the back leg of those stitches. Once they're on there, I can go ahead and knit those three stitches. And we've completed this cable. Now on to the pearl three and I slip my marker and complete the seed stitch to the end. You will continue on in pattern, repeating these rows until you have seven inches for the foot portion of your stocking. Then we move on to binding off and finishing the leg of the socking.

Binding off and working the leg

- We're ready to work the leg, but first we have to bind off the stitches for the foot of the stocking. As you look down here, you can see where we have the lovely seed stitch and this is the foot portion of our stocking so we're gonna bind off stitches along this edge what that will do is it will leave all of these stitches live so that we can continue working them up the leg. We're gonna start off our row just like we do all other rows and you'll notice that I did change to the red yarn because I thought it was important for you to be able to see what the stocking can look like in a different color. I'm gonna knit two stitches and I'm going to go ahead and bind off. So I've just bound off one stitch. I'm gonna work along and I'm binding off a total of 11 stitches. Then you will continue on in pattern with the remaining stitches. You will carry on with those 25 stitches for the leg of the stocking. So I am binding off down my row and you can bind off in pattern if you choose to or you can just do a straight knit bind off it's totally up to you, whatever you want to do. When you get to the 11 stitches, you will notice that you have five stitches remaining past your marker. So I have five stitches. Now I'm gonna go ahead and carry on in my stitch pattern so I work my seed stitch to my marker. I'm going to slip my marker and I'm to the cable portion. Now I'm gonna pause here and I'm going to bring in the removable stitch marker that I mentioned before 'cause I'm gonna place this stitch marker right onto the cable I created right before I bound off those stitches. The reason I'm marking that cable is because it's going to be very easy to know exactly what row it was I was on when I bound off the stitches to be able to have a point of reference when I'm counting up so as I

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want to make 10-11 cables, I have a point of okay, that's the cable I had completed when I bound off my foot. Now I have ten cables after that and I have the same number of cables on this stocking as I make the second stocking for the back. You can see, we have live stitches starting from right here to right there so you will continue on working in the same stitch pattern as we've already established but only along these stitches. Remember to slip the first stitch of every row along the way. You're gonna carry on in this stitch pattern until the leg of the stocking measures ten inches ending on a row two or a row six. Once you've completed that, it's time to jump in and do the ribbing.

Seaming
- The leg is complete, you've made 10 inches of it, way to go! Now you need to finish off with a little ribbing. As you look down here you can see I have 10 inches from my marker, right here where we bound off. When you finish on a row two or row six, that puts you on a wrong side row, and when you knit that entire row, it places pearl bumps on the right side. I liked how I got the pearl bumps there and it gave me a way to delineate between the leg and the ribbing, and so when I fold my ribbing down I have a nice point of reference. Once you've completed that knit row, it's time to jump into your one by one ribbing. Really simple, you're just gonna knit one stitch and then pearl one stitch. Don't forget to still slip the first stitch of every row. After that's complete, one half of your stocking is finished. Way to go. We need to make one more, though. As I bring in the second part of the stocking, you can see they are mirror images of each other. You're gonna wanna refer to your pattern for the exact instructions, but let me explain a little bit what it is that's different. When we did this part of our stocking, we started at this end after our cast on. So when we placed our marker, it was after the first five stitches. When we do this stocking, we're actually gonna complete all of these stitches first and then place our marker, to delineate the section that is our cables and then we'll finish off with the five stitches. See, it's not too hard to mirror image something as long as you have good instructions, right? Once you have the instructions, go ahead cast on, finish the second half of the stocking, and then it's time to single crochet the two pieces together. I have them set out with right sides facing me, so if I grab the seam here and just flip it, all of a sudden I have the wrong sides of both pieces facing each other. So I have the right sides out there in public, right? If I turn this around I'm just going to use my knit clips to seal everything in place in the sense of, I don't want it to wiggle around on me as I'm working on this, because as I'm crocheting along, it's gonna wanna move and I don't want it to get out of shape as I'm working along, 'cause then I have to undo and redo and who has time for that? So I'm just going to pin some key points on here. Down at the bottom, up here at the top. Really whatever you're most comfortable with, that's all you need to do as far as pinning. And I'm just using five little hooks here, right? Yeah. And there we go. Now, placing this one here, once I start crocheting over here I'm gonna have to move that and that's fine, I can move it along and just put it in different positions along the way, as long as it's in a good place right now. This is where I would take the time and just make sure everything looks pretty good. And I think it does. Now, you'll notice up here that I left a really, super long tail after I did my bind off of the ribbing. The reason I did that is because I want my yarn to be able to go around the entire stocking to the very end. So I'm gonna leave a long tail. You also could just leave your yarn still attached to the skein if you're in a position that you're able to do that. Then you don't have to worry about the tail being super long, 'cause it's already attached to the yarn, right? When I bound off, I left my live loop right there and I just put a stitch marker in it to hold its place. So I'm gonna remove it, and I'm going to put that live loop directly onto my hook and I'm using that as if it was my slip

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stitch, right? 'Cause now you don't have to seam in and have another tail hanging out. All I'm gonna do is along this nice edge that I've slipped along the way, I'm going to single crochet into this slip stitch and the corresponding slip stitch on the other end. So, I'm gonna chain one, and then I'm gonna place my hook into that slip stitch. Go to the corresponding slip stitch on the other stocking, the other half of the stocking. And then work a single crochet. Go down the row doing this the whole way. As you're working through the slip stitches, you'll notice that it looks like a V, it looks like a knit, right? And as you go through both, you'll have two sets of Vs on your hook as you create your single crochet. As you're working along, if you've done the exact number of rows on both pieces of the stocking, your slip stitches will line up perfectly. But if you find maybe you have one extra row or two extra rows, 'cause accidents happen, go ahead and just kind of fudge your work a little bit. Make sure that the pieces are aligned and if they don't go exactly into this stitch and the one below, that's okay. If you need to skip over one or put two into one, whatever's going to make the stocking line up for you visually, that's what's most important. Don't think you have to rip out all your work so that everything lines up absolutely perfect, okay? When you're joining two pieces together and you're going around the curve where the leg meets the foot, you wanna do a single crochet three together. All that is, is go into one stitch and pull up a loop. Go into the next stitch, this is the one that's right at the corner, and pull up a loop. And now I'm going into the one stitch, it's like the last stitch we bound off, and I'm going to go into both pieces. Wiggle it in there and pull up a loop. So I have four loops on my hook, I'm gonna yarn over and draw through all four loops. What this does is it gives a really nice transition from the leg onto the foot. I just rotate my work, and I can continue on down the foot where I did those bind off stitches. When you get to the end of the foot, you're going to do three single crochets right here at this corner. What that's going to do is allow you to turn the corner rather seamlessly. It's gonna look really nice and smooth. Very similar to why we did the single crochet three together when we started the foot, so I'm doing my three single crochets all right there in the corner. Now I'm able to turn, I can turn my whole stocking, and begin working down this edge. You'll do that again, down here at this corner. You'll do that again at this corner. And then just work all the way up this leg up here to the very top. I'm almost to the very end here, and when I get to the end, all I'm going to do is finish off and then we'll take a look and see what this little piece looks like folded over. Do I need that one more? I think I do. This is one of those where you kind of finesse what you think the end is. I think I wanna end it off right there where I have the two Vs. Just to finish it. Pull it through, pull it through. Single crochet, in crochet you always do a chain one before you finish off. I'm gonna leave at least a six to eight inch tail just so I have enough length to weave in later on. Give that a pull and let's take a look at what this looks like when I fold down the cuff. So I fold it around, let's see here. Oh my gosh, how stinkin' cute is that? Oh my goodness. And it's so easy, you don't even know how to make a sock, and you've made this really great stocking just by making two simple halves, single crocheting them together, and voilÃ , you have something super cute.

Finishing

Adding tassels

- I want to show you a couple different ways you can dress it up a little bit and add a second color. Let's add some tassels to the ribbing first. Last time I had this cuff folded over so the first thing I wanna do is unfold the cuff so that the right side is facing you. Then I'm gonna add tassels about

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every third stitch. I've cut lengths of yarn roughly six inches, maybe little bit longer, just kind of eye-ball it. Then you're gonna take your hook and about every third stitch, insert your hook, grab the tassel length, pull that through, and then you're going to take the tassel length, it's easier to do it with my fingers at this point, and push them through the little bit that we pulled through the stitch. Once we do that, give it a nice tug, and you can see that it's attached there. Let me show you how to do that one more time. I have three lengths of yarn, I'm gonna go over about the third stitch right here. Wrap the fold around the hook, pull up, and then I'm just gonna pull that through the loop, get that last one there, and pull up. Now, you'll see here that the little folded bit looks like it's on the inside but when I fold the cuff down it makes it so that it's a really nice decorative finish here at the bottom. The length of the tassels themselves actually become different lengths so you can go back and trim this up shorter and clean this up just a little bit or if you want it a little bit more rugged, keep it all different lengths and let it just be fun and free flowing. Once you have the tassels added we can go ahead and add a chain so that we can hang up our stocking. All I've done is chain 30, and I did hold my yarn double. I've thread the tails of the chain onto a steel tip tapestry needle and what I'm gonna do is with my cuff folded over I'm going to add it right here where the seam is, I'm gonna go through the cuff, and push that needle through to the other side. I'm just gonna pull this through until my actual chain itself pops through, you see that? I'm not gonna anything yet until I'm gonna come back over here, I'm gonna thread this end of the chain, this is super easy, this is called like simple finish, let's get this done, instant gratification. Now if I went in right here on this side, because I wanted to have something to grab onto I'm gonna jump over here to this side and pop my needle through to the inside, I'm gonna have that pop up. This is how easy this is you guys, I'm just going to tie a knot, nothing else. That should hold everything, just like that, Look I'm just gonna tuck that in for right now. And voila, you have a super cute stocking, Now all you have to do is make another one in white with red tassels and you have a matching set.

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