

original  
crochet design by aoibhe ni

# SAOIRSE

Saoirse means “Freedom” in the Irish language, and to me, this shawl is exactly that.

Make it as big or as small as you want. Use whatever hook and yarn you desire. Make it yours. Make it unique. That’s the essence of Saoirse.

**Difficulty:** Advanced Beginner

**Handy Skills:**

Tunisian-Lace Basics, Short Rows, Large and Regular Eyelets, Foundation Crochet.

**Recommended Hook Size:**

5.5 mm hook (or size required to achieve tension)

**Yarn:** approx 650 m / 710 yards

**Wingspan:** 150 cm / 60 in wide.

**Tension:** Using a 5.5 mm hook,  
Chart B = 10 cm / 4 in tall and 10 cm / 4 in wide

**Notions:**

- darning needle for weaving in ends.
- 1 x long blocking wire (approx 225 mm)
- 2 x short blocking wires (approx 100 cm each)
- 1 x removable stitch marker

**Abbreviations:**

ch	chain
sc	single crochet
YO	Yarn Over Hook
L5tr	Linked 5-uple treble
SR2	Short Row 2-lines tall
SR3	Short Row 3-lines tall
[ ]	all sts written within [ ]'s are worked in the same stitch space.
**	all sts within ** are to be repeated, in sequence, the number of times indicated.

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# New to Tunisian Lace?

If this is your first time working up a tunisian-lace shawl, I would suggest, before starting into the shawl, trying a little practise piece using smaller, linked 2-uple treble sts.

First, let's make a small piece of traditional crochet to work on:

Make 11 chains,  
sc into 2<sup>nd</sup> ch from hook, and sc to end.  
This will give you a foundation to work your practise piece on.

## Here's how to start the row of linked 2-uple trebles (L2tr):

Make 3 ch sts (this is your turning chain)

Locate the 2<sup>nd</sup> chain from hook on the turning chain and insert hook into it, Yarn Over (YO), and pull a loop through.  
- you now have two loops on your hook.

Repeat process for 3<sup>rd</sup> chain from hook.  
- you now have three loops on your hook.

Then, insert hook into closest available stitch space of your pre-made crochet fabric, YO, pull a loop through fabric.  
- you now have four loops on your hook.

That's the **Downward Pass** of the stitch complete.

## DO THIS FIRST

Now, we complete the stitch entirely by doing the **Upward Pass**:

For the **Upward Pass**, all we have to do is:  
\*YO, pull through 2 loops\*, repeatedly until left with one loop.

Look at the stitch you have just completed and you will see that it has two, parallel, horizontal lines up its length. Like little ladder rungs.

Those two parallel lines are what give the stitch its name:

Two lines = L2tr

Three lines = L3tr

Four lines = L4tr ...etc...

## Second (& every subsequent) linked-stitch:

Insert hook into the closest horizontal line, YO and pull a loop through.  
- two loops on hook

Repeat for the other horizontal line.  
- three loops on hook.

Then, insert hook into the closest available stitch space, YO, pull a loop through fabric.  
- four loops on hook.

\*YO, pull through 2 loops\*, repeatedly until left with one loop



## Notes on working larger linked stitches:

Work similarly to a linked-2-uple treble (explained above), but begin with the number of chains specified in the pattern.

This will give more “YO and pull through”s, and will result in a taller stitch, with more horizontal lines up its length.

Since we skip the very first turning chain when we start a new row, it basically goes like this:

2 ch = L1tr  
 3 ch = L2tr  
 4 ch = L3tr  
 5 ch = L4 tr ...etc...

This shawl is worked in successive panelled sections that build one on top of the other.

Each panel will be one Chart B repeat longer than its predecessor, thanks to the triangular section (Chart C) at each panel's end. This gives the shawl its ever-increasing, triangular shape.

Once all panels are complete, the pattern is finished off with a band of L5tr stitches along its two, shorter edges.



Chart C

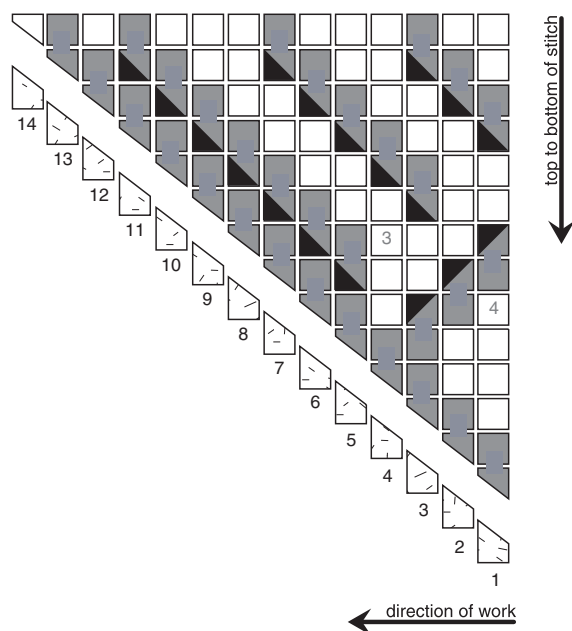


Chart B

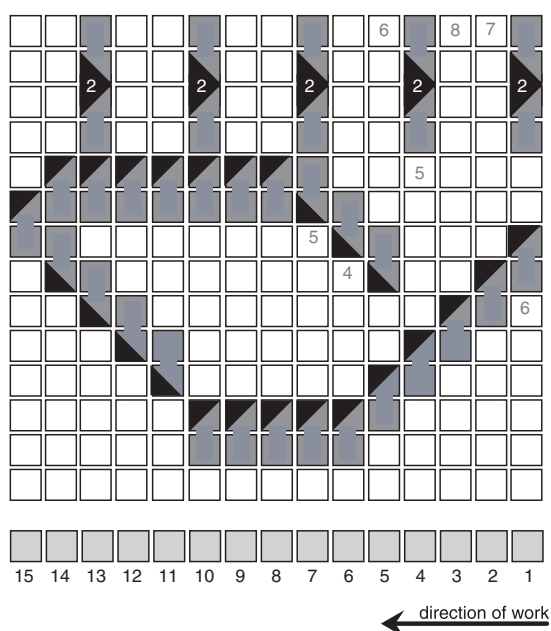
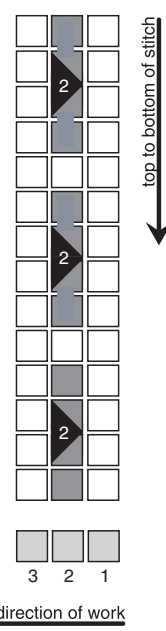
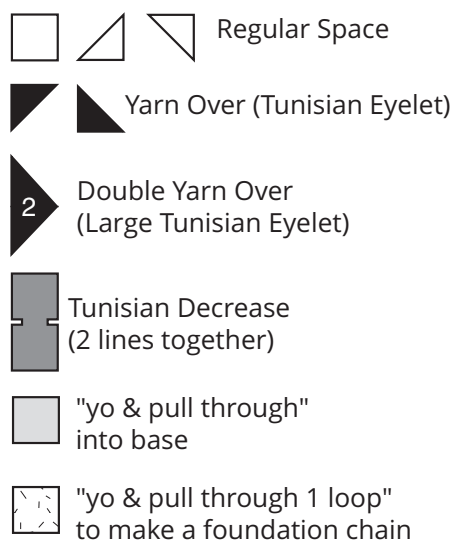


Chart A



## Key:



## Tunisian Eyelets:

Check out my How To video to see exactly how these are made.  
<https://youtu.be/tMvwxd-7do>

**Note:** Every stitch of **Panel 1** (and every instance of **Chart C** throughout) is worked using the **Foundation Method**. This means that each stitch's downward pass ends not with the hook inserted into a pre-made piece of fabric (as in the example on Page 2), but with a "YO, pull through closest loop to hook tip" instead (essentially a chain stitch) before completing the **Upward Pass** as normal.

This gives an in-built chain st for the NEXT stitch to work into at its base.

**See how to do it in my How To Video here:** <https://youtu.be/1ckTIGfD9Fg>

*As an alternative to the **Foundation Method**, begin by working 33 ch, sk 1<sup>st</sup> ch, and work sc into all chains to end, then turn, make 15 ch and begin Panel 1 from this symbol ☉.*



## Pattern Begins:

### Panel 1.

Row 1.

Make 16 ch, ● work Chart A once. Then work Chart C once, 1 ch, turn

Row 2 .

(and every subsequent even numbered row).

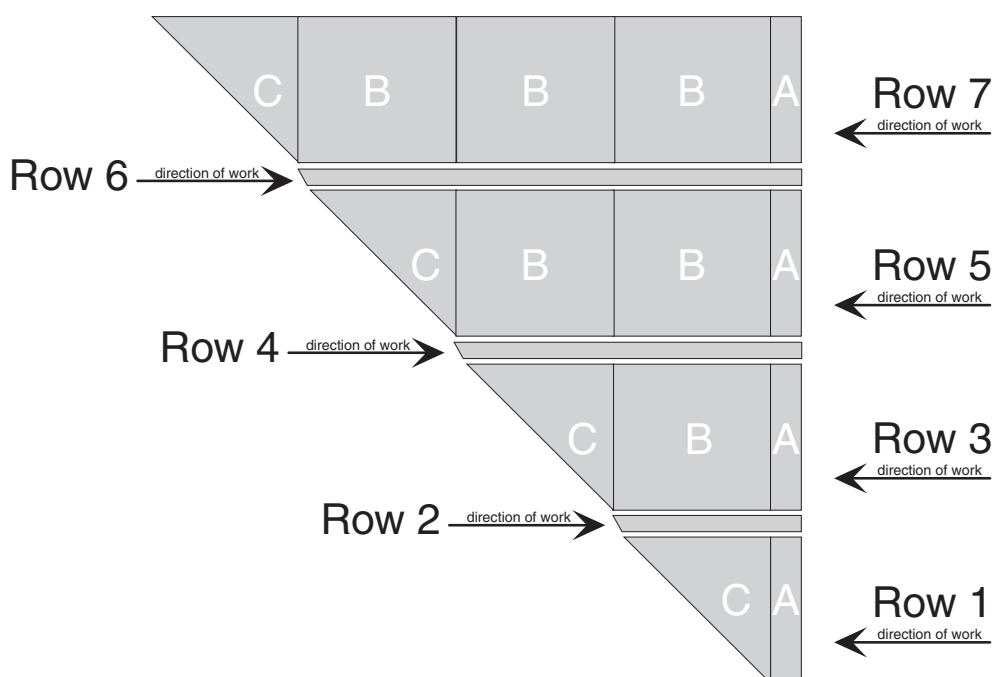
Work [2 sc] into 1<sup>st</sup> st space, then work sc sts to end of row, 15 ch, turn.

### Panel 2.

Row 3.

Work Chart A once, Chart B once, and then Chart C once, 1 ch, turn.

## Schematic of Saoirse's first 7 rows



**Panel 3.**

Row 5.

Work Chart A once, Chart B twice, and then Chart C once, 1 ch, turn.

**Panel 4.**

Row 7.

Work Chart A once, Chart B three times, and then Chart C once, 1 ch, turn.

**Panel 5.**

Row 9.

Work Chart A once, Chart B four times, and then Chart C once, 1 ch, turn.

Continue in established pattern until shawl is wide enough.

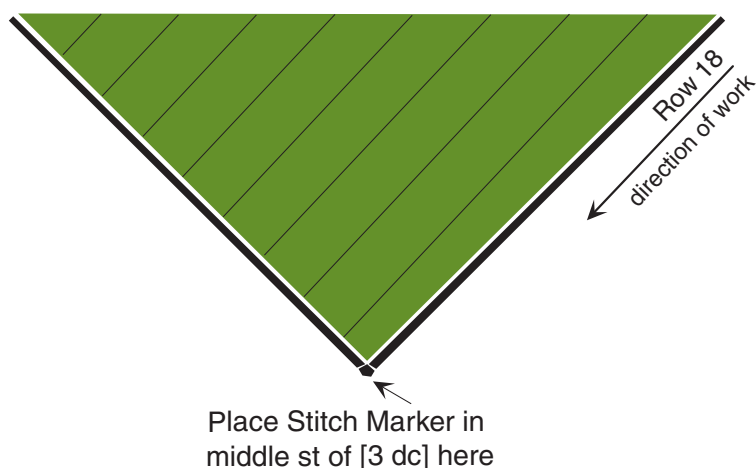
(Sample shawl has been worked up to Row 17.)

**Band:**

Row 18.

Work sc sts to within 1 st from end of last charted row, [3 sc] into last st, (place Stitch Marker 1 into middle of these three sc sts)

Schematic of Saoirse's Band



Rotate work, and continue crocheting sc sts along every edge of Chart A to end of Row 1, 1 ch, turn.

Row 19.

[2 sc], then work sc sts up to Stitch Marker, 1 sc into marked stitch, remove Stitch Marker and place it in the last st made, then continue working sc sts to 1 st from end of **Row 18**, [2 sc] into last st, 6 ch, turn.

**Tunisian Short Rows:**

Learn to make Tunisian Short rows (SR) in my How To Video:

<https://youtu.be/Oi-MRKC6RHc>

Row 20.

1 L5tr, SR2, SR3, SR4, SR5, Work L5tr to 1 st from end of row, then work [3 L5tr] into last st space, SR5, SR4, SR3, SR2, 1 L5tr into M1. SR2, SR3, SR4, SR5, [3 L5tr], L5tr to within 1 st of end of row. SR5, SR4, SR3, SR2, 1 L5tr, 1 ch, rotate work.

With WS of shawl facing you, work a round of sc sts along every edge of shawl until one whole round is complete.

1 ss into 1<sup>st</sup> sc of round.

**Finishing Off:**

Bind off, weave in ends and block.

**Not sure how to block a Tunisian Lace shawl?**

You bet I have a video for that too!

<https://youtu.be/Qtvzo9gTjnk>



A woman with reddish-brown hair tied in a bun is holding up a large, light blue knitted shawl. She is standing in a field of tall, dry grass. The shawl has a complex, textured pattern. The background is a soft-focus field of tall grass under a bright sky.

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