



### Texture – Bobbles & Clusters - Tasks

#### Introduction

Bobbles are essentially clusters of stitches made by increasing a set number of times from a single originating stitch, working a number of rows on these stitches, then decreasing back to the original stitch.

Bobbles may be small or large, depending on the number of stitches and the number of rows over which they are worked. Cluster stitches may additionally incorporate yarn overs and twists which make for even more interesting patterns. Bobbles and clusters can be worked close together, spaced to form a regular pattern, or placed at random to create a more relaxed, freeform effect.

#### Objective

In the next tasks you will be researching bobbles and cluster stitches and producing samples using these stitches.

#### Task One – Create a sample using a bobble stitch

1. Spend some time researching bobble stitches. You may wish to look through stitch dictionaries, pattern books, knitting patterns or online.
2. Plan the placement of your bobbles by first sketching then charting your choice of stitch pattern and make a swatch 30 or more stitches wide and 20cm or more, long.
3. Finish your sample by weaving in all ends, blocking and pressing.

#### Task Two – Create a second sample

1. Make a second sample, this time choosing a more complex cluster stitch pattern (For suggested cluster stitches, you may wish to explore star, bramble, oyster, daisy 5-stitch, cluster quilting). If you wish, you may create your own pattern or combine one or more stitch patterns in your sample.
2. Fasten off and finish your sample by weaving in any ends, blocking and pressing as required.

#### Task Three

##### Reflect and record

Review the samples you have made. What do you like about the samples you have made? If you combined different stitches, was this successful? How might you adapt these techniques or combine them with different yarns? Would your pattern work with any yarn or would some yarns be more suitable than others? How might you use these techniques in future projects?