

Beaded Lace Scarf

A luxurious scarf indeed — small beads are knit into a flowing lace pattern.



Yarn, Beads and Needles

425 yards of laceweight yarn at approximately 24 to 30 wraps per inch or 200 to 250 yards per ounce. Your yarn choice needs to be thin, yet strong enough, to carry the beads.

1090 size 8/0 beads or other size beads with holes large enough for yarn to pass through (allow some extra beads for loss due to possible defects).

Size 5 us (3.75 mm) needles or size to give gauge of 5 stitches and 6 rows per inch over lace pattern after blocking.

Rectangular scarf as planned is 12" by 64" after blocking. To adjust size, for each 4" in length (24 row repeat of the main pattern), allow 70 beads and 25 yards of yarn.

Abbreviations and Special Techniques

k - knit

k2tog - knit 2 stitches together

k3tog - knit 3 stitches together

p - purl

p1tr - purl 1 twist right as follows: slip stitch to right needle as to knit (the stitch mount will be twisted from its normal position), slip stitch back onto the left needle in this same twisted position, purl through the front loop of this twisted stitch

RS - right side (the side of the knitted fabric worn to the outside)

p - purl

sl bead-p1tr - slip bead and then p1tr as follows: slip stitch to right needle as to knit (the stitch mount will be twisted from its normal position), slip stitch back onto the left needle in this same twisted position, insert right needle point into front loop of twisted stitch as to purl (but don't make the purl stitch yet), slide 1 bead up against the right needle point, complete the purl stitch taking care that the bead does not slip through the new stitch being made (the bead will lie between the previous p1tr called for in the stitch pattern and the p1tr being made now; the p1tr stitches on each side of a bead bring the bead forward to the right side of the fabric and help to keep the bead in place between the stitches)

SSK - slip 1 stitch as if to knit, and then slip another stitch as if to knit; insert left needle tip into the 2 slipped stitches from left to right and knit these 2 stitches together

SSSK - * slip 1 stitch as to knit, repeat from * two more times. Insert left needle tip into the 3 slipped stitches from left to right and knit these 3 stitches together

st(s) - stitch(es)

WS - wrong side (the side of the knitted fabric worn to the inside)

yo - yarn over

Caution: Instructions are written assuming you are knitting stitches off your left-hand needle onto your right-hand needle. If you are working instead from right needle to left needle, please adjust instructions to agree with your direction of work.

Pattern Instructions

String 12" - 16" of beads onto yarn. You will carefully push these along the yarn until you need them. You may string more (or less), but this is what I've found to be a comfortable amount to deal with. In order to string more later, you will need to cut your yarn (and therefore finish the extra ends), but there is a trade-off in the extra finishing vs. the extra work and abrasion of moving the beads along the yarn.

Cast on 59 sts loosely.

Referring to the pattern stitch charts:

Work Chart A once for beginning edge.

Work Chart B 15 times for main body of scarf. When you run out of beads, cut yarn and string some more.

Work Chart C once for final edge.

Bind off very loosely in knit stitch, so that bound off edge stretches similarly to cast on edge.

Finishing and Blocking

Weave in ends invisibly.

Fill container with lukewarm water and a small amount of mild detergent. Mix thoroughly. Submerge scarf into water gently and soak 30 minutes. Drain and gently press out majority of water. Refill container with water at same temperature and rinse scarf gently. Again press out majority of water. Press scarf between two thirsty bath towels (do not rub). Block under light tension by pinning the still-damp scarf on a flat surface while gently stretching into shape and opening up the lace pattern nicely. Let dry thoroughly before removing blocking pins.