



From:
Living

Basic Scarf Pattern

The main body of this scarf is worked in stockinette stitch (below, left), the most common of all stitch patterns, which is formed by alternating knit rows and purl rows. The scarf's border is worked in garter stitch (below, right), made by working every row in a knit stitch.

Since its edges do not curl, garter stitch is often used for borders. Before you begin the scarf, follow our basic knitting instructions to knit a gauge swatch in stockinette stitch using size-9 needles and Aran-weight yarn.

Basic Scarf Pattern

Finished size of scarf: 8 by 60 inches

Materials

Aran-weight yarn, approximately 600 yards, or three 100-gram balls; size-9 knitting needles; safety pin; notebook; tape measure.

Gauge

4 stitches and 6 rows equal 1 inch

Abbreviations

k (knit), p (purl), sts (stitches)

Pattern Stitch

(Work this series of stitches when directed to in the pattern.)

Row 1: (right side) k32

Row 2: (wrong side) k32

Row 3: k32

Row 4: k4, p24, k4

Row 5: k32

Row 6: k32

Cast On

Loosely cast on 32 stitches.

Rows 1 to 8

k32: Knit each stitch across the row for 8 rows. Tally the rows in your notebook. There should be 4 ridges on each side of the work.



Row 9 (wrong side)

k4, p24, k4: Knit the first 4 sts. Purl the next 24 sts, remembering to bring the yarn in front of the project. Move the yarn to the back again, and knit the last 4 sts.

Row 10 (right side)

k32: Mark this side by placing a safety pin in the middle of the knitting so you always know when you are working a right-hand-side row. This side should be facing you when the knitting is in your left hand ready for you to knit a right-side row.

Repeat rows 9 and 10 until the knitting measures 3 inches from the cast-on edge. End after working a row 9. To measure, place the knitting on a flat surface, place the measuring tape under the needle, and measure down to the cast-on edge.

Next 6 Rows

Work the 6 rows of the pattern stitch. These are the rows that form the ridges at each end of the scarf. Repeat rows 9 and 10 until the knitting measures 6 inches from the cast-on edge. End after working a row 9.

Next 6 Rows

Work the 6 rows of the Pattern Stitch.

Repeat rows 9 and 10 until scarf measures 53 inches from the cast-on row. End after working row 9.

Rows 9 and 10 can be repeated for as long as you like. Any adjustments to length should be made while working these rows. If you are adjusting the scarf to a certain length, keep in mind that 7 inches will be added after this point.

Next 6 Rows

Work the 6 rows of the pattern stitch.

Repeat rows 9 and 10 until scarf measures 56 inches from the cast-on row. End after working a row 9.

Next 6 Rows

Work the 6 rows of the pattern stitch.

Repeat Rows 9 and 10 until the scarf is 59 inches.

Next 8 Rows

Knit next 8 rows.

Cast off.

Weave in yarn ends.

Block Scarf

Block the scarf by spraying with water and smoothing it with your hands. If necessary, pin the scarf to a towel to keep the edges from rolling, and allow it to dry flat overnight; or place a damp towel over the scarf, and press flat with a steam iron.

Source: Martha Stewart