

Free Pattern of the Month – August 2002

Triangular "From the Stash" Shawl

This month's free pattern is a very simple shawl knit out of whatever yarns you have on hand.





This shawl is *very* easy to knit, and you can use any yarn that you have on hand. Just be sure that the washing instructions are the same for each different yarn that you use. It's triangular in shape and knit from the top down and the border is knitted on sideways at the end.

I've knit 4 of these so far, and have plans for a few more out of my "stash" yarn.

The gray shawl at the top is my favorite. It's quite large and made of some of my first handspun, in shades of gray with a dark brown border.

The blue and red shawls above are made of handspun "mystery" fiber (fiber that is "left over" from a carding machine) which is mostly wool, but has bits of silk, angora, mohair and glitz here and there.

Part of the fun spinning up these mystery batts is that you never know what you'll end up with - only that it will be interesting!

Gauge:

Doesn't really matter. Do what will work with the yarn that you have on hand - tiny needles and lace-weight, or #13 and bulky yarn. Knitter's choice.

I used a #11 needle because it looked like it would work to make a nice, warm shawl and would go fast.

Cast-on 15 stitches (leaving a 10" tail) and knit one row.

Row 1 - Knit 6, YO, Knit 1, YO and place marker, Knit 1, YO, Knit 1, YO, Knit 6

Row 2 (and all WS rows) - Knit even for a garter based shawl (shown), or Knit 6, Purl across, ending Knit 6 for a stockinette based shawl.

Row 3 - Knit 6, YO, Knit 3, YO and slip marker, Knit 1, YO, Knit 3, YO, Knit 6

Row 5 - Knit 6, YO, Knit 5, YO and slip marker, Knit 1, YO, Knit 5, YO, Knit 6

Continue in this manner, increasing 4 stitches every other row until it's as long from the beginning to the tip as you like. Keep the first and last 6 stitches in garter or seed stitch to keep the edges from curling. Add new colors or yarns on the RS whenever the mood strikes, or when you run out of something. Make wide, wild stripes, or narrow, sedate ones - knitter's choice!

Now it's time for a border. I decided to keep mine fairly small because I was ready for it to end, and I was getting low on yarn.

Here's how it goes -

Cast another 10 sts onto the left needle.

Slip the first stitch, and Knit 8. Then Knit 2 sts together - the last edging stitch together with the first shawl stitch. This will eat up one shawl stitch for every two rows of edging - a perfect, elastic edging that won't curl

Turn, slip 1, and knit to the end.

Repeat these two rows until you come to the marker at the center back.

The corner needs to be mitered to lay flat, and this is how it's done -

On the RS row - Slip 1, Knit 7, turn and knit back.

Next row - Slip 1, Knit 6, turn and knit back.

Then Slip 1, Knit 5, turn and knit back.

Slip 1, Knit 4, turn and knit back.

Slip 1, knit 5, turn and knit back.

Slip 1, Knit 6, turn and knit back.

Slip 1, Knit 7, turn and knit back.

See the pattern here?

Then, continue as before with your 10 edging stitches until you reach the end. Bind off, on the RS in purl and you're done! Weave in the ends and wash and block and all of that good stuff.

But, wait! What about that funny neck part? Use the 10" tail you left at the cast-on and sew those two funny parts together to close it up and make it straight. It will look like a continuous garter border all along the top.

Done!

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