

Infinity Scarf - a multi-version pattern to suit all knitters

Designed by Vikki Haffenden, author of *Translating Between Hand and Machine Knitting* and *The Knitting Book*.



I love infinity scarves because there are no trailing ends to catch in things or come undone and let the cold in. This one loops twice around the neck and is knitted in 100% wool, so is perfect for keeping warm when outdoors. Kilcarra Tweed is stocked locally and online by Debbie Munro at The Lace Knittery in Ilminster, and by other yarn retailers.

You could substitute with a yarn that has the same stitch count and length-to-weight

measurement but be aware that substituting is not an exact science and sampling is always necessary.

Try to substitute with a yarn with some wool content because wool retains warmth but prevents you overheating. Ideal as a project you can knit 'on the go', this infinity scarf would be a beautiful gift for anyone to receive.

Materials:

- 4 x 50g balls Knoll Kilcarra Tweed, colour 2017 'Ardara', (80metres per 50g)
- A 100cm circular 5mm needle, (see version C if using straight needles)
- Large eyed, blunt sewing needle
- Scissors
- A row counter and stitch makers are useful, but not necessary

Stitch Tension:

Infinity Scarf

16sts = 10cm in stocking stitch, 15sts = 10cm in pattern seed stitch.

Finished dimensions:

130cm long

18cm deep

Hints on working the pattern:

I have designed this pattern on circular needles as it is much more comfortable to rest the weight of the knitting in your lap on the cable than to take the strain on your arms. If you want to knit the scarf flat, use the circular needle as if it is two separate needles and work back and forth, turning the knitting after each row.

I like to use a stretchy cast-on for seed stitch and my favourite is German Twisted Cast On, (also known as Twisted Double Cast On). This is on page 93 of *The Knitting Book*, and links to video tutorials are at the end of the page. Whichever cast on you decide to use, adding a marker after every tenth cast-on stitch helps if you need to count them later.

Always work a tension sample of the cast-on, stitch pattern and bind-off you intend to use before starting your main piece.

A. In-the-round version on a circular needle:

Cast on 200sts, joining the round at the end of the cast on. Mark the join.

Round 1: *k1, p1, repeat from * to end.

Round 2: *p1, k1, repeat from * to end.

Repeat rows 1 and 2 until your knitting measures 18cm from cast-on

B. Straight, back and forth version on a circular needle:

Cast on 201sts.

Row 1: k1, *p1, k1, repeat from * to end.

Row 2: k1, *p1, k1, repeat from * to end.

Repeat rows 1 and 2 until your knitting measures 18cm from cast-on.

C. Lengthwise version on 5mm straight needles:

If you don't want to use a circular needle, you can work the scarf by casting-on 27sts and repeating Rows 1 & 2 of version B until the knitting measures 130cm.

All versions:

Bind-off all stitches using a stretchy bind-off. I recommend Jeny's Surprisingly Stretchy Bind Off, or you can work a normal bind-off loosely.

Finishing:

Pin onto a flat surface, matching finished dimensions and taking care to keep all edges straight. Block according to the yarn fibre content; if using a substitute yarn containing acrylic or polyester do not use heat when blocking.

Sewing-up, (versions B and C):

Thread a length of the knitting yarn onto the large-eyed sewing needle. Lay the piece of knitting on a flat surface and fold the short side edges to the middle, so the edges just touch. Sew an edge-to-edge seam to join them together, keeping the seam as flat and invisible as possible. Re-block as necessary.

For video tutorials on Twisted German Cast-on, Seed Stitch, Joining Circular Knitting, Jeny's Stretchy Bind off and Blocking Knitting visit www.vikkihaffenden.com, and search for Infinity Scarf.

Happy knitting,

Vikki

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October 2020

Space for your knitting notes: