

Morning Surf Scarf

Jackie Erickson-Schweitzer

Originally published in Spin-Off, Summer 2008



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MORNING SURF SCARF

by Jackie Erickson-Schweitzer

Fiber: 3.5 oz Chasing Rainbows handpainted bombyx silk/Merino blend.

Singles direction spun: Z.

Plied direction spun: S.

Yarn classification: 2-ply.

Needles: U.S. size 2.

Finished size: 11" by 48".

? See knittingdaily.com/Glossary for terms you don't know.

The Morning Surf Scarf is knitted in a simple lace-type structure that works up quickly because of the dropped yarnovers. The undulating design is particularly suitable for showcasing variegated handspun yarn. The tale of how the Morning Surf Scarf came about goes back many years to my beginning spinning days.

While attending the 1995 annual January Spin-In in Destin, Florida, a hank of Chasing Rainbows handpainted bombyx silk/Merino wool roving in variegated gray-green tones kept beckoning to me at the market. Being fairly new to spinning, I did not deem my skills advanced enough for this premium fiber. However, returning from a morning walk along the beach with its hazy low sun upon the waters and gentle swelling surf of gray-green waves, I felt more confident and inspired. I decided to purchase the roving as a remembrance.

As encouragement for those relatively new to handspinning, let me assure you that the yarn I spun had character! To show off the nice diversity of textures in the rather inconsistent 2-ply yarn, albeit with those beautiful colors I had remembered from my walk on the beach, I composed a stitch and row sequence with undulating long floats bordered by reverse stockinette rows to capture the feeling of the gentle waves under a morning haze.

Note: I recommend using straight needles. If you use a circular needle, you may have difficulty in sliding the multiple yarnovers from the flexible connector back onto the needle area.

ABBREVIATIONS

yo 2 times—bring yarn between needles to front, wrap completely around needle once, bring over needle once more for second yarnover (yo) and prepare to knit next st (there will be 2 extra loops on the needle).

yo 3 times—bring yarn between needles to front, wrap completely around needle twice, bring over needle once more for third yo and prepare to knit next st (there will be 3 extra loops on the needle).

yo 4 times—bring yarn between needles to front, wrap completely around needle three times, bring over needle once more for fourth yo and prepare to knit next st (there will be 4 extra loops on the needle).

INSTRUCTIONS

Cast on 76 sts loosely (or multiple of 10 sts + 6 sts).

Knit 2 rows and then begin pattern.

Row 1–2: Knit.

Row 3: *K6, yo 2 times, k1, yo 3 times, k1, yo 4 times, k1, yo 3 times, k1, yo 2 times; rep from * to last 6 sts, k6.

Row 4: Knit, dropping the extra loops from the yarnovers of previous row off needle as you come to them. (Be careful not to drop the other sts!) After completing row, tug gently on sts below needle to distribute the yarn from the dropped loops downward.

Row 5: Knit.

Row 6: Purl.

Rows 7–8: Knit.

Row 9: *K1, yo 2 times, k1, yo 3 times, k1, yo 4 times, k1, yo 3 times, k1, yo 2 times, k5; rep, from * to last 6 sts, k1, yo 2 times, k1, yo 3 times, k1, yo 4 times, k1, yo 3 times, k1, yo 2 times, k1.

Row 10: Knit, dropping the extra loops from the yarnovers of previous row off needle as you come to them. (Be careful not to drop the other sts!) After completing row, tug gently on sts below needle to distribute the yarn from the dropped loops downward.

Row 11: Knit.

Row 12: Purl.

Rep Rows 1–12 until length desired (or close to your yarn running out) ending with Row 5 or 11.

Knit 2 rows.

Bind off loosely. Weave in ends invisibly.

Fill container with lukewarm water and a small amount of mild detergent. Mix thoroughly. Gently submerge scarf into water and soak at least 30 minutes. Drain water. Refill container with water at same temperature and rinse gently. Drain water then press scarf between two bath towels (do not rub).

Block under tension by pinning down the still-damp scarf on a flat surface while gently stretching into shape and emphasizing the softly scalloped edges. Let dry thoroughly before removing blocking pins.

Jackie Erickson-Schweitzer (Jackie E-S) of Destrehan, Louisiana, is a longtime knitting enthusiast who shares her love of knitting and experience through designing, publishing, and teaching. Her growing roster of HeartStrings patterns is available at an ever-increasing network of retailers and can be seen at www.heartstringsfiberarts.com. Her interest in the fiber arts extends beyond knitting and spinning to include weaving, dyeing, and all needle arts.

This pattern easily adapts to any yarn type and scarf size. You can adjust the cast-on stitch count up or down by increments of 10 for a wider or narrower scarf. Also, use whatever needle size gives you a drapery fabric without being sloppy. Here are some guidelines:

Wraps per inch (wpi)	Suggested needle size (U.S.)	Suggested number of stitches
16–18	2 or 3	76
13–15	5 or 6	66
10–12	8 or 9	56

ABBREVIATIONS

beg	beginning; begin; begins	M1R (L)	make one right (left)	sl st	slip stitch (sl 1 st pwise unless otherwise indicated)
bet	between	p	purl	ssk	slip 1 kwise, slip 1 kwise, k2 sl sts tog tbl (decrease)
BO	bind off	p1f&b	purl into front and back of same st	ssp	slip 1 kwise, slip 1 kwise, p2 sl sts tog tbl (decrease)
CC	contrasting color	p2tog	purl two stitches together	st(s)	stitch(es)
cm	centimeter(s)	patt(s)	pattern(s)	St st	stockinette stitch
cn	cable needle	pm	place marker	tbl	through back loop
CO	cast on	pssso	pass slipped stitch over	tog	together
cont	continue(s); continuing	p2sso	pass two slipped stitches over	WS	wrong side
dec(s)	decrease(s); decreasing	pwise	purlwise	wyb	with yarn in back
dpn	double-pointed needle(s)	RC	right cross	wyf	with yarn in front
foll	following; follows	rem	remain(s); remaining	yo	yarn over
g	gram(s)	rep	repeat; repeating	*	repeat starting point (i.e., repeat from *)
inc	increase(s); increasing	rev St st	reverse stockinette stitch	**	repeat all instructions between asterisks
k	knit	rib	ribbing	()	alternate measurements and/or instructions
k1f&b	knit into front and back of same st	rnd(s)	round(s)	[]	instructions that are to be worked as a group a specified number of times
k2tog	knit two stitches together	RS	right side		
kwise	knitwise	rev sc	reverse single crochet		
LC	left cross	sc	single crochet		
m(s)	marker(s)	sk	skip		
MC	main color	sl	slip		
mm	millimeter(s)				
M1	make one (increase)				

