

# Rib and Garter Scarf

DESIGNED BY Joan Lahy



*Remember “condo” knitting — knitting with two different sizes of needles? It was the rage first in the 70s then again in the 90s and it’s time to resurrect it! This cute little scarf is fun and easy to knit and highlights any yarn. Knit with a lightweight yarn, it makes a pleasant, lightweight scarf for spring through fall. See the Pattern Notes for more ideas.*

## Materials

### Yarn

Fingering or sport weight yarn, approximately 175 yards. *See Pattern Notes.*

### Needles

Two **different-sized** straight needles: one sized approximately for yarn (or slightly larger), the other many sizes larger than the first needle. *See Pattern Notes.*

### Gauge

No gauge required.

## Abbreviations

**K:** knit  
**Ktbl:** knit through back leg of stitch  
**P:** purl  
**Pwise:** purl-wise  
**Sl1:** slip one st  
**St(s):** stitch(es)  
**Wyif:** with yarn in front  
**Yo:** yarnover  
[...] repeat enclosed instructions as specified

## PATTERN NOTES

- This scarf is completely reversible. The Garter Stitch Section is identical on both sides of the scarf, but the Ribbed Section is slightly varied on one side due to the different-sized needles. The greater the difference in the needle sizes, the more pronounced is the variation, but it is quite pretty nonetheless. *See photo on the next page.*
- Needle sizes may be varied as desired, but it’s sometimes better to have the smaller needle size be one or two sizes larger than the “recommended” needle size for the yarn being used. For example, the sample in the photo above was knit with fingering weight yarn with needle sizes US 5/3.75mm and US 10/6mm
- You can also use two same-size large needles to create a different “fabric” for the scarf (the ribbed section will then look the same on both sides).
- Interchangeable circular needles may be used by attaching different-sized needle tips to each end of a cable, but if the cable is thin, the stitches may hug the cable tightly and tighten up, so you may have problems when knitting onto the larger needle.
- Near the beginning of Row 1 in each section, a yarnover (yo) is worked and when Row 2 is worked, the yo is dropped when it is encountered. This extends the slipped stitch on the leading edge of Row 1 so that it is evenly balanced with the slipped stitch on the leading edge of Row 2.

*(Pattern Notes continued next page)*



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(Pattern Notes continued from previous page)

- You may wish to increase the total rows in the Garter Stitch Section to 14 or 16 rows, yielding 7 or 8 garter ridges on each side of the scarf. These added rows create a wider outward curve. You may also adjust the width, if desired, by casting on a different multiple of two stitches.
- If you weigh your yarn before and after knitting the first Garter Stitch Section, you can calculate how much yarn was required for that section. You can then knit the scarf until you have that amount of yarn remaining for a final Garter Stitch Section, thus enabling you to use a full skein of yarn.
- This pattern will also produce a beautiful scarf for cooler months if knit with heavier yarn.

## **DIRECTIONS**

With the larger needle, CO 20 sts. *See Pattern Notes if you wish to make the scarf a different width.*

### **Garter Stitch Section**

**Row 1:** Working onto smaller needle, sl1 pwise wyif, k1, yo, knit to end of row. *See Pattern Notes regarding the yarnover.*

**Row 2:** Working onto larger needle, sl1 pwise wyif, knit to end of row, **dropping** the yo when encountered.

Repeat these two rows five more times for a total of 12 rows (6 garter ridges) in the section. *See Pattern Notes if you wish to increase the length of this section.*

### **Ribbed Section**

**Row 1:** Working onto smaller needle, sl1 pwise wyif, k1tbl, yo, p1; [k1tbl, p1] to last st; k1. *See Pattern Notes regarding the yarnover.*

**Row 2:** Working onto larger needle, sl1 pwise wyif, [k1tbl, p1] to last st, **dropping** the yo when encountered; k1.

Repeat these two rows five more times for a total of 12 rows in the section. *See Pattern Notes if you wish to increase the length of this section.*

Repeat these two sections until the scarf is the desired length, or you have enough yarn left to knit a final Garter Stitch Section (*see Pattern Notes*). End the scarf with a Garter Stitch Section, binding off with the larger needle.

### **Finishing**

Block, if desired.



(Right photo) Fingering weight yarn knit on one US5/3.75mm needle and one US11/6mm. Note the different appearance of the ribbed section on each side of scarf.



(Left photo) Knit with one strand of a fine cotton/rayon yarn held together with one strand of a cobweb-weight yarn on two same-size US 10/6mm needles. Note that the ribbed section is identical on both sides.



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