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Cascade 220® Sport
Checks Over Yarn Scarf



Designed by Betty Balcomb

Cascade 220® Sport Yarn-Over Check

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The tuck-in scarf has appeared many times in many places for many years. But no one has ever made it with the amazing Yarn-Over Check pattern before. This wonderful pattern is an astonishingly simple 2-stitch/6-row repeat. Mixing some special yarn-overs and slipped stitches into the basic mix of knits and purls results in an almost magical fabric. One side looks like a grid of checks, while the other side shows narrow stripes. The fabric is thick and spongy and begs to be squeezed. You can build a better mousetrap if you experiment with some of the great 2-color, 1 strand-at-a-time techniques!

Materials: 2 skeins of one color and one skein of a second of Cascade 220® Sport in sharply contrasting colors. Pictured scarf is knit in colors 8010 and 9429. Size 7 needles any type and 2 DPNs in the same size for working the tuck-in slots.

Size: Pictured scarf has a straight section of about 18 inches and will lie right below the collar bone when tucked in. For a scarf that sits lower on the chest, make the straight section a little longer. You will have plenty of yarn.

Gauge: 4 stitches/inch in pattern stitch. Close is good enough.

Pattern Stitch: Odd number of sts, Repeat of 6 rows.

Colors A and B, Color A forms the grid, Color B forms checks. Note: 2 rows are worked with color B and 4 rows with color A so you need twice as much A.

Cast on with Color A and Knit one row.

Row 1 Right side): With B, P1, *YO, SL1 wyib, P1, rep from * to end of row. **Note:** the YO is wrapped over the top of the needle, lies across and **behind** the slipped st and is then brought forward to purl the next st.

Row 2: With B, K1, * YO, SL the slipped st tog. with the YO of previous row wyib, K1, rep from * to end of row.

Row 3: With A, P1, *K3tog (the cluster formed by the slipped st and the 2 YOs of the 2 previous rows), P1, rep from * to end of row.

Row 4: With A, K2, * YO, SL1 wyib, K1, rep from * to end of row.

Row 5: With A, P1, *YO, SL the slipped st and the YO of previous row wyib, P1, rep from * to end of row.

Row 6: With A, K1, *P3tog (the cluster formed by the slipped st and the 2 YOs of the 2 previous rows), K1, rep from * to end of row.

Repeat rows 1 to 6.

Directions:

Refer to pattern directions above for helpful hints on how to work YOs and Slips. Remember that all slips are done with the yarn in back (wyib).

I highly recommend working a small swatch of the pattern first to get used to how the pattern works.

Beginning Tab: Using the color you have chosen to form the grid of your pattern (Color A), CO 5 sts and K 2 rows. Row 3: Kfb to last 2 sts, Kfb and K1. Row 4: K. Rows 5 and 6: Repeat rows 3 and 4. Now you will begin to work in the pattern stitch.

Row 7: With Color B, K2, P1, *SL1, YO, P1, rep from * to last 2 sts, K2. You have established a 2-stitch garter border on each side.

Row 8: W/B, K2, K1, *YO, SL2, K1, rep from * to last 2 sts, K2.

Row 9: W/A, Kfb, K1, P1, *K3tog, P1, rep from * to last 2 sts, Kfb, K1.

Row 10: W/A, K2, YO, SL1, *K1, YO, SL1, rep from * to last 2 sts, K2.

Row 11: W/A, Kfb, K1, *YO, SL2, *P1, rep from * to last 2 sts, Kfb, K1.

Row 12: W/A, K2, K1, *P3tog, K1, rep from * to last 2 sts, K2.

Repeat Rows 7 to 12 until you have 33 sts.

Now work even in pattern by ignoring Kfbs on rows 9 and 11 until tab is about 6" from cast-on edge. Feel free to make a longer tab if you like

Form Tuck-In Slot: First you will divide the stitches into 2 sections. Take the 2 DPNs and hold them sort of parallel to each other in your right hand. Carefully slip 1 st. at a time from the left hand needle to the DPNs alternating sts between the 2 DPNs. You will have one more st on one needle but it won't matter. Now knit 2 tabs separately in K1, P1 ribbing for 2", working the first with the yarn that is there and cutting and rejoining the yarn for the second. Next merge the stitches back onto your regular needle again alternating the sts as you slip them so they are back the way they started.

Work Straight Section: The straight section is just the yarn-over check pattern worked on 33 sts with a 2-st garter border on each side. See note under Size above for how long to make the straight section.

Make a second slot exactly like the first.

End Tab: First work the same number of pattern repeats on the 33 sts as you did on the beginning tab. Then, being careful to maintain pattern, decrease tab by simply working a K2tog 1 stitch in from the edge stitch at the beginning and end of the rows that correspond to rows 9 and 11 in the beginning tab. When you are down to 9 sts, cut color B and finish tab with a few rows of garter stitch in color A, continuing decreases down to 5 sts. Work 1 last garter ridge on the 5 sts and bind off. Weave in ends.

Wearing your scarf: I have come up with a bunch of different ways to wear my scarf which highlight the 2 sides of the fabric in different ways. With the check side forward on all surfaces and the straight section sort of bunched. With the striped side forward on all surfaces and the straight section sort of bunched. With the check side forward on the straight section but one tab flipped to show the striped pattern again with straight section sort of bunched. Converse of previous version. With checked side out on straight section but lying smooth and folding over a flap on top edge to show striped pattern. Converse of folded over way. Previous 2 can also be done with tabs flat or flipped.