

Sateen
Macaroni Scarf



Designed by Betty Balcomb

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Sateen is a wonderfully soft and fluffy yarn. It is perfect for baby clothes but also makes a charming decorative scarf or shawl to dress up a simple dress or even a T-shirt. In the colorway (411-Spring Mix) used for this scarf, Sateen makes me crave a trip to someplace tropical where I can wear the scarf loosely draped around my neck at Happy Hour. This little scarf uses the traditional Little Arrowhead Lace pattern and lots of I-cord macaroni, a fringe of them on each end and I-cord borders up the sides.

Materials: 2 balls of Cascade Sateen Yarn, pictured scarf is color #411. Size 6 needles, straight or circular for body of scarf and 2 double points for I-cord, or size required to obtain desired texture. Stitch holder.

Gauge: 5 sts/inch in garter stitch, but size doesn't really matter with a scarf. However, if you are getting too few sts/in, your fabric may not look as neat.

Measurements: At the above gauge, scarf is about 8 inches wide and 58 inches long, not counting the macaroni. Feel free to add more stitches, in multiples of 6, for a wider scarf up to shawl size. An extra repeat of the design on each half will add about 8 extra inches in length.

Abbreviations:

K2tog: knit 2 stitches together, right leaning decrease

SSK: Slip 2 stitches knitwise, then insert needle into stitches left to right and knit them together, left leaning decrease.

A word about the SSK: Until sometime in the 1960s, there were 2 methods for working a left leaning decrease; neither was quite satisfactory. Then Barbara Walker, with her uncanny ability to visualize the mechanics of knitting, figured out that reversing the direction of the stitches before knitting them together gave a much better result. Thus was born the SSK. I do this decrease a little differently. Since the 1st stitch hides the 2nd, it is fine for the 2nd stitch to be twisted. So I simply flip the 1st stitch and then knit 2 tog through the back loops. I find this quicker and easier, but either way is great and gives the desired result.

SK2P: Slip 1 stitch knitwise, knit 2 together and pass slipped stitch over, double decrease that forms an inverted V.

SL: slip designated number of stitches purlwise.

DIRECTIONS

In order to have the macaroni fringe the same and also to have the peaks of the Little Arrowhead Lace pattern point up on both sides, you must knit the scarf in 2 halves bottom up and then join them. Directions are given for just 1 half. The 2nd half is identical. You are free to work them 1 at a time or both at once, side by side on the needle. My grandmother taught me to always knit sleeves at the same time so they are identical, but I confess that don't always comply.

Before you begin the scarf, you will make 12 3-1/2-inch-long I-cords (24, if you are knitting both sides at once). Using 2 double point needles, cast on 4 stitches, move the stitches to the end of the needle so that the 1st stitch you knit is the 1st cast on stitch (i.e. away from the working yarn). K 4 and then slide stitches over to again K the stitch away from the working yarn 1st. Continue knitting in this fashion until piece is about 3-1/2" long. Cut yarn leaving about a 4" tail and place I-cord on needle you will use to knit scarf. Keep doing this 11(23) more times **BUT DO NOT** cut yarn on the 12th I-cord.

Knit across the stitches of the 12 I-cords, decreasing 3 stitches evenly spaced. I prefer working the decreases spanning 2 I-cords. This is a wrong side row.

Bottom Border:

Row 1: K41, SL4.

Row 2: P4 (forming I-cord border). K 37, bring yarn forward, SL4.

Repeat Rows 1 and 2 3X and then Row 1 once more so pattern begins with a wrong side row.

Little Arrow Head Pattern (multiple of 6 stitches plus 1)

Row 1(wrong side): P41, SL4

Row 2: K5, *YO, SSK, K1, K2tog, YO K1, repeat from * to last 4 sts, SL4.

Row 3: Repeat Row 1.

Row 4: K6, *YO, SK2P, YO, K3, repeat from * ending last repeat K2 instead of 3 and SL4.

Rows 5 – 20: Repeat Rows 1 – 4.

Rows 21-28: Repeat Rows 2 and 1 of bottom border, starting with 2 (wrong side).

Work 6 more repeats of pattern ending with row 23, only 3 rows of garter stitch since these rows are half a garter band. Place stitches on holder and work second half.

Finishing: Join halves with Kitchener stitch. If you don't know how to do this grafting method, find a tutorial on YouTube. It is the best way to learn. I know it is available because that is how I learned to Kitchener.

Weave in ends. There are a bunch of ends since each I cord has 2 of them. But one of the wonderful things about I-cord is that it is a tube into which ends can be buried very quickly and easily. Just put tails onto tapestry needle and stick it down through the middle of the I-cord. Way, way quicker than traditional hiding of ends, also way, way more invisible.