

Comfort Shawl Directions

Crochet Instructions

Supplies:

- 4 skeins of Lion Homespun yarn or about 600+ yards of other soft, machine-washable bulky-weight yarn (crocheting may use more yarn than knitting)
- Size M crochet hook

Pattern:

- Chain 54 stitches or desired width of the shawl. Chain 1, turn, single crochet in each of the stitches at the end. Chain 3 and turn. Double crochet in top of each single crochet. Repeat this row two more times.
- Chain 1 and do 1 row of single crochet to end. Chain 3 and turn. Do 3 rows of double crochet. Repeat pattern to end (1 row single, 3 rows double). End with 1 row of single.
- Finish with fringe or crochet chain. With Homespun yarn, it is important to tie a knot at the end of the fringe pieces as this yarn frays badly.

Knit Instructions

Supplies:

- 3 skeins of Lion Homespun yarn, or about 600 yards of other soft, machine-washable bulkyweight yarn (knitting may take less yarn than crocheting)

Most shawls can be knit with three skeins of yarn that are six ounces or 185 yards each. If you prefer a larger shawl, you will need more yarn.

- Size 11 or 13 needles. Size 11 will create a slightly denser shawl and the K3 pattern will be more noticeable. Conversely, size 13 will create a slightly looser, less definable pattern. **Approximate finished sizes, not counting optional fringe, are 26" x 60" on size 11 needles and 30" x 64" on size 13 needles.**

Some knitters prefer circular needles (knit back and forth, not in the round) and some prefer size 15, although they can be harder to hold. The idea is to get a loose, comfortable weave.

Continued

Pattern:

- Cast on 57 or 63 stitches. All rows are knit 3, purl 3 and all rows begin with knit stitches. This means that you will always begin with K3 and end with K3. A weave pattern will develop.
- Any odd multiple of three will work for your shawl, depending on how wide you want to make it: 57, 63, 69, 75, 81 and so on. Follow this pattern until you achieve the desired length. You may also decide to knit every row in a garter stitch.
- You can finish the shawl by crocheting an edging or making fringe (optional). If you want to add fringe, knit about 2 2/3 skeins, then use the rest of the yarn for fringe. Because the fringe is doubled when you fasten it to the shawl, you must cut the fringe twice the desired length. For 6” fringe, each strand must be 12” long. For 12” fringe, cut pieces 24” and so on. For standard fringe, cut as many lengths as you have stitches on your needles. Reserve fringe until you have finished knitting the shawl.
- Finish the shawl. Attach the inside end of the yarn to your shawl and continue knitting until all the yarn is used up, or until you have achieved the desired length.
- Attach the fringe. Double the yarn and, using a small crochet hook, pull the loop through the stitch; insert the ends of the fringe through the loop and pull tight, creating a knot.
- Knot the ends of the fringe. With Homespun yarn, it is important to tie a knot at the end of the fringe pieces as this yarn frays badly.

Lap Blanket (an alternative to a shawl): Cast on 87 stitches. This will give you a blanket that is approximately 45” wide. You may want to use four skeins for this project.

**Completed comfort shawls and lap blankets can be delivered to
Agrace, 5395 E. Cheryl Parkway, Madison.**

**Please call (608) 276-4660 if you have any questions about making
or donating a comfort shawl.**