

pathways forward

by kennedy berry



finished dimensions

18" wide x 86" long, after finishing & excluding fringe.

yarn - weft

Lang Lace

(58% Superkid Mohair, 42% Silk; 310 m / 25 g)

1 ball each in colors 50 (Color A), 28 (Color B),
133 (Color C), 74 (Color D), & 33 (Color E)

yarn - warp

naturally HCW Camelback Lace

(50% Baby Camel, 50% Silk; 875 yds / 100 g)

1 skein

equipment

rigid heddle loom 20" or wider*

12 dent heddle

stick shuttle

*see notes to adjust for smaller looms

sett

12 epi x 10 ppi

notions

tapestry needle for hemstitching, waste yarn.

The comforting simplicity of plain weave can offer infinite design possibilities. By using multiple strands of a lace weight yarn together in the weft, this classic scarf or shawl elevates a simple weave with a stylish ombre effect.

In this version, a brushed mohair yarn is used to add a soft halo and delicate hand.

Special considerations for working with mohair

Because this yarn is so lightweight, measuring it out by weight can be tricky. It helps to have a more sensitive scale (one that measures down to 0.1 or 0.01 grams) but I would also suggest being a bit more lenient with your weaving measurements. The sample scarf had some sections that were 5" wide and others that were 8" wide. The measurements were averaged for the instructions, but if you're off by a bit don't stress about it!

Mohair is a very delicate yarn so be sure you are beating gently - it's very easy to over-pack the yarn which will leave you with a dense fabric and not enough yardage.

Finishing is very important! Although it may seem counter-intuitive to aggressively wash such a delicate fiber, the stability of the fabric comes from the mohair lightly felting to itself. Once you are finished weaving, finish the scarf in very hot water with a bit of a no rinse wash such as eucalan or a splash of white vinegar.

Massage the fabric aggressively in the water, then remove and squeeze out as much as possible.

Holding the fabric in a bundle, throw the mass of the scarf forcefully against a countertop or table for several minutes to encourage the fibers to stick to one another. You will know you are done when you can gently pinch your fingers on either

side of the fabric and run them up and down without the weft threads shifting.

Allow the shawl to finish drying laid flat.

If desired you can give it a fluff once dry or very nearly dry for 1-2 minutes in the dryer on it's lowest setting with some towels to bring out the halo of the mohair. Be sure to watch it carefully if you do so!

Resizing to a narrower width

Because the mohair is so light, you will be working with very small amounts of yarn by weight if you go with a 10" wide scarf.

As a less fiddly alternative, you can use just 3 colors in your weft instead of 5 and divide the yarn using the same measurements as for the larger shawl. You would then be weaving sections 10 - 16" wide instead of 5-8" wide.

directions

Warp your loom 3 yds long to the desired width wide.

*see notes regarding width.

Weave 1-2" of waste yarn before beginning to weave with 3 strands of Color A. Continue weaving in plain weave following the diagram below.

You will be weaving with 3 strands of yarn throughout the piece.

For the two end sections, you will need approximately 4g of yarn per strand. This will give you 10-11" of weaving.

For the middle sections you will need approximately 2.5g of yarn per strand, per section. This gives you 5-8" of woven fabric for the center sections.

To figure out how much yarn to wind onto your shuttle, you can hand wind off one ball for each section and use this as a guide for winding onto your stick shuttle.

Holding one strand from this ball and one each from either the inside & outside of the remainder ball (for a single color section) or with strands from two other balls of yarn (for a blended color section), wind all three together onto your shuttle, stopping when the premeasured ball runs out of yarn.

Work in plain weave until you have used a shuttle's worth of yarn, or until you have woven the length shown in the diagram below before switching to the next color combination.

Once all sections are complete, weave again with waste yarn for 1-2" and cut shawl from the loom.

hemstitching

Using a strand of your warp yarn, work a single hemstitch along both edges of the weaving, working over 4 ends and 3 picks. Tuck the beginning and end of this strand in with the fringe.

finishing

**see finishing notes on previous page for more information.*

Handwash finished piece and blot with a towel. Once just damp, run through the dryer on low/air fluff for 1-5 minutes to lightly full. Press with an iron and trim fringe even.

