

SCARFY THING

BY BEATA JEZEK



This is not a knitting pattern, more a recipe for a creative endeavour. A collection of tips. The piece is a truly improvised effort and even if I could write a row by row pattern, it would be perhaps more of a hindrance to the creative process. Arm yourself with 2 full skeins in similar colours and a bunch of Sock Minis or sock yarn scraps in contrasting colours. Gather a nice selection for yourself. My rule of thumb for multicoloured garments is to use all the colours of the rainbow - but eliminate at least one. Following this simple rule you'll avoid looking like a circus rainbow. Here, I didn't use any green.

Shown in Hedgehog Fibres Sock Yarn: 400m per 100g. One skein of Zephyr and one skein of Bramble.

In addition to these two skeins I used 11 Hedgehog Fibres Sock Minis, in the following colourways:

Teacup, Typewriter, Genie, Boombox, Jelly, Spell, Highlighter, Glacier, Coral, Ink, Graphite.

I encourage you to use up your leftovers and partial skeins!



THE RECIPE TIPS & TRICKS

Needle: 3.5mm, circular would be better for manoeuvring stitches more easily. If you are a tight knitter, go up a needle size. A nice drape is desired.

Gauge: 24 stitches x 17 ridges (36 rows), after blocking. This is to ensure your Scarfy Thing ends up a similar size to mine.

Knit all stitches to create garter stitch fabric.

Slip all first stitches purlwise with yarn in front to create a chain-like selvedge.

When picking up selvedge stitches, pick up all of them (1 stitch per 2 garter rows).

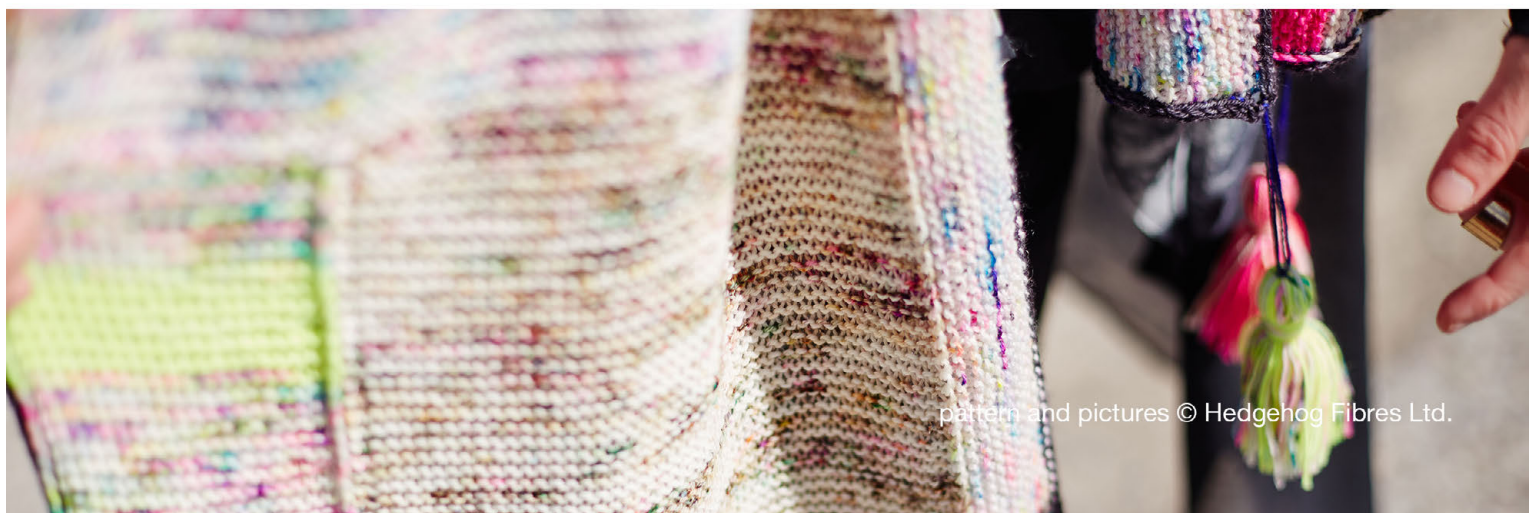
All pops of colour are 6 ridges wide (=12 rows). You can change the width but keeping it consistent will give the project a tidy look. Always start a new colour on RS.

Zephyr and Bramble (the full skeins) are used as the main colours, **Minis** mostly for colour pops. Some sections use a lighter coloured Mini as the main colour (Teacup, Genie, Boombox, Typewriter).

Splice all ends where possible to avoid weaving in a billion ends at the end. Hedgehog Fibres Sock Yarn splices just fine. I splice a few stitches before the desired colour change (few stitches before the end of the row on WS. You won't get the colours perfectly aligned at the beginning of the row, but it won't be evident in the overall look. For me, that's preferable to sewing in ends. You might prefer a different method, go with that.)

Cable cast on: Insert the needle between the last two stitches, wrap and bring through. Transfer the newly created stitch onto the left hand needle. I like to use a crochet hook for this. Tutorials are available online, for example this one:

<http://www.knittinghelp.com/video/play/cable-cast-on-english>





Don't cast off any stitches. Keep all stitches live on (a lot of) stitch holders or waste yarn to pick up for the next section. When a section reaches the edges of the scarf instead of binding off put the stitches onto a waste yarn again. We will be picking up and casting off in i-cord all around the scarf, not binding off makes for a stretchier edge.

I attached all sections to their neighbours by the **join as you go method**. On the WS: SSK the first stitch together with a selvedge stitch from the section you are attaching to. (The slipped chain-like stitches are the selvedge stitches.) Knit all RS stitches when attaching a section. Depending on which side you are attaching on, left or right, you might need to knit the last stitch together with the selvedge stitch, in this case K2TOG might work better. We want a nice chain of stitches on the WS.

Like in this video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JIR4DqPE4P4> but I prefer to ssk/k2tog on WS for garter stitch, it looks neater.

If you follow the instructions for the first rectangle (Cast on 23 stitches, knit 55 ridges, changing colours if preferable) your shawl should end up approximately the same size as mine. If you feel it's not wide enough, add more sections. Similarly, you can eliminate some to make it more narrow.

Once you are happy with your size and you have a rectangle-ish scarf, pick up all around the edges (lot of the stitches will be live on waste yarn) using black, or other contrasting colour.

Cast off immediately using **i-cord cast off**, great instructions here <http://www.craftsy.com/blog/2013/10/i-cord-bind-off-tutorial/>.

The cast off only used one Hedgehog Fibres Sock Mini in Graphite. Make tassels out of leftover yarn.

Happy Knitting!

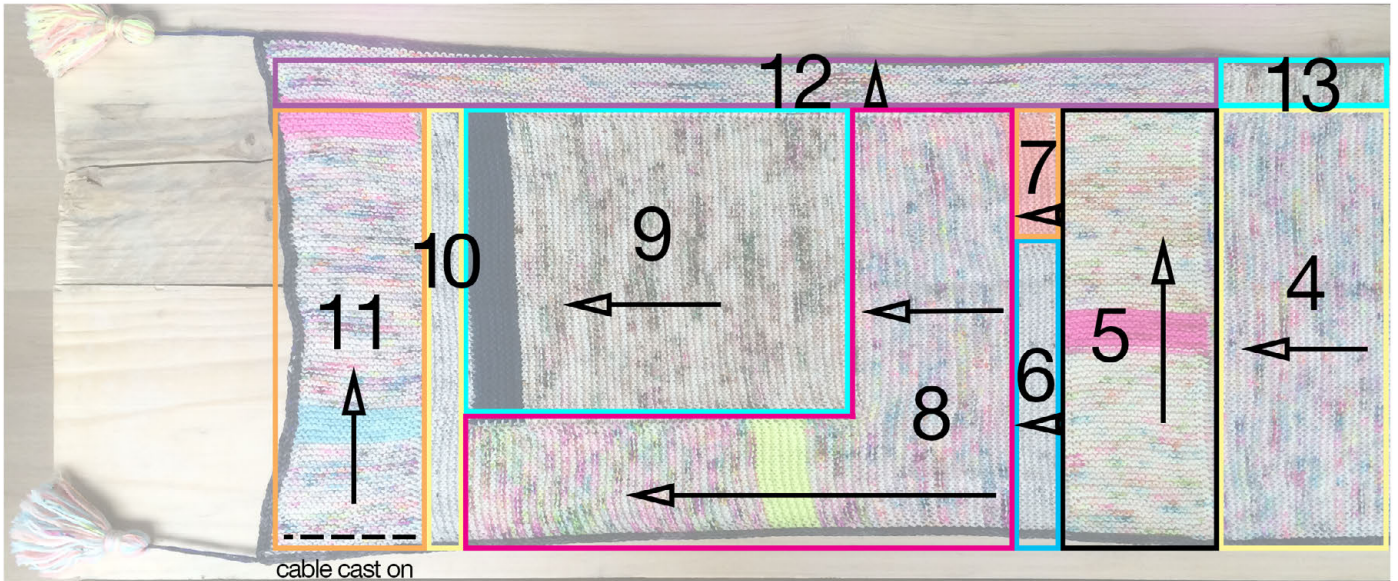
PS: If in doubt, improvise and add another colour. Then add one more colour :)



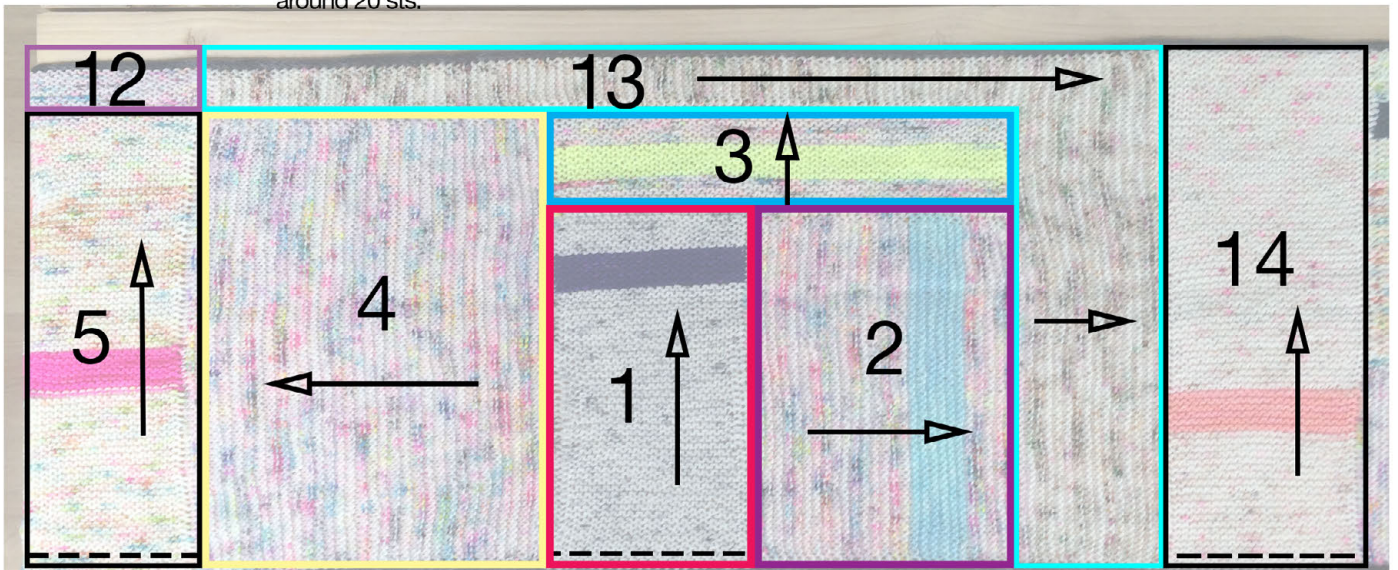
Bird's eye view and colour position



Sections diagram



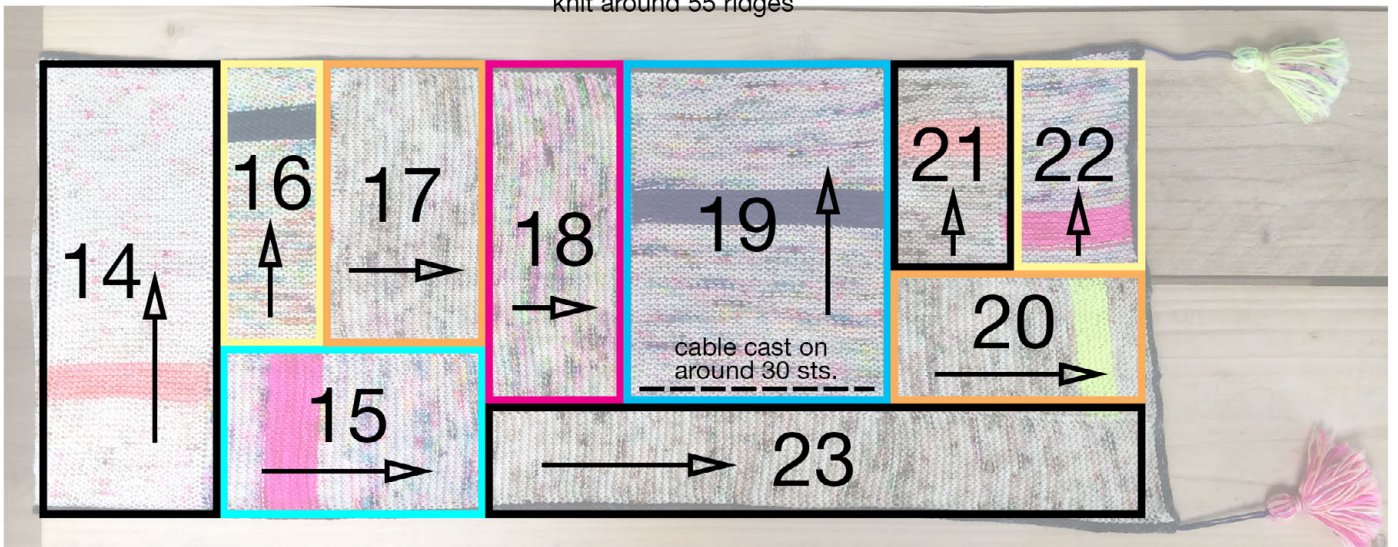
cable cast on
around 20 sts.



cable cast on
around 20 sts.

START HERE
cast on around 23 sts.
knit around 55 ridges

cable cast on
around 25 sts.



cable cast on
around 30 sts.