This pattern is just a big rectangle, so you can work it in any yarn and in any stitch pattern. Here is a chance to showcase an unusual yarn—a luxurious hand-dyed wool or a novelty yarn like ribbon or tape. With no shaping to keep track of, you have the freedom to explore something out of the ordinary.

The shawl is knit from one side edge to the other. Instructions are given for six gauges in three stitch patterns, but these are just general guidelines. You can play around with needle size and the final size of the shawl to get the look you want.

### Specifications

**DIMENSIONS**

Approximately 52 inches wide × 18 inches from hem to neck

**MATERIALS**

Desired yarn, in the amount specified in Table 3

*Note: The gauge in Table 3 refers to the yarn’s gauge as listed on the manufacturer’s ball band. To encourage drape, use needles larger than the yarn label calls for and don’t worry about achieving the yarn’s recommended gauge.*

1 pair straight needles in size needed to obtain drape

*Note: You may find it easiest to work back and forth on a long circular needle as the shawl gets larger and heavier.*

Tapestry needle

Pom pom maker (optional)

2-inch × 3-inch cardboard for tassel (optional)

Crochet hook to suit your yarn thickness (optional)

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE
NOTES ON THE SAMPLE

The lavender peacock stitch rectangular shawl is worked in Cascade Yarn Venezia (Color #103, 70% merino wool/30% silk, 102 yd./100g ball, 3 sts per inch) on size 11 (8mm) needles.

TIP

Border or No Border?
Many stitch patterns work beautifully without edgings. You can always crochet or knit a border onto the shawl later if you change your mind. If you want to knit a shawl without a knit-in border, it’s a good idea to use a stitch pattern that lays flat.

On the other hand, knitting the border right into the shawl allows you more freedom in choosing a stitch pattern—without the bother of added finishing later. Garter stitch, seed stitch, ribbing, and even loop stitch are all good border stitch choices.
Scarves and Shawls [chapter 2]

**Stitch Patterns for the Rectangular Shawl with No Border**

**GARTER RIB PATTERN (MULT OF 4 STS PLUS 2)**
This stitch pattern does not look like most ribbing. It’s very easy to do, and it looks the same on both sides.

1. **Row 1 (RS):** K2, \*p2, k2; rep from \* to end of row.
3. **Rep rows 1 and 2 for garter rib.**

**PILLARED KNOT STITCH (MULT OF 4 STS PLUS 1)**
This beautiful stitch pattern can get very tight, so if you want your shawl to hang nicely, use a soft yarn on a bigger needle than specified.

1. **Row 1 (RS):** K1, \*[p3tog, without slipping stitches from the left needle, bring yarn to back and knit the same 3 stitches together without slipping stitches from the left needle, bring yarn to the front and purl the 3 stitches together], k1; rep from \* to end of row.
2. **Row 2 (WS):** Purl.
3. **Rep rows 1 and 2 for pillared knot stitch.**

**SEAFOAM PATTERN (MULT OF 10 STS PLUS 6)**
This drop stitch pattern works beautifully as a lightweight summer wrap.

1. **Row 1 (RS):** Knit.
2. **Row 2 (WS):** Knit.
3. **Row 3:** K6, \*yo twice, k1, yo 3 times, k1, yo 4 times, k1, yo 3 times, k1, yo twice, k6; rep from \* to end of row.
4. **Rows 4 and 8:** Knit across, dropping the yo loops as you go.
5. **Rows 5 and 6:** Knit.
6. **Row 7:** K1, \*yo twice, k1, yo 3 times, k1, yo 4 times, k1, yo 3 times, k1, yo twice, k6; rep from \* across, ending last rep with k1.
7. **Rep rows 1–8 for seafoam pattern.**

*CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE*
STOCKINETTE DROP STITCH (ANY NO. OF STS)
This pattern is easy and looks very elegant. Use this stitch pattern with a knit-in border.
1  Rows 1 and 5 (RS): Knit.
2  Rows 2 and 6 (WS): Purl.
3  Row 3: K1, *yo twice, k1; rep from * to end of row.
4  Row 4: Purl across, dropping the yo loops as you go.
5  Rep rows 1–6 for stockinette drop stitch.

RIDGE AND EYELET STITCH (EVEN NO. OF STS)
This eyelet pattern forms a simple yet pleasing three-dimensional fabric. The rows between the eyelets are raised, creating a wavy effect.
1  Rows 1 and 5 (RS): K1, *k2tog; rep from * to last st, k1.
2  Row 2 (WS): K2, *yo, k1; rep from * to end of row.
3  Rows 3 and 7: Knit.
4  Rows 4 and 8: Purl.
5  Row 6: K1, *yo, k1; rep from * to last st, k1.
6  Rep rows 1–8 for ridge and eyelet stitch.

PEACOCK STITCH (MULT OF 12 STS)
This easy stitch pattern produces an undulating fabric. Use this stitch pattern with a knit-in border.
1  Row 1 (RS): P2tog twice, [yo, k1] 4 times, *p2tog 4 times, [yo, k1] 4 times; rep from * to last 4 sts, p2tog twice.
2  Rows 2 and 4: Purl.
3  Row 3: Knit.
4  Rep rows 1–4 for peacock stitch.
RECTANGULAR SHAWL WITH NO BORDER:
CAST ON
1. CO sts according to Table 4.
2. Beg with row 1, work in chosen stitch pattern until shawl measures approx 52 inches, or width desired. End with any row for garter rib, row 1 for pillared knot, and row 2 or 6 for seafoam pattern.
3. BO sts in patt for garter rib, purlwise for pillared knot stitch, and knitwise for seafoam patt.
4. Cut yarn, leaving a 6-inch tail. Pull tail through last st and secure.
5. Go to “Finish Shawl: All Rectangular Shawls,” page 22.

Table 4. Cast On for Rectangular Shawl with No Border

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gauge (in Stockinette Stitch)</th>
<th>No. of Sts to CO for Garter Rib</th>
<th>No. of Sts to CO for Pillared Knot St</th>
<th>No. of Sts to CO for Seafoam Pattern</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 sts/in.</td>
<td>34 sts</td>
<td>33 sts</td>
<td>36 sts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 sts/in.</td>
<td>54 sts</td>
<td>53 sts</td>
<td>56 sts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 sts/in.</td>
<td>74 sts</td>
<td>73 sts</td>
<td>76 sts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 sts/in.</td>
<td>90 sts</td>
<td>89 sts</td>
<td>86 or 96 sts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 sts/in.</td>
<td>110 sts</td>
<td>109 sts</td>
<td>106 sts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 sts/in.</td>
<td>126 sts</td>
<td>125 sts</td>
<td>126 sts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FAQ**

**How do I use a different stitch for a rectangular shawl with no border?**

Just add or subtract a few stitches to come up with a cast-on number that works for your stitch pattern. For instance, for a stitch pattern that is a multiple of 5 sts, change the cast-on number above to the closest multiple of 5.

For example, to make a rectangular shawl using the diagonal check pattern shown at a gauge of 4 stitches per inch, cast on 75 stitches and work as follows:

1. Rows 1 and 4: *P1, k4; rep from * to end of row.
2. Rows 2 and 3: *P3, k2; rep from * to end of row.
3. Rows 5 and 8: *K1, p4; rep from * to end of row.
4. Rows 6 and 7: *K3, p2; rep from * to end of row.
5. Rep rows 1–8 for diagonal check pattern.
**Rectangular Shawl: Master Pattern (continued)**

**RECTANGULAR SHAWL WITH KNIT-IN BORDER: CAST ON**

You can work any of the three stitch patterns provided on page 20 for this shawl. Or you can substitute a stitch pattern that is a multiple of 2, 3, 4, 6, or 12 sts. Just be aware that the first and last 2 sts of every row are knit to form the garter stitch edging. The first and last two rows of the shawl are also worked in garter stitch.

1. CO sts according to Table 5.
2. Knit 2 rows.
3. *Next row (RS): K2, work row 1 of st patt across to last 2 sts, k2.*
5. Continue working st patt as established, knitting first and last 2 sts of every row for garter stitch for border, until shawl measures approx 52 inches, or width desired. End with row 6 for stockinette drop stitch pattern, any WS row for ridge and eyelet stitch, and row 1 for peacock stitch.
6. Knit 2 rows.
7. BO all sts knitwise.

**FINISH SHAWL: ALL RECTANGULAR SHAWLS**

1. Weave in loose ends.
2. Lightly steam to block to measurements, if necessary and if your yarn’s care instructions allow. Take care not to mash delicate stitch work.
3. Embellish with fringe, pompoms, tassels, or edging of your choice, if desired. See Appendix A for a few ideas.

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**FAQ**

*How do I use a different stitch for a rectangular shawl with a knit-in border?*

To apply any stitch pattern to this shawl, you just need to add or subtract the appropriate number of stitches to or from the cast-on number. For example, to use a stitch pattern that is a multiple of 5 sts, you can change the cast-on number indicated above to the closest multiple of 5. To include a 2-stitch border like the one here, add 4 sts to that number. A difference of a few stitches won’t make a big difference in the finished size. You can also experiment with the size of and stitch used for the border.

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**Table 5. Cast On for Rectangular Shawl with Knit-in Border**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gauge</th>
<th>No. of Sts to CO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2 sts/in.</td>
<td>40 sts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 sts/in.</td>
<td>52 sts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 sts/in.</td>
<td>76 sts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 sts/in.</td>
<td>88 sts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 sts/in.</td>
<td>112 sts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 sts/in.</td>
<td>124 sts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: The cast-on numbers in Table 5 include the 2 edging stitches at each end (4 sts total). If you are substituting a different stitch pattern from those provided, be sure to add 4 to the number of sts needed to arrive at the new cast-on number.*