

Rainbow Scarf

By MakerKnit.com

I designed this scarf for a little girl who loves rainbows. It is a very easy project because it's made entirely in garter stitch, meaning all knitting, no purling. And if you choose to make it a fringed scarf, as I did, there are no ends to weave in. (If you don't prefer fringe, there's just minimal finishing.)

In addition, this pattern would work equally well with a different color palette. Not a fan of rainbows or primary colors? Soften the look with pastels or choose six shades of your favorite color and create a beautiful ombré scarf.

YARN

Cascade 220 Superwash (100% superwash wool; 220 yds/100 g), 1 ball each of #809 Really Red, #825 Orange, #820 Lemon, #850 Lime Sherbet, #814 Hyacinth, and #804 Amethyst.

NEEDLES & NOTIONS

US 7 (4.5 mm) needles.

Fringed version only: crochet hook, any size.

No-fringe version only: darning needle to finish.

GAUGE

Approx 4.5 sts and 10 rows = 1" in Garter St.

FINISHED SIZE

Approx 3.5" wide and 42" long without fringe or 52" long with fringe. (I chose to add 5" of fringe at each end, which adds 10" to the scarf's overall length.)



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NOTES

This scarf is knit lengthwise, so you'll cast on many stitches and each row will be long. However, the upside (other than your scarf having the shape of an actual rainbow when draped around your neck) is that you'll only knit a few rows in each color, so the work will go quickly.

If you want to include fringe on your scarf, as shown in the photos, make sure to leave yourself an adequate tail of yarn both when you're joining a new color and when you cut the yarn at the end of each color's section. The length of each tail should be 1" longer than however long you want your fringe to be. I chose to make 5" fringe, so I left myself 6" tails when joining a new color and when cutting the old color.

INSTRUCTIONS

NOTE: These instructions are for a fringed scarf, having 5" fringe when finished. Adjust your tail length as necessary (see **NOTES** section, above).

With red, CO 195 sts using the long-tail method and making sure to leave yourself a 6" tail. K for 4 rows. Cut red yarn leaving a 6" tail.

Change to orange, leaving yourself a 6" tail when joining orange yarn, and k for 6 rows. Cut orange yarn leaving a 6" tail.

Change to yellow, leaving yourself a 6" tail when joining yellow yarn, and k for 6 rows. Cut yellow yarn leaving a 6" tail.

Change to green, leaving yourself a 6" tail when joining green yarn, and k for 6 rows. Cut green yarn leaving a 6" tail.

Change to blue, leaving yourself a 6" tail when joining blue yarn, and k for 6 rows. Cut blue yarn leaving a 6" tail.

Change to purple, leaving yourself a 6" tail when joining purple yarn, and k for only 5 rows. BO kwise loosely. Cut purple yarn leaving a 6" tail.

FINISHING

If you're making a no-fringe scarf, just weave in the tails using a darning needle. If you want fringe, use the yarn tails as part of your fringe, adding strands of yarn to make as much fringe as you find visually pleasing. I wanted "full" fringe, so for each end of my scarf I cut 4 strands of yarn per color and attached them in sets of 2 (see photo below).



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One end of my scarf had 2 additional strands of fringe per color due to the yarn tails from starting and ending each color. Thus, there were 8 strands of fringe per color on one end, while the other end had 10 strands for each color. This asymmetry did not bother me and I didn't find it ultra-obvious visually, but you can always adjust the number of strands of yarn you attach for fringe if you feel otherwise.



I chose to attach traditional fringe (as opposed to knotted fringe) and wanted my finished fringe to be about 5" long.

Instructions for Making Fringe

To make traditional fringe, first cut strands of yarn an inch longer than two times the length of fringe you want. Since I wanted 5" fringe, I cut strands 11" long ($5" \times 2 = 10" + 1" = 11"$).

Next, fold the strands in half and use a crochet hook positioned at the fold to pull the strands an inch or so through your knitted fabric from front to back. I chose to attach 2 strands at a time, in two places along each color (see photo above).

NOTE: Since this scarf looks the same on both sides, you'll have to decide which side is the "front" and which is the "back." It doesn't make a difference which side you choose to be the front, but just be consistent when attaching your fringe so it will look the same across your scarf and hang evenly.

Once you have pulled your folded strands about an inch through your scarf, you should have a small loop sticking out the back of your scarf and the loose strands hanging out from the front side.

Finally, pull the loose strands through the loop and tug gently until the loop is tight against the knitted fabric, thereby securing your fringe.

Repeat this process for each color.

When all the fringe has been attached, trim it to your desired length a few strands at a time, remeasuring often to make sure you're cutting evenly across the strands.

ABBREVIATIONS

| | | | | | |
|--------|---------------|-------|-------------------------|-------|---------------|
| approx | approximately | g | gram(s) | mm | millimeter(s) |
| BO | bind off | k | knit | st(s) | stitch(es) |
| CO | cast on | kwise | knitwise, as if to knit | yd(s) | yard(s) |



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