



Scrape the Sky

When my sister asked me to make her some grey and black scarves and shawls to wear at work, I knew I wanted to start with something quick to knit but not boring. This scarf is made in one long piece with stockinette stitch and an open mesh pattern with a one-row repeat. To keep myself from getting bored, I changed the number of rows to repeat in each section, then I changed to the contrasting color and went back to shorter repeats for a little surprise at the end. I thought the scarf needed an extra little pizzazz, so I picked up down one long end and added a black border. When I was blocking this, I couldn't help but think of the skyscrapers in New York City, where my grandparents lived and my parents grew up. When I first moved away from New York in my twenties, it always felt dirty and grey when I returned. Last time I was in "the city," in 2011, that feeling was gone. Everything had brightened up, people were smiling, the sky was blue, there were green trees and red and yellow flowers in parks, and even Times Square had a pedestrian plaza! The only thing that was still the same were the tall, silver and grey skyscrapers.

experience level

easy

Approx 350 yds/320m of fingering weight wool yarn in each of 2 colors, 700 yds/640m total

MC: Lost City Knits PathWays Merino Sock Yarn (100% super wash merino, 385 yds/352m per 100g skein), 1 skein in grey

CC: Miss Babs Yummy 2-ply (100% super wash merino, 400 yds/365m per 115g skein), 1 skein in black

needles

Size 8 US (5mm) circular needle, at least 24 in/60cm long

Tapestry needle

Size

12 inches wide by 48 inches long, blocked

Gauge

18 sts and 22 sts per inch over St st, blocked

Pattern Stitches

Stockinette Stitch (St st)
Knit RS rows, purl WS rows.

Open Mesh

(multiple of 4)

Every Row: K4, (yo, k2tog-tbl, k2) across.

Instructions

With MC, CO 44 sts very loosely.
Beg with WS row, work 3 rows in St st.

Work 6 rows in Open Mesh.

Work 6 rows in St st.

Work 8 rows in Open Mesh.

Work 8 rows in St st.

Continue in this fashion, working 2 more rows in each section St st and Open Mesh, until you have worked 24 rows in Open Mesh, or until you have 10 yards of yarn remaining if you want a longer scarf.

Work 3 rows in St st.

Bottom Edge

Change to CC.

Work 3 rows in St st.

(Work 6 rows in Open Mesh. Work 6 rows in St st) twice.

Work 6 rows in Open Mesh.

Work 4 rows in St st.

Next row (RS): BO loosely. Keep last st on right needle. Do not cut yarn.

Side Edge

With RS facing, pick up and knit 1 st in every other row down the edge of the scarf, fudging so you have a multiple of 4.

K 3 rows.

Work 6 rows in Open Mesh, or more for a wider scarf or a stole.

K 3 rows.

BO loosely.

Finishing

Weave in ends. Wash and dry flat to block.



Useful Abbreviations

approx ■ approximately

beg ■ begin(ning)

BO ■ bind off (cast off)

CC ■ contrasting color

cn ■ cable needle

CO ■ cast on

cont ■ continue

dec ■ decrease(ing)

dpn(s) ■

double-pointed needle(s)

inc ■ increase(ing)

k ■ knit

k2tog ■ knit 2 stitches together

MC ■ main color

M1 ■ make one stitch

p ■ purl

p2tog ■ purl 2 stitches together

pm ■ place marker

psso ■

pass slipped stitch(es) over

rem ■ remain(ing)

rep ■ repeat

rev ■ reverse

RS ■ right side(s)

rnd(s) ■ round(s)

ssk ■ slip-slip-knit

sl ■ slip

st(s) ■ stitch(es)

St st ■

stockinette (stocking) stitch

tog ■ together

WS ■ wrong side(s)

yo ■ yarn over

