Petals Scarf

On a visit to New York Sheep and Wool, my Mother-In-Law described a scarf her grandmother used to make frequently and asked if I could figure out how to duplicate it. To aid the description, she sketched me a schematic. This scarf is reversible and quick to knit. It is also easily adaptable to various gauges and sizes and as it uses very little yarn is ideal to use up odds and ends and leftover balls of yarn from other projects.

Difficulty: This pattern is suitable for beginners. The stitches used are knit, purl, yarn over, slip stitch and knit two together.

Yarn: 50 grams of sport weight yarn. (Approximately 1 ball or less of most yarns.) You can use just about any yarn for this project, but if you use a thinner or thicker yarn you will need to adjust the number of stitches to make the scarf the desired width. The instructions below were written for a sport weight yarn.

Needles: US 8 (5 mm). Or whichever needles best suit your yarn choice.

Other supplies: Darning needle. You will also need 2 stitch holders or spare needles. The spare needles needn't be the exact same size as your working needles. You can use waste yarn to hold the stitches, but you will find it easier to use something rigid you can knit from.

Gauge: 5 stitches and 8 rows per inch over garter stitch. (Gauge is adaptable in this pattern.)

Pattern notes: This scarf has an eyelet border. To avoid this, either knit the YO stitches through the back loop or replace the YO with the increase stitch of your choice.

Glossary:
Sts: stitches
K: knit
K 2 tog: Knit two stitches together
YO: yarn over (bring yarn to front of work and lay it over the right needle so it hangs in back again.)

Petals Scarf

Slip purlwise: using the right needle, insert tip into the stitch as if you were purling, but instead of knitting the stitch, simply move it to the right needle unworked. Slipping it purlwise as opposed to knitwise prevents the stitch from twisting.

Pattern:
Cast on 3 stitches

Increase rows:
K1, YO, K to end. Repeat this row until there are 28 stitches total (if using thinner yarn, continue to increase until scarf is about 5.5-6 inches wide) and then knit straight rows.

Straight rows:
K1, YO, K 2 tog, K to end. Repeat this row for about 20 rows (or 3 inches)

Ribbed slot:
K1, slip one stitch purl wise to the spare needle. Repeat to end. It doesn't matter if you hold the spare needle in the front or the back, whichever is more convenient for you. When the row is finished, you will have half the stitches on the working needle and half on a spare, alternately. Ignoring the stitches on the spare needle for now, turn your work and begin ribbing.
K1, P1 to end. Repeat this row for 14 rows (approximately 2"), then break yarn. Either push these stitches to the far end of your working needle and ignore them or put them on the spare needle/stitch holder while you work the other side.
Rejoin yarn to spare needle and *K1, P1* to end of row. Set spare needle or stitch holder aside and continue with working needles. Repeat for 14 rows (or however many rows you just ribbed for the other side.)
Hold the two needles with ribbing attached to them parallel and *K1 from front needle, K1 from back needle* across row. You will have joined the two separate pieces of ribbing once more.

Body of scarf:
Continue Straight rows until the scarf fits comfortably around the neck, plus 2" (to fit through slot) and then begin decrease rows.

Decrease rows:
K1, YO, K2 tog, Knit to last 4 sts (one of these sts is the YO from the previous row), K2 tog, K2 repeat to end of row. Repeat decrease rows until 3 sts remain, bind off stitches.

Petals Scarf

Finishing:

Weave in ends and steam block. The YO stitches at the beginning of each row have made an eyelet border which shows best when lightly blocked. Garter stitch is fairly stretchy, so to prevent the scarf from growing out of proportion, do not stretch it tightly while it's wet. Avoid stretching the ribbing slot at all. To wear, place scarf around the neck and thread the long pointed end through the slot.