

Knitting a Scarf

FOR
DUMMIES[®]

in a
day

Pam Allen, Tracy L. Barr,
Shannon Okey, and Kristi Porter

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In A Day***
FOR
DUMMIES®

**by Pam Allen, Tracy L. Barr,
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Introduction

These days, everyone seems to be knitting: movie stars, football players, doctors, and lawyers, not to mention grandmothers. They've discovered what all knitters know or find out soon after getting into the groove of knitting: that knitting does more than just provide you with warm and cozy things to wear. Knitting stirs creativity, gives you an ongoing sense of purpose, teaches patience, and soothes the soul. Don't believe us? Try it!

When you look at the amazing creations coming off of knitters' needles, don't be intimidated by the size or intricacies of their projects. We'd bet our yarn stash that every single one of these knitters made a basic scarf or two when they were starting out. Making a scarf is the ideal place for you to start, too, and this book will help guide the way.

What You Can Do In A Day

The purpose of *Knitting a Scarf In A Day For Dummies* is to put all the basic information about knitting into one easy-to-read and easy-to-follow book. Then you can apply your knowledge and create a lovely scarf.

You may be able to read this book in just a few hours, but expect to spend some time practicing the different stitches we feature. After you have the hang of the stitches, you can spend a few hours knitting up your scarf. We expect that you'll use this book both as a beginner's knitting reference (use it to decipher abbreviations, get a grip on gauge, and figure out how to fix mistakes) and as a resource for the three scarf patterns we include.

Conventions Used in This Book

To help you navigate through this book and easily follow the project and pattern instructions, we set up a few conventions:

- ✔ General processes are presented in step format, with the main instruction in boldface and any explanatory information in regular type below it.
- ✔ Knitted instructions appear in the format common to many knitting books, using common abbreviations. They look something like this:

Cast on 26 sts.

Row 1 (RS): * K2, p2; rep from * to end of row.

Row 2 (WS): * P2, k2; rep from * to end of row.

Rep Rows 1 and 2.

We use this format for two reasons: First, it's the instruction format you'll find in most other knitting books, magazines, and individual patterns. Second, it saves space. For an explanation of the abbreviations, go to Chapter 2.

- ✔ To indicate the needle you carry in your left hand, we use the abbreviation LH. To indicate the needle in your right hand (the one on which you make stitches), we use RH.
- ✔ Most patterns in this book call for worsted-weight yarn. Because companies frequently change their yarn lineups from season to season, you may not be able to find the exact yarn or colorway (combination of colors) shown in a pattern in your local yarn store, and that's okay. You can substitute almost any other worsted-weight yarn in the patterns shown in this book that list it in the directions. Ask the friendly staff at your local yarn store for help in finding a suitable substitute.

We've included a photo at the beginning of Chapter 5 that shows you what each finished scarf should look like. Two of the scarves require a technique beyond the basics that we explain in Chapters 1 through 4, so we give you the how-to in the "New skill" section of the patterns. We also give you the materials and vital statistics needed for the project right up front; look there to find information regarding the size of the finished project, the materials you need to complete it, and the gauge you need to knit at.