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Ebb Tide in Moonlight

by Kathy French



On moonlit nights in San Diego, the moon lights up the white foam on waves as they break—beauty that is so commonly seen on San Diego beaches that we may take it for granted. This crescent scarf reminds me to appreciate how beautiful our ocean is. It is primarily a garter stitch project, but it offers the adventurous beginner or more advanced knitter an opportunity to do a little lace knitting and to learn one approach to short-row shaping.

Size: 70" long and 15" in depth at its widest point

Materials and equipment:

3 skeins of *Mirasol Sulka Legato* (60% wool, 20% alpaca, 20% silk; 274 yards per skein) in 3 different colors. I used #31 Cornflower (MC1), #16 Denim (MC2), and #25 Snow (CC).

OPTIONAL: 1 ball of *Filaturo di Crosta Night* (65% viscose, 35% polyester; 314 yards) I used #201 (silver).

1 32" US size 5 circular needle (or size to obtain gauge)

3 stitch markers

Gauge: 11 stitches/2 inches in garter stitch

Techniques: garter stitch, short-row shaping, simple eyelet lace, feather-and-fan lace

Terms and abbreviations

k Knit

k2tog Knit two together, a decrease that leans right.

m1L Make one left. There's a very good description of this stitch at

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nkOwLvcG7m8>

m1R Make one right. There is also a good description of this stitch at

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nkOwLvcG7m8>

p Purl.

pm Place a marker.

rm Remove marker.

RS Right side, i.e. the side you want to face outward when you are wearing the scarf.

slm Slip marker from left needle to right needle.

sl1 k2tog pssso Slip 1 stitch, k 2 stitches together, and pass the slipped stitch over the stitch formed when you knit the 2 stitches together.

ssk Slip, slip, knit. There's a good demonstration of this stitch at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MKL5xol22bs>.

w&t Wrap and turn. There is a very good demonstration of this short-row technique at

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IsIRWGp3TkA>

WS Wrong side, i.e., the side you want to face inward when you are wearing the scarf.

yo Yarn over

GAME PLAN (Detailed directions follow)

(1) In this scarf wedge-shaped sections worked in garter stitch alternate with sections knitted in a simple lace pattern. The wedges are shaped by working wrap-and-turn short rows. You can vary the size of the project based on the number of wedge-shaped sections you work. In the sample scarf, the first 3 wedges were worked in one color, and the last two were worked in a different color, but you could do all of the wedges in one color or make every wedge a different color.

(2) EXCEPT IN THE LACE BORDER AT THE BOTTOM OF THE SCARF, EVERY row in the project begins with “k2, m1L” and ends with “m1R, k2 in the last 2 stitches on the needle.”

(3) The last section of the scarf is worked in a classic lace stitch pattern, feather and fan lace. This pattern has a repeat of 18 stitches, so when you are ready to move to this last section, be sure that you have on your needle a number of stitches equal to a multiple of 18 plus the stitches for the edges.

HOW TO KNIT THE SCARF

Cast on 7 stitches using MC1.

First wedge (Rows 1W through 4W)

Row 1W (*RS*) K2, pm, m1L, k3, m1R, pm, k2. (9 stitches)

Row 2W (*WS*) k2, slm, m1L, k to marker, m1R, slm, k2. (11 stitches)

Row 3W (*RS*) k2, slm, m1L, k to marker, m1R, slm, k2.

Row 4 W (*WS*) k2, slm, m1L, k to marker, m1R, slm, k2.

You increase the number of stitches on the needle by 2 stitches on EVERY row. Repeat Rows 3W and 4W until you have 55 stitches on your needle. (That is, repeat these two rows 20 more times.)

Lace insert (Rows 1L through Row 6L--see Options at the end of the pattern for notes on including a sparkling yarn in this section)

Switch to CC. **NOTE:** Rather than cutting the main color, you can carry it along the right edge. A good way to do that is to knit the first stitch of each RS row holding the two yarns together and treating them as one yarn FOR JUST THIS STITCH. Then proceed with the contrasting color.

Row 1L (*RS*) k2, slm, m1L, k to marker, m1R, slm, k2.

Row 2L (*WS*) k2, slm, m1L, k to marker, m1R, slm, k2.

Row 3L (*RS*) k2, slm, m1L, *k3, yo, sl1 k2tog pssso, repeat from * until there are 6 or fewer stitches remaining on the left needle, knit to marker, m1R, slm, k2.

Rows 4L (*WS*) k2, slm, m1L, k to marker, m1R, slm, k2.

Note: In Row 4L, knit the yarn-over strands as though they are knit stitches; this produces a hole—i.e., an eyelet—which is what you want.

Rows 5 L & 6L Repeat rows 1L and 2L. (67 stitches)

At this point, you can break the yarn you used for the lace insert and weave the ends in later, or you can continue to carry both yarns along the right edge of the work as described in the Note above.

Second wedge (the first short-row section)

Return to MC1.

Row 5W (RS) k2, slm, m1L, k to marker, m1R, slm, k2.

Row 6 W (WS) k2, slm, m1L, k to marker, m1R, slm, k2.

Row 7W (RS) Repeat row 5W.

Row 8W (WS) This is the first wrap-and-turn row! All wrap-and-turns are done on the WS: k2, slm, m1L, k10, pm (this will be called the CENTER marker), w&t.

Row 9W (RS) Remember: this will be a SHORT row. Knit to marker, m1R, slm, k2.

Row 10W (WS) k2, slm, m1L, k to center marker, slm, k to marker, slm, m1R, k2.

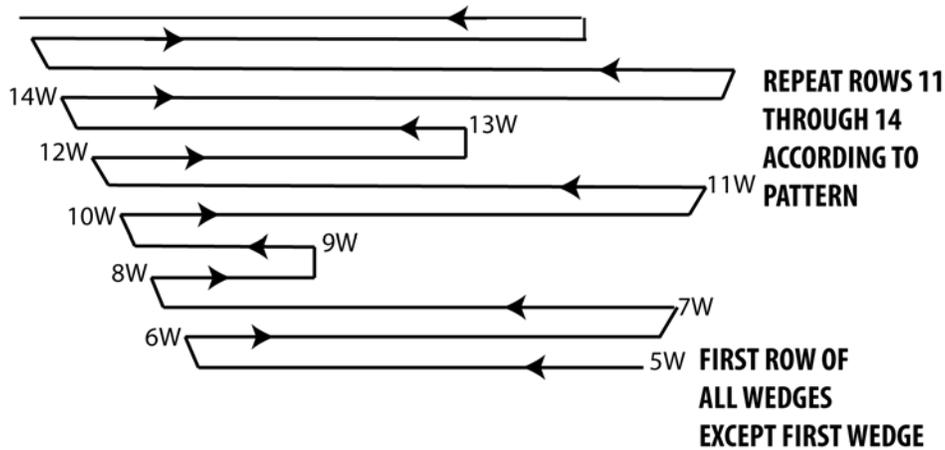
Row 11W (RS) k2, slm, m1L, k to center marker, slm, k to marker, m1R, k2.

Row 12W (WS) k2, slm, m1L, k to center marker, rm, knit 10 more stitches, pm (a new position for the center marker), w&t. The center marker is 10 more stitches away from the left-edge marker.

Row 13W (RS) Repeat row 11W.

Row 14W (WS) Repeat Row 10W.

Repeat rows 11W, 12W, 13W, and 14W, 4 more times ; on each repeat of row 12W, you will remove the center marker, k 10 more stitches along the row, replace the center marker in this new position, and then execute a w&t. On the final repeat of row 14W in this wedge, remove the center marker (but keep it handy). With each set of these 4 rows, you will add 6 stitches, (107 stitches). Here's how the beginning of the second through the fifth wedges will look:



Second lace insert Using CC, repeat rows 1L through 6L. (119 stitches)

Third wedge Returning to MC1, work rows 5W, 6W, 7W, 8W, 9W, and 10W. Then work 7 repeats of rows 11W, 12W, 13W, & 14W. (171 stitches)

Third lace insert Using CC, repeat rows 1L through 6L. (183 stitches)

Fourth wedge Switch to MC2, and work rows 5W, 6W, 7W, 8W, 9W, and 10W. Then work 9 repeats of rows 11W, 12W, 13W, & 14W. (247 stitches)

Fourth lace insert Using CC, repeat rows 1L through 6L. (259 stitches)

Fifth wedge Using MC2, work rows 5W, 6W, 7W, 8W, 9W, and 10W. Then work 11 repeats of rows 11W, 12W, 13W, ending with row 13W. (333 stitches) Before knitting row 14W, count your stitches to make sure that you have 333. Then work the final row 14W, skipping the first m1L. (334 stitches)

Lace border: feather and fan

Row 1F (RS) Using CC, knit across the row. (Don't increase at the two edges.)

Row 2F (WS) k5, pm, p to last 5 stitches, pm, k5.

Row 3F (RS) k5, [k2 tog 3 times, *yo, k1* repeat between *'s 6 times, ssk 3 times], repeat across the row, ending with ssk 3 times, k5.

Hint: It helps to keep track of the lace pattern if you place a stitch marker after every repeat of the 18-stitch pattern. You'll have 18 repeats of the pattern, plus 5 stitches on each end of every row. The 5 on each end will be knitted in garter stitch.

Row 4F (WS) Knit.

Repeat rows 1F, 2F, 3F, and 4F two more times (or more if you would like a wider border).

Finishing

Bind off LOOSELY using the knit stitch. (**Hint:** It helps you to bind off loosely if you use a needle that is two US sizes larger than the one you've been working with. Just hold the larger needle in your right hand and bind off as you usually would.) Weave in the yarn ends, but don't trim them yet, and then wet block firmly. A good description of wet blocking is available at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ld5htM8TKmQ> You could also search You Tube for "Blocking a lace crescent shawl."

I hope that you love this scarf!

OPTIONS:

(1) For a bigger scarf/shawl, you can add more short-row wedges, increasing the number of short-row repeats by 2 for each additional section. Be sure that the number of stitches on the needle after the final row 14W is an even multiple of 18 stitches plus edge stitches. You can also make a smaller scarf by working only 4 wrap-and-turn wedges.

(2) To add a carry-along sparkly yarn, I knitted the *Night* yarn along with the *Sulka Legato* in the first and last rows of each lace insert. That is, I held the *Night* along with the *Sulka Legato* across row 1L as if they were one yarn. I then continued with just the *Sulka Legato* for rows 2L, 3L, 4L, and 5L, carrying the *Night* along the left side of the work. On row 6L I held the *Night* along with the *Sulka Legato*.

To use sparkle in the feather-and-fan border, I added *Night* on the first row 4F, and continued knitting rows 4F and 1F with both the *Sulka Legato* and the *Night*. On rows 2F and 3F I carried the *Night* along the edge.

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