

READY, SET, KNIT

Air Date: January 10, 2009

Beaded Lace Scarf KAL, part 1

What do you need?

- Qiviuk Webs Narrow Scarf from the Holiday 2007 Interweave Knits Gifts, pp. 60 – 63. The pattern is available online for \$4.50 at shop.interweave.com/Qiviuk-Webs-Tam-and-Scarf-P284C0.aspx#.
- Suggested Yarn is Jacques Cartier Clothier Qiviuk, 217ish yards, but any lace-weight yarn will work just fine. Yarn suggestions: Kidsilk Haze, 2/14 Alpaca Silk, Colrain Lace, Juggerspun Zephyr, Misti Alpaca Lace, Classic Elite Silky Alpaca Lace, Prism Lace Wool...
- Size 3 needles or the size that will get you a gauge of 23 sts and 40 rows in a row pattern before washing and blocking – although since this is a scarf, gauge is not a major issue.
- The usual knitting tools, including scrap yarn for stitch holders
- Beads – I'll have to let you know how many, just get one tube of seed beads to start with.
- Big eye beading needle (special for beading...not a tapestry needle!) or a sewing needle that will go through the beads you are using.

Beading Tutorial

There are, to my knowledge, two kinds of knitting with beads: Beaded Knitting and Bead Knitting. We are going to be doing Beaded Knitting. This is the type of beading where you want the yarn to show and the beads to compliment and embellish the yarn. The beads are between the stitches and the fabric you produce is fluid. In Bead Knitting, the yarn is not important as it will not show—the beads cover the surface of the piece and take center stage, the beads are on the stitches and the fabric produced is relatively stiff.

There are two ways to pre-string the beads onto your yarn. The first way is easier; just purchase a big-eye beading needle from your local bead or craft store, thread your yarn through the eye and start stringing your beads. Don't thread too many at a time because some beads might be flawed (have smaller holes) and then you'll have to take the other beads off the yarn to remove the flawed one.

The other way to pre-string is to use a regular sewing needle that will easily go through the hole in your beads. Thread this needle with a short length of sewing thread and tie the ends together. Loop the yarn through the sewing thread and start pre-stringing – onto the needle, down the sewing thread and onto the yarn.

Move the beads in small groups (not all together...you'll damage your yarn!) quite a ways down the yarn and leave them at intervals. Rewind your yarn into the ball and leave just a few beads near the end of the yarn. These will be the first ones you'll use.

Next Week: We'll finish the Beading Tutorial and start the Scarf.
Don't forget to download your pattern!

