



SS Fern by Jenn Wisbeck

Stainless Steel Scarflette with Simple Fern Lace

Stainless steel yarn is a world unto itself- light as a feather, but flexible, foldable, and bendable in a way no other yarn is. Stainless steel yarns are special- they are a core wrapped in wool or silk, so they are soft to the touch, perfect for a lovely lightweight scarf that is sure to inspire conversation! The entire scarf weighs less than a half ounce and stretches both length and widthwise!

The scarf is knit in a long rectangle, starting with the edging, then picking up stitches to knit the body. Because the yarn bends and stretches to shape, no blocking is required! Every other row is garter stitch so the scarf is reversible, making it extra easy to wear!

Level

Intermediate- increasing, decreasing, following a chart

Size

8 by 30 inches/20.5 by 76 cm slightly stretched to 5.5 by 38 inches/14 by 96.5 cm stretched

Yarn

310 yards lace weight stainless steel yarn.

Sample knit in Silk Stainless Steel by Habu (69% silk, 31% stainless steel [core]; ½ ounce/14 grams; 311 yards/280 meters) in Navy.

Materials

- US #3/3.25mm needle- straight or circular
- Tapestry needle to weave in ends
- Stitch markers (2)

Gauge

5 stitches and 4.5 rows per inch [2.5 cm], slightly stretched

reversible. The blue box with red around it marks the pattern repeat- this 10 stitch repeat is repeated 15 times, or until the last 8 stitches.

Yarns

Habu's Silk Stainless Steel yarn is available by the ounce or half ounce. Laceweight and light as a feather, the silk is wrapped around the stainless steel core and



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Notes

SS Fern is constructed in a rectangle. The edging is knit back and forth to form a long strip, then stitches are picked up- one for each garter ridge- along the edge and knit to for the body lace.

Knitting with Metal Yarns

Metal yarns make beautiful projects- dynamic, full of a movement a life all their own. Most metal yarns sold for knitting are wrapped in a wool or silk core, which helps make them feel softer than a plain metal wire would be- and trust me, as someone who has knit a shawl out of metal wire, it is both hard on the hand and not very comfortable to wear! The downside of metal yarns is that they can twist up and break easily if not handled properly, but not to worry, these tips will help your project be a success!

1. **Make sure to let the yarn untwist from the side of the cone** or roll, not off the top (which will add more twist). I find it easiest to lay the cone next to me and unroll several yards at a time to work with.
2. **Hold up the project to let it untwist occasionally.** Do this every time you see the yarn starting to kink up and twist in on itself- some twist is inevitable, but the less twisting, the less issues you will have with breaking and tangling.
3. **Don't tug hard on the yarn-** especially if it is tangled! Unlike most yarns, metal yarns tend to not untangle nicely with a light tug, because that will often cause a kink in the yarn, making the tangle harder to undo.
4. Sharp and point needles tend to work best with metal yarns.
5. **Tug down on the knitting very lightly at the end of every row** (or do it as you go along, like I do). This makes the stitches elongated and easier to get the knitting needles through.

Reading the Charts

Charts are knit right to left, then left to right. Every other row is in garter stitch (as noted in the charts), which makes the lace



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will stay in place unless bent in a different direction. The yarn is available at <http://www.habutextiles.com> and at a variety of yarn stores. If buying through a yarn store, the yarn is often sold in half ounce cones, so you will need just one cone of yarn.

Alternate Yarns

Habu also produces a wool and stainless steel yarn that has 273 yards per half ounce- you will need between $\frac{3}{4}$ and 1 ounce. Lionbrand makes a wool and stainless blend as well called Wool Stainless Steel that is 273 yards per half ounce- you will need between $\frac{3}{4}$ and 1 ounce (2 cones).

If you only have a half ounce of the Habu Wool and Stainless Steel or Lion Brand Wool Stainless Steel from you can still make the scarf- instead of working the repeat on the body pattern 4 times, work chart 3 times, then continue with garter stitch edge.

Abbreviations

See key on chart page.

Directions

(see last page for charts)

Fern Edging


Cast on 10 stitches. Knit 1 row.

Work Rows 1-10 of **Fern Lace Edging Chart** 33 times.


(Preview- these are not the complete directions or charts ☺)

PREVIEW- Pattern available at
MidnightskyFibers.com

Key:


 Bind Off- bind off 1 stitch

 Knit 2 Together
k2tog

 Knit 3 Together
k3tog

 Knit (RS) Knit
k (WS) Purl

 Pattern Repeat

 Purl (RS) Purl
p (WS) Knit

 No Stitch

 Yarn Over
yo

RS- Right Side

WS- Wrong Side

