

Cascade Alpaca Lace  
Cluster Stitch Shawl



Designed by Betty Balcomb

# Alpaca Lace Cluster Stitch Scarf

Designed by Betty Balcomb

This elegant scarf could not be simpler to knit. The beauty comes from the wonderful yarn, a very simple lace pattern and a modest fringe on the ends. Wear it loose, tied any number of ways, draped around the neck, joined with a shawl pin or sew on a couple of buttons along one side and close to form a v-necked faux vest.

**Materials:** 1 skein Cascade Alpaca Lace yarn, pictured scarf is color #1410. Size 6 US needles OR SIZE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN GAUGE. I highly recommend very sharp pointed needles such as Bryspuns, Addie lace, Knitpicks Harmony or Signature stiletto points. It is hard to do the cluster stitch with rounded or blunt tipped needles.

**Gauge:** about 5 stitches per inch in pattern stitch.

**Finished Size:** About 10 by 58 inches after blocking and not including fringe. The fringe adds about 3 inches at each end.

**Special Abbreviation: CL3** – K3, insert tip of left needle into the 1st of the 3 stitches just knit,

i.e. the 3<sup>rd</sup> st from the end of the right needle, pass this stitch over the other 2 stitches as if to bind off. **Note:** this is a single decrease to match the adjoining YO.

**Cluster Stitch Lace Pattern** (Multiple of 3 sts):

Row 1 (Right side) – K2, \*YO, **CL3**, repeat from \* to last st, K1

Row 2 – Purl

Row 3 – K1, \***CL3**, YO repeat from \* to last 2 sts, K2

Row 4 – Purl

**Directions:**

Cast on 54 stitches.

K 1 row, P 1 row

Work in **Cluster Stitch Lace Pattern** until scarf measures about 50 inches when slightly stretched. It will grow about 8 inches in blocking. End w/row 2 or 4. Knit 1 row. Bind off loosely knitwise from the purl side.

Make about a 3 inch fringe as follows: Wrap the yarn 216 times around a box of spaghetti and then cut it into about 7 inch lengths. The knot takes up about an inch. Tie 18 clusters of 6 strands folded in half along each end. I use a crochet hook to pull the clusters through the pattern holes closest to the edge, then slip the hook away and pull the ends through the loop and tighten.

**Note:** To turn this scarf into a shawl, use 2 skeins of yarn and double the cast on stitches.

**Finishing:** Weave in ends and block.