

# Straightforward {Cowl}

by Bethany Hendrickson

## You Will Need:

- 150 yards (137.1 m) of worsted weight yarn; some countries call this 10ply weight.
- 5.0 mm (US 8) needles, straight or circular
- yarn needle to weave in ends

**Skill Level:** Easy

**Techniques Employed:** longtail & backwards loop cast-ons, knit stitches, slipped stitches, binding off

**Gauge:** 16 stitches & 28 rows to 4" (10 cm) square in garter stitch

## Begin Pattern:

Longtail cast on 36, backwards-loop cast on 2. {38 stitches total.} Work the following pattern row for about 22" (61 cm), or desired length to make cowl fit as given in schematic:

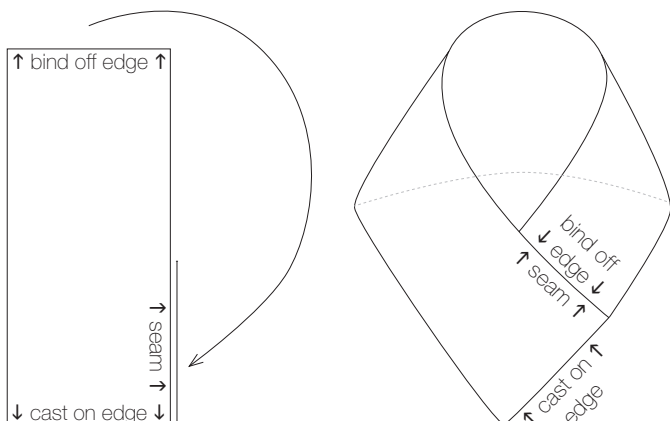
**All rows:** knit to last 2 stitches, move the yarn to the front of the work, slip the last two stitches purlwise.

When the cowl is long enough to be wrapped as shown in schematic below, bind off all stitches knitwise. Break yarn leaving 24" (61 cm) tail.

## Finishing:

Fold so that bind-off edge is along the side of the edge above the cast-on (as shown in schematic below), and thread yarn tail onto needle and sew into place making sure to not catch any part of the i-cord stitches. (It will look ugly from the right side if you do.) Weave in ends.

To block, get thoroughly wet with warm water. Gently squeeze out excess, and lay flat to dry.



This cowl was born out of necessity, which can sometimes masquerade as laziness. Why make a 6 foot (1.8 m) garter stitch scarf when you can make a 2 foot (.6 m) one instead? Unforeseen bonus: this scarf won't fall off or catch on anything. Have just 150 yards (137.1 m) of luxury yarn or leftovers from a project? You don't need to buy two more skeins for a full-length, mega-tedious scarf, make this instead!

**Note:** Because the two stitches at each edge are only knitted once, they will form a lovely cord instead of the garter stitch in the center. This is called a knit-in i-cord edge, and will keep the edges from flopping or stretching out from wear.

## About Bethany

As an independent designer, feedback and critique help me to provide the best patterns possible. Please let me know if you enjoyed knitting this pattern, or have any questions or comments, by sending an email to [patterns@bethanyhendrickson.com](mailto:patterns@bethanyhendrickson.com). You can find more of my patterns and general life-content at my site: <http://bethanyhendrickson.com>