

A Designing Vashti Grochet Project

<u>Click here</u> to see a helpful image bank for this design.

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Slip Slope Scarf

The much shorter first edition of this pattern appeared in: Crochet Inspirations Newsletter Issue #29: "Short Row Startle" (October 2011).

This 100% slip stitch crochet scarf features **short rowing** with my all-time

ribbing: slip stitches worked into the back loop.

I've already published a free pattern for the simplest beginner ribbed scarf, called Eva: http://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/evasribs-scarf-slip-stitch-crochet-101

Slip Slope Scarf is the perfect next step because it's Eva in short rows. For me,

favorite type of



to keep me crocheting late into the night:-) especially with colorchanging yarns. This plush, stretchy scarf would make a great

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page 2 of 6

gift for anyone. With a larger than usual crochet hook, it crochets up faster than you'd think.

Although it looks more complicated than it is, it might take some getting used to for some crocheters. After all, short rows are much more common in knitting than crocheting. To help, I've included some step-by-step photos in this pattern. NEW in 2013! Please see a special how-to article I designed to accompany this pattern *bere*.

The best way to find out when more short row patterns and helpful articles are available is to <u>subscribe to my Crochet Inspirations Newsletter</u>. (It's free and emailed every other Thursday.)

Skill Level: Intermediate. The slip stitch is an elementary stitch, and I find that crocheting short rows with them is a breeze. However, short rows are considered an Intermediate skill. In addition, the stitch gauge for the Slip Slope Scarf is looser than you were probably taught to use when you learned how to crochet.

I've discovered that when it comes to slip stitch patterns, the more you can let your crochet hook size determine how loose you make your stitches, the more you'll like your results.

I call this powerful Intermediate skill a "hook-led" gauge. For more on this, see:

Issue #9 of Vashti's Crochet Inspirations Newsletter, "Slip Stitch for Style."

I've only used a few abbreviations in this pattern, and I provide International English equivalents for American measurements, yarn weights, and stitch terms. The English equivalents are in brackets {}.

After following this pattern you will know (if you didn't already):

- How to crochet a stylish and stretchy slip stitch scarf the fun way!
- How to crochet short rows
- How to use a hook-led stitch gauge

Finished Dimensions

6.5" wide and at least 60" long {16.5 cm x 153 cm} (Pattern includes guidelines for choosing a different scarf length.) The short ends of the scarf can also be seamed



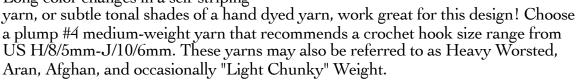
page 3 of 6

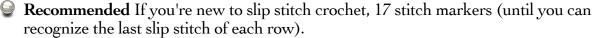
into a long loop scarf. It's reversible, so it would also be great seamed with a half-twist, möbius style.

Supplies List

- Crochet Hook: Size K/US10.5/6.5mm.
- Yarn Shown: Universal Yarn Deluxe Worsted Magic (100% wool; 220yd/ 200m per 3.5oz/100g ball): 1.5 balls of color 902 "Pink Taffe."

Substituting a yarn: The best fibers for this project add stretchy bounce because of their wool or acrylic content. Cotton yarn is just not the same for this. Long color changes in a self-striping







Gauge, measured flat

15 sl sts and 24 rows (12 row pairs or "ribs") of BLOslst = 4" {10 cm}

Gauge is important for this pattern because of how much it determines the luscious feel of the slip stitch fabric. **Hook-led gauge** makes all the difference in whether slip stitches can be fun to use for crocheting new, attractive wearables. (See more under Skill Level on the previous page.)

Stitches & Abbreviations Used: US terms with UK & AUS equivalent terms in brackets {}.

BLO = back loop only

BLOslst = Slip stitch worked in the back loop only. See Special Stitches, below.

ch = Chain

sl st(s) = Slip Stitch(es)

Special Stitches

BLOslst = Slip stitch worked in the back loop only. Like all crochet stitches,



page 4 of 6

each slip stitch has two top loops. Insert your crochet hook in the top back loop (the loop that is furthest from you) of designated stitch, yarn over and pull loop through stitch and loop on hook. Like many crocheters, you might be used to making your slip stitches tighter than your single crochets and taller crochet stitches, even when using a larger crochet hook. Practice keeping your stitch loops loose enough to match the size of the crochet hook, neither too tight nor too loose.

Pattern Notes

• I've learned that many crocheters forget what they've read here in this Pattern Notes section, once they start crocheting. This is why I now add *Tips* and *Notes* between some of the rows of the pattern.

Tip: I've set apart **Tips** from the rest of the pattern by indenting them and using a different font like you see here.

- Each rib is created with two rows of BLOslst. The ribbed fabric is just like corrugated cardboard: a raised rib on one side is the deep valley between ribs on the other side. Both sides look the same if you don't change to a strongly contrasting color.
- Each complete group of short rows (Rows 1 16) creates a wedge shape.
- If you have questions or comments, please contact me: <u>VashtiBraha@gmail.com</u> <u>Click here</u> to see a helpful image bank for this design.



🚁 Begin Slip Slope Scarf 🚁

Make a slip knot and place on crochet hook. Ch 25.

Row 1 (Right Side of first wedge): Sl st in the bottom third loop or "bump" of the 2nd ch from hook and mark (place a st marker in it), sl st in the "bump" loop of each remaining ch, ch 1, turn: 24 sl sts.

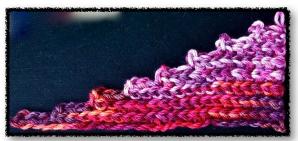
Note: If you are new to slip stitch crochet, please start out using stitch markers to mark the first stitch of each new row. (I used to think they were annoying and avoided using them. Now I'm kinder to myself.) After a little while you won't need them and can stop using them.

Row 2: Sl st in the BLO of first sl st, mark it, sl st in BLO of each of the next 20 sl sts. Ch 1, turn, leaving remaining 3 sl sts unworked: 21 sl sts.



page 5 of 6

Tip: Turn the same direction each time you come to the end of a row to result in the neatest finished edge, and to help make the last stitch of each row easier to recognize. I like to turn as if turning the page of a book, so that the yarn ends up behind the turning chain.



Rows 1 - 15 completed.

Row 3: Sl st in the BLO of first sl st and mark new st with new marker, sl st in the BLO of each remaining sl st, ch 1, turn: 21 sl sts.

Row 4: Repeat Row 2, leaving 3 more sl sts unworked: 18 sl sts.

Row 5: Repeat Row 3: 18 sl sts.

Rows 6-15: Repeat Rows 4 & 5 five times. Every time you repeat Row 4, you leave 3 more sl sts unworked. Rows 14 & 15 have 3 sl sts.



Rows 2-15 repeated once.

Row 16: Sl st in the BLO of first sl st, mark it, sl st in BLO of each of the next 2 sl sts, sl st in the BLO of each of the three unworked sl sts of each previous row, ch 1, turn: 24 sl sts. One BLOslst wedge completed.

If using stitch markers: remove all markers except from the row just completed and use them for the next wedge. (See p. 6 for examples showing stitch markers.)



Row 16: first complete wedge.

For the scarf pictured, repeat Rows 2-16 at least 39 times for a total of 40 wedges. For the scarf length you prefer, repeat Rows 2-16 an odd number of times for a total of an even number of wedges. If you plan to seam it with a half-twist, an odd number of wedges is better.

Finishing

For a loop scarf, seam the short ends together. Dampen the seam to flatten it and let dry. Weave in all ends.





page 6 of 6

Some Step by Step Photos Showing Stitch Markers

