

Scrunchie

For manual single-bed knitting machines

By Brenda Bell

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The white scrunchie was knit on an SK155 using an unlabelled leftover yarn (I believe it is Bernat Baby). With the yarn being so soft, I think I should have repeated the pattern stitch several more times to get a more ruffled appearance.

The red scrunchie was knit on the same machine using Tahki Cotton Classic. It's quite a bit fuller, but it's also much heavier because of the yarn.



Materials

Measuring tape or ruler
Calculator
1 hair elastic

10 to 15 grams (3/8 to 1/2 oz) yarn
Waste yarn and garter bar (optional)
Yarn needle

How To Use This Pattern

First, fill in the blanks on the Pattern Data grid. Then, use the numbers in the bold boxes to fill in the blanks in the Pattern Stitch and Knitting Instructions sections.

Read the Pattern Stitch and Knitting Instructions sections before you begin to make sure you understand the pattern.

Pattern Data

A	Stitches per inch rounded to the nearest 1/4	
B	Rows per inch rounded to the nearest 1/4	
C	Circumference of hair elastic ¹	
D	Width ² 1" for narrow; 1 1/2" for medium; 2" for wide	
E	Length $C * .16 + D = \underline{\hspace{1cm}} * 6.28$ rounded to the nearest whole number	
F	# stitches to cast on $A * D * 2$ rounded to the nearest whole number that is an even multiple of 4 plus 2	
G	# full rows required for the minimum length $B * E$	
H	Total # rows required for the minimum length $G / H1 * H2$ $H1 = F - 2 = \underline{\hspace{1cm}} / 2 = \underline{\hspace{1cm}} + 6 = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$ $H2 = F + 4 = \underline{\hspace{1cm}}$	

Pattern Stitch

Knit 4 rows.

* Set carriage to hold. On side opposite carriage, pull ($F / 2$) needles to HP.

+ On side opposite carriage, pull one more needle to HP. Knit 1 row.

On carriage side, pull one more needle to HP. Knit 1 row. ++

Repeat from + to ++ until 1 needle remains in WP -- carriage is on same side as working needle.

Set carriage to knit (or push all HP needles to FWP). Knit 1 row. ** Carriage is on opposite side than at start of pattern.

Repeat from * to ** 1 time.

¹ The circumference of the average hair elastic is 5 1/2".

² You can make wider scrunchies with fine or soft, fuzzy yarns. Thick, heavy yarns will require a narrower width.

Knitting Instructions

Using waste yarn, ravel cord and an open cast on method, leave a tail of yarn 4 times the width of ____ (F) needles and cast on ____ (F) stitches.

Knit the Pattern Stitch until RC is at least ____ (H). Repeat the Pattern Stitch several more times for extra fullness when working with a fine or soft, fuzzy yarn.

Without breaking the yarn, unthread the carriage and transfer piece to a stitch holder or waste yarn.

Use the yarn tail from the cast on row to graft³ the ends together to make a circle. Secure and hide the grafting yarn.

³ My favorite grafting technique is done on the machine. You'll find instructions at <http://www.magiccables.com/tip2.html>. When hanging the cast-on edge, use the ravel cord loops to locate the knot at the edge opposite the yarn tail; if you hang this knot, the cast-on edge will have the same number of "stitches" as the last row knitted.

Position empty carriage on right and pull center two needles into working position. Starting immediately to the left of the seam where the main yarn is still attached, hang two selvage bars with the wrong side of the knitting facing you.



Mark these two stitches with a bobby pin or small stitch holder, making sure the markers are hanging behind the piece and out of the way.

Hold the hair elastic under the needles...



... and pull the opposite selvage through the elastic.



Hang the two selvage bars immediately to the left of the seam on the working needles.



The hair elastic is now trapped between the two selvage edges.



Thread the carriage with the main yarn and knit 6 rows. Use your hand or a light claw weight to keep the stitches on the needles as you knit.

* Hang the next two bars of the selvage behind the hair elastic on the working needles. Be careful to get the right bars -- in the picture to the right, the bar hanging below the needle is the bar that has already been seamed. Make sure you don't knit into the same bar twice.



Hang the next two bars of the selvage in front of the hair elastic on the working needles. Knit 6 rows. ** Repeat from * to ** until the entire selvage has been seamed with the hair elastic inside. 6 rows of edge trim remain on the needles.

Pull the edge trim down to hold it out of the way. Locate the two marked stitches and hang them on the working needles. Knit 1 row.

Do a crochet bind off, break the yarn and pull tail through. Secure and hide the yarn tail.

Sample Pattern Data

This is the data used to knit the white scrunchie shown in the photo.

A	Stitches per inch rounded to the nearest 1/4	4.5
B	Rows per inch rounded to the nearest 1/4	7
C	Circumference of hair elastic	5 1/2
D	Width 1" for narrow; 1 1/2" for medium; 2" for wide	1 1/2
E	Length $C * .16 + D = 2.38 * 6.28$ rounded to the nearest whole number	15
F	# stitches to cast on $A * D * 2$ rounded to the nearest whole number that is an even multiple of 4 plus 2	14
G	# full rows required for the minimum length $B * E$	105
H	Total # rows required for the minimum length $G / H1 * H2$ rounded to the nearest even number $H1 = F - 2 = 12 / 2 = 6 + 6 = 12$ $H2 = F + 4 = 18$	158

Questions or comments?

Submit questions and comments via email to knitfits@theotherbell.com.

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