Braided scarf

Women · US terms



Finished size
About 66½ in (169 cm) long without the fringe and 5¾ in (14.5 cm) wide, with a fringe of 7 in (18 cm) at each end

Skill
Easy
One stitch in the back loop, braiding and sewing

Yarn
Bulky (5), 3 colors

Hook
6.5 mm (US K-10½)

Gauge
11 stitches and 9½ rows to 4 in (10 cm)
In ribbed half double crochet.

You will need

Yarn A: pale gray, main	**about 150 yd (137 m), an estimate**
Yarn B: heather gray, the middle cord	**about 150 yd (137 m), an estimate**
Yarn C: charcoal, the tab and the dark cord	**about 230 yd (210 m), an estimate**

Hook: 6.5 mm (US K-10½), or the size that gives you the gauge. Also: a yarn needle, scissors, a tape measure and 12 stitch markers or large safety pins.

To find how many balls: divide by the length on your yarn's label and round up. Buy them from one dye lot. The estimate is from the stitches of this size at this gauge, with 15 percent added.

Sizes

Size	Finished size, about	Yarn, an estimate
Teen	56¼ in (143 cm) long, 5¾ in (14.5 cm) wide	about 470 yd (430 m)
Women (this file)	**66½ in (169 cm) long, 5¾ in (14.5 cm) wide**	**about 530 yd (485 m)**

Abbreviations

Written in US terms. Where the UK name differs it is given beside the US one.

ch	chain stitch
hdc	half double crochet (UK htr, half treble)
BLO	back loop only: the loop of the top farther from you
RS	right side
st	stitch

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Gauge

11 stitches and 9½ rows to 4 in (10 cm) in ribbed half double crochet.

Begin with a tab and check it there, laid flat and not stretched, when 10 rows are done: the 16 stitches of a row are about 5¾ in (14.5 cm) wide, and the 10 rows are about 4¼ in (11 cm) tall. If they measure more, start again with a smaller hook; if they measure less, with a larger one.

Before you start

- The ch 1 at the start of a row does not count as a stitch.
- Working in the back loop leaves a ridge on every second row, on both sides: the rows become ribs.
- The right side of a piece is the side that faces you in row 1.
- Leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) when you begin and when you fasten off, unless another length is given. The ends that are not sewn with are woven in.
- When a ball runs out, join the next at the end of a row: work the last yarn over of the last stitch with the new yarn, and leave a tail of about 6 in (15 cm) on both.
- Whip stitch: with the yarn on a yarn needle, pass the needle under both loops of a stitch on one edge and under both loops of the stitch that lies against it on the other edge, and pull the yarn through. Do the same in the next stitch of each edge. On a foundation chain edge, pass the needle under the lower strands of each chain that holds a stitch of row 1. On a side edge there are no loops: pass the needle through the end stitch of the row on one side and the end stitch of the row that lies against it on the other. Fasten a length where the sewing begins and where it ends: sew 2 or 3 times into the same place.

Instructions

Chosen: Women. The count in round brackets at the end of a line is what that line leaves. Tick the box when a row is done. In UK terms hdc is half treble.

Tab: make 2

Yarn C, charcoal.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, ch 17.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Hdc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(16 hdc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 12**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in BLO of each st across	**(16 hdc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 12: tick them off as you go.

☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☐ 8 ☐ 9 ☐ 10 ☐ 11 ☐ 12

☐ **End** Fasten off.

Light cord: make 2

Yarn A, pale gray.

☐ **Foundation**	With A, ch 223.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Hdc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(222 hdc)**

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☐ **Rows 2 to 3**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in BLO of each st across	**(222 hdc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 3: tick them off as you go.

2 3

☐ **End** Fasten off.

Middle cord: make 2

Yarn B, heather gray.

☐ **Foundation**	With B, ch 223.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Hdc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(222 hdc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 3**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in BLO of each st across	**(222 hdc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 3: tick them off as you go.

2 3

☐ **End** Fasten off.

Dark cord: make 2

Yarn C, charcoal.

☐ **Foundation**	With C, ch 223.	
☐ **Row 1 (RS)**	Hdc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across	**(222 hdc)**
☐ **Rows 2 to 3**	Ch 1, turn; hdc in BLO of each st across	**(222 hdc)**

A box for each row, 2 to 3: tick them off as you go.

2 3

☐ **End** Fasten off.

Assembly

1. Weave in the ends of the two tabs and of the six cords.

2. Lay the six cords side by side, right sides up, one short end of each away from you and the other toward you, the foundation chain of each on its left, and the six ends away from you level: from left to right Light, Light, Middle, Middle, Dark, Dark. Two cords of one color lie side by side all the way and make one strand; a cord is about 1¼ in (3 cm) wide. At the ends that are away from you slide each cord 3/8 in (1 cm) over the one on its left, so that these six ends together are about 5¾ in (14.5 cm) wide, as wide as a tab. Pin these six ends so: they go into the first tab. Leave the six ends that are toward you free: they are braided in step 5 and go into the second tab in step 6.

3. First tab, at the pinned ends, the ones away from you: lay a tab flat, wrong side up, its foundation chain toward the cords. Lay the six pinned ends on rows 1 to 6 of the tab, so that they reach the line between rows 6 and 7, which is the middle of the tab. Fold rows 7 to 12 over them along this line: the last row of the tab now lies over its foundation chain, with the cords between them, and the right side of the tab is on the outside. Pin it.

4. Cut a length of C about 60 in (152 cm) for each tab. Begin at the fold and whip stitch the two layers of one side of the tab together, row end to row end, 6 stitches. Then sew along the open edge through the tab, the cords and the tab again, with one stitch through each of the 16 stitches of the last row and the chain that lies under it. Whip stitch the other side, 6 stitches, and fasten off.

5. Braid: pin the tab to something heavy, with the cords coming toward you. Lift the strand on the right, both its cords, flat over the middle strand: it is the middle strand now. Lift the strand on the left over the new middle strand. Go on, right and left in turn. Keep the cords of a strand side by side, turn no strand over, and keep the braid about 5¾ in (14.5 cm) wide.

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Six crossings, three from each side, take about 10¼ in (26 cm). 6 times six crossings, 36 in all, make a braid of about 61½ in (156 cm).

6. Second tab: after the last crossing the strands lie in their first order again, Light, Middle, Dark from left to right. Pin them there. The ends of the cords should be even; loosen or tighten the braid along its length until they are, with about 2½ in (6.5 cm) of each cord left over. Lay these ends on the second tab, its foundation chain toward the braid, in this order, each cord 3/8 in (1 cm) over the one on its left, and fold and sew the tab like the first, with the same 6, 16 and 6 stitches.

7. Fringe: cut 64 lengths of C, each about 16 in (41 cm) long.

8. On the right side of a tab a row of 16 free front loops lies along the fold: they are the loops of row 6 that row 7 left free. Make one knot in each of them, with two lengths to a knot. For each knot fold two lengths in half together, put the hook through the loop toward the cords, pull the fold through, pull the four ends through the fold and draw it tight. Trim the ends level, about 7 in (18 cm) long.

Finishing

- Weave in what is left of the sewing lengths, between the two layers of the tabs.

In all: 8 pieces; 4,380 stitches (192 in each tab, 666 in each light cord, 666 in each middle cord, 666 in each dark cord).

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