

# KNIT HAPPENS

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## Knitting Tools

For your scarf project, you will need two tools: yarn and knitting needles.

**Yarn:** For this project, you will need approximately 400 yards of a worsted (4) or DK (3) weight yarn. It will say on the packaging what type of yarn it is. Different brands mark their yarns differently – some may use a number instead of labeling it worsted or DK. If you want an extra long scarf, buy another skein of yarn. This project is very forgiving.

Be sure and pick a light-colored yarn for this project, as it will be easier to see your stitches with a lighter colored yarn. Stay away from Navy, black and dark reds to begin with. You'll thank me later.

It doesn't matter if you choose acrylic, wool, or wool blended yarn for your scarf. Just remember, that 100% wool requires special handling when washing/drying. A blend that is washable is recommended. Package Instructions will include this symbol to show that it is machine washable.



**Needles:** You will need a set of size 7 or 8 needles that are 9" or 10" in length. Longer needles tend to get in the way when working on a narrow scarf.

Throughout history, knitting needles have been made out of bone, ivory, glass, pearl, and many more products. Even today, knitting needles are made out of a variety of materials: bamboo/wood, metal, plastic, and aluminum. I prefer bamboo or wood simply because they are light weight and have a hold-on factor. Your yarn will not slip off of wood/bamboo needles like they can when using aluminum and plastic needles.

## **Where to purchase supplies:**

Here are some local stores to purchase yarns and needles; Michaels, JoAnn's, Yarn Barn (Lawrence, KS) and online. For online shopping I usually choose KnitPicks – they have a wide variety of colors, yarn weights, fiber choices, and they are very affordable. Michaels and JoAnn's have a wide variety of Bernat, Caron, Pattons, Lion Brand, Red Heart, and you can generally get coupons on your phone. Just be sure it is soft and washable. **Do not** purchase a boucle type yarn. While beautiful and soft, it is not a beginner's friend. Wait until your 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> project to give this type of yarn a try.

## Let's Knit!