

HELEN

Helen is a simple crochet neckwarmer. I designed this to give my friend Helen something to do with some yarn I spun for her.

The neckwarmer is crocheted lengthwise. Eyelets rim the entire piece, for infinite combinations of buttonholes.

This pattern was written using American crochet terminology.

MATERIALS

Size K (6.5 mm) crochet hook

100 yards bulky yarn

(pictured yarn is hand spun from Becoming Art 80/20 merino/silk fiber)

Tapestry needle

Buttons (7/8" - 1")

GAUGE

4" = 10 stitches in pattern

PATTERN

The pattern begins with a row of eyelets along one edge. The body is a simple alternating sc-dc repeat with eyelets on each end every other row. The piece is finished with another row of eyelets.

Ch 70 loosely.

Row 1: sc in 2nd ch from hook and in each ch across. Turn. (69 sts)

Row 2: ch 2 (counts as first sc), * dc in next sc, ch 1, skip 1 sc, dc in next sc, sc in next sc, repeat from * across. Turn.

Row 3: ch 3 (counts as first dc), * sc in next dc, dc in next sc (or ch 1 sp), repeat from * across. Turn.

Row 4: ch 2 (counts as first sc), dc in next sc, ch1, skip 1 st, * dc in next sc, sc in next dc, repeat from * across to last 4 sts, dc in next sc, ch 1, skip 1 dc, dc in next sc, sc in last dc. Turn.

Rows 5-15: Repeat rows 3 and 4 for 11 more rows, ending with row 3.

Row 16: ch 2 (counts as first sc), * dc in next sc, ch 1, skip 1 dc, dc in next sc, sc in next dc, repeat from * across. Turn.

Row 17: ch 2 (counts as first sc), sc in each st across.

(Essentially, the whole body is just a sc-dc repeat with a ch1 sp taking the place of every other sc on all edges.)

Cut yarn, fasten off, and weave in ends.



BUTTONS

This neckwarmer has eyelets along all of its edges, so you have plenty of places to put your buttons. You could use six small buttons on one edge, or space them two or three eyelets apart. You could even put buttons along each edge.

For a versatile look, try removable buttons. Tie two different buttons together so they're sort of like a cufflink, then fasten the neckwarmer together through the eyelets. Experiment!

VARIATIONS

This pattern is a repeat of 4 + 1. If you want to change the length, or adjust your gauge for different yarn weights, add or subtract multiples of 4. Finished size of the neckwarmer as written is 28" x 5".

