

IRIS



An original beaded creation from the needles of Susan Pandorf

BY SUNFLOWER DESIGNS

Turn Your Face to the Sun!

This design has been kindly donated to Médecins Sans Frontières as part of the **p/hop** project. **p/hop** = pennies per hours of pleasure. Please enjoy this knitting pattern and in return donate what you think it was worth to MSF.

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IRIS The Garden Variety Collection

SIZE:

64" /163 cm long by 13" /33cm wide

MATERIALS:

750 yards/686m fingering/4ply weight yarn

5000 size 8/0 seed beads

82 teardrop beads for ends

Size 3 (US)/3.25mm needles,

stitch markers

size 14/0.6 mm or 16/ 0.4mm crochet hook (for beading)

tapestry needle

stitch holder

GAUGE:

6 stitches = 1 inch

(vine motif from chart A.B, & C - blocked)

There are many different varieties of iris. They can be grown wild year round, in water and on land. Iris was most significant in history as the emblem of France -- Fleur-de-Lis -- established in the 11th century by the king of France. It is the state flower of Tennessee and its meanings are faith, hope and wisdom.



The iris's history dates back to Ancient Greece when Iris, the messenger of the gods and the personification of the rainbow, acted as the link between heaven and earth. Purple irises were planted over the graves of women to summon the Goddess to guide the dead in their journey. Ancient Egyptian kings marveled in the iris's exotic nature, and drawings have been found of the flower in a number of Egyptian palaces. During the Middle Ages, the meaning of irises became linked to the French monarchy, and the Fleur-de-lis eventually became the recognized national symbol of France. From their earliest years, irises were used to make perfume and as a medicinal remedy. Today, they are primarily seen in gardens, in bouquets, and in the wild all over the world.

Throughout its history, the meaning of the iris has come to include faith, hope, and wisdom. Depending on factors such as color and region, irises may bear additional meanings as well. In some parts of the world, the dark blue or purple iris can denote royalty, whereas the yellow iris can be a symbol of passion. Irises may also express courage and admiration.

DIRECTIONS

Shawl is knit in two halves – from the outer edge to the center. Two halves are then grafted together at the center. All beading is done on wrong side (purl) stitches unless otherwise specified.

Sunflower suggestion: If you wish to omit beading, simply substitute purl or knit stitches, as specified. For an excellent tutorial on crochet hook beading, go here:

<http://www.knitty.com/issuespring06/FEATseducedbybeads.html>

Cast on 83 stitches, using beaded cast on (if using beads.)

Beaded Cast On

Thread 41 beads onto yarn. You will use a long tail cast on, with the beads on the tail (on left hand thumb.)

Sunflower suggestion: Make sure you leave enough length on the tail that you don't slide your beads off the end as you are casting on.

Work as follows:

Make slipknot on your right needle. This counts as your first stitch. Wrap tail end of yarn around left thumb **before beads** and wrap working yarn around left index finger. Secure ends of the yarn in your palm with your other fingers to keep tension on the yarn.

Slide first bead up close to the base of the slipknot. Now insert needle from bottom to top through the loop of tail yarn on your thumb. Keeping needle in the loop created by the tail yarn

on the thumb, insert the needle from top to bottom over the working yarn held on the left index finger. Draw this strand through the loop of tail yarn to create stitch. Remove your thumb from the loop and pull on tail to tighten stitch (avoid making too tight!). Bead will sit neatly at the base of your needle between the two stitches. Now cast one on without bead.

Continue in this way, alternating a beaded stitch with a plain one, until 83 stitches have been cast on.

Rows 1 & 2: Purl.

Row 3 (wrong side): Knit, placing bead on each stitch.

Row 4 (right side): Purl, placing bead on each stitch.

Row 5 (wrong side): K2, bead 2, (p12, bead 3, p3, bead 3,) 3 times, p12, bead 2, K2.

Now you are ready to begin working charts.

Work A over 18 stitches, place marker, work C over 47 stitches, place marker, work B over 18 stitches.

Rows 6 through 53: Repeat 12 rows of charts, 4 times (48 rows) End with wrong side row.

Row 54 (right side): Purl

Rows 55 & 56: As row 3 & 4 (see above)

Row 57(wrong side): K2, bead 2, p12, bead three, (p1, bead 1) eleven times, (yo, bead 1) twice, (p1, bead 1) eleven times, bead 2, p12, bead 2, K2. (85 stitches) 18/49/18

Time to begin the main section of the scarf.

Continue to work charts A & B on outer 18 stitches of each side. In center 49 stitches, begin Chart D, as follows:

Work rows 1 through 38 (to red line) once. Repeat rows 39 through 46 (above red line) until approx. 36 inches long (stretched as if to block.)

Break yarn and put live stitches on holder. These stitches will be grafted to the last row of the other half of the scarf.

Congratulations! You're halfway home! Go take a walk in your garden, listen to the songbirds, and refresh your spirit.

Complete other half of scarf in same manner. leaving stitches on needle. Slip live stitches from first half onto spare needle.

Finishing:

Using yarn needle, graft 2 halves together at back of neck as follows:

Hold both knitting needles parallel with tips pointing in same direction and wrong (purl) sides facing inwards. Insert threaded tapestry needle into first stitch on knitting needle closest to you as if to purl and pull through, leaving stitch on knitting needle.

Then insert tapestry needle into first stitch on back needle as if to knit, leaving stitch on knitting needle. Pull yarn through.

THESE STEPS ARE ONLY DONE ONCE

For clarity, I will from this point refer to the tapestry needle as TN, to distinguish it from the knitting needles.

COMPLETE AS FOLLOWS:

1. Insert TN into first stitch on front needle as if to knit, while slipping it off end of needle.
2. Insert TN into next stitch on front needle as if to purl, but this time, leave it on needle. Gently pull yarn through.
3. Insert TN into first stitch on back needle as if to purl, and slip it off end of needle.
4. Insert TN into next stitch on back needle as if to knit, and leave it on needle. Pull yarn through.

Repeat steps 1-4 over and over again.

Sunflower suggestion: After you've worked a couple of inches, pause (being sure to complete step 4 so you'll know where to begin again) and check your tension. Too tight and you will feel a ridge on the backside of the fabric. Too loose and you will see unevenness in the fabric's front side.

Tighten up or loosen stitches by using end of TN to tug at each loop in turn, working from beginning of join towards last stitches worked if tightening, and from last stitches worked backwards if loosening.

It is easier to tighten stitches than to loosen them, so I recommend running yarn loosely through the stitches during the process of grafting, then adjusting tension on yarn to match gauge of knitting as closely as possible every three or four stitches. It may seem tedious, but will ensure a smooth join.

Sunflower suggestion: It is easy to lose track of where you are in the grafting process.

Repeating to yourself "knit, purl -- purl, knit" while grafting helps. Don't worry; if you get off, you will be able to see it with the naked eye when adjusting your tension. Simply undo a stitch at a time, correct and move forward again.

Keep repeating steps 1-4, pausing to tighten up the stitches now and then until all the stitches are worked. The last two stitches remaining on the needle will require you to perform step 1 then go directly to step 3.

Should you want a thorough tutorial on grafting (with pictures!) I recommend Theresa Vinson Stenersen's excellent article, which I consulted for this pattern, found at the following URL address:

<http://knitty.com/ISSUEsummer04/FEATtheresasum04.html>

Weave in your ends. Soak and block your scarf.

Now you're ready to turn your face to the sun.

May you find hope, faith, and wisdom, both within and without. Sometimes they are found in the least expected and most interesting places...

BLESSINGS!

Check out our blog and be the first to know of new pattern releases:

<http://afewstitchesshort.blogspot.com>

Questions, comments, and corrections may be submitted by email to:

susanpandorf@comcast.net

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Chart B

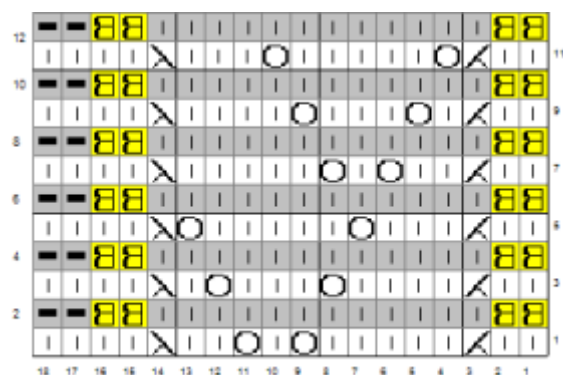


Chart A

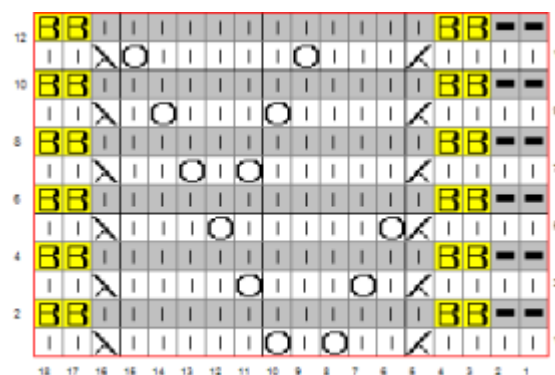


Chart C



	knit on right side; purl on wrong
	purl on right side; knit on wrong
	knit 2 together
	ssk (slip, slip, knit)
	s2kp (slip 2, knit 1, pass 2 slipped stitches over)
	yarn over
	place bead
	right twist
	left twist

Right twist: Insert the right hand needle into the second stitch on left needle knit-wise, knit stitch, then **WITHOUT SLIPPING STITCH FROM LEFT NEEDLE**, knit first stitch. Now slip both stitches off the left hand needle together. This twists the stitches to the right.

Left twist: Insert the right hand needle from behind the body of the work into the back of the second stitch, knit stitch, then **WITHOUT SLIPPING STITCH FROM LEFT NEEDLE**, bring yarn forward between needles and knit first stitch through front as usual. Now slip both stitches off the left hand needle together. This twists the

stitches to the left.

Place bead : Impale bead onto crochet hook small enough to fit through the hole of bead. Insert hook into stitch loop where bead will sit, making sure hook is facing you. Pull loop through bead. Replace stitch loop onto left needle and purl as usual. All beading is done on wrong side (purred) stitches unless otherwise specified.

Chart D

