Ethereal Diamonds

a free pattern from the Two Strands Blog, by Mary Ann Stephens

Ethereal alchemy: Balanced by the structural integrity of garter stitch lace, Dale Garn's "Erle" imparts delicate beauty, weightless warmth and exquisite softness to a simple lace scarf, all in just one ball of yarn.

Suggested yarn:

1 x 50g ball of Dale of Norway "Erle" 56% mohair, 26% silk, 18% wool yarn, 325m / 355 yds per 50g / 1 3/4oz ball.

Suggested needles:

One US size 9 (5.5mm)... or whatever size gives you pleasing fabric. **Optional:** One needle one size larger, to ensure loose results for the cast on and bind off.

Sample gauge:

There's plenty of leeway for the gauge on a scarf such as this, as long as you're happy with the fabric it produces. One diamond-shaped repeat on my sample measures 2¹/₄" across x 3" long.

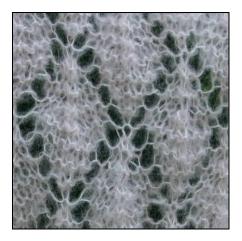
With only 10g of a ball of Erle knit up so far, my sample measures 11" in width x just over 12" in length. So, one full ball of Erle will give us a scarf that's approximately 11" wide x 60" long.

Abbreviations:

 $\mathbf{K} = \text{knit}$; $\mathbf{K2tog} = \text{knit} 2$ stitches together; $\mathbf{rem} = \text{remaining}$; $\mathbf{rep} = \text{repeat}$; $\mathbf{S2KP} = \text{centered double decrease} = \text{slip} 2$ stitches together knitwise, knit the next 1 stitch, pass the 2 slipped stitches together over the 1 knit stitch; $\mathbf{SSK} = \text{"slip}$, slip, knit" i.e., slip 2 stitches individually knitwise, then knit those 2 stitches together; $\mathbf{st(s)} = \text{stitch(es)}$; $\mathbf{yo} = \text{yarn over}$, i.e., bring yarn forward between the needles and lay it backward over the right needle.



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Cast on: For the sample, using the common, long-tail method, I've cast on 47 sts, but you can really use any multiple of 27 + 10x, i.e, 27, 37, 47, 57, 67, etc. (*Hint:* It's always important to have a nice, loose cast on and bind off with lace such as this. So, if you have trouble casting on loosely, try using a needle one or two sizes larger than your main needle, just for the cast on process, then switch to the main needle for the main portion of the scarf.)

Main portion of the scarf: Working flat (back and forth), K 3 rows (*or as many as you'd like for your bottom edging.*) Work Row #1 of Chart as follows: Start at lower right corner, each square equals 1 st to be worked in method indicated in Chart legend; work sts in columns 1 through 18; * work sts in columns 9 through 18; rep from * until 9 sts rem in row; work sts 19 through 27 to end of row. Complete Chart through Row #16. Repeat Chart Rows #1 through #16 until scarf is desired length, leaving a few yards for finishing off the end, stopping after either chart Row #8 or chart Row #16.

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47	46	45	44	43	42	41	40	39	38	37	36	35	34	33	32	31	30	29									
= Knit (on right side).																											
• = Knit (on wrong side).																											
O = Yarn over = Bring yarn to front, between needles, then lay yarn over right needle, toward back of work.																											
▲ = "S2KP", i.e., Slip 2 stitches together, knit 1 st, pass slipped stitches over knit stitch.																											
<pre>/ = "K2tog", i.e., Knit two stitches together.</pre>																											
١] =	"SS	SK"	, i.e	e., S	lip	2 s	titc	hes	sin	divi	idu	ally	' kn	itw	vise	, th	en	kni	it tł	nen	n to	get	the	r as	or	ie.

Bind off: K 2 rows (or as many as you need to match the bottom edging.) Loosely bind off all sts.

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If you haven't worked from a chart before, I hope you'll give mine a try. Once you get the hang of it, I bet you'll find that getting your knitting instructions from a glance at a chart is VASTLY easier than plodding through text, step by step. But, with that said, I certainly don't want to leave anyone out in the cold. So, I'm including the text version of each chart row's instructions, below:

Row #1: K 4, yo, k 3, * S2KP, k 3, yo, k 1, yo, k 3, rep from * until 9 sts rem, S2KP, k 3, yo, k 4.

Row #2 and all even-numbered rows: K all sts (on WS).

Row #3: K 5, yo, k 2, * S2KP, k 2, yo, k 3, yo, k 2, rep from * until 9 sts rem, S2KP, k 2, yo, k 5.

Row #5: K 6, yo, k 1, * S2KP, k 1, yo, k 5, yo, k 1, rep from * until 9 sts rem, S2KP, k 1, yo, k 6.

Row #7: *K* 7, *yo*, * *S2KP*, *yo*, *k* 7, *yo*, *rep from* * *until* 9 *sts rem*, *S2KP*, *yo*, *k* 7.

Row #9: K 3, k2tog, k 3, yo, *k 1, yo, k 3, S2KP, k 3, yo, rep from * until 9 sts rem, k 1, yo, k 3, ssk, k 3.

Row #11: K 3, k2tog, k 2, yo, *k 3, yo, k 2, S2KP, k 2, yo, rep from * until 10 sts rem, k 3, yo, k 2, ssk, k 3.

*Row #13: K 3, k2tog, k 1, yo,*k 5, yo, k 1, S2KP, k 1, yo, rep from * until 11 sts rem, k 5, yo, k 1, ssk, k 3.*

Row #15: K 3, k2tog, yo, *k 7, yo, S2KP, yo, rep from * until 12 sts rem, k 7, yo, ssk, k 3.

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