Crochet Scarf

PATTERN

A chunky ribbed scarf in warm terracotta with two slim cream stripes near each end and long cream fringe - one stitch, worked in the back loop only, for confident beginners.



The finished scarf: a terracotta ribbed scarf with cream stripes and long cream fringe.

Finished size	About 160 cm (63 in) long x 18 cm (7 in) wide, not counting the 15 cm (6 in) fringe	**Skill level**	Confident beginner
Time	About 6 to 8 hours	**Terms**	US crochet terms

A handmade scarf is the classic first wearable: it uses one stitch, it needs no shaping, and it makes a wonderful handmade gift. This one is worked across its width in half double crochet in the back loop only, so the rows build the length and the fabric has a beautiful knit-like rib. Two slim cream stripes near each end and long cream fringe finish it off. Work in rows, turn at the end of every row, and keep your tension relaxed for a soft, drapy finish.

Materials

- Bulky-weight (#5) yarn in **terracotta**, approx. 300 g / 350 m - the scarf body
- Bulky-weight (#5) yarn in **cream**, approx. 100 g / 120 m - the stripes and fringe
- 6.5 mm (US K-10.5) crochet hook
- Yarn needle
- Stitch markers
- Scissors
- A ruler or tape measure

Abbreviations (US Terms)

ch	chain	**hdc**	half double crochet
hdc blo	half double crochet in the back loop only	**st(s)**	stitch(es)
FO	fasten off	**RS**	right side

Gauge: 11 hdc blo and 8 rows = 10 cm (4 in) with a 6.5 mm hook. Check your gauge: after Row 1 the strip should measure about 18 cm (7 in) wide. If it is much wider, go down a hook size; if much narrower, go up a size.

Half double crochet in the back loop only (hdc blo): Yarn over, insert the hook in the back loop only of the stitch, yarn over and pull through, yarn over and pull through all three loops on the hook. Working in the back loop only leaves the front loop standing up as a ridge - that ridge is the ribbed texture.

Foundation and Ribbing



Step 1 - the scarf just started, in ribbed half double crochet.

The scarf is worked across its width, so the rows build the length: 20 stitches wide, 130 rows long. Keep your tension relaxed - a slightly loose half double crochet makes a softer, drapier scarf.

Rows 1-6: Terracotta. Ch 22. Row 1: hdc in the 3rd ch from the hook and in each ch across. Rows 2-6: ch 2 (does not count as a st), turn, hdc blo in each st across. **[20]**

You will have a strip about 18 cm (7 in) wide and 7.5 cm (3 in) long. Count your stitches at the end of Row 2: if the count drifts, the scarf will taper and the stripes will not line up.

First Cream Stripes



Step 2 - the first cream stripes worked into the ribbed panel.

Rows 7-8: Cream. Ch 2, turn, hdc blo in each st across. **[20]**

Rows 9-10: Terracotta. Ch 2, turn, hdc blo in each st across. **[20]**

Rows 11-12: Cream. Ch 2, turn, hdc blo in each st across. **[20]**

You now have two slim cream stripes separated by two terracotta rows, near the first end of the scarf. Carry the unused yarn loosely up the side edge instead of cutting it at every colour change.

The Long Terracotta Middle



Step 3 - the long middle growing, row after row of ribbed stitches.

Rows 13-118: Terracotta. Ch 2, turn, hdc blo in each st across. **[20]**

That is 106 rows of plain terracotta. Place a stitch marker every 10 rows so you never lose your place - after Row 118 the scarf should be about 145 cm (57 in) long, with the last stripes still to come.

Mirror Stripes at the Other End



Step 4 - the finished length, with matching stripes at both ends.

Rows 119-120: Cream. Ch 2, turn, hdc blo in each st across. **[20]**

Rows 121-122: Terracotta. Ch 2, turn, hdc blo in each st across. **[20]**

Rows 123-124: Cream. Ch 2, turn, hdc blo in each st across. **[20]**

Rows 125-130: Terracotta. Ch 2, turn, hdc blo in each st across. **[20]**

The second stripe set mirrors the first, so both ends match. Fasten off, leaving a tail of about 15 cm. Your scarf now measures about 160 cm (63 in) long and 18 cm (7 in) wide.

Cream Fringe



Step 5 - tying the long cream fringe onto the scarf end.

Fringe: Cut 160 strands of cream yarn, each about 30 cm (12 in) long - 80 strands for each end. Take 8 strands together, fold the bundle in half, and pull the folded loop through the first stitch at the scarf end with your hook. Pull the loose ends through the loop and tug gently to knot the fringe in place. Repeat across the end, spacing 10 bundles evenly - one in every second stitch - then do the same on the other end. Trim the fringe evenly to about 15 cm (6 in) and shake each bundle so the strands fall straight.

Finishing



Step 6 - the finished ribbed scarf with cream stripes and fringe.

1. Weave in the ends: thread a yarn needle with each tail and weave it back through the stitches on the wrong side, following the ribbed ridges so the ends disappear. Weave each end in for at least 5 cm, then trim it close.

2. Check the stripes: lay the scarf flat and check that both stripe sets sit the same distance from their ends - if a stripe looks off, it is only two rows, and it is worth fixing now.

3. Light blocking: lay the finished scarf flat, mist it lightly with water, and pat the stripes and fringe into shape. Let it dry flat and the ribbed stitches will relax into a beautifully even fabric.

4. Wrap it around your neck, let the fringe show - your scarf is finished!

3 Tips for a Perfect Scarf

1. Count the stitches, not the rows. The scarf needs 20 stitches in every row - if you lose one at the edge, the scarf will taper and the stripes will not line up. A stitch marker in the first and last stitch keeps you honest.

2. Keep the stripes symmetrical. Work both stripe sets exactly the same way - two cream rows, two terracotta rows, two cream rows - or the ends will not match when you wear the scarf. Counting rows, not measuring, is what keeps them even.

3. Block it lightly. A gentle mist of water and a flat dry is all it takes: the ribbed stitches relax, the fringe falls straight, and the whole scarf looks store-bought.

Happy crocheting! Make one for yourself, gift one to someone who always feels the cold - and keep this pattern handy, because once you have made one ribbed scarf, you will want one in every colour.