

Rad Plaid

all the wow without the work
a free pattern by Liz Gipson



Scarf Specs

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Yarn

Shepherd's Lamb Rambouillet, 2-ply sport weight; 180 yd per 2 oz skein (1,440 yd/lb); 100% organic Rambouillet wool.

Smooth scrap yarn of similar weight to weft, about 5 yd.

Structure Plain weave

Tools Rigid-heddle loom with at least a 9" weaving width; 8-dent rigid heddle; 2 shuttles.

Notions and Other Supplies

Small pair of sharp scissors, embroidery needle, packing paper

Warp 151 yd

Weft 120 yd

Warp Length 85"

Warp Ends 64

Width in Rigid-Heddle Reed 8"

EPI (Ends Per Inch) 8

PPI (Picks Per Inch) 8

Finished Size 63 1/2" x 7" with 5" fringe.

I'm always on the lookout for hand-dyed yarns with long color repeats. From them, you can weave sophisticated plaids without the hassle of threading and weaving complicated color orders.

The yarn used in this project is dip-dyed, creating one, long dark blue repeat measuring about 43", and a shorter, light blue repeat measuring about 25". The colors fade into each other at the transition points. The plaid effect varies depending on the length of your warp and of the repeats.

Warping Following the project specs, warp the loom using the direct warping method: Center the warp in the rigid heddle for 8". Thread slots. Wind the warp on the back beam adding packing paper between the layers. Move one slot thread into an adjacent hole. Tie the warp on the front apron rod and adjust for even tension. For a quick refresher, check out www.yarnworker.com/get-warped.

Weaving Wind the two shuttles, one with a smooth scrap yarn, the other with your weft yarn.

To give yourself a good foundation and to spread the warp, start by weaving about 1" of scrap yarn.

Using your project weft, open the next shed and insert your first pick, leaving a tail of about 6". Change sheds, tuck the tail in the new shed. Lay in the next pick at an angle. Press the yarn into place.

Continue weaving, maintaining a weft angle. For more information about weft angles and other tips for maintaining tidy selvages, see www.yarnworker.com/geeking-out-on-the-details-wonky-edges.

Press the yarn gently as you weave to maintain a consistent number of 8 picks per inch.

Weave until you are unable to maintain a good weft angle, about 70".

While the cloth is still on the loom, cut the weft, leaving about a 12" tail. Thread this tail through the large-eyed tapestry needle. Needleweave it behind the last woven pick.

Weave a few picks of scrap yarn to keep the weft in place during finishing.

Finishing Remove the cloth from the loom by carefully cutting the warp from the loom behind the heddle and leaving as much fringe as possible. Be careful not to cut your apron cords. Unroll the cloth from the loom—weeeeeee!—and untie the warp from the heddle rod in front.

Using a small pair of embroidery scissors and working carefully, cut the scrap yarn in half. Remove half of the scrap, then working from the outside in, tie the warp in bundles using 4 warp ends and an overhand knot.

Washing Fill a large tub with warm water. Add 1 tbsp of mild detergent or no-rinse wash. Lay the cloth in the water, gently swish, then let soak for 20 minutes. Rinse, if needed. Air dry flat. Trim fringe to desired length.

Enjoy!



About Liz

Smitten by small looms and big plans, Liz Gipson finds great joy in helping new weavers hone their skills. She hosts [Yarnworker](http://Yarnworker.com), a popular site for rigid heddle weaving know-how.