

Feather and Fan Shawl



Center motif is completely visible

Pattern Name: Feather and Fan Shawl by Eugen Beugler, with shaping ideas from Mediterranean Lace

Source: *A Gathering of Lace*

Yarn: Knit Picks Palette in Navy, 4.8 skeins, 237 g

Gauge: (I used a fixed 3.25 mm until I had too many stitches, then switched to a 3.5 interchangeable)

Tags: adapted

Notes

Used frogged yarn, but for some reason assumed that the rewind balls were all Palette's full 50 g. They weren't (duh!), so as I worked the extensions, I kept weighing how much yarn was left so I could make them the same length.

I love the central motif, but I don't like round shawls because you have to wear them at least partly folded. So I decided to make the central motif, then extend "some" of the feathers to make rectangular pieces to go over my arms. That's what the Mediterranean Lace shawl does, except that the extensions are attached to adjacent sides of a square (the corner between them is cut off to make a better neckline).

There were 24 motifs around the circle, so imagine them numbered consecutively. Initially I designated feather 1 for the neck, with feathers 2-7 and 19-24 for the two extensions. Feathers 8-18 formed the bottom of the shawl. So on the final round actually worked in the round, round 99, I bound off across

feather 1, worked 2-7 in patt, BO 8-18, then worked 19-24 in pattern. Then I would work the two extensions flat.

But it wasn't until I had completed that entire round, with all the BOs, that I realized the markers between the pattern repeats were in the **center** of the feathers (the top of the "hills" in the middle of the yarnovers) instead of **between** the feathers (down in the "valleys" in the middle of the decreases). So I had to tink, not frog, **tink**, the whole &%\$@# round, move the markers, and do it all over again. Since I had to move the markers half a repeat, I tinked back the last half feather of round 98 as well.

That's about the time I realized I didn't have as much yarn as I thought, so I adjusted the proportions a bit. Feathers 1 and 2 became the neck, the extensions were feathers 3-7 and 20-24, and feathers 8-19 were BO for the bottom of the shawl.



Notice the two "neck feathers"

In the extensions, I increased the feathers per the pattern until row 124, at which point each feather was 31 sts wide. They measured right at 4 inches even without stretching them, which seemed plenty wide. So I stopped increasing so I could maximize the length, which meant I worked pattern row 121 every fourth row. I had enough yarn to work a total of 23 sets of four rows on each extension.



Extension closeup

I did the needle switch for the very practical reason that my size 3s are fixed circulars and I was running out of room. I started the absolute center on DPNs, then switched as soon as possible to two circs, just like I do socks. I actually had added a third circ, which eventually just got too fiddly, so I decided to switch to my interchangables, which forced me to go up to a size 4. I made the change at round 85.



As I blocked, I kept pulling the center motif harder and harder to make the lace really open up. Final dimension was 28 inches from feather tip to tip. Once I had the circle pinned, I pulled the extensions sideways to open up the lace to the same extent. Measuring down the extension to the opposite tip is 47 in, so the extensions are about 19 in long.

The extensions are a great width for covering bare upper arms. The shawl drapes beautifully over them and hangs low enough that the center motif is completely visible.