

**KNIT Comfort Shawl #2 Directions**  
**“Knitting into the Mystery”**  
**Susan Jorgensen and Susan Izard**  
**(Courtesy of Agrace HospiceCare Comfort Shawl Circle)**

1. *Decide the size needle you will use.* Size 11 will create a slightly denser shawl and the K3 pattern will be more noticeable. Conversely, size 13 will create a slightly looser, less definable pattern.

Approximate finished sizes, not counting fringe, are 26” x 60” on size 11 needles and 30” x 64” on size 13 needles.

2. *Select your yarn.* You might pick a yarn for its color, for its texture, or for its name. Most shawls can be knit with three skeins of yarn that are six ounces or 185 yards each. If you prefer a larger shawl, you will need more yarn.

3. *Cast on.* Cast on 57 stitches for size 13 needles, 63 for size 11 needles. The pattern is K3, P3 every row. This means that you will always begin with K3 and end with K3. Any odd multiple of three will work for your shawl, depending on how wide you want to make it: 57, 63, 69, 75, 81 and so on. Follow this pattern until you achieve the desired length. You may also decide to knit every row in what is called a garter stitch.

**Before you begin the third skein, make your fringe.** With Homespun yarn, it is important to tie a knot at the end of the fringe pieces as this yarn frays badly!

A lap blanket is an alternative. In this case, you will cast on 87 stitches for size 13 needles. This will give you a blanket that is approximately 45” wide. You may want to use four skeins for this project.

4. *Make fringe.* Fringe is an individual thing. It can be long or short. You can put a piece of fringe through every stitch, or you can skip several stitches. Some people tie or sew beads to fringe, especially if the shawl is for a child. Whatever you decide, here is what you do:

- Decide how long you want the fringe. Because the fringe is doubled when you fasten it to the shawl, you must cut the fringe twice the desired length. For 6” fringe, each strand must be 12” long. For 12” fringe, cut pieces 24” and so on.
- For standard fringe, cut as many lengths as you have stitches on your needles. Reserve fringe until you have finished knitting the shawl.

5. *Finish the shawl.* Attach the inside end of the yarn to your shawl and continue knitting until all the yarn is used up, or until you have achieved the desired length.

6. *Attach the fringe.* Double the yarn and, using a small crochet hook, pull the loop through the stitch; insert the ends of the fringe through the loop and pull tight, creating a knot. *Knot the ends of the fringe.* If you are using a yarn that frays easily, consider knotting the ends of the fringe.

7. Completed comfort shawls and lap blankets can be delivered to North Oaks Volunteer Services Department, 15790 Paul Vega MD Drive, Hammond, LA 70404. Please call Volunteer Services at 985/230-6674 if you have any questions about making or donating a comfort shawl.