

Mira River Wrap



This wrap is named after a river near my hometown on Cape Breton Island in Nova Scotia, Canada. When I chose the colour in the beginning and added the beads, the wavy pattern and sparkle instantly reminded me of the sun twinkling on the water of the Mira River, a place close to the hearts of many in the area where I grew up. The childhood memories warm my heart and I couldn't have thought of a better name for this design.

This soft lace wrap will keep you warm in the winter but is thin enough to be rolled up and tucked away in your bag. The alpaca lace is lovely against the skin and as light as a cloud. It's a little bit of luxury with a touch of bling!

Materials

3 balls [Scheepjes Alpaca Rhythm](#) (Polka 656)
2.5mm needles
0/8 (size 8) seed beads (I used approx. 950 silverlined ab aqua coloured beads)
0.75mm crochet hook
Needle for weaving in ends
Blocking wires (optional but recommended)

Gauge

30 st x 30 rows in garter stitch (pre-blocked)
using 2.5mm needles

Size

130cm x 15cm (pre-blocked)
200cm x 25cm (blocked size on boards)

There is some 'bounce back' after blocking due to the ribbing pattern, the amount of shrinking back in your wrap will depend on your tension and how tightly you pull your bead clusters.



Pattern Notes

This pattern is made up of a stitch called Smocked Rib. I first saw it a few months ago and thought it was so pretty but wasn't sure what to make with it. I had a lot of grand ideas, but as this is one of my very first designs I wanted to keep it simple. When I decided to do it in lace, I also decided to dress it up a little with the beads, and I'm so glad I did as I feel they are the icing on the cake!

You can find instructions for adding the beads, along with photos, on page 4 of the pattern. If you haven't worked with beads in knitting before, this is great practice! If beads aren't really your thing, don't worry, I will also be including instructions on how to work the smocked rib without the beading.

It is important to be mindful of your tension while knitting this wrap. When working the bead clusters (or the wraps, if you are not using beads) try not to pull it too tightly as this can cause the rib to bunch up. You don't need to pull it any tighter than you would your regular knitting tension. Also, don't worry when knitting the next row or two after doing the cluster, it's going to look and feel weird where the loop is (loose and uneven), but this will all work itself out as you knit on and even more so when you block the wrap.

I blocked this quite aggressively, as you see in the size measurements, in order to spread the ribbing as I knew that it would bounce back to a degree. I found that blocking wires made the blocking process much, much easier. They aren't necessary, but they are helpful if you are able to get your hands on them.

I hope you like it! Please do tag me on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) if you make the wrap and share photos as I would really love to see it.

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Abbreviations

k - knit
p - purl
rs - right side
ws - wrong side
bcl - bead cluster (photos and explanation provided). Stick needle from front to back between the 6th and 7th stitch on left needle. Wrap yarn around needle and pull loop through to the front. Place bead on crochet hook, grab loop with hook and slide bead over onto loop. Place loop on left hand needle and knit together with first knit stitch. Continue in rib pattern for next 5 stitches.



Non-Beaded Instructions

When you see “**bcl**” in the pattern, follow these instructions instead: *Place next 6 sts (k2, p2, k2) onto a cable needle. Hold in front of work and wrap yarn around these stitches twice. Knit stitches from cable needle, continuing in rib pattern.*

Pattern

Cast on 92 stitches

Knit 10 rows.

Row 1(rs): k5, p2, (k2, p2) to 5 sts left, k5.

Row 2(ws): k5, (k2, p2) until 7 sts left, k7.

Repeat rows 1 and 2 four more times for a total of 10 rows in rib pattern.

**** Row 11 (rs):** k5, p2, (bcl, p2) 10 times, k5.

Row 12 (ws): Same as Row 2.

Repeat rows 1 and 2 four more times.

Row 21 (rs): k5, p2, k2, p2, (bcl, p2) 9 times, p2, k2, p2, k5.

Row 22 (ws) Same as Row 2.

Repeat rows 1 and 2 four more times. **

Repeat ** ... ** for 600 rows or until the piece measures approximately 125cm, stopping 10 rows after completing a row of 10 clusters.

Knit 10 rows.

Bind off, weave in ends and block.



Bead Cluster Tutorial

Note: All clusters are wrapped around a group of k2, p2, k2 sts.



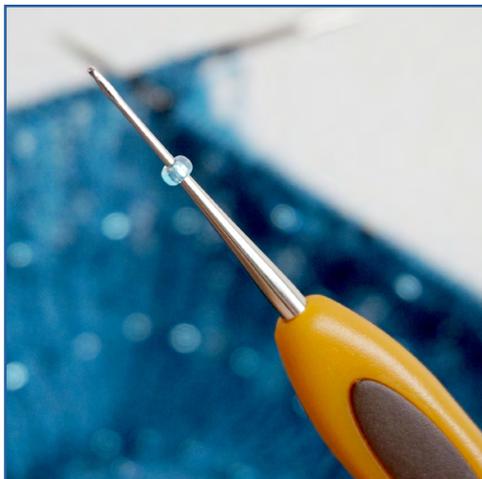
1. Slide needle from front to back between 6th and 7th stitches.



2. Wrap yarn around needle as you would to knit.



3. Pull loop forward to front of work.



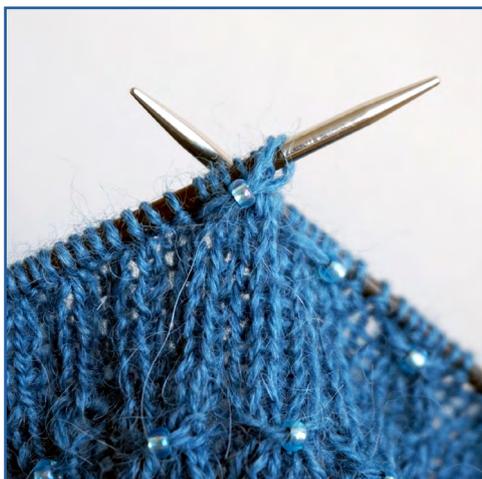
4. Slide bead onto crochet hook.



5. Pick up loop with crochet hook.



6. Slide bead over the loop.



7. Place loop onto left needle.



8. Knit loop and first knit stitch together. Continue rib pattern for remaining 5 wrapped stitches.