

1. Sign up at the library desk. Leave your name and a way to contact you.
2. Materials are available if you need them. Needles are to be loaned; return them to the library when you are finished.
3. Bring in the scarf when you are done. You may do more than one, if you wish.
4. Help and company are provided on the first Monday of each month, at 6:30 p.m. Drop by and knit with us!

Instruction sheet for "Scarves for Soldiers" from the USO:

We currently have more than 200,000 troops in overseas theaters where they are subjected to sub-zero wind chills during the winter and extreme heat in the summer. Helmet liners must be tan, brown, charcoal, grey, olive drab green and black and 100% wool. Only 100% wool can be worn "outside the wire" -- the ones we have mailed that were not 100% wool can be used at bedtime for the troops but cannot be worn under their helmets, one of the reasons being the flame retardant factor. The above colors are approved and sanctioned by the Military and they are the ONLY ones acceptable to be worn outside the "wire".

**SCARVES FOR TROOPS  
KNITTING AND CROCHETING INSTRUCTIONS  
AGAIN THESE ARE STRICT INSTRUCTIONS**

**Materials:**

**Any soft, worsted or bulky weight (100 grams/3.5 ounces) wool yarn (lamb's wool, alpaca, cashmere or combinations of these are acceptable).**

**Only 100% soft wool yarn will be accepted, because our Armed Forces are not allowed to wear synthetic fibers outside the wire.**

**Wool is :**

1. **Inherently non-flammable, so it won't melt against the skin in the event of an accident, and**
2. **It is a good insulator even when wet.**

**Colors: ONLY black, charcoal, brown, tan, or combinations of these colors.**

**Finished dimensions: approx. 12 in. x 42 in. No fringe, scallops, or holes big enough to put your little finger through; plain, as these need to be "unisex".**

**Note: Any stitch EXCEPT stockinet stitch if knitting as it curls, so please do not use it. Cast off. Weave in ends.**

**Cast on 28 stitches. Knit until scarf measures 42 inches at most. Garter stitch, or any rib stitch is acceptable.**

If you wish to knit something other than a scarf, the USO suggests:

#### KNITTED NECK GATORS (For summertime use)

##### Supplies:

1. Soft 100% worsted weight wool yarn in tan, brown, gray, or black. These are the only colors allowed by the military. Only 100% wool is allowed, because it is inherently non-flammable, which is important in the event of an accident.

2. Size 6, 7, or 8 - 16" circular needle

##### Directions:

Cast on 112 stitches very loosely. Join (you know the bit about not twisting and such) and rib (knit 1, purl 1 OR knit 2, purl 2)

#### HELMETLINER: KNITTING INSTRUCTIONS

(Known as a "Wooly Pulleys" by our Armed Forces)

##### Materials:

Any soft, worsted (100 grams/3.5 ounces) wool yarn that will knit to gauge, such as Cascade 220 or equivalent. The label should state that for size 7 needle, 5 stitches per 1 inch, and for size 8 needle, 4-1/2 stitches per 1 inch. Approx. 175 yds.

Only 100% soft wool yarn will be accepted, because our ground forces are not allowed to wear synthetic fibers. Wool is inherently non-flammable and won't melt against the skin in the event of an accident and is warm even when wet.

##### Colors:

Only black, charcoal, brown, tan, gray or combinations of these colors are allowed by our Armed Forces.

Size 8 - 16" circular needle, or size to get gauge

Size 8 - Double point needles

Size 6 - 16" circular needles for the ribbings

1 stitch marker.

Gauge: 4.5 stitches per inch in stockinet stitch

Be sure to check your gauge to ensure the helmet liner will fit properly when worn.

Neck Ribbing: With smaller circular needle, cast on 84 stitches loosely. Place marker. Join in round and knit in 2x2 (meaning knit 2, purl 2) ribbing for 6 inches.

Cap: With larger circular needle, knit 32 stitches off smaller needle onto the larger size 8 circular needle. Leave smaller circular needle in the rest of the stitches. The smaller circular needle will just act as a stitch holder while you complete the cap portion with the size 8 circular and double-point needles.

Cast on 59 additional stitches, place marker to mark beginning of round, join in round, knit even for

4". ("Knit even" means to knit every stitch).

Be sure to check your gauge. Even being off 1/2 stitch per inch will make the helmet liner useless, as it will not fit properly.

1st decrease row: \*Knit 11, Knit 2 together,\* repeat to end of round.

Next row: Knit even.

2nd decrease row: \*K10, K2 together,\* repeat to end.

Next row: knit even, meaning to knit every stitch. Change to double point (DP) needles when necessary.

Continue decreases as established until knit 2, knit 2 together. After this, decrease every row until a total of 7 stitches remain on the double point needles. Cut yarn 8-9" long, feed through remaining stitches and weave in.

Face Ribbing: With size 6 circular needle that is still in neck portion, pick up the 59 stitches that you cast on when starting the cap portion. Increase 1 stitch, so you now have a total of 60 stitches. Join in circle and Knit 2, Purl 2 ribbing for 1 inch. On last row of ribbing, decrease about 4 stitches by purl 2 together in 4 locations around the face. You may need to increase or decrease the number of times you decrease (purl 2 together) so that it isn't too tight or too loose in the face ribbing. This keeps the wind from whipping underneath it.

Cast off. Weave in ends.