Chunky No Clunky

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Materials

- Yarn: super bulky yarns, samples use spun rag yarns totaling 96 yards/91.5 meters
  - ✔ **Color 1:** 31 yards/29.5 meters
  - ✔ **Color 2:** 26 yards/24.75 meters
  - ✔ **Color 3:** 21 yards/20 meters
  - ✔ **Color 4:** 18 yards/17.25 meters
- Hook: 10mm or size to obtain desired fabric
- 2 buttons: 1”/2.5cm recommended but smaller can work
- Sewing needle & thread for attaching buttons

Measurements & Gauge

Measurements after blocking

Wingspan: 39”/97.5cm

Depth: 16”/40cm

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Introduction

I designed this because I wanted a springtime neckie for days when I didn't need long sleeves, but still wanted my neck covered. Folded and buttoned and using mainly cotton rag yarns, it provides nice protection from the breeze without being overly warm. The asymmetric design makes it easy to wear in a variety of ways. The project embraces the concept of using what's available rather than what's required, use anything you have, and be open to improvisation.

There are plenty of tutorials online for how to make rag yarn, and with mine, I like to spin and ply it for a more sturdy, workable yarn. Beware that making rag yarn can produce a lot of airborne fuzz, so those with pulmonary sensitivities may want to take precautions like a face covering. Making it outside when the weather permits is a pleasant and functional option I suggest to anyone.

Keep your hands loose and enjoy the largeness of the hook & yarn. You might consider alternating rows of slick synthetics with firmer cottons so your hands don't tire as easily.

Most of all, enjoy yourself. :)

Credits

Title page graphic and chart-making software created by Adam T. Ryder:

inventati.org/1337gallery

Chart-making software available for free at: https://chetapp.weebly.com

Schematic and chart colorations created in GIMP.

Techniques & Modification Guidelines

The piece starts with a chain long enough to function as a small scarf but can be made to any length you desire. Keep in mind that a starting length different than what is specified in the pattern may take a small amount of improvisation to complete.

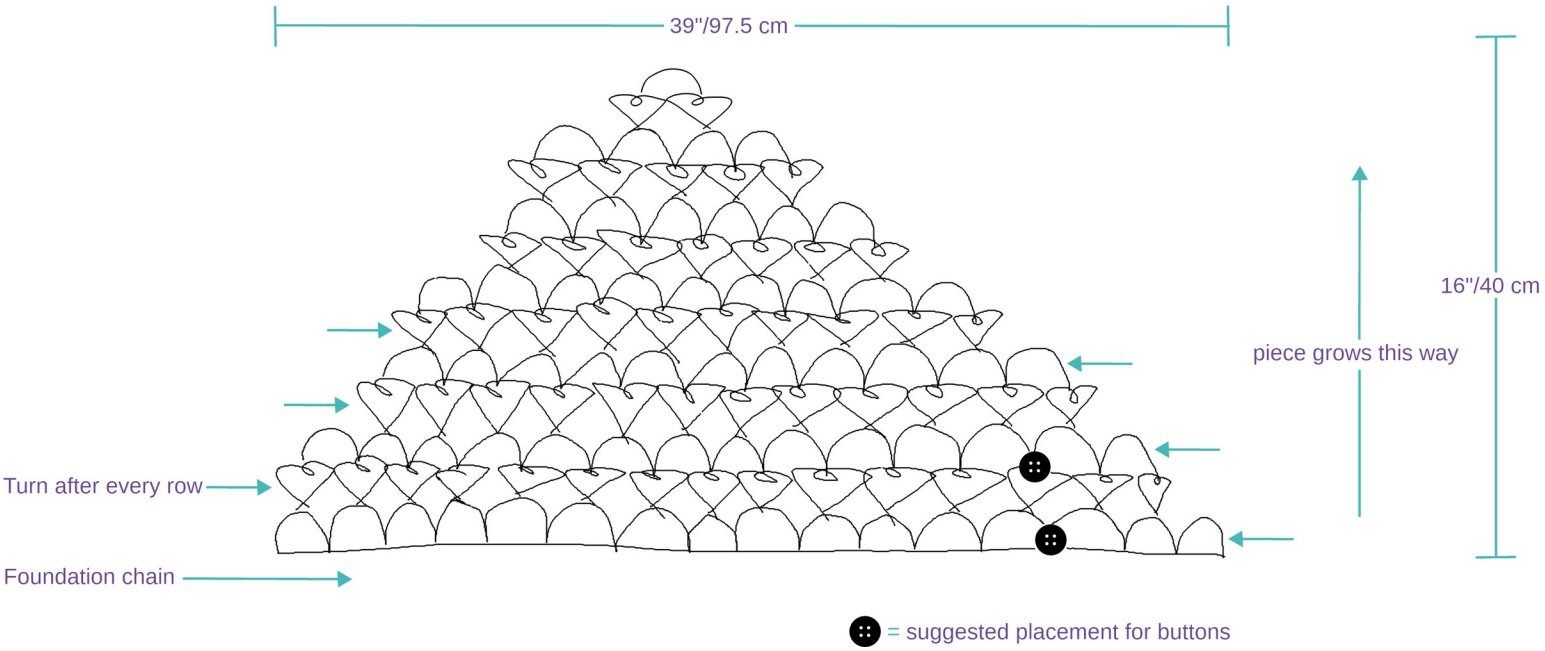
The work is turned after every row, and the basic premises are thus: the odd chain loop rows are worked into every V-stitch, and the even V-stitch rows alternate. All V-stitch rows stop when one chain loop remains, but only every other V-stitch row skips the first chain loop. Alternating the beginning of the even rows are what make the piece asymmetrical. The schematic (p. 3) can be used as a rough guide if you are improvising.

The starting chain is a multiple of 4, so make it any length you wish, then add 8 chains. Though not specified in the instructions, these 8 chains function as the first loop feature of the first row. Without them, the scarf may end up a couple inches shorter than you anticipated. The pattern suggests a starting chain of 72.

If you use rag yarn, to secure the ends, tack them down with the needle and thread. To do this, I simply lay the rag yarn tail flat against the work and insert the sewing needle through the tail and a strand of the yarn, and I stitch in a whipstitch pattern that travels up and down the tail, criss-crossing itself until I feel the end is secure enough (usually 6-10 whipstitches). It can be subjective and vary depending on the condition of the fabric of the rag yarn. A rag yarn made from older, more threadbare clothing may require more care to secure.

To attach the button, it can be helpful to cut a small square of fabric to line the back side of the button holes. This gives the button an interface between itself and the crocheted fabric to which you are attaching the button and can make for a more secure connection.

Schematic



Yarn Amounts

An approximation of yarn amounts used for each row has been made so that if you are using scraps, you can better plan your color placement. Please note that all measurements are approximate and subject to human error.

Total Amount of Each Color

Color 1: 31 yards/29.5 meters
Color 2: 26 yards/24.75 meters
Color 3: 21 yards/20 meters
Color 4: 18 yards/17.25 meters

Amount for Each Row

Number in parentheses corresponds to color listed at left.

(1) Foundation Chain and Row 1: 18 yards/17.25 meters
(2) Row 2: 12.5 yards/11.9 meters
(3) Row 3: 9 yards/8.5 meters
(4) Row 4: 10.75 yards/10.25 meters
(3) Row 5: 7.5 yards/7.2 meters
(2) Row 6: 8 yards/7.6 meters
(1) Row 7: 8.25 yards/7.9 meters
(4) Row 8: 5.75 yards/5.5 meters
(1) Row 9: 4.5 yards/4.3 meters
(2) Row 10: 4.75 yards/4.6 meters
(3) Row 11: 3.5 yards/3.4 meters
(4) Row 12: 1.25 yards/1.2 meters
(3) Row 13: 1 yard/1 meter

Gallery

Sample used 2-ply spun rag yarn, 10 mm hook, starting chain of 60, and ran out of yarn 1 row short of the full pattern.

Modeled with a single wrap, folded, buttoned, and a genuine smile.

Some of the rag yarns used in the samples. From left: 2 different denims, 2 skeins denim + a knit cotton shirt, 2 skeins cotton t-shirt + woven button-down shirt, cotton/spandex leotard single still on the spindle.

Stitch detail on original sample which used mainly un-spun single strands of rag yarn.

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Gallery, cont'd

Sample used 2-ply rag yarn. Modeled with a single wrap, buttoned, and the "Pleasantly Pensive" look.

Sample used 2-ply spun rag yarn, 15mm hook, starting chain of 42, and first 3 rows of pattern.

Modeled double wrapped and buttoned. If you wish to double wrap, be sure to have sufficient length in the starting chain lest your face get stuck like this.

Modeled with a single wrap, folded, buttoned, and a fake smile.

Instructions

With Color 1, ch 72.

Row 1: RS sc in 12th ch from hook, * ch 6, sk 3 chs, sc in next ch * 15 times, turn. Finish off.

Row 2: with color 2, join in first ch 6 sp, ch 4 (counts as (dc, ch 1) here and throughout), dc in same ch, (V-st in next ch 6 sp) 14 times, turn. Finish off.

Note: When joining in a V-stitch, join in the ch 1 sp.

Row 3: with color 3, join in first V-st, ch 1, sc in same st, * ch 6 sp, sc in next V-st * 14 times, turn. Finish off.

Row 4: with color 4, join in second ch 6 sp, ch 4, dc in same sp, (V-st in next ch 6 sp) 11 times, turn. Finish off.

Row 5: with color 3, join in first V-st, ch 1, sc in same st, * ch 6, sc in next V-st * 11 times, turn. Finish off.

Row 6: with color 2, join in first ch 6 sp, ch 4, dc in same ch, (V-st in next ch 6 sp) 9 times, turn. Finish off.

Row 7: with color 1, join in first V-st, ch 1, sc in same st, * ch 6, sc in next V-st * 9 times, turn. Finish off.

Row 8: with color 4, join in second ch 6 sp, ch 4, dc in same space, (V-st in next ch 6 sp) 6 times, turn. Finish off.

Row 9: with color 1, join in first V-st, ch 1, sc in same st, *ch 6, sc in next V-st* 6 times, turn. Finish off.

Row 10: with color 2, join in first ch 6 sp, ch 4, dc in same ch, (V-st in next ch 6 sp) 4 times, turn. Finish off.

Row 11: with color 3, join in first V-st, ch 1, sc in same st, *ch 6, sc in next V-st* 4 times, turn. Finish off.

Row 12: with color 4, join in first ch 6 sp, ch 4, dc in same ch, V-st in next ch 6 sp, turn. Finish off.

Row 13: with color 3, join in first V-st, ch 1, sc in same st, ch 6, sc in next V-st. Finish off.

Tack all yarn ends with needle and thread if rag yarn was used, otherwise, weave in all tails as you deem appropriate.

Attach Button(s)

With RS facing, sew button in place on the 3rd sc of Row 1 and another on the 3rd sc of Row 3, or wherever you prefer. See schematic, p. 3 for a visual aid.

Chart Symbol Key

beginning arrow indicates first stitch of chart

single crochet

Repeat highlighted stitches to desired length for starting chain

chain

slip stitch

Odd rows: repeat highlighted stitches to end of row

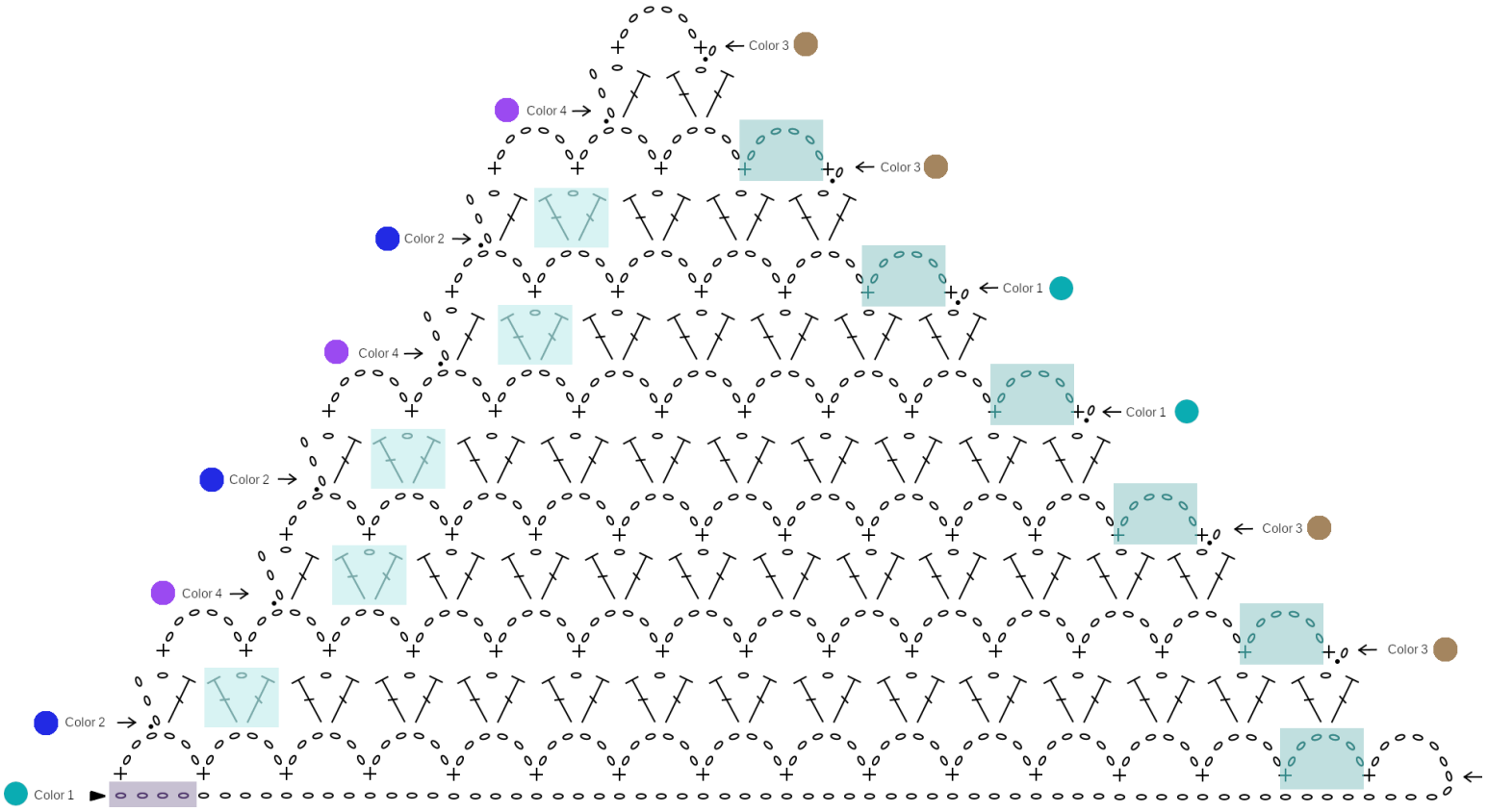
row direction arrow indicates direction of stitching

double crochet

Even rows: repeat highlighted stitches across row, leaving last chain loop unworked

Color 1, 2, 3, 4 indicates color to be used for that row

Chart



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Stitches and Definitions

*** _ ***	instructions between stars are the main repeat of a row or round, complete the given number of times
(-)	complete instructions in parentheses the given number of times
ch(s)	chain(s): yarnover and draw a loop through loop on the hook, may also refer to a chain that was previously made
dc	double crochet: yarnover, draw up a loop in specified place, (yarnover, draw a loop through 2 loops on hook) twice
RS	right side: the side of the work which is generally visible in the finished item
sc	single crochet: draw up a loop in specified place, yarnover, draw through both loops on hook
sk	skip
sp(s)	space(s)
st(s)	stitch(es)
V-st	V-stitch: (dc, ch 1, dc) in same stitch or space