

Pi Shawl Bibliography and Web Links

The Pi Shawl pattern appears in:

Elizabeth Zimmermann's **Knitter's Workshop**: a very brief description, pp. 112-115. Does not show the "classic" version (diamond and zig-zag patterns).

Elizabeth Zimmermann's **Knitter's Almanac**: most of Chapter 7—July is devoted to the Pi Shawl. Two versions are shown, the "classic" Pi as shown here on our web site (diamond and zig-zag patterns), although with a different edging, and a "concentric rings" version with Gull Pattern at the edge (Gull Pattern is at the end of Chapter 2—February). "Pithy Instructions" are at the very end of Chapter 7. There are no charts.

Knitter's Magazine # 9, pp. 34-37 has directions for the classic Pi shawl with some suggestions by Carol Anderson. No charts. (Out of print, but reprinted in **Shawls & Scarves**.)

The Best of Knitter's: Shawls and Scarves, pp. 50-52. This is a reprint of the article in Knitter's #9, with charts added. If you have the 1st or 2nd printing, you will need the correction: "P. 52: Row 11 of the written out instructions of Chart B has a little mistake which makes a big difference! It should read: Row 11 k2, *yo, k2tog, k3, ssk, yo, k2, ssk, yo, k9, yo, k2tog, **k2** (instead of yo); rep from* The chart is correct." Full list of corrections: <www.knittinguniverse.com/books/bookscorrections/Shawls/Shawls.html>

How Much Yarn Will I Need?

Shawls and Scarves recommends 9 ounces of fingering weight Shetland yarn, or 12 ounces sportweight yarn, on size 6 - 9 needles. Finished diameter about 72 inches, gauge about 3 - 3.5 stitches per inch.

Cheryl Oberle says she used 12 ounces (1800 yds) of Jamieson & Smith's Jumperweight Shetland when knitting on size 10 1/2 needles. <<http://www.ample-knitters.com/pricelist.pdf>> (Page 6)

Other Pi Shawl patterns:

Several people have taken the Pi Shawl shaping and put in their own lace patterns.

"Shetland Tea Shawl," by Dale Long, in **A Gathering of Lace**, pp. 40. This is worked on #3 needles to a diameter of about 60 inches, using 1610 yds of Morehouse Merino Lace Yarn. There are corrections, 1st printing only, <<http://www.knittinguniverse.com/books/bookscorrections/gol/GathLaceCorr.pdf>>

"Rose Garland Shawl," from Needle Beetle. This is an elaborate pattern, worked on 2 1/2 needles (3 mm) to a diameter of 67 inches. It takes about 16 oz / 5040 yds of laceweight yarn. Needle Beetle is based in Canada. You may order from them directly, or from a U.S. place that carries their patterns, or ask if your local knitting store can get them! Web site: <<http://www.needlebeetle.com/lace/rose.htm>> US stockists: 1) Heartstring Fiber Arts, <<http://www.heartstringsfiberarts.com/needlebeetle.htm>>, 1-888-955-8094 (toll-free in US and Canada). 2) Lisa Souza Knitwear & Dyeworks, <<http://www.lisaknit.com/kits/rgs.html>>, or Lisa Souza, 1065 Serrano Court, Lafayette, CA, 94549, phone: 925 283-4058

"Orchid Leaf Shawl," from Wool and Fiber Originals. Main web site: <www.wool-fiber-originals.com>. Shawl shown on the page: <<http://mary4169.tripod.com/vanitypage/id66.html>> This takes 6 ounces (1,650 yds) of lace-weight 100% wool yarn. Needle size is not given.

"Snow Shawl" and "Teija's Shawl," by Deborah E. Peterson. Available from Yarn Barn of Kansas, main web site <www.yarnbarn-ks.com>, shawls shown on <www.yarnbarn-ks.com/Yarn_Barn/ShawlsScarves.html>. These shawls have more rounds in them than the "classic" Pi. The Snow Shawl takes 12 oz. (1460 yds) of Henry's Attic Kid Mohair on size 2 needles. Teija's Shawl takes about 14 oz. (2000 yds) of Icelandic Laceweight on size 5 needles.

Countrywools has a Pi pattern with 6 optional lace patterns (no picture). Site: <host.berk.com/countrywool/origpatterns.htm> (down at the bottom, under "Accessories")

Variations on the Pi Shaping:

Martha Waterman's **Traditional Knitted Lace Shawls** has general instructions for a round or a half-round Pi shawl. Look in the "Shaping Shawls" chapter under "Rounds method of forming a circle" and "Rounds method of forming a half-circle." Two detailed patterns are given: the "Gate and Ladder" circular Pi shawl and the "Fan Stitch" Half-Pi shawl.

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Then there's Elizabeth Zimmerman's "Pi Are Square" shawl – essentially a half-circle Pi with mitered squares on each front edge. It sounds more complicated than it actually is. This first appeared in **Wool Gathering #38**, March 1988, and is reprinted in **Knitting Around**, pp. 108-117.

A shawl with sleeves? Yep! Check out **Knitter's Magazine # 61**, pp. 102-103, 119, for the "Sleeves in Your Pi" shawl pattern. The technique is simple; the result is a sort of lace jacket. This particular pattern does not actually use the Pi shawl shaping, but the idea could be applied to a Pi shawl... For correction to Chart Key, see <<http://www.knittinguniverse.com/xrx/knittersResults.asp?Category=knitterscorrections>>. It says, "Sleeves in Your Pi: The stitch key text for the gray square should read K on WS (not P on WS)."

More ideas for variations:

How about a "more than 360 degrees" shawl? Check out the article on pages 44-47 of **Shawls and Scarves**. You start out with a smaller needle in the center, say size 5, and gradually change to larger needles as you work outward, ending up with maybe a 10 or larger! This kind of shawl fits better on your shoulders.

Afraid you might run out of yarn? Can't buy extra? Consult the article on pages 56-57 of **Shawls and Scarves**. It tells you how you can knit the border first, then attach it to the body of the shawl later. Knit enough border for a full-size shawl, then start knitting the body...when you run out of yarn, attach the border and you're done!

Want a lace poncho? See the Mananita on pages 58-59 of **Shawls and Scarves**. It's just a round shawl with a hole in the center...(Also in **Wool Gathering #47**, Sept. 1992.)

Pictures of finished Pi Shawls and variations:

A classic Pi shawl: <www.wendyjohnson.net/knit/pi.htm>

Another Classic Pi: <<http://mary4169.tripod.com/vanitypage/id8.html>>

Gallery with a picture of a Classic Pi: <<http://www.recursiv.demon.co.uk/ELIZ/Knitting/gallery/gallery.htm>>

Classic Pi Shawl picture and web-log: <<http://www.fibernut.com/images/pi-shawl.jpg>> and <<http://www.fibernut.com/ARCHIVES/arc-4-03.html>>

A Classic Pi with some extra patterning at the outer edge. (While you're there, take a look at all the shawls these folks made!) <<http://www.gvhg.org/gallery/0301Shawls/shawlmeeting.html>> (The Genesee Valley Knitting Guilds Shawl Meeting - includes a Pi about halfway through. If your browser is taking forever to load all the pictures, here are links to just the Pi pictures: <<http://www.gvhg.org/gallery/0301Shawls/shawl123.jpg>> and <<http://www.gvhg.org/gallery/0301Shawls/shawl124.jpg>>.)

Gallery of photos including a purple Classic Pi shawl and two "half-Pi" shawls: <<http://www.ofoto.com/BrowsePhotos.jsp?Um=90717010103&Un=938296288>>. Another picture of the same Purple Pi shawl: <<http://www.nurhanne.com/gallery.html>>. More pictures of the Half-Pi shawls: <<http://www.goosepond.com/fiber/knitting/page7.html>>

A very colorful Pi-Dye Shawl! <<http://cyborgoddess.prettyposies.com/FO.htm>>

"Summerwood" pattern Pi Shawl: <www.geocities.com/knitter01/pishawl.html>

A Feather and Fan version of the Pi Shawl: <http://www.geocities.com/mama_bear_007/Afghans_Blankets.html> (click on the picture to enlarge, you will see the lace patterning better)

A prize-winning Sleeves in Your Pi Shawl: <<http://www.meglifarm.com/contest!.htm>> and more pictures of the same shawl: <<http://www.colby.edu/personal/l/leosborn/pi.htm>>

Another Sleeves in Your Pi Shawl: <<http://www.mad-angel.com/knitangel/SIPi.htm>>

And yet another Sleeves in your Pi shawl: <http://www.ample-knitters.com/gallframe_js.html?23>

A Paris Pi Shawl (with sleeves): <<http://www.geocities.com/redtwinsset/parispi.html>>

And a Sleeveless "Sleeves in Your Pi" Shawl: <<http://www.io.com/~cortese/crafts/knitting.html>> This is a list of projects, the Pi shawl is about halfway down. Just the pictures: <http://www.io.com/~cortese/gifs/crafts/pi_shawl.jpg> and <http://www.io.com/~cortese/gifs/crafts/pi_shawl_close.jpg>

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