



Wild Yarn Scarf

By Susan Tait, Lagmhor, New Zealand

You will need:

Ashford Corriedale sliver 600gm (20 ozs) assorted colours
Scraps from your stash 80gm (3 ozs) Tencel, silk throwsters, hand-dyed silk, Mulberry silk, dyed mohair locks, crystal metallic fibre
Ashford Wild Carder
Ashford Joy spinning wheel with Freedom Flyer
Tunisian hook 16mm (US 19)
Optional: Dyed silk cocoons and beads



Show off your wild yarn singles in a Tunisian crochet scarf

Scraps and snippets from your stash need not be wasted! All the bits and pieces from recent projects can be blended with wool sliver on Ashford's Wild Carder to create a unique blend. Spun in a non-traditional way in thick and thin with slubs, bumps and noils this artful yarn tells a story and is truly one-of-a-kind! Tunisian crochet is not only quick and easy, it also accommodates all the lumps and bumps and allows the yarn to speak. Go wild!

Here's how

Preparing the batt:

1. Adjust the packer brush close to the drum.
2. Cover the carder tray with a thick layer of sliver.
3. Place "funky junk" – small pieces of scraps and snippets from your stash – onto the sliver.
4. Cover with a thin layer of sliver.
5. By gently placing your hand on the sliver, guide it towards the drum as you slowly turn the handle.
6. Repeat steps 2-5 until drum is full.
7. Remove the batt with the doffer supplied.

To spin:

8. Split the batt in half. Using the Freedom Flyer on the Joy or Jumbo flyer spin the fibre with a short forward draft. Hold the batt loosely and feed into the orifice with short, quick movements.
9. Tighten the tension as the bobbin fills.



To crochet:

9. Chain on 19 stitches.
10. Work in basic Tunisian stitch until desired length, leaving 20gm (1oz) of yarn for the tassels.
11. Cast off.



To finish:

12. Gently wash and lay flat to dry.
13. Thread pieces of the wild yarn with a silk cocoon and a bead at each end and attach to the scarf with a Lark's Head Hitch to create spectacular tassels.

Insert

Tunisian crochet is a cross between knitting and crochet but easier than both! Known by several different names such as Afghan or Tricot crochet or Shepherd's knitting, it uses a long, large hook with a stopper at the end. For the scarf I used the basic stitch but there are many others to create cables, ribs and lace and the fabric can mimic either knitting or weaving. It is an amazingly versatile technique.

Tunisian crochet is different from the standard form of crochet in that each row is worked in two distinct passes: the "forward" pass, in which loops are worked onto the hook, and the "reverse" pass in which the loops are worked back off the hook.

