At the time, I did not realize how fortunate I was that my mother taught me as a very young child to knit, crochet, embroider, and sew (most likely to keep me out of her hair!). These techniques, practiced over long winter days, have served me very well. I love the challenge of incorporating one or more of them as finishing touches on my handwovens. Finishes are often what makes one piece stand out from another.

This scarf is made in three parts, so that you can assemble any combination to fit your dresser or table—and to show you how to make buttonholes in knitting and crochet. The ends are shaped to illustrate how well bias knitting eases around angles, and some of the trims use a second color to make the edging more eye-catching. The foundation fabric is handwoven of wool; a firm knitted or crocheted fabric or similar weight commercial fabric could also be used. The center section is woven in a different weave structure (because I got bored!).

Innumerable edging possibilities exist beyond the ones shown here. Use this project as a primer for finishes—you’ll find that once you have tried just a few, you’ll start combing your stitch dictionaries to find the perfect trims for all your handwoven creations!

Resources

Heather Winslow of Sugar Grove, Illinois, loves to share her skills with weavers and knitters at The Fine Line Creative Arts Center and across the country.
STEPS FOR WEAVING THE TABLE SCARF

Step 1
Wind a warp of 219 ends of 8/3 wool 3 yd long. (These instructions are for warping front to back although back to front will work as well.) Tie the cross and choke ties and chain the warp from the warping board.

Step 2
Sley 1 end/dent in a 12-dent reed, centered for 18½". Thread the heddles following the draft in Figure 2, allowing 1 floating selvedge on each side. Beam the warp under firm and even tension, packing the layers with paper or sticks, and tie onto the front apron rod.

Step 3
To spread the warp, weave a short header in plain weave using scrap yarn. Weave the diamond pattern with 8/3 wool as weft following Figure 2 for 20" at 12 ppi. This section will be the center of the table scarf. Weave 2 picks of plain weave to separate the center section from the end sections. Weave 60" of the herringbone pattern at 12 ppi (this length will be cut to make the two end sections).

Step 4
Remove the fabric from the loom and secure the raw edges with 2 rows of machine straight stitching or a row of serging. Soak the fabric in medium hot water with Orvus Paste for 1 hour. Hand agitate about 1 minute, rinse in warm water, spin on delicate cycle, air dry to just damp, and press with steam and pressing cloth.

Step 5
Separate the diamond section (the center of the scarf) from the herringbone section. Cut the herringbone section in two equal pieces. To shape one end of each of the herringbone sections, measure and mark 5" in from the selvedge and 6" up from one end. Draw a diagonal line from the mark on the selvedge to the mark on the end 5" from the selvedge, and cut along the diagonal. Repeat for the other side. There will be 4" left at the bottom center; see Figure 1, page 1, and Figure 3. Secure all cut edges with machine stitching.

Step 6
Needle weave all yarn ends into the back side of the fabric. Sew on any remaining buttons. Thoroughly steam all trims without applying pressure or wash and press the whole table scarf a second time.

PROJECT AT-A-GLANCE

Weave structure for table scarf
Point twill.

Equipment
4-shaft loom, 19" weaving width; 12-dent reed; 1 boat shuttle; 3 mm straight, double-pointed, and circular knitting needles (American Size #3); 3 mm crochet hook (American Size D or size to achieve gauge).

Yarns
Warp: 8/3 worsted wool (1,490 yd/lb), Edelweiss, 657 yd (7½ oz).

Yarn source
8/3 Maine Line Highland Heather worsted wool by JaggerSpun is available from most weaving retailers.

Warp order and length
219 ends 3 yd long (includes 2 floating selvedges; allows 28" for both take-up and loom waste).

Warp and weft spacing
Warp: 12 epi (1/dent in a 12-dent reed).
Width in reed: 18 1/4".
Weft: 12 ppi. Woven length: 80" (20" of diamonds; 60" of herringbone).

Finished dimensions
After washing, center section is 14 1/2 × 16 3/4" and end sections are 14 1/2 × 27 3/4" each (not including trims).
A PRIMER OF KNITTED AND CROCHETED TRIMS

Five preparatory steps before attaching knitted or crocheted trims onto flat fabric

1. Secure the raw edges.
   Stitch 2 rows of straight stitching ¼" apart and within ¼" from the raw edge of the fabric or serge. If the yarns in the fabric are particularly heavy or very slick and prone to raveling, encase raw edges with Seams Great or similar bias edging.

2. Knit a sample swatch.
   Experiment with different yarns, needle sizes, and stitches to get the look that you want. Prewash wools containing a lot of spinning oil to allow the yarn to bloom before knitting and use needles at least one size smaller than recommended on yarn label to obtain firm edging. Count the number of stitches in an inch to determine the gauge and the number of total stitches you will need to pick up.

3. Mark the edge of the cloth in inches.
   Use small safety pins to mark the length of the fabric in inches. Use these marks as a guide to pick up the exact number of stitches per inch as determined by your test swatch.

4. Use a crochet hook to pick up your first row of stitches for adding knitted trims directly to the fabric edges.
   Use a crochet hook the same size as the knitting needles. Start on the right edge of the fabric with the right side of the fabric facing you. Where you want your first loop to be, insert the crochet hook into the fabric from front to back, below the double row of machine stitching. Hook the yarn from behind the fabric and pull it to the front to create a loop. Insert the hook where you want your next loop to be and repeat. Hook an inch or so of loops, being careful to maintain the appropriate number of stitches per inch. Then transfer the loops from the back handle of the hook onto a knitting needle. Continue hooking the yarn through the fabric and transferring stitches to the knitting needle until you have cast on all your loops. Note that the stitches will be backwards on your knitting needle. You may choose to correct this or leave them twisted. (I find twisted stitches result in a stable fabric with an increased elasticity.)

5. Knit your trim.
   Follow the directions for your desired trim and bind off loosely.

A PRIMER OF KNITTED AND CROCHETED TRIMS

Basic introduction to the twenty-three knitted and crocheted trims in the table scarf

All of the trims in the table scarf are worked using 8/3 JaggerSpun Highland Heather worsted wool in Edelweiss (color A) and Aquamarine (color B) on 3 mm (#3 American) knitting needles (straight, double pointed, and circular) and a 3 mm (American D) crochet hook. If you choose to use different yarns, don’t forget to knit or crochet a sample swatch first.

Some trims are worked directly onto the handwoven fabric. Others are created separately and sewn on by hand with a needle and matching sewing thread. The twisted seed stitch and wave edges are knit separately and then attached by pulling “live” stitches (stitches that have not been bound off and can still be knitted) through the fabric and binding off.

More detailed information on the basic knitting and crochet stitches and techniques used in the table scarf can be found in several Interweave publications, among them The Compendium of Finishing Techniques, The Crocheter’s Companion, and The Knitter’s Companion; see Resources, page 1. On following pages of this article, you’ll find a detail of each trim used in the scarf and complete accompanying instructions. See Figure 1 and Photo a on page 1 for the order in which the trims are used in the scarf.
**Knitted Trims and Finishes**

**Herringbone edge (1)**
The herringbone edge is used to encase a raw edge with a trim knitted separately from the woven fabric and then stitched on. Cast on 11 sts (or an uneven number) on #3 needles.

**Row 1:** Purl.

**Row 2:** Increase in first st (knit into back and front of st), k3, slip 2 sts knitwise, k1, pass the 2 slipped sts over, k3, increase (knit into front and back) in last st. Repeat for required length plus 1/2" and put sts on holder. Sew each edge of knitted trim to encase the angled end of one panel of handwoven fabric, unravel to proper length, bind off, and finish sewing.

**Decorative stockinette picot hem (2)**
A decorative stockinette picot hem is used to encase a raw edge. Pick up 48 sts (or an even number) into 7" of the bottom left edge of fabric (under 2 warp threads) at 7 sts/in. I used a 3 mm crochet hook to pick up and slide the stitches onto the knitting needle (be sure they are not twisted on the needle).

**Rows 1–5:** Work St st beginning and ending with a wrong side (purl) row. To create a herringbone design of purls on a stockinette ground, follow Figure 4, page 4 (you'll need a multiple of 6 sts).

**Row 6 (turning row):** K2tog, yo, repeat and end with k2tog, k1.

**Rows 7–14:** Work 7 rows St st and bind off on Row 14 (right side). Sew beads on some of the purl stitch bumps if desired. Sew bound-off edge to wrong side of handwoven fabric, covering base of picked-up stitches.

**Purl roll (3)**
Stockinette stitch in the horizontal orientation rolls to the knit side creating a purl roll. On right side of fabric, pick up 45 sts into the middle 7" of left edge at 6½ sts/in

**Row 1 (wrong side):** Knit.

**Row 2:** Purl.

**Rows 3–8:** Repeat Rows 1 and 2.

**Row 9:** Bind off (wrong side). Sew bound off edge of knitted trim to the wrong side of the handwoven fabric to encase the edge of the fabric.

**Knit roll (4)**
Stockinette in the vertical orientation rolls to the purl side creating a knit roll. This trim is knit separately from the fabric. Cast on 9 sts. Work St st for required length (in this case 7") plus 1/2". Encase the fabric edge in the knit roll and sew each edge separately. If necessary, unravel to required length, bind off, and complete sewing.

**Modified double seed stitch edge with mitered corner (5)**
With a 24" 3 mm circular needle, pick up 44 sts at 6½ sts/in along 6½" of right selvedge and place marker, then pick up 96 sts along top edge. (Put a needle stopper on the opposite end of needle to prevent stitches from falling off needle.)

**Rows 1–12:** Knit edging following Figure 5, page 4. Miter the corner using a raised increase on either side of the corner st on every wrong side row (work the increases into the pattern).

**Row 13:** Bind off in knit (wrong side).

Sew six 1/2" buttons evenly spaced along center row of top of runner.

**Knit and purl stitch blocks (basket weave) (6)**
Pick up 48 sts (or multiple of 6 sts) at 7 sts/in for 7" in center third of right edge.

**Rows 1–4:** Work k3, p3 for 4 rows.

**Rows 5–8:** P3, k3 for 4 rows.

**Rows 9–11:** K3, p3 for 4 rows.

**Row 12:** Bind off by knitting the knits and purling the purls. Sew tiny buttons onto some of the knit squares as a decorative element if desired.

**Abbreviations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>General</th>
<th>st(s) stitch(s)</th>
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</table>

**Knitting**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>st(s)</th>
<th>stitch(s)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>k</td>
<td>knit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k2tog</td>
<td>knit two stitches together</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>M</td>
<td>make (increase)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p</td>
<td>purl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ssk</td>
<td>slip 1 knitwise, slip 1 knitwise, k2 slip sts tog through the back loop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St st</td>
<td>stockinette stitch tog together</td>
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<tr>
<td>yo</td>
<td>yarn over</td>
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**Crochet**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ch(s)</th>
<th>chain(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dc</td>
<td>double crochet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sc</td>
<td>single crochet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sl st</td>
<td>slip stitch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sk</td>
<td>skip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>yo</td>
<td>yarn over hook</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Abbreviations**
**Garter stitch edge with I-cord bind-off (7)**

Pick up 44 sts (or desired number) at 7 sts/in at bottom third of right edge, beginning just above herringbone trim.

*Rouls 1–11*: Knit 11 rows and cut yarn. (To angle the side edging down to the width of the herringbone edge, I did short-row shaping beginning on Row 4, turning at 9 st intervals.

*Row 12*: With right side facing up and needle with stitches in your left hand, use color B to cast on 3 “cord” sts onto left needle using the cable cast-on method. *K2 cord sts, k2tog through the back loop (or ssk) using the third cord st and first st of edge to be bound off. Slip the 3 sts on right needle back onto left needle and repeat from * until you have 3 sts left. Cut yarn, thread onto tapestry needle, run it through the 3 raw sts, and needle weave it into the cord.

**Knitting into the body of the fabric (8)**

These instructions produce a reverse stockinette roll, but any knit structure could be used.

Use contrasting sewing thread to hand baste a guideline where you want to knit (see blue pointed line at the angled end of section A in Figure 1, page 1). With color B and a 3 mm crochet hook, pull loops of yarn up from underneath the fabric at 7 sts/in; slide loops in batches off handle of hook onto 24" #3 mm circular needle and cut yarn. With color B yarn on top, k1 row, k1 row; bind off in knit.

**Bias knit edge (9)**

This is another method used to encase a raw edge. It is knit separately from the fabric.

Cast on 11 sts (or any number).

*Row 1*: Increase 1 st in first or second st, knit across until 2 sts are left, and k2tog.

*Row 2*: Purl. Repeat Rows 1 and 2 to desired length plus ½; put sts on holder.

Pin trim around raw angled edge of fabric and sew each edge in place; unravel to required length, bind off, and complete sewing.

**Twisted seed stitch edge (10)**

A highly textured and multidimensional trim that lays flat with no elasticity. It is made separately and knit onto the fabric.

Cast on 54 sts (or a multiple of 6 sts) with color B.

*Row 1 (and odd rows)*: With color B, k1, p1.

*Row 2 (and even rows)*: Knit the purls and purl the knits for seed st.

*Rouls 3–8*: Change to color A and continue to knit seed st.

*Row 9 (right side)*: *Work 6 sts in seed st, rotate left needle counterclockwise one full turn (360°) to twist fabric; repeat from *.

Continue in seed st for 7 more rows, ending after a wrong side row.

To knit the trim onto fabric: Place the needle with knitted trim along the left bottom side edge of fabric with right side of trim and fabric facing up and the needle pointing toward the angled end of the runner. *Push a 3 mm crochet hook through the corner of fabric where the bias knit ends into the space between warp threads 2 and 3, from back to front; slide first st off the needle onto the hook, pull it through to the back, and slide it onto a stitch holder. (Close the stitch holder after each st transfer to hold the stitches.) Repeat from * at 8 sts/in until all sts are on the stitch holder.

Transfer sts from the holder to a 3 mm needle and bind off.

**Wave edge (11)**

This trim is also knit separately from the fabric and then attached.

Using cable cast-on method and color B, cast on 61 sts (or a multiple of 6, plus 1), cut color B.

*Rouls 1–2*: Knit with color A.

*Row 3 (right side)*: *K2tog through back loops (tbl); *k1, M1 over the right needle, k1, M1(backward loop cast-on), k1, k3 tog tbl*, repeat from * to *. End last repeat with k2tog tbl.

*Row 4*: Knit.

*Rouls 5–8*: Repeat Rows 3 and 4 twice. Attach to edge of fabric above the twisted seed stitch edge using the same method to knit the trim onto the fabric.
Two-color bobble edge (12)

With wrong side facing and using color A, pick up 62 sts (or multiple of 4 plus 2) at 9 1/2 sts/in as follows: Start at the top end of previous trim and work from right to left. Insert the hook from the right to the wrong side of the fabric, draw a loop through to the right side, and slip it onto a knitting needle, this will enable you to start working the pattern on the right side.

Row 1 (right side): K2 color A, k2 color B across; end k2 with A.

Rows 2 and 4 (even rows): P2 A, take B yarn to back, k2 B; bring B yarn to front (keeping yarn floats on the wrong side of fabric); repeat and end with p2 A.

Rows 3 and 5 (odd rows): K2 A, p2 B, take B yarn to back; repeat and end k2 A.

Row 6: K1 A, k1 B, pass A over B, *make bobble with B (see below); pass B over bobble st, k1 A, pass bobble st over A, k1 A and pass A st over, k1 B and pass A st over. Repeat from *, keeping yarns on wrong side when not in use. (I made bobbles on every other blue rib.)

Bobble: K1, yo, k1, yo, k1 in first st, turn; sl 1 (slip 1), k4, turn; sl 1, p4, turn; sl 1, k4; pass 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th sts over first st and off needle one at a time, turn; k1.

Stockinette in vertical orientation used as mock piping (13)

This trim is knitted separately and then applied. It can be used as a facing to tidy an edge by turning the raw edge 1/4" to the wrong side and covering it with the trim strip. Leave enough of the trim width extending beyond the fabric edge to roll into mock piping.

Cast on 9 sts (or desired number) on a 3 mm needle and work stockinette structure for 8 3/4" (or desired length); bind off. Pin the purl side of trim onto wrong side of fabric 1/4" from the selvedge, and sew the edge of the trim to the wrong side of fabric and the edge of the fabric to the trim on right side. The rest of the knitted edge rolls to purl side to create a mock piping along edge of fabric. (This can be tacked down to the right side of the fabric, if desired, to encase a raw edge as for the knit roll.)

I-Cord edge with garter stitch border (14)

This trim is knit separately and sewn on.

Cast on 6 sts. Row 1: K6 sts. Row 2: With yarn in front, slip the first 3 sts as if to purl. Pull yarn firmly to the back and knit the last 3 sts. After a few rows, a tube will form on the slipped stitches with a border of garter stitch. Repeat to required length (8 3/4") and bind off on an all-knit row. Sew the garter st border to the wrong side with the I-cord extending beyond the edge. The garter section can be used to cover a turned-under raw edge.

Modified double seed stitch edge with buttonholes (15)

Pick up 118 stitches (at 7 sts/in) along fabric edge and end of #20. Mark 6 buttonhole positions with safety pins to match button spacing on top edge (#5) of section A.

Follow instructions for #5 edge but make 6 one-row buttonholes on Row 6 as follows: Knit to start of buttonhole. Bring yarn to front and sl first st from L to R needle purlwise; place yarn in back and drop it. Sl next st from L to R needle purlwise and pass first stitch over it (1 st bound off). Repeat twice (3 sts bound off). Sl last bound-off st back to L needle and turn work. (Read this next step before starting to do it.) Place yarn to back of work between needles.

Cast on 3 sts, plus 1 extra st, using cable cast-on method: Insert R needle between first and second sts on L needle, draw through a loop of yarn, and place loop onto L needle for first cast-on st. Repeat until all sts are cast on, but before slipping last loop onto L needle, bring yarn to front to form a dividing strand; turn work. Sl first st from L to R needle, then pass the extra cast-on st over it to close buttonhole. Continue to work across row to next buttonhole.
**Single crochet (16a)**

Divide right edge into thirds and mark with safety pins. Single crochet is first third of edge beginning at angled end.

Insert crochet hook through fabric below 2 warp threads along the selvedge and draw a loop of yarn through; draw a second loop of yarn through the loop on the hook to form a base st; *skip 2 weft picks and draw yarn loop up through fabric to left of last st; yo and draw through the 2 loops on hook; repeat from *. The trick is to get just the right number of sc so that your edge is not drawn in by too few stitches or it buckles and waves from too many. It takes at least 4” of edging to judge if you have the right tension.

**Braided crochet edge (16b)**

The first half of the single crochet has a decorative inner trim added to make it look like a braid.

Sl st crochet through the fabric along the base of the single crocheted edge: insert hook through the fabric from the right side just below the base (not in the same holes) of the original crochet edge and draw up a loop. *Put hook through fabric just below the base of the next crochet, yo, and draw yarn through the fabric and the loop already on the hook; continue from * along the base of the crocheted edge. Be sure the direction and size of the base loops matches the loops on the final row of the crocheted edge. (This can also be achieved with embroidered chain stitch.)

**Single crochet variation 1 (17)**

This stitch produces full coverage on the front but not on the back of the edge, making it good for areas where less bulk is desired, since there is less crochet coverage on the back side (and decreased bulk). A narrow satin ribbon can be threaded through the stitches on the wrong side as a decorative element.

Make one sc base st as in 13a above. *Insert hook through fabric to left of last st and pull up a loop of yarn to edge of the selvedge. Insert hook through the fabric again a little farther to the left and draw up a second loop. Yo, and draw this loop through all 3 loops on the hook, keeping the active loop loose. Repeat from * along edge to second safety pin (middle third of right edge).

**Single crochet variation 2 (18)**

This stitch provides full coverage on both sides of the edge.

Make one single crochet base stitch as in 13a above. *Put hook through fabric to left of last st and pull up a loop of yarn to edge of the selvedge. Yo, and crochet through only 1 loop on hook. Insert hook through fabric to left of last st and pull up another loop to selvedge. Yo, and crochet through all 3 loops on hook; keep this last loop loose. Repeat from * along rest of edge.

**Back and front loop single crochet with buttonholes (19)**

With safety pins, mark 6 buttonholes to match button placement on section A #5 trim.

**Row 1:** Use sc (#13) to encase raw top edge of section B (begin into base of #15 and end into base of #12); ch 1, turn.

**Rows 2–4:** Skip 1st ch on edge; *Sc into back-most loop only of next ch; sc into front-most loop only of next ch; rep from * across; ch1, turn. Repeat for Row 3 and 4.

**Row 5 (buttonhole row):** Repeat Row 2 but at each of the 6 buttonhole markers, ch2 and skip 2 edge chs before continuing to next marker.

**Rows 6–10:** Repeat Row 2. Sew 6 buttons onto trim above and slightly to the left of buttonholes.
Reverse single crochet (crab stitch) through the body of the fabric (20)

Using contrasting sewing thread, hand baste a guideline where you want to crochet (see blue pointed line at angled end of section B in Figure 1, page 1).

With color B and 3 mm crochet hook, draw the loop of a slipknot of yarn up from below fabric and sl st through the fabric along basting line from right to left (see 13b); cut yarn and draw to bottom. With a new piece of color B yarn on top of fabric and at left end of slip-stitch line, work as follows (backwards single crochet): With hook facing down, insert it into next ch to the right and draw yarn through that st (but not through the loop on the hook), while twisting the hook to face upwards at the same time and thereby twisting the sts; complete the sc st and continue across row from left to right to right into chain edge of the sl st, skipping a ch as necessary to prevent distortion. Backwards crochet (crab-stitch) edge is always done on the last row, with right side facing up, and working sc from left to right.

Single crochet border with a buttonhole and picot edge (21)

With a 3 mm hook, sc at 6 sts/in from the bottom to middle of the right edge; ch1, turn.

Row 1: *Sc into both loops of crocheted chain edge; repeat to end; ch1, turn.*
Row 2 (buttonhole row): Sc under both loops of crocheted chain edge to center, ch3, sk3 sc, and sc under both loops of crocheted chain edge to end of row, ch1, turn.
Row 3: Sc as above to the ch3 and sc into each of the chains and on to the end, ch1, turn.
Rows 4–5: Repeat 2 more sc rows from * to *. End after wrong side row.
Picot edge: *Ch4, skip one ch on crocheted edge and sc into next sc; repeat from * to end.

Bosnian crochet with backwards crochet edge (22)

With 3 mm hook, sc at 6 sts/in from end of #20 to end of right edge; cut yarn.

Rows 1–4: *With right side facing, sc into top (back) loop of chain edge from right to left; cut yarn. Do not cut yarn at end of Row 4.
Row 5: Do backwards crochet from left to right under both loops of chain edge (see #17).

Single rib crochet with buttonholes (23)

Fold fabric edge ¼” to wrong side and sc across end of Bosnian edge, along fold of fabric, and across end of I-cord at 6½ sts/in (need multiple of two). Mark 6 buttonholes to match spacing of buttons on straight edge of section B16 by placing safety pins along base of crochet.

Row 1 (wrong side): Ch2, skip first chain and dc into next and each chain to end; turn.
Row 2: Ch2, skip first chain, *dc around front of next post (yo, insert hook from front right edge behind next dc and exit to left of that dc, yo and pull it through to the front, complete the dc), dc around back of next post (yarn over hook, insert hook from back right edge in front of the next dc and exit at the back to the left of that dc, yo and pull it through to the back of the work, complete the dc; repeat from * ending with dc into top of turning chain.
Row 3: Repeat Row 2.
Row 4 (buttonhole row): Repeat Row 2 and at safety pin marker, **ch1, sk next post, dc around front and back of posts until next marker, and repeat from **.
Row 5: Repeat Row 2 and dc around chains as you come to them.
Rows 6–7: Repeat Row 2.