



Stitches for Survival Q&A

Key points from an online Q&A session 15 April 2021

Designing your panel

- **How creative can I be?**

As creative as you like! However, it's worth thinking about the weight of your panel. It needs to be able to hang attached between two other panels without needing extra support. Simple 3D additions can create a great effect.

- **Can I just do plain knitting?**

Yes, you can make the panel as simple or as intricate as your skills, available time and yarn allows

- **Can I do a 3D design?**

Yes, but as per above it's worth thinking about the weight of your panel. It needs to be able to hang attached between two other panels without needing extra support. Simple 3D additions can create a great effect.

- **Can I use other colours?**

We are hoping for an overall green and blue colour scheme to represent the land and the seas, but please feel free to mix in other colours as suits your design, e.g. for animals, flowers, writing etc.

- **Can I use fabric and do techniques like quilting?**

Yes, quilts are very welcome. Please use only lightweight wadding, e.g. re-using from old duvets or sleeping bags, or an old lightweight blanket. This will keep the quilts light enough to be attached in the scarf without dragging other panels down.

- **Can I add words/lettering?**

Yes, it would be great to have panels that spell out the need for climate action! You can also add a signifier or wording to show where pieces come from and/or who they are made by.

Crafting logistics

- **How many stitches do I cast on for a 60 cm x100cm piece?**

The safest way to work out how many stitches you need is to do a tension square:

For knitting: <https://www.learn2knit.co.uk/knitting/tension.php>

For crochet: <https://www.learn2knit.co.uk/crochet/tension.php>

You can find an overview guide to different yarn weights here <https://www.craftyarnCouncil.com/standards/yarn-weight-system?fbclid=IwAR0ulvXUsUy96yFE36K4fGIIxkpRFA1DMYnLVEX3Xm7Qra0XzWQdH2izAh0>

When working out how many stitches you need remember whether you are working from the the 60cm or the 100 cm end. The panels will be stitched together along the 60 cm sides so writing/anything that needs to be 'the right way up' has to be in a landscape orientation.

- **What sort of wool can I use?**

Anything! But probably easiest to use a DK or chunky wool as the panels will be repurposed for blankets (as much as possible). We also strongly encourage using up odds and ends and recycling old knitting. Our craftivism should have as little environmental impact as possible!

- **How much yarn will I need?**

It depends on your design and type of yarn. These tools can help you calculate how much yarn you need for a panel:

Crochet: <https://hearthookhome.com/how-much-yarn-need/>

Knitting: <https://www.jimmybeanswool.com/secure-html/onlineec/knittingCalculator.asp>

Admins have not tested these tools!

- **I've finished my panel and it's not the right size. What can I do?**

If your panel is too small – add a border: knit or crochet around the panel or make an additional section to sew on.

Please measure as you start you work so you don't end up with a panel larger than 60 x 100 cm (a couple of centimetres is not a problem). It will be difficult to use panels of very different sizes in the scarf and when repurposing the panels to blankets.

- **Do I sew the 60 cm end together or the 100cm end?**

Panels are sewn together along the 60 cm ends – in 'landscape'.

- **Alternative ways to knit**

Some knitters struggle with repetitive strain injury. Loom knitting may be an alternative. See how here <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MDzBAE0fRhW>

Organisational logistics

- **How do I get the piece to you?**

The website will be updated as we get all the logistics worked out, see <https://stitchesforsurvival.earth/get-involved/practicalities/>

Single panels can be posted to:

Christine Thomson, 27 Beechmount Park, Edinburgh EH12 5YT

- **I and/or my group have made quite a few panels. Do I sew the pieces together?**

If you want to sew together we suggest 20 panels per length. This will be more difficult to send in the post so we suggest thinking through how to get your 'roll(s)' to Glasgow for the event.

- **How can people who are not on Facebook get involved?**

Christine Thomson is keeping an email list for those wanting to take part, but not on Facebook or other social media. Please email details to be included on the list to christinert24601@gmail.com

And finally - A scarf is not just for COP

Please think of opportunities to use the crafting and the panels you make locally before COP: Have a knit-in outside the offices of a high-carbon business, or contact local media with local craftivism stories.

Please let us know if we can use images you upload/share in the Facebook group across other social media (Twitter and Instagram) and on our website.

Find us on Instagram: [stitchesforsurvival](#)

Find us on Twitter: [@StitchesFor](#)

Website www.stitchesforsurvival.earth