



# VINTAGE KNITS

## **New York Times 1883 Shawl Pattern**



I love the New York Times, and have worked the NYT crossword puzzle daily since I was old enough to hold a pencil (or pen in my later years, and now work it online) I'm completely convinced that the NYT puzzle is going to save me from Alzheimer's. Or if I do get a little gaga in my golden years, I'll at least have learned a lot of interesting words and definitions.

Anyway, I was delighted to see that the Times has opened their archives and you can read articles from the 1850s on. I found quite a few knitting related links, including an article from Feb. 1883 titled "[Gossip About Knitting](#)" This article has several 'pithy' knitting patterns (no pictures, no real instructions, you evidently needed to know what you were doing to be a knitter in 1883)

One of the 'recipes' was for "A Very Pretty Shoulder Shawl" with instructions for an easy lace pattern. I had a skein of lovely Fleece Artist Suri Blue yarn that I was using to make a 1-skein wrap, but decided to try working this lace pattern instead. It's an easy pattern to knit, and I think it will be quite pretty after it's blocked.

I am using US #4 needles to knit this and cast on 100 stitches. The first 2 and last 2 stitches are worked in garter stitch (and are not included in the pattern instructions below):

Row 1: \*yo, knit 1, yo, knit 1, slip 1, knit 2 together, pass slipped stitch over the k2tog stitches, knit 1; repeat from \*

Row 2 and all even # rows: purl (remember to work first 2 and last 2 stitches in garter st)

Row 3: \*yo, knit 3, yo, slip 1, knit 2 together, pass slipped stitch over the k2tog stitches; repeat from \*

Row 5: \*knit 1, slip 1, knit 2 together, pass slipped stitch over the k2tog stitches, knit 1, yo, knit 1 yo; repeat from \*

Row 7: \*slip 1, knit 2 together, pass slipped stitch over the k2tog stitches, yo, knit 3, yo; repeat from \*.

I have about 650 yds of this yarn and I'm thinking that will be plenty for a lacy stole. I'm not finished yet, will add pictures of the blocked shawl when I do get done.



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