

VINTAGE KNITS

A Cravat Knitted with Cockatoo Wool

From "Weldon's Practical Knitter, Twenty-Fifth Series" (published 1894)

Project #7 from "[My Year of Weldon's](#)"



"These cravats are especially suited to the present style of dress, which ordains that for walking our coats and jackets shall be cut with *revers* opening in **V** shape upon the chest. The cravat is worn round the neck, underneath the jacket, and the ends being crossed upon the chest will fill the vacant aperture, give the neck a neat appearance and be useful in warding off colds."

The original pattern calls for two balls of white Cockatoo (a boucle type yarn), and No. 6 needles. "Cockatoo is a peculiar kind of wool spun in a series of little rings and done up in ounce balls; it is stocked by most fancy dealers, as it is useful for shawls, wraps, and other purposes."

Yarn: I chose . [Yellow Dog Farm Painted Mohair](#), hand painted boucle yarn made from 78% mohair, 13% merino wool, and 9% nylon. Each skein contains 250 yards. If you have a smaller skein, you can knit this cravat using fewer stitches (20 stitches cast on will still make a nice scarf)

Needles: US #8.

Gauge: 4 sts= 1”

Size: Adult

Instructions:

Cast on 30 stitches. Work in garter stitch, always slipping the first stitch of every row to form a smooth edge. Use “rather more” than $\frac{3}{4}$ of your yarn for the cravat, then bind off loosely.

The remaining yarn is to be used to fringe the ends. Take a crochet hook and begin with a double crochet on the corner of the cast on edge; do 10 chain very loosely, skip 1 or 2 stitches of the knitted edge, and work a double crochet in the next edge stitch. Continue thus until the end. “Fringe” the bound-off edge in the same manner.

Finishing: Weave in ends, block gently.

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