

Broomstick Lace CROCHET

A New Look at a Vintage Stitch
with **20** Stylish Designs

DONNA WOLFE



**~ Click here to enjoy Donna's video ~
featuring all the projects in the book!**

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Published by
STACKPOLE BOOKS
5067 Ritter Road
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
www.stackpolebooks.com

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Printed in the United States of America

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

First edition

Cover design by Wendy A. Reynolds
Photography by Donna Wolfe
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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Wolfe, Donna, 1974–
Broomstick lace crochet : a new look at a vintage stitch, with
20 stylish designs / Donna Wolfe.
pages cm
ISBN 978-0-8117-1615-4
1. Lace and lace making. 2. Crocheting—Patterns. I. Title.
TT800.W65 2015
746.2—dc23

2015018435



Introduction

Broomstick lace, also known throughout the years by other names such as jiffy lace, peacock stitch, and Peruvian stitch, produces a lovely open lace pattern that works up very quickly. The stitch has been around since at least the 1800s, though its precise origin is unknown. Rumor has it American settlers used an actual broomstick handle to create the stitch, hence the name. My great grandmother made blankets using the broomstick lace stitch in the late 1800s, and my grandmother continued this tradition throughout her life. My love for the stitch began in the late 1970s, after admiring a purple blanket my grandmother had made for me when I was born. I was fascinated by all of its perfect loops and swirls. While I knew how to crochet basic stitches as a child, it wasn't until my preteen years that I attempted the broomstick lace stitch. I made little broomstick lace blankets for my dolls and plush toys.

Over the years, I have made broomstick lace scarves, baby blankets, and various other items for friends and family. After posting a photo of some of these items on my website, I received several e-mail messages requesting that I make a YouTube® video on how to create the basic broomstick lace stitch. At the time I didn't think anyone would have an interest in an old crochet stitch people made years ago, but I was wrong. As of this writing, that video has over 1.3 million views—and counting. You can view my very first basic broomstick lace video at <http://youtube.com/nasztazia>.

To help you learn everything there is to know about broomstick lace, this book begins with the absolute basics of crochet. Although a knitting needle is used with broomstick lace, the stitches themselves are primarily classified under the art of crochet. Next I will teach you the basics of broomstick lace, then how to increase, decrease, and change colors in broomstick lace, as well as several variations on the stitch. After that, we'll discuss important topics such as yarn, gauge, and finishing your items. Finally, you will find a selection of 20 patterns, including wearables, handbags, household items, and baby clothes, on which to hone your broomstick lace skills.

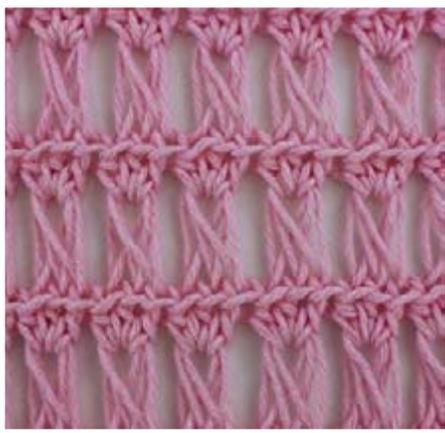
One final note: although the stitch itself is relatively easy to learn and comprehend, producing broomstick lace takes a bit of physical coordination with both of your hands working simultaneously. Recognizing this, the majority of the patterns in the book are designed so that full broomstick lace items work up easily and quickly with minimal practice. In patterns that are more intermediate in nature, the broomstick lace section serves as a nice accent or edging.

In keeping with the modern approach, you can find me on most of the online social media sites. Feel free to check out my broomstick lace videos on YouTube® (youtube.com/nasztazia) and visit my website, nasztazia.com. You can also find me on Facebook as [nasztazia](https://www.facebook.com/nasztazia), where you can share your photos of projects you make from this book. Happy broomsticking!

So Lacy Wrap



This is a soft, lightweight wrap, perfect to wind around your neck or settle on your shoulders. It works up nicely in a soft cotton, or add a little nighttime pizzazz by using a yarn that contains metallic strands or sequins. Whatever yarn you use, I recommend that it be fine or DK weight. This will show off the openness of the broomstick lace stitch and produce a soft drape.



Notes

- The broomstick lace pattern is worked in half double crochet (HDC) in clusters of 3 loops.
- Feel free to alter the length of the wrap to your liking, crocheting fewer or more rows. Just be sure to end completing Row 4 so that the broomstick cluster is fully formed.
- The wrap shown in the photos is the smaller size.

Another option is to use a soft worsted weight yarn and a slightly larger crochet hook to create a thicker, heavier wrap. Also, you can leave off the fringe, if you prefer.

This works up nicely in a solid color or a self-striping yarn with relatively slow color changes, or you can crochet it with multiple colors in stripes.

SIZES

Small (Large)

YARN

275 yd/251.5 m (500 yd/503 m) fine #2 or DK #3 weight yarn (shown in Premier® Yarns Afternoon® Cotton Colors, #2204 Pastel Pink, 100% cotton; 136 yd/125 m, 1.76 oz/50 g per skein)

OTHER MATERIALS

- U.S. size F-5 (3.75 mm) crochet hook, or size needed to obtain gauge
- U.S. size 50 (25 mm) knitting needle or broomstick lace pin, 14"/35.5 cm long
- Yarn needle
- Scissors

GAUGE

3 completed broomstick lace clusters x 3 rows completed broomstick lace clusters (6 rows total) = 3"/7.6 mm long x 5"/12.7 mm high

Gauge isn't that important for this wrap unless you want the same dimensions as below.

FINISHED MEASUREMENTS

Small: 10"/25.5 mm wide, 75"/190.5 mm long, excluding fringe

Large: 20"/51 mm wide, 75"/190.5 mm long, excluding fringe

Wrap

With your crochet hook, CH 30 (60).

Row 1: Slip the loop from the crochet hook to the knitting needle, then YO through the back loop of each chain, pulling it through and up onto the needle. At the end of the row, you should have 30 (60) loops.

Row 2: Insert the hook through the first 3 loops, YO, pull through, and CH 1. Slip the loops off the needle. Make 3 HDC in the middle of them. *Slip the next 3 loops off the needle. Make 3 HDC in the middle of them.* Repeat between * and * across the entire row. By the end of the row, you will have completed 10 (20) broomstick lace clusters.

Row 3: YO through the back loop of each HDC, pulling it through and up onto the knitting needle. At the end of the row, you should have 30 (60) loops on your needle.

Row 4: Repeat Row 2.

Rows 5–90: Repeat Rows 3 and 4.

Finishing

Cut the yarn and pull the end through. Weave in the ends. You can leave the narrow ends as is or add fringe to them.

Or, you can add it along one of the long sides instead.

Cut eight 14"/35.5 mm lengths of yarn for each section of fringe. Holding all 8 pieces together at once, fold the combined yarn strands in half and insert the top loop part through one of the spaces between the broomstick lace clusters. Insert the remaining ends through the middle of this top loop and pull the ends to tighten and form a knot. The wrap shown has 9 sections of fringe along each of two edges for a total of 144 lengths of yarn. These numbers will be doubled for the large wrap.

Trim the fringe so the pieces are all even.

You may want to block the wrap to ensure a neat, even appearance.





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BROOMSTICK LACE CROCHET
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The lovely distinctive clusters of broomstick lace are made using a super-huge needle (the “broomstick”) and a crochet hook, which means projects work up fast—you can finish a scarf in just a few hours. In *Broomstick Lace Crochet*, author Donna Wolfe takes you step by step through the stitch, from the very basics to how to increase and decrease, work in the round, change colors, and create different lace patterns. Also included are 20 fun and stylish patterns for you to practice and build your broomstick lace skills with.



DONNA WOLFE has been a “yarnie” for over 35 years. Both of her grandmothers taught her how to crochet, knit, and sew at the ripe old age of five. Her love of crafts (and particularly crochet) led Donna in 2010 to launch her NAZTAZIA® craft tutorial channel on YouTube, which now has over 180,000 subscribers; her basic How to Crochet video has over 6 million views and her Broomstick Lace Scarf video has more than 1 million. You can also visit Donna on her website, [naztazia.com](https://www.naztazia.com), or follow her on Facebook or Pinterest. Donna lives with her family in the Scranton, Pennsylvania, area.