Bellydance Fringe Belt

by Krista Frank, handmadegypsy.blogspot.com

pattern adapted from Crochet Kitten's "Josephine" collection @ crochetkitten.com

Materials:
- 1 skein bulky yarn (about 90 yards). *Recommended: Lion Brand Alpine Wool or similar*
- *Optional:* thread in matching (or contrasting) color (crochet along with wool to minimize stretching of finished belt and add some texture or contrast color)
- K/10.5 crochet hook
- Yarn needle

Stitches & Abbreviations:

ch chain	**t-ch** turning chain
sc single crochet	**sl st** slip stitch
dc double crochet	**sp** space
exsc extended single crochet	

Size: Pattern can be adjusted by adding or subtracting a multiple of 4 stitches from the initial chain. This will add/remove one pattern segment and about 1 ½-2" from the belt.

X=number of pattern repetitions

For numbers given, X=24 (24 pattern repetitions)– including edging, this makes a belt ~36" long. Check chain length, keeping edging (~3" total) in mind, and be sure to leave some space (3-5" or more) for lacing. If you plan to put fringe in every other space (as shown in picture), an even number of pattern repetitions works best (to give an odd number of spaces).

Belt
Pattern worked from bottom of belt to top

Ch 99 *(4X + 3)*

Row 1: sc in 2nd ch from hook and each ch. *98 (4X + 2) sc*

Row 2: ch 3 (counts as 1 dc and 1 ch-1), turn; skip 1st sc (one t-ch is attached to); *dc in next 3 sc, ch 1, skip one sc; repeat from * across; dc in last sc. *74 (3X + 2) dc (counts t-ch as 1 dc)*

Row 3: ch 1, turn; sc in 1st ch-1 sp; *ch 6, sc in next ch-1 sp; repeat from * across. *24 (1X) ch-6 sp*

Row 4: ch 5 (counts as 1 dc and 1 ch-3), turn; sc in next ch-6 sp; *ch 3, sc in next ch-6 sp; repeat from * across; ch 2, dc in sc on previous row (row 2). *24 (1X) ch-3, plus final ch-2*

Row 5: ch 3 (counts as dc), turn; 2 dc in ch-2 sp; *ch 1, 3 dc in ch-3 space; repeat from * across. *75 (3X+3) dc*

Row 6: ch 4 (counts as 1 sc, 1 ch-3), turn; exsc in next ch-1 sp, *ch 3, exsc in next ch-1 sp; repeat from * across to last ch-1 sp; ch 2 and join with sc in top of t-ch. *25 (X + 1) ch-3*

Edging

Crochet from the top of the belt down the sides to the bottom. This will create the edging and a place to lace the belt. Adds about 1.5" on each end (3" total) to length of belt. To create a slimmer edging, ch 4 or 5 in row 1 and finish off, skipping remaining rows.

Continue from end of row 6 for one end; reattach yarn with sl st at top of belt on other end.

Row 1: Ch 3, attach with sc around dc/t-ch sp of belt row 4; ch 3, attach with sc around dc/t-ch of belt row 2; ch 3, attach with sl st in foundation ch.

Row 2: Ch 3, *3 dc in ch-3 sp, ch 1; repeat from * once; 2 dc in final ch-3 sp, dc in stitch at end of belt row 6 (final sc or initial t-ch).

Row 3: Ch 1, turn, sc in first dc; ch 4, sc in ch-1 sp; ch 5, sc in ch-1 sp; ch 5, sc in top of t-ch. Finish off.

Repeat on opposite side. Weave in ends.

Ties

Option A: Cut 12 ~1.5 yard lengths of yarn (or choice of length). In each of the 6 edge loops, attach 2 lengths of yarn by folding lengths in half, putting folded center through loop and pulling ends of yarn through folded center. Weave or tie to close belt.
(Pictured at left, bottom ties were woven up through middle and top loops, then tied at top)

Option B: Braid or chain stitch a long (~1.5 yard or choice) yarn tie; lace through edge loops as you would a corset. There are probably a dozen other ways to do tie your belt closed. Be creative!

Fringe

Cut ~1.5 yard (or your choice) lengths of ribbon, yarn, or other material. Fold in half and insert through spaces at the bottom of your belt, connecting as you did the ties. Use every space or spread out as you prefer. Use whatever material you like to get the look you want. Cut pieces to a more-or-less uniform length.

This belt looks great along with other accessories – scarves, cowrie or coin belts, etc. Make it your own!