Spring Thaw Cowl

by Naoko -n'ami- OGAWA

Spring Thaw Cowl is, as her big sisters, knit in Broken seed stitch with alpaca and variegated yarn. The result is an accessory light yet warm, perfect for this transitional season. Besides, it subtly showcases all the nuances of your favorite variegated yarn!



MC: Drops ALPACA (100% alpaca, 167 m/183 yds per 50g) #0100 natural CC: Malabrigo SOCK (100% superwash merino, 402 m /440 yds per 100g) #416 indiecita photographed with Spring Thaw Tam

Size

Child-Adult Circumference: [43-50] cm / [17-19¾]", Height: [15-20] cm / [6-8]"

Yarn

MC: [83-125] m / [91-136] yds of fingering to light sport weight alpaca yarn CC: [62-98] m / [68-107] yds of (light) fingering variegated yarn

Needle & Notions

3 mm/ US $2\frac{1}{2}$ circular needle (40 cm/16" or 80 cm / 32" with magic loop) OR double-pointed needles, tapestry needle, 1 stitch marker

Gauge

25 sts x 46 rnds = 10 cm / 4" in Broken Seed Stitch - Adjust needle size accordingly. See Tip No.3 on page 2 to knit a swatch back and forth.

ABBREVIATIONS

{...}: repeat between { }
BO: bind off
BSS: Broken seed stitch
CC: contrasting color
CO: cast on
M1L: make 1 left
MC: main color
R/rnd(s): round(s)
RS/WS: right/wrong side
k: knit
p: purl
st(s): stitch(es)

INSTRUCTIONS

With MC, CO [112-124] sts* with German Twisted CO.

(See tutorial: http://www.garnstudio.com/lang/en/video.php?id=230&sort=2&thumbnails=on)

*If you change the circumference, CO a multiple of 4 sts. Don't make it too tight though, your head wouldn't pass through!

Join to work into the rnd and place a marker.

Work 2x2 rib ({k2, p2} around) for [5-6] rnds.

Begin to work in Broken seed stitch (BSS).

R1/MC: k2, **M1L**, k to end =113-125 sts **R2/CC**: k1, {p1, k1} to end **R3/MC**: k around **R4/CC:** p1, {k1, p1} to end

Tip No.1: MC is NEVER purled!

Repeat these 4 rnds without increasing on R1 (just k around instead) until piece measures [13.5-18.5] cm / [51/4-71/4]" from CO edge (= [56-78] rnds in BSS) OR desired length, ending with a CC rnd. Break CC.

With MC, k to last 2 sts, k 2 sts together =112-124 sts. Work 2x2 rib for [6-7] rnds.

BO all sts loosely with modified Icelandic BO as follows:

*K1, slip 1 purlwise, pass knitted st over slipped st, replace resulting st onto left needle.

(See tutorial: http://strandsoflife.com/modified-icelandic-bind-off/) Repeat from * until all sts are bound off.

K the last st put on left needle, extend the loop and break yarn.

Weave in ends.

Soak your cowl in lukewarm water to allow the sts to bloom. Squeeze water out without wringing and absorb moisture with towel. Let dry flat. Enjoy!

Do you love your cowl and want matching items? Check Spring Thaw Mitts and Tam on my website!



Tip No.2: To know if you need to k or p, look at the MC st 2 rows below the MC st you're working into. If it's a knit st, you purl the next st, and if it's a horizontal bar (purl bump), knit the st.

Tip No. 3: You can knit your BSS swatch back and forth with circular needle or doublepointed needles!

CO an even number of sts.

Row 1 (RS): K across with MC. Do NOT turn work and slide sts to the right end of needle.

Row 2 (RS): With CC, {k1, p1} to end. Turn work.

Row 3 (WS): WS facing you, p across with MC (this is an exception!). Do NOT turn work and slide sts again to right end of needle.

Row 4 (WS): Always WS facing you and with CC, {p1, k1} to end.