

# Western lace cowl

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Western Lace Cowl is a warm and soft collar conceived to cover up perfectly the low *décolleté*. It closes with a button, placed as one pleases to have an adjusted collar or to keep it a little bit loose.

It is knit with a mixture alpaca / kidsilk and needles n°4 to obtain a dense knitting and highlight the lace. It is worked in a simple long rectangle easy to knit on straight needles.

I called it Western Lace Cowl because its point on my neck reminds me of the Wild West bandits, but in a lace version!

## Size

65 cm x 17 cm (45 g) - 25.6'' x 6.7'' ( 1,8 oz)

## Gauge

10 cm (4'') = 18 sts and 33 rows in lace point (after blocking)

## Materials

**M** 35 g (1,4 oz) La Droguerie Alpaca col. Tourterelle

**M** 1 ball Kidsilk night Rowan, col. 608

**M** Ø 2,5 cm (1'') button

## Needles

Needles n°4 mm (US 6)

## Lace point

The cowl combines 10 stitches of Vine lace and 5 stitches of lace ladder. It has 6 repeats of the pattern + 1 extra Vine lace, and 2 borders. The central pattern

knits on 4 rows but be careful, the border knits on 8 rows.



## Western lace Cowl

With needles n°4 (US 6) and both alpaca and Kidsilk, cast on loosely 113 stitches.

Following the chart page 2 and written directions page 3, knit your cowl and repeat the 8-rows section 6 times to obtain a 6.7 in height. If you like a higher cowl, go on as much as you wish, always repeating the 8-rows section.



## Written directions

### Casting on

Cast on 113 stitches. Knit first row after casting on (WS) to place the lace likewise :

P5, \*k10, k1, p3, k1\* (6 times), p18.

### Lace

Starting on RS :

**Row 1** : cast off 3 sts, k5 ; k1, k2tog, k2, yo, k1, yo, k1, ssk, k1 ; \*p1, k2tog, yo, k1, p1 ; k1, k2tog, k2, yo, k1, yo, k1, ssk, k1\* (6 times) ; yo, ssk, 2 yo, k2tog, k1.

**Row 2** : k3, p1, k1, p1 ; \*p10, k1, p3, k1\* (6 fois) ; p10 ; yo, k2tog, 2 yo, k2tog, k1.

**Row 3** : k3, p1, k2tog ; k2tog, k2, yo, k1, yo, k3, ssk ; \*p1, k1, yo, ssk, p1 ; k2tog, k2, yo, k1, yo, k3, ssk\* (6 fois) ; yo, ssk, k1, 2 yo, k2tog, k1.

**Row 4** : k3, p1, k2, p1 ; \*p10, k1, p3, k1\* (6 fois) ; p10 ; yo, k2tog, k1, 2 yo, k2tog, k1.

**Row 5** : k3, p1, k3 ; k1, k2tog, k2, yo, k1, yo, k1, ssk, k1 ; \*p1, k2tog, yo, k1, p1 ; k1, k2tog, k2, yo, k1, yo, k1, ssk, k1\* (6 fois) ; yo, ssk, k2, 2 yo, k2tog, k1.

**Row 6** : k3, p1, k3, p1 ; \*p10, k1, p3, k1\* (6 fois) ; p10 ; yo, k2tog, k2, 2 yo, k2tog, k1.

**Row 7** : k3, p1, k4 ; k2tog, k2, yo, k1, yo, k3, ssk, \*p1, k1, yo, ssk, p1 ; k2tog, k2, yo, k1, yo, k3, ssk\* (6 fois) ; yo, ssk, k6.

**Row 8** : bind off 3 m., k4, p1 ; \*p10, k1, p3, k1\* (6 fois) ; p10 ; yo, k2tog, k6.

Always repeat these 8 rows.

After 6 repetitions of 8 rows, bind off loosely all stitches. Weave in ends. Wet block, pinning top and bottom of cowl, stressing wavelets and opening out eyelets ; pin out well border picots.

Wrap the cowl around your neck to test length and choose the place of the button. You can wear it looseley or tightly, it's up to you. Sew it strongly with a matching thread. Double yo of border are big enough to give way to even a big button, but be sure to test it before sewing. You might want to add a second button to keep top of cowl to slip from your neck...

Wear and be warm !

## Abbreviations

**k1** : knit

**p1** : purl

**k2tog** : knit 2 together (knitwise on RS, purlwise on WS)

**bind off** : knit 2, pass first stitch over

**ssk** : slip, slip, knit slipped stitches together

## Blocking

It is an essential stage to open out eyelets and highlight the point.

1. Soak your knitting about fifteen minutes in tepid water.
2. Squeeze it softly (without twisting or lifting it while dipped) to take out the water, then roll it up in a towel and press to absorb humidity. Remove.
3. Lay your knitting flat and pin it out carefully to measurements, stressing up picots, borders, wavelets... and spreading eyelets.
4. Let dry completely far from a direct source of heat.