

The Mall Cowl

By Katie Benedict

While my Mom and I were holiday shopping at a local upscale mall, we stumbled across this fabulous shaped cowl. My mother grabbed it right up, then dropped it like a hot coal after seeing the price tag – over \$150!

I went right home and found a warm looking stitch to use in making my own version of that cowl we saw. The garment is fitted to the neck, then pools out over the shoulders to keep you warm and snug under a winter coat.

This cowl is knit in the round, inside out, using combinations of purl stitches.



Guage: 20 stitches = 4 inches in stockenette stitch

Yarn: 1 skein Punita Yarns Merisoft Handpainted Merino (color HP64)

Needle: size 6 circular, 12”

Pattern:

Loosely cast on 66 stitches using the long tail method. Place marker. Join in the round, being careful not to twist.

Row 1: Purl all stitches to marker. Slip marker.

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Row 2: P2tog without dropping the stitches from the left needle. Purl through the first stitch again and drop stitches from the left needle to the right. Repeat to the marker. Slip marker.

Row 3: Purl all stitches to marker. Slip marker.

Row 4: P1; P2tog without dropping the stitches from the left needle. Purl through the first stitch again and drop stitches from the left needle to the right. Repeat to the next to the last stitch before the marker; P1.

Repeat rows 1-4 until cowl measures 3 inches. Work rows 1 & 2; then begin pattern increases below:

Row 5: After the stitch marker, M1. Purl all stitches to the marker; M1. Slip marker. *You have increased by 2 stitches.*

Row 6: P2tog without dropping the stitches from the left needle. Purl through the first stitch again and drop stitches from the left needle to the right. Repeat to the marker. Slip marker.

Repeat these two rows 10 times. You now have 86 stitches.

Then begin multiple increase pattern, below:

Row 7: M1, P20, M1, P2, M1, P22, M1, P2, M1, P20, M1, P2, M1, Purl to the stitch marker; M1, slip marker. *You have increased by 8 stitches.*

Row 8: P2tog without dropping the stitches from the left needle. Purl through the first stitch again and drop stitches from the left needle to the right. Repeat to the marker. Slip marker.

Row 9: After the stitch marker, M1. Purl all stitches to the marker; M1. Slip marker. *You have increased by 2 stitches.*

Row 10: P2tog without dropping the stitches from the left needle. Purl through the first stitch again and drop stitches from the left needle to the right. Repeat to the marker. Slip marker.

You now have 96 stitches.

Row 11: M1, P22, M1, P2, M1, P22, M1, P2, M1, P22, M1, P2, M1, Purl to the stitch marker; M1, slip marker. *You have increased by 8 stitches.*

Row 12: P2tog without dropping the stitches from the left needle. Purl through the first stitch again and drop stitches from the left needle to the right. Repeat to the marker. Slip marker.

Row 13: After the stitch marker, M1. Purl all stitches to the marker; M1. Slip marker. *You have increased by 2 stitches.*

Row 14: P2tog without dropping the stitches from the left needle. Purl through the first stitch again and drop stitches from the left needle to the right. Repeat to the marker. Slip marker.

You now have 106 stitches.

Row 15: M1, P24, M1, P2, M1, P26, M1, P2, M1, P26, M1, P2, M1, Purl to the stitch marker; M1, slip marker. *You have increased by 8 stitches.*

Row 16: P2tog without dropping the stitches from the left needle. Purl through the first stitch again and drop stitches from the left needle to the right. Repeat to the marker. Slip marker.

Row 17: After the stitch marker, M1. Purl all stitches to the marker; M1. Slip marker. *You have increased by 2 stitches.*

Row 18: P2tog without dropping the stitches from the left needle. Purl through the first stitch again and drop stitches from the left needle to the right. Repeat to the marker. Slip marker.

You now have 116 stitches.

Row 19: M1, P28, M1, P2, M1, P28, M1, P2, M1, P28, M1, P2, M1, Purl to the stitch marker; M1, slip marker. *You have increased by 8 stitches.*

Row 20: P2tog without dropping the stitches from the left needle. Purl through the first stitch again and drop stitches from the left needle to the right. Repeat to the marker. Slip marker.

Row 21: After the stitch marker, M1. Purl all stitches to the marker; M1. Slip marker. *You have increased by 2 stitches.*

Row 22: P2tog without dropping the stitches from the left needle. Purl through the first stitch again and drop stitches from the left needle to the right. Repeat to the marker. Slip marker.

You now have 126 stitches on the needles.

Row 23: M1, P30, M1, P2, M1, P30, M1, P2, M1, P30, M1, P2, M1, Purl to the stitch marker; M1, slip marker. *You have increased by 8 stitches.*

Row 24: P2tog without dropping the stitches from the left needle. Purl through the first stitch again and drop stitches from the left needle to the right. Repeat to the marker. Slip marker.

Row 25: After the stitch marker, M1. Purl all stitches to the marker; M1. Slip marker. *You have increased by 2 stitches.*

Row 26: P2tog without dropping the stitches from the left needle. Purl through the first stitch again and drop stitch from the left needle to the right. Repeat to the marker. Slip marker.

You now have 136 stitches on the needles.

At this point, your cowl should measure about 12” in length. If not, continue increasing at evenly spaced intervals throughout the purl rows and make your cowl as long as you would like it to be.

Row 27: Purl all stitches.

Row 28: *Loosely* bind off all stitches in purl stitch.

Flip cowl right-side out. Block and wear!

