

# Ashford Cowl

by Nicola Faull

This silky cowl will add warmth and a little drama to any walk in the park. Make it silky as shown or try it in a woolly yarn for winter warmth.

## Skill Level

Intermediate knitter or intrepid beginner with some basic lace experience. Skills required: Knit, purl, yarn over, s1, ssk, k2tog, short row shaping, cast on, cast off.

## Finished Size

Approx. 20" circumference at bottom edge, 17" circumference at top edge, 8" high, blocked.

**Gauge** Not critical for this project. 18.0 = 4 inches on 5.5 mm/US 10 needle, unblocked. Every knitter's gauge is unique. This cowl is designed to be close fitting without gaps at the neck, but not tight. If you would like a looser cowl just go up a needle size or two.

## Needles 'n Notions

US 9 / 5 mm -16" circular needle

US 10 / 5.5 mm -16" circular needle

4 stitch markers (1 different so you can identify the start of a new round.)

Tapestry needle



## Abbreviations:

**K2tog** - knit 2 stitches together

**P2tog** - purl 2 stitches together

**S1** - slip next stitch knitwise

**Ssk** - slip the next 2 stitches as if to knit, return them to the left needle and knit them together

**yo** - wrap yarnover needle before next stitch

**W&T** - wrap and turn for short row shaping

## Gallery (as shown from left to right):



### Classic Elite Yarns Waterlily:

- approx 136 yards (124.4m)
- approx 1.5 skeins
- 4.0mm/US 6
- 4.5mm/US 7

### Lang Silkdream: Red

- 130 yards (120.0m)
- approx 1.25 skeins
- 50% Merino / 50% Silk
- 5.0mm/US 9
- 5.5mm/US 10

### Debbie Bliss Rialto Aran: Purple (col 15)

- Merino, machine washable
- 115 yds (105 m)
- 5.0mm/US 9 - 5.5mm/US 10
- **omit row 11** of chart to make it from a single skein



### Tip: Yarnovers between knit-and-purl and purl-and-knit stitches

In Row 2, the 1<sup>st</sup> yarnover (YO) occurs between a knit and a purl stitch and the 2<sup>nd</sup> YO occurs between this purl stitch and the following knit stitch. Wrap the yarn completely around the needle between these stitches. On the next round, be sure to knit these yarnovers snugly.

### Stitch pattern:

Row 1	- *K8, k2tog, yo, k1, p1, k1, yo, ssk, k8; rep from * to end
Row 2	- *K7, k2tog, k2, yo, p1, yo, k2, ssk, k7; rep from * to end
Row 3	- *K6, k2tog, k, yo, k2,p1, k2,yo, k, ssk, k6; rep from * to end
Row 4	- *K5, k2tog, k3, yo, k1,p1,k1, yo, k3, ssk, k5; rep from * to end
Row 5	- *K4, k2tog, k2, yo,k3, p1,k3, yo, k2, ssk, k4; rep from * to end
Row 6	- *K3, k2tog, k4, yo, k2,p1,k2, yo, k4, ssk, k3; rep from * to end
Row 7	- *K2, k2tog, k3, yo, k4,p1,k4, yo, k3, ssk, k2; rep from * to end
Row 8	- *K1, k2tog, k5, yo, k3,p1, k3,yo, k5, ssk, k1; rep from * to end
Row 9	- *k2tog, k4, yo,k5, p1,k5, yo, k4, ssk, rep from * to end
Row 10 & 11	- *K11, p1, k11; rep from * to end

### Tip: Lengthen or shorten:

Here's where you can lengthen the cowl by including extra repeats of these 11 rows. The cowl may also be lengthened or shortened slightly by adding or subtracting rows between the pattern repeats, i.e. repeating or removing rows 10 & 11. To knit the cowl from a single skein of Debbie Bliss Rialto Aran, omit row 11.

Switch to size 5 mm needles and repeat rows 1-11, 2 more times. There are now 4 horizontal repeat sections of the stitch pattern

### Tip: Looser scallop edge/cast off

For a looser top edge of the cowl, switch back to the larger needle for the scallop edging and cast off.

### Scallop edging:



#### Scallop edge 1

Row 1 - P2tog, P20, there is now 1 stitch before the stitch marker. W&T (slip this stitch onto the right needle. Pass the working yarn around this stitch from front to back, turn your work and slip this stitch onto the right needle. Wrap the working yarn around this stitch to the back of the work. Continue to row 2).

Row 2 - K19, k2tog, turn

Row 3 - Ssk so as to cast off 1 stitch. Cast off 18 more stitches until there is 1 stitch remaining on the left needle before the next stitch marker.

Slip this stitch to the right hand needle, remove the stitch marker and return this stitch to the left hand

needle. P2tog. Cast off the final stitch of the 1<sup>st</sup> scallop over this new stitch. You are now 1 stitch into the next scallop.

### Scallop edge 2

P2tog, P19, W&T as before

K19, k2tog

Ssk so as to cast off 1 stitch. Cast off until there is 1 stitch on the left needle before the next stitch marker.

Slip this stitch to the right hand needle, remove the stitch marker and return this stitch to the left hand needle. P2tog. Cast off the final stitch of the 2<sup>nd</sup> scallop over this new stitch. You are now 1 stitch into the next scallop.

### Scallop edge 3

Repeat as for Scallop edge 2

### Scallop edge 4 (final)

P2tog, P19, W&T as before

K18, k2tog

Ssk so as to cast off 1 stitch. Cast off until there is 1 stitch remaining on the right needle.

With the tip of the left needle, pick up a loop from the edge of the 1<sup>st</sup> scallop. The aim is to close the gap between the first and last scallop, so the loop you pick up needs to be reasonably taut. Pass the stitch from the right needle to the left and knit these 2 loops together. If the fabric between the scallops seems loose or gappy, repeat this step by picking up another loop from the cast off edge and knitting it together with the last stitch. Pull stitches firmly.

Break off yarn and thread through the last stitch.

### Alternative edging

To finish cowl without short rows, replace the scallop edge with 2 purl rows and cast off the final row in knit.

### Finishing

Weave in ends. Block to desired size.

### Last Orders

Get out there and have fun with your Ashford Cowl.



I'm a slightly obsessed knitter and advocate of all things yarnie.

I live, knit and hang out with my Yarnie People in beautiful Co. Wicklow, Ireland.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for any help with this pattern.

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