Pacific® Chunky
Beginner Brioche Cowl

Designed by

Andrea Maglisceau

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Skill Level:

Intermediate

Finished Size:

Approx. 14" x 24"

Materials:

Cascade Yarns® Pacific® Chunky
60% Acrylic / 40% Superwash Merino Wool
100 g (3.5 oz) / 120 yds (110 m)
2 skeins of color #61 (Silver) MC
2 skeins of color #40 (Peacock) CC
US 9 & 10.5/20-24" circular knitting needles
1 stitch marker
Yarn Needle

Gauge:

11 sts x 17 rows = 4" (10 cm) in Brioche Pattern

Abbreviations:

BO	= Bind Off
BRK	= Brioche Knit
BRP	= Brioche Purl
CC	= Contrasting Color
CO	= Cast On
K	= Knit
K2tog	= Knit 2 stitches together
MC	= Main Color
P	= Purl
PM	= Place Marker
P2tog	= Purl 2 stitches together
Rnd(s)	= Round(s)
St(s)	= Stitch(es)
Sl	= Slip
Sl1YO	= Slip 1 stitch, then Yarn Over
YfSl1	= Yarn Forward, Slip 1 stitch
YO	= Yarn Over

Notes: *Brioche stripes are easier to achieve than you might think. All you need to know are knit, purl, yarn over, yarn forward slip one, knit two together, and purl two together. Many knitters are stumped by the language unique to this stitch, but replacing "brk," "brp," and "yfsl1yo" with basic knitting terms for the same results will have you creating gorgeous two-color accessories in no time. This cowl is worked in the round with only one color at a time, so there's no stranding.*

The creation of the shawl occurs when the yarn is forward and you slip a st as if to purl, then knit (or K2tog, or BRK) the next st. This is often abbreviated as "yfsl1yo." Since knitting with the yarn forward already causes a YO, I was completely confused until I realized the YO at the end of the abbreviation doesn't mean to create another actual YO, but to just lay the yarn on top of the needle so it's in position to knit the next st. To confuse matters more, if the next stitch is a purl (or P2tog, or BRP), then the YO at the end of "yfsl1yo" really does mean to YO.

*In this pattern, the instructions for creating a shawl over a slipped st are simply, "yfsl1" or "sl1yo." Always be sure to slip the st as if to purl. **BRK** is replaced with **K2tog**. Always be sure you are knitting the slipped st together with the YO that crosses over it. **BRP** is replaced with **P2tog**. Always be sure you're purling the slipped st together with the YO that crosses over it. Keep in mind that all sts are slipped with yarn forward and the needle inserted as if to purl.*

Special Stitches:

BRK:
Brioche Knit (Knit the slipped st and its "yarn over shawl" together as 1 st. In this pattern, this st is just K2tog.

BRP:
Brioche Purl (Purl the slipped st and its "yarn over shawl" together as 1 st. In this pattern, this st is just P2tog.

YfSl1:
Slip 1 st with yarn in front as if to purl (Then, when the yarn is left in front and the next st is knit, the resulting YO becomes a "shawl" over the slipped st.)

Pattern Instructions:

Holding the US 9 & 10.5 needles together, CO 88 sts with MC.
Join to work in the rnd, being careful not to twist. PM
Using US 10.5 knitting needle, knit 1 round.

Setup Round: *[YfSl1, K1]; repeat from * to end of round.

Switch to US 9 knitting needle.

Add CC.

Note: *When changing colors to begin a new round, the color you just finished using should hang in front of your work and to the right of the color you're about to pick up. All purl rnds will be in CC, while knit rounds continue to be worked in MC until you reach the edging.*

Rnd 1 (CC): *[P2tog, Sl1, YO]; repeat from * to end of round.

Rnd 2 (MC): The yarn is in front from the previous rnd. Sl1, K2tog, *[YfSl1, K2tog]; repeat from * to end of round.

Repeat rnds 1 & 2 until piece measures 17.5", or until either color of yarn runs out.
End after a knit round.
If you've used all of 1 color, use whichever is left to BO.
Switch to US 10.5 knitting needle.

With CC, work 1 brioche purl rnd (Round 1).

Knit 1 round and BO loosely.

Weave in ends and block gently to straighten stripes.