Circlet Cowl

General Notes

This pattern uses American crochet terminology.

A versatile stash buster, this cowl can be worked in pretty much any yarn you like, in one, two or more colours. I used two 50 g skeins of fingering merino wool and a 3.5 mm hook to create the cowl in the pictures.

Use a fine yarn for a light and elegant cowl/scarf/stole with many small circlets; use a heavy yarn for a thick and cozy version with large dots. Whip up a neck-hugging cowl in a bulky yarn if you're after a one-skein, one-hour project, or work many wide rows in a lofty lacy yarn for a relaxed summer stole to drape across your shoulders.

The cowl is worked in rows back and forth and joined together to form a circle once you are satisfied with the length of your work. (Or don't join if you prefer a scarf.) Finally, two edging rounds are worked along the sides.

Materials

I used Sublime Yarns Extra Fine Merino Wool 4 ply (shades 173 and 006; 175m/191yds grey and 150m/164yds purple). This fingering weight superwash merino yarn has unfortunately since been discontinued. Fortunately, yarn and gauge is irrelevant to this project; use any wearable yarn you like, in one, two, three or more colours. Don't worry about the loose ends – you will work them all in at once when you crochet the edging rounds.

I used a 3.5 mm hook. Use whatever size hook gives you nicely defined circles, yet at the same time a soft fabric with drape.

Sizing & Gauge

Gauge: irrelevant, no swatching required, yay!

Sizing is entirely up to you. The size (feel and look) of your cowl will depend on four things: yarn, hook size, number of rows worked and the length of your rows (starting chain). All of this you decide!

Abbreviations

dc	double crochet
hdc	half double crochet
ch	chain
sc	single crochet
sk	skip
beg	beginning
st	stitch
slst	slip stitch
ea	each
clr	colour
yo	yarn over
FC	Foundation Chain
sp	space

Help!?

For any questions regarding this pattern, please feel free to email me: crochet@hookedbyanna.com

Instructions

Each row of circles actually consists of three rows. Hence, if you, like me, change colours every three rows, you end up with two loose ends at each colour change. However, don't fret! You won't need to sew them all in one by one, you can work them into the edging stitches later. Along both sides as you work, you will have semicircles.

FC: Chain multiples of 7 plus 5.
E.g. 21+5 ch will give you 2 circles and 2 semicircles either side; 28+5ch = 3 circles with 2 semicircles either side, and so on. I chained 49+5 for 6 circles and 2 semicircles (24 cm/ 9.5 ins wide in fingering yarn).

Row 1: 3 dc in 4th ch from hook, ch 2, sk nxt 6 ch, *(3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) in nxt ch, ch 2, sk nxt 6 ch*; repeat from * to * across, ending with 3 dc in next to last ch, dc in last ch, turn.

Row 2: Ch 3 (counts as dc), sk 1st dc, 3 dc in nxt dc, ch 2, sk nxt ch-2 sp, *(3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) in nxt ch-1 sp, ch 2, sk nxt ch-2 sp*; repeat from * to * across, ending with 3 dc in the last dc before the turning chs, dc in top of turning ch, turn.

Row 3: Ch 3 (counts as dc), sk 1st dc, 3 dc in nxt dc, ch 1, slst over nxt 2 ch-2 spaces in 2 rows below, ch 1, *(3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) in nxt ch-1 sp; ch 1, slst over nxt 2 ch-2 spaces in 2 rows below, ch 1*; repeat from * to * across, ending with 3 dc in the last dc before the turning chs, dc in top of turning ch, turn.

Row 4: Ch 3 (counts as dc), sk 1st dc, 3 dc in nxt dc, ch 2, sk nxt 2 ch-1 spaces, *(3 dc, ch 1, 3 dc) in nxt ch-1 sp, ch 2, sk nxt 2 ch-1 spaces*; repeat from * to * across, ending with 3 dc in the last dc before the turning chs, dc in top of turning ch, turn.

Repeat rows 2-4 until you are happy with the size of your cowl.

JOIN: With the same colour you worked the FC and first row, slip stitch the cowl together, joining the FC to your final worked row. Work loosley, as slsts have less 'give' than other stitches – change to a larger hook if necessary. Match up the circles of your first and last row, wrong sides together. Where the tops of the circles meet, work 3 slsts through the top 3 sts of the circles of the final row (purple in picture below) and through the FC (grey). In the gaps between the circles, work 4 slsts into the FC. The exactness of the join is irrelevant – do what you think looks best, this is just a suggestion!

Scarf: If you wish to make a scarf or a stole, omit the join and work one more row – see "Finishing & Edging" section on next page.

Slip stitch the cowl together, joining the foundation chain to the last worked row.

Finishing & Edging

Work two rounds of edging around each side to tidy up, hide and secure all those loose ends. The edging is worked into the sides of the semicircles, in rows back-and-forth on a scarf/ stole or in joined rounds on a cowl. To make a scarf or stole, omit the join on the previous page and instead, replicate the FC across the top edge of the scarf/ stole to get both ends to look the same. Do this by working one more row after your final pattern row, as follows.

Scarf/stole
final row: Ch 1, sk 1st dc, slst in nxt dc, ch 5, sk nxt 2 ch-1 spaces, *slst into nxt ch-1 sp (at the top of the circle), ch 6, sk nxt 2 ch-1 spaces*; repeat * to * across, ending with ch 5, slst in last dc, slst in top of turning chains. Create a fringed scarf by tying strands of yarn into the chain spaces at the ends.

Edging rnd 1: Simply sc all along the side of the cowl/ scarf/ stole, working your loose ends into the stitches as you go. Work approx. 2 sc around the stem of each dc along the side (i.e. 6 sc into each semicircle). Join (or turn). The exact number of sc in this rnd (or row) doesn't matter – the important thing is that the fabric doesn't pucker and that the scs are evenly spaced out.

Edging rnd 2: Hdc into each sc along/around. Join. Fasten off and weave in remaining ends and tidy up any ends that may be sticking out of, or showing through, the edging rounds.

Starting a new pattern repeat. (Change colour at the last YO of the previous row, then turn & ch 3 with the new colour.)

The next row, and it still looks nothing like circles...

The last row of the pattern repeat creates the circles by gathering together the ch-2 spaces of the two previous rounds with a slip stitch.