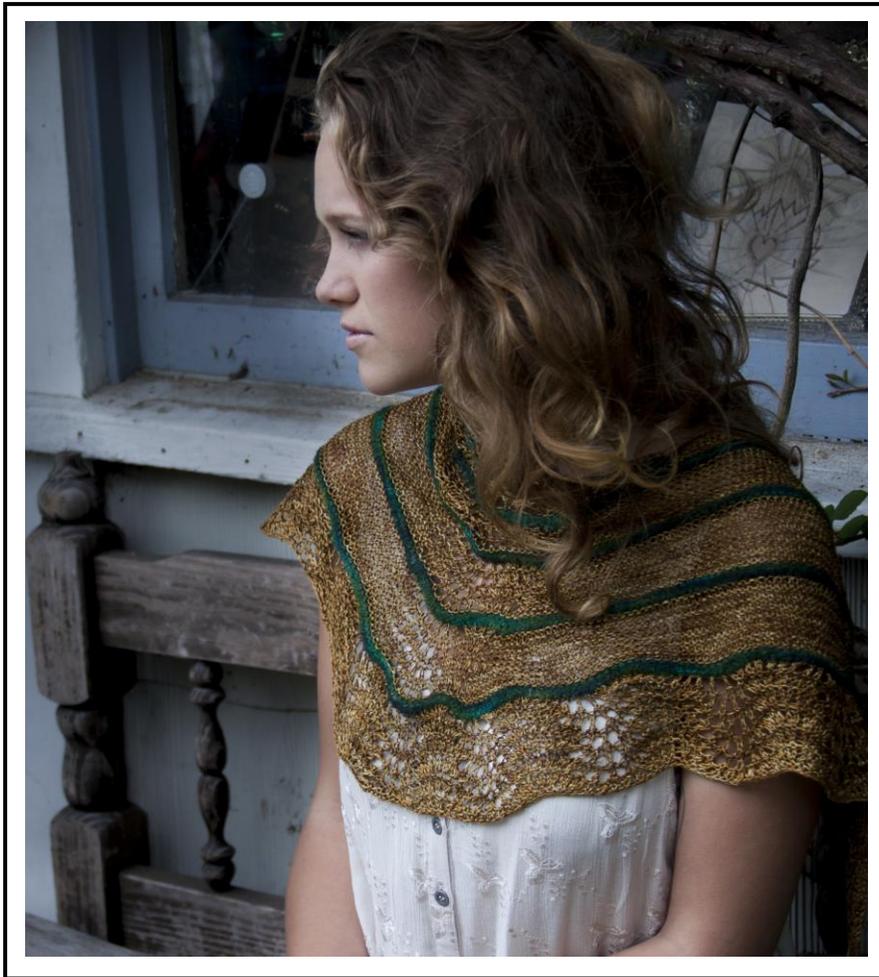


CAROLINA SHIBORI SHAWLETTE

Design by Gina Wilde for Alchemy Yarns of Transformation



The Carolina Shibori Shawlette blends two yarns to a stunning shibori effect. Silken Straw, a pure silk fiber, is worked with stripes of Sanctuary, our wool/silk blend. A simple miter triangle with a beautiful central lace panel and elegant border is knit, then lightly felted to achieve the sensational drape and drama made possible by the shibori process. The Silken Straw relaxes and softens during felting, while the Sanctuary fulls with a soft halo. The finished result is a dazzling little shawlette, made from just (2) skeins of yarn.

FINISHED SIZE

42" on longest edge; 14" top to tip depth (after felting)

This design was written exclusively for Alchemy yarns, and Alchemy is not responsible for the success of making it in any other fiber.

MATERIALS

Alchemy Yarns **Silken Straw** (100% silk; 236 yds/40g): 1 skein. Yarn A.

Shown in 172m *Temple Gold*; AND

Alchemy Yarns **Sanctuary** (30% silk/70% wool; 125 yds/50g): 1 skein. Yarn B.

Shown in 197c *Peacock*.

US Size 6 (4 mm) needles, *or sizes needed to obtain gauge*

2 stitch markers

Darning needle

gauge (pre-felted)

20 sts and 32 rows = 4"/10 cm in garter stitch, using US size 6 (4 mm) needles

Feather & Fan stitch pattern - multiple of 18 sts

Row 1 (RS): Knit

Row 2: Purl

Row 3: [K2tog] 3 times, *[yo, k1] 6 times, [k2tog] 6 times, rep from * ending [k2tog] 3 times

Row 4: Knit.

Repeat rows 1 – 4 for pattern



A Word about the Special Technique of Shibori Knitting

While the Japanese word “shibori” cannot be directly translated into English, it basically denotes a “shape resist textile.” Most people are familiar with the concept of *Tie Dye* (originally called “tie and dye”), which is the most popular understanding of shibori. Ties such as rubber bands or strings are secured on a piece of fabric, and then that fabric is dyed; the fabric resists the dye where it has been bound.

Gina Wilde’s shibori design is an exploration of manipulating knit fabric, harnessing the effects of working differing types of yarns together (combing felting and non-felting fibers in one knit piece). In this shawl, the pure silk yarn (A) acts as a resist to the wool/silk felting yarn (B). When felted in a washing machine, the pure silk yarn actually grows in the process, while the wool/silk blend shrinks and felts (or fulls). The result produces a textured and dramatic knit fabric, one that is light and airy, rather than the heavy dense fabric achieved when using traditional felting methods and yarns.

Pattern Notes

- The shawl is knit from the neck down, with all color changes and stitch increases occur on RS rows.
- The lace panel is centered in the shawl, and will be worked between 2 markers. All other stitches are worked in garter stitch (knit every row).
- Unlike traditional felting, the shawl will actually increase in size after felting, rather than shrinking. Please read the tutorial notes carefully for best method of shibori felting process.
- The shawl is knit in a traditional manner, and then felted in a washing machine to achieve the shibori effect. We do not recommend any fiber substitutions, due to the specific content and construction of the yarns featured in the shawl.

ABBREVIATIONS

beg	beginning
BO	bind off
CO	cast on
dec	decrease
inc	increase
k	knit
k2tog	knit 2 stitches together
kfb	knit in front & back of stitch
p	purl
pm	place marker
RS	right side
sl m	slip marker
st(s)	stitch (es)
WS	wrong side
yo	yarn over



Directions

Section 1

With A, cast on 20 sts. K 1 row.

Set Up row (WS): K1, pm, K 18, pm, K1 (the section between markers is the lace panel).

Row 1(RS): Kfb, sl m, work row 1 of lace pattern, sl m, kfb ~ to 22 sts.

Row 2 (WS): K2, sl m, work row 2 of lace pattern, sl m, k2.

Row 3: K1 (edge st), kfb, sl m, work row 3 of lace pattern, sl m, kfb, k1 (edge st) ~ to 24 sts.

Row 4: Knit, slipping markers as necessary.

Row 5: K1, kfb, kfb, sl m, work row 1 of lace pattern, sl m, kfb, kfb, k1 – 28 sts.

Row 6: K to 1st marker, sl m, work row 2 of lace pattern, sl m, k to end of row.

Row 7: K1, kfb, knit to 1 st before marker, kfb, sl m, work row 3 of lace pattern, sl m, kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1 ~ to 32 sts.

Row 8: Knit, slipping markers as necessary (work row 4 of lace pattern between markers).

Row 9: K1, kfb, k to 1 st before marker, kfb, sl m, work row 1 of lace pattern, kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1 ~ to 36 sts.

Row 10: K to 1st marker, sl m, work row 2 of lace pattern, sl m, k to end of row.

Row 11: K1, kfb, knit to 1 st before marker, kfb, slip marker, work row 3 of lace pattern, sl m, kfb, k to last 2 sts, kfb, k1 ~ to 40 sts.

Row 12: Knit, slipping markers as necessary (work row 4 of lace pattern between markers).

Rows 13 – 16: Rep rows 9 thru 12 ~ to 48 sts.

Rows 17 – 20 (Garter st): With yarn B, knit each row, making increases on RS rows as before, but without working lace pattern between markers ~ to 56 sts. It is not necessary to cut yarn A; rather, carry it loosely along right side of work. Cut yarn B at end of Row 20.

Sections 2 – 5: Work as for Section 1, increasing 4 sts every RS row, and continuing lace stitch pattern between markers when working in yarn A. Each section has 4 pattern reps (16 rows) in the central miter panel in yarn A, and yarn B is always worked entirely in garter st (4 rows). Each section yields 40 additional sts, with 32 sts gained in yarn A and 8 sts gained in yarn B – to 234 sts, at end of Section 5.

Section 6 (worked entirely in lace st pattern)

Row 1 (RS): With yarn A, knit, removing markers as you go (there will be no more st increases, nor need to separate the central lace panel, as it will be incorporated in the knit border).

Row 2 (WS): Purl.

Row 3: Work row 3 of lace pattern.

Row 4: Knit.

Rep Rows 1 – 4 of lace st pattern (4) more times.

Next row (RS): Knit.

Next row (WS): Bind off all sts loosely.

Designer's TIP

For best results, bind off sts with a slightly larger needle. For instance, if you have worked the shawl in the recommended US Size 6 needle, bump up to a US Size 7 or 8 needle, as this will produce a more relaxed bind off.

Finishing

Weave in all ends, and be sure there are no dropped sts before beginning the felting process.

Felting

- Place your scarf in a mesh laundry bag.
- If you are using a top-loading machine, set to the gentle/delicate cycle and lowest water level. If you are using a front-loading machine, the gentle/delicate cycle may not provide enough agitation, and you can use the regular cycle.
- Set for warm water - not hot.
- Add 1-2 teaspoons of liquid fabric softener to the wash.
- Check progress at 5-minute intervals, setting the machine back to continue agitation if more felting is desired. You want yarn B to become denser; look at the stitches to see that they have either mostly or completely disappeared in the felting process. Remember the golden rule of felting: you can always felt more, but you can never un-felt, so be sure to check at 5-minute intervals for best results. Depending on your water, (2) felting cycles is usually enough to achieve desired result.
- Yarn A will become more open and 'draped'.
- When your piece has reached the desired degree of felting, remove and press out excess moisture between two towels.
- Lay flat to dry.



- Once dry, steaming with an iron will yield the final softness and drape. Spread out the knit fabric with your fingers in both directions as you do this, avoiding pressing down hard on the knitted fabric. Don't skip this step!

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