

Aceraceae Cowl



This cowl was inspired by three things. I wanted a scarf that would keep my neck warm in the upcoming months of cold, but that would lay flat in my pea coat... or maybe not have to be tucked into my neckline at all.

The issue though is that little area on my neck that my coat doesn't quite cover up, but a scarf wrapped around my neck will not either, so tucked in it goes... adding more bulk to my already bulked up winter weather form. So that was inspiration number one. The second inspiration came from my own stash. As always, that question of what to do with skeins of yarn that are 25g or less. Especially when you have 20+ of them. I dug around in my bin and realized that for a cowl I would have even shorter yardage if I bulked up the yarn, several 25 skeins together. I wanted a little fuzz, but not a ton, so I settled on Rowan kid mohair, Catalina 4 ply alpaca (the little bit left over from the shawl I just finished, the leftovers from my last pair of socks, and some random nubby tweedy vintage wool. I chose the yarns based on color and texture. Soft, thick, fall, september blue skies. The result is the Aceraceae Cowl, the family that the red maple comes from.

Ingredients:

25 g worsted alpaca
25 g worsted mohair
25 g worsted wool
25 g self striping/patterning sock yarn
Size N crochet hook
Yarn Needle
5 Buttons ranging from 1 1/4" - 1/4"
Sewing needle and thread

Gauge:

6.5 sts in sc = 4 inches



Notes:

This cowl has a little different construction in the sense that there are two increases along on side so that way the front piece (with the cluster of buttons) is slightly smaller than layer behind it. This helps to accentuate the layered look of the cowl.

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Directions:

Chain 9

Row 1: 1sc in second chain, 1sc each chain to end, turn. (7 single crochet stitches total)

Row 2: Chain 1, 1sc to end.

Repeat row 2 until piece measures 10 inches.

Increase row: Chain 1, 2sc in next sc st, 1sc to end.

Repeat row 2 until piece measures 15 inches.

Repeat increase row.

Repeat row 2 until piece measures 29 inches.

Lay the cowl down flat with the short end to the right. Lay out all the buttons on the short end how you want them. Make sure the biggest one can both fit through the crochet stitches and that it's positioned in the to right corner. Sew on all the buttons except the large one.

Wrap the cowl around your neck how you would like it to fit (the tightness of the wrap), then put a safety pin where the large button will go so when you button it, it will line up correctly with the other buttons.

Lay out flat again and sew the large button on where the safety pin is placed. Take out the safety pin, wrap around your neck, button up, and enjoy the warmth.

