

Lost Crocus Cowl

By Nancy Wilson ©

Late winter and early spring weather brings warm days and storm days. One day the crocuses are peeking through the ground. The next day the ground is covered in snow. The snow melts and those hardly little crocuses are still thriving with their tiny pop of color. Before the really hot weather sets in, check your stash and find some sock yarn that you've been saving for a special project. The yarn I used has tiny and larger flecks of color which remind me of early spring flowers growing in the soil.



Super squishy cowl in fisherman's ribbing.

Materials:

- 100 grams of Lichen and Lace 80/20 Sock Yarn (fingering weight) in the Pressed Flowers colorway (available on Etsy)
- Size 2 (US) circular needles, 24" long
- Tapestry needle

Finished Size: 8" high and 29" around

Fisherman Rib Pattern in the Round: Odd rounds: K1 in stitch below, P1, continue across the round. Even rounds: K1, P1 in stitch below. If you're not sure about this, you can look up a "how-to" video on YouTube.

Begin the cowl: Cast on 170 stitches using a long tail cast-on.

Round 1: Join in the round, being careful to not twist the stitches on this first round. Work one round in 1x1 ribbing (K1, P1).

Round 2 and following rounds: Work the Fisherman ribbing until almost all of the yarn has been used. Here's a pointer about knitting to the very end. When you think you have enough yarn to knit two more rows, then lay out the yarn and put a simple marker (I put a loose knot) in the middle of the remainder. If I knit one more round and the knot is still about 12" away, then I know that I have enough yarn for the bind off.

Bind off: Use a regular bind off (K2, *pass 1st stitch over the 2nd stitch, knit 1* repeat between *s across the round.)

Block: Soak your cowl, and gently lay out to dry in rectangular shape.

Pin: Support a local artisan and buy a cute pin!



About Yarn Pooling: OK, you chose your yarn, you're into your project by an inch or so, and you can tell you don't like the way the colors in the yarn are clumping together. Here's a solution: rip it out, start over again by casting on either 10 fewer stitches, or 10 more stitches. This should help the yarn to regroup and show itself off. But let's say that even this doesn't work. Try casting on 20 more or 20 fewer stitches. Of course casting on more stitches will create a shorter cowl, while casting on fewer stitches will create a longer cowl.

About the yarn: I ordered this yarn and it came within 2 weeks from Canada. Support a smaller company!