

A Certain Darkness...



#acertaindarknessshawl

The Sister shawl to the Sunlight Shawl for Sad people

Same style, different type of triangle.

This shawl isn't fancy.

The idea came to me when I was wanting to play around with triangle shawls that are worked sideways. I wanted a plain, simple knit and decided to use the same premise for the Sunlight Shawl for Sad People! Mostly stockinette with some lovely textural garter ridges, and the added detail of a nice picot cast-off.

Yarn:

2 skeins of Frida Fuchs ETEPETETE Sock yarn in Spring 2016 colourway "Iced Coffee" or approximately 730 meters (798 yards) of fingering weight yarn.

Needles:

3.5mm (US 4) circular needles in a 24" cord.

Notions:

Whatever tools you like for weaving in ends.
Whatever tools you like for blocking your shawl.

Gauge:

22 sts by 34 rows = 4" x 4" (10cm x 10cm) square
worked in stockinette and blocked.

Size:

The sample is 75" (190cm) long, measured at the wingspan
and is 30" (76cm) deep, measured at the deepest part of the triangle.

Legend:

YO = Yarn Over

K = Knit

P = Purl

K2Tog = Knit 2 stitches Together

RS = Right Side

WS = Wrong Side

Honestly this shawl can be knit forever and using whatever yarn you'd like (yardage may vary). Just use the knitting needles that make the fabric look its nicest to you,
and then knit away!

Telling the difference between the Right Side (RS) and the Wrong Side (WS)

This pattern is knit flat with wrong side rows and right side rows.

Which means the wrong side will have primarily purls and the right side will have primarily knits.

The right side's fabric is going to look like lots of little Vs while the wrong side is going to look like lots of little lines or bumps.



Yarn Overs!

The yarn over (YO) is the first building block to lace knitting. Lots of new knitters do these by accident - the premise of the yarn over is to literally put the yarn from front to back over your right-hand knitting needle and then work the next stitch.



The Pattern:

Cast on 4 stitches.

Set up row 1: K2, YO, K1, YO, K1.

Set up row 2: K all stitches.

Set up row 3: K2, YO, K1, YO, K3.

Set up row 4: K2, P4, K2.

The repeatable part of the pattern:

Row 1 (RS): K2, YO, K1, YO, K to last 4 stitches, K2Tog, K2.

Row 2 (WS) : K2, P to last 2 stitches, K2.

Row 3 (RS): K2, YO, K1, YO, K to last 4 stitches, K2Tog, K2.

Row 4 (WS): K2, P to last 2 stitches, K2.

Row 5 (RS): K2, YO, K1, YO, K to end of row.

Row 6 (WS): K2, P to last 2 stitches, K2.

If you work rows 1 - 6 over and over again you'll get a plain stockinette sideways triangle shawl.

You can add **garter ridges** (the little bumpy rows on the front of the shawl) any time you want by just knitting all the stitches on a WS row. So to add a garter ridge make sure you're about to work a WS row and just substitute this garter ridge row instead of the regular WS row.

Randomly placed garter ridge row (WS): K all stitches.

Some people like to add them evenly throughout their project, while I like to just put them in there somewhat haphazardly whenever I feel like it.



Finishing up the shawl:

Before you're ready to cast off you get to knit a few more rows of just plain garter (knitting every row). I knit 14 rows of just knitting every stitch before I started the steps to cast off.

The picot cast-off:

You should be on a RS row.

Cast off four stitches in regular fashion.

*Slip the stitch that's on your right-needle on to your left-hand needle, use the knitted cast-on to cast on 2 stitches.

Cast off 6 stitches*

Repeat from * to * until all stitches have been cast off.

How to do a knitted cast-on:

After you cast off your 4 stitches, slip the stitch you have on your right-hand needle onto the left-hand needle. Put your right-hand needle through the stitch you've just put back onto the left-hand needle. Start to knit the stitch, pull the yarn through the stitch, but don't drop the old stitch off the left-hand needle. Just keep that loop of yarn (your new stitch) that you pulled through the stitch on your right-hand needle.

Then twist that loop of yarn and put it on the left-hand needle. If you've done this correctly you'll have a new stitch created on your left-hand needle. To cast on more stitches in this way, just repeat that step over again to cast on as many stitches as you need (which in this case is just 2).

If this is your first time doing a knitted cast-on. Check out The Knit Witch's excellent video tutorial here: <http://bit.ly/21lsqBw>

Blocking:

Blocking is incredibly important with all shawls. When you cast off your shawl it will be a tiny little sad scrunched-up ball of knitting. It will only blossom into something gorgeous if you pin the ever-living hell out of it.

Soak the shawl in lukewarm water, you can use wool soak like Eucalan or not. Make sure not to agitate it too much as it might felt. Squeeze out the water gently, you can use a towel to press the water out too, to help it dry. Lay it out on a bed or a blocking mat or a bunch of cardboard and stick pins in every picot edge as well as along the straight edges. Block heavily, pull it tight.

Lay it to dry overnight. Only unpin when it is truly dry.

Thanks to Nicola from **Tiny Island Textiles** for tech editing and modeling this gorgeous shawl!