



DANCING DROPLET SHAWL

BY STEPHEN WEST

Select four shades of DK weight wool to knit this textured semi-circle shawl. The top-down knitting adventure begins with an I-cord cast on and flows into smooth I-cord edges. Droplet stitches yield clusters of color, perfect for showcasing variegated and splashy speckled yarns. Instructions include a video link demonstrating the fun droplet stitch technique. It's so much fun to knit and feels like dancing with yarn as you create the gathered stitch texture. The body of the shawl fades the first three colors together with two-row stripes to transition into each new colorway. The fourth color is featured in the garter stitch chevron border for a final color pop to frame this specklicious shawl.



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Finished Measurements: 80" / 203cm wingspan length, 28" / 71cm from CO to BO edge measured along the center of the shawl. Measurements taken after blocking.

Yarn: DK weight

Yardage: Approximately 950yds / 870m total

Color A - 250yds / 229m

Color B - 250yds / 229m

Color C - 250yds / 229m

Color D - 200yds / 183m

Shown in: Twisted Ambitions Wicked DK (100% Superwash Merino Wool; 250yds / 229m per 100g skein)

Color A - Chocolate Truffle (lightest)

Color B - Fool for You

Color C - Brave

Color D - Cape Cod (purple border)

Needles: US 7 / 4.5mm circular in 40" / 100cm length or size needed to obtain gauge

Notions: 2 stitch markers, tapestry needle

Gauge: 16 sts & 28 rows = 4" / 10cm in pattern after blocking

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Abbreviations

BO: bind off

CO: cast on

k: knit

k2tog: knit 2 sts together

m: marker

m1: (make 1) increase 1 stitch using the backwards loop cast on method

p: purl

pm: place marker

RS: right side

s2kp: Slip 2 sts together knit-wise, k1, pass the 2 slipped sts over. 2 sts decreased.

sl: slip stitch purl-wise unless instructed otherwise

slm: slip marker

ssk: (slip slip knit) slip first stitch knit-wise, slip second stitch knit-wise, knit those 2 sts together tbl

st/s: stitch/es

tbl: through back loop

WS: wrong side

wyif: with yarn in front

yo: yarn over

INSTRUCTIONS

This shawl begins with an I-cord Tab Cast On. Watch this Westknits video to assist with the I-cord Tab Cast On.

https://youtu.be/03_Jby1lmRQ

Using A, CO 3 sts. *K3, sl3 sts onto left needle; repeat from * twice more, k3, pick up and k3 sts along I-cord edge. 6 sts. Turn to work WS.

Next Row (WS): Pick up and k3 sts along I-cord CO edge, k3, sl3 wyif. 9 sts.

Garter Stitch

Row 1 (RS): K3, yo, (k1, yo) 3 times, sl3 wyif. 13 sts.

Row 2 (WS): K10, sl3 wyif.

Row 3 (RS): K3, yo, k7, yo, sl3 wyif. 15 sts.

Row 4 (WS): K12, sl3 wyif.

Row 5 (RS): K3, yo, (k1, yo) 9 times, sl3 wyif. 25 sts.

Row 6 (WS): K to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Row 7 (RS): K3, yo, k to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 2 sts increased.

Row 8 (WS): K to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Rows 9 – 12: Repeat last 2 rows twice more. 31 sts.

Row 13 (RS): K3, yo, (k1, yo) to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif. 57 sts.

Row 14 (WS): K4, p1, (k3, p1) to last 4 sts, k1, sl3 wyif.

Row 15 (RS): K3, yo, p1, k1, (p3, k1) to last 4 sts, p1, yo, sl3 wyif. 59 sts.

Row 16 (WS): K5, p1, (k3, p1) to last 5 sts, k2, sl3 wyif.

Row 17 (RS): K3, yo, p2, k1, (p3, k1) to last 5 sts, p2, yo, sl3 wyif. 61 sts.

Row 18 (WS): K6, (p1, k3) to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Watch this Westknits video to assist with the Droplet 1 technique during Row 19.

<https://youtu.be/6CDFH5zboxo>

Droplet 1: Insert right needle tip 5 rows below into the middle of the next st. Pull a long strand of yarn through that matches the length of 5 rows.

Insert right needle tip 4 rows below into the middle of the same st. Pull a long strand of yarn through that matches the length of 4 rows.

Insert right needle tip 3 rows below into the middle of the same st. Pull a long strand of yarn through that matches the length of 3 rows.

Insert right needle tip 2 rows below into the middle of the same st. Pull a long strand of yarn through that matches the length of 2 rows.

Insert right needle tip 1 row below into the middle of the same st. Pull a strand of yarn through that matches the length of 1 row.

Purl the st on the left needle. There should be 6 strands of yarn on your right needle.

Pass each of the 5 sts over the most recently purled st, passing them over 1 at a time starting with the longest stitch. There should be 1 st remaining on the right needle.

Row 19 (RS): K3, yo, p3, (Droplet 1, p3) to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 63 sts.

Row 20 (WS): K5, p1, (k3, p1) to last 5 sts, k2, sl3 wyif.

Row 21 (RS): K3, yo, p2, k1, (p3, k1) to last 5 sts, p2, yo, sl3 wyif. 65 sts.

Row 22 (WS): K6, (p1, k3) to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Row 23 (RS): K3, yo, p3, (k1, p3) to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 67 sts.

Row 24 (WS): (K3, p1) to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Row 25 (RS): K3, yo, p4, (Droplet 1, p3) to last 4 sts, p1, yo, sl3 wyif. 69 sts.

Row 26 (WS): K6, p1, (k3, p1) to last 6 sts, k3, sl3 wyif.

Row 27 (RS): K3, yo, p3, (k1, p3) to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 71 sts.

Row 28 (WS): (K3, p1) to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Row 29 (RS): K3, yo, k1, (p3, k1) to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 73 sts.

Row 30 (WS): K1, (k3, p1) to last 4 sts, k1, sl3 wyif.

Row 31 (RS): K3, yo, p3, m1, p1, m1, p1, (Droplet 1, p1, m1, p1, m1, p1) to last 5 sts, p2, yo, sl3 wyif. 107 sts.

Row 32 (WS): K8, (p1, k5) to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Row 33 (RS): K3, yo, p5, (k1, p5) to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 109 sts.

Row 34 (WS): K3, p1, (k5, p1) to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Row 35 (RS): K3, yo, k1, (p5, k1) to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 111 sts.

Row 36 (WS): K4, p1, (k5, p1) to last 4 sts, k1, sl3 wyif.

Row 37 (RS): K3, yo, p7, (Droplet 1, p5) to last 5 sts, p2, yo, sl3 wyif. 113 sts.

Row 38 (WS): K8, p1, (k5, p1) to last 8 sts, k5, sl3 wyif.

Row 39 (RS): K3, yo, p5, (k1, p5) to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 115 sts.

Row 40 (WS): K3, p1, (k5, p1) to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Row 41 (RS): K3, yo, k1, (p5, k1) to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 117 sts.

Row 42 (WS): K4, p1, (k5, p1) to last 4 sts, k1, sl3 wyif.

Pattern Repeat

Row 43 (RS): K3, yo, p7, (Droplet 1, p5) to last 5 sts, p2, yo, sl3 wyif. 2 sts increased.

Row 44 (WS): K8, (p1, k5) to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Row 45 (RS): K3, yo, p5, (k1, p5) to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 2 sts increased.

Row 46 (WS): K3, p1, (k5, p1) to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Row 47 (RS): K3, yo, k1, (p5, k1) to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 2 sts increased.

Row 48 (WS): K3, k1, p1, (k5, p1) to last 4 sts, k1, sl3 wyif.

Rows 49 – 66: Repeat Rows 43 – 48 of Pattern Repeat 3 more times. 141 sts.

Row 67 (RS): K3, yo, p4, m1, p1, m1, p2, (Droplet 1, p2, m1, p1, m1, p2) to last 5 sts, p2, yo, sl3 wyif. 187 sts.

Row 68 (WS): K2, (k7, p1) to last 9 sts, k6, sl3 wyif.

Row 69 (RS): K3, yo, p6, k1, (p7, k1) to last 9 sts, p6, yo, sl3 wyif. 189 sts.

Row 70 (WS): K10, (p1, k7) to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Row 71 (RS): K3, yo, p7, (k1, p7) to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 191 sts.

Row 72 (WS): K3, p1, (k7, p1) to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Row 73 (RS): K3, yo, p8, (Droplet 1, p7) to last 4 sts, p1, yo, sl3 wyif. 193 sts.

Row 74 (WS): K8, p1, (k7, p1) to last 8 sts, k5, sl3 wyif.

Row 75 (RS): K3, yo, p5, k1, (p7, k1) to last 8 sts, p5, yo, sl3 wyif. 195 sts.

Row 76 (WS): K9, p1, (k7, p1) to last 9 sts, k6, sl3 wyif.

Carry colors A & B along the edge while striping colors. Watch this Westknits video to assist with Carrying Yarn Along the Edge While Striping Colors.

<https://youtu.be/l2ZE92Vmy08>

Yardage amounts may vary depending on gauge and yarn type. If you run out of color A, B, or C, then continue working with the next color. The border size is customizable, so if you run out of any color early, you will still achieve a nice border size.

Row 77 (RS): Using B, k3, yo, p6, k1, (p7, k1) to last 9 sts, p6, yo, sl3 wyif. 197 sts.

Row 78 (WS): K10, p1, (k7, p1) to last 10 sts, k7, sl3 wyif.

Row 79 (RS): Using A, k3, yo, p7, (Droplet 1, p7) to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 199 sts.

Row 80 (WS): (K7, p1) to last 7 sts, k4, sl3 wyif.

Row 81 (RS): Using B, k3, yo, p4, k1, (p7, k1) to last 7 sts, p4, yo, sl3 wyif. 201 sts.

Row 82 (WS): K1, (k7, p1) to last 8 sts, k5, sl3 wyif.

Row 83 (RS): Using A, k3, yo, p5, k1, (p7, k1) to last 8 sts, p5, yo, sl3 wyif. 203 sts.

Row 84 (WS): K2, (k7, p1) to last 9 sts, k6, sl3 wyif.

Row 85 (RS): Using B, k3, yo, p6, Droplet 1, (p7, Droplet 1) to last 9 sts, p6, yo, sl3 wyif. 205 sts.

Row 86 (WS): K6, p1, (k7, p1) to last 6 sts, k3, sl3 wyif.

Row 87 (RS): Using A, k3, yo, p3, k1, (p7, k1) to last 6 sts, p3, yo, sl3 wyif. 207 sts.

Row 88 (WS): K7, p1, (k7, p1) to last 7 sts, k4, sl3 wyif.

Row 89 (RS): Using B, k3, yo, p4, k1, (p7, k1) to last 7 sts, p4, yo, sl3 wyif. 209 sts.

Row 90 (WS): K8, p1, (k7, p1) to last 8 sts, k5, sl3 wyif.

Row 91 (RS): Using A, k3, yo, p5, Droplet 1, (p7, Droplet 1) to last 8 sts, p5, yo, sl3 wyif. 211 sts.

Row 92 (WS): K5, p1, (k7, p1) to last 5 sts, k2, sl3 wyif.

Break color A.

Row 93 (RS): Using B, k3, yo, p2, k1, (p7, k1) to last 5 sts, p2, yo, sl3 wyif. 213 sts.

Row 94 (WS): K6, p1, (k7, p1) to last 6 sts, k3, sl3 wyif.

Row 95 (RS): K3, yo, p3, k1, (p7, k1) to last 6 sts, p3, yo, sl3 wyif. 215 sts.

Row 96 (WS): K7, p1, (k7, p1) to last 7 sts, k4, sl3 wyif.

Row 97 (RS): K3, yo, p4, Droplet 1, (p7, Droplet 1) to last 7 sts, p4, yo, sl3 wyif. 217 sts.

Row 98 (WS): K4, p1, (k7, p1) to last 4 sts, k1, sl3 wyif.

Row 99 (RS): K3, yo, p1, k1, (p7, k1) to last 4 sts, p1, yo, sl3 wyif. 219 sts.

Row 100 (WS): K5, p1, (k7, p1) to last 5 sts, k2, sl3 wyif.

Row 101 (RS): K3, yo, p2, k1, (p7, k1) to last 5 sts, p2, yo, sl3 wyif. 221 sts.

Row 102 (WS): K6, p1, (k7, p1) to last 6 sts, k3, sl3 wyif.

Row 103 (RS): K3, yo, p3, Droplet 1, (p7, Droplet 1) to last 6 sts, p3, yo, sl3 wyif. 223 sts.

Row 104 (WS): K3, p1, (k7, p1) to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Row 105 (RS): K3, yo, k1, (p7, k1) to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 225 sts.

Row 106 (WS): K4, p1, (k7, p1) to last 4 sts, k1, sl3 wyif.

Row 107 (RS): K3, yo, p1, k1, (p7, k1) to last 4 sts, p1, yo, sl3 wyif. 227 sts.

Row 108 (WS): K5, p1, (k7, p1) to last 5 sts, k2, sl3 wyif.

Row 109 (RS): K3, yo, p3, (p3, m1, p1, m1, p3, Droplet 1) to last 13 sts, p3, m1, p1, m1, p6, yo, sl3 wyif. 283 sts.

Row 110 (WS): K11, p1, (k9, p1) to last 11 sts, k8, sl3 wyif.

Row 111 (RS): K3, yo, p8, k1, (p9, k1) to last 11 sts, p8, yo, sl3 wyif. 285 sts.

Row 112 (WS): K12, (p1, k9) to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Row 113 (RS): K3, yo, p9, (k1, p9) to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 287 sts.

Row 114 (WS): K3, p1, (k9, p1) to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Row 115 (RS): Using C, k3, yo, p10, (Droplet 1, p9) to last 4 sts, p1, yo, sl3 wyif. 289 sts.

Row 116 (WS): K9, p1, (k9, p1) to last 9 sts, k6, sl3 wyif.

Row 117 (RS): Using B, k3, yo, p6, k1, (p9, k1) to last 9 sts, p6, yo, sl3 wyif. 291 sts.

Row 118 (WS): K1, (k9, p1) to last 10 sts, k7, sl3 wyif.

Row 119 (RS): Using C, k3, yo, p7, k1, (p9, k1) to last 10 sts, p7, yo, sl3 wyif. 293 sts.

Row 120 (WS): K11, p1, (k9, p1) to last 11 sts, k8, sl3 wyif.

Row 121 (RS): Using B, k3, yo, p8, (Droplet 1, p9) to last 12 sts, Droplet 1, p8, yo, sl3 wyif. 295 sts.

Row 122 (WS): K7, p1, (k9, p1) to last 7 sts, k4, sl3 wyif.

Row 123 (RS): Using C, k3, yo, p4, k1, (p9, k1) to last 7 sts, p4, yo, sl3 wyif. 297 sts.

Row 124 (WS): K8, p1, (k9, p1) to last 8 sts, k5, sl3 wyif.

Row 125 (RS): Using B, k3, yo, p5, k1, (p9, k1) to last 8 sts, p5, yo, sl3 wyif. 299 sts.

Row 126 (WS): (K9, p1) to last 9 sts, k6, sl3 wyif.

Row 127 (RS): Using C, k3, yo, p6, (Droplet 1, p9) to last 10 sts, Droplet 1, p6, yo, sl3 wyif. 301 sts.

Row 128 (WS): K5, p1, (k9, p1) to last 5 sts, k2, sl3 wyif.

Row 129 (RS): Using B, k3, yo, p2, k1, (p9, k1) to last 5 sts, p2, yo, sl3 wyif. 303 sts.

Row 130 (WS): K6, p1, (k9, p1) to last 6 sts, k3, sl3 wyif.

Row 131 (RS): Using C, k3, yo, p3, k1, (p9, k1) to last 6 sts, p3, yo, sl3 wyif. 305 sts.

Row 132 (WS): K7, p1, (k9, p1) to last 7 sts, k4, sl3 wyif.

Row 133 (RS): Using B, k3, yo, p4, Droplet 1, (p9, Droplet 1) to last 7 sts, p4, yo, sl3 wyif. 307 sts.

Row 134 (WS): K3, p1, (k9, p1) to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Row 135 (RS): Using C, k3, yo, k1, (p9, k1) to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 309 sts.

Row 136 (WS): K4, p1, (k9, p1) to last 4 sts, k1, sl3 wyif.

Row 137 (RS): Using B, k3, yo, p1, k1, (p9, k1) to last 4 sts, p1, yo, sl3 wyif. 311 sts.

Row 138 (WS): K5, p1, (k9, p1) to last 5 sts, k2, sl3 wyif.

Break color B.

Row 139 (RS): Using C, k3, yo, p12, (Droplet 1, p9) to last 6 sts, p3, yo, sl3 wyif. 313 sts.

Row 140 (WS): K11, p1, (k9, p1) to last 11 sts, k8, sl3 wyif.

Row 141 (RS): K3, yo, p8, k1, (p9, k1) to last 11 sts, p8, yo, sl3 wyif. 315 sts.

Row 142 (WS): K12, (p1, k9) to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Row 143 (RS): K3, yo, p9, (k1, p9) to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 317 sts.

Row 144 (WS): K3, p1, (k9, p1) to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Row 145 (RS): K3, yo, p10, (Droplet 1, p9) to last 4 sts, p1, yo, sl3 wyif. 319 sts.

Row 146 (WS): K9, p1, (k9, p1) to last 9 sts, k6, sl3 wyif.

Row 147 (RS): K3, yo, p6, k1, (p9, k1) to last 9 sts, p6, yo, sl3 wyif. 321 sts.

Row 148 (WS): K1, (k9, p1) to last 10 sts, k7, sl3 wyif.

Row 149 (RS): K3, yo, p7, k1, (p9, k1) to last 10 sts, p7, yo, sl3 wyif. 323 sts.

Row 150 (WS): K2, (k9, p1) to last 11 sts, k8, sl3 wyif.

Row 151 (RS): K3, yo, p8, Droplet 1, (p9, Droplet 1) to last 11 sts, p8, yo, sl3 wyif. 325 sts.

Row 152 (WS): K7, p1, (k9, p1) to last 7 sts, k4, sl3 wyif.

Row 153 (RS): K3, yo, p4, k1, (p9, k1) to last 7 sts, p4, yo, sl3 wyif. 327 sts.

Row 154 (WS): K8, p1, (k9, p1) to last 8 sts, k5, sl3 wyif.

Row 155 (RS): K3, yo, p5, k1, (p9, k1) to last 8 sts, p5, yo, sl3 wyif. 329 sts.

Row 156 (WS): (K9, p1) to last 9 sts, k6, sl3 wyif.

Row 157 (RS): K3, yo, p6, Droplet 1, (p9, Droplet 1) to last 9 sts, p6, yo, sl3 wyif. 331 sts.

Row 158 (WS): K5, p1, (k4, p1) to last 5 sts, k2, sl3 wyif.

Break color C.

Border

Row 1 (RS): Using D, k3, yo, k2, pm, k5, yo, k1, yo, (k9, yo, k1, yo) to last 10 sts, k5, pm, k2, yo, sl3 wyif. 397 sts.

Row 2 (WS): K to m, slm, p1, (k5, p1) to m, slm, k to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Row 3 (RS): k3, yo, k to m, slm, k6, yo, k1, yo, (k11, yo, k1, yo) to 6 sts before m, k6, slm, k to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 463 sts.

Row 4 (WS): K to m, slm, p1, (k6, p1) to m, slm, k to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Pattern Repeat

Row 5 (RS): K3, yo, k to m, slm, ssk, k5, yo, k1, yo, k5, (s2kp, k5, yo, k1, yo, k5) to 2 sts before m, k2tog, slm, k to last 3 sts, yo, sl3 wyif. 2 sts increased.

Row 6 (WS): K to m, slm, p1, (k6, p1) to m, slm, k to last 3 sts, sl3 wyif.

Repeat Rows 5 & 6 of Pattern Repeat 5 more times, resulting in 8 garter ridges. 475 sts. You can work as many Pattern Repeats of Rows 5 & 6 as you like to customize the size of your border. Make sure you leave enough of color D to I-cord BO. The I-cord BO requires approximately 25g of yarn.



FINISHING

BO all sts on the next RS row using an I-cord BO. Remove the stitch markers as you reach them.

I-cord BO: *K2, k2tog tbl, sl3 sts onto left needle; repeat from * to last 3 sts. 6 total sts remain.

Break yarn leaving an 8" / 20cm tail. Place the first 3 sts onto your right needle and the last 3 sts onto your left needle with the purl bumps facing each other and both needles pointing to the right. Graft the remaining 6 sts together.

Watch this Westknits video to assist with the I-cord grafting.

<https://youtu.be/L0A0gcaL2xM>

Weave in ends and wet block the finished shawl to smooth the fabric.

