

# FRENCH CANCAN

A crescent shaped shawllette with a lace and french braid border



© SusanneS-vV

Simple, feminine, french...  
with a very nice drape.

*I dreamt about a french braid suspended by soft lace.*

- **Needles**  
1 circular needle 100cm US7 4,5 mm  
1 cable needle or double pointed needle
- **Gauge**  
20st x 30rows = 10 cm / 4 inches in garter stitch
- **Material**  
2 skeins of yarn Silk / merino DK  
225m/ 100 grams
- **Size after blocking (flat)**  
30 cm x 140 cm
- **Abbreviations**  
**K** : Knit      **P** : Purl      **Yo** : Yarn over      **Bo** : Bind off      **St** : Stitch (es)  
**Kfb** : Knit into front and back in the same stitch  
**K2tog** : Knit 2 stitches together      **K2tbl** : Knit 2 stitches together through back loop  
**CL3** : Slip 3 stitches to cable needle, hold in front, K3, K 3 from cable needle  
**CR3** : Slip 3 stitches to cable needle, holf in back, K3, K 3 from cable needle  
**RS** : Right side      **WS** : Wrong Side

#### Choosing your yarn :

Merino Silk yarns tend to grow when blocking and this weight will give the shawl it's characteristic softness and drape. If you choose to knit it with a Merino or MCN base, you can add a few extra rows to the garter stich body. The number of stitches at the end of the Body section is not critical, the point is to keep enough yarn for the border. The french braid border will give your shawl a nice drape.

The crescent shape of the shawl will help it sit perfectly on your shoulders and keep you warm during the chilly spring evenings. You can also wear it more like a kerchief around your neck with the two ends of the braid pointing in front of you.



# Shawl Body

## Cast on a 3 stitches garter tab

Work a 3 stitch garter tab shawl cast on, ending up with 9 stitches. For help see [Stephen West's tutorial](#) on his blog.

### How to :

Cast on 3 stitches

Knit 6 rows

Knit 3, pick up and knit 3 stitches along the edge, pick up and knit the first 3 stitches you casted on.

You should have a total of 9 stitches on your needles.

### First rows

**Row 1:** K3 , Yo , K 3 , Yo, K 3. (11st)

**Row 2 :** K3, Kfb (the Yo from last row), K3, Kfb, K3. (13st)

**Row 3 :** K3, Yo, K all st until the last 3 st remain, Yo, K3

**Row 4 :** K3, Kfb, Knit all st until 4 st remain, Kfb, K3

Repeat rows 3 and 4 until the end of 1sk skein, or after you have 201st on your needles.

*If you want a larger shawl you can add as many garter stitch rows as you wish, but be carefull you keep enough yarn for the edging (at least 40% of the weight you used for the body).*



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*If you want a stretchier border you can slip the first stitch of every row knitwise.*

*The edging will be knitted sideways to the body knitting together one stitch from the body and one stitch from the edging every two rows.*

## Edging

At the end of the last row you have completed (right side or wrong side doesn't matter) cast on 18 stitches with the thumb cast on or any other method of your choice.

From now you'll knit across these 18 st, knitting together one stitch from the body and one stitch from the border through back loop on every right side row.

### Garter stitch border

**Row 1 (RS) :** K17, K2tbl (1 st from the border and 1 st from the body)

**Row 2 (WS) :** Turn work, Slip the 1st from left needle to right needle knitwise, K17

**Row 3 :** Repeat row 1

© sketchbook



### Lace and french

**braid edging** (*Chart & written instructions provided below*)

**Repeat the 8 rows of the chart as many times as necessary to knit all the st from until you have 2 stitches left from the body.**

#### Lace & french braid

**Row 1 :** Slip 1, Yo, K2 tog, Yo, K2 tog, K1, P 9, K1, Yo, yo (*this double Yo will be knit as 2 st on the next row*), K2tog.

**Row 2 :** Yo, K2, P2, K9, P1, K4, K2tbl.

**Row 3 :** Slip 1, K1, Yo, K2tog, Yo, K2 tog, P 9, K5.

**Row 4 :** Bo 2 st, K1, P1, CL3 (slip 3 st to cable needle, hold in front, K 3, K3 from cable needle), K3, P1, K4, K2tbl

**Row 5 :** Slip 1, Yo, K2 tog, Yo, K2 tog, K1, P 9, K1, Yo, yo (*this double Yo will be knit as 2 st on the next row*), K2tog.

**Row 6 :** Yo, K2, P2, K9, P1, K4, K2tbl.

**Row 7 :** Slip 1, K1, Yo, K2tog, Yo, K2 tog, P 9, K5.

**Row 8 :** Bo 2 st, K1, P1, K3, CR3 (Slip 3 st to cable needle, hold in back, K3, K 3 from cable needle), P1, K4, K2tbl

Notes :

- You don't need to count every row to know where you are on the cable pattern. Just remember you have to cable (right or left depending on the situation) every row that starts with the 2 st Bo (every 4th row).
- Rows 1 and 5, 2 and 6, 3 and 7 are identical, and the only variation between the rows 4 and 8 is the cable direction.
- Rows 1, 2 and 5, 6 should be 20 stitches. Rows 4 and 8 should be 18 stitches. That's why the chart is written on 20 stitches with no stitches (meaning stitch doesn't exist so you don't need to knit !)
- Be careful when you bind off 2 stitches you need to knit 3 st. So the **BB** on the chart reads : Knit 2st, Bo1, knit 1, Bo 1, you just bound off 2 stitches.

### Chart Lace & french braid

(Read chart below from left to right for the WS rows (1, 3, 5, 7) and from right to left for the RS rows (2, 4, 6, 8)).

B O D Y  s t i t c h e s					-									-		B	B	X	8		
	*		O	/	O	/	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					7	
						-									-	-				O	6
	*	O	/	O	/		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		O	O	/	X	5	
						-											B	B	X	4	
	*		O	/	O	/	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-							3
						-									-	-				O	2
	*	O	/	O	/		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		O	O	/	X	1	
	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	

 K (Knit)

 P (Purl)

 Yo (Yarn over)

 K2 tog (Knit two together)

 X No stitch

 Slip one stitch knitwise

 B Bind off 1 st

 K 2 Tbl (Knit 2 together through back loop)

 CL3 (slip 3 st to cable needle, hold in front, K 3, K3 from cable needle)

 CR3 (Slip 3 st to cable needle, hold in back, K3, K 3 from cable needle)

**End cable & braid pattern on a right side row no matter where you are on the cable.**

Repeat the 3 rows of the **Garter stitch Border**

**Row 1** WS : Turn work, Slide the 1st st knitwise, K17

**Row 2** RS: Knit 17, K2tog.

**Row 3** : Repeat row 1

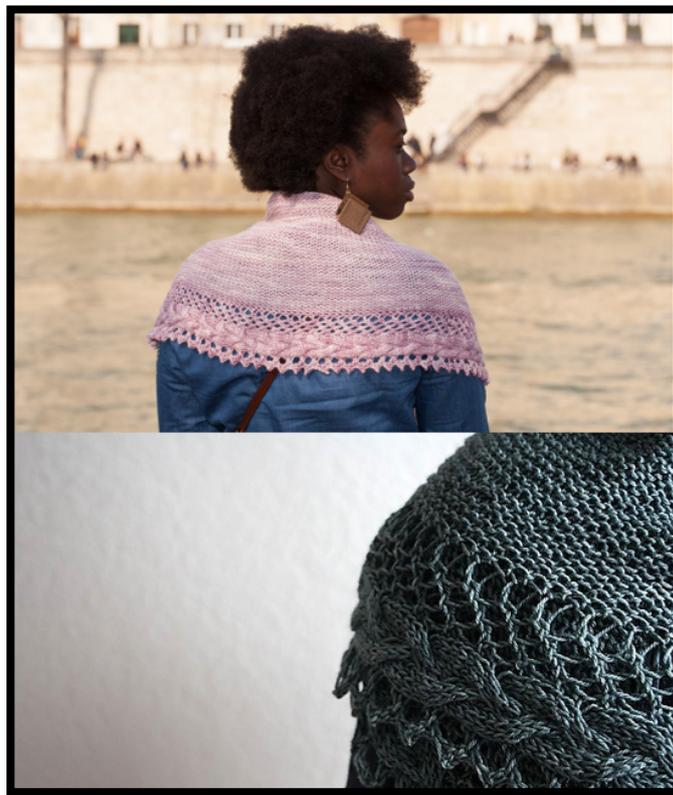
**Row 4** : Bind off the remaining stitches.

## Finishing

Weave in ends.

Soak in lukewarm water and wash with gentle soap.

Lay to dry flat and block with pins to give the shawl and the braid edging a nice rounded shape.



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# FRENCH CANCAN



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