



“BUNDLE UP!” COLORWORK COWL

The colorful Woolstok bundles put together by Blue Sky Fibers inspired us to try a simple colorwork cowl using all of the colors in one bundle. There are enough mini hanks in one bundle to knit this cowl more than once, trying different background colors. When you finish the cowl, make yourself a nice hot cup of tea, put on some music, and sit down for a pleasant, meditative session of weaving in ends!

Finished Size:	Approx. 24"/61cm around x 7½"/19cm deep.
Yarn:	1 skein Blue Sky Fibers Woolstok (123yds/112m each) for the main color (MC), and 1 Woolstok Bundle (21 mini hanks of 12yds/10m each) for contrasting colors (CC). <i>Note: Each bundle contains 3 mini hanks of 7 different colors. You will need one mini hank of each color (7 total) for this project.</i> Or, if using an equivalent worsted-weight yarn, approx. 123yds/112 meters of main color and approx. 12yds/10m each of 7 different colors.
Needles & Notions:	US 7 (4.5mm) 24"/60cm circular needle, or size to obtain gauge. US 5 (3.75mm) 16"/40cm circular needle, or 2 sizes smaller than gauge needle. 1 stitch marker. Darning needle to finish.
Gauge:	Approx. 21 sts = 4"/10cm in colorwork stitch in the round, after blocking.
Glossary:	CC = contrasting color; K = knit; MC = main color; P = purl; RS = right side; St(s) = stitch(es).
Set up color sequence:	<i>Before you begin, organize your colors. In the repeating colorwork sequence, every other row is knitted in two colors (one from the bundle, one in MC); rows in between are knitted in only the main color. Each sequence is repeated 3 times. Organize colors from the Woolstok Bundle in the order in which you want to knit them, and number them 1–7.</i>
Cast on:	With <u>smaller needle</u> and MC, using cable cast-on method, cast on 128 sts. Do not join in round yet.
First edging:	<u>Row 1</u> (RS): *K1, P1*; repeat between * * to end. Do not turn. Join in round, being careful not to twist. Place marker to designate beginning of round; on subsequent rounds, slip marker as you come to it. <u>Round 1</u> (RS): *K1, P1*; repeat between * * to end. Continue in K1/P1 ribbing for 3 more rounds. Change to <u>gauge needle</u> and knit one round.
Colorwork sequence:	<i>Tips: Hold MC in right hand and CC in left hand; keep colors in same hands throughout. As you work, pull back on just completed sts to keep floats loose and even.</i> Beginning with CC 1 and working each succeeding odd-numbered round with the next CC in your sequence, work as follows:

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Round 1: Join CC leaving 6"/15cm tail for weaving in later. *K1 with MC, K1 with CC*; repeat between * * to last st; cut CC, leaving 6"/16cm tail.

Round 2 and all even-numbered rounds: With MC, knit all sts.

Round 3: Join next CC in sequence, leaving 6"/15cm tail for weaving in later. *K1 with CC, K1 with MC*; repeat between * * to last st; cut CC, leaving 6"/16cm tail.

Round 4: With MC, knit all sts.

Repeat Rounds 1–4, using each CC color in the order you arranged, until you have used each of your 7 colors 3 times, OR until you have approx. 25 yds (10g) of MC remaining to work second edging, ending with an even-numbered round (knit all sts in MC). *Note that in the colorwork sequence, CC stitches in Rounds 1 and 3 are offset from each other.*

Second edging: Change to smaller needle; with MC, work 5 rounds in K1/P1 ribbing. Bind off in pattern, matching tension of cast-on edge as closely as possible.

Finishing: Weave in ends as invisibly as possible on wrong side. Check right side to even up first and last sts in each row before weaving ends in, as these sts may appear a bit loose. Weave ends in the direction they were traveling, running yarn under 4–5 sts; run needle through fibers of last st for extra security.

Soak piece for 20 minutes in tepid water with a little no-rinse wool soap. Gently squeeze out as much water as possible. Roll in towel to squeeze out more moisture. Lay cowl on moisture-safe surface gently pulling to desired dimensions. You may want to use blocking wires or rulers to pull the sides straight and really smooth out colorwork. Allow to dry completely. Using a little steam and a press cloth, gently steam out fold lines.