| Skills Required | • Knit & purl, cast on & bind off  
|                 | • Increases (yarn over)  
|                 | • Decreases (k2tog, ssk, k3tog, sk2p)  
|                 | • Cables (instructions included)  
|                 | • Working from charts (optional)  
| Yarn            | Unplanned Peacock Superwash Merino Sport (100% Wool - Merino); 328 yards (300 meters) per 100 grams (3.53 ounces) skein); 1 skein, or any equivalent Sport weight yarn. The cowl requires approximately 300 yards (275 meters) of yarn.  
|                 | Sample used 83 grams (2.9 oz), approximately 275 yards (251 meters), of 1 skein of Unplanned Peacock Superwash Merino Sport in Catseye colorway.  
| Needles         | 3.75mm/U.S. #5 24-inch/60cm circular needle (or size needed to obtain gauge, with cable long enough to hold all your sts).  
| Notions         | • 4 stitch markers  
|                 | • Yarn needle for weaving in ends  
| Gauge           | 20 sts/32 rows = 4 inches (10cm) square in stockinette stitch using 3.75mm/U.S. #5 needles (after blocking).  
| Size            | One size  
| Finished 
| Measurements   | Circumference: 28 inches / 71.1 cm  
|                 | Height: 11 inches / 27.9 cm  
| Abbreviations  | • 2/2 RC: 2-stitch Right Cross. Slip 2 sts to cable needle and hold in back, k2, k2 from cable needle.  
|                 | • k: knit  
|                 | • k2tog: knit 2 sts together (1 st decreased)  
|                 | • k3tog: knit 3 sts together (2 sts decreased)  
|                 | • p: purl  
|                 | • pm: place marker  
|                 | • rep: repeat  
|                 | • sk2p: slip 1, knit 2 sts together, pass slipped stitch over (2 sts decreased)  
|                 | • ssk: slip, slip, knit (1 st decreased)  
|                 | • st(s): stitch(es)  
|                 | • yo: yarn over (1 st increased)  

Tiger Owl
The great horned owl (also called the tiger owl) is the largest species of owl in the Carolinas. When I found the “tiger eye” stitch pattern in Barbara Walker’s *A Second Treasury of Knitting Patterns*, I immediately saw this beloved owl looking back at me and knew it would make a perfect cowl for the Carolina Fiber Fest 2020 KAL.

Knitted in sport weight, this cowl is easily adaptable to other yarn weights. The size of the cowl can be adjusted (both in the height and the circumference) by modifying the number of tiger owl motifs that are knit. Knit the pattern as written for a loose neck cowl, or modify it to make the cowl completely your own. Modifications will, of course, affect your yarn requirements. Yarns in solid or tonal colorways will work best to show off the cowl’s lace; wildly variegated yarns will not.

This pattern is appropriate for an adventurous beginner while remaining interesting for more advanced knitters.
Instructions

Cast on 132 sts. Join in the round and pm.

Bottom Edge:
Rounds 1-8: *K2, p2; rep from * to end. (132 sts)

Cowl Body:
Work Rounds 1-16 a total of 5 times, working from the Tiger Owl chart on page 5 or written instructions below. Note that the stitch repeat given in each round is worked four times around the circumference of the cowl. See Notes, Tips, and Tricks section on page 6 for guidance on working (yo) x 4 in Round 3 and (k1, p1, k1, p1 into quadruple yo of prior round) in Round 4.

Round 1: *P2, k4, p2, k25; rep from * to end. (132 sts)

Round 2: *P2, k4, p2, k2, (yo, k2tog) x 2, k1, (yo) x 4, k1, (k2tog, yo) x 2, k1, (yo, ssk) x 2, k1, (yo) x 4, k1, (ssk, yo) x 2, k2; rep from * to end. (164 sts)

Round 3: *P2, k4, p2, k7, (k1, p1, k1, p1 into quadruple yo of prior round), k11, (k1, p1, k1, p1 into quadruple yo of prior round), k7; rep from * to end.

Round 4: *P2, 2/2 RC, p2, k2, (yo, k2tog) x 2, k4, k3tog, yo, k2tog, yo, k3, yo, ssk, yo, sk2p, k4, (ssk, yo) x 2, k2; rep from * to end. (156 sts)

Round 5: *P2, k4, p2, k31; rep from * to end.

Round 6: *P2, k4, p2, k2, (yo, k2tog) x 2, k2, k3tog, yo, k2tog, yo, k5, yo, ssk, yo, sk2p, k2, (ssk, yo) x 2, k2; rep from * to end. (148 sts)

Round 7: *P2, k4, p2, k29; rep from * to end.

Round 8: *P2, 2/2 RC, p2, k2, (yo, k2tog) x 2, k3tog, yo, k2tog, yo, k3, yo, ssk, k2, yo, ssk, yo, sk2p, (ssk, yo) x 2, k2; rep from * to end. (140 sts)

Round 9: *P2, k4, p2, k27; rep from * to end.

Round 10: *P2, k4, p2, k2, yo, k2tog, k3tog, yo, k2tog, yo, k2, k2tog, yo, k1, yo, ssk, k2, yo, ssk, yo, sk2p, ssk, yo, k2; rep from * to end. (132 sts)

Round 11: Repeat round 1.

Round 12: *P2, 2/2 RC, p2, k3, (k2tog, yo) x 2, k2, k2tog, yo, k3, yo, ssk, k2, (yo, ssk) x 2, k3; rep from * to end.

Round 13: Repeat round 1.

Round 14: *P2, k4, p2, k2, (k2tog, yo) x 2, k2, k2tog, yo, k1, yo, sk2p, yo, k1, yo, ssk, k2, (yo, ssk) x 2, k2; rep from * to end.

Round 15: Repeat round 1.

Round 16: *P2, 2/2 RC, p2, k1, (k2tog, yo) x 2, k4, yo, sk2p, yo, k1, yo, k3tog, yo, k4, (yo, ssk) x 2, k1; rep from * to end.

Top Edge:
Setup Round: *P2, k4, p2, k25; rep from * to end. (132 sts)

Rounds 1-8: *K2, p2; rep from * to end.
Finishing

Bind off knitwise. Cut working yarn, leaving a tail of approximately 8 inches (20cm). Using yarn needle, weave in all ends. Block to desired shape.

Notes, Tips, and Tricks

• You may wish to place a st marker every 33 sts when starting the cowl body to indicate one multiple of the pattern repeat.
• The 4 consecutive yarn overs in Round 2 create the “eye” in the lace pattern. In Round 3, work (k1, p1, k1, p1) across these 4 yarn overs, one stitch per yarn over, as specified in the instructions.
• Be sure that your bind-off is not too tight. I use a knitwise bind-off and do it loosely. One of my test knitters reported great success using the decrease bind-off, for which multiple tutorials are available on the internet.
• The cables are optional. If you prefer, simply replace each cable with 4 knit stitches.
• This cowl is easy to modify. If you would like a taller cowl, simply knit 6 (or more!) repeats of the body before moving to the top edge. If you would like a shorter cowl, stop after 4 repeats.
• Lengthen the cowl if desired by adding additional multiples of the pattern repeat (33 sts per multiple). For the ribbing to work neatly, add an even number of multiples. If the final stitch count is divisible by 4, work a 2x2 ribbing at beginning and end; if divisible by 6, work a 3x3 rib. You may wish to decrease the cowl’s height. Modifications will, of course, affect yarn requirements.
• Though the pattern is written for Sport weight yarn, it can be knit as written in DK weight yarn. It is also adaptable to Fingering or Worsted weight yarn using the modification tips listed above.

Thank you so much for knitting Tiger Owl! You can keep up with me by visiting my website (http://KnittingDaddy.com). I would absolutely love to see pictures of your finished projects. Please use the hashtag #TigerOwlCowl when posting pictures on social media. You can email me at: greg@KnittingDaddy.com.

Greg Cohoon has been knitting since 2012, when his daughter, who was born prematurely, received a few preemie hats while she was in the NICU. He is KnittingDaddy on Ravelry, Instagram, and Twitter. His patterns are available in his Ravelry store (http://www.ravelry.com/stores/knitting-daddy-designs), and he has a special fondness for baseball, bacon, and blueberries.

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