

Spider Web Poncho

A MOREHOUSE ORIGINAL



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- Size** adult, one size (Poncho is very stretchable widthwise and lengthwise)
- Yarn** 3 skeins of Morehouse Gator Yarn, 2 skeins in Charcoal, 1 skein in purple for Spider Pompoms (sport weight yarn with a tight twist, 225 yards per skein)
- Needles** 16" circular needle #10; 24" circular needle #17,
you'll also need a crochet hook D (3 mm) or E (3.5 mm) for tie and legs on Spider Pompoms
- Gauge** not important and hard to measure with loose stitches
- Other material** 4 shiny beads for eyes on Spider Pompoms (beads should be about 1/8")

Spiderweb Poncho is knit from the neck down. Before casting on, crochet tie. With charcoal yarn color and using yarn double (use 2 strands of yarn together) crochet chain stitch tie 70" (leave 6" long tails at beginning and end of tie for attaching Spider Pompoms later).

Start Poncho: with #10 needle, cast on 80 stitches with charcoal yarn color. Join and knit 5 rounds. Next round: *knit 8 stitches, knit 2 stitches together; repeat from * to end of round = 72 stitches. Knit 2 rounds. Next round: *knit 2 stitches, yarn over, knit 2 stitches together; repeat from * to end of round (this round creates the eyelet round for threading tie with Spider Pompoms through). Knit 2 rounds (in next round, knit yarn-overs as regular stitches). Next round: *knit 7 stitches, knit 2 stitches together; repeat from * to end of round = 64 stitches. Knit 1 round. Switch to #17 needle and knit 5 rounds. Next round: *knit 8 stitches, increase 1 stitch; repeat from * to end of round (increase by picking up yarn between stitches with left-hand needle and knitting through back of loop over needle to create a twisted stitch) = 72 stitches.

Knit 5 rounds.

Next round: *knit 9 stitches, increase 1 stitch; repeat from * to end of round = 80 stitches.

Knit 5 rounds.

Next round: *knit 10 stitches, increase 1 stitch; repeat from * to end of round = 88 stitches.

Knit 5 rounds.

Next round: *knit 11 stitches, increase 1 stitch; repeat from * to end of round = 96 stitches.

Knit 5 rounds.

Next round: *knit 12 stitches, increase 1 stitch; repeat from * to end of round = 104 stitches.

Knit 5 rounds.

Next round: *knit 13 stitches, increase 1 stitch; repeat from * to end of round = 112 stitches.

Knit 5 rounds.

Next round: *knit 14 stitches, increase 1 stitch; repeat from * to end of round = 120 stitches.

Knit until you have 12 yards of yarn left for bind-off.

Bind off loosely as follows: knit first stitch, *increase 1 stitch (work increase same as before), bind off first stitch, knit next stitch, bind off second stitch (the increase stitch); repeat from * to end of round.

Finishing: soak Poncho in warm water for a few minutes, then squeeze out as much water as possible and lay flat to dry, stretching Poncho to its maximum width and length. While Poncho is drying, make Spider Pompoms.

Spider Pompoms: with purple yarn color, make 2 pompoms using a template 3½" in diameter (see separate instructions for pompom). Use yarn double and crochet 16 legs (chain stitch), each leg 2¾" long. Leave 6" tails on each leg for attaching to Spider Pompom. Trim pompoms. Then attach each leg—4 legs per side of pompom (thread tail from each leg through darning needle and insert needle at leg location, then through middle of pompom and back through pompom to leg; then tie yarn tail together with leg. Sew on bead eyes same way as legs. Then attach one of the Spider Pompoms to crochet tie (again: thread yarn tail through darning needle and insert needle through middle of pompom—out the other side and back to where tie is; then tie knot). Before attaching second Spider Pompom, thread tie through eyelet round on Poncho. Then attach second Spider to other end of tie.

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