

# *Ivory*



*by Ekeloa*

*The inspiration for this pattern comes directly from the beginning of the 20th Century, when ladies used to wear furry capes and ponchos to keep warm in winter, or as an added accessory to their long, shiny dresses during gala evenings.*

*The yarn I used, so rich and generous, inspired me to design a modern, possibly country but definitely stylish version of those warm and furry 20th-century capes.*

## **Materials**

- 120 m of super-bulky yarn, for this pattern the yarn used is Grosso by Borgo De' Pazzi (100% wool, 20-25 m per 200 g skein).
- A pair of 20 mm needles
- A cable needle or a thick marker pen to use for cable work
- A pair of hands (yes, because you'll use your hands to "sew"!)

## **Abbreviations**

$kX$  = knit  $X$  number of stitches

$pX$  = purl  $X$  number of stitches

$st(s)$  = stitch(es)

$kX$  I-cord = knit  $X$  number of stitches in I-cord edge (see tutorial below).

$C4R$  = cable 4 sts right: slip 2 sts on cable needle, hold in back,  $k2$ ,  $k2$  from cable needle

$C4L$  = cable 4 sts left: slip 2 sts on cable needle, hold in front,  $k2$ ,  $k2$  from cable needle.

## **Technique: Idiot-cord (or I-cord) edge**

This name was given by Elizabeth Zimmermann to a technique that, using two DPNs, allows to create a small tube of fabric similar to the one obtained from spool knitting. In this case, I used a variation of the technique to finish the selvedge while working the cape, in order to obtain a more pleasant look.

To learn this technique, which is very easy but gives wonderful results and a great finished look to your knitting, you can watch a video by my friend Valentina "Tibisay" Cosciani following this link <http://tibisay-arthrapy.blogspot.com/2014/08/licord-durante-la-lavorazione.html>. I'm sure the video is much more helpful than any written explanation I could give.

## **Instructions**

CO 22 sts using your favourite CO method: I personally used the long-tail cast on, leaving at least a 30-cm tail that I used later to finish the work.

Row 1:  $k3$  I-cord,  $k4$ ,  $p1$ ,  $k6$ ,  $p1$ ,  $k4$ ,  $k3$  I-cord.

Row 2:  $k3$  I-cord,  $p4$ ,  $k1$ ,  $p6$ ,  $k1$ ,  $p4$ ,  $k3$  I-cord.

Row 3:  $k3$  I-cord,  $k4$ ,  $p1$ ,  $k6$ ,  $p1$ ,  $k4$ ,  $k3$  I-cord.

Row 4:  $k3$  I-cord,  $p4$ ,  $k1$ ,  $p6$ ,  $k1$ ,  $p4$ ,  $k3$  I-cord.

Row 5:  $k3$  I-cord,  $k4$ ,  $p1$ ,  $k6$ ,  $p1$ ,  $k4$ ,  $k3$  I-cord.

Row 5:  $k3$  I-cord,  $p4$ ,  $k1$ ,  $p6$ ,  $k1$ ,  $p4$ ,  $k3$  I-cord.

Row 7:  $k3$  I-cord,  $C4R$ ,  $p1$ ,  $k6$ ,  $p1$ ,  $C4L$ ,  $k3$  I-cord.

*Repeat these instructions until you have worked 7 cable rows. Work row 1 one more time then BO loosely all sts, leaving at least a 30-cm tail.*

*Match the CO edge with the BO edge and sew them together with Kitchener stitch to form a tube. You can use your hands as a tapestry needle and the two long tails as sewing thread.*

*Once finished, Ivory is ready to be worn!*

### ***Grosso by Borgo de' Pazzi***

*I have to be honest with you: looking at this yarn online I was quite sceptical about its quality and the possibility to use it for knitting. As its Italian name says (Grosso means "big, bulky"), it's a very bulky yarn, designed for arm knitting. So I never considered it could be used from something different, more complex than a simple bracelet... Yet once I started working with it, I completely changed my mind: its natural composition, its softness and its structure make it a gorgeous bulky yarn, with a very natural look and feel to it which is difficult to find in other, similar yarns.*

*For this pattern I joined the ends of different skeins using the spit-splicing technique. This would have been nearly impossible with other yarns of the same weight. Furthermore, once worn Ivory makes you feel the warmth and cosiness that only a natural fibre can give you.*

*I strongly recommend it to anyone who needs to knit up quickly a last-minute Christmas gift: it took me less than 3 hours to knit Ivory!*

