

DARTH SCARF: A RUNNER'S HOOD OR COWL

A knitting pattern

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The dam has been broken. After years and years of ignoring my handwork hobbies, The Large One has figured out that Kim-made is custom-made, and he can set specifications...

He runs. All winter. In the snow and ice. In sub-freezing temperatures. He likes to wear a scarf, but between his bouncy stride and the ambient winds, has problems keeping one on. So he asked me to make him something that would stay put.

A wimple was the obvious answer, but asking a guy to wear something with that delicate a name can be... problematic. So I reached down into my stash and his psyche, and came up with "Darth Scarf." It's another "non-pattern" - something so simple it's hard to call it a true pattern.

Darth Scarf is a tube, knit in Shaker rib. It's long enough for the wearer to pull up over his head like faceless balaclava, fold down like a giant turtleneck, or fold up over his nose. In the over-the-nose configuration the deep ribs and black color are what triggered the name.

Materials

- Cascade Lana d'Oro - a Light worsted weight alpaca/wool blend. I used approximately 3 100g/220 yard skeins in black (#208).

Any yarn of equivalent gauge will do. Alpaca or an alpaca/wool blend is extremely warm for its weight. I would avoid cotton or acrylics as they get heavy and wet with the runner's moisture-laden breath.

- 24-inch circular needle, size US #6

Gauge and Dimensions

Stitch gauge: 2 ribs = 1 inch in pattern.

Instructions

Cast on 88 stitches VERY LOOSELY. I used a half hitch cast-on.

- **Row 1:** *K1, P1* repeat
- **Row 2:** *Knit into the stitch on the row below, P1* repeat

Repeat rows 1-2 forever. The piece should measure at least 12 inches deep. The Large One's is just under 16 inches deep. Just start knitting. Try it on. When it feels long enough and accommodates your favorite folding strategy (or you run out of yarn) - stop.

Darn in the ends.