BLACKHOLE
by Alice Liotto

One of the great mysteries of outer space is the Black Hole: a dark circle surrounded by a luminous vortex, that is swallowed by its center.

The Black Hole serves as inspiration for this scarf, in which the center attracts the tail.

Created to be worn on the left side, the tail should pass behind the neck and squeeze in the hole.

This unisex accessory has a curved and asymmetrical construction, fitting well on all sizes.

This luminous, multicolored yarn is knitted entirely in garter stitch.

Being asymmetrical, one side is larger than the other: it starts from a larger circular shape and grows into a long, curved tail that wears thin to the other end.

This particular form is obtained by increasing and decreasing, to fit the shoulders and protect the back of the head and the throat.

The Blackhole starts from the circular hole, knitting in the round. After few rows, the hole opens and you go on knitting in flat, going back and forth, to create the tail.

The tail is knitted in two parts on a provisional cast on. It requires a single, central stitch seam.

**LEVEL** Intermediate

**DIMENSIONS**
Diameter of the circle: 32 cm
Length: 140 cm

**YARN**
Cuore by Borgo de’ Pazzi Firenze (100 gr./100 mt, 95% acrylic, 15% mohair)
col 1 – 200 gr. (2 balls).

**KNITTING NEEDLES**
1 circular 9 mm (US size 13) - 80 cm cable length

**NOTIONS**
1 crochet hook 8 / 10 mm
Contrasting color yarn of the same thickness as Cuore for provisional cast on.
2 stitch marks in color A
8 stitch marks in color B
2 safety pins
sewing needle
scissors

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**GAUGE**
10 x 10 cm = 9 STS x 18 ROWS in garter stitch, blocked. (see chapter on blocking)

**STITCHES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>K</th>
<th>KNIT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>PURL</td>
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<tr>
<td>sl1 kwise</td>
<td>slip 1 knitwise: with the yarn on the back, pass 1 st as if to knit. See Youtube: SLIP 1 KNITWISE (sl 1 kwise) by Verena Knitting Videos.</td>
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<tr>
<td>K2tog</td>
<td>knit 2 sts together: insert the needle knitwise into 2 stitches together, and K1, See Youtube: Knit Two Together (K2tog) by iknitwithcatfur.</td>
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<tr>
<td>M1</td>
<td>increase: with working yarn, make a knot on left needle. See Youtube Backwards loop - Just Jussi.</td>
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**REQUIRED TECHNIQUES**

**Cable Cast On:**
1 – Make a slip knot on left needle
2 – Insert right needle and knit one stitch, and then pass it onto the left needle.
3 – Insert right needle in between the 2 stitches, knit 1 stitch, and then pass it onto the left needle.
Repeat 3 until you have the necessary number of stitches. See Youtube: Cable Cast-on by VeryPink Knits.
Provisional cast on with crochet hook – With a contrasting color yarn, crochet an equal number of chains as stitches you have to cast on. With knitting needles, pull a stitch from the back of the first chain. Repeat for every chain. See Youtube: Provisional Cast-On by VeryPink Knits.


ABBREVIATIONS
RS Right side of the piece
WS Wrong side of the piece
smA stitch marker col A, to separate the parts of the tail
smB stitch marker col B, to separate the different sections of the tail
Rd round
R row
St/s stitch(es)
rep repeat
t time/s
sm stitch mark

DIRECTIONS
Circular knitting - Cast On
Cast on 16 sts with Cable Cast On. Place smA and join both ends, being careful not to twist the ends.
R 1: (WS) Purl across
R 2: K1, M1, *K2, M1, Rep for 6 times from *, K1. (24 sts)
R 3: Purl across

Flat Knitting - Tail
With the crochet hook and a contrasting color yarn, crochet a 2.5 mt chain. Fold it in half and insert a safety pin in the fold of the chain. Put the chain aside for later use during the work.
Place a safety pin on the front side to recognize it from the back side.
R 1: (RS) Pass smA, K3, M1* rep from * 6 times, K3. (31 sts)
Pass smA, cast on 9 sts for the tail using the chain you've put aside: starting from safety pin in the middle of the chain, insert the right needle on the back of the chain and pull 1 st for every chain of the cast on. Turn the work. (40 sts)
R2: (WS) K until smA, pass smA, K across, insert a smA, cast on 9 sts taking them from the chain, starting from the other side of the safety pin. Turn the work. (49 sts)
R3: K8, K2tog (removing and replacing smA), *K4, M1, rep from * 6 times, K2, pass smA, K across, Cast on 9 sts on the chain, following from previous ones (64 m)

R 4: K until smA, pass smA, K4, turn.
R 5: sl1 kwise, K3, pass smA, K across. Cast on 9 sts on the chain (73 sts)
R 6: K across, pass al sms. Cast on 9 sts on the chain. (82 sts)
R 7: K until 1 st before smA, K2tog (removing and replacing smA), K3, turn (81 sts)
R 8: sl1 kwise, K2, pass smA, K across. Cast on 9 sts on the chain. (90 sts)
R 9: K9, place 1 smB, K3, K2tog, K until 1 st before smA, K2tog (removing and replacing smA), K3, M1, *K5, M1, rep 5 times from *, K2, pass smA, K3, M1, K15, place a smB, K across, cast on 9 sts on the chain (105 m)
R 10: Rep R 6. (114 sts)
R 11: K until smB, pass smB, K8, K2tog, K6, K2tog (removing and replacing smA), K7, M1, *K6, M1 rep from * 4 times, K4, pass smA, K10, M1, K9, pass smB, K across. Cast on 9 sts on the chain (128 m)
R 12: Rep R6. (137 sts)
R 13: K9, place a smB, K until 5 sts before smB, K2tog, K3, pass smB, K until 5 sts before smA, K2tog, K2, K2tog (removing and replacing smA), K4, *M1, K7, rep from * 5 times, pass smA, K until 3 sts before smB, M1, K3, pass smB, K15, M1, K3, place a smB, K across. Cast on 9 sts on the chain (151 m)
R 14: Rep R 6. (160 sts)
R 15: * K until smB, pass smB, K2, K2tog, rep from * 1 time. K until 1 st before smA, K2tog (removing and replacing smA), K5, M1, **K8 , M1, rep from ** 4 times, K6, pass smA, ***K3, M1, K1, until smB, pass smB, rep from *** 1 time. K across. Cast on 9 sts on the chain (174 sts)
R 16: K until smA, pass smA, K6, turn
R 17: sl1 kwise, K5, pass smA, K11, M1, K11, pass smB, K10, M1, K10, pass smB, K9, M1, K9, place a smB, K across. Cast on 9 sts on the chain (186 sts)
R 18: Rep R6. (195 sts)
R 19: K9, place a smB, K8, K2tog, K8, pass smB, K7, K2tog, K7, pass smB, K6, K2tog, K5, K2tog (removing and replacing smA), K5, turn (191)
R 20: sl1 kwise, K across. Cast on 9 sts on chain (200 sts)
R 21: K18, place a smB , *K until 5 sts before smB, K2tog, K3, pass smB, rep from * 1 time. K across until 5 sts before smA, K2tog, K2, k2tog (removing and replacing smA), K10, **M1, K9 rep from ** 4 times, pass smA, *** K across until 3 sts before smB, M1, K3, pass smB, rep from *** 2 times. K across, Cast on 9 sts on the chain (213 sts)
R 22: Rep R6 (222 sts)
R 23: K9, place a smB, *K3, K2tog, K until smB, pass smB, rep from * 2 times. K3, K2tog, knit until 1 st before smA, K2tog (removing and replacing smA), K5, M1, **K10, M1 rep from ** 4 times. K4, pass smA, ***K3, M1, K until smB, pass smB, rep from * 2 times. K3, M1, K15, place a smB, K across, cast on 9 sts on the chain. (236 sts)
R24: Rep R6. (245 m)
R26: K across, removing all smB

FINISHING
Unravel the chain of provisional cast on, transferring all sts of one side of the tail on a knitting needle. Repeat for the other part of the tail, on another knitting needle.
Thread the needle with 1,5 mt of yarn (you will need it 3 times). Sew together with seam stitch all stitches on both needles. Weave-in all ends.

BLOCKING
Spread the scarf on a flat surface made of dry towels, and begin the blocking with straight pins or wires, following the indicated measures. Spray it with water. Let it dry completely before removing from the blocking.