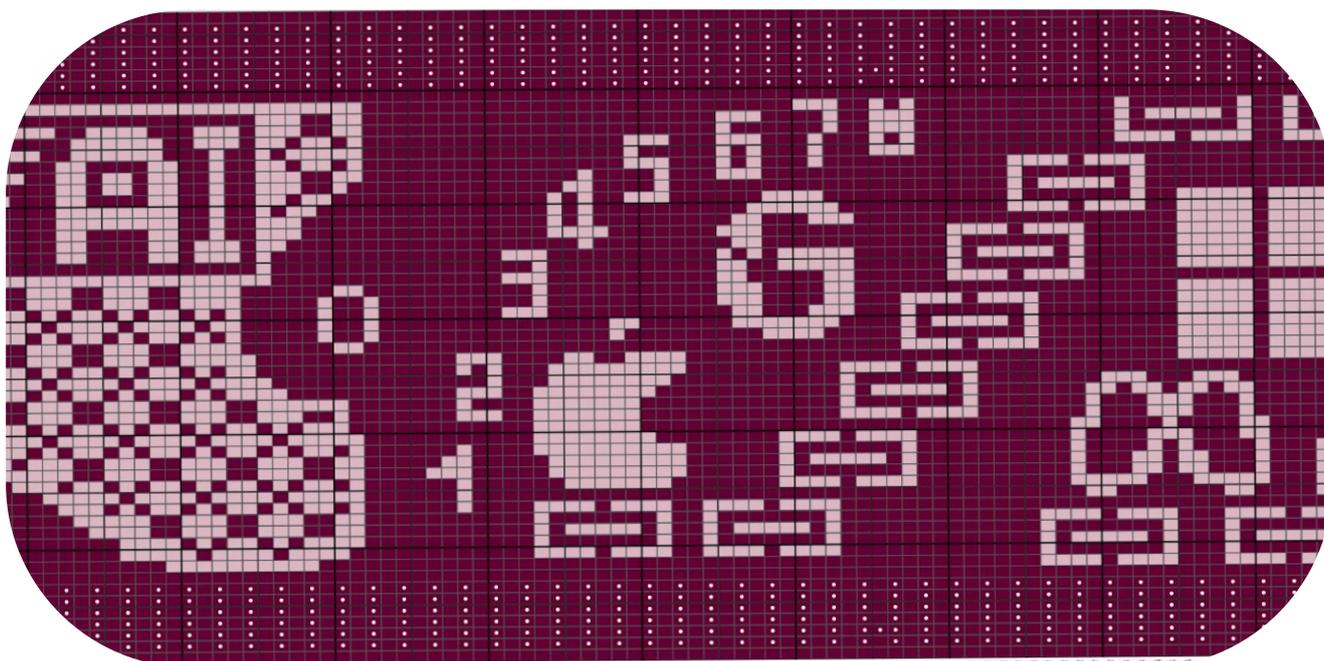


KNITTING PATTERN

COWL

EATING THE WORLD



Cowl Knitting Pattern - AI Eating the World

USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

This pattern has used AI in the development / refinement of the idea of the theme "Eating the world" to constitute "AI platforms eating our internet DNA".

A detailed explanation of the use of AI is included at the end of this pattern.

BACKGROUND

Hello there. I am a JD student at the University of Newcastle (Australia). This pattern is part of my creative assessment submission for LAWS 6087 - Internet Law. The theme of the creative assessment chosen was "AI eating the world".

Additional information on my submission is included at the end of this pattern.

CONTACT

This pattern has been made available on Ravelry and Reddit. For queries email: voxpuliknits@gmail.com

PATTERN

This pattern is a colour work pattern, working in the round. This would best be suited to confident beginner. This pattern includes:

- Page 1 (this page):
 - Materials, written pattern
- Page 2:
 - Colour work chart
- Page 3:
 - About the pattern

MATERIALS

Yarn

- 8 ply merino yarn in 2 colours
- This pattern uses [Bendigo Woollen Mills Whisper 8 ply 200g ball](#), 1 ball cherry, 1 ball strawberry cream. The yarn is 100% Australian merino, using crepe technique providing a stitch definition and elasticity

Yarn Alternatives

- [Yarnsub.com](#) can provide substitution yarn
- Your purchase of yarn grown from local wool/plants and locally spun may support ethical farming, reduce carbon footprints and provide investment to rural communities.

Needles and tools

- 3.5 mm and 4 mm circular knitting needles, 24 "/60 cm cable
- This pattern used Lantern Moon interchangeable knitting needles
- Stitch markers

Gauge

- Gauge is not provided. Freedom is provided to knit freely and intuitively, letting the yarn and your hands guide the way. If you are a tight or loose knitter, this should be taken into consideration.

Size

- The completed width is xx cm by xx cm.

Techniques

- Long tail cast on
- Ribbing (1 x 1 - 1 knit, 1 purl)
- Judy's stretch cast off (if this is new to you, I like the written instructions and YouTube tutorial from [Max + Herb](#))

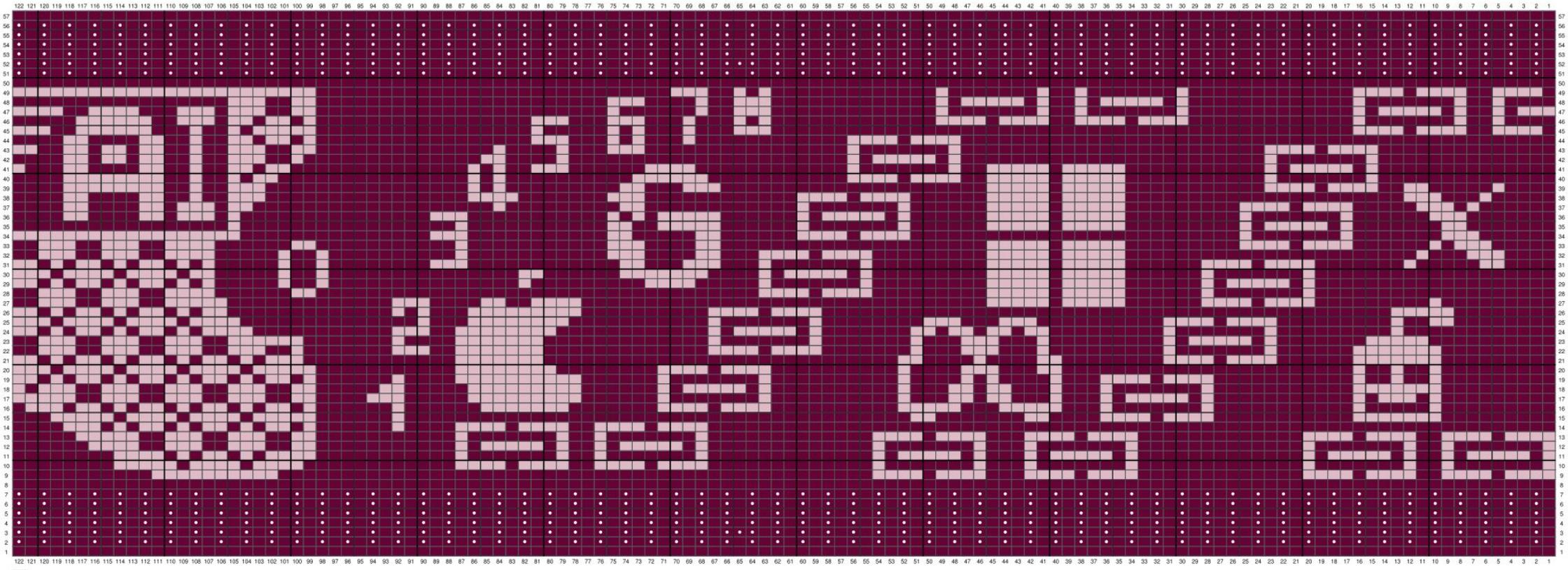
Abbreviations

MC: main colour

INSTRUCTIONS

Cast on

- Cast on: Using the smaller needles, cast on 122 stitches of the MC using the long tail cast on and join the round. Place stitch markers every 10 stitches
- Row 1: Knit
- Rows 2 to 7: Ribbing (1 x 1)
- Row 8: Change to larger needles. Knit
- Rows 9 to 49: Knit colour chart
- Row 50: This is the last row of the colour chart. Complete one row of the MC
- Rows 51 to 57: Change to the smaller needles. Complete 1 x 1 ribbing
- Row 58: Knit



Legend for the embroidery pattern:

- Berdig Woolen Mills Luxury 321 - Baby Blossom
- Berdig Woolen Mills Luxury 315 - Bayanberry
- Berdig Woolen Mills Luxury 315 - Bayanberry

About

“Eating the World” inspired this creative authorship using my skill, labour and judgement.[i] My knitted cowl depicts Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) as a python, consuming tech companies and digital platforms (‘platforms’), embedded within a symbolic helix as our internet DNA.

The internet law issues engaged with include copyright subsistence and platform governance. Platforms are woven into our participation in capitalist society, including work, study, access to government services and access to the justice system.[ii] And our personal expression.[iii] But we have limited rights and remedies, overseen by the platforms, when it is used or misused for AI training, predictive marketing profiling or sold to third parties. As a disruptive tool, we rely on the modalities of the internet for AI regulation.[iv] An enormous task is ahead for law reform, the capability of the technology to affect and influence human behaviour has not been seen on this scale.[v]

My key message is the entrenched system of oppression by platforms consumption and influence shown through a feminist lens. The norms of activism can be challenged through creative expression.[vi] As a symbol of undervalued and feminist labour, my knitted cowl created by interlocking threads nods to the control of voice, and utilising chains and numerals for DNA indicating the permeance with the platforms icons scaled to highlight their influence and control.[vii] My use of pink Australian merino yarn signals the legacy of our white colonial power structures.[viii]

Now in the age of the *AI Empire*, structures of oppression have been deepened.[ix] Weaponisation of tech companies is being used to influence policy for their self-interest, undermining democratic governance, legal structures and government services.[x] Without debate, oversight of global platforms requires policy makers to examine the evolving dynamics critically.[xi] Australia’s staged regulatory will likely fall within existing statutory frameworks, and with no international coordination Australian is exposed to the unchecked interests of global platforms.[xii]

The knitted colour work is tactile and symbolic. It promotes reflective discussion for online fibre art communities (r/Knitting, Ravelry) that offer a place of legal, social and cultural critique.[xiii] As a digital artefact, this submission may one day be consumed by AI, it’s textures and meanings interpreted, repurposed, or archived. In this possibility lies both vulnerability and quiet resistance.[xiv]

AI Acknowledgement: Microsoft Copilot was used to assist with this assessment, including brainstorming the conceptual image, refining the structure of the written statement and creating the last two sentences of this statement, StitchFiddle was used to draft and visualise the knitting motifs. All substantive analysis, design decisions and final drafting are my own.

References

- i Creative authorship created under Copyright Act 1968 (Cth) (the 'Act') s 10, s 32, s 35; see discussion on requirements of subsisting copyright within 'Copyright Subsistence for Part III Works' (Wikijuris, undated) <<https://wikijuris.net/ausip/copyrightsubsp3>>; AI was used to prompt to a concept image. I have identified potential materials it consumed to prepare the response, Google search on Friday 17 October 2025 resulted in response queries on the first page including: Rohit Satpathy, 'The Great Data Famine: How AI Ate the Internet and What's Next' (Sify, 14 October 2024) <<https://www.sify.com/ai-analytics/the-great-data-famine-how-ai-ate-the-internet-and-whats-next>>; u/DoctorJohannes, 'AI Will Destroy the Internet Sooner than We Expect' (Reddit, r/Futurology, 13 October 2024) <https://www.reddit.com/r/Futurology/comments/1gtdfno/ai_will_destroy_the_internet_sooner_than_we_expect>; Tom Wheeler, 'Connecting the Dots: AI Is Eating the Web That Enabled It' (Brookings, 24 June 2024) <<https://www.brookings.edu/articles/connecting-the-dots-ai-is-eating-the-web-that-enabled-it>>; see concept image located using search terms 'AI eating internet DNA' Antonio Regalado, 'Microsoft Says AI Can Create "Zero Day" Threats in Biology' (MIT Technology Review, 2 October 2025) <<https://www.technologyreview.com/2025/10/02/1124767/microsoft-says-ai-can-create-zero-day-threats-in-biology>>.
- ii Aditya Nanda Riandhi et al., 'AI and Consumer Behavior: Trends, Technologies, and Future Directions from a Scopus-Based Systematic Review' (2025) 12(1) *Cogent Business & Management* 2544984.
- iii Ibid.
- iv Lawrence Lessig, *Code: Version 2.0* (Basic Books, 2nd ed, 2006) 130; Daniel E Ho et al., *Hallucinating Law: Legal Mistakes with Large Language Models are Pervasive* (Stanford University, 11 January 2024) 4.
- v OMordy Bromberg, *The Challenge of AI for Law Reform and the Legal Profession* (Speech, Australian Law Forum, 14 August 2025) <<https://www.alrc.gov.au/news/the-challenge-of-ai-for-law-reform-and-the-legal-profession>>.
- vi Kyra Clarke, 'Willful Knitting? Contemporary Australian Craftivism and Feminist Histories' (2016) 30(3) *Continuum: Journal of Media & Cultural Studies* 298, 298-299 referring to Betsy Greer, 'Craftivist History' in Maria Elena Buszek (ed), *Extra/ordinary: Craft and Contemporary Art* (Duke University Press, 2011) 175.
- vii 'Protest Knits?' (Reddit, Post, r/knitting, 2 May 2022) <https://www.reddit.com/r/knitting/comments/umhpbm/protest_knits>; nycraft craftivist, *Protest Is Patriotic Shawl* (Ravelry, Pattern, June 2017) <<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/protest-is-patriotic-shawl>>; Tanya Basu, 'How a Ban on Pro-Trump Patterns Unraveled the Online Knitting World' (MIT Technology Review, 6 March 2020) <<https://www.technologyreview.com/2020/03/06/905472/ravelry-ban-on-pro-trump-patterns-unraveled-the-online-knitting-world-censorship-free>>.
- viii Gillian Aeria, 'Why Boys Are Blue and Girls Are Pink' (Pursuit, University of Melbourne, 2 May 2016) <<https://pursuit.unimelb.edu.au/articles/why-boys-are-blue-and-girls-are-pink>>; Australia was built 'riding the sheep's back', see Wool Facts, 'Wool and Colonialism' (Human Rights and the Wool Industry) <<https://www.woolfacts.com/human-rights-and-the-wool-industry/wool-and-colonialism/#:~:text=Menu-,Wool%20and%20Colonialism,were%20built%20on%20that%20wealth>>.
- ix Jasmina Tacheva and Srividya Ramasubramanian, 'AI Empire: Unraveling the Interlocking Systems of Oppression in Generative AI's Global Order' (2023) *Big Data & Society* <<https://doi.org/10.1177/205395172312192>>; Anjela Taneja et al, *Takers, Not Makers: The Unjust Poverty and Unearned Wealth of Colonialism* (Oxford International, January 2025) 29 <<https://oxfamilibrary.openrepository.com/bitstream/handle/10546/621668/bp-takers-not-makers-200125-en.pdf?sequence=10>>; Isobel Barry and Elise Stephenson, 'The Gendered, Epistemic Injustices of Generative AI' (2025) 40(123) *Australian Feminist Studies* 1; Albert Cevallos, 'How Autocrats Weaponize AI — And How to Fight Back' (*Journal of Democracy*, online, March 2025) <<https://www.journalofdemocracy.org/online-exclusive/how-autocrats-weaponize-ai-and-how-to-fight-back>>; Andrew Sorota, 'Rescuing Democracy from the Quiet Rule of AI' (Noema, 17 October 2025) <<https://www.noemamag.com/rescuing-democracy-from-the-quiet-rule-of-ai>>; Jonathan Crock et al, *The Human Right to Democratic Control of Artificial Intelligence: Report to the Australian Human Rights Commission on the "Human Rights and Technology: Discussion Paper"* (American University, April 2020) <https://humanrights.gov.au/sites/default/files/2020-07/70_-_jonathan_crock_et_al_1.pdf>; Paul Formosa, Bhanuraj Kashyap and Siavosh Sahebi, 'Generative AI and the Future of Democratic Citizenship' (2025) 6(2) *Digital Government: Research and Practice* Article 31 <https://research-management.mq.edu.au/ws/portafiles/portal/441294813/Publisher_version.pdf>.
- x Kate Crawford, 'The Cloud Atlas: AI, Climate Change and the Politics of Visualisation' (2024) 44(1) *Policy and Society* 52 <<https://academic.oup.com/policyandsociety/article/44/1/52/7636223>>; Stanford Institute for Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence, 'The Tech Coup: A New Book Shows How the Unchecked Power of Companies Is Destabilizing Governance' interview with author Marietje Schaake, *The Tech Coup: How to Save Democracy from Silicon Valley* (Princeton University Press, 2024) <<https://hai.stanford.edu/news/the-tech-coup-a-new-book-shows-how-the-unchecked-power-of-companies-is-destabilizing-governance>>.
- xi Shaleen Khanal, Hongzhou Zhang and Araz Taeihagh, 'Why and How Is the Power of Big Tech Increasing in the Policy Process? The Case of Generative AI' (2024) 44(1) *Policy and Society* 52 <<https://academic.oup.com/policyandsociety/article/44/1/52/7636223>>, Australia's government.
- xii Productivity Commission, *Harnessing Data and Digital Technology, Interim Report* (Canberra, August 2025) 3-4, 22 <<https://assets.pc.gov.au/2025-09/data-digital-interim.pdf?VersionId=rbzZkLQzxhnPQz4O6MwZ.molhJRyarOo>>.
- xiii Anna Zilboorg, *Knitting for Anarchists: The What, Why and How of Knitting* (Dover Publications, 2015), 13 72, 109.
- xiv For further reading on the platforms harvesting of users content, resulting in loss of platform traffic see Markus Kasanmascheff, *Reddit Tops Citation Rankings for AI-Generated Answers* (WinBuzzer, 5 August 2025) <<https://winbuzzer.com/2025/08/05/reddit-tops-citation-rankings-for-ai-generated-answers-xxxbwn>>.