

Ava - a cute baby spencer



Design: Rachel Søgaard

A cute little spencer in Merci, a wonderful combination of wool and cotton, for the littles ones. Ava can be worn either with a little bodystocking and bare legs, or with little tights and a long-sleeved top. If the suspenders are knitted extra-long, all you have to do is move the buttons to extend the use of the romper.

3rd English edition - July 2020 © Filcolana A/S
English translation: Signe Strømgaard

Materials

Colour A: 50 (50) 100 (100) g Merci by Filcolana in colour 1636 (Papaya)

Colour B: 50 g Merci by Filcolana in colour 1130 (Light Peach)

3 mm circular needle, 40 cm

3 mm double-pointed needles

Markers

2 small buttons

Sizes

0-3 months/56 cl (6-9 months/74 cl) 12 months/ 86 cl (24 months/92 cl)

Measurements

Body, chest: 39-43 (44-48) 49-53 (54-58) cm

Spencer, waist: 43 (47) 51 (55) cm

Circumference at hem: 63 (67) 71 (75) cm

Length from hem to the top of the bib: 35 (39) 43 (47) cm

Gauge

28 sts and 36 rows in stockinette stitch on a 3 mm needle = 10 x 10 cm.



Special techniques

Skp: slip 1 stitch, knit the next stitch, pass the slipped stitch over the knitted stitch.

Sl: Slip stitch(es) purl-wise.

Special techniques

Short rows - GSR (German short rows): Work to where the turn needs to be, turn, then slip the first stitch purl-wise with the yarn held in front. Bring the working yarn up and over the needle and down on the other side, pulling hard enough on the yarn to make the stitch on the needle look like a double stitch (the 2 legs of the stitch are visible). Continue row as pattern describes.

When working across the stitch that looks like a double stitch, work it as 1 stitch, either knitting or purling the 2 legs together, as the pattern describes.

Broken rib (worked in the round)

Round 1: *k1, p1*, repeat from * to * to end of round.

Round 2: Knit to end of round.

Repeat these 2 rounds.

Broken rib (worked back and forth)

Row 1 (RS): Knit to end of row.

Row 2: *k1, p1*, repeat from * to * to end of row.

Repeat these 2 row.

Directions for knitting

The spencer dress is worked from the bottom up. The work is divided and a bib is worked on the front and then suspenders at the back.

Dress

Cast on 176 (188) 200 (212) sts on a 3 mm circular needle with colour A with long-tail cast-on. Join in the round and place a marker for the beginning of the round and another after 88 (94) 100 (106) sts. Work 11 rounds of broken rib.

Change to stockinette stitch and work decreases on the 10th round as follows: *Skp, knit to 2 sts before next marker, k2tog, slip marker*, repeat from * to *



once more.

Work these decreases every 8th (9th) 10th (11th) round 6 more times. There are now 148 (160) 172 (184) sts on the needle.

At the same time, begin working stripes when the work measures 2,5 (3,5) 4,5 (5,5) cm as follows:

Work 2 rounds in colour A, work 2 rounds in colour B, repeat from * to *.

Work a total of 10 (12) 14 (16) stripes in colour B, then continue in colour A only.

Work 5 (7) 9 (11) rounds in stockinette stitch, then work decreases evenly across the next round, so there are 120 (132) 144 (156) sts left on the needle. Work 9 rounds in broken rib.

Bind off on the next round as follows: knit 62 (67) 74 (80) sts, bind off 57 (63) 69 75 sts.

Break the yarn, and put the sts from the right needle, back on the left needle.

Bib

Join colour A to the remaining 63 (69) 75 (81) sts for the bib and work as follows:

Next row (WS): Sl1, work 6 sts in broken rib, purl to the last 7 sts, work 6 sts in broken rib, k1.

Next row (RS): Sl1, k6, skp, knit to the last 9 sts, k2tog, k7.

Repeat these 2 rows until there are 31 (35) 39 (43) sts left on the needle – ending on a RS row.

Now work in broken rib across all sts, while continuing to slip the first stitch and knitting the last stitch of every row.

Work buttonholes on the 4th as follows: Sl1, work 3 sts in broken rib, yarn over, k2tog, work in broken rib to the last 6 sts, skp, yarn over, work 3 sts in broken rib, k1.

Work 4 more rows in broken rib. Bind off in broken rib (from the WS).

Suspenders

Join colour A to the 12th (14th) 16th (18th) stitch (a purl sts) after the bib. Pick up and knit 1 stitch in the next and following 8 sts (a total of 9 sts). Work back and forth in broken rib across these 9 sts, while slipping the first stitch and knitting the last stitch of every row until the suspender has the same length as the bib plus approx. 8 (10) 13 (15) cm. Bind off.

Work the second suspender the same as the first, picking up and knitting the sts so the last of the picked up sts is the 12th (14th) 16th (18th) stitch before the bib.

Finishing

Weave in all ends. Sew together the crotch seam.

Sew buttons to the ends of the suspenders.

Gently steam the suspenders, so they do not roll.