Blue - a lovely, feminine top

Design: Luise Bjerre

Knit a light and airy top in an interesting, yet simple lace pattern. The top has a wide, loose fit and is intended to work as a lovely layering piece over a sleeveless summer tp or a long sleeved blouse. The combination of the simple, loose fit and the airy lace pattern means it is a feminine and very wearable garment for many different body types.

1st English edition - March 2014, © Filcolana A/S English translation: Signe Strømgaard

Materials

100 (110) 140 (170) g of New Zealand lammeuld by Filcolana in color 249 (cobalt blue) 4,5 mm circular needle, 80 (80) 100 (100) cm long an extra 4,5 mm circular needle, 60 cm long Markers or loops of yarn

Sizes

S (M) L (XL)

Measurements

Chest, body: 77-86 (87-96) 97-106 (107-117) cm

Chest, top: 115 (125) 135 (145) cm Sleeve hole: 19 (22) 25 (30) cm Total length: 47 (50) 58 (63) cm

Gauge

22 sts and 33 rows in stockinette stitch on a 4,5 mm needle = $10 \text{ cm} \times 10 \text{ cm}$.

Special abbreviations

<u>SSK</u>: Slip, slip, knit. Slip 2 stitches from left to right needle, one at a time as if to knit. Place both stitches back on the left needle and knit them together through the back loops.

Yo: Yarn over.

Directions for knitting

The top is worked seamlessly in the round to the armholes. Here the work is split into front and back, and each side is finished separately. To make sure the pattern is symmetrical on both front and back when dividing it, stitches added to each side. Finally the shoulder seams of front and back are bound off together using the 3-needle bind-off. The stitches mid back and front are bound off separately to form the neck opening.

Pattern (see chart on page 2 also) <u>Pattern repeat</u> (12 sts and 16 rows):

Row 1: K7, yo, k3, k2tog.

Row 2 and all even numbered rounds/rows: Knit on

the RS (purl on the WS).

Row 3: K6, yo, k1, yo, k2, k3tog. Row 5: K5, yo, k3, yo, k1, k3tog.



Row 7: K4, yo, k5, yo, k3tog.

Row 9: K3, yo, k7, ssk.

Row 11: K2, yo, k1, yo, k6, k3tog. Row 13: K1, yo, k3, yo, k5, k3tog. Row 15: Yo, k5, yo, k4, k3tog.

<u>In the round</u>: When working the pattern in the round, the marker is moved 1 stitch to the left on all odd numbered rows except for row 1, ei. at the beginning of row 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13 og 15.

<u>Back and forth</u>: When the work is split into back and front, one stitch is added to each side to ensure that the number off stitches add up with the pattern. Furthermore the first and last decrease of the row is changed from a k3tog to ssk and k2tog respectively.

Body

Cast on 240 (264) 288 (312) sts using a 4,5 mm circular needle. Join in the round and place a marker for the beginning of the round. Work 3 round of reverse stockinette stitch. Work the pattern according to the chart or the written instructions. The pattern is repeated 20 (22) 24 (26) times across the round. Remember to move the marker 1 stitch to the left at the beginning of every odd numbered row except the first. Work the 16 rows of the pattern a total of 5 (5) 6 (6) times. Place 2 side seam markers on the needle on the last row (the 16th row of the pattern): Remove beginning of round marker, knit 119 (131) 143 (155) sts, place marker 1, knit 120 (132) 144 (156) sts, place marker 2.

Back and front

Divide the work at the marker, then work back and forth across the stitches for the back:

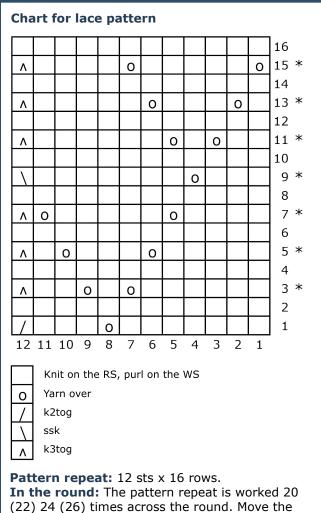
Row 1: K1, repeat row 1 of the pattern to 11 sts before marker 1, k7, yo, k4.

121 (133) 145 (157) sts have been worked. Turn, yo, and purl back across row. Turn, yo. 123 (135) 147 (159) sts on the back. The edge stitch at either end is knit on the RS and purled on the WS. Work back and forth in pattern. Remember that the first and last decrease of the row is changed from a k3tog to ssk and k2tog respectively. Repeat the 16 row pattern 3,5 (4) 4,5 (5,5) times. Knit the stitches of the back onto the second circular needle on the last row.

Let the back rest and work the front the same way as the back. Begin at marker 1. Leave the stitches of the front on the needle.

Finishing

Place the back and front each on a circular needle right sides together. Starting at the armhole, bind off the 34 (38) 42 (46) stitches of both front and back together for one shoulder using the 3-needle bind-off. Then bind off 55 (59) 63 (67) sts of the back ONLY for the neck opening. Turn the work and bind off the stitches of the other shoulder the same way as the first, finishing off with binding off the 55 (59) 63 (67) sts of the front ONLY for the neck opening as well.



In the round: The pattern repeat is worked 20 (22) 24 (26) times across the round. Move the marker 1 stitch to the left on all rows marked with a*.

Back and forth: The first and last decrease is changed from a k3tog to ssk and k2tog respectively.

Weave in the ends.

<u>Note</u>: Sew the stitches where the front meets the back at the neck opening to create the loop of a contiguous edge along the neck opening.

Gently rinse the work, stretch the bottom hem into shape so that it follows the pattern.