Calla - the sweetest dress for little girls

Design: Rachel Søgaard

Calla is the sweetest dress for little girls. The dress is worked in thin lambswool, so it is light and warm. The original dress was worked in natural white which created a light lace-like appearance. For the re-launch of the design, we have chosen to knit it in a dark wine red to show how it would look as an adorable Christmas dress.

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Materials

(100) 100 (100) 150 (150) 150 (200) g Saga in colour 121 (Port)

3 mm circular needle, 40 and 60 cm

3 mm crochet hook

1 stitch marker

1 button

Sizes

(6 months/68 cl) 1 year/80 cl (2 years/92 cl) 4 years/104 cl (6 years/116 cl) 8 years/128 cl (10 years/140 cl)

Measurements

Dress, chest: (56) 62 (67) 72 (72) 79 (79) cm Total length: (39) 42 (46) 49 (52) 54 (57) cm

Gauge

32 sts and 28 rows in lace pattern on a 3 mm needle = 10×10 cm

Directions for knitting

The dress is worked seamlessly from the bottom up. The little lace edge at the neck is worked while





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the stitches are being bound off, making the dress completely free of finishing apart from weaving in the ends.

Special techniques

Knitted cast-on: Turn the work, so the stitches are ready to be knitted in your left hand, *K1, but leave the stitch on the needle and place the new stitch on the left needle twisted *, repeat from * to * until the desired number of stitches have been cast on in extension of the stitches on the needle. To make it easier to distinguish the new stitches from the "old", it can help helpful to place a stitch marker on the needle before starting the cast-on.

Dress

Cast on (180) 198 (216) 234 (234) 252 (252) sts loosely on a 3 mm, 60 cm circular needle. Knit 1 row. Turn the work. Now work in the round, placing a marker for the beginning of the round. Take care not to twist the stitches.

Continue in lace pattern as follows:

Round 1: *K1, yarn over, k2, k2tog tbl, k2tog, k2, yarn over*, repeat from * to * to end of round.

Round 2: Knit to end of round.

Repeat Round 1 and 2 until the work measures (28) 30 (33) 35 (37) 39 (41) cm or desired length to armhole. End on Round 1.

Bind off for the armholes on the next round as follows: *Knit (81) 90 (99) 108 (108) 117 (117) sts, bind off 9*, repeat from * to * once more.

Cast on new sts for the sleeves on the next round as follows: *Work (81) 90 (99) 108 (108) 117 (117) sts in lace pattern, cast on (36) 45 (54) 63 (63) 72 (72) new sts using the knitted cast-on technique (se above), turn and knit back across the these (36) 45 (54) 63 (63) 72 (72) sts, turn again and work the (36) 45 (54) 63 (63) 72 (72) sts in the lace pattern, so the pattern fits*, repeat from * to * once more.

Continue in the lace pattern for (8) 9 (10) 11 (12) 12 (13) more cm, until the work measures a total of (36) 39 (43) 46 (49) 51 (54) cm.

Yoke

Round 1: K3, *k2tog tbl, k2tog, k5 *, repeat from * to * to last 6 sts, k2tog tbl, k2tog, k2.

Round 2: Knit to end of round.

Round 3: K2, *k2tog tbl, k2tog, k3*, repeat from * to * to last 5 sts, k2tog tbl, k2tog, k1.

Rounds 4 - 6: Knit to end of round.

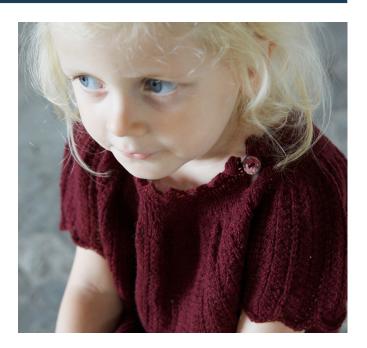
Round 7: K1, k2tog tbl, k2tog, k1*, repeat from * to * to end of round.

Now divide the work for the slip at the beginning of the round, and finish the yoke by working back and forth on the circular needle.

Rounds 8, 10, and 12: Purl all sts.

Rounds 9 and 11: Knit all sts.

Round 13 (RS): K4, *k2tog, k1*, repeat from * to * to last 2 sts, k2.



Rounds 14 and 16: Purl all sts. **Round 15:** Knit to end of row, break the yarn. Let the sts rest on the needle.

Lace neck edge

This little lace edge is knitted sideways onto the neck edge, while knitting together the yoke sts with the lace edge sts until all of the yoke sts have been used. Start from the RS at the left side of slit, join yarn to RS of resting sts and cast on 5 new sts using the knitted cast-on technique, work new sts as follows: K4, k2tog, turn work.

Row 1 (WS): Sl1k, p2, k2.

Row 2: K2, yarn over, k2, k2tog, turn.

Row 3: Sl1k, p3, k2.

Row 4: K2, yarn over, k1, yarn over, k2, k2tog, turn.

Row 5: Sl1k, p5, k2.

Row 6: Bind off 3 sts purlwise, p1, k2, k2tog. Repeat these 6 rows until all of the yoke sts have been used. Bind off the lace edge sts

Finishing

Single crochet along the edges of the slit (but no along the lace edge). Turn with 4 chain sts, turn and single crochet into these (button loop).

Weave in the ends. Gently wash the finished dress according to he instructions on the yarn label. Sew in the button.